

HISTORIC SITE FORM

UTAH STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

(10-91)

1 IDENTIFICATION

Name of Property: Mori-Tashiro Houses

Address: 2318 East Bengal Boulevard

Township: 2S *Range:* 1E *Section:* 27

City, County: Cottonwood Heights, Salt Lake County

Lat/Long(degr dec.):

Current Owner Name: Connie Reese, et al

USGS Map Name & Date: Draper, UT 2017

Current Owner Address: 2312 East Bengal Boulevard, Cottonwood Heights, UT 84121 *Tax Number:* 22-27-451-001-0000

Legal Description (include acreage):

BEG S 0°19'50" W 1366.17 FT FR CEN SEC 27, T2S, R1E, SLM; S 0°19'50" W 122 FT; S 89°31' E 167 FT; N 0°19'50" E 100.06 FT; NWLY ALG 28.40 FT RADIUS CURVE TO L 17.60 FT M OR L; NWLY ALG 29 FT RADIUS CURVE TO L 19.25 FT; N 89°31' W 107.13 FT; S 0°19'50" W 4 FT; N 89°31' W 10 FT; N 0°19'50" E 4 FT; N 89°31' W 24.87 FT TO BEG. 0.46 AC M OR L.6602-57 6790-1887 6840-62,64 6987-194,200,202 8314-4222

2 STATUS/USE

Property Category

☒ building(s)
☐ structure
☐ site
☐ object

Evaluation

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

Use

Original Use: Residence
Current Use: Residence

3 DOCUMENTATION

Photos: Dates

☒ digital: November 2017
☒ prints: November 2017
☒ historic: Tax photos circa 1970

Research Sources (check all sources consulted, whether useful or not)

☒ abstract of title
☒ tax card & photo
☒ building permit
☐ sewer permit
☒ Sanborn Maps
☒ obituary index
☒ city directories/gazetteers
☒ census records
☐ biographical encyclopedias
☒ newspapers
☒ city/county histories
☐ personal interviews
☒ USHS History Research Center
☒ USHS Preservation Files
☐ USHS Architects File
☒ LDS Family History Library
☐ local library:
☒ university library(ies): UofU

Drawings and Plans

☐ measured floor plans
☐ site sketch map
☐ Historic American Bldg. Survey
original plans available at:
☒ other: Tax Card Drawing

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

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

American Legion Baseball League. *Salt Lake Tribune Newspaper (Utah)*. July 20, 1934 p. 31.

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

Researcher/Organization: Storiagraph/ prepared for Cottonwood Heights CLG *Date:* February 28, 2018

4 ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

Building Style/Type: Minimal Traditional/World War II Era Cottage *No. Stories:* 1.0

Foundation Material: Concrete *Wall Material(s):* Aluminum/Vinyl siding

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

Number of associated outbuildings 2 *and/or structures* 1.

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

The Akira and Kiyo Tashiro House is a one story World-War II Era cottage with Minimal Traditional styling details. The house is located at 2318 East Bengal Boulevard (7600 South), Cottonwood Heights, Salt Lake County, Utah. The house was constructed in 1954. This small rectangular wood-framed house rests on a concrete foundation and its exterior is covered by aluminum siding. The gabled roof is composed of asphalt shingles. The house has 768 square feet on the main floor and 768 square feet in the full basement. The house exterior has had very few modifications and is in good condition. The house is located on a 0.46 acre flat parcel, which is the remains of a 19.5 acre farm. In addition to the house at 2318 East Bengal Boulevard, the parcel contains another older house located at 2312 East Bengal Boulevard which was constructed in 1919 and extensively remodeled in 1939, as well as a garage and shed. The immediate neighborhood is composed of primarily late-20th century small residential development. The Akira and Kiyo Tashiro House retains its architectural integrity and is a contributing local resource.

The Akira and Kiyo Tashiro House house is very simple and has few decorative elements, making it a good example of the post-1930s depression and World War II era Minimal Traditional style.^{1 2} Two concrete porches have been added to the residence, a 24' x 6' front porch and a 20' x 6' rear, probably close to the 1954 house construction date. The rear porch/patio is covered by a simple asphalt-shingled shed roof. The original wide clapboard siding exterior has been replaced by narrower white aluminum siding, which somewhat compromises the integrity.

The front (north) facing façade has a symmetrical three-bay façade with two fixed windows flanking a central door parallel to the roof ridge line. A small asphalt-shingled low-slope gabled porch roof is located above the central door. The front door is a metal two-panel with multiple-lite glass upper section, and is a replacement door for the original wood door with small central window. The main façade has a 24' x 6' raised concrete porch, circa 1954.

The west façade is composed of two aluminum-framed single-hung narrow, tall windows evenly spaced along the north and south sides of the façade. The south window is a smaller bathroom window. Two small basement windows are visible along this façade. The gable end has matching-width blue aluminum siding.

The south façade is composed of three windows and a rear door, closely spaced in the center of the façade. From the west, there is a tall, narrow single-hung window, a metal three-panel replacement door, a slightly smaller single-hung window with a higher sill-height, and another tall, narrow single-hung window which matches the façade west window. All of the windows are aluminum-framed. The

¹ 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>

² 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>

rear façade has a 20' x 6' raised concrete porch with concrete steps, circa 1954. The porch roof was added at a later unknown date.

The east façade is composed of two aluminum-framed single-hung windows, which are taller and narrower than windows on the other facades. The gable end blue aluminum siding matches the west façade. Two small basement windows are visible along this façade.

The interior contains 768 square feet on the main floor and 768 square foot full basement.³ The house sits on a 0.46 acre flat parcel.⁴ The parcel has several mature trees located along Bengal Boulevard to the north and 2325 East to the east, as well as decorative rocks and small bushes along the center asphalt driveway leading to the garage.

The property also contains the Tsunetaro and Tsune Mori House, a World-War II cottage constructed in 1919 and remodeled in 1939, also with Minimal Traditional style details. The west house, at 2312 East Bengal Boulevard, is a one-story house with 1,096 square feet in a two interlocking rectangle layout. The house was remodeled and expanded in 1939.⁵ This house has 13' x 8' raised concrete porch in the front with a small aluminum porch cover. The asphalt-shingled roof is gabled, except for the east end of the front façade, which is hipped. This house has replacement narrow vinyl siding, vinyl windows, metal door and small porch roof cover but is otherwise unchanged from its original construction. The property also contains a contributing 1956 20' x 25' garage and non-contributing 10' x 26' shed.

The Mori-Tashiro House property is bounded by Brighton High School on the west, a Church Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints chapel across the street and a large city park to the northeast. The immediate neighborhood is residential and is composed of primarily small late-20th century residential developments.

5 HISTORY

Architect/Builder: unknown/probably Akira Tashiro

Date of Construction: 1954

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

<u>C</u> Agriculture	— Economics	— Industry	— Politics/ Government
<u>C</u> Architecture	— Education	— Invention	— Religion
— Archeology	— Engineering	— Landscape Architecture	— Science
— Art	— Entertainment/ Recreation	— Law	<u>S</u> Social History
— Commerce	<u>S</u> Ethnic Heritage	— Literature	— Transportation
— Communications	— Exploration/ Settlement	— Maritime History	— Other
— Community Planning & Development	— Health/Medicine	— Military	
— Conservation		— 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.

William Sanford received the United States Land Patent for the Southeast ¼ of Section 27 on March 1, 1878 where the Tsunetaro and Tsune Mori House is located.⁶ Unlike many other properties in the area, the parcel changed hands several times between 1878 and 1903, with Louis Oviatt, Erastus

³ Salt Lake County Archives. Tax Assessment records and photographs.

⁴ Salt Lake County Assessor's website, 2318 East Bengal Blvd

⁵ Salt Lake County Archives. Tax Assessment Card 2312 East Bengal Boulevard

⁶ Salt Lake County Recorder's Office. Plat maps. Title Abstract Books. Township 2 South, Range 1 East, Section 27.

Lark, Francis and Martha Price, Aminda Crane, William Crossman, Frank Thompson and Thomas Quillen owning the property between 1880 and 1903. Stephen and Mary Hays purchased the property from Thomas Quillen on August 13, 1903 and owned it until February 19, 1924 when they sold it to William W. and Mary E. Butler. Although Tsunetaro and Tsune Mori didn't officially lease the property until November 10, 1923 or purchase it until August 3, 1926, they were unofficially leasing the property, and sub-leasing it to other Japanese immigrants as early as 1919, and possibly even earlier.⁷ The early twentieth century anti-immigrant sentiments often made it difficult for Japanese farmers to purchase property, but Tsunetaro Mori was able to lease and later purchase the property.⁸

Tsunetaro and Tsune Mori History

Tsunetaro Mori was born in Kushimoto, Wakayama-ken, Japan on January 6, 1885. On January 15, 1902, he married Tsune Yano, who also lived in Kushimoto.⁹ In 1904, as an 18-year-old, Tsunetaro immigrated to the United States, recruited to work on the railroad.¹⁰ By 1910, Tsunetaro was living in Richfield, Utah farming as well as continuing to work for the railroad.¹¹ In 1915, Tsune joined him in Utah, and they continued working in railroad sections and living on rented farm plots throughout central Utah.¹² ¹³ Tsune Yano was born April 22, 1883, also in Wakayama-ken, Japan.

By 1919, and possibly earlier, Tsunetaro and Tsune Mori had left the dwindling rail operations around the Central Utah Eureka/Tintic mining districts and settled in Butlerville at 2312 East 7200 South. Tsunetaro also lived part of the time in Salt Lake City and worked on the railroad until after World War I ended in 1918 and foreign workers were laid off from many jobs.¹⁴ According to the 1923 Salt Lake City Directory, he was working as a gardener and lived on Social Avenue in downtown Salt Lake.¹⁵ By 1930, Tsunetaro had permanently moved to Butlerville. On their 19.5 acre Butlerville farm, Tsunetaro and his sons raised sugar beets, peas and other crops. Tsunetaro and Tsune Mori had six children: Yasuko, Michiko, Fujie, Kiyo, Kazu, and Don Kiyoshi.

Tsunetaro and Tsune Mori lived in the west house on this parcel, at 2312 East Bengal Boulevard. This house was constructed in 1919, and expanded and extensively remodeled in 1939. Tsunetaro Mori died suddenly of a coronary blood clot on January 8, 1950.¹⁶ Tsune continued to live in the house at 2312 East Bengal Boulevard until her death on April 24, 1968 at age 85.¹⁷

⁷ Matsumiya, Chiyo Interview. Interviews with Japanese Americans in Utah, Accn 1209, Box 2, Folder 6. Special Collections and Archives. University of Utah, J. Willard Marriott Library. Salt Lake City, Utah. p. 18 and U.S. City Directories, Salt Lake City, 1921, Ancestry.com. U.S. City Directories, 1821-1989 [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2011.

⁸ Papanikolas, Helen Z. ed. (1976) *The Peoples of Utah*. Utah State Historical Society: Salt Lake City, Utah. p. 338

⁹ Utah State Archives and Records Service; Salt Lake City, Utah; County: *Salt Lake*; Record Group: *Salt Lake County, Third District Court Declarations of Intention Record Books, 1896-1959*; Series: 85108

¹⁰ 1930 U.S. Census Butlerville; Mori, Tsunetaro Obituary *Salt Lake Telegram Newspaper (Utah)*, January 11, 1950. p. 24; and

¹¹ . Year: 1910; Census Place: *Richfield, Sevier, Utah*; Roll: T624_1608; Page: 1A; Enumeration District: 0163; FHL microfilm: 1375621

¹² Papanikolas (1976) p. 342. The 1910 Picture Bride Provision would have allowed Tsune Mori to enter the United States.

¹³ United States, Selective Service System. *World War I Selective Service System Draft Registration Cards, 1917-1918*. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration. M1509, 4,582 rolls. Imaged from Family History Library microfilm. Registration State: *Utah*; Registration County: *Millard*; Roll: 1983885

¹⁴ Matsumiya, Chiyo Interview. p. 18

¹⁵ Ancestry.com. U.S. City Directories, 1821-1989 [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2011

¹⁶ 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. Mori, Tsunetaro death certificate.

¹⁷ Mori, Tsune Obituary *Salt Lake Tribune Newspaper (Utah)*. April 26, 1968, p. 47

Akira and Kiyo Tashiro History

Kiyo Mori was born August 15, 1918 in Delta, Millard County, Utah, the fourth child of Tsunetaro and Tsune Mori. She was raised on the family farm in Butlerville, and attended schools in Salt Lake County. On January 17, 1944, Kiyo married Akira “Korky” Tashiro. After their marriage, she briefly opened a beauty salon in downtown Salt Lake City, and after World War II ended, she worked on the Mori family farm and raised three daughters.¹⁸

Akira Tashiro was born in Fukoka, Japan on January 15, 1922. His family immigrated to the United States when Akira was a very young child.¹⁹ The family initially lived in Weber County, Utah, but moved to downtown Salt Lake City where Akira’s father Heitaro ran a pool hall in the Japanese district. Akira attended Utah schools and excelled at baseball.²⁰

By 1954, Akira was driving bus for Granite School District and was the operator of Korky’s Sinclair at 6090 South Highland Drive. Akira and Kiyo were able to construct their new house at 2318 East Bengal Boulevard. On September 26, 1958 at the age of 36, Akira died suddenly from sepsis, leaving Kiyo a widow with two young daughters.²¹ After his death, Kiyo worked at Brighton High School to support her family, just to the west of the house and retired from the school district. Kiyo lived at 2318 East Bengal Boulevard until 2007 when she moved to a nursing home. Kiyo died on August 18, 2011.²² The family still owns both houses.

The Akira and Kiyo Tashiro house is locally significant for its architecture, which is the understated post-world war II minimal traditional style. The entire property is significant for both agriculture and association with Japanese immigrant ethnic heritage and social history in the Cottonwood Heights area.

3 DOCUMENTATION (Bibliographical Reference) (continued)

Election District Map (1951) Salt Lake County Surveyor. Retrieved October 17, 2017.
<http://slco.org/surveyor/mapping-and-gis/>

Familysearch.org website.

Legal Notices. *Salt Lake Tribune Newspaper (Utah)*. February 11, 1936. p. 24

Matsumiya, Chiyo Interview. Interviews with Japanese Americans in Utah, Accn 1209, Box 2, Folder 6. Special Collections and Archives. University of Utah, J. Willard Marriott Library. Salt Lake City, Utah.

Mori, Tsunetaro Obituary *Salt Lake Telegram Newspaper (Utah)*, January 11, 1950. p. 24

Mori, Tsune Obituary *Salt Lake Tribune Newspaper (Utah)*. April 26, 1968, p. 47

Papanikolas, Helen Z. ed. (1976) *The Peoples of Utah*. Utah State Historical Society: Salt Lake City, Utah.

¹⁸ Tashiro, Kiyo Mori Obituary, *Salt Lake Tribune Newspaper (Utah)*. August 21, 2011.

¹⁹ Akira’s father Heitaro Tashiro initially immigrated in 1903, but either he or Akira’s mother Tsuiako (Tsuyako) Enomoto Tashiro had apparently returned to Japan when Akira was born in 1922. Tashiro, Akira Obituary, *Salt Lake Tribune Newspaper (Utah)*. September 28, 1958. P. 24

²⁰ American Legion Baseball League. *Salt Lake Tribune Newspaper (Utah)*. July 20, 1934 p. 31.

²¹ Tashiro, Akira Obituary, *Salt Lake Tribune Newspaper (Utah)*. September 28, 1958. P. 24

²² Tashiro, Kiyo Mori Obituary, *Salt Lake Tribune Newspaper (Utah)*. August 21, 2011.

Salt Lake County Assessor's website.

Salt Lake County Archives. Tax Assessment records and photographs.

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

Tashiro, Kiyo Mori Obituary, *Salt Lake Tribune Newspaper (Utah)*. August 21, 2011.

Tashiro, Nancy Obituary, *Salt Lake Telegram Newspaper (Utah)*, July 31, 1950

Tashiro, Akira Obituary, *Salt Lake Tribune Newspaper (Utah)*. September 28, 1958. P. 24

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>

United States, Selective Service System. *World War I Selective Service System Draft Registration Cards, 1917-1918*. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration. M1509, 4,582 rolls. Imaged from Family History Library microfilm. Registration State: *Utah*; Registration County: *Millard*; Roll: *1983885*

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>

United States Federal Census. Year: *1910*; Census Place: *Richfield, Sevier, Utah*; Roll: *T624_1608*; Page: *1A*; Enumeration District: *0163*; FHL microfilm: *1375621*

Utah State Archives and Records Service; Salt Lake City, Utah; County: *Salt Lake*; Record Group: *Salt Lake County, Third District Court Declarations of Intention Record Books, 1896-1959*; Series: *85108*

Year: *1910*; Census Place: *Richfield, Sevier, Utah*; Roll: *T624_1608*; Page: *1A*; Enumeration District: *0163*; FHL microfilm: *1375621*

Year: *1930*; Census Place: *Butler, Salt Lake, Utah*; Roll: *2417*; Page: *5A*; Enumeration District: *0116*; FHL microfilm: *2342151*

Year: *1940*; Census Place: *Salt Lake, Utah*; Roll: *m-t0627-04216*; Page: *4A*; Enumeration District: *18-34*

Year: *1940*; Census Place: *Salt Lake, Salt Lake, Utah*; Roll: *m-t0627-04225*; Page: *2B*; Enumeration District: *30-83*

Mss C 239; Peoples of Utah Photograph Collection