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 9 1980 date entereFEB 2 2 1980

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

Type un entrice	complete applicable of	, ottorio		
1. Nam	1e			
historic Emer	ry LDS Church			
and/or common				
2. Loca	ation			
street & number	. Off UT	10		_ not for publication
city, town Eme	ery	vicinity of	congressional district $^{01}$	
state Utah	code	049 county	Emery	code 015
3. Clas	sification			
Category district _X building(s) structure site object	Ownership X public private both Public Acquisition in process being considered	Status X occupied unoccupied work in progress Accessible X yes: restricted yes: unrestricted	Present Use agriculture commercial educational entertainment _X government industrial military	museum park private residence religious scientific transportation X other: recreationa
	er of Proper	<u> </u>		
	ry Town	**		
city, town	mery	vicinity of	state	UT
5. Loca	ation of Lega	I Descripti	on	
courthouse, regi	istry of deeds, etc. Reco	rder's Office		
street & number		house		
	tle Dale		state	UT
orty, totti	resentation i	in Existing		
	ate Historic Sites S		operty been determined elec	gible? yes no
date 1973	Nov. 1975		federal state	county local
depository for su	urvey records Utah Stat	e Historical Soci	ety Heritage Conse	rvation and Recreation
city, town	ilt Lake City		state W	Service ashington, D.C.

### 7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one	
excellent _X_ good fair	deteriorated ruins unexposed	unaltered <u>X</u> altered	_ <u>X</u> original si moved	te date

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

The Emery Church is a wood frame structure with clapboard siding, lined with adobe bricks. The structure rests on a stone foundation. The main facade faces east and contains a tower and belfry covered with a Mansard roof and metal and wood railing. The north and south elevations contains central projecting bays with side entrances and transom lights. A small office projects out from the west elevation originally serving as the presiding Bishop's office: the wall thickness of the adobe is less than the main walls of the church.

Gables have boxed cornices with plain returns. Secondary gables (north and south elevations) have shingle siding.

Four tall double hung windows on both sides (north and south elevations) of the hall of a nine over nine arrangement have pedimental heads.

The interior space contains a long meeting hall preceded by a foyer. A stage or speaker's stand stands opposite the main entry. A door in the west wall of the stage leads into the Bishop's office. Walls are plastered with wood wainscot beaded board, all painted white.

Modifications to the structure include the installation of a kitchen in a portion of the stage and speaker's stand. A projection booth is now located above the vestibule.

The Emery Church is the first ecclesiastical building to be erected in the town of Emery since its settlement in the 1880s. Its wood and frame construction sheathed in clapboard and lined with a non-load bearing wall of adobe is very unusual for a Mormon church at the turn of the century.

Note: This description was readapted from the description prepared for the Historic American Buildings Survey by Peter L. Goss, Ph.D. and Burtch W. Beall, Jr., Architect, of the University of Utah in 1975.

### 8. Significance

Period prehistoric 1400–1499 1500–1599 1600–1699 1700–1799 1800–1899	Areas of Significance—C — archeology-prehistoric — archeology-historic — agriculture  X architecture — art — commerce	community planning conservation economics education engineering exploration/settlemer	law literature military music nt philosophy	science sculpture social/ humanitarian theater
X_1900-	communications	industry	politics/government	transportation other (specify)
Specific dates	1898-1900	Builder/Architect IIn	knovm	

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

The Emery LDS Church is significant as the oldest remaining religious building in Emery County and as the best remaining "New England" clapboard style LDS Church in Utah. Structurally, the church is significant because of its wood frame construction sheathed in clapboard and lined with non-load bearing wall of adobe. This construction technique was very unusual for a Mormon church built at the turn of the century.

#### HISTORY

The first settlers of Emery arrived in 1881. A post office was established in 1882 and at that time a one-room log school house (16' x 18') was constructed. The structure, with its dirt floor and backless plank benches, also served as a church and amusement hall.

In 1898 work began on the construction of the Emery meeting house. The frame church was built of local lumber with the dimensions being 36'5" x 84'6". The chapel was reported to have a capacity of 500 people.

The frame construction was typical of many of the buildings in Emery County. However, it was seldom used in LDS chapels. Ironically a more expensive brick church constructed in 1896 at nearby Huntington, was torn down in the 1960s. Some people argue that the alkali soil of Emery County could not support the heavier brick structures and, therefore, the lighter frame church in Emery did not suffer from a weakened foundation as did the Huntington Church for example.

The church at Emery was constructed under the direction of Bishop Alonzo Brinkerhoff. The construction was completed in 1900. However, because of an apparent problem in paying the \$7,000 construction cost, the church was not dedicated until July 27, 1902. However, upon completion in 1900, services were held in the chapel.

At the dedication services Bishop Brinkerhoff reported that "it had cost \$7,000 to build the house," and in what must have been a sigh of relief announced, "...that it was paid for." (Emery County Progress, August 2, 1902).

Elder Rudger Clawson offered the dedicatory prayer and later in the meeting went on to praise all those, "...who had assisted in building such a splendid meeting house, and...the blessing of God would rest upon the people and crown their labors." (Ibid.)

## **Major Bibliographical References**

Emery County Papers (Castle Dale, UT) August 2, 1902.

Andrew Jenson, comp., Emery Word, Emery Stake Historical Book B, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, Church Archives, SLC, UT.

Stella McElprang, comp., Castle Valley A History of Emery County (Emery County Company of the Da

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10. Geograp	hical Data		
Acreage of nominated proper Quadrangle name Emery, UMT References		Te AURIAGE WO	Quadrangle scale 1:24000
A 112 4 718 61210  Zone Easting  C 1	4 3 0 8 1 9 0  Northing	B Zone East D	ing Northing
Verbal boundary description The boundary includes townsite.	-	ek 23, Northeast Qu	arter of Section 9 of the Emery
List all states and countie	s for properties overla	apping state or county	boundaries
state	code	county	code
state	code	county	code
name/title A. Kent Powe organization Utah State		ervation Research C	oordinator August 28, 1979
street & number 307 West	2nd South	telepho	ne (801) 533-6017
city or town Salt Lake C	ity	state	UT 84101
12. State His	toric Prese	ervation Off	icer Certification
The evaluated significance of	this property within the s	tate is:	
As the designated State Histor 665), I hereby nominate this pr according to the criteria and p	operty for inclusion in th	e National Register and co	eservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89- ertify that it has been evaluated and Recreation Service.
State Historic Preservation Of	ficer signature	llvm /	Smile
title Melvin T. Smith, S	tate Historic Pres	servation Officer	date   Z - % ⇔
For HCRS use only I hereby certify that this	property is included in th	ne National Register	
you seek & No	die		date 2/27/80
Keeper of the National Regis	iter (	的 1962年 · 1863年 · 18644 · 18644 · 18644 · 18644 · 1864 · 1864 · 1864 · 1864 · 1864 ·	
		CONTRACTOR OF THE PARTY OF THE	
Attest: W. Kay	Leve		date $2/20/80$

FHR-8-300A (11/78)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

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The handsome frame church served the members of Emery well until the post World War II years when the emphasis shifted to multipurpose chapels. Accordingly, a "New Modern" chapel was dedicated June 25, 1956.

Fortunately the old church was not destroyed and in 1967 was purchased by the city for use as a town meeting and recreation hall.