

PH00 66699

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	Colorado
COUNTY:	El Paso
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY DATE	AUG 14 1973

1. NAME

COMMON:
McAllister House Museum

AND/OR HISTORIC:
McAllister House

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
423 North Cascade Avenue

CITY OR TOWN:
Colorado Springs

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:
Number Five

STATE: Colorado CODE: 08 COUNTY: El Paso CODE: 041

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ Comments _____ _____ _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
National Society of Colonial Dames in the State of Colorado

STREET AND NUMBER:
423 North Cascade Avenue

CITY OR TOWN:
Colorado Springs

STATE:
Colorado

CODE:
08

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:
El Paso County Building

STREET AND NUMBER:
27 East Vermijo Avenue

CITY OR TOWN:
Colorado Springs

STATE:
Colorado

CODE:
08

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Historic American Building Survey Inventory

DATE OF SURVEY: April 10, 1971 Federal State County Local

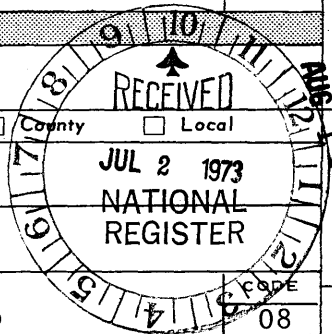
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Colorado State Museum Building

STREET AND NUMBER:
200 Fourteenth Avenue

CITY OR TOWN:
Denver

STATE:
Colorado

CODE:
08



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE:	Colorado
COUNTY:	El Paso
ENTRY NUMBER	
DATE	

FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

(Check One)

Excellent Good Fair Deteriorated Ruins Unexposed

(Check One)

Altered Unaltered

(Check One)

Moved Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

The McAllister House was designed in 1873 by architect George Sommers of Philadelphia and reflects an English vogue for Gothic Architecture. The house is a two story five room structure whose T-shape floor plan bears great resemblance to Isaac Hobbs' description of a "Cottage in the Pointed Style" as given in his book Villas, Cottages, and Other Edifices. The house is of red common brick imported from Philadelphia and set in common bond, appointed on the corners with white quoins of vermiculated stone. The walls are of double thickness. The roof is wood shingled and hipped gable in shape. The white roof trim sports a cornice with a boxed sloped soffit and a plain freize. A simply carved bargeboard set in several inches decorates the projecting eaves. Over the porch roof of the west facade, a distinctive triangular dormer frames a Gothic window. The east porch is topped by a hipped gable dormer. Both porches are distinguished by their decorated wooden posts, carved brackets, and gray painted wood floors. All of the windows are set off by lintels and lugsills of vermiculated stone matching the quoins, and flanked by heavy brown wooden shutters. The windows are double sashed and double hung, and reach from floor to ceiling in most cases. The window on the front west facade is capped by a hipped and shingled hood supported by posts and brackets which match those of the porches. On the first floor of the house a bay window distinguishes the south facade with its hipped and shingled roof and vertical plank walls. The double doors leading into the front hall from both porches are wooden, recessed in a plain embrasure, with plain lights or transoms. The west door boasts a double panel decorated and raised. There are two brick chimneys, one straddling the center of the west facade and one to the rear center of the east facade.

The interior of the house has been restored as much as possible to its original colors, wallpaper design, and furnishing by the Colonial Dames. It is distinguished by a small kitchen annex in the east facade, painted brown wood flooring throughout, and three fine neo-classic white marble fireplaces from Philadelphia. The house has gas hot-air heating and concealed modern utilities.

The house occupies lots 5 through 8 and the south half of lot 4 of Block 41 with 112 feet frontage and 190 feet depth. The property was appraised in 1958 at \$53,000 and includes the original white clapboard stable house, now used as the business headquarters, and a small white clapboard addition, now used as a gift shop. The buildings are all in excellent condition on the exterior and the interior, the grounds are well-kept, though the gardens are not original. The English influence in architecture can be seen throughout the Colorado Springs area in buildings dating from the nineteenth century. The McAllister House is a fine example of this period and style in Colorado Springs residential architecture.

SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1873

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The McAllister House is one of the three oldest houses in the Pikes Peak Region; the only one to be open to the public and maintained as a Museum; the only one to have been restored to its original architectural plan, which gives it considerable significance.

Major Henry McAllister, who built the house in 1873-74, was a close associate of General William J. Palmer, the founder of Colorado Springs, and carried much of the load of the organization and management of the Colorado Springs Company. Major McAllister played a prominent part in the political, civic, and social life of the community, of the State of Colorado. He served on the Board of Directors of the company that built the Denver and Rio Grande Railroad, as general counsel to that company, as town manager, as delegate to the National Republican Convention in Cincinnati in 1876, as editor of the local newspaper "Out West" later the "Gazette", and as one of the largest contributors to the construction of the first school house and later as a member of the board of education. His son, Henry McAllister, Jr. was also a prominent Colorado citizen, acting as counsel for the D & RG R.R. and for the Bonfils Estate and El Pomar Foundation (which society bought the House for the Society of Colonial Dames). He was also recognized as the dean of the Colorado legal profession, by his associates.

McAllister employed the architect whom Palmer had brought from Philadelphia to serve the early townspeople; and he brought the brick used in the house from Philadelphia, because local brick was of inferior quality. The three white marble neo-classic fireplaces were also brought from Philadelphia. As far as we can ascertain, it is the only one of architect George Sommers' houses still left standing. It is excellent in form and proportion--a fine example of late Victorian architecture.

The House is presently owned and maintained by the National Society of Colonial Dames in the State of Colorado, whose goal is to preserve the House in the best manner possible. It is a spot of considerable tourist interest and a documentary of the style of living of the Victorian era for many future generations. Many young visitors, such as Girl Scout troupes, school children, and a variety of organizations include it annually in their civic interest tours. Evidence of its importance to the citizenry is lodged not only in visitor records, but is also found in the substantial gifts and grants it has received from individuals and foundations since it was originally purchased for the Colonial Dames by the El Pomar Foundation. The spacious grounds protect the House from encroachment, and makes an ideal place for meetings of local citizens as well as out of town visitors.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Fisher, J.S., A Builder of the West. Caldwell, Idaho; Caxton Printers, 1939.

Ruhtenberg, Polly King & Dorothy E. Smith, Henry McAllister: Colorado Pioneer. Pine Hill Press, Freeman, South Dakota, 1972.

Sprague, Marshall, Newport in the Rockies. Chicago; Swallow Press Inc. Centennial Edition, 1971.

_____. The McAllister Bible. Philadelphia, 1870.

_____. Rocky Mountain News. Articles in the issues of Oct. 1, 1872; May 13, 1873; Feb. 17, 1874; Jan. 17, 1877; July 21, 1954; May 21, 1961.

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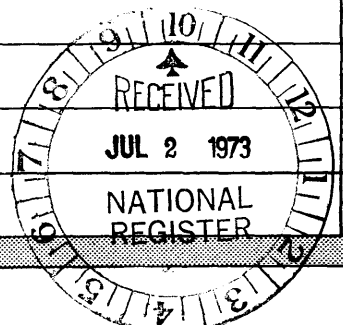
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	° ' "	° ' "		38	50	24
NE	° ' "	° ' "		104	00	00
SE	° ' "	° ' "			49	27
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **one half acre**

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: **Cynthia Emrick Preservation Assistant**

ORGANIZATION: **Colorado State Historical Society** DATE: **June 18, 1973**

STREET AND NUMBER: **200 Fourteenth Avenue, State Museum Building**

CITY OR TOWN: **Denver** STATE: **Colorado** CODE: **08**

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name: *Stephen A. Hart*

Title: *State Liaison Officer*

Date: *6/28/73*

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Robert H. Utley
 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: *6/14/73*

ATTEST: *[Signature]*
 Keeper of the National Register

Date: *8 2 73*