

**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 4 1980
date entered FEB 14 1980

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

1. Name

historic Brinton-Dahl House

and/or common The Harold B. and Ellen B. Richardson House

2. Location

street & number 1501 Spring Lane (about 1500 E.5000 So.) ___ not for publication

city, town Salt Lake City ___ vicinity of congressional district

state Utah code 049 county Salt Lake County code

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	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<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 Harold B. and Ellen B. Richardson (277-0389)

street & number 1501 Spring Lane

city, town Salt Lake City ___ vicinity of state Utah

5. Location of Legal Description

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

street & number 400 South State Street

city, town Salt Lake City state Utah

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title None has this property been determined eligible? ___ yes ___ no

date ___ federal ___ state ___ county ___ local

depository for survey records

city, town state

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

Built in 1885 as a duplex to accommodate two families, the one and one-half story Brinton-Dahl Home on Spring Lane contains thirteen rooms and two baths. The design is essentially Queen Anne in style and assymetrical in plan. A brick cellar and a milk house are included in the nomination.

The house has always served as a residence. Before 1904 a wood frame kitchen shed, which connects the house with a brick addition, was constructed from a back porch. Also a kitchen-pantry was made from the rear half of the side porch. Otherwise the exterior of the house has maintained it's original character. The additions detract very little from the integrity of the architecture.

In the late 1930's the interior of the smaller cast lower portion of the house underwent alteration. The front parlor and the dining room were enlarged by removing the east partition of the long central hall. Bathrooms were made from back bedrooms. In addition the ceiling was dropped in the dining room.

The Dahl Home, cellar and milk house were built of buff brick and lined with adobe. Probably the adobe was manufactured locally in a pug-pond about one-fourth of a mile southwest of the house. The foundation is of local field stone and large granite slabs hauled from Big Cottonwood canyon, faced with carved red sandstone blocks. The front facade features attached towers on each corner, a turret window over the front porch and decorative spindle band trim on the porch. Fixed transom windows with flat arches form a bay under the west tower. Another bay under a tower on the west is accentuated by a semi-circular arch window.

The ridge lines of the complex flared wood shingle roof of both the main roof and the tower roofs are capped by metal strips, and five chimneys (two exterior and three interior) with corbelled caps extended high above the roof line. Exposed rafter ends lend interest under the eaves. Shed dormer windows provide light to upstairs bedrooms.

The entire aspect of the house is well-proportioned, harmonious and artistic. The owners plan minor repairs to the exterior, restoration of gates and a picket fence, and interior restoration.

A tradition persists in both the Brinton and Dahl families, residents of the house, that it was constructed by one of the builders of the Salt Lake Tabernacle. However, no documentation was found to substantiate such a claim. The fact that the house was built to accommodate two families accounts for duplication of functional areas.

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/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1885

Builder/Architect

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Brinton-Dahl Home is significant as a very well maintained example of an elaborate example for it's size and location of a pattern book, Queen Anne influenced residence. The design includes an unusually complex flared roof form which dominates the front and side facades of the house. It is one of the most attractive farm houses built in the Big Cottonwood area of the Salt Lake Valley, and one of the few which survives. It stands on a rise above the surrounding area. A brick cellar and milk house are included in the site. History of early residents: The Brinton-Dahl Home was constructed in 1885 as a two family residence for Caleb Dilworth Brinton and his younger brother, David Branson Brinton. David's rapidly expanding family occupied the larger west side, while Dilworth and his wife, the former Emily Elizabeth Maxfield, who were childless, lived in the smaller east portion. David soon moved and Dilworth lived in the house until 1904.

Caleb Dilworth Brinton was born in Savannah, Andrew Co., Missouri on November 21, 1848, on route to Utah. His accomplishments include exploring southeastern Utah for colonization, hauling stone for the Salt Lake Temple and construction work. He stated, "There is nothing pertaining to the opening up, building and colonizatin of a new and desolate country in which I have not taken an active part." He filled two missions for the Mormon church and worked in the Salt Lake temple. About 1904 a nephew, David Brinton Bagley, remembers going to the house to take his Saturday bath because it "was the only place in the neighborhood that had running water in the house".

However, of greater significance than the prominent Brinton family was the Mormon pioneer family of Alexander Dahl who bought the Dilworth Brinton farm in 1904. Alexander Dahl was born August 11, 1831, in Frederikstad, Norway. He and his brother, Christian, joined the Mormon church and immigrated to America in 1854. Christian died on the way to Utah, but Alexander arrived in Salt Lake City on September 27, 1855. In 1857 he served with Lot Smith in Echo Canyon during the Utah War. After his release he walked over 200 miles to Spanish Fork to join a community of Scandinavian Mormons. In Spanish Fork he met sixteen year old Ellen Yorgensen.

Ellen was born in Lyngby Malmohus, Sweden on March 9, 1842. She arrived in New York City with her family in 1856

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bushman, Virginia W. comp. Dilworth Families in America. Salt Lake City, Utah: The Dilworth Descendants, 1970.
 Obituary of Alexander Dahl. Deseret Evening News. 18 & 22 February 1911, p.2,9.
 Abstract of Title. In the possession of Ellen B. Richardson, 1501 Spring Lane, S.L.C.
 Richardson, Ellen B. and Harold B. 1501 Spring Lane, SLC, UT. Interview, Feb. 24, 1979. (see attached continuation sheet)

10. Geographical Data

UTM NOT VERIFIED
ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

Acreege of nominated property 1.6 acres
 Quadrangle name Sugar House Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A

1	2	4	2	8	4	6	0	4	5	0	0	9	1	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

 C

Zone		Easting				Northing								

 E

Zone		Easting				Northing								

 G

Zone		Easting				Northing								

B

Zone		Easting				Northing								

 D

Zone		Easting				Northing								

 F

Zone		Easting				Northing								

 H

Zone		Easting				Northing								

Verbal boundary description and justification Commence 1001.39 feet south and 1057 feet west of the northeast corner, then north 135.9 feet then east 88.27 feet; then North 14 feet then north 45° east 45.25 feet; then north 88.00 feet then south 63° 49 feet east 86.72 feet then south 122.29 feet then west 21.00 feet then south 137.89 feet then north 80° 54 feet west 174.28 feet to beginning.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Lorine S. Goodwin
 organization _____ date April, 1979
 street & number 1622 Woodcrest Drive telephone (801) 277-2080
 city or town Salt Lake City state Utah 84117

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 (SHPO) date December 18, 1979

For HCRS use only
 I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

Carol P. Steel date 2-14-80
 Keeper of the National Register

Attest: *William H. Bralham* date 2-12-80
 Chief of Registration

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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after a rough ten week voyage during which forty-five of the passengers died. The family worked for a short time in New York to earn funds to continue their journey to Utah. In Keokuk, Iowa they contributed their means to assist less fortunate members of the Mormon church to migrate to Utah. Ellen worked as a nurse and a baby sitter, learning the English language from the children for which she cared. A year later on her trek to Utah she gave her place in the wagon to an expectant mother. Ellen's long career as a midwife began when she assisted the mother in the birth of the child.

In 1857 Ellen's family moved to Spanish Fork. Ellen received several offers to become a plural wife. She refused indignantly. When she met Alexander Dahl he was so shy that she was sure he would want only one wife. According to reports it took only a little persuasion to convince Alexander to marry her.

The Dahls were among the first settlers in East Jordan (Midvale) They started their family in a dug-out, but later built a large adobe home. Alexander found no employment in his trade as a carpenter so he began buying land and became a dairy farmer. After forty-five years residence in Midvale, Dahl sold his property to U.S. Steel for the Midvale smelter. They bought a farm and house from Dilworth Brinton in Big Cottonwood where they started a dairy.

Alexander Dahl died on February 11, 1911, and Ellen died November 8, 1912. The Dahls were among the first residents of Big Cottonwood to establish a commercial dairy business. They built a large cow barn and milked about fifty cows, at first selling their milk from a cellar near their house and delivering milk to various outlets in the area. A neighbor, D. Brinton Bagley, reported that in 1905 the great Dahl milk truck with enormous wooden wheels and chain drive was the first automobile he remembers seeing. The milk was cooled in an adobe trough within the milk house, which still stands, through which ran a constant stream of cold water from one of the farm's three or more flowing wells. About 1911 the Dahl Brothers opened a retail outlet at 478 East 2nd South which advertised "High Grade Milk, Cream, Buttermilk, etc., all from our own tested cows. Baby Milk a speciality " Later business improved to the point that they bought milk from small producers. The Dahl Brothers were the sons and the daughter of Alexander Dahl.

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- Dahl, Soren. Midvale, Utah. Interview, July 1940. Age 74.
Interview 24 March 1956. Age 90. Shorthand notes in the
possession of Ellen B. Richardson, 1501 Spring Lane, Salt
Lake City, Utah, 84117.
- Bagley, David Brinton, age 79. 1591 East 5600 South, Salt Lake
City, Utah 84117. Interview, March 28, 1979.
- Richardson, Ellen B. "Life Sketch of Alexander Dahl" and "Life
Sketch of Ellen Yorgesen Dahl".
- Cottonwood Meadows Plat "F", NE 1/4 SE4 Section 9 T.2S.,R.1E.
Scale 1"=100'. Salt Lake County Recorder. City and County
Building, 400 South State Street, Salt Lake City, Utah.
- Polk, R.L. & Co. Salt-Lake-City-Directory, 1900,1904,1905,1911,
1912.
- Family Group Sheet of Alexander Dahl. Church of Jesus Christ
of Latter-day Saints Genealogical Department Archives.
50 East North Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah.
- 1900 Census of the United States. Utah, Murray Precinct.
Vol. 6, Ed. 63, Sheet 1, Line 48. (Caleb D. Brinton).
- 1900 Census of the United States. Utah, Vol. 6, Ed.67, Sheet
15, Line 77. (Alexander Dahl).
- Obituary of Caleb D. Brinton. Deseret-News, February 22, 1936,
p.3; February 24, 1936, p. 16; February 26, 1936, p.3.
- Picture of Alexander and Ellen Dahl. The-Deseret-Evening-News
November 13, 1912, p.8.
- Picture of the Richardson House (painting by Elaine Bradshaw).
Deseret-News, March 29, 1978, Home Section.