

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED FEB 20 1980

DATE ENTERED

APR 29 1980

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

*Lyons Thematic Resources
Sandstone Buildings*

"Lyons: A Thematic Historic District"

AND/OR COMMON

Lyons Historic District

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Lyons

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

2

VICINITY OF

STATE

Colorado

CODE

08

COUNTY

Boulder

CODE

013

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

DISTRICT

BUILDING(S)

STRUCTURE

SITE

OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

PUBLIC

PRIVATE

BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

IN PROCESS

BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

OCCUPIED

UNOCCUPIED

WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

YES: RESTRICTED

YES: UNRESTRICTED

NO

PRESENT USE

AGRICULTURE

COMMERCIAL

EDUCATIONAL

ENTERTAINMENT

GOVERNMENT

INDUSTRIAL

MILITARY

MUSEUM

PARK

PRIVATE RESIDENCE

RELIGIOUS

SCIENTIFIC

TRANSPORTATION

OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Multiple Ownership - See Continuation Sheet

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

VICINITY OF

STATE

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Boulder County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

14th & Pearl Street

CITY, TOWN

Boulder

STATE

Colorado

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Colorado Inventory of Historic Sites (07/02/0000/09)

DATE

Ongoing

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Colorado Historical Society; 1300 Broadway

CITY, TOWN

Denver

STATE

Colorado 80203

7 DESCRIPTION

| CONDITION | | CHECK ONE | CHECK ONE |
|---|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT | <input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD | <input type="checkbox"/> RUINS | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED | <input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> FAIR | <input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED | | |

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Known as "The Double Gateway to the Rockies," the town of Lyons lies within the valley of the St. Vrain Creek in Boulder County, Colorado. This stream is fed from two canyons to the west, the North and South St. Vrain, allowing dual access into the mountains. The town is bordered to the north by active and abandoned quarries which provided the district with the unique Lyons sandstone.

Within this valley is the Lyons Historic District, a non-contiguous collection of sandstone buildings. Of the fifteen structures comprising the district, eleven are situated within the city limits; the remaining four are scattered around the boundaries. These structures, commercial, public, and residential, vary from a one room storage building to a two-story school house. They were all constructed between the early 1870s and 1917. All buildings are composed of rock faced, coursed, Lyons sandstone, reflecting the skill of local craftsmen in utilizing this native building material.

Lyons Historic District:

1. Evans Homestead (Northwest of Lyons): early 1870s, Lyons sandstone, two story house, one story blacksmith shop.
2. Chisholm House (425 Seward): early 1890s, Lyons sandstone, one story.
3. Residence (413 Seward): early 1890s, Lyons sandstone, one story.
4. Residence (409 Seward): early 1890s, Lyons sandstone, one story.
5. Lyons General Store (426 High): 1884, Lyons sandstone, one story.
6. Old Stone Church (High): 1894, Lyons sandstone, one story, single steeple flush with facade, presently on the National Register, restoration work planned.
7. Lyons School (High): 1881, first story Lyons sandstone, second story metal sheets molded to resemble stone (1900), restoration work now in progress.
8. Dynamite Storage Building (High): 1890s, Lyons sandstone, one story shed.
9. McAllister Saloon (Main): 1881, Lyons sandstone, one story, flat roof.
10. General Store (415 Main): 1890s, Lyons sandstone, two stories, flat roof, partially restored.
11. Turner-Stevens Building (401 Main): 1917, bank and garage, Lyons sandstone, one story, decorative cornice, flat roof, partially restored.
12. Lyons Train Depot (railroad tracks): 1885, Lyons sandstone, one story, restored, now houses the municipal library, presently on the National Register.
13. Homestead Building (South of Lyons): 1870s, Lyons sandstone, two stories.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

| PERIOD | AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW | | | | |
|-------------|--|--|---|--|--|
| PREHISTORIC | <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING | <input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION | |
| 1400-1499 | <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC | <input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION | <input type="checkbox"/> LAW | <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE | |
| 1500-1599 | <input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS | <input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE | <input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE | |
| 1600-1699 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION | <input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY | <input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN | |
| 1700-1799 | <input type="checkbox"/> ART | <input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING | <input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC | <input type="checkbox"/> THEATER | |
| 1800-1899 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT | <input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY | <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION | |
| 1900- | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY | <input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT | <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) | |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION | | | |

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Lyons Historic District is significant for the role it played in the settlement of Boulder County and for the role the buildings played in the local sandstone industry and in local commerce. From an architectural perspective the District is significant for the sandstone buildings which represent a type, period, and method of construction that is relatively unique.

In 1880, E. S. Lyon, having left Connecticut for reasons of health, bought 160 acres of land at the present site of Lyons. An energetic promoter, he realized the value of the sandstone deposits on his property and the next year formed the Evans Townsite Company and the Lyon Rock and Lime Quarry Company. Soon the hills were active with stoneworkers who produced the unique, reddish colored sandstone which was hauled by wagons seventeen miles east to be shipped by rail to Denver. In 1884 the track was extended to Lyons to facilitate the shipment of stone. The production of sandstone brought an economic boom to the area, and these years witnessed the construction of educational, religious, commercial, and residential structures, the survivors of which make up the District. Lyons continued to prosper until the early twentieth century when cement began to replace the sandstone in construction, and the demise of the industry began. Yet Lyons remained as a popular tourist spot near Rocky Mountain National Park and as a railhead for small shipments of gold ore.

It is the color and quality that makes Lyons sandstone a unique building material. It was used in many structures in Colorado, perhaps most notably for buildings on the University of Colorado campus in Boulder. Yet the sandstone was also used for sidewalks and curbs, and during its peak era, it was shipped as far east as Chicago and New York to be used in the construction of brownstone buildings, often to form decorative lintels. Some nearby quarries are still in use as there is a demand for the sandstone for use in the construction of fireplaces and patios.

From an architectural perspective the structures in the District are vernacular in style, but the reddish hue of the sandstone makes them stand out visually as a distinctive element in the community. Rectangular in shape, one or two stories in height, these buildings have relatively few decorative elements, thus reflecting Lyons' origins and development as a quarry town, but the structures do impart a sense of the past as they illustrate the adaptation of a local building material to the needs of the community.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

The Lyons Historical Society, Lyons and the Surrounding Areas (Boulder, Colorado: Johnson Publishing Co., 1977).

Weaver, Frank, That Beautiful Valley (Lyons, Colorado: The New Lyons Recorder, 1978).

UTM NOT VERIFIED

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY See continuation sheet

ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

QUADRANGLE NAME _____

QUADRANGLE SCALE _____

UTM REFERENCES

A [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] []
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] []
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] []

D [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] []

E [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] []

F [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] []

G [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] []

H [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] []

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

See continuation sheet

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE CODE COUNTY CODE

STATE CODE COUNTY CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Manuel M. Weiss / Historical Preservationist

ORGANIZATION

Lyons Historical Society

DATE

February 27, 1979

STREET & NUMBER

South Star Route

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Lyons

STATE

Colorado 80540

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

Arthur C. Townsend Jan. 31. 1980

TITLE State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

J. W. Ray
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

4/29/80

ATTEST: *William H. Abraham*
CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

DATE

4-16-80

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

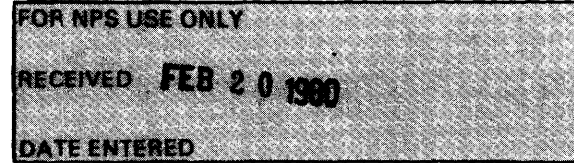
**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

| | |
|------------------|-------------|
| FOR NPS USE ONLY | |
| RECEIVED | FEB 20 1980 |
| DATE ENTERED | APR 29 1980 |

| CONTINUATION SHEET | Lyons Historic District | ITEM NUMBER | 4 | PAGE | 1 |
|--------------------|---------------------------|---|--|------|---|
| 1. | Evans Homestead | W. A. Beller Post Office Box 13 Lyons, Colorado 80540 | | | |
| 2. | Chisholm House | Vivian Trueblood Post Office Box 466 Lyons, Colorado 80540 | | | |
| 3. | Residence (413 Seward) | Martha Weese Post Office Box 41 Lyons, Colorado 80540 | | | |
| 4. | Residence (409 Seward) | J. & K Soukup 1077 Ponderosa Circle & Longmont, CO 80501 | T. & L. Kelling 639-3rd Avenue Lyons, CO 80450 | | |
| 5. | Lyons General Store | Ralston Brothers Antiques, Post Office Box 427 Lyons, Colorado 80540 | | | |
| 6. | Old Stone Church | Old Stone Church Post Office Box 500 Lyons, Colorado 80540 | | | |
| 7. | Lyons School | Dr. Darrel Dick St. Vrain Valley School District, RE-1J 395 South Pratt Parkway Longmont, Colorado 80501 | | | |
| 8. | Dynamite Storage Building | Bertha Ramey Post Office Box 68 Lyons, Colorado 80540 | | | |
| 9. | McAllister Saloon | David Cisneros Post Office Box 978 Lyons, Colorado 80540 | | | |
| 10. | General Store | Mrs. W. Humpal 1355 Violet Boulder, Colorado 80302 | | | |

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**



| CONTINUATION SHEET | Lyons Historic District | ITEM NUMBER | 4 | PAGE | 2 |
|--------------------|-------------------------|--|---|------|---|
| 11. | Turner-Stevens Building | (east half) Bertha Ramey Post Office Box 68 Lyons, Colorado 80540 | | | |
| | | (west half) Sandy Williams Post Office Box 63 Lyons, Colorado 80540 | | | |
| 12. | Lyons Train Depot | Lyons Depot Library Post Office Box 49 Lyons, Colorado 80540 | | | |
| 13. | Homestead Building | Victor Olson Post Office Box 888 Lyons, Colorado 80540 | | | |
| 14. | Milkhouse | Stone Canyon Partners Post Office Box 1809 Boulder, Colorado 80306 | | | |
| 15. | Montgomery School | Wilber Wolfe 5291 Ute Road Longmont, Colorado 80501 | | | |

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED FEB 20 1980

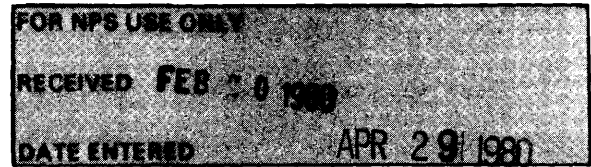
DATE ENTERED APR 29 1980

CONTINUATION SHEET Lyons Historic District ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 2

14. Milkhouse (East of Lyons): 1885, Lyons sandstone, two stories.
15. Montgomery School (East of Lyons, 5291 Ute Road): 1917, Lyons sandstone, one story, full basement.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**



CONTINUATION SHEET Geographical Data ITEM NUMBER 10 PAGE 1

1. Evan's Homestead (Northwest of Lyons)

Acreage: less than 1
Quadrangle: Lyons, Colorado Scale: 1:24000
UTM: (A) 13/476725/4452980
Verbal Boundary Description: SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ 18-3N-70

2. Chisholm House (425 Seward):

Acreage: 0.24
Quadrangle: Lyons, Colorado Scale: 1:24000
UTM: (B) 13/477000/4452830
Verbal Boundary Description: Lot 9, Block 1, Nortonville

3. Residence (413 Seward)

Acreage: 0.16
Quadrangle: Lyons, Colorado Scale: 1:24000
UTM: (C) 13/477025/4452840
Verbal Boundary Description: W $\frac{1}{2}$ Lot 8, Block 1, Nortonville

4. Residence (409 Seward):

Acreage: 0.08
Quadrangle: Lyons, Colorado Scale: 1:24000
UTM: (D) 13/477050/4452830
Verbal Boundary Description: E $\frac{1}{2}$ Lot 8, Block 1, Nortonville

5. Lyons General Store (426 High):

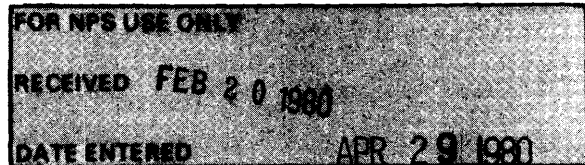
Acreage: 0.17
Quadrangle: Lyons, Colorado Scale: 1:24000
UTM: (E) 13/476975/4452620
Verbal Boundary Description: Lot 5, Block 30 and Lot 12, Block 29, Lyons, Colo.

6. Old Stone Church (High Street)

Acreage: 0.08
Quadrangle: Lyons, Colorado Scale: 1:24000
UTM: (F) 13/477060/4452620
Verbal Boundary Description: S $\frac{1}{2}$, Lot 1, Block 50, Lyons, Colorado

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**



CONTINUATION SHEET Geographical Data ITEM NUMBER 10 PAGE 2

7. Lyons School (High Street):

Acreage: 0.25
Quadrangle: Lyons, Colorado Scale: 1:24000
UTM (G) 13/477130/4452620
Verbal Boundary Description: Block 27, S $\frac{1}{4}$ Block 28, Lyons

8. Dynamite Storage Building (High Street):

Acreage: 0.01
Quadrangle: Lyons, Colorado Scale: 1:24000
UTM (H) 13/476970/4452580
Verbal Boundary Description: NW $\frac{1}{4}$, Lot 11, Block 30, Lyons

9. McAllister Saloon (Main St.):

Acreage: 0.08
Quadrangle: Lyons, Colorado Scale: 1:24000
UTM: (I) 13/476970/4452550
Verbal Boundary Description: W $\frac{1}{2}$, Lot 10, Lyons

10. General Store (415 Main St.)

Acreage: 0.07
Quadrangle: Lyons, Colorado Scale: 1:24000
UTM: (J) 13/477010/4452510
Verbal Boundary Description: W $\frac{1}{2}$, Lot 2 less S 10' Block 31, Lyons

11. Turner-Stevens Building (401 Main):

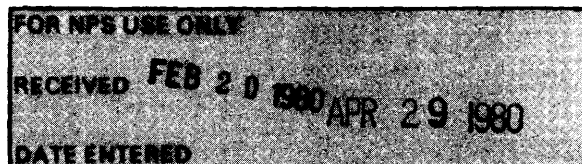
Acreage: 0.08
Quadrangle: Lyons, Colorado Scale: 1:24000
UTM: (K) 13/477060/4452490
Verbal Boundary Description: East half and $\frac{1}{2}$ int. in N 73' of E $\frac{1}{2}$ Lot 1, Block 31, Lyons; west half-W $\frac{1}{2}$ Lot 1 and S 67' E $\frac{1}{2}$ Lot 1 and E $\frac{1}{2}$ Lot 2, Block 31, Lyons

12. Lyons Train Depot (at railroad tracks):

Acreage: 0.69
Quadrangle: Lyons, Colorado Scale: 1:24000
UTM: (L) 13/476980/4452430
Verbal Boundary Description: NW corner Lots 9, 10, 11, 12, Block 31, Lyons

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**



CONTINUATION SHEET Geographical Data ITEM NUMBER 10 PAGE 3

13. Homestead Building (south of Lyons):

Acreage: 0.01

Quadrangle: Lyons, Colorado

Scale: 1:24000

UTM (M) 13/477230/4451460

Verbal Boundary Description: Beginning at a point 1200' east of the intersection of Boothe Avenue and Bradford Street, a lot 16' by 18'

14. Milkhouse (east of Lyons):

Acreage: 0.01

Quadrangle: Lyons, Colorado

Scale: 1:24000

UTM (N) 13/478100/4451700

Verbal Boundary Description: NW $\frac{1}{2}$ TR2261 less 2261a 30-3N-70 less Hwy. and SMTR between the ditch and S line 17-3N-70

15. Montgomery School (5291 Ute Road):

Acreage: 1

Quadrangle: Hygiene, Colorado

Scale: 1:24000

UTM: (O) 13/480440/4450860

Verbal Boundary Description: 1 AC M/L in NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ 21-3N-70