

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

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

For HCRS use only

received **OCT 27 1982**
date entered

1. Name

historic Brown, George M., House

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 284 East 100 North _____ not for publication

city, town Provo _____ vicinity of _____ congressional district _____

state Utah code 049 county Utah code 049

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Arnel S. Milner

street & number 315 East Center

city, town Provo _____ vicinity of _____ state Utah 84601

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Utah County Courthouse

street & number University and Center Streets

city, town Provo _____ state Utah 84601

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

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

date 1980 _____ federal state _____ county _____ local

depository for survey records Utah State Historical Society

city, town Salt Lake City _____ state Utah

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

This is a two-story, central-hall, vernacular type house. Drop or "novelty" siding has been placed over a balloon-frame and there are rusticated wood blocks which approximate quoins at the corners. A central-hall plan is indicated by the pair of tall ornate chimneys centered on the roof ridge. Cutting the broadside of the roof are three dormers, each of which has decorative Gothic Revival bargeboards. There are also bargeboards on the gable ends of the building. The central dormer is larger than those flanking it and has a moveable apron beneath its two-over-two double-hung sash window. Like the other windows on the original structure it has a Greek Revival inspired cornice. Centered beneath the central dormer is the entry which is also of Greek Revival design. It has side lights and a transom surrounding what may be the original door. There is a single window similar to those in the dormers on each side of the entry. A three-sided bay with Gothic Revival trim highlights the first floor of the east wall and is topped by a pair of windows. The foundation of the bay is brick contrasting with the stone foundation of the rest of the house.

A major two-story frame addition was added to the house within the historic period (date unknown) which lacks the detailing of the earlier structure, but which does not significantly detract from the integrity of the original building. A one-story, frame, out-of-the-period addition (date unknown) on the west side is less complementary, but is not visible from either of the two principal facades.

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 type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input 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 c. 1884 **Builder/Architect** Unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The George M. Brown House in Provo, built in 1884, is the best example of the wooden Carpenter's Gothic architectural style in Provo and one of only several examples of the style in Utah.¹ Inspired by the pattern books of the mid nineteenth century, particularly the published works of A. J. Davis and A. J. Downing, the Carpenter Gothic was characterized by local interpretation of picturesque designs, often approximating a regional vernacular.² The Brown house exhibits the verticality and decorative jigsaw work usually found in the Gothic Revival, but displays the horizontal siding, simulated quoins, and symmetry of the local building tradition. The house belonged to George M. Brown, an early settler and prominent lawyer in Provo, and was identified in a comprehensive architectural survey of Provo during the summer of 1980.

George M. Brown had this house built for a polygamous wife in the early 1880s. Brown was a prominent early Provo attorney who was born in Macedonia, Illinois in 1842. His parents had earlier converted to Mormonism and the family moved west with the pioneers in 1847. They settled in Provo.

After completing an LDS mission to Norway, Brown returned to Provo and married Elizabeth Olsen. He then studied law and established a legal practice in Provo. From 1875 to 1888, Brown was involved in a legal practice with John E. Booth, another prominent Provoan. In the 1880s Brown gave this house to his first wife and moved to the Mormon colonies in Mexico with his other two wives to avoid prosecution for polygamy.

Elizabeth Brown lived in the house apparently until her death when her daughters inherited the house. They resided in the house for several decades. In 1958 Don R. Milner bought the house from the estate of Lillie Brown, one of the daughters of George M. Brown. The house is still owned by the Milner family who use it as rental property.

Notes

¹See Peter L. Goss, "The Architectural history of Utah," Utah Historical Quarterly 43:3 (Summer 1975), p. 219. Other Utah examples include the William Barton House, Avenues Historic District, National Register; the Thomas Quayle House, Capitol Hill Historic District, National Register; and the Watkins-Coleman House, Midway, National Register.

²The Carpenter Gothic concept is defined in William H. Pierson, Jr., American Buildings and Their Architects: Technology and the Picturesque (Garden City, N.Y.: Doubleday, 1978), p. 416.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Plat records, Utah County.
 Sanborn Maps, 1890.
 City directories, 1884-1939.
 Utah Historic Sites Inventory (State Register). (See continuation sheet)

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property less than one

Quadrangle name Provo

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A

1	2	4	4	4	4	7	0	4	4	5	3	8	2	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

B

Zone		Easting				Northing							

C

Zone		Easting				Northing							

D

Zone		Easting				Northing							

E

Zone		Easting				Northing							

F

Zone		Easting				Northing							

G

Zone		Easting				Northing							

H

Zone		Easting				Northing							

Verbal boundary description and justification

Commencing NE cor Lot 8, Block 26, Plat B, thence south 83.77 feet, west 149.9 feet, north 83.77 feet, east 149.9 feet to point of beginning.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code county N/A code

state N/A code county N/A code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Tom Carter & Deborah Temme, Architectural Historians/Ken Cannon, Historian

organization Utah State Historical Society

date Summer 1980

street & number 300 Rio Grande

telephone (801) 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

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 10-8-82

For HCRS use only
 I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

Beth Grosvenor date 12/1/82
 Keeper of the National Register

Attest: _____ date _____
 Chief of Registration

FHR-8-300A
(11/78)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR.
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

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

FOR HCRS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	OCT 27 1982
DATE ENTERED	

CONTINUATION SHEET 1

ITEM NUMBER 9

PAGE 2

J. Marinus Jensen, History Of Provo, Utah (Provo: J. Marinus Jensen, 1924),
pp. 280, 325.

John Clifton Moffitt, The Story of Provo, Utah (Provo: Press Publishing, 1975),
p. 217.