



MEMORANDUM

PLANNING DIVISION
DEPARTMENT of COMMUNITY and NEIGHBORHOODS

To: Salt Lake City Historic Landmark Commission

From: Aaron Barlow, Principal Planner
385-386-2764 or aaron.barlow@slcgov.com

Date: September 24, 2020

Re: **National Register of Historic Places Nomination:
Harlan & Marie Nelson House at 2785 E Lancaster Drive**

Please find the National Register of Historic Places nomination for the Harlan & Marie Nelson House, located at 2785 E Lancaster Drive, attached.

The Utah State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) desires input from the Historic Landmark Commission, a Certified Local Government (CLG), regarding National Register nominations within the Salt Lake City's boundaries.

Commission Members should focus their review and comments on whether a reasonable case has been made for the significance of this property and forward a recommendation to the Board of State History.

NATIONAL REGISTER

The National Register of Historic Places is the federal government's official list of historic properties worthy of preservation. Listing of a property provides recognition of its historic significance and assures protective review of federal projects that might adversely affect the character of the historic property.

If the property is listed on the National Register, tax credits for rehabilitation and other beneficial provisions may apply. Listing in the National Register does not place limitations on the property by the federal or state government.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends forwarding a positive recommendation to the State Historic Preservation office and the National Park Service. The Harlan & Marie Nelson House retains its architectural integrity. While the property is not located in either a Local or National Register Historic District, the house is just one of many well-preserved mid-century homes in the neighborhood that were designed by Utah's modern architects and should be preserved.

BACKGROUND – The Harlan and Marie Nelson House is located on the northwest corner of Lancaster and Canterbury Drive in the St. Mary’s neighborhood of Salt Lake City. The building, constructed in 1963, was designed by Utah architect Eduard Rudolf Dreier. It is a one-story, split-level house built in the International Style with Miesian characteristics. The house includes many distinctive features, including an irregular hexagonal roof with prominent roof steel members, walls of glass, an open floor plan in the gathering spaces around a central hearth, and a sunken den on the garden level. Since the house has been in just one family’s ownership since construction, there have been only minor modifications to the house’s interior and exterior. In 1991, Dreier designed a small rear addition with the existing roofline to enlarge the house’s interior footprint.

With home construction concentrated in the 1960s and 1970s, the neighborhoods of Oak Hills and St. Mary’s have a rare and interspersed collection of modern-style houses that were designed by Utah’s modern architects. These designs range from glass-and-steel construction to organically designed ramblers that display Utah’s natural materials. Many have extensive attention to detail and solid construction, giving them a timeless appeal. The Nelson House stands out as a contributing building in the St. Mary’s neighborhood.



Northwest elevation of house, facing east – 2020.



Southwest elevation of house, facing northeast – 2020.

CRITERIA FOR NOMINATION

Criteria C - *Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction.* The Harlan & Marie Nelson House has local significance under Criterion C in the area of Architecture as an important work of modernism by Utah Architect Eduard Rudolf Dreier. The building is also significant as a unique variation of the International Style architecture in the state of Utah with elements of Miesian design.

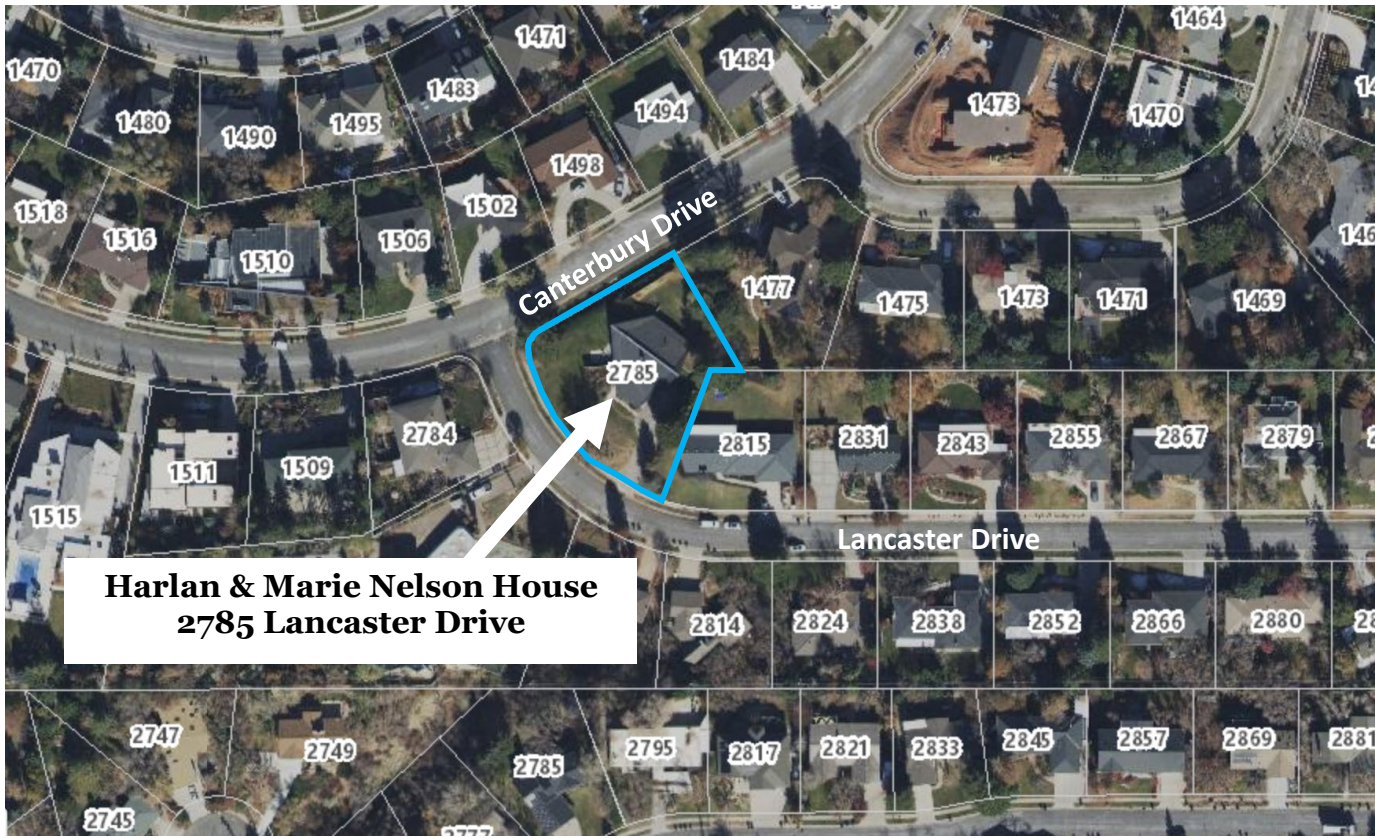
NEXT STEP

The Board of State History will review the National Register nomination during their October 29, 2020 board meeting prior to submittal to the National Park Service.

ATTACHMENTS:

- A. Area Map
- B. National Register Nomination & Evaluation Form

ATTACHMENT A: AREA MAP



ATTACHMENT B: NATIONAL REGISTER NOMINATION & EVALUATION FORM

NATIONAL REGISTER NOMINATION EVALUATION SHEET
Certified Local Governments / Historic Landmark Commissions

The following property is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places and will be reviewed by the Utah State
Historic Preservation Review Board at its next meeting

PROPERTY NAME:

ADDRESS:

 INTEGRITY: Major alterations or additions? New materials? Altered setting? Moved? etc.
OK Concerns

 DESCRIPTION: Is the property adequately described? Have contributing and non-contributing
OK Concerns features been clearly identified?

 SIGNIFICANCE and CONTEXT: Has the appropriate criterion been used? Has it been justified? Is the context
OK Concerns sufficient in breadth and depth to support the claims of significance?

 FACTS AND SOURCES: Are the appropriate and best sources used? Are key dates and facts
OK Concerns accurate?

 SUPPORTING MATERIALS: Adequate photos, maps, drawings, etc.?
OK Concerns

 The Commission recommends that the property or properties appear to meet the National Register
criteria and should be listed in the National Register.

 The Commission recommends that the property or properties do not appear to meet the National
Register criteria and should not be listed in the National Register.

Signature of Commission Chair (or Designee)

Date

Return to: Utah Historic Preservation Office

ATTN: National Register Coordinator

300 S. Rio Grande Street

Salt Lake City, UT 84101

Name of Local Historic Preservation Commission

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: Nelson, Harlan and Marie, House

Other names/site number: _____

Name of related multiple property listing:

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

2. Location

Street & number: 2785 E. Lancaster Dr.

City or town: Salt Lake City 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:

___ A ___ B X C ___ D

<p>_____ /SHPO</p>	
<p>Signature of certifying official/Title: <u>Utah Division of State History/Office of Historic Preservation</u></p>	<p>Date</p>
<p>State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government</p>	

Nelson, Harlan and Marie, House
Name of Property

Salt Lake County, Utah
County and State

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.	
<hr/>	
Signature of commenting official:	Date
<hr/>	
Title :	State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

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
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5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

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

Nelson, Harlan and Marie, House
Name of Property

Salt Lake County, Utah
County and State

Category of Property

(Check only **one** box.)

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

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>1</u>	_____	buildings
_____	_____	sites
<u>1</u>	_____	structures
_____	_____	objects
<u>2</u>	_____	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC: single dwelling

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC: single dwelling

Nelson, Harlan and Marie, House
Name of Property

Salt Lake County, Utah
County and State

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

MODERN MOVEMENT: International Style

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: BRICK, PLYWOOD, GLASS, STEEL

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 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 Harlan and Marie Nelson House, built in 1963, is a one story, split level house of steel, glass, aluminum, and brick masonry. It is located at 2785 E. Lancaster Drive in the St. Mary's neighborhood of Salt Lake City, Utah. The style is strictly International style with distinctive features such as an irregularly-shaped hexagonal roof with prominent roof steel members, walls of glass, an open floor plan in the gathering spaces around a central hearth, and a sunken den on the garden level. The house was designed by Salt Lake City-based architect Eduard Dreier for the Nelsons. The foundation is concrete and the roof is asphalt shingled. The supporting structure for the house is steel, with oversized exposed members along the roofline and revealed supporting posts. Walls are a combination of glass, plywood, and cream brick. The house features a carport and a garden level basement. As the house has been in one family's ownership, there have been minor modifications to the exterior and interior. In 1991, Dreier designed a small rear addition within the existing roofline to enlarge a bathroom and expand the dining room slab over a non-functioning planter. There have also been minor alterations to bathrooms and the kitchen. The house is placed on a site that steeply rises from the intersection of Lancaster and Canterbury drives, resting nearest to the southeast property line. A northwest orientation fixes the main rooms and roofline toward a view of downtown Salt Lake City and the Great Salt Lake. The building is surrounded by lawn, mature plantings, and a fenced rear and side yards. There is one small contributing original outbuilding on the property that is used as a garden shed. The Nelson House has excellent integrity in all seven qualities and is a distinctly contributing historic resource in the St. Mary's neighborhood and Salt Lake City.

Nelson, Harlan and Marie, House
Name of Property

Salt Lake County, Utah
County and State

Narrative Description

Exterior

The footprint of the Nelson House is rectangular with an irregular and angled extension on the north and west sides. The footprint roughly measures 100 feet by 70 feet and sits underneath an irregularly-shaped hexagonal roof. The roofline has two drainage slopes from a center structural beam to the northeast and southwest. Due to the slope of the site, the entire roof visually appears to also slope from a high point at the northwest, which points to downtown Salt Lake City, down to the southeast, however, it is actually at a flat grade. The structural expression of steel, with large beams dominating the roofline, provide a heavy feeling and horizontality. The underside of the roof is sheathed in plywood that extends into the interior ceiling. The foundation is concrete with footings that extend beyond the basement walls. Exterior sheathing is mixed on each façade, primarily utilizing glass, plywood, and cream brick. Most of the northeast elevation is devoted to glass, divided by a grid. There is a single, irregularly shaped, cream brick chimney that is nearly centered on the roof that serves two fireplaces.

The southwest elevation is considered the primary elevation as it faces Lancaster Drive, and includes the front entry and wall opening to the side entry. The elevation is deeply recessed underneath the roofline, which extends further out to form a two-car width carport. A brick wall in running bond forms the lower two-thirds of the elevation and extends in each direction from underneath the roof, forming structural screening walls. The upper course of brick is in header bond. The upper one-third of the elevation is a series of windows divided into an even fenestration pattern. The entryway is composed of a set of matching wood double doors. The character of the doors stands out due to their height, which is the full ten-foot height of the elevation, and their decorative hardware with oversized knobs.

The northwest elevation is visually the most prominent of the facades, though it is largely obscured from public view by mature vegetation along Canterbury Drive. Due to the sloping site landscape and angled underside of the roof, the roof appears to angle upward at this elevation. The large steel beams that form the roof supports join prominently at the center of the northwest elevation, creating a wide overhang for the glass and plywood exterior wall. The overhang is supported by a steel beam. The central portion of the wall is sheathed in plywood. The north half is composed of an irregular fenestration pattern of large and small windows that extend from the ground to the roof, and a horizontal concrete wall. Behind this section is the dining room, master bedroom, and a basement bedroom. The west half is composed of a series of equally-spaced large windows and a sliding glass doorway that extend from the ground to the roof. The doorway serves as an access between the music room/living room to a concrete patio. The northwest elevation wall is stepped back on the north half and angled back on the west half, taking advantage of shading and weather protection afforded by the wide overhang.

The southeast elevation faces the side yard and its appearance retains its original integrity. Brick walls at the corners bracket a centrally-located porch that extends out from the kitchen. The porch is covered by the angled roofline, and while on grade with the rear yard, can be reached

Nelson, Harlan and Marie, House
Name of Property

Salt Lake County, Utah
County and State

through the main façade wall opening and a series of floating aggregate concrete steps. A large series of windows and the door opening, with an evenly-divided fenestration pattern, compose the central wall of the southeast elevation. The doorway and the corner that separates the living room from kitchen are both sheathed in plywood.

The northeast elevation is the rear of the house and faces a rear yard of grass. At the northeast corner, a concrete wing wall extends from the northwest facade into the yard about ten feet and down under the ground as a foundation footing. The center portion of the original northeast (rear) elevation was extended out in 1991 and is sheathed in travertine square tiles and glass block. The southeast corner, including original brick wall and a louvered window, remain intact.

Interior

On the interior, the Nelson House has 3,502 square feet of space divided between three levels. The ground level includes an undivided living room and music room. The upper level includes a dining room adjacent and open to the ground level, a master bedroom with adjacent master bathroom, kitchen, second full bathroom, and a den (originally a bedroom). The lower level, which is a garden level basement, includes a large den with sunken library that is open to the ground level, and separate laundry room, two bathrooms, utility/storage room, and two bedrooms. The fireplaces are located in the living room/music room and in the sunken library. The main entry is into the living room/music room. A set of split-level stairs is located in-line with the front door, providing access to all levels.

The music room is central to the house, from which all activity and sound flows. The acoustics of the house were designed to carry sound throughout the common spaces, as music was a daily occurrence for the Nelson family. Given that the house is surrounded by walls of windows, natural light is plentiful in every room on the ground and upper levels. The central stairway is a series of floating steps that match the exterior side yard steps, but on the interior are covered with carpeting. The interior ceiling follows the angle of the roofline, giving volume to the gathering spaces and the master bedroom. The ceiling majority of the ceilings are covered with the same plywood that extends from the underside of the exterior roof, blurring the inside and outside spaces through the large windows. The design intent for the living room was focused on entertaining. It is centered around a floor-to-ceiling height, hammered bronze fireplace that is placed at an angle, and a custom-designed table by the architect Eduard Dreier sits at the center of the room. The music room is directly adjacent to the living room, and modestly separated by a series of custom-designed case goods. The case goods unit include a series of cabinets, shelves, and a coat closet in a light pine that match the front door. Flooring throughout is carpet and Saltillo tile, which matches the original materials, though some of the tile has been covered.

The main gathering spaces on the garden level are the office/den and sunken library. The den was modified in 1991 with the addition of shelving along the planter for use as an office area. The sunken library is in original condition with walls sheathed in horizontally-placed light pine wood, and features a stone fireplace, built-in seating, and book shelving. The bedrooms have varying degrees of original built-ins including closets and one has a desk and shelving.

Nelson, Harlan and Marie, House
Name of Property

Salt Lake County, Utah
County and State

Renovations have been made to the bathrooms, however they maintain their original footprint. The master bathroom was enlarged in 1991 to allow for a separate shower and tub, and included an adjacent larger closet. The kitchen has been modernized with new cabinets, countertops, and appliances, but retains its original configuration and full height, including an original ceiling notch where the roof slopes intersect.

Setting and Outbuilding

The Nelson House sits along the southeast property line of an irregularly shaped, curved parcel of 0.58 acres. There is a long driveway at the south edge of the property that leads under the carport. Views of the northwest elevation are obscured by the mature foliage along the northwest property line. Many of the trees and shrubs are likely remnants of the original landscaping. Flowerbeds are lined along the southwest side of the house and along the driveway, however, the rear yard is strictly grass. A concrete wall and stone steps provide a break in the grade change of the side yard to prevent an unnavigable slope. A yard shed, also constructed in 1963, is the only outbuilding on the property and is located in the side yard. It is obscured from public view behind the brick wall extension of the southwest elevation, which it is also tied into through its walls. The outbuilding has a flat roof and is constructed of cream brick side walls and a plywood front that has two sets of double doors. The building is in original condition and therefore is a contributing structure.

The Nelson House has had only minor modifications since the original construction in 1963. The property has excellent integrity in the qualities of location, setting, design, workmanship, materials, feeling and association with the architect Eduard Dreier.

With home construction concentrated in the 1960s and 1970s, the neighborhoods of Oak Hills and St. Mary's have a rare and interspersed collection of modern-style homes that were designed by Utah's modern architects. These designs range from glass-and-steel construction to organically designed ramblers that display Utah's natural materials. Many have extensive attention to detail and solid construction, giving them a timeless appeal. The Nelson House stands out as a contributing building in the St. Mary's neighborhood.

Nelson, Harlan and Marie, House
Name of Property

Salt Lake County, Utah
County and State

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

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

ARCHITECTURE

Nelson, Harlan and Marie, House
Name of Property

Salt Lake County, Utah
County and State

Period of Significance

1963

Significant Dates

1963

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Eduard Dreier, Architect

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 Harlan and Marie Nelson House, built in 1963, is locally significant under Criterion C in the area of Architecture. The house was designed by the Salt Lake City-based architect Eduard Dreier, and Marie Nelson lived here between 1963 and her death in 2018. The period of significance is 1963, the year the house was constructed. Eduard Dreier was a prolific residential architect with a relatively short career. The Nelson House is unique among Dreier's work inasmuch as the house is defined by its irregular hexagonal roof and location and orientation on the site. Dreier designed several International style houses with open floor plans and integrated indoor-outdoor spaces through walls of glass. The floor plan for the Nelson House is unique in that the main rooms of the house are oriented around the grand piano and was acoustically designed to carry music throughout the house. As the property has remained in the original family's ownership, it is exceptionally well-preserved as an example of mid-century domestic architecture and contributes to the historic character of the St. Mary's neighborhood in Salt Lake City.

Nelson, Harlan and Marie, House
Name of Property

Salt Lake County, Utah
County and State

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

Architectural Significance (Criterion C)

The Harlan and Marie Nelson House is architecturally significant under Criterion C as a unique variation of the International style. The house was built in 1963 during the suburban building boom in the Salt Lake City neighborhood of St. Mary's, which climbs the east bench of the Wasatch Mountains. More than the California Ranch or other common house styles of the period, popularity of the International style was inherent on unique clients as they were particularly suited for unique lifestyles. A few architects in Utah practiced strictly in the International style – Ed Dreier, Stephen Macdonald, Ron Molen, John Sugden, and Dee Wilson – and were successful in serving an interested, passionate, and often affluent clientele. Dreier, who started working in Utah in 1956, strictly followed the Miesian design principle of externally expressing the structural system as a key characteristic of his work on custom-designed residential structures.

Harlan Nelson's success in opening IBM's Ogden office and being one of its top national salesmen, allowed the family to move back to Salt Lake City in 1956 for new opportunities. One of those was to build an ideal family home, for which they hired architect Ed Dreier to design. Key factors for designing into the home were their four children and Marie Nelson's love of music, especially the piano. The new house would be designed around the grand piano location at the front of the house surrounded by common areas, with five bedrooms and the kitchen in more private areas. The music room is where Marie Nelson Bennett composed for over sixty years.

Architect Eduard Rudolf Dreier was one of the few Utah architects whose designs were primarily in the International style with heavy influence from Mies van der Rohe and the Bauhaus. Born in Bern, Switzerland, in 1926, Dreier attended architecture school and worked at prominent firms in Zurich, Switzerland, before he immigrated to the United States in June 1949. After arriving in Utah with his parents, he worked with local firms Ware & McClenahan and Woods & Woods. By 1952, Dreier had started his own practice. After declining an opportunity to work with Oscar Niemeyer to design the new capital at Brasilia in the late 1950s to care for his aging parents, Dreier began to rebuild his clientele about 1960.

Dreier specialized in residential design, a niche in Salt Lake City that was only occupied by one other architect (John Sugden). While each of his designs was custom designed for his client, many of them have similar external structural expression. The George and Ellen Furgis House was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 2015 (NRIS #15000399) as an outstanding example of an International style Miesian residence that retained its original interior and exterior.

Nelson, Harlan and Marie, House
Name of Property

Salt Lake County, Utah
County and State

Consistent with the Furgis House, the Nelson House was less formally designed in the International style, especially with respect to adherence to strict Miesian design. Prior to construction of the Nelson House, Dreier's residential designs exhibited rectangular massing, occasionally with intersecting or overlapping masses, and flat roofs. The Nelson House broke with that tradition for the first time with the large hexagonal roof that cantilevers in three directions to create the carport and two patios. Beginning in 1960 with the Pace House, Dreier began utilizing heavier and larger steel beams in external structural expression. The Nelson House was the second such house where that expression was exhibited, and Dreier went on after 1963 to define his designs by these external heavy steel beams.

While the earliest (1952-53) Dreier-designed houses utilized wood as an exterior material, he moved away from that to a very strict adherence to only steel and glass. In 1961 with the Ringholz House, Dreier utilized large rock with pink hue for walls that break up glass wall sections. Dreier continued to use rock walls, both on exterior and interior, in dozens of designs throughout his design career, becoming a signature feature of his residences. The Nelson House utilizes rock on the fireplace in the sunken library in the basement. Dreier returned to utilizing wood (plywood) in small sections on the exterior with the Ennis House in 1962. The design for the Nelson House shows an evolution on Dreier's designs as far as a mix of materials, where he utilized plywood in larger sections, as well as on the outbuilding, but brought in cream brick as a structural and decorative material for the first time.

Construction on the Nelson House was completed in 1963. The Nelsons resided in the house from the time of its completion in 1963 until Marie Nelson Bennett's passing in 2018. Ownership of the house transferred to Bennett's daughter, Metta Driscoll, who continues the family legacy of residence and stewardship.

Additional Historic Context

Harlan Nelson and Marie Louise Barker Nelson Bennett

Marie Barker was born in 1926 and was raised in Salt Lake City. Her mother, Virginia Freeze Barker, was a professional soprano and kept little Marie near the piano as she practiced. She attended East High School where she was active in music, drama, and won the doubles tennis state championship with her twin sister Marilyn. Barker graduated from the University of Utah with a B.A. in Music in 1947. Very active at university, Barker was in Kappa Kappa Gamma, played tennis with Marilyn, and was recognized with honors in the Beehive Honor Society (also with Marilyn) and Phi Kappa Beta. Barker wrote a new song for the start of the 1945 football season titled "Utah, Utah" and in 1947 was named the university spirit leader.

Barker's goal was to become a music composer. At this time, there were few serious women composers in America. Although she felt accepted in Utah's music community, she was intimidated as a woman composer. To avoid potential bias, Barker submitted her music under a male pseudonym, David Rose, to a competition. However, she was not intent on changing the

Nelson, Harlan and Marie, House
Name of Property

Salt Lake County, Utah
County and State

politics of gender on the course of her work, only writing the highest quality music that she could.

That's why Barker enrolled at Yale. After a difficult entry process, she studied under famed German professor and composer Paul Hindemith, graduating in two years instead of the normal four, in 1949. Upon returning to Salt Lake City, Barker taught piano and composition at The McCune School of Music and Art. She became active in the Alpha Dorian Society, eventually becoming its president, performed publicly several times, and in 1951, composed *Wasatch Breezes*, a string quartet that she considered to be a masterpiece.

In December 1950, Marie Barker wed Harlan Nelson, who was a student at the University of Utah at the time. The couple lived in Ogden in 1952-1956 and began having their four children. Upon returning to Salt Lake City they lived in the high Avenues and Marie Nelson became active in many community organizations including the Junior League, Kappa Kappa Gamma Alumnae, and the Dorian Fine Arts Club. She composed an opera titled "The Telephone" to present to the Junior League in 1962.

The family moved into their Ed Dreier-designed house in late 1963, where Nelson continued to compose in her new music room. In 1965, she created music for a KUED children's show, and then created a series of five musical plays for Pioneer Children's Theater between 1968-1972. All the Nelson children played small roles in these performances.

Daughter Jan was the nearest of the children to being Marie's protégé. At the age of two, Jan was able to sing many songs and by the time she was five was creating four-part harmonies. When she was nine years old, Jan was the first Utahn to win first prize in the National Junior Composers Contest of the National Federation of Music Clubs in 1964. In addition, she won recognition in the National Junior Keynotes Magazine and had superior ratings in Utah Federation of Music Clubs annual festivals as a member of the Marie Barker Nelson Club.

In 1973, when all the children were enrolled in school full time, a forty seven-year old Nelson told the family that she wanted to return to school with the goal of receiving a Ph.D. in composition. In 1977, she had her first composition performed by the Utah Symphony, titled "The Medead." Nelson received her Ph.D. in 1980 from the University of Utah.

Successive tragedies hit the family in 1981. Daughter Jan was struck and killed by a drunk driver in an auto accident, and then less than a month later, Harlan Nelson was hiking, suffered heart failure, and died. Meeting the overwhelming grief head on, Nelson stepped in to run the family's Travelodge business, which included four motels in Utah. Nelson was appointed to the Salt Palace Convention Center board in 1982. But she never stopped composing, many days waking at 5:00 a.m. to get in two hours before working with the motels.

In 1994, the composer Marie Nelson was "discovered." As Nelson has recanted the story, it was late one evening when the phone rang and on the other end was William Thomas McKinley, noted composer from Boston. They talked about music and he asked her to send him what she

Nelson, Harlan and Marie, House
Name of Property

Salt Lake County, Utah
County and State

considered to be her best works. McKinley was duly impressed, professing that he had “discovered a major voice in American composers” and asked her to write a new symphony that would be premiered in New York City. Nelson completed the work on time and McKinley followed through to host the premier, but to mentor and shepherd many of Nelson’s works through to public performance and recording.

In 2003, Marie Nelson married Wallace Grant Bennett.

Over the years, Marie Nelson Bennett composed seven musical plays, eight symphonies, five concertos, an opera, and numerous songs and sonatas for various instruments. The Utah

Symphony performed three of her works and she had three New York City premiers. Orchestras that have premiered or recorded her works include the London Symphony, Prague Symphony, Slovak Radio Symphony, Czech Radio Symphony, New York Chamber Orchestra, Concordia, Seattle Symphony, Boston Modern Orchestra, Utah Symphony, Salt Lake Symphony, Whatcom Orchestra, the Paradigm Chamber Orchestra and the Artemis Chamber orchestra. Conductors include Gerard Schwarz, Marin Alsop, Joseph Silverstein, Roger Briggs, Gil Rose, David Cho, Joel Rosenberg, and Harold Rosenbaum.

She was nominated for the Kennedy Center Friedham award for orchestral composition in 1995 and in 1996 received a Merit of Honor award from the University of Utah Emeritus Alumni Association. Bennett submitted her 2010 opera “Orpheus Lex” – twenty years in the making – for a Pulitzer Prize and received the Governor’s Medal in Arts award in 2013. Her works are held in a special collection at the University of Utah.

The value of music was instilled in Bennett from the time she was born. As evidence of the pervasiveness of music in the house of her youth, her brother Richard went into music, eventually heading the music department at Provo High School and composing symphonies. Bennett filled her life, her family’s life, and the lives of countless others with the joy of music. Much of this music, including that which was composed during her prolific post-Ph.D. career, was created in the house at 2785 Lancaster Drive. The music room that so aptly filled a family’s house and life with Bennett’s compositional prowess, extended beyond the walls of the house to performances and recordings that occurred internationally, leaving a tremendous legacy and lasting impact.

Harlan Nelson was born in 1925 to Stanley and Florence Nelson in Rochester, Utah (Emery County). He served in the Navy during World War II for 3 ½ years. After graduating from the University of Utah in 1951, he was employed by IBM in Ogden, worked several years at Friden, and then started in the motel industry. He eventually owned four motels including several by Travelodge. Harlan served as president of the Utah Ski Association, president of the Salt Lake Hotel-Motel Association, and was a founding member of the board and later president of the Salt Lake Convention and Visitor’s Bureau. Nelson was an avid golfer, fisherman, hunter, and outdoorsman, as well as a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Harlan Nelson suffered heart failure while hiking in May 1981 and passed away unexpectedly.

Nelson, Harlan and Marie, House
Name of Property

Salt Lake County, Utah
County and State

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

Eduard Dreier, list of projects. Author's personal collection.

"Ex-resident passes away in SLC," *Emery County Progress*, May 13, 1981.

Furgis, George and Ellen, House. National Register of Historic Places nomination. 2015.

"Marie Barker is Bride," *Salt Lake Telegram*. December 18, 1950.

Marie Barker Nelson Bennett Catalog and Profile. *Mormonartwiki* (website), 2018.

"Marie Barker Students Schedule Recital," *Deseret News*, December 3, 1950.

"Miss Marie Louise Barker to be Bride of Harlan Eugene Nelson," *Deseret News*, November 21, 1950.

"Motel Owner Dies, Harlan Nelson, 55," *The Salt Lake Tribune*, May 5, 1981.

"Music Graduate Enters Song at Fair," *The Salt Lake Tribune*, August 14, 1949.

"National Composer Prize Honors S.L. Pianist, 9," *The Salt Lake Tribune*, June 14, 1964.

Newton, Catherine Reese. "In the Fullness of Time," *University of Utah Continuum*. Winter 2009.

Obituary, Jan Nelson. *The Salt Lake Tribune*, April 7, 1981.

Obituary, Marie Barker Nelson Bennett. *The Salt Lake Tribune*, November 24, 2018.

"Program will honor four Utah composers," *Deseret News*, May 25, 1950.

Salt Lake County Assessor's Office. Property ownership information.

Salt Lake Modern. Tour of St. Mary's (brochure). 2012.

"Ululating Utes Invade Streets Tonight for Big Pow Wow," *The Salt Lake Tribune*, September 28, 1945.

Nelson, Harlan and Marie, House
Name of Property

Salt Lake County, Utah
County and State

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): _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of Property 0.58 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: 40.737694° Longitude: -111.810533°
2. Latitude: Longitude:
3. Latitude: Longitude:
4. Latitude: Longitude:

Nelson, Harlan and Marie, House
Name of Property

Salt Lake County, Utah
County and State

Or

UTM References

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927 or NAD 1983

- | | | |
|-------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| 1. Zone: 12 | Easting: 431563 | Northing: 4509955 |
| 2. Zone: | Easting: | Northing: |
| 3. Zone: | Easting: | Northing: |
| 4. Zone: | Easting : | Northing: |

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

Legal description of the house property: LOT 16 ST MARY HILLS PLAT G & BEG AT NW COR LOT 17 SD SUB S 36^47'16" W 132.39 FT E'LY ALG CURVE TO LEFT 15 FT N 20^20' E 133.4 FT M OR L TO BEG. 5122-918 5247-1447 6170-2011 6423-0987 6750-0409 6778-2891 6778-2900 8423-6044 8424-4160 8799-1413 8799-8683 9497-1916 09999-2644

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundaries are those current and historically associated with the house.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Kirk Huffaker, Principal
organization: Kirk Huffaker Preservation Strategies
street & number: P.O. Box 520964
city or town: Salt Lake City state: UT zip code: 84152
e-mail kirk.preserve@gmail.com
telephone: (801) 949-4040
date: 20 August 2020

Nelson, Harlan and Marie, House
Name of Property

Salt Lake County, Utah
County and State

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.)

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: Harlan and Marie Nelson House

City or Vicinity: Salt Lake City

County: Salt Lake State: UT

Photographer: Kirk Huffaker

Date Photographed: 30 May 2020

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

Nelson, Harlan and Marie, House
Name of Property

Salt Lake County, Utah
County and State

Exterior Photograph 1 of 12

Northwest elevation of house from street. Camera facing southeast.



Exterior Photograph 2 of 12

Northwest elevation of house. Camera facing east.



Nelson, Harlan and Marie, House
Name of Property

Salt Lake County, Utah
County and State

Exterior Photograph 3 of 12

Northwest and southwest (main) elevations of house. Camera facing east.



Exterior Photograph 4 of 12

Southwest (main) and southeast elevations of house. Camera facing northeast.



Nelson, Harlan and Marie, House
Name of Property

Salt Lake County, Utah
County and State

Exterior Photograph 5 of 12

Entry on southwest (main) elevation of house. Camera facing northeast.



Exterior Photograph 6 of 12

Southwest (main) and southeast elevations of house with carport. Camera facing northeast.



Nelson, Harlan and Marie, House
Name of Property

Salt Lake County, Utah
County and State

Exterior Photograph 7 of 12

Southeast elevation of house and outbuilding. Camera facing northwest.



Exterior Photograph 8 of 12

Northwest and southwest (main) elevations of house. Camera facing northeast.



Nelson, Harlan and Marie, House
Name of Property

Salt Lake County, Utah
County and State

Exterior Photograph 9 of 12

Southeast and northeast (rear) elevations of house. Camera facing northwest.



Exterior Photograph 10 of 12

Northeast (rear) elevation of house. Camera facing southwest.



Nelson, Harlan and Marie, House
Name of Property

Salt Lake County, Utah
County and State

Exterior Photograph 11 of 12

Detail of northwest elevation of house showing “floating” dining room floor. Camera facing west.



Exterior Photograph 12 of 12

East elevation of outbuilding. Camera facing west.



Nelson, Harlan and Marie, House
Name of Property

Salt Lake County, Utah
County and State

Interior Photograph 1 of 12

Entry doors into living room with matching wood coat closet. Camera facing southwest.



Interior Photograph 2 of 12

Living room view to side yard. Camera facing southeast.



Nelson, Harlan and Marie, House
Name of Property

Salt Lake County, Utah
County and State

Interior Photograph 3 of 12

Music room and dining room. Camera facing northeast.



Interior Photograph 4 of 12

Music room with dining room (left) and living room (right). Camera facing southeast.



Nelson, Harlan and Marie, House
Name of Property

Salt Lake County, Utah
County and State

Interior Photograph 5 of 12

Dining room overlooking the music room. Camera facing northwest.



Interior Photograph 6 of 12

Master bedroom. Camera facing east.



Nelson, Harlan and Marie, House
Name of Property

Salt Lake County, Utah
County and State

Interior Photograph 7 of 12
Kitchen. Camera facing north.



Interior Photograph 8 of 12
Original bedroom (currently a den) showing addition with glass block. Camera facing east.



Nelson, Harlan and Marie, House
Name of Property

Salt Lake County, Utah
County and State

Interior Photograph 9 of 12

Basement office space with former planted area on opposite side. Camera facing northwest.



Interior Photograph 10 of 12

Sunken library fireplace with interior stone. Camera facing west.



Nelson, Harlan and Marie, House
Name of Property

Salt Lake County, Utah
County and State

Interior Photograph 11 of 12

Sunken library area showing original built-in seating and shelving. Camera facing southwest.



Interior Photograph 12 of 12

Basement bedroom showing original built-in desk, shelving and closet.



Nelson, Harlan and Marie, House
Name of Property

Salt Lake County, Utah
County and State

Figure 1
Original watercolor rendering by Ed Dreier, c. 1962.



Figure 2
Assessor's photo, c. 1964. Photo credit: Salt Lake County Archives.



Nelson, Harlan and Marie, House
Name of Property

Salt Lake County, Utah
County and State

Figure 3

Photo of Marie Nelson on front lawn, c. 1964. Courtesy Metta Driscoll.



Figure 4

Marie Nelson and daughter in living room, c. 1964. Courtesy Metta Driscoll and Deseret News.



Nelson, Harlan and Marie, House
Name of Property

Salt Lake County, Utah
County and State

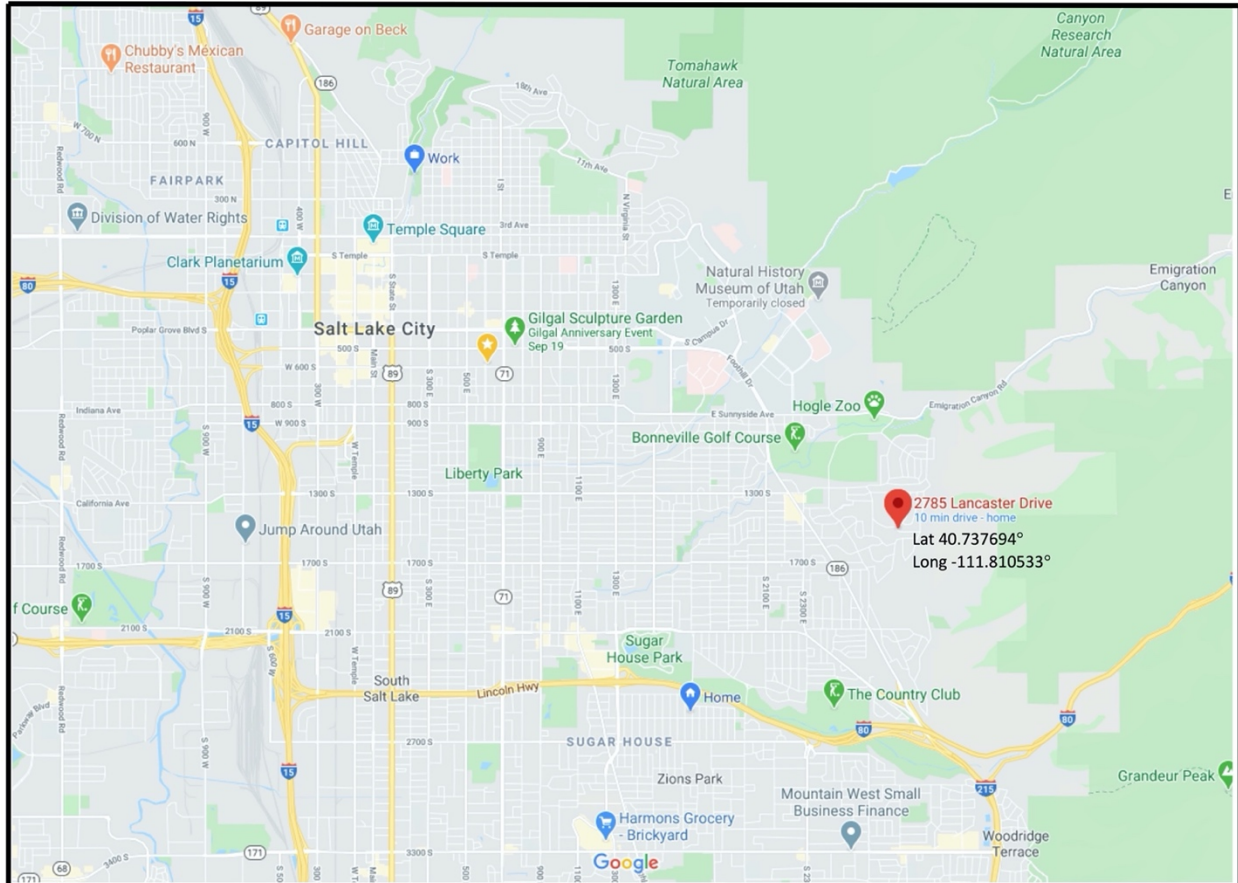
Figure 5

Marie Nelson and daughter in sunken library, c. 1964. Courtesy Metta Driscoll.



Nelson, Harlan and Marie, House
Name of Property

Salt Lake County, Utah
County and State



Nelson, Harlan and Marie, House

2785 E. Lancaster Dr.
Salt Lake City, Salt Lake County, Utah

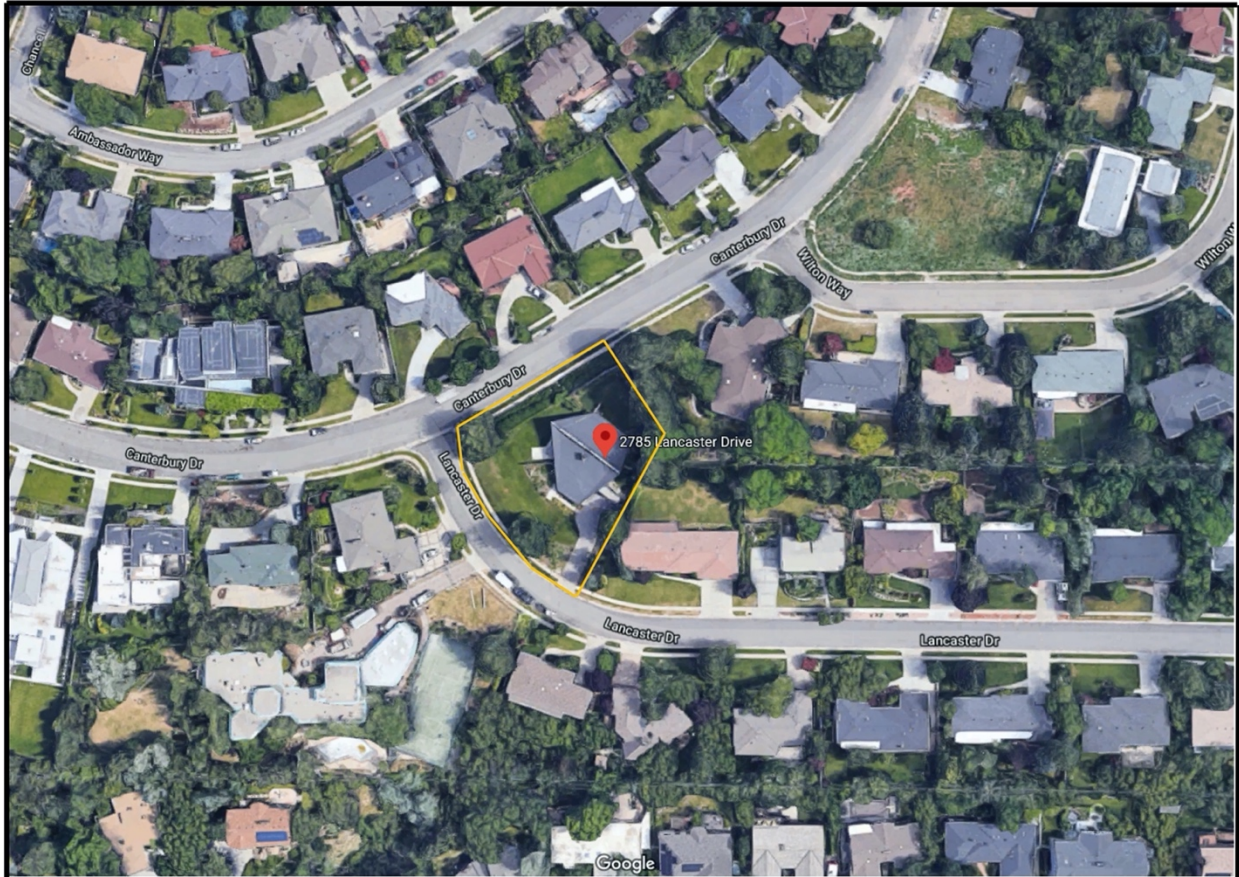
Lat 40.737694° Long -111.810533°

General Location Map

Credit: Google Maps

Nelson, Harlan and Marie, House
Name of Property

Salt Lake County, Utah
County and State



— Parcel Boundary

Nelson, Harlan and Marie, House

2785 E. Lancaster Dr.
Salt Lake City, Salt Lake County, Utah

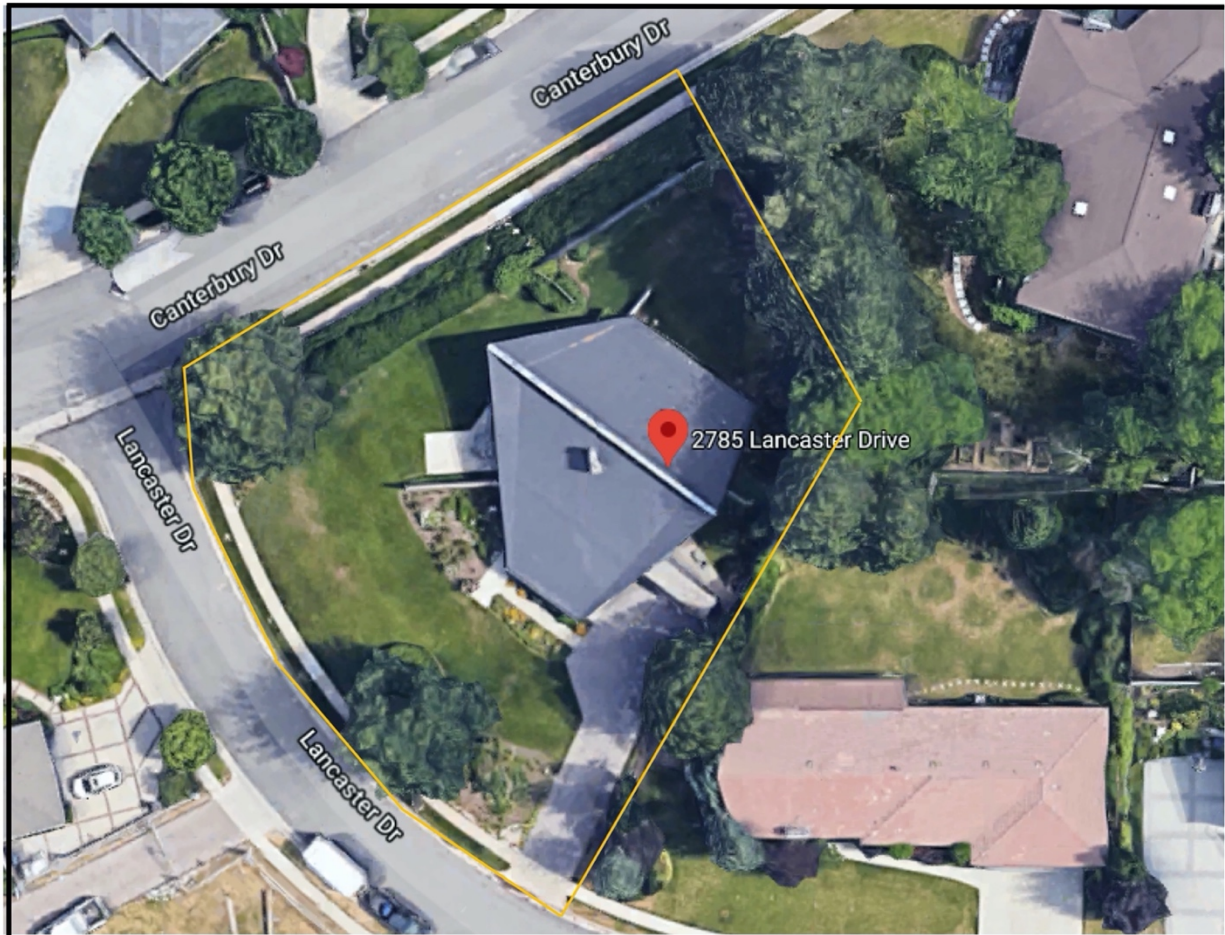
Lat 40.737694° Long -111.810533°

Neighborhood Context Map

Credit: Google Maps

Nelson, Harlan and Marie, House
Name of Property

Salt Lake County, Utah
County and State



— Parcel Boundary

Nelson, Harlan and Marie, House

2785 E. Lancaster Dr.
Salt Lake City, Salt Lake County, Utah

Property Boundary Map

Credit: Google Maps

Nelson, Harlan and Marie, House
Name of Property

Salt Lake County, Utah
County and State



Photo Direction



Parcel Boundary

Nelson, Harlan and Marie, House

2785 E. Lancaster Dr.
Salt Lake City, Salt Lake County, Utah

Photo Key Map

Credit: Google Maps

Nelson, Harlan and Marie, House
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 Metta Driscoll

Address 2785 Lancaster Dr.

City or Town Salt Lake City State UT Zip code 84108

Telephone/email (801) 910-1875 / metta.driscoll@zionsbancorp.com

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.