

Property Type:

Historic Preservation Research Office

Site No. _____

Structure/Site Information Form

IDENTIFICATION 1

Street Address: 10212 North 8700 West Clarkston, Cache County UTM: 12 412790 4641020

Name of Structure: Clarkston Tithing Granary T. R. S.

Present Owner: Douglas and Ruth J. Clark

Owner Address: 10212 North 8700 West Box 144, Clarkston, Utah 84305

Year Built (Tax Record): Effective Age: Tax #: 15-028-0043

Legal Description: Kind of Building:

All of Lot 2, Block 4, Plat A, Clarkston Townsite Survey. Less than one acre.

STATUS/USE 2

Original Owner: Mormon Church Construction Date: c. 1905 Demolition Date:

Original Use: Granary Present Use: Storage

Building Condition: Integrity: Preliminary Evaluation: Final Register Status:

Excellent Site Unaltered Significant Not of the National Landmark District

Good Ruins Minor Alterations Contributory Historic Period National Register Multi-Resource

Deteriorated Major Alterations Not Contributory State Register Thematic

DOCUMENTATION 3

Photography: Date of Slides: 1983 Slide No.: Date of Photographs: 1983 Photo No.:

Views: Front Side Rear Other Views: Front Side Rear Other

Research Sources:

Abstract of Title Sanborn Maps Newspapers U of U Library

Plat Records/Map City Directories Utah State Historical Society BYU Library

Tax Card & Photo Biographical Encyclopedias Personal Interviews USU Library

Building Permit Obituary Index LDS Church Archives SLC Library

Sewer Permit County & City Histories LDS Genealogical Society Other

Bibliographical References (books, articles, records, interviews, old photographs and maps, etc.):

Clark, Eva. Telephone interview, August 22, 1984, Clarkston, Utah.

Goodey, Dallas. Telephone interview, August 16, 1984, Clarkston, Utah.

Heggie, Andrew. Telephone interview, August 15, 1984, Clarkston, Utah.

Architect/Builder: Unknown

Building Materials: Wood

Building Type/Style: Vernacular/Side Entrance

Description of physical appearance & significant architectural features:

(Include additions, alterations, ancillary structures, and landscaping if applicable)

The Clarkston Tithing Granary is a one story frame building with a gable roof and a shed roof porch on the south side. It is constructed in one of two major ways that granaries were typically built in Utah. Many granaries were built with a balloon frame that had an interior wall that served to form a crib for grain or corn storage, and occasionally had an exterior wall of drop siding. The Clarkston Tithing Granary by contrast was built of 2 x 4 boards that rise in even rows, lap over one another and are spiked at the corners. This type of construction is referred to as false timbering, and was used in the construction of granaries in Utah between about 1890 and 1920. A door is centered on the broad side of the building, the south facade. Drop siding was used on each of the gable ends, and there is a door into the top half story of both gable end sections. A pulley above each of the doors served to haul up the material to be stored in the granary. The shed roof porch on the south side of the building was formed by extending the roof line, and it is supported by braces that are also constructed of stacked one inch boards. While the construction technique, false timbering, has been documented in other parts of the state, Panguitch for example, the rectangular form with its characteristic entrance on the broad side and shed roof porch, according to current surveys, is specific to the Cache Valley area. Granaries
(See Continuation Sheet)

Statement of Historical Significance:

Construction Date: c. 1905

Built c. 1905, the Clarkston Tithing Granary is historically significant as one of 28 well preserved tithing buildings in Utah that were part of the successful "in kind" tithing system of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (LDS or Mormon church) between the 1850s and about 1910. Tithing lots, which usually included an office and several auxiliary structures, were facilities for collecting, storing, and distributing the farm products that were donated as tithing by church members in the cash-poor agricultural communities throughout the state. Tithing offices were a vital part of almost every Mormon community, serving as local centers of trade, welfare assistance, and economic activity. They were also important as the basic units of the church-wide tithing network that was centered in Salt Lake City.

The Clarkston Tithing Granary was built c. 1905, probably at about the same time as the construction of the nearby tithing office, which was demolished in the late 1950s. This part of the block was owned by the LDS church and was used as the tithing lot where all the farm products that were donated as tithing were stored. This granary is the only building or structure that remains from the tithing yard. The tithing office, which was located on the corner to the west of the granary, was demolished around 1957, the scales for weighing wagons were removed at an unknown date, and corrals and other granaries that may have been part of the tithing lot are no longer there. A frame building in the center of the block behind this granary is reportedly the old Relief Society Granary.¹ During the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, the Relief Society, the women's organization of the LDS church, took upon themselves the responsibility for collecting and storing grain for emergency or welfare assistance. That program was separate and distinct from the tithing program, therefore that building and others like it around the state are not included in the Tithing Building Thematic Resources nomination.
(See Continuation Sheet)

Clarkston Tithing Granary
Description Continued:

in the southern part of the state which are built of false timbering construction are generally square with pyramid roofs. The Clarkston Tithing Granary was painted. It has received no major alterations, is in good condition, and therefore maintains its original integrity.

Clarkston Tithing Granary
History Continued:

The design of the Clarkston Tithing Granary is a specific type of granary that is found in other northern Utah communities, especially in Cache Valley, but which was possibly a standard design approved and issued by the LDS church from its headquarters in Salt Lake City. Although no direct reference to the Clarkston Tithing Granary has been found in correspondence from the Presiding Bishopric's Office, which administered the tithing program, a letter pertaining to a granary of similar construction in Garland substantiates the assumption that this was a standard design. It included the following description:

We prefer that you follow the granary plan sent you herewith, and known as granary No. 6, built of 2x4 lumber, spiked and set on three parallel foundation walls, which we find the best style of granary for tithing purposes."²

That description, though not very detailed, fits the Clarkston Tithing Granary, as well as the Lewiston Relief Society Granary, and is very similar to the Lewiston Tithing Granary. A number of other such granaries featuring walls made of 2x4s stacked on top of each other have been identified in farmyards in Lewiston and other northern Utah communities, indicating that it was a popular type whose origin was not solely the LDS church.

Notes

¹Ruth J. Clark, current owner of the tithing granary, claims that the other frame building on the property is the old Relief Society granary, as does Mrs. Eva Clark, long-time resident of Clarkston.

²"Presiding Bishopric Letterbooks," Box Elder Stake, July 19, 1907.