United States Department of the Interior Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

# National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For HCRS use only received JAN 4 1980 date entered FEB 1 5 1980

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

First Ward Meeti	nghouse			
on				
90 South Center S	t.		_	not for publication
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## 7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one		
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### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

This late Gothic Revival style chapel by Logan architect Karl C. Schaub is located on an impressive site at the top of a hill. It has a four foot high stone foundation, covered with a layer of cement blocked off into squares, and is otherwise built of red brick. A square tower rises from the foundation on the southeast corner of the rectangle, with the tower and its foundation jutting out about three feet. There are two entries at the base of the tower, one on the south side and another on the east. These entries are arched and originally featured double wooden doors.

There are three high arched windows on the south side, the center window being larger than those on the sides. There are three identical windows on the west side and two on the east. There are three smaller windows placed closely together on the south and east sides of the upper tower, each one is arched, the arch accented with stonework. Above the windows on each side of the tower there is a circular design in brickwork. There is a louvered wooden steeple tower, complete with steeple, atop the brick tower. The same circular decorative brick design is repeated around small windows in each gable end of the building.

Decorative columns separate the windows. These begin with stone jutting out from the foundation, then continue up with brickwork. The roof is high pitched with a slightly lower, smaller, separate pitch on the south end. It is covered with wood shingles. There is another entrance on the west side, arched with wooden double doors. This was primarily used for the mourners at a funeral.

The annex was added shortly after this main chapel area was completed. It is a narrower rectangle along the north side. It has the same stone foundation, identical red brick and follows the same architectural design of arched windows, however, the decorative brickwork is not used as extensively. There is a single doorway on the east side with cememnt steps leading to it. The roof follows the same high pitch but is reversed.

Structurally, the building is unchanged and the alterations that have been made are reversible. The brick has been painted an off-white; the east entrance at the tower base has been covered and the steps removed. The windows on the

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south side have been replaced with squared off metals ones, the arches remain, filled in with wood. Except for a small part of one tower window the rest have been covered. The tower steeple has been removed. The wooden entrance doors have been replaced by glass ones.

The interior at the base of the tower is a small entry way leading into the auditorium. Double wooden doors on the northwest of entry open into the auditorium. The floor slopes toward the pulpit stand which is in the northwest corner opposite the entry way. The choir seats are curved around the rear of the pulpit stand on graduated steps.

The pew ends are carved, repeating the exterior arch. The beautiful oak pews are curved, placed in three sections, emphasizing a unique quarter circle arrangement of the seating area. A balcony curves around from the north side to the west side of the auditorium. An ironwork railing is along the front of the balcony and the pews conform to the curve. A stairway leads to the balcony and has carved wood posts, railing and ballisters. The balcony is supported by posts and has carved wood scrolls underneath on each end. There is a high rounded ceiling with a large carved rosette at the highest part.

The annex consists of one rectangular room, a small entryway and a hallway. There are stairs leading from the hallway to classrooms on the upper floor. The stair railing, post and ballisters are of carved wood. Another enclosed stairway leads down to the basement area which is one large room.

Very few changes have been made from the original. The ceiling has been lowered to conserve heat. The natural wood wainscoating has been painted. The only change of the annex has been the removal of a raised stand at the one end of the main floor room.

## B. Significance

1400-1499 1500-1599 1600-1699 1700-1799 1800-1899	Areas of Significance—C — archeology-prehistoric — agriculture — X architecture — art — commerce — communications	community planning conservation economics education engineering exploration/settleme	law literature military music	science sculpture social/ humanitarian theater
Specific dates	1903-05	Builder/Architect Ka	arl C. Schaub of Mons	on and Schaub

#### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The significance of the Hyrum First Ward Chapel can be found in its characterizing the values of a community which worked and labored to create a place of worship and a social center that fittingly celebrated the prosperity of their burgeoning farming community. The congregation turned to Logan architect Karl C. Schaub for the design of the building. sturdy, handsome structure is a good example of the work of this regionally important architectural office, which also designed Old Main building at Utah State Agricultural College (National Register).

Of the three LDS meeting houses constructed in Hyrum during the first five years of this century, one has been demolished and another rather extensively altered, leaving the First Ward the only one relatively intact. It is the most visually prominent of the town's structures.

The chapel includes a horseshoe balcony, a very uncommon plan in Mormon Church architecture. Most of the building materials were local products, hauled to the site by ward members, who did most of the actual construction.

This building was also for many years the focal point of

most social activities in Hyrum.

Shortly after Hyrum was divided into three wards, a committee of ward members started looking for a site on which to build a new meeting place. The present site was their first choice, however, they encountered some difficulty in purchasing the property from the owners. This site was on high ground and not swampy as other considered sites were.

The chapel was started in 1903 and was completed early in The Annex was added shortly after the completion of the large chapel room. The building was dedicated in January 1913 by LDS Church President, Joseph F. Smith, who arrived on the old Oregon Shortline train and was met by three ward members.

All the materials used in constructing the building were found locally; rock for the foundation was hauled from Blacksmith Fork canyon; all the spruce and pine timber used for the building was cut at South Cottonwood in Blacksmith Fork canyon where Andrew B. Anderson had a sawmill. It was then hauled to the building site by Hans and Nickoli Jorgensen and Peter Thompson. It took two days per trip.

9. Major Bi	bilographica	ii Keterences	
	Cache Valley, compi	led by M.R. Hovey, L	ogan Chamber of Commerce, 1923, p.
18. The History of A Va	alley edited by Joel	E Ricks Deseret N	ews Publishing Co., 1956, p.44.
			r-day Saints, Andrew Jenson, 1936.
Interview with Vict	or J. Allen, Hyrum's	oldest resident.	
10. Geogra	phical Data	UIM NUT VI	ERIFIED
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List all states and cou	nties for properties over	lapping state or county b	oundaries
state	code	county	code
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11. FORM P	repared By		
name/title Steve Eng	glish, Bill and F. Mc	Bride, Jack Smith/Hi	storian
organization Utah St	tate Historical Socie	ety date	
street & number 307	West 2nd South	telephone	(801) 533-6017
city or town SLC		state	UT 84101
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665), I hereby nominate th		he National Register and cer	servation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89– tify that it has been evaluated <del>d R</del> ecreation Service.
State Historic Preservatio	n Officer signature	lom 1 3	inth
title Melvin T. Smith	n, State Historic Pre	eservation Officer	date December 13, 1979
For HCRS use only			
I hereby certify that	this property is included in i	the National Register	
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Keeper of the National F	legister		date $\frac{2}{(5/80)}$
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FHR-8-300A (11/78)

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The brick was hauled from Wellsville, five miles west of Hyrum, by ward members. This brick was made in Wellsville. The stone foundation and brick were laid by James L. Jenson and his son William. The mortar was mixed by Israel Jorgenson and Arthur Thompson. The carpenters were Ingwald Gulbranson, Albert Allen and son Silas. As was the custom in those early days, many other ward members "worked out" their building assessments. Karl Schaub, an architect from Logan, designed the building. The church paid \$8,000.00 for its construction, all other work was done by members of the ward.

Architect Schaub was born in Switzerland in 1869, and worked as a draftsman for the federal government before establishing an architectural office in Logan in partnership with Joseph Monson

with Joseph Monson.