

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: <b>Utah</b>	
COUNTY: <b>Iron</b>	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

**1. NAME**

COMMON:  
**Old Irontown**

AND/OR HISTORIC:

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**Approximately 22 miles west of Cedar City, 3 mi. so. of St. Rt. 56**

CITY OR TOWN:  
**Old Irontown - near Little Pinto**

STATE: **Utah**      CODE: **49**      COUNTY: **Iron**      CODE: **021**

**3. CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____ _____

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNER'S NAME:  
**Cedar City Chapter Sons of Utah Pioneers**

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: **Cedar City**      STATE: **Utah**      CODE: **49**

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
**Iron County Courthouse**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**Main Street**

CITY OR TOWN: **Parowan**      STATE: **Utah**      CODE: **49**

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

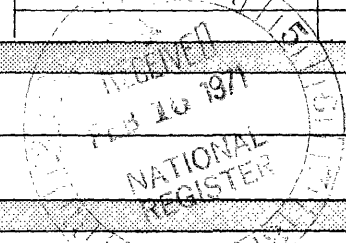
TITLE OF SURVEY:  
**Utah Historic American Buildings Survey**

DATE OF SURVEY: **1968**       Federal       State       County       Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:  
**Utah Heritage Foundation**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**603 East South Temple**

CITY OR TOWN: **Salt Lake City**      STATE: **Utah**      CODE: **49**



715.49.0000 5/14/71

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE:	<b>Utah</b>
COUNTY:	<b>Iron</b>
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	<b>715.49.0000</b>
DATE	<b>5/14/71</b>

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Pioneer Iron Company built its facilities on Coal Creek near Cedar City, Utah. When taken over by the Deseret Iron Company in 1852, the facilities near Cedar City were expanded to include coke ovens and a blast furnace. Several hundred pounds of iron were produced and a number of basic items made, such as nails, hooks, rods, etc., and a bell was cast, which still exists.

Later the "industry was moved" west some 22 miles to Old Irontown on Little Pinto Creek, which is the location of this site. Here the iron industry built charcoal ovens, since only poor quality coke could be produced from the high sulfur coal near Cedar. One of these remains in a remarkable state of preservation. In addition, an "Arastra," was constructed to prepare the fine sand for the furnace molds. This device still remains in "fair condition," ably illustrating how sand was ground fine enough for molds. Finally, remnants of the foundry remain, a partial chimney, foundations and walls.

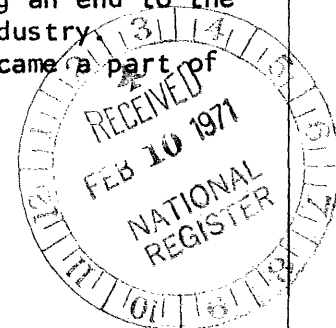
The site sits in an isolated spot, still removed from modern industrialization. Most of the original plant site and the best remnants of it have been fenced by the Sons of Utah Pioneers, and it is those portions under fencing that are being designated as the historic site. This site still tells the visitor the story of Utah's pioneer iron industry.

SIGNIFICANCE: (continued):

two furnaces, a foundry, a pattern shop, and a business office. It remained active for three years, but could not compete on such a limited basis, and became inactive. This site preserves remnants of this 1868-1876 period of production.

In 1881 the Board of Trade and the leaders of the Mormon Church again sought the development of this major resource. The Utah Iron Manufacturing Company was organized but, as their mineral claims were "jumped," litigation was required to clear title to them. By 1884, the properties were cleared and production was planned by the new Iron Manufacturing Company of Utah, consisting of the same interests basically as the 1881 company. However, by 1884 the United States Supreme Court had upheld the constitutionality of the 1882 Edmunds-Tucker Act prohibiting polygamous cohabitation in the case of Rudger Clawson. Consequently "Feds" descended on Mormon leaders, driving them "underground" and, in this particular instance, putting an end to the cooperative, church-supported development of Utah's iron industry.

Later, of course, these resources were developed and became a part of the national iron and steel complexes.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**1. SIGNIFICANCE**

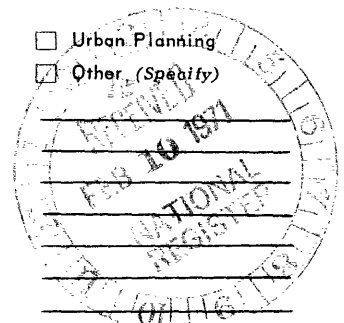
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century
<input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century	

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) **1869**

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal	<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Political	<input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning
<input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Industry	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	
<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	
<input type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian	
<input type="checkbox"/> Art	<input type="checkbox"/> Literature	<input type="checkbox"/> Theater	
<input type="checkbox"/> Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Music		
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation			



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

The story of Utah's iron and steel industry begins soon after the arrival of the Mormon pioneers in Salt Lake Valley in 1847.

First of all, because of geographic isolation and because of their desire for ideological insulation, Mormon pioneer leaders early adopted a policy of economic independence and self-sufficiency. Coupled to this policy was a belief in their earthly stewardship; namely, "the earth is the Lord's . . ." to be subdued by his chosen people. The Saints could make Zion flourish by applying themselves. The resources were there to be exploited.

As early as the fall of 1849 an exploring party, led by Apostle Parley P. Pratt, discovered Iron Mountain in Southern Utah and the coal beds nearby at Cedar City. Within two years settlements had been established at Parowan and Cedar City in Iron County. Those settlers called to Cedar City were designated "Iron Missionaries." They formed the Pioneer Iron Company in 1851-1852. It was succeeded by the ill-fated and costly Deseret Iron Company, both located near Cedar City, which operated between 1852 and 1858. This latter company was an attempt by the L.D.S. Church to raise British capital to finance the development of the industry and to employ skilled English workmen to operate the furnaces and plants. However, although nearly \$150,000 were expended over a ten-year period, only about 400 tons of iron were produced. Several factors, including cold weather and floods, destroyed the project.

Yet the resource remained as did the need for iron. A renewal of interest began in 1868. Seth M. Blair, Chapman Duncan and Ebenezer Hanks, Directors and President, respectively, of the new Union Iron Works, organized the new company and employed David B. Adams of Beaver to run the furnaces. They reported in August of 1871 that they could now produce up to 2,500 pounds of iron per day. Both church and government monies subsidized this operation.

Their plant was located on Pinto Creek about 22 miles southwest of Cedar City, near the southern tip of Iron Mountain. They built several charcoal furnaces, one of which remains. (The coal near Cedar City contained so much sulfur that it was difficult to make a good coke; consideration was even given to moving the operation to Wales in Sanpete County.) They also constructed an "Arastra" for preparing fine sand for molds, a foundry and furnaces. Stoves, irons and milling equipment made at the site were sold to the miners in Nevada and elsewhere.

In 1873 the company was reorganized as the Great Western Iron and Manufacturing Company, which expanded the plant to include an engine house,  
(continued on preceding page)

**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Leonard J. Arrington, Great Basin Kingdom, (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1958), pp. 87, 115, 122-129, 345, 346.  
 Leonard J. Arrington, "Iron Manufacturing in Southern Utah in the Early 1880's: the Iron Manufacturing Company of Utah," Bulletin of the Business Historical Society, XXV (September, 1951), 149-168.  
Deseret News (Salt Lake City), May 10 and June 18, 1870 and August 30, 1871.  
 Gustive O. Larson, "Bulwork of the Kingdom, Utah's Iron and Steel Industry," Utah Historical Quarterly, XXXI (Summer, 1963), 248-261.  
Salt Lake Herald, December 16, 1871.  
 Paul Goeldner, Utah Catalog, (Salt Lake City: Utah Heritage Foundation, 1969), p. 10.

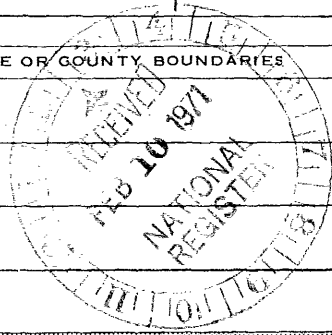
**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	0 ' "	0 ' "		37°	36'	0"
NE	0 ' "	0 ' "		113°	26'	56"
SE	0 ' "	0 ' "				
SW	0 ' "	0 ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **1.5**

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE: **Melvin T. Smith**

ORGANIZATION: **Utah Historical Society**      DATE: **January 13, 1971**

STREET AND NUMBER: **603 East South Temple**

CITY OR TOWN: **Salt Lake City**      STATE: **Utah**      CODE: **49**

**12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION      NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National     State     Local

Name: Milton L. Weilenmann

Title: Utah State Liaison Officer

Date: January 13, 1971

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

Robert A. Connally  
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

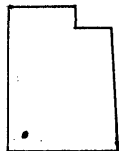
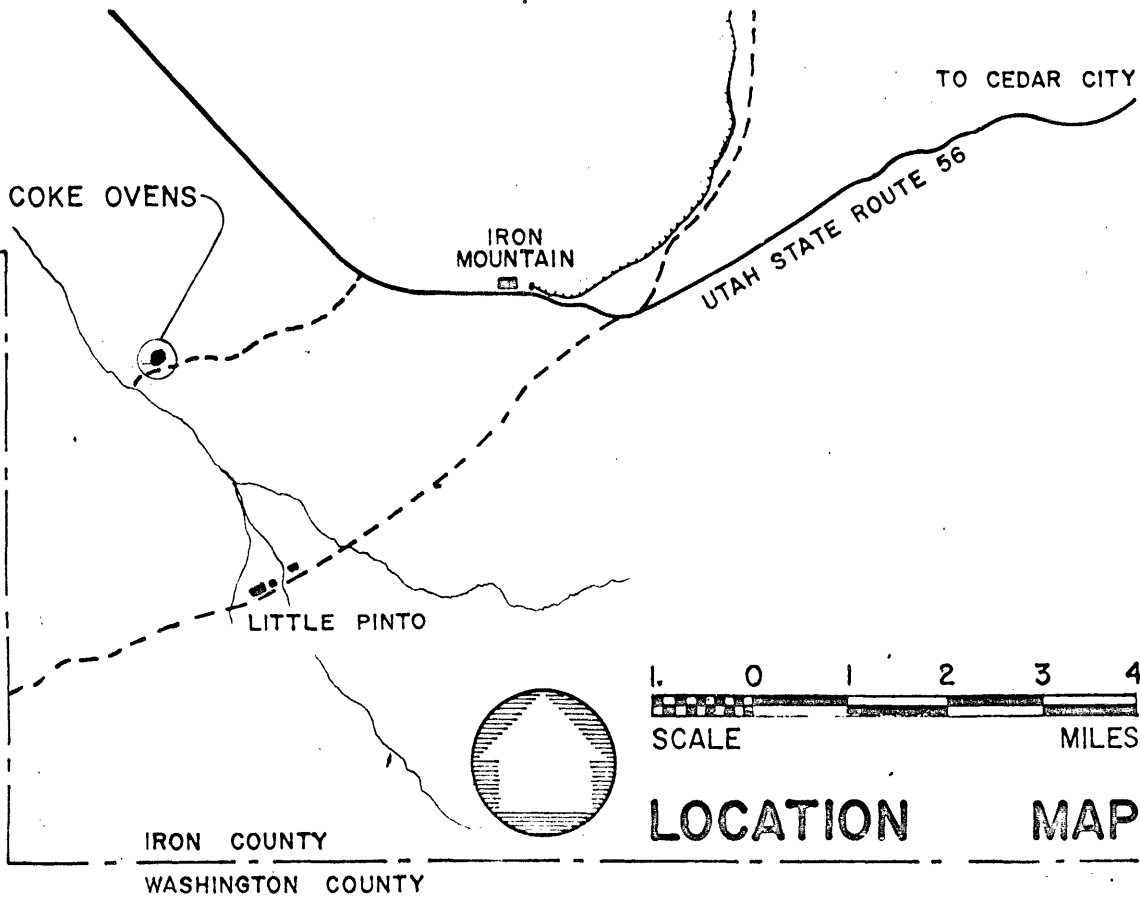
**MAY 14 1971**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST: William H. [Signature]  
 Keeper of the National Register

Date: APR 19 1971

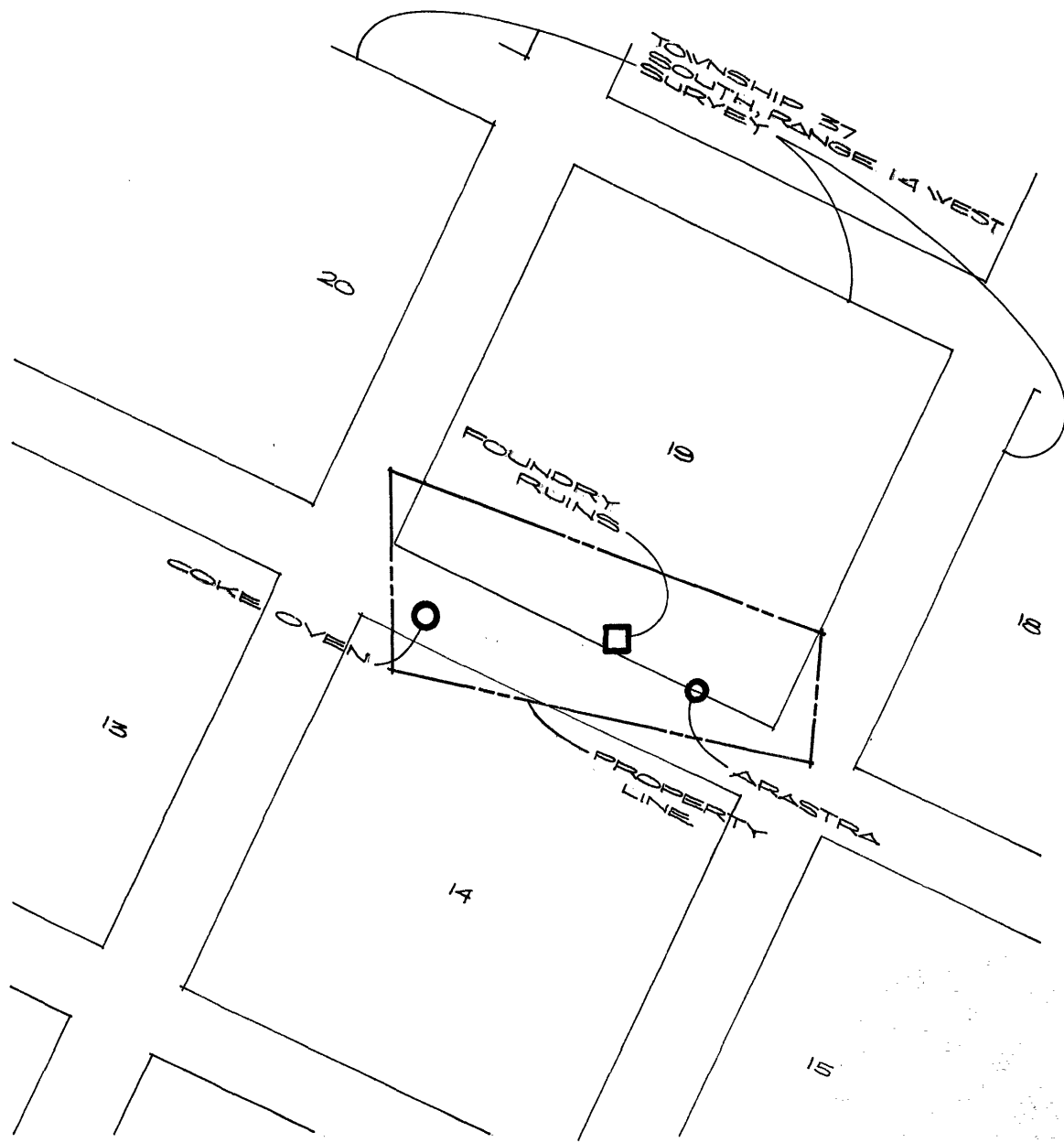
SEE INSTRUCTIONS



OLD IRONTOWN  
 C. 25 MILES WEST OF CEDAR CITY, UTAH

LATITUDE: 37° - 36' - 0"  
 LONGITUDE: 113° - 26' - 56"  
 HABS DRAWING

DATE: SEP 1970



**OLD IRONTOWN**  
 C. 25 MILES WEST OF CEDAR CITY, UTAH

LATITUDE : 37° - 32' - 0"  
 LONGITUDE : 113° - 26' - 56"

DATE : SEP 1970  
 SCALE : 1" = 165'