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

1. Name

| historic | John E. Booth | louse | | |
|--|---|--|--|--|
| and/or common | | | | |
| 2. Loca | tion | | | |
| street & number | 59 West 500 No | rth St. | | not for publication |
| city, town | Provo | vicinity of | congressional district | 01 |
| state | Utah code | 049 county | Utah | 049 code |
| 3. Class | sification | | | |
| Category district X building(s) structure site object | Ownership public X_ private both Public Acquisition in process being considered | Status X occupied unoccupied work in progress Accessible X yes: restricted yes: unrestricted no | Present Use agriculture commercial educational entertainment government industrial military | <pre> museum park _X private residence religious scientific transportation other:</pre> |
| 4. Own | er of Proper | ty | | |
| name | Dr. D. Creed B | rimhall | | |
| street & number | 885 North 1260 | East | | |
| city, town | Provo | vicinity of | state | Utah 84601 |
| 5. Loca | tion of Lega | al Descripti | on | |
| courthouse, regis | stry of deeds, etc. Ut al | County Courthouse | 2 | |
| street & number | | | | |
| city, town | Prov | 70 | state | Utah |
| 6. Repr | esentation | in Existing | Surveys | |
| title Utah Hist | toric Sites Survey | has this pro | operty been determined ele | gible? yes 🗶 no |
| date Summer 19 | | | | e county local |
| depository for su | rvey records Utah St | ate Historical Soc | ciety | |
| city town | ····· | ake City | state | Utah |

7. Description

| Co | ndi | itio | n |
|----|-----|------|---|
| | | | |

fair

Check one \underline{X} excellent deteriorated _ unaltered X altered good ruins ... unexposed

Check one X original site

moved date

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The plan of this two and one half story brick house derives from the vernacular L-plan and has a T extension in the rear. A hip roof and a gable roof section intersect to form the L. The extension has a hip roof. From each end of the hip roof are gable projections with pent roofs like the pent roof of the gable on the facade. Two tall chimneys with elaborate corbelling project from the hip roof section.

Divisions between stories are subtley emphasized. Pairs of stringcourses divide the basement, first, second and third stories from one another. The division between the basement and first floor is further emphasized by color differentiation in the brick. The red brick of the basement was left unpainted, whereas the brick and mortar joints of the rest of the house except that on the T extension, have been painted various shades of brown and tan to create a varigated effect. The division between the second and third floors has, in addition to the stringcourses, a line of obliquely set bricks that runs beneath the stringcourses at the height of the second story lintels.

The fenestration of the facade is simple and carefully balanced. On the east half, the gable end, a simple Palladian window is centered on the top half story and a broad single sash window with a stained glass transom and stone lintel and lugsill is centered on each of the two lower stories. A single story square hip roof brick entrance chamber fills the angle of intersection of the hip and gable roof sections. Above it is a simple double hung sash window. On each story of the west half of the hip roof section is centered a single window similar to those on the gable end. Windows on the east, west and south sides of the building are long, narrow, have jigsaw cut detailing in the decorative arch above them, and are topped with a segmented relieving arch.

Classical detailing includes: a boxed cornice on the main roofline and on that of the brick entry which is completely supported by brackets except on the T addition; the pediment over the entrance supported by a Classical pier and pilaster which has a fan type of decoration on the tympanum; and dentils which line the lower edge of the transom of each single sash window.

Major alterations include a change in the size of the opening of a window on the east wall and the addition of two frame extensions to the east and west sides of the T extension. Both changes were made within the historic period and do not detract from the original integrity of the building. The interior of the building has been divided into apartments.

8. Significance

| Period prehistoric 1400–1499 1500–1599 1600–1699 1700–1799 1800–1899 1900– | Areas of Significance—C archeology-prehistoric archeology-historic agriculture X architecture art commerce communications | | Iandscape architecture Iaw Iiterature military music philosophy X politics/government | e religion science sculpture X_ social/ humanitarian theater transportation other (specify) |
|---|--|---------------------|---|--|
| Specific dates | 1900 | Builder/Architect U | nknown | |

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The John E. Booth house, is significant as the only example of a two and one half story Victorian Builder house in Provo. While its plan is clearly derived from the vernacular T-plan, its scale and detailing mark it as a significant representative of a transitional Victorian type. The Booth house is an isolated and distinguished example of a house type that was more common in other parts of the state. It is also one of the best of few remaining examples in Provo of a house whose bricks were individually painted to create a varigated effect.

John E. Booth was one of the most prominent turn-of-the-century Provoans. He was prominent in the educational, legal, political, business, and ecclesiastical affairs of Provo and Utah.

This house was built in 1900 for John E. Booth. Booth was born in England in 1847 and came to Utah with his L.D.S. convert parents in 1857. He received his earliest education in England and later attended schools in Utah. He intermittently attended the University of Deseret while teaching in different towns in Utah. In the early 1870s he went to Provo where he taught at Brigham Young Academy and studied law in the office of John B. Milner.

Booth was admitted to the Utah bar in 1875. The same year he was made Provo City Attorney and entered into practice with George M. Brown, another prominent attorney in pioneer Provo. From 1899 to 1913 Booth served as a district judge.

John E. Booth was active in politics. He served as city alderman, then in 1882 was elected a member of the Utah Territorial Assembly. From 1890 to 1891 he served in the Utah Territorial Senate. He was elected mayor of Provo in 1891 and served one term in that position. In 1891-92 and again 1894-96 Booth served as president of the Provo City School Board.

Booth was also prominent in Provo business circles. He was president of the Utah Valley Iron Mining and Manufacturing Company and served as a director of several Provo businesses and banks.

John E. Booth wsa a practicing Mormon and held important offices in his church. He served as bishop of the Provo Fourth Ward for over twenty years. He was for a time a polygamist, having married in 1873 and again in 1876, but both wives died in the early 1880s, leaving Booth wifeless. He married again in 1887, but Mormon polygamy was by this time in its death throes and he did not enter "the principle" again. In his autobiography, Booth expressed disappointment that he was not able tosee his faith by suffering deprivation of legal rights as many of his fellow Mormons did because of their marital status. Booth would not have been able to serve in the political fuctions he did, however, had he been a polygamist throughout the 1880s.

9. Major Bibliographical References

| Plat records, Utah County. | |
|-------------------------------|------|
| Sanborn maps, 1890, 1900. | |
| City directories, 1891-1939. | |
| Salt Lake Tribune, August 17, | 1954 |

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property <u>Less than one</u> Quadrangle name <u>Provo</u>

UMT References

| A 1 2 4 4 3 9 6 0 Zone Easting | 4 4 5 4 4 1 0 Northing | B Zone |
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Quadrangle scale _

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Verbal boundary description and justification

E 1/2 of Lot 5, Block 111, Plat A.

| ical Societ de ty | county ural Historian ty Ervation | date telephone state | Summer 801-53 Ut <i>a</i> h | 1980 3-6017 | |
|--|--|--|---|--|---|
| Architectu ical Societ de ty C Pres | ty | date telephone state | Summer 801-53 Ut <i>a</i> h | 1980 3-6017 | |
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| ^{de} ty c Pres | | telephone state | 801-53 Ut <i>a</i> h | 3-6017 | |
| c Pres | ervation | state | Utah | | |
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| or inclusion in | the National Regist | ter and certi | ify that it h | ias been evalu | |
| nature The | hun | Sm | rh | | |
| <u>Historic Pr</u> | reservation Of | ficer | date | December | 15, 1981 |
| is included in | the National Regist | ter | | | |
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When John E. Booth died in 1920, his widow obtained the house. She sold it to her daughter and son-in-law, Elsie and Isaac E. Brockbank in 1923, and apparently remained in the house. Isaac Brockbank was also a prominent Provo attorney, and his residence in the house adds to its historical significance. Elsie Booth Brockbank resided in the house until recently and the house is still in the hands of the nine daughters of the Brockbanks. CONTI

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Deseret News, March 30, 1910, August 16, 1954.

- Elsie Dee Adams, John Edge Booth, 1847-1920 (Springville, Utah: Art City Publishing Co., 1962).
- Utah County, A Graphic Account (Salt Lake City: County Atlas Publishing Co., 1897), p. 34.
- Writers' Program, WPA, Provo: Pioneer Mormon City (Portland: Binfords & Mort Publishers, 1942), pp. 64, 85.
- Chamber of Commerce, Provo: Garden City of Utah (Omaha: D.C. Dunbar & Co., 1888), pp. 15, 17, 36.
- J. Marinus Jensen, <u>History of Provo, Utah</u> (Provo: J. Marinus Jensen, 1924), pp. 193, 195, 202, 206, 241, 279, 280, 311.
- John Clifton Moffitt, <u>The Story of Provo, Utah</u> (Provo: Press Pub., 1975), pp. 16, 25, 36, 37, 42, 43, 139, 177, 236, 251, 261, 276, 278, 282.