

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service
National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For HCRS use only
received MAY 10 1980
date entered JUN 20 1980

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name Nelson - Beesley House

historic Joseph Nelson/Alvin A. Beesley House

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 533 11th Avenue not for publication

city, town Salt Lake City vicinity of congressional district 02

state Utah code 049 county Salt Lake code 035

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial <input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	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 type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Marjorie M. Hess

street & number 533 11th Avenue

city, town Salt Lake City vicinity of state UT 84103

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Salt Lake City and County Bldg.

street & number Fourth South and State St.

city, town Salt Lake City state UT 84111

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Utah Historic Sites Survey has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1979 federal state county local

depository for survey records Utah State Historical Society

city, town SLC state UT

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

This is the largest and one of the few examples in the Avenues neighborhood of the Swiss Bungalow, one of a number of variations on the popular early twentieth century bungalow style.

Characteristics of the Swiss bungalow style romantically recall Alpine chalets. The Beesley home alludes to Swiss prototypes in several ways. The rectangular plan, broad gable roof, height and general symmetry reflect the scale, proportions and massing of what Americans thought suitable for a mountain home or lodge. The concept was carried further through the gable facade orientation with oversize brackets under wide eaves, the cantilevered balcony and through the use and organization of materials.

Handling of materials varies from the half-timbered image of mountain dwellings, but, nevertheless, the association is present. First floor walls are brick. The second story has stucco siding. Wood siding in the gable area displays patterned horizontal motif in alternating rows. Beltcourses define separation of stories and materials. A beltcourse between first and second story levels is stuccoed or cast stone in a cornice configuration which displays a repeated octagonal motif. Above the second story is a molded cornice.

A small cantilevered balcony centered on the main facade contributes to the Swiss chalet allusion. Seemingly supported by exposed joints, the balcony's picturesque qualities are further emphasized by the balustrade's repeated, cut-out pattern. This strong link to the Alpine lodge is seen again on the first floor corner balcony.

Several features of the Beesley home actively break the symmetry of plan and elevation. An indented area housing the first floor balcony in the southwest and the one story shed roof entrance vestibule contribute to this effect.

Round arched openings here contain a window and a small entrance portico. This entrance is approached from the street by a stairway with a pebble-faced concrete balustrade. The stairs also give access to a raised patio. Beneath the patio is a garage, also entered from the east. A rear glazed extension of one story has a shed roof.

Windows on the Beesley home are frequently grouped. First floor windows are double-hung sash or casement types with transoms divided vertically into segmentally arched shapes. Surrounds of cast stone or rough-faced concrete contrast with the brick walls. Muntins of second story casement windows make rectangular divisions.

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The bungalow was a popular housing form in Utah from about 1900 to 1930. Of the numerous stylistic variations that developed out of the basic scheme and which pervaded here, the so-called Swiss bungalow was never wide-spread. Retaining its original integrity, the Beesley house is significant architecturally as one of the few examples of this mode.

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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates 1918 **Builder/Architect** Thomas Child and Son, Builders

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Nelson/Beesley house is significant as the largest and best example of the Swiss Bungalow style in the Salt Lake City Avenues neighborhood and among the best in the State of Utah. Characteristics of this style romantically recall alpine chalets, and the Beesley home alludes to Swiss prototypes in its rectangular plan, broad gable roof, height and general symmetry, and decorative detailing. The residence served as the home of the Alvin A. Beesley family for twenty-two years. Beesley was a prominent figure in Salt Lake City business, cultural, civic and religious activities for nearly half a century. His association with the Beesley Music Company, represents the efforts of the Beesley family to promote Mormon musical values in the community

The nomination of this residence is based upon an extensive survey of the Salt Lake City Avenues neighborhood. The Nelson/Beesley house, located in the upper Avenues, was not included in the Avenues Historic District, but was judged a significant site within the survey area based upon its architecture and historical associations.

Joseph Nelson, president and manager of Joseph Nelson Supply Company, plumbing suppliers, had this residence built in 1918 by Thomas Child and Son, Mason contractors. As listed in the Salt Lake City building permits, the two-story fourteen room house cost an estimated \$15,000.

The Swiss Bungalow style was a romantic adaptation of the Alpine chalet, and represented one of a number of variations on the early twentieth century bungalow style. The Beesley house retains the integrity of the style in its plan, roof design, and general massing.

Joseph Nelson, the original owner, had lived at 568 I Street, also in the Avenues neighborhood, prior to his move to 533 11th Avenue. In 1926 Alvin and Ruby Pratt Beesley were listed in directories as residing at 533 11th Avenue, and purchased the home in 1927 from Nelson. Their tenure in the residence dated from 1926 to 1948, the year of Ruby Beesley's death (Alvin had died in 1940).

Alvin A. Beesley, born in Salt Lake City in 1873, was the son of Ebenezer and Sarah Hancock Beesley. Ebenezer founded the Beesley Music Company in 1904, and both the man and the firm are considered pioneers in the Salt Lake City music field. The elder Beesley directed the Mormon Tabernacle choir from 1870 to 1885, and composed a large number of Mormon hymns. Alvin studied music under his father, as well as H.S. Kraure and C.F. Staynes; and in about 1906 became president and manager of the company. The Beesley name remains

9. Major Bibliographical References

Avenues Historic Sites Survey, Utah State Historical Society, 1979.
Deseret News, September 27, 1940, "Alvin A. Beesley."
Salt Lake City Building Permit #10328, Sept. 5, 1918.
SLC Directories, 1918-1940. Salt Lake County Plat Abstract Records. Salt Lake Tribune, Sept. 27, 1940, "Alvin A. Beesley," and April 23, 1948, "Ruby Pratt Beesley."

10. Geographical Data

UTM NOT VERIFIED
ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

Acreege of nominated property less than 1
Quadrangle name Fort Douglas, UT Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A	<u>112</u>	<u>421631610</u>	<u>41511471310</u>	B			
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
C				D			
E				F			
G				H			

Verbal boundary description and justification

Commencing at southeast corner of Lot 1 Block 162, Plat D, Salt Lake City Survey, west 85 feet, north 115 feet, east 85 feet and south 115 feet to beginning.

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/Diana Johnson, Architectural Historian

organization Utah State Historical Society date January 1980

street & number 307 West 2nd South telephone (801) 533-6017

city or town SLC state UT 84102

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature Melvin T. Smith

title Melvin T. Smith, State Historic Preservation Officer date 5/5/80

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I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

J. W. Ray
Keeper of the National Register date 6/20/80

Attest: William H. Graham
Chief of Registration date 6/16/80

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synonymous with the promotion of music and musical values, qualities important to the Mormon community. The business still functions under ownership of the Beesley family.

The activities and interests of Alvin Beesley proved influential in Salt Lake City's business, civic, and religious activity. In addition to his involvement with the music business, Beesley assumed the directorship and a seat on the executive board of the Hotel Utah (National Register), which opened for business in 1911. He also became an organizer, three-time president, and director for various years, of the Salt Lake local American Federation of Musicians, thus, involved in both business and labor. Alvin Beesley served as a delegate to national musician's conventions, and befriended Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor.

From 1933 to 1935 he served as a Salt Lake County Commissioner, heading the finance department. A member and activist of several civic groups, including the Chamber of Commerce, Rotarians, and Boy Scouts, Beesley served in numerous religious positions for the Mormon church, particularly as chorister of the Salt Lake Stake from 1904 to 1930.

Alvin and Ruby Pratt Beesley resided in the house until their deaths. Mrs. Beesley was the daughter of Mormon pioneer Orson Pratt, and married Alvin in 1894. She died in 1948, following Alvin's death in 1940.