

# HISTORIC SITE FORM

(10-91)

UTAH STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

## 1 IDENTIFICATION

Name of Property: Fife, John D and Eliza Jane, House

Address: 3144 East Fort Union Boulevard

Twnshp: 2S Range: 1E

Section: 26

City, County: Cottonwood Heights, Salt Lake County

Lat/Long(degr dec.):

Current Owner Name: Barbara Seward Trust  
UT 2017

USGS Map Name & Date: Draper,

Current Owner Address: 3144 East Fort Union Blvd, Cottonwood Heights, UT 84121 Tax Number:  
22-26-201-048-0000

Legal Description (include acreage):

BEG E 247.5 FT & S 40 FT FR N 1/4 COR SEC 26, T 2S, R 1E, SLM; E 82.5 FT; S 388 FT; W 82.5 FT; N 388 FT TO BEG. 0.74 AC M OR L. 7200-529 7224-1511

## 2 STATUS/USE

### Property Category

building(s)  
 structure  
 site  
 object

### Evaluation

eligible/contributing  
 ineligible/non-contributing  
 out-of-period

### Use

Original Use: Garage

Current Use: Residence

## 3 DOCUMENTATION

### Photos: Dates

or not)

digital: October 2017

prints: October 2017

historic: Tax photo circa 1935,1970

USHS History Research Center

### Research Sources (check all sources consulted, whether useful

abstract of title

tax card & photo

city/county histories

personal interviews

building permit

sewer permit

Sanborn Maps

USHS Preservation Files

USHS Architects File

### Drawings and Plans

measured floor plans

site sketch map

Historic American Bldg. Survey

original plans available at:

other: Tax Card Drawing

obituary index

city directories/gazetteers

census records

biographical encyclopedias

newspapers

LDS Family History Library

local library:

university library(ies): UofU

### Bibliographical References (books, articles, interviews, etc.)

Attach copies of all research notes, title searches, obituaries, and so forth.

Ancestry.com. U.S. City Directories, 1821-1989 [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2011.

Ancestry.com. U.S. Public Records Index, Volume 2 [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2010. Original data: Voter Registration Lists, Public Record Filings, Historical Residential Records, and Other Household Database Listings

Carter, Thomas and Peter Goss (1988) Utah's Historic Architecture: 1847-1940, Salt Lake City: Utah State Historical Society

Despain, Annie Butler (1953) *Alva Butler*, Daughters of Utah Pioneers manuscript accessed on Familysearch.org website. Contributed by Familysearch.org website. contributed by KjerstieAnn August 8, 2016

Researcher/Organization: \_Storiagraph/prepared for the Cottonwood Heights CLG\_

Date: February 28,  
2018\_

#### **4 ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION**

Building Style/Type: Rustic/Garage No.

Stories: 1.0

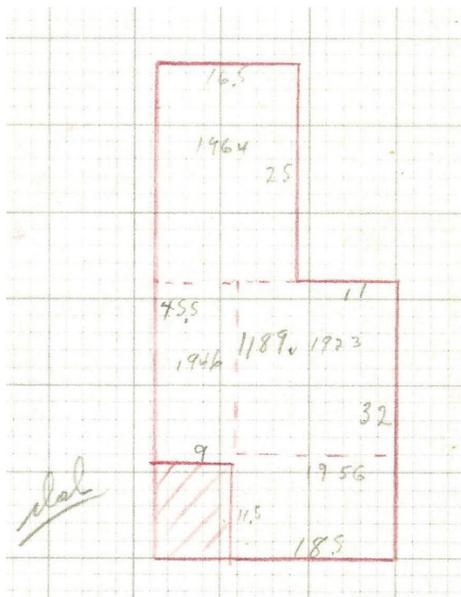
Foundation Material: Concrete Wall Material(s): Veneer Log Siding

Additions: none minor X major (describe below) Alterations: none minor X major (describe below)

Number of associated outbuildings 0 and/or structures 2.

Briefly describe the principal building, additions or alterations and their dates, and associated outbuildings and structures. Use continuation sheets as necessary.

The John D and Eliza Jane Fife House is a one-story residence located at 3144 East Fort Union Boulevard, Cottonwood Heights, Salt Lake County, Utah which began as a garage and was transformed into a four room summer residence on the Fife farm circa 1920.<sup>1</sup> The exterior has rustic styling details. The structure has been expanded twice and now covers 1,165 square feet.<sup>2</sup> The house is located on a 0.74 acre flat parcel, the remains of the Alva Butler and later John D Fife farm parcels. The parcel contains two other non-contributing structures : a 1975 residence and a large garage. The immediate neighborhood is composed of primarily late-20<sup>th</sup> century small residential development. The John D and Eliza Jane Fife House does not retain its architectural integrity and is not a contributing local resource.



1964 Salt Lake County Tax Appraisal Card drawing 3144 East 7000 South

The John D and Eliza Jane Fife circa 1920 garage was a 19' x 24' (360 sf) rectangular structure with four carriage doors on the north façade and four interior rooms after it was converted to be a summer residence.<sup>3</sup> In 1946 a 320 square foot wrap around screen porch was added to the east and north façade. This was later enclosed. In 1964, the entire structure was remodeled, with a front (north) and

<sup>1</sup>Fife, John Daniel Biography, Familysearch.org website. Accessed January 9, 2018. Contributed by Susanna Neal October 9, 2013.

<sup>2</sup>Salt Lake County Assessor Website. 3144 East Fort Union Boulevard.

<sup>3</sup>Salt Lake County Archives tax appraisal cards 1938, 1964 and Fife, John Daniel Biography, author unknown Familysearch.org website. Accessed January 9, 2018. Contributed by Susanna Neal October 9, 2013. See the circa 1938 tax photograph for door detail.

rear room addition to the earlier garage/house, as well as the installation of interior plumbing and a gas furnace. The 1938 and 1964 tax appraisal card shows the location of those additions. The original structure had no foundation, but the additions were framed wood over concrete construction. The original structure and 1964 addition have gabled steel roofs, and the screen porch has a shed roof which extends the original garage roofline. The exterior has a combination of shiplap and veneer timber/log wood siding. The windows have simple wood trim boards and wood sills. The windows are a combination of aluminum and vinyl construction.

The front (north) façade is composed of a door and single-hung window. The façade is part of the 1964 addition. The east side of the 1964 addition has a large slider window. The north side of the screen porch contains two side-by-side horizontal slider windows. The east façade, which is the 1946 enclosed screen porch has three slider windows and one single-hung window evenly spaced across the length. The rear (south facing) façade has two single-hung windows.

The interior contains 1,165 square feet and no basement. The house sits on a 0.74 acre long, narrow flat parcel.<sup>4</sup> The north side of the parcel contains a second 1975 non-contributing residence near Fort Union Boulevard (7000 South). The rear (south) of the parcel contains a large non-contributing 2012 aluminum garage and a house constructed in 1995 (subsequently separated into a separate parcel).<sup>5</sup> The lot has mature trees along the west boundary and between the two houses, with smaller trees on the south side of the garage. The entire property and rear house are accessed by a dirt/gravel road along the east side of the property.

The immediate area surrounding the John D and Eliza Jane Fife House is composed of small residential developments as former farm and orchard properties were sold and developed in the late 20<sup>th</sup> century. Some residences are older and contain more mixed styles along major roads such as 7000 South/Fort Union Boulevard, and primarily mid-20<sup>th</sup> century and newer where agricultural land has been infilled and developed.<sup>6</sup>

## **5 HISTORY**

*Architect/Builder:* John D Fife  
1920

*Date of Construction:* c

*Historic Themes: Mark themes related to this property with "S" or "C" (S = significant, C = contributing).*

*(see instructions for details)*

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Economics	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	<input type="checkbox"/> Politics/ Government
<input type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Religion
<input type="checkbox"/> Archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape	<input type="checkbox"/> Science
<input type="checkbox"/> Art	<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment/ Recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Social History
<input type="checkbox"/> Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> Ethnic Heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> Law	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Exploration/ Settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> Literature	<input type="checkbox"/> Other
<input type="checkbox"/> Community Planning & Development	<input type="checkbox"/> Health/Medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> Maritime History	
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> Military	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Performing Arts	

*Write a chronological history of the property, focusing primarily on the original or principal owners & significant events. Explain and justify any significant themes marked above. Use continuation sheets as necessary.*

<sup>4</sup>Salt Lake County Assessor's website, 3144 East Fort Union Boulevard.

<sup>5</sup>Ibid.

<sup>6</sup>U.S. Geological Survey Topographic Viewer, Draper Quadrangle Map, (1963 and 2017), Retrieved January 23, 2018 from <https://ngmdb.usgs.gov/topoview/viewer/#15/40.6256/-111.8415>

Leander Butler, the second oldest of the five Butler brothers who founded Butlerville, was given the United States land patent to this area on October 3, 1877, six years after settling in Butlerville.<sup>7</sup> Although Leander and his brothers had lived in the South Cottonwood/Butlerville area since their father had settled in the area in 1857, an early history identifies that the Butler brothers specifically moved permanently to Butlerville in 1871.<sup>8</sup> On January 17, 1885, Leander transferred title to his younger brother Alva Butler, another founder and prominent resident of Butlerville.<sup>9</sup> Alva Butler eventually owned 50 acres of land in Butlerville. Alva also worked in local mines and ran sawmills up Big and Little Cottonwood Canyon (Mill F and Mill B) for many years, and was the second Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (LDS) Bishop (a local ecclesiastical leader) of the Granite Ward and first LDS Bishop of the Butler Ward. On February 8, 1909, just prior to his death on May 11, 1909 after an extended illness, Alva Butler sold the property to John D. Fife.<sup>10</sup>

### **John D. and Eliza Jane Fife History**

John Daniel Fife was born on September 25, 1863 in Ogden, Weber County, Utah to William Nicol Fife (1831-1914) and Diannah Davis (1836-1884). He was the fourth of nine children and helped his father design and build the Ogden Tabernacle as a young man. In 1879, John traveled to Arizona with his family, living there until 1884 when he returned to Ogden, Utah. He married Eliza Jane Stewart on February 20, 1889 in Logan, Cache County, Utah. They also had nine children: Cornelia Diana, John Daniel, Viola Elizabeth, Stewart Blaine, William Earl, Marguerite Stewart, Samuel Stewart, Harold Davis, and Isaac Sherman Fife.<sup>11</sup> In 1896 the family moved to Montpelier, Idaho and in 1900, they moved to Salt Lake City, Utah.<sup>12</sup>

Eliza Jane Stewart was born August 27, 1865 in Draper, Utah to Isaac Stewart (1815-1890) and Elizabeth White (1838-1917). Isaac Stewart was the Bishop of the LDS Draper Ward for 34 years and also the Mayor of Draper. Eliza Jane was well educated and taught school in Draper for several years prior to her marriage.

John was a salesman all of his adult life, working for Co-op Wagon and Machine Company, Utah Implement Company, and Cudahy Packing Company. He traveled extensively and often left Eliza Jane at their house at 414 Douglas Street, Salt Lake City to raise their family. John and Eliza Jane used their Butlerville property as a farm, growing peaches, plums, apples, pears, cherries, boysenberries and many other vegetables, according to one of their granddaughters.<sup>13</sup> John and Eliza built a large garage on the farm, which later became the John D. and Eliza Jane Fife House. The date they initially constructed the garage is unknown, but it is likely much earlier than the 1920 date estimated on its conversion to a

---

7The brothers that resided in Butlerville were Philander, Leander, Alva, Neri and Eri according to Familysearch.org. and Hogan, Carol Zeneth Israelson and Hogan, Marion Edward (1997) *Descendants of Samuel Butler (1806-1879)* LDS Family History Library film #1425230. p. 259. Samuel Butler entered the Salt Lake Valley in 1857 with his family, but was excommunicated from the LDS Church over his views of polygamy and left Utah for California in 1858, taking one daughter and leaving his sons in the care of local residents. Hogan and Hogan (1997) p. 12-13.

8Hogan and Hogan (1997) p. 259

9Salt Lake County Recorder's Office. Plat maps. Title Abstract Books and Jenson, A. (1936). *Latter-Day Saint biographical encyclopedia* (Vol. IV). Salt Lake City, Utah: Deseret News Press. pp. 578-9

10Well-Known Resident of Butlerville Dead, *Salt Lake Tribune Newspaper (Utah)* p. 10

11Fife, John Daniel Biography, author unknown Familysearch.org website. Accessed January 9, 2018. Contributed by Susanna Neal October 9, 2013.

12Ancestry.com. U.S. City Directories, 1821-1989 [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2011.

13Stewart, Eliza Jane biography, author unknown Familysearch.org website. Accessed January 9, 2018. Contributed by Susanna Neal September 17, 2013. Pp. 1-2

residence. They divided the garage into rooms and lived in the house when visiting the farm, and in the summers. Later their sons and grandsons also lived in the house.<sup>14</sup>

Eliza Jane Fife died on October 25, 1933 at the age of 68. After her death, John D. Fife moved to California where he died in Los Angeles, California on January 21, 1944. The family continued to own the house until May 5, 1960, when John and Eliza Jane Fife's son Samuel and his wife Norma Fife sold the property to Stanley F. and Barbara Tester Seward. Barbara Seward continues to own the property.

### **Stanley F. and Barbara Tester History**

Stanley F. Seward was born June 17, 1928 in Salt Lake City, Utah to Frank Seward and Ethel Jane Jacobson.<sup>15</sup> Stanley served as an aircraft technician in the U.S. Navy in World War II. He worked as a truck driver, small engine repairman and as a roofing contractor. Stanley died on November 20, 2007. Stanley married Barbara Tester on June 22, 1947 in Salt Lake City.<sup>16</sup>

### **3 DOCUMENTATION (Bibliographical Reference) (continued)**

Fife, John Daniel Biography, author unknown Familysearch.org website. Accessed January 9, 2018. Contributed by Susanna Neal October 9, 2013.

Hogan, Carol Zeneth Israelson and Hogan, Marion Edward *Descendants of Samuel Butler (1806-1879)* LDS Family History Library 929.273 B978 film #1425230.

Jenson, A. (1936). *Latter-Day Saint biographical encyclopedia* (Vol. IV). Salt Lake City, Utah: Deseret News Press. pp. 578-9

Kuhre, Elva Despain (1964) *Alva Butler, Second Bishop of Granite Ward*, unpublished manuscript accessed on Familysearch.org contributed by KjerstieAnn August 8, 2016

Salt Lake County Assessor's website, 3144 East Fort Union Boulevard

Salt Lake County Archives. Tax Assessment records and photographs.

Salt Lake County Recorder's Office. Plat maps. Title Abstract Books.

Seward, Stanley Frank Obituary, *Salt Lake Tribune Newspaper (Utah)*, November 25, 2007

Seward, Stanley Frank death certificate, November 20, 2007

Stewart, Eliza Jane biography, author unknown Familysearch.org website. Accessed January 9, 2018. Contributed by Susanna Neal September 17, 2013.

"United States Census, 1900," database with images, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.1.1/MMR2-LT1> : accessed 1 March 2018), Elisa F Fife in household of Jno D Fife, Precinct 11 Salt Lake City Ward 1, Salt Lake, Utah, United States; citing enumeration district (ED) 11, sheet 9A, family 173, NARA microfilm publication T623 (Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 1972.); FHL microfilm 1,241,684.

"United States Census, 1910," database with images, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.1.1/M5XQ-HR4> : accessed 1 March 2018), Eliza J Fife in household of John D Fife, Salt Lake City Ward 1, Salt Lake, Utah, United States; citing enumeration district (ED) ED 108, sheet 3B, family 67, NARA microfilm publication T624 (Washington D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 1982), roll 1606; FHL microfilm 1,375,619.

---

<sup>14</sup>Ibid. p. 2

<sup>15</sup>Stanley Frank Seward Utah death certificate, November 20, 2007

<sup>16</sup>Seward, Stanley Frank Obituary, *Salt Lake Tribune Newspaper (Utah)*, November 25, 2007

"United States Census, 1920," database with images, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.1.1/M8PK-4F5> : accessed 1 March 2018), Eliza J Fife in household of John D Fife Sr., Salt Lake City Ward 5, Salt Lake, Utah, United States; citing ED 173, sheet 7B, line 88, family 155, NARA microfilm publication T625 (Washington D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 1992), roll 1867; FHL microfilm 1,821,867.

"United States Census, 1930," database with images, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.1.1/XH6J-9X5> : accessed 1 March 2018), Eliza J Fife in household of John D Fife, Salt Lake City, Salt Lake, Utah, United States; citing enumeration district (ED) ED 95, sheet 16A, line 5, family 293, NARA microfilm publication T626 (Washington D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 2002), roll 2420; FHL microfilm 2,342,154.

U.S. Geological Survey Topographic Viewer, Draper Quadrangle Map, (1963 and 2017), Retrieved January 23, 2018 from <https://ngmdb.usgs.gov/topoview/viewer/#15/40.6256/-111.8415>

Utah State Archives and Records Service, Salt Lake City, Utah; Department of Health, Center for Health Data and Informatics. Vital Records and Statistics Division. Death Certificates, Series 81448.

Utah State Division of History, "World War II/Post-War Building Styles" (2016). Retrieved January 24, 2018, from <https://heritage.utah.gov/history/world-war-ii-post-war-building-styles>

Utah State Division of History, World War II & Post-War Residential Building Types (2016) Retrieved January 24, 2018, from <https://heritage.utah.gov/history/world-war-ii-post-war-residential-building-types>