

**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 AUG 4 1980

date entered OCT 14 1980

1. Name

historic Billings-Hougaard House

and/or common Hougaard House

2. Location

street & number Block 97 Lot 1 (NW corner 300 North 100 East) not for publication

city, town Manti vicinity of congressional district 01

state Utah code 049 county Sanpete code 039

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 Florence C. Hougaard c/o Thomas Hougaard

street & number 205 East 200 North

city, town Manti vicinity of state UT

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Sanpete County Courthouse

street & number 160 N. Main

city, town Manti vicinity of state UT

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Sanpete Vernacular Survey has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date Spring 1979 federal state county local

depository for survey records Utah State Historical Society

city, town Salt Lake City vicinity of state Utah

7. Description

Condition

excellent
 good
 fair

deteriorated
 ruins
 unexposed

Check one

unaltered
 altered

Check one

original site
 moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Billings-Hougaard House is a folk/vernacular "hall and parlor" type house (see attached floor plan). The house faces south and measures about 30' x 18'. It is 1-1/2 stories high with a basic two-room over two-room plan configuration. A one-story adobe rear "T" extension can be found on the north side of the house. Frame porches were originally found on both sides of the rear "T", however, now the west porch has been closed in to house a bathroom. The staircase to the upper story is located just behind the front door and rises from front to back rather sharply. This staircase is the older closet of "boxed" variety. A fireplace is located in the east front room and a stove flue in the west.

The Hougaard house (both the main house and the rear "T") is constructed of very high quality adobe bricks. The adobes are laid up in a "common" bonding pattern and are unsheathed by plaster. There are only a few spots of weather deterioration and the adobes are in an overall excellent condition. The gable-end fireplaces are of a yellowish fired brick and are corbelled. Smooth cut limestone lintels and sills are found on the lower facade windows. The upper windows, which are small half-windows contain only limestone lintels, the sills here are wood as they are on the side and rear openings.

The house has a rigidly symmetrical three bay facade. Greek Revival stylistic features predominate; the pitch of the roof is quite shallow, there are the half-height upper windows, and the slightly moulded cornice is returned on the gable ends.

The house has received only slight alterations: A cement foundation has been poured around the base probably to strengthen water damaged adobies and the west rear porch has been enclosed and plastered. Other than these rather minor instances, the Hougaard house remains in excellent historical condition.

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

c 1855-1860

Builder/Architect

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Billings-Hougaard house is architecturally significant as an excellent example of Utah folk/vernacular design and because it is one of the best surviving unshathed adobe homes in the state.

Manti was initially settled by members of Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in 1849.¹ The town grew rapidly as church leaders channeled newly arriving converts to this Sanpete settlement. Indian hostilities in 1853-1856 period retarded growth, but by 1860 the community was well established with many substantial and attractive homes being erected. The Billings-Hougaard House was probably constructed in the 1855-1860 period. A specific building date is hard to establish, but the house appears to have been initially constructed by Alfred Billings and it was only later that it was purchased by Rasmus Hougaard.

Alfred Billings the son of George Billings, was born in Geauga County, Ohio in 1825. The family converted to Mormonism and came to Utah in 1848 and then was called to Manti in 1849. Alfred led the "Elk Mountain Mission" to Moab in 1855-56 and after returning to Manti for several years removed to Provo.² Billings owned this lot on block 97 (where the house stands) in the 1850's. In 1855 when a communitarian impulse swept through the Mormon communities, Billings consecrated this lot to the LDS Church.³ Rasmus Hougaard, arriving from Denmark in 1863 bought the house from Billings.

Rasmus Hougaard (1806-1875) was a wealthy farmer from Virkel, Falster, Denmark. Hougaard was baptized into the Mormon Church in 1861 and because all new "saints" were to gather in Utah, or Zion, to prepare for the millenium, Hougaard emigrated with his family to Utah in 1862-1863. Hougaard was wealthy enough to financially support the passage of some 60 or 70 Danish LDS converts to Utah.

When the family arrived in Manti during the spring of 1863, Hougaard's first thought was "to get a place to live and farmland to cultivate in order to make a living."⁴ Hougaard immediately bought half of block 97 and 20 acres of land from Soren S. Christofferson. Later he acquired 30 more acres from Albert Smith & Jack Wood. John Hougaard, the second oldest son, recalled that his father "also bought two more little houses on the same block as the first. One of old Father Black who went to Dixie and another of Brother Billings, we then owned the whole block number 97". It seems likely that the last home purchased was that of Alfred Billings. No dates are given for the purchases, but Rasmus Hougaard shows up in the first courthouse land entry of 1869 as holding title to this lot.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Sanpete County Records. John H. Hougaard, Diary, LDS Church Archives.
 W.H. Lever, History of Sanpete and Emery Counties (Ogden: WH Lever, 1898).
 Henry Glassie, Pattern in the Material Folk Culture of the Eastern United States (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 1968). Leon S. Pitman, "A Survey of 19th Century Folk Housing in the Mormon Culture Region," Diss. Louisiana State University, 1973

10. Geographical Data

UTM NOT VERIFIED
ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

Acreage of nominated property .925 acres
 Quadrangle name Manti, UT Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A	<u>1</u> <u>2</u>	<u>4</u> <u>4</u> <u>5</u> <u>2</u> <u>5</u> <u>0</u>	<u>4</u> <u>3</u> <u>4</u> <u>6</u> <u>7</u> <u>5</u> <u>0</u>	B	<u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u>	<u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u>	<u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u>
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Verbal boundary description and justification

East 1/2 of Lot 1 Block 97 Plat A of the Manti City Survey

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

state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Tom Carter/Architectural Historian

organization Utah State Historical Society date April 1980

street & number 307 West 200 South telephone 533-6017

city or town Salt Lake City state UT 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.

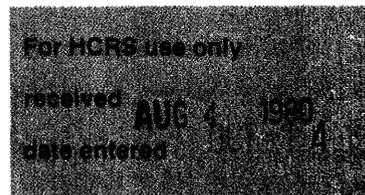
State Historic Preservation Officer signature Melvin T. Smith

title Melvin T. Smith, State Historic Preservation Officer date 7/22/80

For HCRS use only	
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register	
<u> </u>	date <u>10/14/80</u>
for <u> </u> Keeper of the National Register	
Attest: <u>Paula Stover Reed</u>	date <u>10/10/80</u>
for <u> </u> Chief of Registration	

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Continuation sheet

Item number 8

Page 2

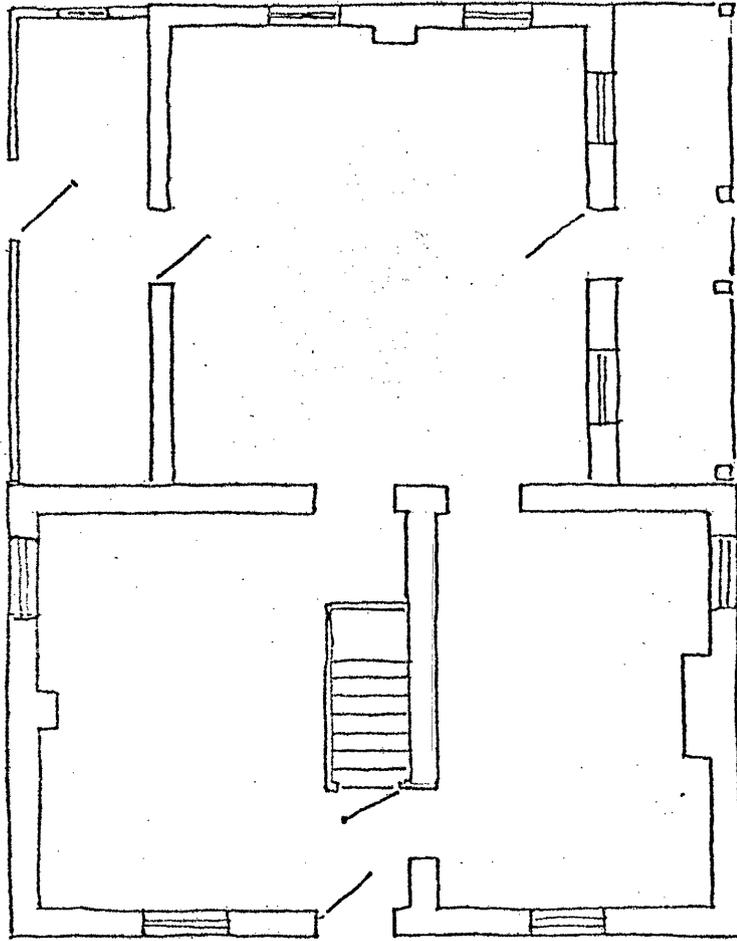
Hougaard continued to work as a farmer and built a large rock barn and stable behind the adobe house (this barn complex stood until the early 1960's). In 1864 Hougaard and his sons made adobies and constructed a kitchen on the back of the house. Rasmus died in 1875 and his son Louis Hougaard acquired the house in 1890 when the estate was settled. Most older residents today refer to the house as the "Louis Hougaard House".

The "hall and parlor" house form is easily the most commonly encountered folk/vernacular house in Utah. It is primarily an English form of the 16th and 17th centuries which became popular in the new American colonies.⁵ This two-room house diffused westward⁶ and became an essential feature of the country carpenter's building repertory by the mid-nineteenth century. In one, one-and-a-half and a full two-story form, this hall and parlor house can be found in all Utah communities. The Billings-Hougaard House, with its intriguing half-height upper windows and Greek revival proportions, is one of the finest examples of this ubiquitous type.

The Billings-Hougaard House is significant then primarily because of its architecture. In the context of the vernacular period of domestic house design in Utah, the house is representative of one extremely popular plan yet remains distinctive in its own particular articulations of Greek Revival stylistic thinking. Adding further importance to this structure is the fact that it is one of the best surviving adobe homes in the Sanpete Valley and for that matter, the State of Utah. Adobe was, during 1850-1880 period, widely utilized by Mormon craftsmen because of its availability and low cost. Some adobe homes were plastered for practical and aesthetic reasons at the time of original construction.⁷ Yet most adobe homes were left unsheathed and suffered the ravages of wind and rain. Many deteriorated badly or were covered with plaster or aluminum siding in the mid-twentieth century so that today very few of the older, uncovered adobe structures remain. The Billings-Hougaard house then, is also significant as a rare example of well preserved adobe technology.

- 1 W.H. Lever, History of Sanpete and Emery Counties (Ogden: W.H. Lever, 1898).
- 2 Frank Esshom, Pioneers and Prominent Men of Utah (Salt Lake City: Western Epics, 1966), p. 754, Alfred N. Billings, Diary, LDS Church Archives.
- 3 Church Transfer Book, Sanpete County Recorder's Office, p. 12 (5-21-1855)
- 4 John H. Hougaard, Diary. LDS Church Archives, pp. 22-29.
- 5 Henry Glassie, Folk Housing in Middle Virginia (Knoxville, University of Tennessee Press, 1975), pp. 72-75.
- 6 Glassie, Pattern in the Material Folk Culture of the Eastern United States (Philadelphia, Univ of Penn Press, 1968).
- 7 Tom Carter, "Cultural Veneer: Decorative Plastering in the Sanpete Valley," Utah Historical Quarterly. In press.

BILLINGS-HOUGAARD HOUSE
MANTI.



ADOBE HALL; PARLOR c. 1860.

AUG 4 1980