

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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RECEIVED MAY 27 1975
DATE ENTERED JAN 1 1975

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 Bountiful Tabernacle
AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER Main and Centre Streets
CITY, TOWN Bountiful VICINITY OF
STATE Utah CODE 49 COUNTY Davis CODE 011
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 1

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input 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 type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input checked="" 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 Corporation of the Presiding Bishop, LDS Church
STREET & NUMBER 50 East North Temple
CITY, TOWN Salt Lake City VICINITY OF STATE Utah

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Davis County Courthouse
STREET & NUMBER
CITY, TOWN Farmington STATE Utah

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE Utah Historic Sites Survey
DATE 1974 FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Utah State Historical Society
CITY, TOWN Salt Lake City STATE Utah

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<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

The original part, the chapel, is a rectangle 40' by 80' with a portico over the front entrance and a small utility room at the back. The foundation is of stone, 6 feet thick and 9 feet high. The walls are of adobe, 3 feet thick. The exterior has been covered with plaster or stucco for at least half of the building's life. The single centered inset tower is capped by five spires.

The roof is shingled. The gable is of medium pitch with a boxed and returned cornice and a decorated frieze of wood. On each side wall were three large 3-sashed recessed windows with capstone lintels and brick sills. Directly underneath were basement windows in the stone foundation. A later addition covered the windows on the north. The only windows in the front facade are 2 half-round ventilators in the wall and in the porch.

The main entrance is composed of 2 doors under the portico. The portico follows the line of the main gable. It is supported by 6 fluted columns of wood, the stairs originally descending to ground level both to the front and sides.

The basement inside is devoted to small classrooms. The main floor is a single room. Its walls are plastered with a 4 foot high wooden slat paneling around the bottom and a decorative, possibly hand-carved moulding around the top. There are three chandeliers hanging from carved mountings.

In the rear is a balcony, approached from the sides by winding staircases. It is supported from beneath by fluted columns and from above by square ones. These columns are of wood and are painted in a "marbled" pattern similar to that on the columns in the tabernacle in Temple Square. On the front of the balcony is a facade of decorative woodwork.

The rostrum in front starts out from a 15 foot section of the rear wall, then forms a large, irregular circle with an approximate 25 foot diameter, standing away from the walls and hiding two access doors to the rear. It is largely surrounded by a railing supported by carved newell posts. It is level from the podium to the first row of seats, then rises with each of 5 rows of choir seats.

On the rear wall over the choir is a mural in green, gray and white, featuring a bust of Joseph Smith in an alcove surmounted by 2 cherubim holding a banner which reads "Holiness to the Lord."

The only apparent alterations in this original part are a new stairway from the portico outside, descending only to the front--the original descended to the sides as well--with an added 4 iron railings; and a large door, folding, on the north side leading to the new amusement hall and replacing two of the windows.

The two additions, to the north side and to the rear--a cultural hall and a Relief Society room and kitchen--both with full basements, are well integrated to the exterior style of the original building.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Deseret News, 1857 to 1863

Davis County Clipper

Ms History of Brigham Young and Brigham Young Letterbook #7, LDS Church Archives

Ms History of Bountiful Ward, 1849-1877, LDS Church Archives

Wilford Woodruff Journal, Church Archives

East of Antelope Island, DUP (Bountiful: Carr Printing Co., 1948)

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 2.75

UTM REFERENCES

425 990

A	1,2	422600	4526600	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

Dale F. Beecher and Joanne Rowland

ORGANIZATION

Cornerstone

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

228 First Avenue, #2

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Salt Lake City

STATE

Utah 84103

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 National Park Service.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

Melvin T. Smith

TITLE

Melvin T. Smith, State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

May 15, 1975

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Attesting

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE

1/1/76

ATTEST:

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

12/31/75

Actg

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE TWO

Please add to Item No. 8 on the Bountiful Tabernacle, Davis County, Utah.

The Bountiful Tabernacle is significant historically by virtue of its being the oldest religious structure in the State of Utah, the religious building enjoying the longest continuous use in Utah, and the oldest edifice built by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (Mormons) to be in continuous use as a place of worship. Every prophet of the Mormons, save Joseph Smith, who was killed in Nauvoo, Illinois, before coming West, has preached in the tabernacle.

The Bountiful Tabernacle also has the distinction of being the oldest extant example, and undoubtedly the most impressive example from any period, of early Greek Revival architecture in Utah. Greek Revival styling was the first prominent style to take hold in Utah after the technology was developed to advance from the levels of primitive shelter and vernacular architecture. Architect Augustus A. Farnham, an early convert to the Mormon Church, was born in Andover, Massachusetts, and called upon his knowledge of Greek Revival motifs to enhance a potentially ordinary adobe meetinghouse. Each craftsman in turn contributed his finest decorative work to set the tabernacle apart from other public buildings at the time. From the fine circular stairways leading to the gallery--built by George W. Lincoln, to the classically pilastered and arched reredos framing the Weggeland portrait of Joseph Smith, the building was finished and detailed in the most refined methods the Bountiful pioneers were capable of. Recently saved from destruction by Mormon Church leaders, there is no other Utah structure that better represents the aspirations, pride, and accomplishments of pioneers in a primitive environment than the Bountiful Tabernacle.