# NRHP Listed Date: 11/5/2024

OMB Control No. 1024-0018 expiration date 03/31/2026

#### 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: <u>Thurber School</u> Other names/site number: <u>Spanish Fork City Hall</u>

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: 40 S Main St

City or town: Spanish Fork	State: UT	County: Utah
Not For Publication:	Vicinity:	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 <u>X</u> nomination <u>request for determination of eligibility meets</u> 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  $\underline{X}$  meets  $\underline{}$  does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

national Applicable National R	statewide egister Criteria:	<u>X</u> local	
<u>X</u> A B	<u>X</u> C	_D	
Chrio	Mernit	/SHPO	10/10/2024
Signature of cer	tifying official/Title:		Date
<u>Utah State Hist</u>	toric Preservation Of	ffice	
State or Federal	agency/bureau or T	ribal Government	

Thurber School	Utah County, UT
Name of Property	County and State
In my opinion, the property meets of criteria.	loes not meet the National Register
Signature of commenting official:	Date
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

#### 5. Classification

#### **Ownership of Property**

(Check as many boxes as Private:	s apply.)
Public – Local	X
Public – State	
Public – Federal	

#### **Category of Property**

(Check only one box.)

Building(s)	Х	
District		
Site		

Thurber School	
Name of Property	

Structure	
Object	

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#### Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing <u>1</u>	Noncontributing <u>0</u>	buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
_1	0	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

6. Function or Use Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions.) EDUCATION/School\_\_\_\_

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions.) GOVERNMENT/City Hall\_

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#### 7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

<u>LATE VICTORIAN/Romanesque/Romanesque Revival</u> LATE 19<sup>TH</sup> AND 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY REVIVALS/Mission/Spanish Colonial Revival

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.) Principal exterior materials of the property: <u>Foundation: Brick, Stone/Sandstone</u> Walls: BRICK, STONE/Sandstone Roof: ASPHALT

#### **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 historic Thurber School is located in Spanish Fork City, Utah County, Utah. Constructed in 1910, the school is an amalgamation of styles typical of the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, primarily the Victorian Romanesque Revival, with some Mission-style details. The building is situated as focal point in the community at the corner of Main and Center Streets. The site is at the southern edge of the downtown district on a commercial corridor that borders the surrounding residential neighborhoods. The Thurber School is set back from the street adjacent to the city's Library Hall. These buildings sit in front of a parking lot positioned on the west side of the site. The two-and-a-half story school was built with a stone foundation, load-bearing brick walls, a hipped roof with gable ends, and a central bell tower. The plan and elevations are symmetrical with arched entrances on the west and east sides of the building. The Thurber School retains its historic integrity in spite of a few changes being made to the exterior and interior of the building over the last century.

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#### **Narrative Description**

#### Exterior

The Thurber School located at 40 South Main Street in Spanish Fork, Utah County, was completed in 1910. The former schoolhouse is positioned on a prominent corner lot in the center of the Spanish Fork community and the south end of the downtown commercial district. The two-and-a-half story school building features both the Romanesque Revival and Mission/Spanish Revival styles with a symmetric form, masonry construction, Roman-arched entries and fenestration, and curvilinear parapets.

The symmetrical building has two pairs of identical elevations. Each façade is divided into thirds with protruding central bays. The school was constructed on a foundation of gray sandstone. The walls are made of load-bearing buff-colored pressed brick that has yellowed with age. Each corner of the building features brick quoins.

Although the east elevation is the public face onto Main Street, the west elevation is treated as the primary entrance to the building. The sandstone foundation blocks rise up about three feet from grade and are capped by a belt course of darker stone. The foundation rises an additional two feet in the central bay and breaks to form a centralized arched entrance. This entrance is framed by brick medallions on either side that contain the numbers 19 and 10, signifying the building's date of construction. A plaque above the entrance reads "Thurber School." Each side bay features four windows on the first story. These windows are wood sash, one-over-one, double-hung with rectangular transoms. The windows are accented with individual stone sills and a single continuous stone lintel. The second-story windows are wood sash, one-over-one, double-hung with arched transoms. The windows are accented with individual stone sills and decorative arched brick lintels joined in between each window. The second story of the central bay is separated by a thin stone belt course. The second story features three windows that are wood sash, one-over-one, double-hung with rectangular transoms that rest on the stone belt course. The windows are accented by individual stone lintels. The third story of the central bay features another set of three windows that are wood sash, one-over-one, double-hung with arched transoms. These are accented with individual stone sills and decorative arched stone lintels. Centered above these windows is a small arch window with a decorative arched stone lintel. This elevation features the distinct Mission Revival-style curvilinear parapet painted blue and white.

The east elevation is close to identical to the west elevation. The most notable difference is that the medallions on either side of the arched stone entrance feature the numbers 19 and 85 signifying the year the building was first occupied as the city offices. The plaque above the entrance reads "Spanish Fork City Offices."

The north elevation features the sandstone foundation and three bays. Each side bay features four wood sash, one-over-one windows on each story and the central bay features two wood sash, one-over-one windows on each story. The first-story windows are accented with individual

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stone sills and continuous lintels over them in groups of two. The second-story windows are accented with individual stone lintels and decorative arched brick lintels. The same composition is seen on the south elevation. The south elevation is partially blocked by a six-foot-tall imitation stone enclosure for mechanical equipment for the building. This wall runs from the building's southwestern corner to the edge of the sidewalk between the Thurber School and the library and then runs east to the central bay of the southern façade.

The roof form of the Thurber School is a pyramidal hipped roof with smaller cross gables over the projecting bays at each elevation. The roof eaves extend roughly two to three feet and feature decorative wooden brackets. Two small hipped gables extend out from the middle of the roof on the north and south facades that replaced two ventilating turrets sometime before 1958 that were part of the original design and facilitated air flow through the building. A brick chimney with decorative brick corbelling rises from the south end of the roof. The larger gable ends centered over the entrance bays of the east and west facades are Mission-style curvilinear parapets. The roof apex culminates at a central octagonal-shaped cupola that houses a bell.

The exterior of the building has largely remained intact since its construction in 1910. A renovation in 1985 included cleaning the exterior of the building, replacement of broken or missing windows, and addition of the '1985' numbering and 'Spanish Fork City Offices' plaque on the west façade. During the renovation the original window sashes were removed and replaced with similar single-lite wooden sashes. The upper sashes originally held nine lites. At some time between the school's completion and 1958, the two turrets on the north and south sides of the roof were remove and replaced with small gables. Other than these minor alterations, the exterior of the Thurber School has maintained its historic appearance. The school block form has not been altered, the materials have been preserved if not replaced with something similar to the original, and the character-defining features such as the Mission Revival-style gables and bell tower remain unaltered.

#### Interior

The Thurber School originally contained eight classrooms, three teachers' rooms, and one principal's room.<sup>1</sup> The classrooms were located in each corner of the building, four on each floor, surrounding a central atrium. The atrium connected the two entrances on either side of the building. The east and west sides of the building had open staircases with two sets of stairs leading from the first floor to a larger central stair leading up to the second floor.

The school was renovated in 1985 to function as offices for the city. Renovation work included bringing the building up to current ADA and earthquake standards, work to the foundation, installation of new wooden windows, installation of an elevator, installation of new heating and cooling systems, and reconfiguration of interior spaces.<sup>2</sup> This renovation also resulted in the division of the classroom spaces to create offices. As part of the overall project, new doors,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> "Spanish Fork's New School." *Salt Lake Herald – Republican* (Utah), April 25, 1910. Utah Digital Newspapers.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Moody, Leann. "Spanish Fork Approved Remodeling Bids." *Provo Daily Herald* (Utah), May 18, 1985. Utah Digital Newspapers.

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casing, transoms and baseboards were added to update the interior. Multiple recessed light fixtures were added in the ceilings. An octagonal opening was cut out of the ceiling in the lobby area to open up the space. However, the primary wood balustrades for all of the stairways were stripped of later paint and restored to the original finish.

The primary spaces of the Thurber School including the four classroom spaces on each floor, central atrium, and staircases have been retained. Other original features like the marble plaque noting the building's architect and contractor are untouched.

#### Historic Integrity

The only areas of impact on the Thurber School's historic integrity are those noted above. Although the alterations affect the aspects of design, workmanship, and materials to some degree, the impact is negligible to the overall historic character of the building. All other aspects - location, setting, feeling, and association – are retained and the building has overall very good historic integrity.

#### Setting

The Thurber School faces east on the southeast corner lot of Main and Center Streets. The building is situated on the east side of the lot adjacent to a parking lot for the building and the library to the south. Sidewalks and wide park strips separate the school building from surrounding streets. The Thurber School is surrounded on the north, east, and west sides by a grass lawn and mature deciduous and evergreen trees. A xeriscape landscape strip separates the school from the library on the south side. Concrete sidewalks lead from both the parking lot and Main Street up to the entrances of the building.

The lot was part of the original plat of Spanish Fork. The southern blocks at the intersection of Main and Center Streets developed as the civic and cultural center of Spanish Fork. In 1890, the No.2 District School House stood in the position of the Thurber School, across Main Street from the current city hall, amongst residences and an agricultural operation. By 1908, the block had further developed with residences to the west and a Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints meeting house to the south across Main Street from the city hall and a new dance pavilion. The square block continued to evolve after the construction of the Thurber School with various lot configurations consisting of residential, civic, religious, agricultural, and commercial developments. Multiple lots were consolidated in the early 1970s that resulted in the current configuration of the Thurber School lot. The block now consists of the Thurber School, Spanish Fork City Library Hall, and two residences.

Although there have been many changes over the past century to the southeast block of the Main and Center Street intersection and surrounding area, the character of the area as a civic center for the city has remained unchanged. Main Street has been a commercial corridor since the mid-1800s and several historic buildings still stand. The southern blocks of the intersection have

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Name of Property County and State reflected a community-oriented program from the construction of the first city hall in 1874 to 1910 when the Thurber School was opened and to 2024 as the blocks contain Spanish Fork's city hall, library, parks and recreation office, and city park.

#### 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.



Х

- 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.
  - F. A commemorative property
  - G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

Thurber School Name of Property

> Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions.) <u>ARCHITECTURE</u> <u>EDUCATION</u>

**Period of Significance** 

1910 - 1973

Significant Dates

\_1910\_

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.) N/A

**Cultural Affiliation** 

Architect/Builder <u>Taliesin T. Davies (Architect)</u> Ohran, Fjeld & Wilson (General Contractors)

Thurber School Name of Property Utah County, UT County and State

**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 Thurber School was constructed in 1910 as a public school for the community of Spanish Fork, Utah County. The building is locally significant under Criterion A in the Area of Education, as it was a major school that served the community from 1910 to 1973, which is also the period of significance. The Thurber School was erected at a time of rapid change in Utah's education system. It was one of the first free public schools opened in Spanish Fork after the Free Public School Act of 1890 was passed and Utah became a state. The Thurber School provided necessary classroom space for a growing school population and established community support for both education and the expansion of the academic industry in Spanish Fork. The schoolhouse represents the challenges overcome by advocates of free and public education over the previous fifty years and the emergence of a new education system throughout the state. Thurber School is also locally significant under Criterion C in the Area of Architecture. The building is characteristic of the eclectic architectural styles that were popular at the time for schools regionally and nationwide. The primarily Romanesque Revival-style building, with Mission Revival-style elements, was designed by Provo architect Taliesin T. Davies. Davies was known for his residential designs throughout Utah County as well as the White Rock Schoolhouse in Elsinore, Sevier County and the Uintah Stake Tabernacle in Vernal, Uintah County. The combination of the large, prominent building and the only known example of late-Victorian Romanesque-style architecture in the city made the school a landmark of Spanish Fork City. It also stands as the only remaining schoolhouse from this time period in Spanish Fork. In 1985 the building underwent an adaptive reuse project to serve as the Spanish Fork city offices, maintaining its role as a public building. The Thurber School is now one of the oldest extant buildings along the Main Street corridor that has retained its original appearance.

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

#### **Criterion A Significance: Education**

The Thurber School is significant in the Area of Education. The school played a notable role in Spanish Fork's early organized school system and is representative of the major alterations experienced throughout Utah's education system at the turn of the twentieth century.

In 1896 the Spanish Fork School District No. 2 Board of Trustees called for bids for a new schoolhouse to replace the former No. 2 District Schoolhouse, also called the "Little White Schoolhouse",<sup>3</sup> at the southeast corner of Main and Center Streets.<sup>4</sup> The new school was dedicated on March 23, 1911, in honor of Bishop Albert K. Thurber.<sup>5</sup> Albert Thurber served the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Ibid, p. 28.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> "Notice." The Daily Enquirer (Provo, Utah), May 13, 1896. Utah Digital Newspapers.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> "Thurber School Dedicated." The Spanish Fork Press (Utah), March 23, 1911. Utah Digital Newspapers.

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community in several capacities from the 1860s to his death in 1888. Thurber was called to serve as the bishop of the Spanish Fork Ward of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in 1863 and served as the City's mayor in 1865 and from 1867-1872.<sup>6</sup> Thurber was also a member of the Utah House of Representatives for several years. While in this position, he lobbied for common schools by taxation<sup>7</sup> and as mayor established the Utah County Teachers' Institute.<sup>8</sup> Thurber was recognized as a champion of education and was credited in 1911 for laying the "foundation of [Spanish Fork's] present educational system which is the admiration of the entire state".<sup>9</sup> The opening of the Thurber School helped alleviate the demand for classroom space for the city's school population which had reached 1300.<sup>10</sup>

The Thurber School was among the first free, public, secular schools opened in Spanish Fork. It also marked a transition from small provisional structures to regulated, multi-room, more permanent schoolhouses, which was reflective of the changing ideals of education in Utah at the time. Following the Central School built in 1896 (now demolished), the Thurber School was the second architecturally substantial, multi-room schoolhouse constructed in the city. Spanish Fork was one of the larger cities in Utah County in the early 1900s, but still only had a population of around 3500.<sup>11</sup> The construction of the Thurber School demonstrated the unusual demand for another large school in a rural community of this size, especially when considering that the city already had four district schools running.<sup>12</sup>

The school operated for over sixty years within the Nebo School District until 1973 when the property was acquired by the City of Spanish Fork for the purpose of renovating the building for city offices. Numerous schools were built in the city throughout the twentieth century to account for the growing population. However, many schools were also demolished including the historic Central School (1896) and Spanish Fork High School (1912).<sup>13</sup> Unlike several of the city's schools built before 1950, the Thurber School was preserved and continued to have high attendance until its closure in 1973.<sup>14</sup> Spanish Fork currently has thirteen active schools. Education has and continues to be one of the top industries in Spanish Fork and the Nebo School District is one of the City's top employers. The Thurber School is the last remaining school in Spanish Fork from the time of rapid change in Utah's education system at the turn of the century, and as such, represents this reform throughout the region and the state. The Thurber School building is also a symbol of the City's advancement.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> "The Superabundant Reception Preparations." *Deseret News* (Salt Lake City, Utah), May 27, 1863. Utah Digital Newspapers.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> "Legislative Assembly." Salt Lake Herald – Republican (Utah), January 24, 1872. Utah Digital Newspapers.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> "Educational Convention." *Deseret News* (Salt Lake City, Utah), November 8, 1871. Utah Digital Newspapers.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> "Thurber School Dedicated." The Spanish Fork Press.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Allred, Spanish Fork City on the Rio de Aguas Calientes, p. 133.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, Census Bulletin No. 50.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Allred, Spanish Fork City on the Rio de Aguas Calientes, p. 134.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> Ibid, p. 243.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> "Enrollment Figures Show 9835 Students in Nebo, 3460 Here." *The Springville Herald* (Utah), February 5, 1970. Utah Digital Newspapers.

Thurber School Name of Property Education in Utah Utah County, UT County and State

A thorough contextual history of education in the state was prepared for the National Register nomination form of the now-demolished Webster School in Magna, Salt Lake County (NRIS #00001585, removed from Register 4/28/2005) and is excerpted here.

In July 1847, the Mormon pioneers settled the Great Salt Lake Valley. During the late 1840s, settlement and survival took priority over education. Mormon settlers in Utah established small and often seasonal ward schools. Private, informal schools were hastily organized and held in private homes and meeting houses. Early education was inadequate due to the difficult environmental conditions, the inability of families to pay tuition and the lack of formal teacher training. The curriculum was limited to very basic reading, mathematics and Mormon religious teachings.

In 1851, the Provisional State of Deseret structured regions into school districts. Under this organization each community was empowered to create as many schools as needed. The Territorial School Law of 1852 organized school districts. These districts maintained existing school buildings (private homes and meeting houses) through taxation. Unfortunately, taxes under this legislation were rarely levied and funds remained inconsistent between districts. The relative effectiveness of districts varied dramatically, according to the abilities of teachers and the financial means of local residents and trustees. The non-Mormon churches in Utah saw this as an opportunity to proselytize Mormon children. Beginning in the late 1860s and early 1870s, these churches offered free schools with professionally trained teachers.

During the development of the district schools, mission boards from the Congregational, Presbyterian, and Methodist churches established approximately one hundred private elementary and secondary schools.<sup>15</sup> Initially these schools were popular with families of all religions, but Mormon leaders became alarmed by the influence of the secular teachings of these schools and Mormon parents gradually withdrew their children. Eventually, the territorial legislators (who belonged to the Mormon church) decided to create a public school system that would not expose their young to non-Mormon teachings. The result was a system of Mormon schools, or academies, established in each stake (similar to a diocese) of the Mormon church. This system reached into surrounding states with twenty-two schools in all.

In 1869, LDS ward schools became district public schools. The new school system established a centralized school policy and curriculum. The 1878 "permanent school fund" distributed tax-collected funds to all school districts.<sup>16</sup> Eventually, church-oriented public schools became the inner framework of the federally mandated locally supported territorial district schools. The accommodation reached between Mormon and federal government leaders in 1890 included the abandonment of polygamy and the

 <sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> Powell, A.K. (1994). Utah History Encyclopedia. Salt Lake City, Utah: University of Utah Press, p. 154.
 <sup>16</sup> Antrie, A. (Ed.). (1982). The other 49ers: A topical history of Sanpete County, Utah 1849 to 1983. Salt Lake City: Western Epics.

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establishment of a free public school system. The Free Public School Act of 1890 precipitated the collection of taxes in earnest, consolidated districts according to counties, established a state administration and curriculum, and made attendance compulsory (prior to this legislation only 27% percent of children between 8 and 16 years attended).<sup>17</sup>

The creation of a tax-supported school system had a direct impact on the educational architecture that followed. After 1890 small, individually designed multi-purpose buildings were replaced by large, permanent and uniformly designed, single-purpose schools. Architects hired by the state or local school districts engineered standardized designs.

State officials strictly controlled the approval of design, construction cost, and space allocation as illustrated by the 1908 Report of the Superintendent of Public Instruction. The report states, "if cost of a schoolhouse exceeds \$500, plans and specifications must be submitted and approved by the Commissioner of Education." The approval of plans depended on compliance regarding very specific requirements. For example, "at least fifteen square feet of floor space and two hundred cubic feet of air space for each pupil to be accommodated in study or resuscitation room therein. Provision is made therein for assuring at least 30 feet of pure air every minute for each pupil and the facilities for exhausted vitiated air. The low percent of attendants through 1907 through 1908 is due in measure to the contagious diseases, which prevailed during the year."<sup>18</sup>

#### Education in Spanish Fork

Spanish Fork City, incorporated in 1855, developed in the Utah Valley between Utah Lake and the Wasatch Mountain Range along the Spanish Fork River. Spanish Fork has held a position as one of the larger cities in Utah County since the mid-1800s.<sup>19</sup> The pioneer settlers established schools in Spanish Fork as early as 1856, holding classes in their homes and one-room adobe buildings.<sup>20</sup> One of the first schoolhouses was built on the public square in 1860 and also served as a social hall, as many early schoolhouses did. In 1862, Spanish Fork was divided into two school districts to account for the growing population. Despite several schools being built between 1860 and 1890 in addition to the schools being run from local homes and ward houses, there was a deficiency in classroom space.<sup>21</sup> In order to accommodate more school children, the Spanish Fork school districts continued to open schools throughout the late 1800s and into the 1920s, including the Thurber School.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> Ellsworth, S.G. (1985). *The New Utah's Heritage*. Salt Lake City: Peregrine Smith Books.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> Seventh Report. (1908, June 30). *The Superintendent of Public Instruction of the State of Utah*. Pp. 11, 15, 16, 38. As quoted in the Webster School National Register of Historic Places registration form, Utah State Historic Preservation Office.

 <sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> U.S. Census Bureau (1901). Census Bulletin No. 50. Retrieved from <u>https://www2.census.gov/library/publications/decennial/1900/bulletins/demographic/50-population-ut.pdf</u>
 <sup>20</sup> Allred, LaNora P. *Spanish Fork City on the Rio de Aguas Calientes*. Spanish Fork, Utah: JMart Publishing Co, 2005, p. 18.
 <sup>21</sup> Ibid, p. 78.

#### Thurber School Name of Property Criterion C Significance: Architecture

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The Thurber School is also locally significant under Criterion C in the Area of Architecture as it is an excellent and unique example of Victorian Romanesque Revival and Mission Revival-style architecture, especially when considering the somewhat rural location and smaller population of Spanish Fork City at the time. The exterior of the building has remained largely intact since its construction.

Provo architect, T.T. Davies was contracted in the 1896 by the Board of Trustees of Spanish Fork School District No. 2 to design the Thurber School.<sup>22</sup> Taliesin T. Davies was born in Wales in 1867 and immigrated to Utah when he was young. The architect established his practice in Provo, Utah designing homes, businesses, schools, and religious buildings throughout the state including the White Rock Schoolhouse in Elsinore, Utah ((NRIS #78002692)), and the Uintah Stake Tabernacle (NRIS DOE #83004679, now the Vernal LDS Temple) in Vernal, Utah.<sup>23</sup>

Davies applied the Victorian Romanesque Revival style in the school's design, which was widely used throughout the state in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries for civic buildings. The heavy masonry foundation, stone windowsills and lintels, use of arches, gable roof ends, and finial bell-tower are all characteristics of this style. The curvilinear parapets, arched openings, and overhanging eaves with decorative brackets are characteristic of the Mission Revival style that was emerging in the early twentieth century.<sup>24</sup> These Spanish influences distinguish the Thurber School from the handful of other schools in Utah County remaining from this period and is certainly unique in Spanish Fork. Amongst a trend of altering or demolishing historic buildings, and more specifically older schools in Spanish Fork, it was an unlikely occurrence that the Thurber School was preserved. The building was erected as a figure of progress in education and modern construction and is now a well-recognized Spanish Fork landmark. The iconic bell tower of the Thurber School has even been represented in the city's logo as a symbol of pride and progress.

The Thurber School is a remarkable example of an intact schoolhouse from the early twentieth century with a unique stylistic approach that combines both Victorian Romanesque Revival and Mission Revival style characteristics. The school building is also representative of the physical and organizational transformations made in Utah schools around this period.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> "Notice." The Daily Enquirer.

 <sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> "203: Tally T. Davies." J. Willard Marriott Digital Library, 2019. https://collections.lib.utah.edu/ark:/87278/s6712nq2.
 <sup>24</sup> Utah Historical Society. Utah's Historic Architecture Guide. Issuu, 2018. <u>https://issuu.com/utah10/docs/architectural\_guide\_booklet</u>.

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#### 9. Major Bibliographical References

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

Utah County, UT

- Name of Property
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   Pp. 11, 15, 16, 38.
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- "203: Tally T. Davies." J. Willard Marriott Digital Library, 2019. https://collections.lib.utah.edu/ark:/87278/s6712nq2.

#### 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:

- X State Historic Preservation Office
- \_\_\_\_ Other State agency
- \_\_\_\_\_ Federal agency
- \_\_\_\_ Local government
- \_\_\_\_\_ University
- \_\_\_\_ Other
  - Name of repository: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): \_\_\_\_\_

Thurber School Name of Property Utah County, UT County and State

#### 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property <u>1.28</u>

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: 40.109413°	Longitude: -111.655361°
2. Latitude:	Longitude:
3. Latitude:	Longitude:
4. 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:

Utah County, UT County and State

**Verbal Boundary Description** (Describe the boundaries of the property.) The boundary is the same as the tax parcel with the following description: Commencing at the Northwest Corner of Lot 3, Block 31, Plat A, Spanish Fork City; East 396 feet; South 156 feet; West 150 feet; South 42 feet; West 246 feet; North 198 feet to the point of beginning. Parcel information accessed 3/4/2024.

**Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected.) The boundary is a portion of the original historical parcel, containing the building and surround landscape setting in Spanish Fork City on which the building is located.

#### **11. Form Prepared By**

name/title: Mary Martin/Associate Planner	& Tara Silver/City	Recorder
organization: _Spanish Fork City	-	
street & number: <u>40 S Main St</u>		
city or town: Spanish Fork	_state: <u>UT</u>	zip code: <u>_84660</u>
e-mail: _mmartin@spanishfork.org & tsilve	r@spanishfork.org	
telephone: <u>801-804-4574</u>		
date: <u>9/19/2024</u>		

#### **Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

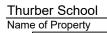
- Maps: A USGS map or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- Additional items: (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

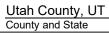
Thurber School Name of Property

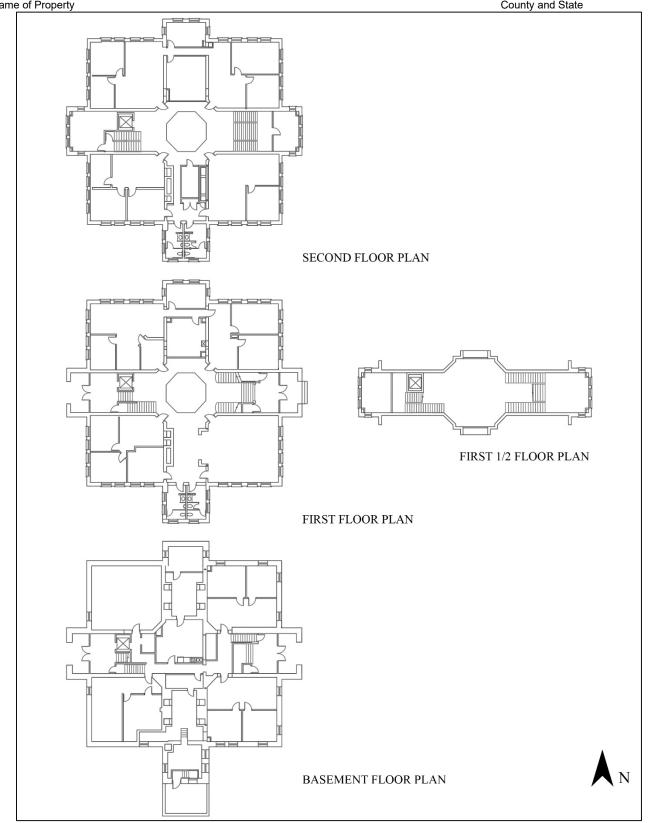


Thurber School Name of Property









Thurber School Name of Property Utah County, UT 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: Thurber School

City or Vicinity: Spanish Fork

County: Utah

State: Utah

Photographer: Mary Martin

Date Photographed: February 29, 2024, and April 3, 2024

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

Thurber School Name of Property Utah County, UT County and State



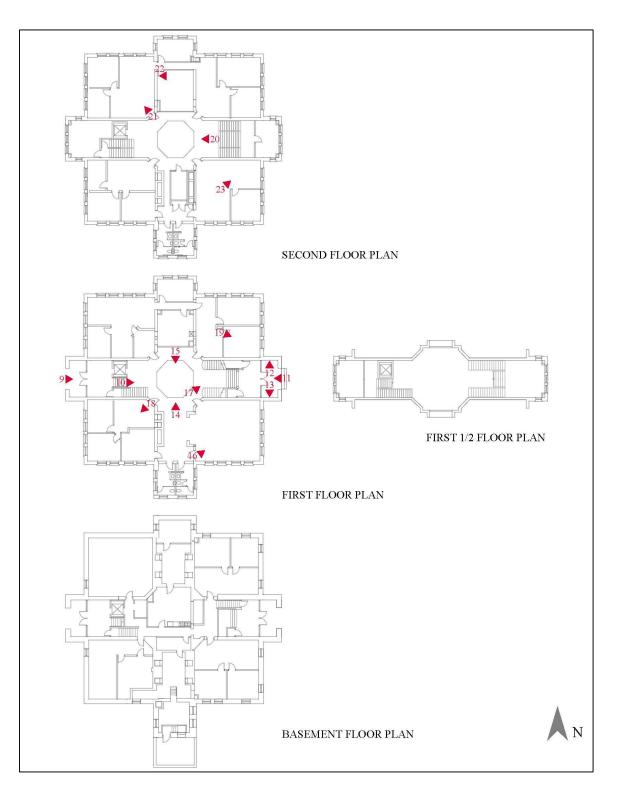
Exterior Photograph Key

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Thurber School

Name of Property

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Interior Photograph key

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1 of 23. West elevation. Camera facing east.



2 of 23. West entrance. Camera facing east.



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#### 3 of 23. North elevation. Camera facing southwest.



4 of 23. East elevation. Camera facing west.



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5 of 23. East entrance. Camera facing west.



6 of 23. South elevation. Camera facing north.

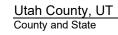


7 of 23. Quoins on southeast corner. Camera facing north.



8 of 23. Southwest corner. Camera facing northeast.





9 of 23. West entrance vestibule. Camera facing east.

Thurber School Name of Property Utah County, UT County and State

# 

10 of 23. Atrium. Camera facing east.

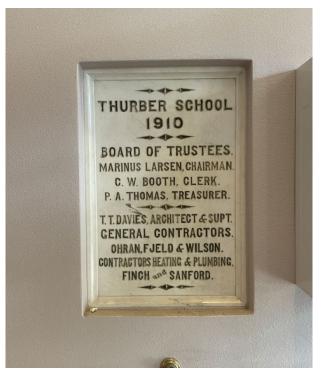


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11 of 23. East entrance vestibule. Camera facing west.

12 of 23. Plaque in east entrance vestibule from 1910.



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#### Thurber School

Name of Property

13 of 23. Plaque in east entrance vestibule from 1985.



14 of 23. Atrium. Camera facing north.



#### Thurber School

Name of Property 15 of 23. Atrium. Camera facing south. Utah County, UT County and State



16 of 23. Old Council Chambers, Room 140. Camera facing northeast.

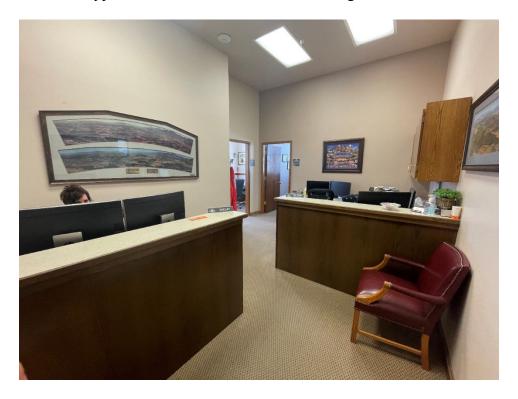


#### Thurber School Name of Property

me of Property 17 of 23. Staircase. Camera facing northeast.



18 of 23. Typical office, Room 130. Camera facing southwest.



<sup>me of Property</sup> 19 of 23. Typical office, Room 140. Camera facing east.



20 of 23. Second-floor mezzanine. Camera facing west.



## Thurber School Name of Property

21 of 23. Room 220. Camera facing northwest.

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22 of 23. Room 220. Camera facing south.



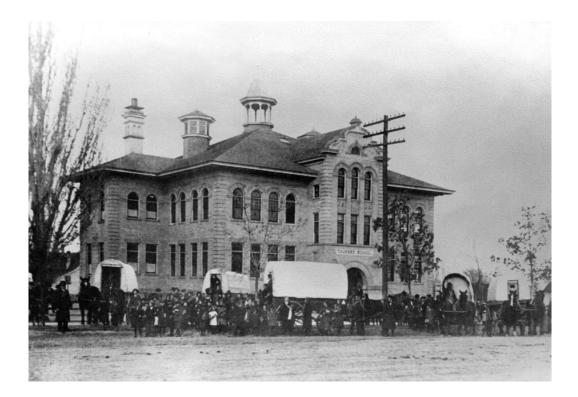
#### Thurber School Name of Property

23 of 23. Typical office. Room 240. Camera facing east.

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#### Figures

1 of 7. Thurber School circa 1910s. Facing west from Main Street. Source: Spanish Fork City.



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2 of 7. West façade during rehabilitation 1985. Source: Spanish Fork City.

3 of 7. West entrance during rehabilitation 1985. Source: Spanish Fork City.



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4 of 7. East façade from Main Street before rehabilitation 1985. Source: Spanish Fork City.

5 of 7. Atrium during rehabilitation 1985. Camera facing east staircase. Source: Spanish Fork City.



Thurber School Name of Property Utah County, UT

e of Property County and State 6 of 7. Atrium and mezzanine during rehabilitation 1985. Camera facing east. Source: Spanish Fork City.



7 of 7. Windows on first floor during rehabilitation 1985. Source: Spanish Fork City.



**Property Owner information:** 

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

Name: <u>Spanish Fork City, ATTN: Tara Silver/Community Relations and Development</u> 40 S Main Street Address:

City or Town: <u>Spanish Fork</u>	State: <u>UT</u> Zip code: <u>84660</u>
Telephone/email: <u>801/804-4530</u>	tsilver@spanishfork.org

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for nominations 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.). We may not conduct or sponsor and you are not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for each response using this form is estimated to be between the Tier 1 and Tier 4 levels with the estimate of the time for each tier as follows:

> Tier 1 - 60-100 hours Tier 2 – 120 hours Tier 3 – 230 hours Tier 4 – 280 hours

The above estimates include time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and preparing and transmitting nominations. Send comments regarding these estimates or any other aspect of the requirement(s) to the Service Information Collection Clearance Officer, National Park Service, 1201 Oakridge Drive Fort Collins, CO 80525.