Form 10-300 (July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

ì	STATE:							
	Utah							
	COUNTY:							
	Washington							
	FOR NPS USE ONLY							
	ENTRY NUMBER	DATE						
	71.4.49.001.3	4/16/1						

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	3. CLASSIFICATION		•								
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)	Site Structure	x Private	In Process		Restricted						
-	Object	☐ Both	Being Considered	Preservation work	Unrestricted						
-	\			in progress] No						
ر	PRESENT USE (Check One o	r More as Appropriate)									
>		Government Pa	rb	Transportation [Comments						
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		Military XX Re		Other (Specify)							
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Z	4. OWNER OF PROPERTY OWNER'S NAME:				- I o						
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	***************************************	REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS									
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7.	DESCRIPTION									
		(Check One)								
	CONDITION	Excellent	XX Good	☐ Fair	☐ Det	er i orated	Ruins	Unexposed		
		(Check One)			(Check One)					
		☐ Alter	red	🗶 Unaltered			☐ Moved	XX Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The lovely Pine Valley Chapel was designed and built in 1868 by Ebenezer Bryce, for whom the now famous Bryce's Canyon was named. Being a ship builder from Australia, Bryce employed his earlier skills in building the church. The wood frame walls were assembled on the ground and raised into position, then joined with wooden pegs and rawhide. The frame stands independently, with the walls and petitions "hung" on the basic structure. Since Bryce built the chapel like a ship, he is reported to have claimed: "If the floods come, it will float. And if the winds blow, it may roll over but it will never crash." The chapel was modeled after churches in New England in honor of Erastus Snow, the Apostle leading the southern colonies, and Brigham Young, church president.

Special timbers were cut from the ponderosa pine in nearby canyons to make the church. The same quality timbers had been hauled all the way to Salt Lake City to be hollowed out for pipes in the famous Mormon Tabernacle.

The church is two stories, with a gabled attic which contains a small "prayer room" over the stage or stand area. Below the main chapel is a basement, which originally consisted of only 2 large rooms, but has since been petitioned into smaller classrooms. The main chapel is a large room with a small stage and speaker's area.

The structure's over-all dimensions are 32' 3" by 52' 4", excluding the steps, which have a pair of double stair landings half way up. The original wooden stairs have been replaced with cement.

Fortunately, however, most of the structure remains as it was originally. ____ The restoration in progress at present is careful and minimal. This architectural jewel sits in a lovely mountain valley in Utah, now in continuous use for more than 100 years.

Sitting to the east of the chapel is a small tithing office, built of soft red brick in the 1880's. The structure is only one story, 16' by 27'. A "warehouse" door opens on the side. It has a gabled roof and unornamented cornices and eves. The flooring is 5" pine board. Some refinishing has occurred, but the structure is original and its exterior modified very little. With the chapel, it represents very well the early Mormon Church situation.



SIGNIFICANCE			
PERIOD (Check One or More as A	Appropriate)		
Pre-Columbian	16th Century	☐ 18th Century	20th Century
☐ 15th Century	☐ 17th Century	🔀 19th Century	
SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicabl	e and Known)		
AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Che	ck One or More as Appropri	ate)	
Abor iginal	Education	Political	Urban Planning
☐ Prehistoric	Engineering	Religion/Phi-	Other (Specify)
Historic	Industry	losophy	TITIT
☐ Agriculture	Invention	Science	61-43
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☐ Communications	☐ Military	Theater Theater	620 6
☐ Conservation	Music	Transportation	6 200
STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE		/co	

Pine Valley was first allotted to John D. Lee as range land on which to run his livestock. However, the valley itself was discovered by Isaac Riddle who followed the trail of a straying cow from the Mormon Indian Mission at Fort Harmony, west over the mountain. He located both good range land, but even more significantly for the southern Utah settlement, excellent timber, both pine and aspen. Riddle and two partners, John Blackham and Robert Richey, purchased machinery for a saw mill and began operation in Pine Valley that fall. With expansion of the southern settlements, Washington, St. George and Santa Clara, especially, the demand for lumber increased. More families moved into Pine Valley. Some limited farming was done before 1864; however, this economic feature was secondary to livestock. Pine Valley also furnished lumber for the mines in both Pioche, Nevada and Silver Reef, Utah. Robert Gardner, one of the early expert lumber men, was asked by Joseph Ridges, organ builder, to select choice pine logs to be sent north to Salt Lake City for the Tabernacle organ's "pipes."

By 1868 the people of Pine Valley needed and decided to build their own chapel. Ebenezer Bryce designed and supervised the construction.

Later a steam engine was brought in to supply power for the saw mills. Today there is some lumbering, but the ruggedness of the lava terrain and the indiscriminate cutting of timber earlier have reduced this economic aspect of the area. It now serves as a summer home area and for recreational activities.

The general setting for the chapel has been landscaped to compliment the overall picture. Visitors are welcome at the site. The chapel is still used by the Pine Valley summer branch of the L.D.S. Church.

The tithing office also is in good repair, and sits nearby as a reminder of the close alliance between religion and the Mormon barter economy. The "Lord's share" was given in kind and kept therein, to be meted out to the needy and for worthy projects as the Bishop so directed.

9.	MAJOR	BIBLIOGR	APHICAL R	EFERENCE	\$							
	Paul Goeldner, Utah Catalog: Historic American Buildings Survey (Salt Lake City, 1969), pp. 17, 18.											
	Paul Goeldner, "Interview with Miss Bessie Snow," (Pine Valley, Utah: July 17, 1968.)											
	Original Town Plat, Pine Valley, Utah, Washington County Courthouse, St. George, Utah.											
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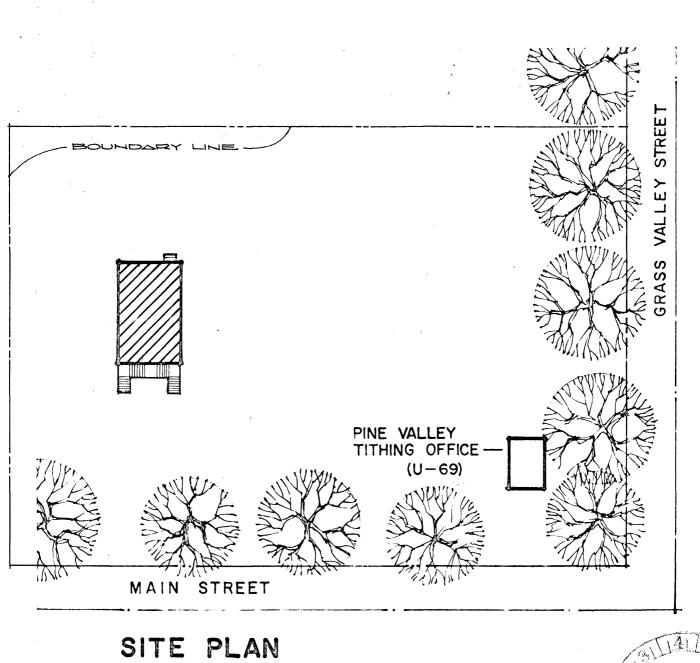
ADDENDUM: PINE VALLEY CHAPEL AND TITHING OFFICE

Originally (1830) the economic order of the Mormon Church was the "law of Tithing" or ten percent of a person's income, for the Lord. The administrator of these funds was the Presiding Bishop of the Church. Next a "Law of Consecration" was initiated in Missouri during the mid and late 1830's, wherein everyone was asked to consecrate all his goods to the Lord. The Bishop in the area was responsible for the property and in turn returned a stewardship of property to each man and family. To this stewardship he received a permanent title, the surplus was retained by the Church to be given as needed to the worthy poor and to young adults whose family could not provide them an inheritance. Its success was limited.

Later the law of tithing was reinstituted. Such was the practice in Nauvoo and in early Utah. However, another kind of communal economic program was inaugurated, called the United Order. Its practices included a kind of cooperative stock holding in various kinds of production. Some 'Orders' even had communal kitchens, etc.

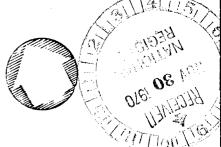
However, the law of Tithing has persisted, a lesser law to devout Mormons, but a necessary "schoolmaster" to train the Saints for the higher law. Thus throughout Mormondom and especially in Utah, the tithing office was built, usually near the church, to which tithing in kind--hay, grain, potatoes, vegatables, etc.--was brought and receipts issued.

Yet, further functions were served by these "storehouses." The poor and needy were supplied from them, credit could be obtained by putting tithing in one place (Salt Lake City), and with a scrip issued, reclaim one's needs in St. George or Pine Valley or where one happened to be going. This system had active use well into the twentieth century. Now only a few buildings remain to remind us of this barter economy which has given way to checking accounts and welfare squares.



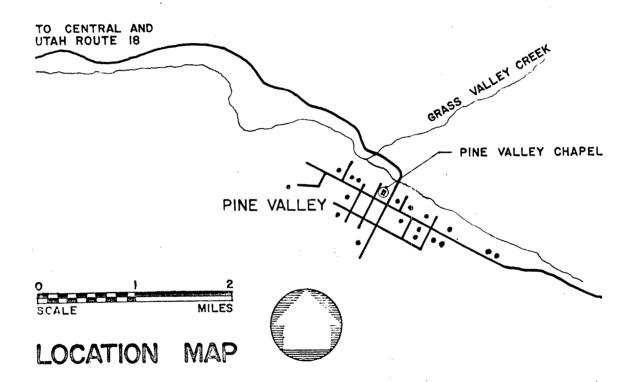
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SCALE IN FEET



LATITUDE : 37° - 25' - 39" LONGITUDE: 113° - 30' - 56" HABS DWG //AP





PINE VALLEY CHAPEL & TITHING OFFICE MAIN STREET & GRASS VALLEY STREET PINE VALLEY, UTAH

LATITUDE : 37° - 28' - 39" LONGITUDE: 113° - 30' - 56" HABS DWG, MAP

DATE: MAY 1970