

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

PH0688835

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RECEIVED 1978

DATE ENTERED DEC 22 1978

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC
Jens Larson Jenson Lime Kiln
AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
About two miles north of Richfield, Utah

CITY, TOWN

STATE Utah

VICINITY OF CODE 049

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT First

COUNTY CODE Sevier 041

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC ACQUISITION	<input type="checkbox"/> ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER: abandoned

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
Dale R. Ogden

STREET & NUMBER
18555 Ventura Boulevard

CITY, TOWN Tarzana

VICINITY OF

STATE California

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.
Sevier County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN Richfield

STATE Utah

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
Utah Historic Sites Survey

DATE
1978

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS
Utah State Historical Society

CITY, TOWN Salt Lake City

STATE Utah

—FEDERAL STATE —COUNTY —LOCAL

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

EXCELLENT
 GOOD
 FAIR
 DETERIORATED
 RUINS
 UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED
 ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Jens Larson Jenson lime kiln measures twenty feet high and about twenty feet in diameter, with a wall thickness of eight feet. Constructed into the red rock hill some two miles north of Richfield, the kiln was built of the red rock that characterizes the plateau region west and north of the town; and as such, appears to be synonymous with the hillside. Its shape is rectangular with a large semi-circular fireplace opening centered at the base. At one time large iron bars, fastened across the top of this opening, formed a grate to prevent rocks from falling into the fire.

The kiln opening is basically clear of material, and the rock work both inside and outside of the kiln is clearly visible. Its appearance remains much the same as when it was in use.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1903

BUILDER/ARCHITECT J. H. Kyhl, mason; Jens L. Jenson

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Jens Larson Jenson Lime Kiln represents a remaining structure important in the development of communities in the Sevier Valley. Built by Jens L. Jenson, Richfield's "well-known" lime burner, the kiln cured lime which was used for mortar utilized in the construction of numerous rock and brick structures, as well as in the production of the whitewash used on structures basic to successful rural life.

Jens Larson "Limeburner" Jenson (sometimes spelled Jensen) was born in Dalby, Scona, Sweden, July 14, 1827. He was baptised into the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in 1855, and arrived in Utah in 1859 as a member of the Rowley Handcart Company. Jenson lived the doctrine of plural marriage, being joined to three women; and later served a sixty-two day sentence for polygamy.

In the late 1880's Jens L. Larson returned to Richfield to settle, where he fostered his trade as a lime burner. His first kilns were small structures built in a wash near the town. According to a 1903 newspaper article, Jenson was planning to build "a more convenient commodious and rapid working plant," allowing for the continuous burning of lime.¹

J. H. Kyhl, a local mason, submitted the plans to Jenson and the kiln was completed in the spring of 1903. As mentioned in the description the kiln measured twenty feet in height and twenty in diameter, with eight foot thick walls to withstand the pressure of limestone.

Workers quarried limestone in the nearby hills north and west of Richfield. The stone was dumped into the top of the kiln. A fire was then built under the grate to burn or "cure" the rocks, and left burning for three to five complete days. A three-day cooling period followed, after which time the lime was hauled in wagons to communities where it sold for a reportedly one dollar per three bushels.

Jens L. Jenson eventually lost his eyesight due to the intense heat in the limeburning process. He died January 3, 1907, but work was carried on by his sons and family until 1910, when the kiln was sold to Leonard Ogden. Ogden burned lime for many Sevier Valley structures, including the Richfield First Ward Chapel, and the Elsinore Sugar Factory at Austin.

¹The Richfield Reaper, February 19, 1976, p. 3. Reprinted in this issue was an article dated February 12, 1903.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- Jacobson, Pearl F., ed. Golden Sheaves from a Rich Field. A Centennial History of Richfield, Utah: Richfield, 1964
- "The Jens Larson Jenson Lime Kiln at Richfield, Utah." Unpublished paper, 1976, on file at the Preservation Office, Utah State Historical Society
- The Richfield Reaper, February 19, 1976, p. 3
- Scovil, Helen Isbell, "History of Jens Larson Jenson," (n.d.) Paper on file at the Preservation Office, Utah State Historical Society

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY Less than one

QUADRANGLE NAME Richfield, Utah

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:62500

UTM REFERENCES

A 12 405350 4294100

B

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C

D

E

F

G

H

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

One lime kiln measuring twenty feet high and twenty feet in diameter, located some two miles north of Richfield, Utah. T. 225 R.3W S.23(?)

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Philip F. Notarianni, Historian

ORGANIZATION

Utah State Historical Society

DATE

July, 1978

STREET & NUMBER

307 West 200 South Suite 1000

TELEPHONE

533-6017

CITY OR TOWN

Salt Lake City

STATE

Utah

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

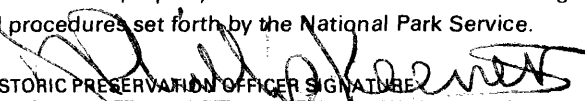
NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL X

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE



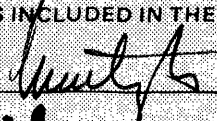
TITLE J. Phillip Keene, III, State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE October 12, 1978

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST: William Jelovich
CHIEF OF REGISTRATION



DATE 12/22/78

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 1

Work was eventually ended at the kiln (n.d.) but its presence against the hillside, overlooking the valley it helped to develop, forms a link between past and present. The valley development now poses a potential threat to the structure with proposed housing units, etc., expected to be built near its site. Its preservation is met with particular interest by the Sevier Valley Chapter of the Utah State Historical Society, who harbors plans for its restoration.