CITY, TOWN

Denver

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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SURVEY RECORDS	Colorado Historical S	ociety,1300 Bro	adway		



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## DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The house at 1030 Logan consists of two stories plus an attic. It is made of white pressed brick which has been stuccoed and is trimmed in brick. The red-tiled roof is hipped with three chimneys which have arched openings and tile roofs. The exterior of the house is in the Mission style, while the interior is a central-hall-plan with Georgian-style trim.

The Mission style is carried out on the structure's exterior in round-arched windows and doorways at the first floor which are emphasized by radiating brick trim, and in an iron balustraded balcony at the second floor. Small arched windows covered with iron grill work flank the receded entrance, which is reached across an open porch. Windows are double-sashed with pointed arch tracery in the upper sashes.

The facade is symmetrical with central portion recessed and the two side bays emphasized at the second story with brick quoins and a stringcourse.

The house sits up four or five feet from the street level and is separated from the street by a high stucco and masonry retaining wall. The wall has two embrasures inset with iron screens and a gate of ornamental iron.

The original single-family dwelling was converted to small apartments around 1940 without ruining the structure's fine interior. It later became a boarding and then a rooming house. It was restored in 1978 to a single family dwelling and then adapted to office use in 1980. The present owners have carefully preserved the flavor of a residence, retaining the kitchen and the gracious dining and living room. The exceptional interior contains four fireplaces, eleven foot ceilings, finely detailed woodwork and ceilings, recessed window seats and leaded glass windows.

## 8 SIGNIFICANCE

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NE SCIENCE SCULPTURE SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN NATHEATER NP TRANSPORTATION NHOTHER (SPECIFY)

SPECIFIC DATES

1896

**BUILDER/ARCHITECT** 

Harry T. E. Wendell

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Stearns residence is significant for its unique architecture, as an example of the work of architect Harry T. E. Wendell, and for its connection with the Joel W. Stearns family. The beautiful mansion at 1030 Logan is one of Capitol Hill's most unusual homes. In all of Emery's Capitol Hill Addition, one of the city's oldest, only a handful of homes show the influence of Spanish architecture. With its Mission characteristics, its symmetry and simple massing of elements, the home was ahead of its day. Almost fifteen years later the style became popular in Denver's new suburbs. The Rocky Mountain News took note of the unusual home when the Stearns family took possession of it in 1896. They called it "a very unique residence," a mixture of Spanish and Mexican styles that "never fails to attract notice from passers by." The use of white pressed brick was also unusual during the 1890's. The material became progressively more popular with builders after the turn of the century.

There are few remaining examples of the architect T. E. Wendell. Four of his works are listed as Denver Landmarks; the residence on Logan Street, the Pope-Thompson-Wasson House at 1320 Race Street, and the Ivy Chapel and Gate Lodge at Fairmont The two examples at Fairmont are in the Victorian Gothic style, while the two residences show Wendell's more progressive turn of mind.

The home at 1030 Logan Street was built for Joel Wilder Stearns and his family. Stearns was president and general manager of the Mountain Electric Company. was born in Brooklyn in 1868 and educated at Columbia University. He came to Denver in 1885, established his company, and became one of the prominent young business and club men in the city. He lived in the Logan Street home with his wife Gertrude and son Joel, Jr. Through the years, without fail, the family name appeared in the Denver Social Register and newspapers constantly carried stories of their parties on the social pages. In the summers--when they were not living at their summer retreat at Estes Park--the Stearns often held garden parties under the arbor in the yard, strewing tables with fall leaves and spring flowers and entertaining their affluent neighbors at gourmet dinners.

Stearns died of typhoid in 1920 at the age of fifty-two. Mrs. Stearns, Joel Jr., who had taken over as president of the electric company, and Joel's wife Marion remained in the house. The two women occupied the home for only two years after Joel Jr.'s death in 1927.

The home had a series of owners and renters after the Stearn's family and began its slow decline from home to apartment to boarding house after 1940. Ony recently has it regained its old beauty and begun to "attract notice from passers by."

MAJOR BIBLIOG	RAPHICAL REFER	RENCES AG	San
Early Denver newspa	pers, <u>City Directory</u>	, Blue Books	M MUI VEILLO
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