FHR-8-300 (11-78)

United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For HCRS use only
received
date entered

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

1. Name

historic Entreprenurial Residences of Turn-of-the-Century Provo

and/or common

2. Location

street & number See structure/site information forms ___ not for publication

city, town Provo ___ vicinity of congressional district 01

state Utah code 049 county Utah code 049

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
___ district	___ public	X occupied	___ agriculture	___ museum
___ building(s)	___ private	___ unoccupied	___ commercial	___ park
___ structure	X both	___ work in progress	___ educational	X private residence
___ site	**Public Acquisition**	**Accessible**	___ entertainment	X religious
___ object	___ in process	X yes: restricted	___ government	___ scientific
Thematic Group	___ being considered	___ yes: unrestricted	___ industrial	___ transportation
		___ no	___ military	X other: social/Humanitarian

4. Owner of Property

name Multiple Ownership

street & number

city, town ___ vicinity of state

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Utah County Courthouse

street & number University Avenue and Center Street

city, town Provo state Utah

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Utah Historic Sites Survey, Provo Survey has this property been determined elegible? ___ yes X no

date Summer 1980 ___ federal X state ___ county ___ local

depository for survey records Utah State Historical Society

city, town Salt Lake City state Utah

7. Description

Applies to all in group

Condition		Check one	Check one
___ excellent	___ deteriorated	___ unaltered	X original site
X good	___ ruins	X altered	___ moved date _____
___ fair	___ unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The "Entreprenurial Residences of Turn-of-the-Century Provo" represents a group of seven private residences constructed between 1893 and 1908 in Provo, Utah for prominent businessmen who were central figures in the transformation of the city's economy and society. The unifying theme of "entreprenurial residences" encompasses both architectural and historical significance as these entrepreneurs, who amassed their fortunes in mining, business, banking, and finance, built stately structures commensurate to their newly acquired wealth, thus, helping to change the visual landscape of Provo City.

Included in this thematic group are the following residences:

1) Charles E. Loose House
383 East 200 South
1893

2) William H. Ray House
415 South University Avenue
ca. 1898

3) Knight-Allen House
390 East Center
ca. 1899

4) John R. Twelves House
287 East 100 North
1902

5) Jesse Knight House
185 East Center Street
1905

6) Knight-Mangum House
381 Easat Center Street
1908

7) Thomas N. Taylor House
342 North 500 West
ca. 1908

According to a block survey which identified the architectural and historical resources of Provo and conducted during the summer of 1980 by architectural historians and historians, these seven residences represent the best examples of houses constructed for a group of prominent Provo individuals. The theme is unified by the fact that all entrepreneurs involved prospered directly or indirectly from the expansion of Utah's economy, primarily in the field of mining (which is in itself a central theme in Utah history).

Built during the turn of the century from 1893 to 1908, the domestic residences of Provo's prominent entrepreneurs reflect the wealth, power and aesthetic taste of their owners and of America's Gilded Age. Larger in size,

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
___ prehistoric	___ archeology-prehistoric	___ community planning	___ landscape architecture	___ religion
___ 1400–1499	___ archeology-historic	___ conservation	___ law	___ science
___ 1500–1599	___ agriculture	X economics	___ literature	___ sculpture
___ 1600–1699	X architecture	___ education	___ military	___ social/ humanitarian
___ 1700–1799	___ art	___ engineering	___ music	___ theater
X 1800–1899	___ commerce	___ exploration/settlement	___ philosophy	___ transportation
X 1900–	___ communications	___ industry	___ politics/government	___ other (specify)
		___ invention		

Specific dates See structure/site forms **Builder/Architect** See structure/site forms

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The seven houses that comprise the "Entreprenurial Residences of turn-of the-century Provo" are significant architecturally and historically in illustrating the role of prominent Provo businessmen in the changing economy of late nineteenth and early twentieth century Provo and Utah. Built between 1893 and 1908 these residences reflected the growing wealth ushered in by the commercial mining of Utah's precious metals, and the secondary industry that accompanied its growth. Architecturally, these houses convey the qualities of size, style and detailing often attributed only to the palatial mansions of mining magnates in Salt Lake City. That the city of Provo and its residential landscape, was also influenced by rising industry is evident best in this thematic group.

These ~~eight~~ seven residences reflect a variety of architectural responses to the influx of wealth during the two decades of their construction. They are individualized designs of standard Victorian styles and range in taste from the formal elegance of Jesse Knight's Colonial Revival box to the virtuoso eclecticism of the Knight-Allen house to the natural granduer of W. Lester Mangum's Craftsman mansion. Each house significantly contributes to Provo's architectural heritage and as a group they are powerful images of the capitalist spirit with generated them.

Historically, Charles E. Loose, William H. Ray, John R. Twelves, Thomas N. Taylor, W. Lester Mangum, Robert E. Allen, J. William Knight and Jesse Knight are linked to Provo as central entrepreneurs in the transformation of the city's economy due to the emergence of commercial mining. These men were involved in mining and related financial matters, as well as in expanding industries and enterprises. The Tintic Mining District (National Register Multiple Resource Area), located some thirty miles southwest of Provo, produced much of the wealth of these individuals and formed a vital link to the Provo economy. In addition, as their wealth increased, these entrepreneurs not only added to Provo's visual landscape through the construction of residences (and commerical blocks), but also in endowing various efforts and in community service, so as to increase their influence, importance, and contribution to the city, state, and primarily in the case of the Knight family, and the L.D.S. Church.

Provo's architecture has reflected much of the economic and social development of the city. The earliest homes were very small and utilitarian; later residences were more commodious and sophisticated reflecting the increasing prosperity and aesthetic taste of each period of time. The large majority of Provo's houses have been rather modest, indicating the life style and means of the "common" people throughout the city's history. A small minority of Provo's homes are large and of sophisticated design, erected by prominent individuals, many of whom acquired wealth in mining and related industries at

9. Major Bibliographical References

See Structure/Site forms.

10. Geographical Data

See individual Structure/Site forms

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name Provo, Utah

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

See Structure/Site forms.

	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
A				B			
C				D			
E				F			
G				H			

Verbal boundary description and justification

See Structure/Site forms for legal descriptions

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

11. Form Prepared By

name/title	Debbie Temme, Architectural Historian/Ken Cannon & Phil Notarianni, Historians		
organization	Utah State Historial Society	date	Summer 1980
street & number	300 Rio Grande	telephone	801-533-6017
city or town	Salt Lake City	state	Utah

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

___ national ___ state _X_ 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 3-15-82

For HCRS use only

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

date

Keeper of the National Register

Attest: date

Chief of Registration

more complicated in their massing and ornate in their detailing than the typical residences of Provo, these houses are the Victorian mansions of the city. All derive from the high style popular at then end of the nineteenth century: Eastlake, Italianate, Shingle, Craftsman, Moorish and the Classical, Romanesque and Colonial Revivals. Although the high styles are of a purer form in these houses than is usually found in Provo, an eclectic attitude still dominates with several styles often being combined into one residence. Characteristic of all these buildings is a compactness and a low earth hugging quality which is typical of Provo's architecture but antithetical to the optimistic verticality of Salt Lake's Victorian buildings. As is true of the majority of Provo's residences, these houses are made primarily of brick, including elaborate ornamental coursing and trim. The Victorian fascination with a variety of rich materials is visible only in the use of masonry in the foundations, lintels and arches of these buildings and in the extensive use of leaded and stained glass in the windows. Some of the most ornate fenestration to be found in Provo is contained in these buildings. In comparison to buildings in Salt Lake City, these Victorian mansions are modest in size, style and materials, but are more reflective of the high styles than those generallly found in Utah's small towns such as Manti or Spring City.

A house type popular in Utah at the turn of the century, but not common in Provo, was the two story box. The residences of Thomas N. Taylor, and Jesse Knight are each individualize elaborate variations of this basic pattern and are unique among Provo's architecture. The Taylor box combines Classical ornament with a two story Victorian veranda which is rare in Provo. Elegant Colonial Revival detailing such as the Ionic capitals, swan's neck pediments and rounded bay windows make the Jesse Knight house the grandest variant of the box style, and reflects the wealth of Provo's most powerful entrepreneur.

Adaptations within a basic style are also visible in the William H. Ray and the John R. Twelves residences which combine Romanesque Revival elements with Classical detailing in a personalized manner. Peculiar to each house and uncommon to Provo's domestic architecture are the Romanesque wall dormers which on the Ray house are stepped, have brick coursing and rounded side bays, and on the Twelves house have corner buttresses and foliate ornament. These two homes reflect the oppposite directions that the Romanesque Revival could take--the towering monumentality of the Ray house with its rusticated turret, balustrade and lintels, or the smaller scale, classicized Twelves house with its wide entablature and Palladian window. They stand as Provo's finest domestic examples of the Romanesque Revival.

The Charles E. Loose house is distinct among these turn of the century homes in that it combines the massing of the Single Style with a consistent program of Eastlake ornament. Its enveloping roof, veranda and pentagonal fanlight gable windows mark its individuality among the city's architecture.

The Victorian period's fascination with a variety of exotic styles is blatantly reflected in the Knight-Allen house. Combining a Moorish tin scalloped roof with an Italianate turret, Romanesque porch piers, distinctive lintels and several ornate window shapes it is the best and most unique example of Victorian Eclecticism in Provo.

Standing as an anomaly among these Victorian mansions is the W. Lester Mangum house of 1908. It relates to the group in its monumental proportions and richness of details, but differs in that natural materials, wood rafters and clinker brick, are used to embellish the home rather than the application of high style ornament. It is the most sophisticated product of the Arts and Crafts movement in Provo and reveals a significant rejection of the pastiche of styles visible in other mansions.

As mentioned this nomination was based on a survey of Provo City conducted by the Preservation Research Office of the Utah State Historical Society during the summer of 1980. Those involved were:

Henry Whiteside, Historian
Kenneth Cannon, Historian
Debbie Temme, Architectural Historian
Janice Simon, Architectural Historian

Survey methodology involved a block by block architectural analysis of each structure within the original platted area of Provo, and a reconaissance survey of new areas within the city. Historic themes and individuals prominent to those themes were identified, and wherever possible, associated to a particular structure. Buildings were rated as significant, contributory, non-contributory and out of period. Nominations are proceeding based upon this survey, and because the influence of mining and entreprenurial activity were viewed as a central theme to Provo's development, this thematic nomination was deemed appropriate.

the turn of the twentieth century. Seven of the most significant best illustrate the high style residential architecture, and history of Provo's prominent entrepreneurs.

The development of the Provo area commenced in 1849 as Mormon settlement expanded to the south of Salt Lake City. The decades of the 1850s through the 1890s saw the city of Provo emerge and develop (see accompanying "An Overview of Provo's History"). By the turn of the century key business people were influencing the transformation of the city to a more diversified economic base--the mining industry proved of profound influence.

The successful commercial mining of precious metals and minerals transformed Utah's economy from basically an agrarian base to a more industrialized state. Within this development the Tintic Mining District, located approximately thirty miles southwest of Provo, was founded in 1869 and by 1899 became the leading mining center in Utah with a value of output placed at five million dollars. A central figure in Tintic success was Jesse Knight and the Knight family who resided in Provo.

Jesse Knight attained wealth with his Humbug mine in the mid-1890s. The large silver producer allowed Knight to develop other mines in the East Tintic area. Knightsville grew around the workings and became touted as the only saloon-free, prostitute-free, privately owned mining camp in the U.S. His strict adherence to doctrines of the LDS Church made the town one inhabited primarily by Mormons. Knight began to expand and diversify as mining in Tintic burgeoned. The Knight smelters at Silver City, power plant in Santaquin Canyon, Narrow gauge railway circumventing the district, Tintic drain tunnel project, and the Knight dry farm all represented vast investments and profits.

With financial success Knight expanded with the result of securing coordination of his holdings and placing responsibility on family members by organizing the Knight Investment Company. This corporation included the Bonneville Mining Company, Knight Woolen Mills (located in Provo), Ellison Ranching Company (Nevada), Spring Canyon Coal Company (Carbon County, Utah), Blue Bench District (irrigation enterprise in Duchesne County), Knight Trust and Savings Bank (Provo), Layton Sugar Company, American-Colombian Corporation, Springville-Mapleton Sugar Company, and the Tintic Drain Tunnel Company.

As a result the Knight/Allen House (1898), Jesse Knight House (1905), and Knight/Mangum House (1908) were constructed in Provo and reflected the family's wealth. All believed to have been architect designed, they displayed a concern for style, scale, and design exhibited by other mining entrepreneurs in Salt Lake City. The architects Walter E. Ware and Alberto O. Treganza either separately or together were engaged in the construction of the Knight/Mangum House and the Jesse Knight House. Prominent in their own right Ware and Treganza occupy a distinguished position in Utah's architecture history. The Knight/Allen House was probably designed by Provo architect Richard C. Watkins, also one of importance in architectural circles.

The Tintic Mining District also provided the means for Charles E. Loose, John R. Twelves, and indirectly, Thomas N. Taylor to acquire the wealth reflected in their residences. In fact, Loose and Twelves were both involved in the Grand Central Mining Company as manager and secretary-treasurer respectively. Some of the directors of this company, such as Reed Smoot and Abraham H. Cannon, and the Knights, illustrated the growing involvement of Mormon entrepreneurs in commercial mining, primarily after Brigham Young's death in 1877. Young saw mining of precious metals as a corrupting force in Mormondom and had discouraged it. Charles E. Loose was a non-Mormon and probably the most prominent in Provo at the turn of the century.

Loose and Twelves prospered as Grand Central stock rose. By 1900 the company had installed a new surface plant, including an inovative all steel headframe over its shaft--a first and only in the entire area. Thus, Loose built his Provo residence in 1893, and Twelves in 1902.

Thomas N. Taylor, whose house was constructed in about 1908, prospered in a furniture business begun by his father. The enterprise grew and expanded into the Taylor Brothers concern, with an important store located in Eureka, Utah, the commercial center for the entire Tintic district. The Taylor Brothers store in that city represented a substantial business block.

William H. Ray was the only one of the group not directly associated with Tintic; however, he became a leading financier, banker,and broker of Provo. The Ray Investment Company was organized by him as an insurance and real estate brokerage firm, and became highly active in Provo real estate transactions. Ray also was one of the founders and first president of the State Bank of Provo. As Charles E. Loose, Ray was a successful non-Mormon in a predominently Mormon city.

As entrepreneurs these individuals exerted economic influence in Provo, and in Utah. By the same token they were also active in political and civic affairs. Thomas N. Taylor served as mayor of Provo from 1900 to 1903, and William H. Ray was elected to that position in 1909. J. William Knight served in state positions as did Charles E. Loose and Inez Knight Allen, whose husband was Robert E. Allen. Inez Allen also served as a Democratic National Committeewoman for Utah and a delegate to National Democratic conventions. John R. Twelves served as Utah County treasurer and recorder. Both J. William Knight and Thomas N. Taylor were nominated for the position of Governor.

In civic affairs contributions were numerous by this group. For example, the Knights substantially aided the Brigham Young University in Provo. Thomas N. Taylor was instrumental in establishing the Utah Valley Hospital, as well as serving on the Board of Trustees of BYU and on the Universty of Utah Board of Regents. Membership in civic and fraternal organizations was also common among this group.