

**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 NOV 17 1980

date entered FEB 12 1982

**1. Name**

historic George Arbuckle House

and/or common

**2. Location**

street & number 747 East 17th South St. 5 not for publication

city, town Salt Lake City vicinity of congressional district 02

state Utah code 049 county Salt Lake County 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	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<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 Christopher and Elizabeth Montague

street & number 747 East 17th South

city, town Salt Lake City vicinity of state Utah

**5. Location of Legal Description**

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

street & number Fourth South and State Street

city, town Salt Lake City state Utah

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**

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

date July 1980  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records Utah State Historical Society

city, town Salt Lake City state Utah 84101

## 7. Description

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" 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

Facing south on the street, with a set-back much deeper than that of any of its neighbors, the Arbuckle home is a one-and-a-half story brick structure designed in Gothic Revival style, its most prominent features being two steep gables in front, the larger one centered with a pointed, arched double door, the smaller with a similar single door, both leading to balconies, one over the west front porch and the other over the large bay of three windows. On the ground floor windows are tall, slightly arched at the top, with projecting, heavy wooden sills. Soldiercoursed brick forms a hood over each door and window. Deep cornices frame the gables and edge the bay and porch roof lines. The entrance porch, extending almost halfway across the west front of the house is supported by four columns set upon low ornamented bases. Missing is the original wooden railing that fit between the porch posts as well as the two that bordered the second story balconies. A frieze of cut-out fans is the principal decorative feature of the porch. This was a characteristic Victorian eclectic scheme, though one seldom seen in Utah. The porch's wooden floor has been replaced with concrete. The lattice-work porch base and four or five steps leading onto the porch were eliminated when the ground level was raised with fill dirt.

The original brick color may have been a light buff, perhaps even with pinkish tones. In the 1930s the brick was painted a similar but deeper color, each brick receiving individual treatment in varying shades of the color, the mortar joints painted black. The exterior wood trim is a pale yellow, the upper doors, brown. The roof, originally wood shingles, has been covered with asphalt shingles in a dark red shade.

Except for the early addition (prior to 1911) by Mr. Arbuckle of a small frame room at the east rear of the house, its door opening onto the back porch, the basic structure has remained unchanged. The second home owners, the Bradfords, excavated and built a small concrete cellar under the room reached by a large trap door in its floor. Crawl space only exists beneath the rest of the house, which sits on a sandstone foundation, 14 inches thick, now mostly covered by soil.

The brick exterior is lined with adobe, finished on the inside with plaster. Other interior walls are lath and plaster. Woodwork throughout the home is native pine and appears always to have been painted. Doors are ornamented with one horizontal and four vertical panels, all patterned with grooves and fit with original brass hardware. Window and door framings are also grooved and patterned with conical extensions on many of the vertical elements. Transom windows over most of the doors have been plastered over.

The front door, still retains the original window of stained glass squares surrounding a patterned glass center panel. Its old handle-operated bell is now gone, stairs in the entry hall lead to the second story and doors open to the right into the parlor and straight ahead into the kitchen at the rear of the house. The large bay pleasantly expands the parlor floor space. The focus of the room, however, is on the highly decorative mantel of rosewood, complete with five beveled mirrors, spindle-railed shelves and intricate carving. The fire-place opening and hearth, now incompatibly framed in brick, originally were tiled in dark, mahogany red tones to match the mantel.

## 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** ca. 1890 **Builder/Architect** Unknown

### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The George Arbuckle House, built in about 1890, is significant as a unique type of Gothic Revival house in Utah. Unlike the delicately decorative, more common manifestation on the Gothic Revival in the state which incorporated bargeboards and elaborate porch detailing, the Arbuckle house is a more classical, simplified representation of that style. Particularly rare in Utah domestic architecture are the pointed arch windows on the second floor and the fan type decoration on the porch frieze. Although the house has been altered, it retains those characteristics which make it as an outstanding and unusual representative of the Gothic Revival Style.

On a late 1850s map of the Five Acre Plat "A" (bounded by present day Ninth South, Second and Fourth West, Twenty-First South, and Thirteenth and Fifteenth East) C.H. Bryan appears as the holder of Lot 2, Block 15, a result of the drawing held by Brigham Young on September 28, 1848, in which parcels of land were awarded to various pioneers for the purpose of farming the following year, 1849. Lot 2 is bounded by present streets Logan Avenue, Seventh East, Seventeenth South and Eighth East. (Seventeenth South was first known as Eleventh South. On the 1911 Sanborn Map it was designated Tempest Avenue. It later received its present name). The first recorded owner of that property to be found in Salt Lake County abstract records, however, was Asa Calkin who sold Lots 1, 2 and 3 to Claudius V. Spencer, a laboring man, October 19, 1865. On February 20, 1866, the property was sold to Henry George, a tailor. Jacob Gibson, a teamster residing on the west side of Ninth East below the city limits which ended at Ninth South, paid Henry George \$3,000 for Lots 1, 2 and 3 on May 24, 1870. Upon Mr. Gibson's death his widow, Sarah, sold Lot 2 for \$3805 to Leonard G. Hardy, August 13, 1889. He soon divided and resold the property. Mr. Hardy, with Oscar H. Hardy, Alonzo Young and Elias Morris, was a principal in the general merchandise firm of Hardy, Young and Company, located at 28 and 30 South Main Street.

In February, 1890, George Arbuckle, an immigrant from Scotland and at the time an employee of Hardy, Young and Company, purchased the property at 747 East "Eleventh" South from Leonard G. (his employer) and Miriam Y. Hardy, for the sum of \$500, in the name of his wife Elizabeth S. Allen Arbuckle. On this property Mr. Arbuckle built a brick, 1 1/2 story Gothic Revival style home, most likely in the year of 1890. This date cannot be precisely authenticated, but a daughter, still living, Mrs. Edith Coppin, recalls that 1890 was the year. Her family, she says, resided with Mr. Arbuckle's father-in-law, William L. N. Allen, at 34 "I" Street while awaiting completion of the home, a fact confirmed by information in the Polk Directory of 1890; in the 1891-92 edition of the directory, Mr. Arbuckle is noted as residing "n s Eleventh South, bet 7th and 8th East".

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

Daughters of the Utah Pioneers. Tales of a Triumphant People, 1947.

Salt Lake County Records

Polk, Salt Lake City Directories

ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

UTM NOT VERIFIED

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property Less than one

Quadrangle name Sugar House, Utah

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

### UMT References

A 

1	2
---	---

4	2	6	6	2	0
---	---	---	---	---	---

4	5	0	9	3	6	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

  
 Zone Easting Northing

B 

--	--

--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--

  
 Zone Easting Northing

C 

--	--

--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--

D 

--	--

--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--

E 

--	--

--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--

F 

--	--

--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--

G 

--	--

--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--

H 

--	--

--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--

### Verbal boundary description and justification

Beginning at a point 363 feet. from SW corner Lot 2, Block 15, Five Acre Plat "A", Big Field Survey - east 60 ft., north 143.55 ft., west 60 ft., South 143.55 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 Elizabeth Montague and John McCormick

organization Utah State Historical Society

date Summer 1980

street & number 307 West 200 South

telephone (801) 533-6017

city or town Salt Lake City

state Utah 84101

# 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 October 22, 1980

For HCRS use only

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

*Thomas M. Dwyer*

date 2/12/82

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

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

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

For HCRS use only

received NOV 17 1980

date of filing FEB 12 1982

Continuation sheet

Item number 7

Page 1

An 1895 calendar hanging on the wall behind the mantel, discovered by the Camps when they removed the structure to install the brick trim, would indicate that the elaborate mantel was added to the room about four years after the home was completed.

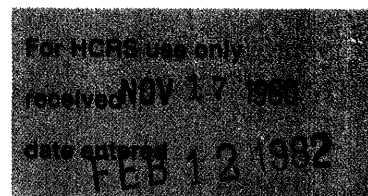
Folding doors matching in design the other doors of the house once filled the large framed wall opening between the parlor and dining room. In contrast to the parlor mantel, the one in the dining rooms extremely simple, made of oak and now painted white like the other woodwork in the house, but originally having a natural wood finish. Tiles designed in green and brown alternate with plain bronze-colored ones to frame the fireplace opening and form the hearth. A roomy closet opens off the dining room used by Mrs. Arbuckle for storing her china, linens and sewing basket. It once held cupboards with glass doors and a counter, but these have disappeared to accomodate its use as a clothes closet.

The amply sized kitchen is opposite the dining room. Presently it is served by a gas stove and water heater on the north wall, a sink and small counter on the west wall, and a cupboard and counter unit on the south. Originally a coal stove stood on the south wall. The built-in glass-doored cupboard and counter were not added until the 1930s by the Bradford family, at which time the ceiling was also lowered. Original horizontal slat-type wainscoting is still present. From the kitchen, doors lead to the front entry, the dining room, a long narrow pantry at the back of the house, the covered back porch (its west end now open, once closed in), and a narrow utility room on the southwest corner of the house. The utility room has had many uses. When the house was first built, the room was larger, extending several feet into the front hall with its entrance doorway just left of the front door, a solid wall toward the kitchen. Mr. Arbuckle first used the room as a library, and books lined its walls from floor to ceiling. It later became an office where Mr. Arbuckle conducted his own and church business after he became bishop of the L.D.S. Emerson Ward. It was used as a bedroom by Mrs. Bradford and finally as a utility room by the Camp family.

The Bradfords narrowed this room and widened the front hall with the gained space when they made a radical structural change in the stairway. In the original house plans the stairs originated at the kitchen, rising from the landing there straight to the second floor. Because Mrs. Arbuckle's husband was often out of town as a salesman for ZCMI Wholesale Grocery, and because in their isolated location she was afraid of transients and occasional Indians who came to the door, she insisted that the stairway be placed just off the kitchen where she could quickly herd her children upstairs if danger required such action. The stairway now ascends from the front hall and makes a gradual quarter turn about half way up to join the original staircase. The original heavy, turned newel post and spindles still border the stairway on the second floor. Strangely, no handrail was added to the lower section in the hallway. The Camp family provided a make-shift two-by-four railing many years later. A diamond-shaped window illuminated the stair on the ground level. On the outside it is framed with a row of coursed brick.

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

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



Continuation sheet

Item number 7

Page 2

From the central hallway on the second floor, doorways lead to an east front bedroom, an east back bedroom with a large walk-in closet, a small hall closet, and the bathroom on the west. A very small room adjoins the front bedroom both rooms having the arched doors that lead to the balconies over the bay and front porch. The smaller room was used as a bedroom for the Arbuckle children. All the upper floor rooms have the slanted walls associated with the gables and steep-pitched roof, and many of the walls have chimney projections.

One of the most interesting architectural features of the house is the tall cathedral window on the west upper floor that is divided down the center on the interior by a solid wall partition, the small bedroom on the south and the bathroom on the north. An Arbuckle daughter, Mrs. Marie Armstrong, says that the present bathroom was not used as a bathroom in the early years of occupancy because no sewage facilities extended to the area, but it was always intended for that purpose and later was converted. The free-standing tub on claw feet and the wash bowl appear to be the original fixtures.

No central heating system exists in the home. Fireplaces, the kitchen coal range and individual stoves in the bedrooms furnished heat for the early residents. The Bradfords installed a "heatrola" in the dining room and blocked the fireplace opening with plywood fitted to the front. The Camps later sealed the fireplace with a cement front. The Camps had a large gas space heater in the dining room as well as a gas heater in the bathroom. A small rectangular opening cut in the ceiling of the dining room by the Camps permitted heat to rise to the bedroom above.

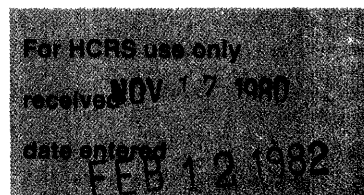
The house appears to be in generally sound condition with solid floors and walls. The re-wiring that was done about 12 years ago represents the most recent improvement to the home. One concludes that neglect rather than abuse has led to its present appearance and condition and that rehabilitation and restoration will make the Arbuckle home a future show place.

Poplars were planted along the west boundary line, just inside a green wooden picket fence, edging the long driveway which led past the house, past the shingle-roofed wash house (which contained a stove for heating water) and finally to the one-and-a-half story barn at the rear of the deep lot. Across the back of the property were two adjoining chicken coops, also shingled. The barn was used for the Arbuckle's cow and for their small one-seated buggy and horse.

The running well in the backyard watered the vegetable garden and the orchard located to the east, also owned by Mr. Arbuckle. (The well was eventually enclosed in a concrete box and in the 1930s was capped by the city along with others in the area. Leakage around the cap indicates the presence of water in the well today.) A root cellar on the east of the lot was used for storage and not filled in until the 1930s. Excellent gardens grew in the rich soil of the area.

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

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



Continuation sheet

Item number 7

Page 3

Changes came to the yard in the early 1930s when Mr. Bradford, the second owner, had soil from the grading of Seventeenth South (at the time of a resurfacing project) dumped on his property to fill it up to street level, front and back. This, of course, changed the proportions of the house somewhat, almost completely covering the sandstone base and eliminating all but one of the porch steps as well as its lattice base. The soil was poor and has presented a plant growth problem ever since. At the same time Mr. Bradford cut down all the poplar trees on his property and convinced other neighbors on his street to do the same, claiming that the trees were diseased and dirty. Maple trees were subsequently planted in the front parkings on the street. A large apricot tree, cherry and apple trees now grow in the backyard, in addition to raspberry bushes, rhubarb plants, grape vines and a spectacular old-fashioned yellow climbing rose against the back fence. Mr. and Mrs. Camp transplanted rose bushes and lilacs from the back to the front yard to grow near the east property line and the wire mesh fence erected by Mrs. Bertha H. Green, the adjoining property owner.

Long gone are the barn, chicken coops and wash shed. The Camps built a low-walled, roofless wooden structure to hold coal at the end of the driveway. They also dug up the lawn west of the front walk, gravelled the space and used it for a parking area. In spite of such concessions to utility, the back yard still retains some of the charm it had originally.

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

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

For HCPRS use only

received NOV 17 1980

designated FEB 2 1982

Continuation sheet

Item number 8

Page 1

Research has revealed no solid information regarding the architect or builder of the home, but a daughter, Mrs. Marie Armstrong, says that she always had the impression that her uncle, William L. N. Allen, Jr., her mother's brother, who was a contractor and builder, had built the home. The possibility exists that Elias Morris with whom Mr. Arbuckle may have had an association at Hardy, Young and Company, played some role in construction of the home, especially considering the highly professional brick work evident on the exterior. In addition to his involvement with Hardy, Young, Mr. Morris was also a contractor and builder handling mantels, tiles, grates, marble and granite monuments, fire brick, cement, piping, etc.

George Arbuckle was born April 8, 1859 in Glasgow, Scotland, a son of James and Agnes Thompson Arbuckle. Converts to the L.D.S. Church, his mother and brother came first to Utah, followed in 1872 by George and his father. In 1909 George was made bishop of the L.D.S. Emerson Ward in Granite Stake, a position he held for 11 years.

Elizabeth S. Allen Arbuckle, his wife, was the daughter of William L. N. Allen, an L.D.S convert-emigrant fro England who came to Utah in 1853. Their marriage resulted in a family of ten children, in order: George Allen, William L. N., Florence, twins Edith and Edwin, Dumont, and two more sets of twins, Marie and Milton, and Gladys and Grant.

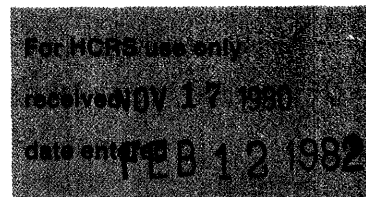
At the time George built his home in 1890, he was employed as a clerk at the Hardy, Young Company, a retail firm dealing in dry goods, groceries, boots, shoes and other general merchandise items. In an interview recorded in Tales of a Triumphant People George Arbuckle himself described the area at the time he built his home: "This territory was all farming country, and there were very few houses. I drove up Seventh East with my family and had a cow tied behind the buggy. I remember that there were only three houses between Ninth South and what is now Seventeenth South, and one was Brother Reich's house, an old adobe house (now crumbled) on Seventh East and Roosevelt Avenue; and two frame houses, owned by a Mr. Hollister and a Mr. Sprague, on Seventh East and Harrison Avenue. Sprague came from the East and was an Internal Revenue officer for the Territory of Utah." He spent the last thirty years of his business life as a traveling salesman for ZCMI Wholesale Grocery Company. His wife died in 1920, and upon his retirement in 1928 he sold his home to the Bradford family, continuing an active life until 1945 when he died at the age of 86.

On April 8, 1920, George Arbuckle transferred ownership of his home and lot from his wife to himself. His wife died shortly after, but he continued to live in the home until 1928 when he sold it to Hyal Lee Bradford. Hyal Lee Bradford and his wife Mabel Smith Bradford moved to the home with their three children Florence, Charmion and Lee in 1928. Mr. Bradford had been a school principal in Spanish Fork, Utah and worked in the Murray City shops when he moved to Salt Lake. He was frequently absent from home for long periods of time on L.D.S. missions to Hawaii, the Eastern States and to New Zealand. He spoke Maori fluently and was translating the Book of Mormon into that language.



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

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



Continuation sheet

Item number 8

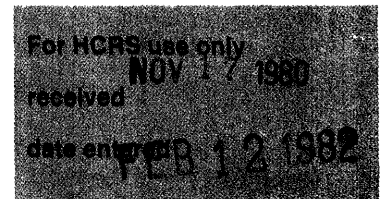
Page 2

Mrs. Bradford came from Logan where her father was an L.D.S. bishop for 40 years. After the death of her husband in the late 1930s, she stayed on in the house for many years, working to support herself at the Salt Lake City Post Office.

After Mr. Bradford's death, Mrs. Bradford remained in the house until 1968 when the property was sold to Harry D. and Barbara J. Camp. The Camps received title to the property August 11, 1977.

Christopher Snow Montague and Elizabeth J. Welti Montague purchased the property on April 17, 1980 from the Camps who moved to Las Vegas, Nevada. The Montagues are presently living in the home while doing rehabilitation and restoration work, intending to make it their permanent residence.

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



Continuation sheet

Item number 9

Page 1

---

Sanborn Maps, Salt Lake City, 1911

Paper on the George Arbuckle House, Utah State Historical Society, July 1980.