

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.

1. Name of Property

Historic name: Spencer Homestead

Other names/site number: Spencer Farmhouse, Howard Farm

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

2. Location

Street & number: 2591 E. Dimple Dell Rd.

City or town: Sandy State: UT County: Salt Lake

Not For Publication: ☐ Vicinity: ☐

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this X nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property X meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

 national statewide X local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

X A B C X D

/SHPO

Signature of certifying official/Title:

Date

Utah State Historic Preservation Office

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official:

Date

Title :

State or Federal agency/bureau
or Tribal Government

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4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- ☐ entered in the National Register
☐ determined eligible for the National Register
☐ determined not eligible for the National Register
☐ removed from the National Register
☐ other (explain:) _____

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- Private: ☐
Public – Local ☒
Public – State ☐
Public – Federal ☐

Category of Property

(Check only **one** box.)

- Building(s) ☒
District ☐
Site ☐
Structure ☐
Object ☐

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Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing

_____1_____

Noncontributing

buildings

sites

2

structures

objects

2

2

Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC: single-family dwelling

AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE: agricultural field

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

VACANT/NOT IN USE

LANDSCAPE: park; county park

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

MID-19TH CENTURY

MODERN MOVEMENT

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: Brick, Concrete, Stone, Wood

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that

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briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

Summary Paragraph

The Spencer Homestead in Sandy, Salt Lake County, with the primary dwelling constructed between 1893 and 1898, represents the late homestead era in the southeast portion of the Salt Lake Valley. The primary building of the farmstead is the house, located today at 2591 E. Dimple Dell Rd. The house has two distinct construction phases. The west wing, built circa 1893, is a temple-form frame house sheathed in drop-novelty siding with a gable roof. In 1897, a brick addition was built as a cross-wing on the east side of the frame house. The brick section features a second entrance with a hipped-roof porch on the south façade. The frame section has no foundation while the brick addition is built upon a rubble granite foundation. Recent modifications include a new corrugated steel front porch canopy, corrugated metal covering a portion of the rear wall, an asphalt shingle roof and updated interior finishes. In 1950, the house was updated with large multi-light steel windows, a concrete block chimneystack, concrete foundation improvements, and a carport on the north (rear) elevation. The interior was also remodeled in the 1950s. The house is the only building remaining from the original 160-acre homestead granted to Thomas Spencer.

After the Spencer family began leasing out the property in 1910, it became an investment farm. By 1970, the original homestead had been reduced to approximately 47¹ acres before being purchased by Salt Lake County as part of Dimple Dell Regional Park. The house was occupied as a rental for many years but is currently vacant and awaiting rehabilitation for use within the county park system. The property's inclusion within the park has preserved a good portion of its setting from a late-twentieth century construction boom in the surrounding neighborhoods and allowed the Spencer farmhouse to retain good historic integrity of the setting and house despite vacancy. The house has good integrity in the qualities of design, materials, and workmanship and meets the registration requirements of the Historic Resources of Sandy City Multiple Property Listing (NRIS #64500671). The 5.66 acres of the farm property included in this nomination contains two non-contributing outbuildings: a circa 1930 wood-frame shed that has newer siding and a c. 1990 shed. The entire area within the boundary is considered a contributing site that includes remnants of the farm operations with two barn foundations, a potential privy location, scattered trash deposits, a dilapidated shed on the lower fields, as well as the fallow remnants of the farm and orchard areas. The Spencer Homestead remains an important historic landmark in the Dimple Dell and Sandy City areas of southeast Salt Lake County.

Narrative Description

House Exterior

¹ The official number of acres within the park is 46.94.

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Begun in 1893 and completed in 1897, the original cross-wing house faces south with the temple-form gable end of the wood-frame section [Photographs 1-3], the porch, and the long wall of the brick section visually prominent [Photograph 4]. The building sits low to the ground with no immediate foundation visible. The frame section was originally built with no foundation. The brick addition has a stone foundation of granite rubble. The ground around the house and foundation was raised three feet and leveled based on the 1937 tax assessor's photograph that shows three steps up to a front porch [Figures 1-3]. The original porch had a wood deck on a rubble stone foundation, a hipped roof, and square posts with plinths. The porch was replaced in the 1980s with a shed roof, simple square posts, and concrete at grade [Figure 4]. Corrugated metal was installed on the top of the porch roof in the 1990s.

The intersecting gables of the roof are clad in asphalt shingles (circa 1990s). The roof structure of the brick section was rebuilt in the 1980s. A portion of the original cedar shingles of the older frame house are visible in the attic where the addition was built. This detail identifies the frame house as the older of the two sections. The original wood cornices and moldings are visible under the eaves of both sections. There were originally three chimneys: one centrally located in the wood-frame section (now gone) and two in the walls between the northeast rooms and the current kitchen. These two chimneys are cut off below the roofline and only visible in the attic. There is a vent on the wall in the kitchen adjacent to the south chimney stack. The third chimney is smaller and located in the wall between the kitchen and the north bedroom. The concrete block exterior chimneystack, built in 1950, vents the interior fireplace as well as an outdoor stone fireplace that is attached to the north façade of the wood-frame section, and is the only visible chimney.

The frame section is mostly sheathed in drop-novelty siding [Figures 1-3]. During the changes in fenestration in 1950, it appears that newer matching siding was partially used to avoid excessive joints. The siding has corner boards and is currently painted white [Photographs 6-7]. The façade (south elevation) of the frame section originally featured a four-panel wood door flanked by two double-hung wood sash windows. In 1950, the door and windows were replaced by a large picture window with 15 divided rectangular panes of glass in a steel sash. This gable is set back six feet from the end of the brick gable, which forms a protected area with two exterior walls at right angles for the porch and main entry into the house.

There are two matching steel frame windows set into the brick that each have 16 square panes of glass installed in 1950. Both openings have a steel lintel spanning several inches past the opening of the windows to carry the weight of the bricks. The sills are made of rowlock brick and set at an angle to shed water. The fired brick used on the house was handmade. It is set with mortar using the common bond pattern with headers every sixth course. The masonry walls consist of three brick wythes: a fire brick facing and two wythes of adobe brick covered in plaster on the interior.

The east elevation is brick with a single non-historic six-over-six window set in the upper half of an original door opening [Photograph 5]. There are vertical wood panels above the threshold. At the apex of the gable wall there is an opening in the brickwork for ventilation in the attic. The

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shed roof extends to the north. The north elevation is brick and has visible foundation above grade and below the first course of bricks. This elevation comprises the extension of the brick addition. There is one operable steel casement window with eight panes of glass set into the brick wall near the east end. The west section of this brick wall is covered in steel corrugated siding, which covers a bathroom window (circa 1990s) [Photograph 6].

On the west end of north elevation, the wood-frame gable end protrudes four feet past the brick north wall and is clad in drop-novelty wood siding on the north and east sides from the foundation to the top of the wall at the roofline. There is a mid-century cinderblock chimney running up the center of this gable that vents both the fireplace inside the house and the built-in outdoor barbeque, fireplace, and cooking area. This area is sheltered by a large, covered patio/carport attached to the house with a concrete patio floor that was added between 1958-1962 according to aerial photographs [Photograph 7]. The west elevation is the long wall of the wood frame house. An original double-hung window in the north half of the elevation was removed in 1950 [Photograph 8]. The current siding does not show any joints where the window was located. At the same time a horizontal window divided into 12 panes was installed in the south half of the west elevation.

House Interior

The interior has a total of 1,017 square feet on one floor. Originally there were five rooms the older frame house had two rooms; a parlor and a bedroom.² The brick addition was divided into a kitchen, two bedrooms, and a short hall. There was a door on the east elevation of the frame house, now blocked, that was added when the brick addition was built. A 1937 tax appraisal card indicates the floors in the house were half pine and half fir. There was no indoor plumbing in 1937.

Prior to the 1950 remodel, the parlor was heated by a porcelain enamel Wehrle stove.³ In 1950, the dividing wall in the frame section was removed to create one large living room [Photograph 11]. A 12-foot-wide stone fireplace with mantle and hearth was built on the north wall [Photograph 12]. All four walls have mid-century vintage, tongue-and-groove beaded pine paneling while the ceiling displays two boxed beams with acoustic tile infill. There is a gas wall heater on the east wall and more recent baseboard heaters on the west wall. The wood flooring has some damage from carpet glue and removal.

The large kitchen in the brick addition is central to the circulation of the house. The current kitchen was originally a common room with the kitchen to the east [Photograph 13]. The wood paneled walls have several layers of print wallpaper under the current paint. The current features and finishes are mostly from the 1950s. Unseen are the adobe inner walls and the ceiling's lath

² Lillian Spencer Ditman, oral interview by Robyn MacDuff, July 8, 1991, Sandy.

³ The stove company was founded in 1883 as Moser & Wehrle by J. C. Wehrle and John Moser in Newark, OH, and was known for manufacturing stylish porcelain on steel stoves for heating parlors and common rooms. Built-in humidifiers were available. By 1933, the company had become the largest stove producer in the United States. The stove was discarded but remains on the property. It currently sits behind the house and down the hill.

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and plaster. The kitchen has a built-in ironing board cupboard. The main upper cabinets, countertops, lower cabinets, drawers and cutting boards are in the corner of the room between the living room and back hall doorways making an 'L' shaped layout. All the cabinetry in the kitchen is solid wood from the mid-century and built by hand on site. The flooring is mid-century linoleum. There are two circa 1978 metal pendant lights on the east and west sides of the kitchen. The kitchen countertop and backsplash were originally mid-century ceramic tile, later covered with Formica. A green porcelain double bowl sink was replaced by a stainless-steel sink. The lower walls in the kitchen had sheets of mid-century Masonite, now covered with wood wainscoting. The entry door into the kitchen was solid wood flat panel in 1976 and changed out to a six-panel fiberglass exterior door in the 1980s.

The kitchen, the east and north bedrooms have solid fir flooring under linoleum and carpet. Both the kitchen and east bedroom retain the original high ceilings. The east bedroom has a mid-century built-in closet with storage [Photograph 14]. The bedroom has two-panel wood door. The inner walls are adobe with thin wood paneling attached. Acoustic tiles have been glued onto the plaster ceiling.

A small rectangular panel is currently the only access to the attic, although Lillian Dittman remembers a stair or ladder for her brothers who slept in the attic, possibly located on the east wall of the current kitchen. There is a concrete section of the floor in the northwest corner where a heating stove was once located. A gas wall heater is between the east and north bedrooms. There is an old electrical panel on the east wall.

The north bedroom, back hall, laundry room, and bathroom sit under the shed roof portion of the house. The laundry room, hall and bathroom have a step down and concrete floors. The walls are adobe, and the ceiling is plaster. From the back hall there are two doors, one into the north bedroom and the other into the bathroom. There is a back entry door in this hall that is closed off from the outside. The lower walls in the back hall are covered in sheets of mid-century-era Masonite. The north wall of the bedroom had substantial water damage to a portion of the adobe brick lining, but this was recently repaired. The bathroom was updated in the 1980s. The current laundry room may have originally been a hall from the frame to the brick sections of the house. The laundry room currently has lower walls covered in pink Masonite tile.

There is a small attic access opening in the ceiling of the east bedroom. There are two chimney stacks cut off below the roof line. The attic floor has tongue and groove wood flooring. Inspection of the attic reveals that the wood-frame gable once had a full roof over the entire section. In the attic, there is clear evidence that the roof of the wood-frame gable was opened up on the southeast corner to allow for roof trusses for both sides to be joined. There is roof decking and cedar shingles still attached to the roof of the wood-frame gable that are weathered showing exposure to the elements.

Outbuildings

There are two noncontributing structures on site. The first is a circa 1930 shed and root cellar that is located northeast of the house. It has a shed roof, modern wood door, and has been more

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recently re-sided with untreated T1-11 plywood. [Photograph 14] Because none of the historic exterior of the shed remains, it is considered noncontributing. The second structure is an out-of-period circa 1990 rectangular storage building. It has a flat roof, one entry door, no windows, and is sheathed with painted plywood. [Photograph 15]

Site

The site retains all of the historic landscape features that reflect its use as a farm. These include both the upper and lower farm fields, rows of trees for wind breaks, orchard areas with some remaining trees, irrigation ditches, access roads and pathways. There are also many remnants of the farming and homestead use scattered throughout the property; however, none are substantial enough to be counted as individual resources within the property. These include post and wire fences, barn foundations, remnants of an equipment shed, historic trash deposits, and a paddock.⁴ A concrete foundation extending from the house on the west side is present along with cast iron plumbing pipes and drain. The plumbing was installed, and the foundation poured before the landowners realized they were infringing on Metropolitan Water Company's easement. This effort was an attempt to enlarge the house in the 1950s. Because of the scattered nature of these resources throughout the property, the area within the boundary is considered a single contributing site.

Setting

The Spencer Homestead is located near the Wasatch Mountains in Salt Lake Valley with a spectacular view of Lone Peak. [Photograph 16] Bell Canyon delivers spring runoff to the valley through Dry Creek, eventually flowing into the Jordan River and the Great Salt Lake. The Dry Creek drainage forms the Dimple Dell ravine, which Dimple Dell Road and the 630-acre Dimple Dell Regional Park [Maps 1-2] currently occupy. The 5.66 acres of the Spencer Homestead designated for this nomination is located in the south half of the park which is owned by Salt Lake County. In 1995, Sandy City annexed the park into its boundaries. Dimple Dell Regional Park is surrounded by late twentieth-century subdivisions, mostly within the Sandy City, but also including pockets of unincorporated county.

The farmhouse is set back from Dimple Dell Road 170 feet on the north side of the road. [Map 3; Photograph 18] At the end of the north-south driveway is a wood sign that reads *Salt Lake County Recreation & Parks Dimple Dell Park* that is lit at night. The north-south driveway and the east-west driveway are connected creating a circular gravel drive. The main facade of the Spencer house faces south and an unmanicured yard surrounds the house. Mature trees continue to be part of the landscaping with groves of scrub oak in all directions from the property. [Photograph 17] There is post-and-rail wood fencing along the south side of the property adjacent to Dimple Dell Road. An aged Fremont Poplar tree continues to stand on the west side

⁴ Utah State Division of History Office personnel flagged many locations along the north slope behind the house for culturally significant artifacts. For many, many years, refuse was discarded behind the house. The parlor stove from the house is among the items. Utah SHPO archaeologist Christopher Merritt has identified the need for excavation of the site.

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yard and a concrete walkway that leads to the front door are features that contribute to the historic setting.

7.

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- ☒ A. Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- ☐ B. Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- ☐ C. Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- ☒ D. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

- ☐ A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes
- ☐ B. Removed from its original location
- ☐ C. A birthplace or grave
- ☐ D. A cemetery
- ☐ E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure
- ☐ F. A commemorative property
- ☐ G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

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Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT

AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE: agricultural field

Period of Significance

1893-1970

Significant Dates

1893, 1910, 1915,

1950, 1961, 1970

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

The Spencer Homestead is locally significant under Criterion A in the area of Exploration/Settlement through its association with the peak of homesteading in the state as an example of the hardscrabble lifestyle that Utah farmers encountered, from achieving homesteading, to obtaining water, to operating investment farms. It is also significant under Criterion A in the area of Agriculture/ Subsistence for its demonstration of a mixed use of private farm and investment farm and use of new farming techniques. The Spencer Homestead is

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significant as a rare extant example of a late nineteenth-century homestead and farmhouse. Its significance is enhanced by its current location on public property, Dimple Dell Regional Park, assuring preservation of the site and access to the public. The intact landscape of the property features one of the few stand-alone settlement-era homes in the area along with surrounding land that has remnants of undisturbed farming and orchard areas and trash deposits, and contributes to historic agricultural context of the Crescent, Granite, and Sandy communities. Thomas and Sarah Spencer applied for a homestead grant for 160 acres in a mostly unsettled area of the southeast bench of the Salt Lake Valley in 1893. After building the frame house, a brick addition, and making other improvements, the Spencer's were granted a patent in 1898. The family lived on and worked the land until 1910 when they sold the property and moved into the center of Sandy. This period is associated with the "Mining, Smelting, and Small Farm Era, 1871-1910" context within the *Historic Resources of Sandy City Multiple Property Submission* (MPS). The second period of significance is a 60-year span between 1910 and 1970. During this period, the Spencer farmstead changed hands twelve times with each subsequent owner interested in the property as an investment farm. Very few of the owners lived on the farm, choosing instead to rent out the house and land. This period is associated with the "Specialized Agriculture, Small Business and Community Development, 1906-1946" of the Sandy City MPS. While not particularly successful in the area of specialized agriculture, the property is an excellent example of a homestead converted to an investment farm and illustrates an underrepresented pattern found in Utah's rural history. The overall period of significance dates from 1893, when the Spencer family homesteaded the site and built their house, up to 1970, when the land was purchased by Salt Lake County to create Dimple Dell Regional Park. This is important because the Spencer Homestead was not subdivided, even after changing hands many times. There were 47 acres—a remarkable amount of land during a housing boom—available in 1970 when Salt Lake County began assembling parcels to create Dimple Dell Park. For this reason, the site is also significant under Criterion D for its potential to yield information regarding the use of the homestead and farm for various farming practices compared to other areas in the region. The Utah State Historic Preservation Office has identified only five documented examples of similar types of homesteads that date to a similar period as the Spencer Homestead with clearly definable association and historical context within Salt Lake Valley. A particularly useful comparative site is the Devereaux Mansion (NRIS #MP100003042), which is at the opposite end of the economic scale and the only fully excavated site of a historic period residential site in Salt Lake Valley.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

Criterion A Significance: Exploration/Settlement

The Spencer Homestead is locally significant under Criterion A in the area of Exploration/Settlement through its association with the peak of homesteading in the state and use of new farming techniques. The Spencer's homesteaded in the early 1890s at the height of land granting in Utah and due to their late arrival in the Salt Lake Valley, obtained parcels along Dry Creek in the Crescent area of what is now Sandy. By 1898, Spencer had the last remaining viable farm along Dry Creek. While Spencer was successful as a fruit farmer during his 17 years

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at the property, only one subsequent lessee or owner of the property was successful enough to stay more than 10 years. Spencer owned the property for a total of 33 years, as he continued to carry the mortgage. Due to purchases by Salt Lake County nearby beginning in 1963, the Spencer homestead – house, farmstead area, and 47 acres of the original farm - has been preserved within Dimple Dell Regional Park.

The Homestead Act of 1862 provided a system of federal land grants to any U.S. citizen willing to settle on and farm publicly held land in the West.⁵ Permanent settlers first homesteaded in the southeast Salt Lake Valley in the 1860s and 1870s as there was more available land and water than nearer Salt Lake City and there were promises of easy land grants. The first homesteads and farms were mostly scattered along State Street (the main north-south corridor, originally called the Territorial Road) between 8600 South and 12000 South. In 1863, the same year mining operations had begun in the Wasatch Mountains, there were only four homes between 7200 South (considered the south valley boundary) and Utah County to the south. One of those was located in what would become the community of Crescent.

In the early 1870s, a townsite was platted to the east and named Sandy.⁶ Mining and smelting were the primary drivers of growth in the community through the early 1890s when the mines began to fail, and operations were shifted away from the area. However, agriculture continued to develop alongside mining as a dominant economic force and new businesses emerged to support the local agricultural community. Crescent was a small enclave of farmsteads south of the Sandy townsite that grew slowly east along today's 10600 South. The boundaries of early Crescent were between 9800 South and 11800 South from the Wasatch Mountains on the east to the Jordan River on the west. When the population reached sufficient levels, the Crescent School was built in 1894 and the Crescent LDS Ward established in 1896.

Homestead parcels commonly had 160 acres and were larger than small village farms and changed the physical form of Utah's land pattern. The 1890s saw the high point of federal homestead grants in Utah and overlaid the pioneer pattern of development in Crescent and throughout the southeast valley.

At 1300 East, 10600 South begins to parallel Dry Creek on the south side of the ravine. This section of the county road was known as Dimple Dell Road by the 1920s. For its water supply, the area around Crescent utilized Dry Creek, a drainage fed by the north slope of Lone Peak located through Bell's Canyon, the canyon located just south of Little Cottonwood Canyon. The

⁵ The law (and those following it) required a three-step procedure: file an application, improve the land, and file for the patent (deed). Any citizen who had never taken up arms against the U.S. government (including former slaves after the fourteenth amendment) and was at least 21 years old or the head of a household, could file an application to claim a federal land grant. Women were eligible. The occupant had to reside on the land for five years and show evidence of having made improvements. The process had to be complete within seven years.

⁶ There are conflicting stories about how the city was named without historical evidence. The most popular is that Brigham Young named it as a reference to the area's "thirsty soil." Another is that it was for the nickname of the locally legendary, colorful red-headed Scotsman Alexander "Sandy" Kinghorn who ran the first trains to the southeast valley.

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Dry Creek drainage was essential to the early settlers along Dimple Dell Road to achieve household sustenance. However, Dry Creek's general lack of water as well as the area's uneven topography proved difficult for large-scale farming. Fruit orchards were the most successful crops grown by early farmers. Due to the soil conditions and lack of water, homestead patents for land along the Dry Creek drainage were issued later than other parts of the Salt Lake Valley. Spencer's homestead was L-shaped with the majority of the land located topographically higher than Dry Creek, which also presented challenges in irrigation. Dry Creek had water flowing three seasons of the year and dried up late summer into fall as the remaining snowmelt was at its lowest point.

Thomas Spencer was born in Warwick, England in 1839. Sarah Ann Tomalin was born in Northampton, England, in 1843. Thomas and Sarah Ann were married in 1866. The Spencer's left England and immigrated to the U.S. in 1871 with two children, Elenor and John, along with Thomas' father and mother, Isaac and Ann Woodfield Spencer. After stops in Virginia, Michigan, and then North Carolina for military service, the Spencer family boarded the Oregon Short Line and Utah Northern Railway in Illinois for Utah in 1892.⁷

The next order of business was finding a good location to stake a claim to start a homestead. But by the time the Spencer's arrived in 1892, there was very little available agricultural land in the Salt Lake Valley. Thomas and Sarah Ann Spencer settled on 160 acres in Crescent on the south side of Dry Creek at 2591 E. Dimple Dell Rd. and filed an application for a homestead. In 1898, after meeting the federal requirements for homesteading, Thomas applied for and was granted a homestead land patent (deed).⁸ Between 1893 and 1898, the Spencer family had constructed a utilitarian farmhouse, resided on the property, and improved the land to produce agriculture. The materials for the wood frame house were hauled via the dirt path that eventually became Dimple Dell Road. The brick addition was built a few years later with bricks made by James P. Jensen in Crescent.

Thomas and Sarah Ann sold the portion of their property with the house and moved to the Sandy townsite. Sarah Ann Spencer died in Sandy in 1912. Between 1910 and 1922, Thomas Spencer held two separate mortgages on his former homestead until the property was sold in a sheriff's sale in 1926. The property was used as a rental during the years 1922-1926 without evidence of continuous farming. Thomas Spencer died in 1928 and his second wife, Bertha Schmid Spencer, died in 1937.

Criterion A Significance: Agriculture/Subsistence

The Spencer Homestead has local significance under Criterion A in the area of Agriculture/Subsistence as an extant example of the lifestyle that farmers in the Salt Lake Valley, and particularly hilly areas near the mountains, encountered: from homesteading, to obtaining water

⁷ Thomas and Sarah Spencer represent a second wave of immigrants who came by train to the Utah Territory in the late-nineteenth century. Unlike the Mormon pioneers who came in wagon and handcarts, the immigrants who came by train are not well represented in the history of Utah settlement.

⁸ Though Spencer was a U.S. military veteran, there is no evidence that he qualified for the Soldiers and Sailors Homestead Act privileges of reducing the residency requirement to four years.

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for their farmland, and finally to operating investment farms. Few investment farms have been documented in Utah and the Spencer Homestead is an excellent rare extant example in suburban Salt Lake County. The Spencer's sustained orchards and a commercial fruit farm for 17 years (1893-1910) while the Faurschou's did the same for 12 years (1929-1941). Others found the farm to be nothing but a lot of hard work. Nevertheless, the attempts at agriculture kept the original homestead intact for over 80 years and allowed it to survive the late twentieth-century suburban housing boom in Sandy.

Beginning in 1893, Thomas Spencer established a fruit farm with plans to grow French and German plums, apples, peaches, pears and four kinds of berries. Spencer's intent was to operate a commercial farm rather than a subsistence farm. The fields around the farmhouse provided large flat areas to successfully grow crops using water from the irrigation ditch south of the dirt road. However, the homestead acres south of the road were more difficult to work.

Irrigation proved critical to the success of farmers throughout Utah, considered as an arid high desert state. Early in settlement, the people of Crescent dug a ditch from the mouth of Bell's Canyon all the way to their town. It ran parallel to Dimple Dell Road on the east side of the north-south stretch and on the south side of the east-west stretch. Eventually the ditch was lined because the water seeped into the sandy soils before it reached the Spencer's farm. Evidence of the irrigation patterns still exist. The flat area east of the house has indentations and raised areas where the water was diverted to water the crops and orchard and includes a rise that would help the water flow down the ditch better.⁹ From 1900-1935, crop and livestock production on irrigated farms was extensive in character, but farm production was low, and the goods produced were of relatively low value. Unfortunately, the irrigated farm did not provide the farmer and his family with full employment nor an adequate income during the time of the Spencer's homesteading.

Sarah Ann was industrious both as a housekeeper a farmer and a fruit picker. Their three children helped on the farm. Over the five-year period 1893-1898, Thomas Spencer successfully accomplished the requirements required of a homesteader and received his land patent on May 10, 1898. He received the Certificate of the Register of the Land Office on December 27, 1898, for the only farmhouse still standing along Dry Creek in the upper valley of Dimple Dell. Thomas Spencer purchased additional land to the west on the north side of the road in 1907.

By most measures, Spencer was a successful farmer for 17 years. Battles against Utah's unpredictable weather - low and high temperatures, too little and too much precipitation, fickle season start and end dates - forced many farmers to leave the occupation for greener pastures. Irrigation helped temper some of these factors but was not accessible to all lands or people. There is no written evidence that Spencer or subsequent farmers attempted dry farming techniques that were pioneered in the 1890s and became popular for the technique's ability to conserve water while still growing crops.

⁹ The Crescent irrigation ditch is still in existence today but is in an underground pipe now. As late as the 1980s, it remained above ground and had running water most of the time.

Spencer Homestead

Name of Property

Transition to Investment Farming

Salt Lake County, Utah

County and State

In October 1910, Thomas (now 70 years of age) and Sarah Ann Spencer sold their farmstead to Robert B. Donohoo for \$6,000. Robert Burns Donohoo was born in Tennessee in 1839. He fought for the Union during the Civil War and found it difficult to live in Tennessee upon his return. Robert moved to Arizona where he met and married a young Mormon woman, Ella Rebecca Workman. The family farmed in Idaho and Wyoming. After Ella's death in 1907, Robert decided to sell his farm in Lone Tree, Wyoming. According to a brief biography of Robert, in 1910 "he bought a fruit farm in Sandy, Utah [but] the fruit farm turned out to be nothing but a lot of hard work."¹⁰ This description is no doubt the former Spencer homestead. His biography states he traded the fruit farm for a farm in Gem, Idaho. A warranty deed in March 1915 shows the property transferred to Benjamin and Anna Jensen, subject to a mortgage held by Thomas Spencer.

Benjamin and Anna Jensen were residents of Holladay, north of the Granite community. They held the property for only two months before selling to Burton W. and Elise Musser and John C. Howard. The Mussers remained residents of Salt Lake City during the two years they owned the property before selling their interest to John Howard and his brother, Wilson A. Howard. The Howards also lived in Salt Lake City and did not live on the farm so the house likely was unoccupied.

Around this time, the former Spencer homestead was renamed the Howard Farm. The name Howard Farm appears in historic records for at least a decade after the Howard family sold the property in 1917. This may have been because of the wealth and prominence of the families. John Calvin Howard was the president and general manager of the Utah Oil Refinery Company. Wilson Allen Howard was an ore buyer for the United States Smelting Company. After less than two years, The Howards sold the farm to Hyrum B. Clark in December 1917.

Hyrum Brown Clark was born in 1853 in Wyoming while his parents were crossing the plains to Utah. He spent his life as a cattleman and rancher in Utah and Arizona, and later owned a jewelry store in Provo in the 1890s. In 1910, Hyrum Clark was living in the Crescent area with his wife, Malvina, and four of their children. According to a biography written by a granddaughter, Hyrum "owned a lot of property out in Dimple Dell. He had homesteaded it. When the government decided people needed to pay taxes on the land they owned, he couldn't pay, so he became *land poor*."¹¹ Another biography by a daughter, noted that Hyrum Clark "over invested in real estate" including "two large farms in East Crescent."¹² Hyrum Clark died at his home in Salt Lake City in 1918.

After the deaths of Hyrum Clark in 1918, and his wife, Malvina Young Clark, in 1920, the farm was transferred to their daughter, Hazel, and her husband, Samuel Warren Oleson. Hazel and

¹⁰ "History of Robert Burns Donohoo," unpublished TMs, [n.d.]: p. 2.

¹¹ Deborah Hunter Ramsey, "Hyrum Brown Clark" unpublished TMs, [n.d.]: p. 2. Hyrum Clark did not receive a homestead patent for any land in Utah but acquired the Crescent land from the first homesteader.

¹² Evelyn Clark, "Memories of Hyrum Brown Clark" unpublished TMs, [n.d.]: p. 6.

Spencer Homestead

Name of Property

Salt Lake County, Utah

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Sam Oleson took out a \$3,500 mortgage on the "Howard Farm" from Thomas Spencer. After the mortgage was released, Hazel and Sam Olsen deeded the property back to Thomas Spencer in November 1922. Because address numbers were not assigned on Dimple Dell Road until the 1950s, it is difficult to determine who might have been living in the house on the 1920 census. Given there were several renters in the area, it is likely the house was being rented at this time.

One of those renters was Joseph H. and Nettie Poulton Spencer, their daughter Lilian Spencer Dittman and their five sons. Joseph Horne Spencer was a descendant of early Mormon pioneers and not related to the English immigrant, Thomas Spencer. Living in the house 1924-1925 when Lilian was a six- to seven-year-old child, her four older brothers slept in the attic. There was no plumbing in the house and the family hauled water from a ditch across the road.¹³

Like many property owners in the 1920s and 1930s, in 1926 Thomas Spencer lost the property to a sheriff's sale. The farm was sold to Frank Faurschou by the Salt Lake County Treasurer in December 1929. Frank's older sister, Mary, married Neils Adolph Mickelsen,¹⁴ a son of early Crescent settlers, in 1909. Mary and Neils are listed on the 1920 census as renters on a farm next door to Thomas Spencer's neighbor from the 1910 census, so it is possible they were renting the former Spencer house in 1920. Neils died in 1926. On the 1930 census, Mary Mickelsen was listed as the head of household, owner, and manager of a farm. The household included Mary's adopted daughter, Dorothy, age 10; Mary's brothers, Edward and Frank Faurschou; and a nephew, Robert Cole, age 12. However, Mary's home in 1930 was not the Spencer house, indicating that Mary and Niels probably acquired their own property by this time.

Dorothy May Faurschou Mickelsen wrote a brief autobiography that gives some information about her early life.¹⁵ She recalled that the family farm was 350 acres, which included the acquisition of the former Spencer/Howard farm. While the Faurschou family had stronger historical ties with the Granite community, they retained the former Spencer/Howard property as a working farm for about 12 years. During the Great Depression, Clarence and Bertha Faurschou helped retain the Spencer/Howard portion of the family farm and became the owners by 1939.¹⁶ It appears the farmhouse may have been their second home when visiting family. On the 1940 census, Mary Mickelsen, was still the head of household at the former Spencer Homestead. She was enumerated with Dorothy (working as a beautician), Mary's brother Edward (a farmer), and their widowed father, Christian Faurschou.

¹³ Dittman interview, notes, 1991. A chance visit revealed information when Lilian Dittman knocked on the door of the farmhouse to ask the occupant, Robyn MacDuff, for a tour in 1991. Her father, Joseph, worked for the ZCMI store in Salt Lake City and commuted each day in a Model T Ford, except during winter storms, when he stayed in town. The children took a bus to Draper for school, and the family attended church in Granite where the nearest phone was located. The new Crescent Elementary School on State Street was not built until 1930 (NRIS #0001303). The family attended church in the Granite LDS Ward Chapel (NRIS #05000264).

¹⁴ This last name also appears as Mikelsen in historic records.

¹⁵ "An Original Granite Pioneer Speaks" by Dorothy Mickelsen [sic], in *Granite: The Story of a Land and Its People*, (Sandy, Utah: Granite View Stake, 1995): p. 105-106.

¹⁶ Merlin "Mose" Randolph Morrison and James "Buck" Glavis Morrison were the sons of John G. Morrison, who was allegedly killed by labor activist and songwriter Joe Hill in 1914. Their brother, Arling Morrison, was killed in the same shooting. Merlin was an eyewitness and testified at the trial prior to Hill's execution in 1915.

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After about two years of ownership, Clarence Faurschou terminated his interest in 1941. At that time, Salt Lake County and later the State of Utah assumed ownership of the property. It is not known who occupied the house between 1941 and 1950 when the State Land Board deeded the property to brothers Gordon P. Marsh and J. C. Marsh. The Marsh family sold the property to Dwight L. and Josephine C. Fullmer in 1951. The Fullmers deeded the property to James G. Morrison, who appears to have had a contract on the property in the 1950s, with his brother, Merlin. Neither the Marsh nor Fullmer families lived at the house. It is unclear who is responsible for the major exterior remodel in 1950, but it was James G. Morrison who attempted to expand the footprint of the house until he discovered the work would impinge on an aqueduct right of way. Morrison was also responsible for constructing a barn to the north of the house 1950-1958 (since demolished, with only foundation remnants).

James G. Morrison applied for a mortgage on the property in 1958, but it was a tenant who provided information on a 1958 tax assessor's card. Morrison sold the property to the Security Title Company in 1961. In 1963, Salt Lake County began acquiring open space in the Dry Creek area to preserve and utilize as parks. Security Title Company sold off all the land south of Dimple Dell Road but held the farmhouse property until April 1970 when it was sold to Salt Lake County.

Criterion D Significance

Because of the mostly undisturbed condition of the homestead site and setting as a Salt Lake County-owned natural and recreational area, the Spencer Homestead is also significant under Criterion D due to the presence of intact surface and likely subsurface deposits that relate to the occupants of this home from the late 19th to mid-20th centuries. The archaeological deposits at the site can provide important information to contribute to our understanding of human history at a local, Salt Lake Valley scale.

As noted in NRHP Bulletin 15, the property must be evaluated within an applicable historic context and be able to fill in an important data gap, challenge existing theories, or fall under an established state or federal management plan. For Spencer Homestead, the eligibility of Criteria D falls under the contribution of filling in an important data gap. In particular, the data gap filled by the archaeological potential of this site is due to the lack of contemporary and analogous historic properties in the greater Salt Lake Valley.

A review of the archaeological site information at the Utah State Historic Preservation Office has identified only five documented examples of similar types of homesteads that date to a similar period as the Spencer Homestead with clearly definable association and historical context within Salt Lake Valley.

Smithsonian Trinomial	Description

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42SL283	Jordan Valley Farm abandoned house foundation and silo; no historical information identified for the builder/occupants. No surface artifacts, eligible to NRHP under Criterion A, only.
42SL148	Muir-Poulsen Granite house, constructed 1896, listed to the NRHP (NRIS #MP100003042) under Criterion A only. Surficial artifact assemblage disturbed by recreational use, artifacts fragmentary and dispersed.
42SL193	Farm with associated structures and outbuildings, constructed in the post-1920s period. Site was determined Not Eligible in 1992 and was subsequently demolished for a road project.
42SL262	Brick foundation and dugout, with additional ephemeral features. Artifacts limited to structural debris associated with foundation, no historical information available, was eligible to NRHP for A and D. Destroyed by construction between 1997-2010s.
42SL720	Residential block of homes, post-1940s construction considered not eligible for the NRHP due to lack of any subsurface potential. Destroyed by redevelopment in 2013.

Of those sites, the majority are located on private lands and inaccessible to researchers and will most likely be developed, if not already occurred, as the Salt Lake Valley rapidly increases urbanization.

An analysis of the aerial photography of the Spencer Homestead area illustrates the agricultural evolution of the homestead north of Dimple Dell Road through the investment farm period. In the aerial from 1937, the orchard is large and terminates at the west end of the property near what was the original driveway onto the property. The original barn and stable were located north of the original east-west driveway (290 feet west of the house). Four sheds and a stable were also located on the property at this time. There is a square planting area east of the orchard with a different crop growing. Additionally, there appears to be a grain crop planted east of the orchard then going north down the hill then to the west behind the house.

In 1946, the Metropolitan Water Supply pipeline scar is visible, which created the second driveway. The barn and stable are visible west of the house. The fruit farm is visible south and east of the house. The orchard has trees visible and furrow lines going east to west. The field east of the orchard appears to have a grain crop that has been harvested. The dirt road is farther north than the current alignment. A year later the orchard appears to have fewer rows of fruit trees and appears to have other crops growing. The original barn and stable are no longer visible by 1947. The apple tree southwest of the house is visible in the photo. The Metropolitan Water Supply pipeline scar is still visible. An aerial photograph taken in 1949 shows no substantial changes but between 1950-1958 a new barn is constructed north of the house, to which a new path was cut into the hill behind the house to access the new barn location.

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The next available aerial photograph is from 1964. The north-south driveway is well established. The growing area is furrowed where the previous crops were growing. The grain fields to the east and north appear fallow. The barn is visible north of the house and down the hill. The row of trees along the road and the southern border of the orchard area has very few trees left. The concrete walk from the driveway to the front door is visible. The trail down the hill to the barn is visible. The west driveway looks to be completely grown over. In 1970, when Salt Lake County acquired the property, the house is visible, so is the roof over the back patio, and the roof of the shed/root cellar. The Fremont Poplar tree in the west yard is visible. West of the house there is a circular traffic pattern encircling the old apple tree. The west driveway is back in use. The east field has furrows in it. The barn and fenced paddock are visible. The Metropolitan Pipeline box is visible in the photo. In contrast, over the 40 years, the homestead patent property south of Dimple Dell Road shows almost no agricultural activity in the aerial photographs, again most likely due to lack of water and the uneven topography. The barn to the north of the house that was intact in 1976, collapsed after 1992, and remains present in a collapsed state.

The Spencer Homestead could provide a comparative dataset to the Devereaux Mansion (NRIS#71000847) which is a 19th and early 20th century home located in downtown Salt Lake City and was extensively excavated by the Antiquities Section of the Utah Division of State History in 1980 (Hawkins 1981). The Devereaux Mansion and the Spencer Homestead were at opposite ends of the economic scale, the Devereaux Mansion being an urban setting of a wealthy landowner and the Spencer Homestead being a rural and isolated family homestead and farm that later transitioned to an investment farm. This is the only historic-period home formally excavated in Salt Lake Valley, as most other archaeological investigations up to this point target prehistoric (or pre-contact) Native American sites, developed industrial/commercial blocks, and the military presence at Fort Douglas. Making the Spencer Homestead a relatively unique opportunity, at least in the local area, to investigate important research questions as detailed below.

Archaeological Context of Spencer Homestead

Throughout the post-World War 2 period, Sandy City has seen dramatic expansion of residential and commercial development that has obscured and destroyed most of the archaeological components of earlier homesteading activities (privies, dumps, yard space, etc.).

House Trash Dump: Below the Spencer house is an extensive early 20th century trash deposit that is largely domestic in composition, and ranges from glass food jars to ceramics, and farm equipment to smaller personal items. Artifacts are spread over an area measuring 250' (east/west) by 75' (north/south) on a steeply pitching slope. Base of the slope contains the majority of artifacts, with an estimated depth of 50 cm (1 to 2 feet) or more, given natural slope erosion and soil accumulation in this area.

Privy/Outhouse: While there was no surface expression of a privy, geophysical or subsurface testing will locate one, as this house type pre-dates inside plumbing and there is little disturbance in the areas where those were traditionally located. There is high potential for subsurface deposits from privies that were once on the property from the period of the framstead without

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indoor plumbing. Privy pits are unique glimpses into the past occupants lives, and offer excellent preservation of organic materials that are not likely to be found in other contexts.

Research Questions

Given the amount of historical information about the families who have lived in the Spencer Homestead, these trash deposits have a unique opportunity to address important research questions regarding: .

- Settlement of Salt Lake Valley by European Americans, specifically members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.
- Trade, consumption patterns, and variable access to goods and services via trade networks.
- Expression of religion, specifically the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.
- Comparison of urban versus rural, and upper and lower/middle class socioeconomics.
- As most of the surface archaeological deposit is on a steep hillslope, and represents multiple generations of trash disposal, there is potential for study of historic-period taphonomic processes.
- Expression of identity by the residents through various lenses (religion, socioeconomic, rural, occupations, gender/sexuality).
- Spheres of space utilization by age (children/adults) gender/sexuality (male/female spheres), and if these changed over time.
- Natural, but human-planted, landscape features can be tested to help reconstruct local environmental fluctuations through dendrochronology, which could assist in management of the area by Salt Lake County.

Additional Historical Context

In a rare circumstance for Utah, none of the children of Thomas and Sarah Ann were interested in working the homestead or retaining the property. All three had long careers in education. Their oldest child, Elenor Spencer, taught at several different schools in the Sandy area and continued to be involved with the Crescent School located on State Street and 11000 South for many years. John, the second child, helped his father on the farm, taught at the Granite School and worked at the Midvale Smelter to support his family.

In 1960, Salt Lake County published its first comprehensive master plan. The master plan included a vision for creating “large park areas which offer the people an opportunity to enjoy natural beauty.”¹⁷ The County purchased the first large parcel for the Dry Creek Park in 1963. Between 1963 and 1972 nearly all of the park’s 630 acres was acquired. The acquisition history of the park combined the farmhouse property with another parcel acquired from the Dennison family in 1966 for a total of 82 acres; however, the deed was not officially recorded for the 46.94-acre parcel until April 16, 1970. The proposed Dry Creek Park was officially renamed the Dimple Dell Regional Park in 1983, although the Dimple Dell name was used to describe the

¹⁷ Quoted in “History & Facts — Dry Creek Regional Park,” Charles Baugh, TMs prepared for the Dry Creek Advisory Board Members & Staff (August 6, 1981): p. 1.

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project in the 1970s.

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From the beginning, the park was intended as a place of natural beauty. In the 1980s, park planners successfully fought proposals for a golf course and trails for motorized vehicles. These efforts also likely prevented the demolition of both the Muir and Spencer farmhouses. The Dimple Dell Regional Park was annexed into Sandy City in 1995 with safeguards to prevent development.

For context, it is important to note that the population of Sandy City grew from 6,438 in 1960 to 50,546 in 1970, with another large increase to 75,058 in 1980. Sandy aggressively annexed land during this period and supported a massive suburban housing boom. A 686-acre annexation in 1972 included the southeast quarter of the southeast quarter of the Spencer's original homestead in Section 15. A 229-acre annexation in 1975 included all of the Section 14 land in the homestead. With the exception of the Dimple Dell Regional Park and the unincorporated areas, the former Spencer homestead was developed into fifteen subdivisions between 1976 and 2017.

In 1970, Salt Lake County became the landlord of the former Spencer Homestead. Under a rental agreement with the county, Malcolm and Robyn MacDuff¹⁸ moved into the old farmhouse in January 1976. They were long-term tenants who stayed until 1992 and raised a family there. Robyn remembers that when they created their first garden, the couple found that there was much to learn about vegetables in the dry soils of Dry Creek. The family were responsible for making and paying for all repairs, maintenance, and renovations during their tenure, and spent an estimated at \$15,000 on renovations. On the exterior, the couple cleaned the septic tank and installed a new access lid, removed overgrown shrubs covering the windows, painted the wood siding, performed extensive repairs to the roof and the north brick wall that included pouring a foundation and adding redwood framing in the cavity where adobe bricks once exposed to water.

On the interior, they renovated the kitchen with new electrical wiring, refinished the kitchen cabinets, returned the phone nook to a built-in ironing board, completely updated the bathroom, cleaned out the attic and installed collar ties on the roof trusses. They also installed carpet, ceiling tiles, and painted most of the interior walls. Although maintenance on the property was a lot of work, Robyn fondly remembers living in the old farmhouse:

“We had horses while we lived there and rode them in the park. We hosted a couple of weddings in the yard. All our family Christmas and Thanksgiving get togethers were held there as well as birthday parties. The house stayed cool all summer due to the thick adobe and brick walls so that we did not need air conditioning. The fireplace in the living room has a fan, which heats that large space nicely. One of the apple trees in the west section of the old orchard was still alive and bearing fruit in 1976 through 1992. Numerous birds were observed around the bird feeders and in the yard during migration and some were year-

¹⁸ The MacDuffs eventually bought a home close to the park after leaving the property in 1992. Robyn MacDuff has applied to serve on the Dimple Dell Regional Park Advisory Board and has been an advocate for preserving the park's natural beauty and the historic Spencer farmhouse.

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round. Many migrants came through the yard, especially in the spring. When we were outside their songs literally filled the air. We frequently saw mule deer, red foxes, weasels, field mice, porcupines, skunks, and other wildlife on the property.”¹⁹

Although the building is currently vacant, the Salt Lake County Parks continues to maintain and make repairs to the house and is looking for a suitable use to inform a complete historically appropriate rehabilitation.

Historically, the residents along Dimple Dell Road were associated with three different communities: Sandy, Crescent and Granite. Sandy started as a farming and smelting town centered with a historic business district east of State Street between 8600 and 9000 South. Sandy City has since grown to be the fourth largest geographic and populous city in Salt Lake County. The Crescent area has been mostly annexed into Sandy, but the name remains in common usage locally. Granite was located near the north-south section of Dimple Dell Road along 3100 East. The farming community was associated with the granite quarry near the mouth of Little Cottonwood Canyon. The Muir House in Granite is the only other historic building in the Dimple Dell Regional Park. It was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2018 (NRIS #10003042).

¹⁹ Robyn MacDuff, [Memories of the Spencer Farmhouse], unpublished TMs, 2021.

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Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- ☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- ☐ previously listed in the National Register
- ☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register
- ☐ designated a National Historic Landmark
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- ☒ State Historic Preservation Office
- ☐ Other State agency
- ☐ Federal agency
- ☐ Local government
- ☐ University
- ☐ Other
- Name of repository: _____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

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10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 5.66 acres

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: _____
(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

1. Latitude: 40.556604° Longitude: -111.817250°

2. Latitude: Longitude:

Or

UTM References

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

☐ NAD 1927 or ☒ NAD 1983

1. Zone: Easting: Northing:

2. Zone: Easting: Northing:

3. Zone: Easting: Northing:

4. Zone: Easting: Northing:

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The polygon-shaped boundary begins at the SW corner of the polygon and heads east curving along Dimple Dell Road for approximately 723 ft. then turns north to the NE point approximately 418 ft. then turns west to the NW point approximately 551 ft. then south 286 ft. to the start. See map for boundary detail.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundary has been selected to represent a large portion of the extant remnant of the original homestead, the investment farm era, the historic barn foundations and a large archaeologic area, all of which is included within the larger Dimple Dell Regional Park owned by Salt Lake County. The boundary is sufficient to convey the historical context and use of the site, while allowing for management of the other uses of the park.

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11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Robyn MacDuff
organization: Dimple Dell Regional Park Advisory Board
street & number: 8804 S. Tracy Dr.
city or town: Sandy state: UT zip code: 84093
e-mail rmacduff@rins.org
telephone: (801) 554-0807
date: August 18, 2022

name/title: Korral Broschinsky
organization: _____
street & number: 4874 Taylors Park Dr.
city or town: Taylorsville state: UT zip code: 84123
e-mail kbro@kbropreservation.com
telephone: (801) 913-5645

name/title: Kirk Huffaker
organization: Kirk Huffaker Preservation Strategies
street & number: 159 W. Broadway, Suite 200
city or town: Salt Lake City state: UT zip code: 84106
e-mail kirk@kirkhuffaker.com
telephone: (801) 949-4040

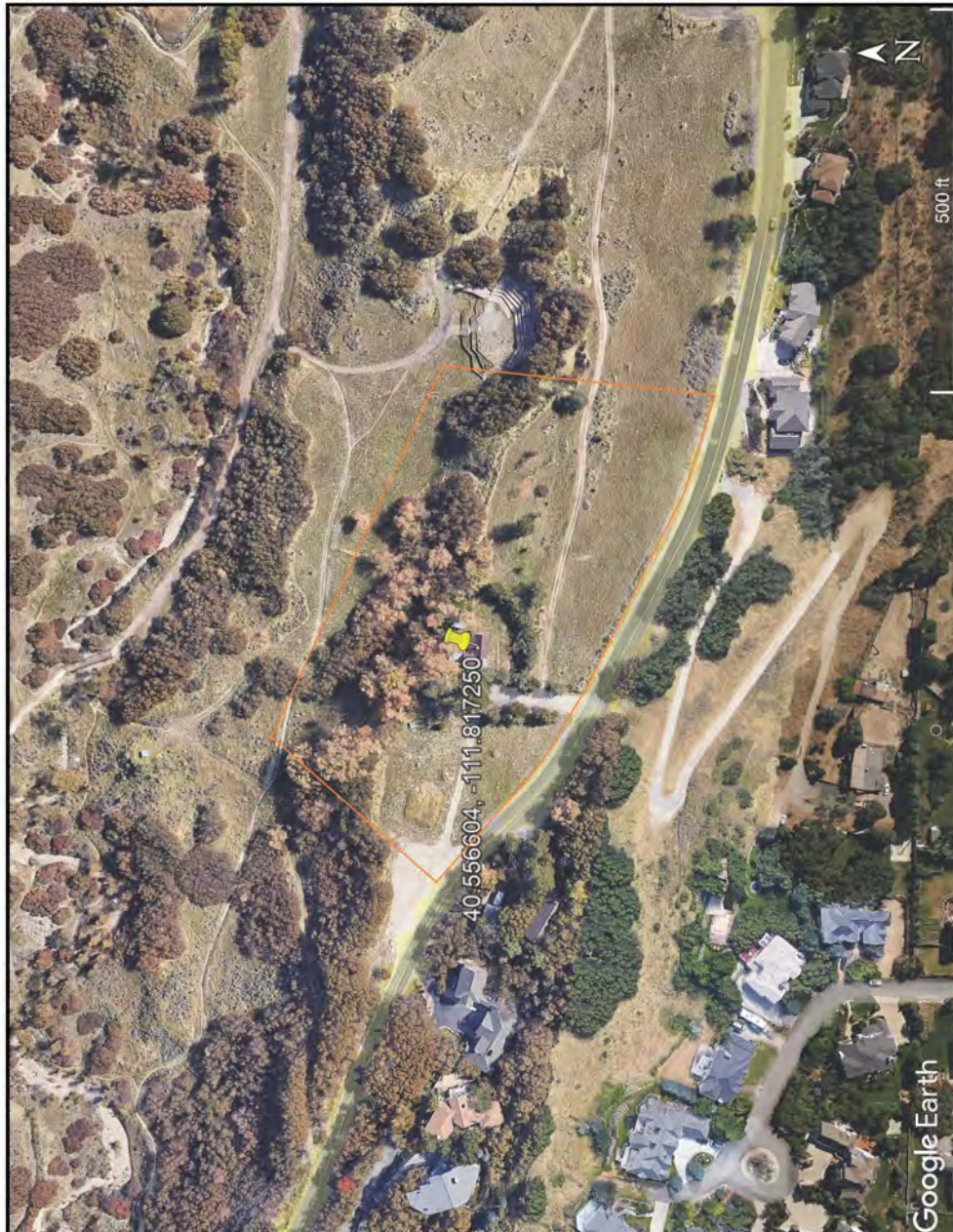
Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

Spencer Homestead
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Spencer Farmstead

Sandy, Salt Lake County, Utah

Latitude 40.556604° Longitude -111.817250°

Map datum: WGS84

Boundary

Spencer Homestead
Name of Property

Salt Lake County, Utah
County and State



Spencer Farmstead

Sandy, Salt Lake County, Utah

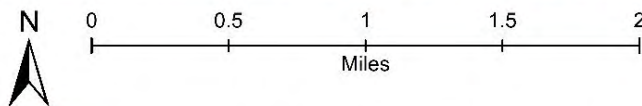
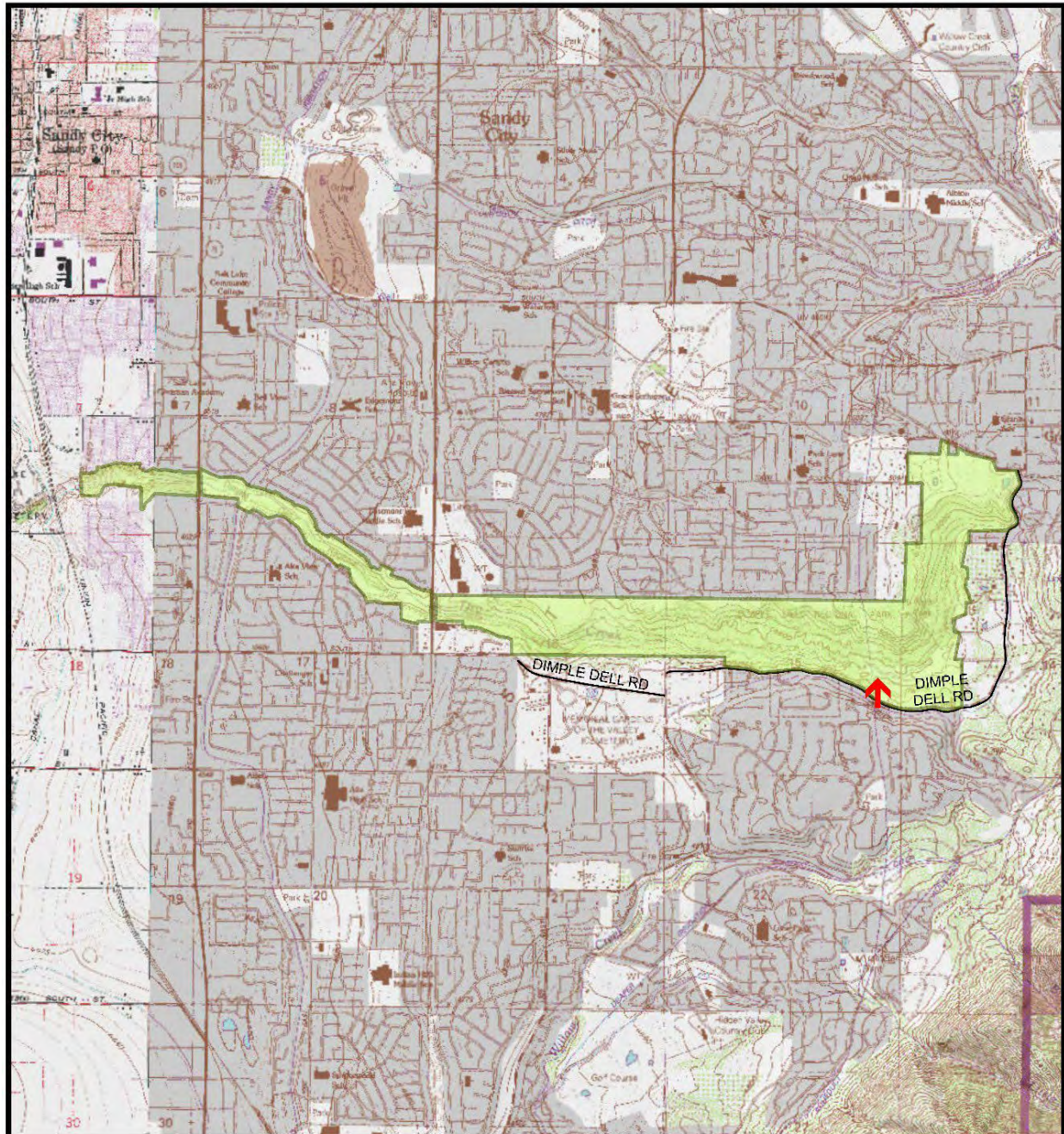
Latitude 40.556604° Longitude -111.817250°

Map datum: WGS84

Boundary

Spencer Homestead
Name of Property

Salt Lake County, Utah
County and State



↑ Latitude 40.556604° Longitude -111.817250°
Dimple Dell Regional Park
Dimple Dell Road

MAP #1

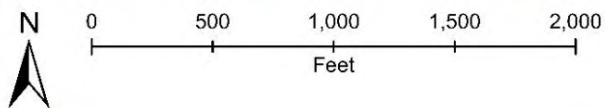
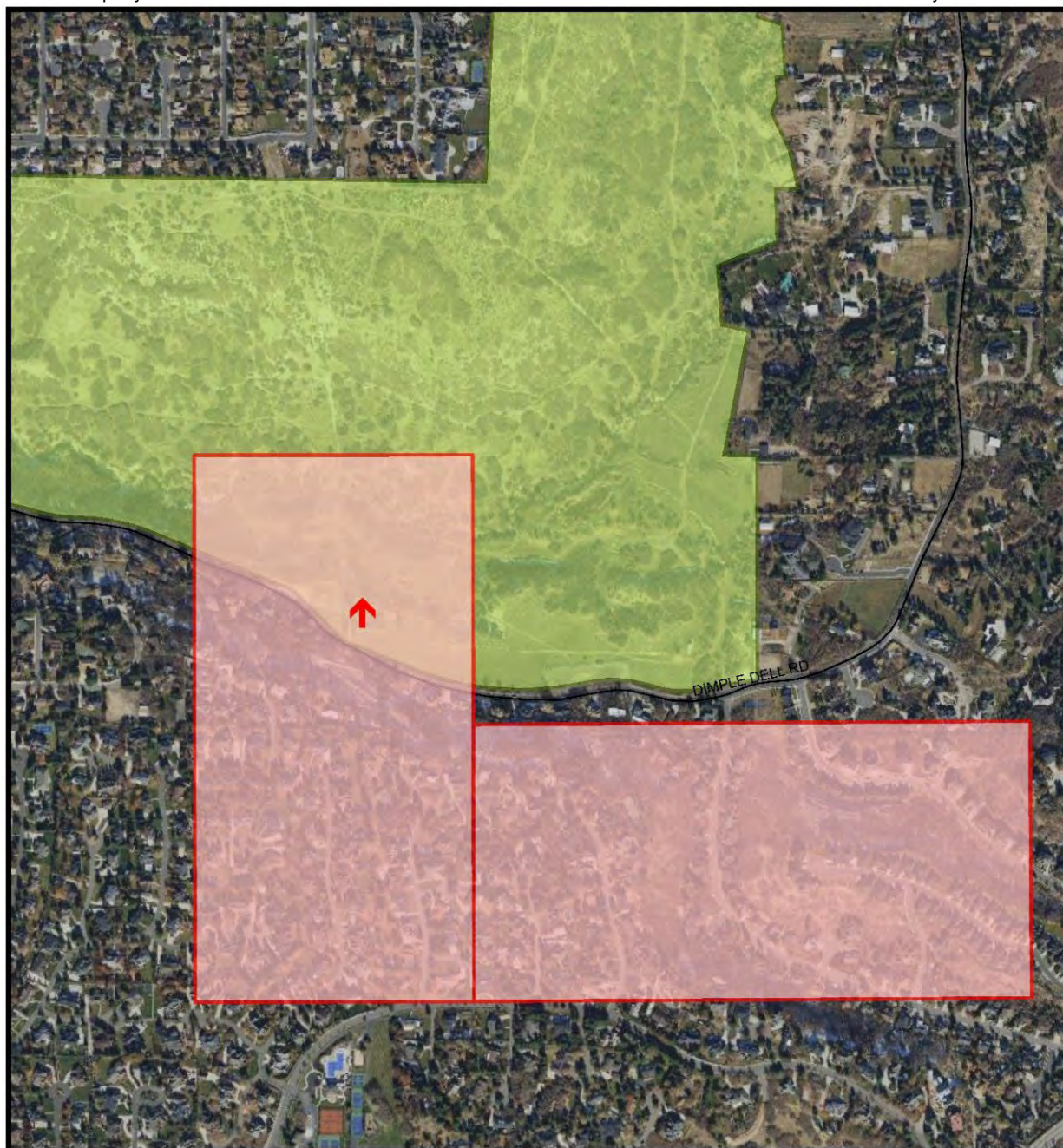
↑ **Spencer Farmhouse**

2591 E. Dimple Dell Road
Sandy, Salt Lake Co., Utah

GIS Data Courtesy Utah AGRC

Spencer Homestead
Name of Property

Salt Lake County, Utah
County and State



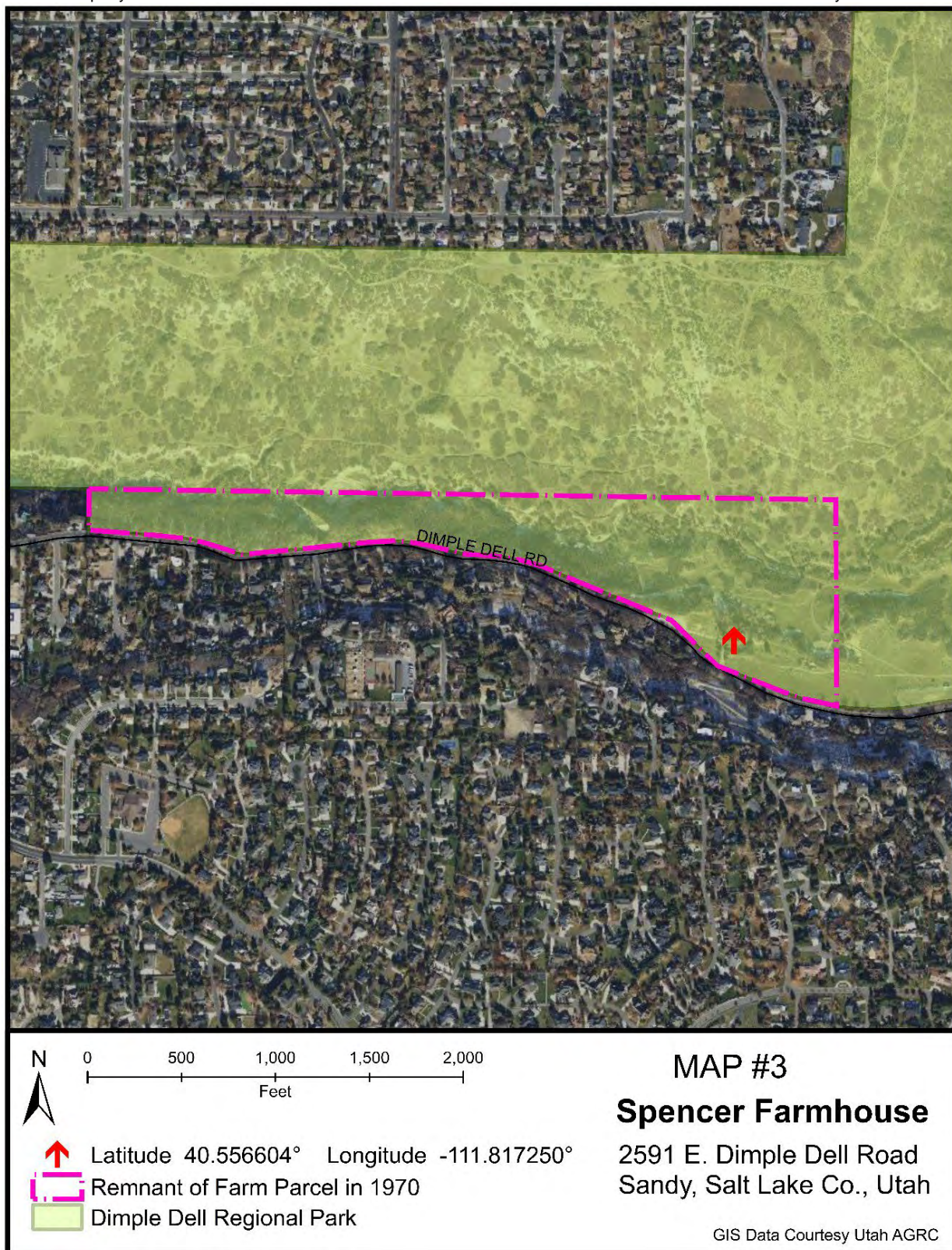
- ↑ Latitude 40.556604° Longitude -111.817250°
- Dimple Dell Regional Park
- Spencer Homestead Grants

MAP #2
Spencer Farmhouse
2591 E. Dimple Dell Road
Sandy, Salt Lake Co., Utah

GIS Data Courtesy Utah AGRC

Spencer Homestead
Name of Property

Salt Lake County, Utah
County and State



Spencer Homestead
Name of Property

Salt Lake County, Utah
County and State



0 50 100 150 200
Feet

-  Buildings
-  Porch/Carport
-  Barn Remnants

MAP #4

Spencer Farmhouse

2591 E. Dimple Dell Road
Sandy, Salt Lake Co., Utah

GIS Data Courtesy Utah AGRC

Spencer Homestead
Name of Property

Salt Lake County, Utah
County and State



Spencer Homestead
Sandy, Salt Lake County, Utah

Photo Key

Spencer Homestead
Name of Property

Salt Lake County, Utah
County and State

Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered, and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Photo Log

Name of Property: Spencer Homestead

City or Vicinity: Sandy

County: Salt Lake State: Utah

Photos 2, 4, 7,8 ,9, 10, 11, 12, 13

Photographer: Korral Broschinsky

Date Photographed: June 2021

Photos 15-18

Photographer: Robyn MacDuff

Date Photographed: November 2021

Photos 1, 3, 5, 6, 14, 19-30

Photographer: Cory Jensen

Date Photographed: February 2022

Photos 31-34

Photographer: Robyn MacDuff

Date Photographed: May 2022

Spencer Homestead
Name of Property

Salt Lake County, Utah
County and State

Photograph 1. Exterior, west and south elevations. Camera facing northeast.



Photograph 2. Exterior detail, west and south elevations. Camera facing east.



Spencer Homestead
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Photograph 3. Exterior, south elevations. Camera facing northeast.



Photograph 4. Exterior, south elevation of east wing. Camera facing north.



Spencer Homestead
Name of Property

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Photograph 5. Exterior, east elevation of east wing. Camera facing west.



Photograph 6. Exterior, east and north elevations. Camera facing southwest.



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Photograph 7. Exterior, north and west elevations of west wing. Camera facing southeast.



Photograph 8. Exterior, west elevation of west wing. Camera facing east.



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Photograph 9. Exterior, east elevation of east wing with shed at right. Camera facing west.



Photograph 10. Interior, living room. Camera facing south.



Spencer Homestead
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Photograph 11. Interior, living room. Camera facing north.



Photograph 12. Interior, kitchen. Camera facing northeast.



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Photograph 13. Interior, east bedroom. Camera facing south.



Photograph 14. Noncontributing shed. Camera facing north.



Spencer Homestead

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Photograph 15. Noncontributing shed (at left). Camera facing east.



Photograph 16. View toward Spencer Homestead along Dimple Dell Road with entrance and sign in the distance at center right. Camera facing east.



Spencer Homestead

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Photograph 17. View toward Spencer Homestead from across Dimple Dell Road showing Spencer house at center, entrance and sign at left, and historic orchard (now a field) at the center. Camera facing north by northwest.



Photograph 18. Entrance drive to Spencer Homestead showing sign at right and post and rail fence. Camera facing north.



Spencer Homestead

Name of Property

Salt Lake County, Utah

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Photograph 19. Open fields and orchard remnant, southeast of house. Camera facing northeast.



Photograph 20. Open field and access road, southeast of house. Camera facing east.



Spencer Homestead

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Photograph 21. Juniper and deciduous tree wind break, southeast of house. Camera facing southwest.



Photograph 22. Orchard remnants east of house. Camera facing east.



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Photograph 23. Path north of house leading to lower fields and trash deposits. Camera facing east.



Photograph 24. Trash deposit on hillside north of house. Camera facing north.



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Photograph 25. Another trash deposit on hillside north of house. Camera facing north.



Photograph 26. Historic shed remnants, lower fields northeast of house. Camera facing northeast.



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Photograph 27. Historic post and wire fence, lower fields northeast of house. Camera facing northeast.



Photograph 28. Access road and lower fields northeast of house. Camera facing east.



Spencer Homestead

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County and State

Photograph 29. Portion of lower fields. Camera facing west.



Photograph 30. Path from lower fields up hillside to house. Camera facing southwest.



Spencer Homestead
Name of Property

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County and State

Photograph 31. Historic apple tree along path behind house. Camera facing northwest.



Photograph 32. Lower field behind house view of north ridge of Dimple Dell. Camera facing north.



Spencer Homestead

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Photograph 33. Lower field behind house view of Bells Canyon and the front range of Lone Peak.
Camera facing east.



Photograph 34. Lower field behind house view of native grasses and scrub oak groves. Camera facing west.



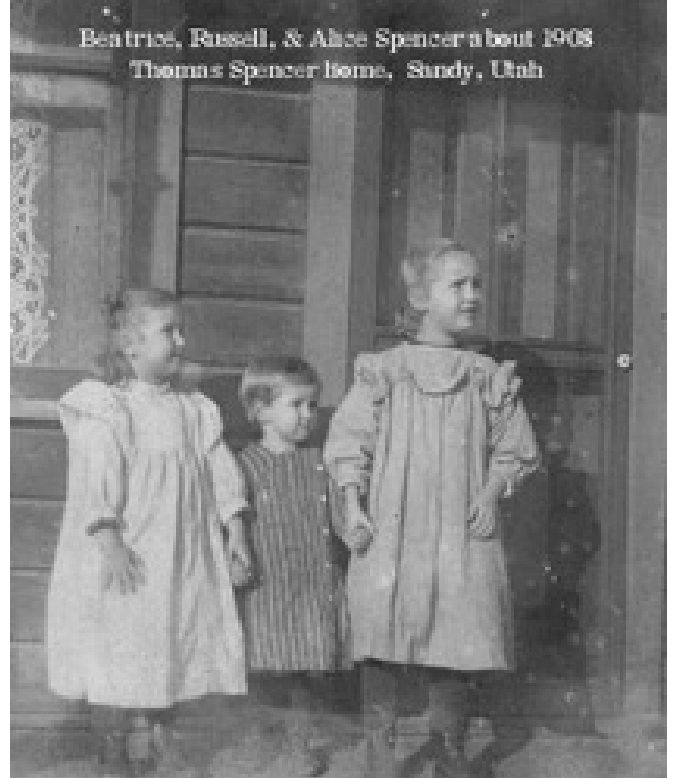
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Figure 1. Thomas Spencer and family on porch of the Spencer Farmhouse, ca. 1903.
(Courtesy Robyn MacDuff)



Figure 2. Beatrice, Russell & Alice Spencer on the porch of the Spencer Farmhouse, ca. 1908.
(Courtesy Robyn MacDuff)



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Figure 3. Tax Assessor's photo, ca. 1937. Camera facing east. (Courtesy Salt Lake County Archives)



Figure 4. Spencer Farmhouse, 1986. Camera facing north. (Courtesy Robyn MacDuff)



Spencer Homestead
Name of Property

Salt Lake County, Utah
County and State

Property Owner Information

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

Name Salt Lake County Parks, Attn: Patrick Leary

Address 6232 S. Airport Rd.

City or Town West Jordan State UT Zip code 84118

Telephone/email (385) 468-7275 pleary@slco.org

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.