

**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 FEB 3 1983  
date entered

## 1. Name

historic Smith, Lauritz, House

and/or common

## 2. Location

street & number 1350 East 12400 South \_\_\_\_\_ not for publication

city, town Draper \_\_\_\_\_ vicinity of congressional district

state Utah code 049 county Salt Lake code 035

## 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	N/A <input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

## 4. Owner of Property

name Anthony C. Sharp  
c/o Colin Fryer

street & number 1350 East 12400 South

city, town Draper \_\_\_\_\_ vicinity of state Utah

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Salt Lake County Recorder's Office

street & number Salt Lake City and County Building

city, town Salt Lake City state Utah

## 6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Utah Historic Sites Survey has this property been determined eligible? \_\_\_\_\_ yes  no

date 1979-82 \_\_\_\_\_ federal  state \_\_\_\_\_ county \_\_\_\_\_ local

depository for survey records Utah State Historical Society

city, town Salt Lake City state Utah

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## 7. Description

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**Condition** excellent good fair deteriorated ruins unexposed**Check one** unaltered altered**Check one** original site moved

date \_\_\_\_\_

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**Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance**

The Lauritz Smith house is basically a two-story central-hall house with a rear outshut containing two additional rooms. The type is easily recognized by the long, sloping rear roof. The rafters supporting this rear roof are spliced so as to form a continuous straight line from the top of the ridge to the lower end of the rear wall. There is a slight return of the cornice at the eaves and the windows and doors are extremely plain and unadorned by stylistic trappings. The brick work is "common bond" and is three courses thick -- the exterior and interior courses are fired brick with an inner coursing of adobe.

The structure has been altered during the last 117 years. A gabled brick addition was added on the west facade by Lauritz Smith. Though the date is unknown, family members remember it being there as early as 1895. Also, at about that time, a door on the southwest corner was bricked up, perhaps at the same time the shed was added. There are two doors leading outside from the shed and perhaps this led to the closing of the front door in the main structure. These changes do not detract significantly from the historic integrity and importance of the home.

# 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. 1865 **Builder/Architect** Lauritz Smith

**Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)**

The Lauritz Smith house is architecturally important because it represents a rare example of the New England "Saltbox" house in Utah. Although a common traditional house type in the northeastern states where Mormonism originated, the Saltbox house with its distinctive rear outshut occurs only infrequently in Utah today. The Joseph Beesley house in Provo, the William Skeen house in Plain City, and Hampton's Ford Stage Station at Bear River are the other documented examples of the house in the state.<sup>1</sup>

The true saltbox house in New England is characterized by a massive central chimney as well as the shed-like outshut extending out to the rear from the two-story front section. As the type moved into the Midwest and then to Utah it gradually lost the central fireplace in favor of a central-hall and two gable-end chimneys.<sup>2</sup> The Lauritz Smith house in Draper, Utah, built in C.1865, is an example of this "modified" Saltbox type.

The original owner and builder, Lauritz Smith, was born in Hjorring, Denmark on October 5, 1830.<sup>3</sup> Converted to Mormonism in 1851, Mr. Smith emigrated to Utah during 1853-54. While on the ship crossing to the United States, Lauritz Smith married Mary Christina on February 15, 1854. Upon their arrival in Salt Lake Valley, the Smith marriage was confirmed in Brigham Young's office and the couple immediately thereafter settled in Draper. A blacksmith by trade, Lauritz soon erected his shop and a temporary dwelling just behind it. According to the Smith family, the original house (long torn down) was a one story house constructed of horizontal log timbering. Lauritz's business flourished and he and Mary had four children in this first house. Apparently, in the early 1860's, plans were underway for a new, more substantial house--one more fitting to Lauritz's standing in the community.

There are no records to actually substantiate the building of the new brick "saltbox" house, but two factors seem to point to an approximate construction date of 1865. 1) The Lauritz Smith House is constructed of "fired" brick, a building material which was relatively rare until the 1860's.<sup>4</sup> The first brickyard in Salt Lake Valley opened in Murray in 1864. Though still quite a distance by wagon from Draper, it is conceivable that Lauritz Smith could have acquired his bricks from this newly opened yard. 2) Family history (mainly derived through oral interviews with Archibald Smith, son of Lauritz's oldest son, Joseph Michael Smith) holds that the large brick house was built by the time Lauritz took his second wife, Hannah Jensen, on February 9, 1867. It is not clear whether Lauritz and his first wife, Mary, were living in the house prior to the second marriage, or whether Lauritz built the new house in expectations of a larger family. However, by all family records, the house was standing by the year 1867.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Jensen, Andrew. Latter-day Saint Biographical Encyclopedia, Volume 1. Salt Lake City, Deseret News, 1901.  
Salt Lake County Records.  
Sloan, E. L. Gazeteer of Utah and Salt Lake City Directory 1874.

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property Less than one

Quadrangle name Draper, Utah

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

### UMT References

A 

1	2	4	2	7	9	5	0	4	4	8	6	1	3	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

B 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

C 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

D 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

E 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

F 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

G 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

H 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

### Verbal boundary description and justification

Com. 395 ft. E. and 737 ft. N. from SW cor Sec. 28 T35 R 1E SL Mer.; thence E 250 feet, N 150 feet to County Road, W 250 feet M or L a lg S'LY line SD Road to pt. due N. of beg., S 125 feet M or L to beg.

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

state	N/A	code	county	N/A	code
state	N/A	code	county	N/A	code

state	N/A	code	county	N/A	code
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## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Tom Carter, Architectural Historian

organization Utah State Historical Society date 1976

street & number 300 Rio Grande telephone (801) 533-6017

city or town Salt Lake City state Utah 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 1-19-83

For HCERS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

*Beth Garsoener*  
Keeper of the National Register

date 4/2/83

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

**United States Department of the Interior  
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For NPS use only

received 2/3/87

date entered

Continuation sheet 1

Item number 8

Page 2

Thus, in the years between the opening of Salt Lake Valley brickyards (1864) and the second marriage (1867), the large saltbox house was erected on the site here under consideration. At the same time, a large barn was built just to the north of the house. The barn was of log construction with large cut granite stone for its foundation.

Lauritz and his two wives, Mary and Hannah, continued living in the house until legal pressure against polygamy forced the building of a new house for Mary around 1880. This house, built by Lauritz and his oldest son, Joseph Michael, still stands at 1565 East 12544 South, Draper. After the completion of the new house, Lauritz and Hannah continued living in the larger house, probably because of the eleven new children by this second marriage. One story is commonly told about the house during this pioneer period and is here recounted by Mrs. Raola Barnes of Draper, Utah:

Porter Rockwell used to stop at Lauritz's blacksmith shop, where they'd shoe his horses you know. And, while his horses were being shod he'd go down to the house and Aunt Hannah would have a pot of beans cooked. Porter Rockwell kept his own bean pot at the house, you know, the family still has it. Then Aunt Hannah would wash his hair and comb it, he had long hair. He'd have something to eat and he'd be on his way after the horse was shod.

Mary Christiana died in 1923, followed by Lauritz in 1924. Hannah lived on in the house until her death in 1935. One of Lauritz and Hannah's sons, Nephi Smith, then lived in the house and operated the blacksmith shop. "Neph" Smith, as he was called, passed away in 1950. The youngest daughter by this second marriage, Nethella Smith Sharp, owned the house for about ten years, selling it out of the Smith family around 1960.

Notes

either nominated or  
<sup>1</sup>These homes have been listed in the National Register. The Skeen house, though abandoned, remains in the best original condition. Hampton's Stage Station was altered in the 1920s but is presently being restored. The Joseph Beesley house was withdrawn from National Register consideration in 1981 because of severely incompatible alterations.

<sup>2</sup>See Henry Glassie, Pattern in the Pattern Folk Culture of the Eastern United States (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 1968), pp 124-125, and Leon S. Pitman, "Folk Housing in the Mormon Culture Regions," unpublished dissertation, Louisiana State University, 1973, p. 159.

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Continuation sheet 2

Item number 8

Page 3

<sup>3</sup>Historical background found in Andrew Jenson, Latter-day Saint Biographical Encyclopedia, volume 1 (Salt Lake City: Deseret News, 1901), p. 573, and interview's with Archibald Smith (grandson, May 19, 1975), Melissa Smith (grandson's wife, May 22, 1975), Zelma Smith Thompson (relative May 20, 1975), Raola Barnes (relative and president of the Draper Daughters of the Utah Pioneers, May 23, 1975).

<sup>4</sup>Leon S. Pitman, "Folkhousing in the Mormon Culture Region," dissertation, Louisiana State University, 1973, pp. 83-89.

The LAURITZ SMITH HOUSE  
CA 1865

