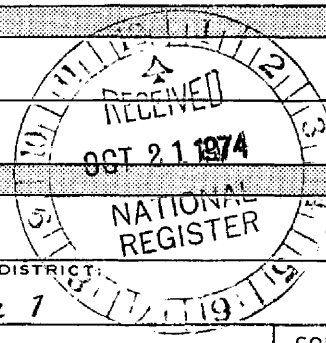


PH0066478

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Colorado
 COUNTY: Denver
 FOR NPS USE ONLY
 ENTRY DATE: NOV 20 1974



1. NAME

COMMON: International House
 AND/OR HISTORIC: William G. Fisher Mansion

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: 1600 Logan St.
 CITY OR TOWN: Denver CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: Number 7
 STATE: Colorado COUNTY: Denver
 CODE: 08 CODE: 031

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Educational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input 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"/> Comments <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <u>office building</u> <u>International culture clubs</u>

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: Mr. and Mrs. Howard R. Cherne
 STREET AND NUMBER: 25 So. Dahlia Street
 CITY OR TOWN: Denver STATE: Colorado CODE: 08

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Tax Assessor's Office - Clement's Addition
 STREET AND NUMBER: City and County Building
 CITY OR TOWN: Denver STATE: Colorado CODE: 08

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: Historic American Buildings Survey
 DATE OF SURVEY: April, 1967 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: Denver
 ENTRY NUMBER: NOV 20 1974
 DATE: NOV 20 1974
 FOR NPS USE ONLY

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

(Check One)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated
(Check One)		(Check One)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Fisher mansion is a three-storey building of the Neo-Classical Revival style. Built of Coal Creek lava, a highly polished stone quarried near Denver, it is simple in effect with broad expanses of plain wall surface and level roof lines. Relieving the austerity are insets of hand-carved stone of contrasting color and artistic design set in the third storey walls. The huge arched front door is matched in grandeur by the front portico which occupies the center third of the front (West) facade. The two-storey semi-circular portico, which forms a balcony for the third-storey, is supported by two huge Doric columns at the front of the portico, and two pilasters at the rear. Below the columns, one on either side of the stairs leading to the portico, sit two carved stone lions.

A two-storey high portico projects from the south facade. It is supported by four columns, and also is topped by a stone railing, forming a balcony for the third storey on that side. To the north, is a one-storey wing of the same lava stone which houses the ballroom (converted to auditorium) and stage.

The classical detailing on the building is careful and complete, giving it a feeling of severe grandeur.

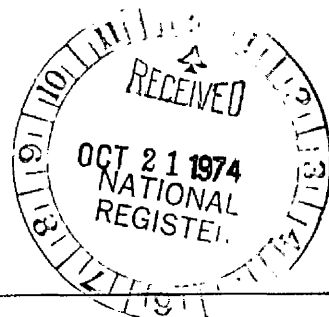
Though some interior changes have been made, as noted in the Statement of Significance, this description in Denver's Historic Mansions, written by Edith Eudora Kohl in 1957 gives a glimpse of the beauty of the home as the Fishers knew it.

"No expense had been spared in the building of this home, and it was the interior that made the Fisher house a fabulous showplace.

"In addition to the solid walnut and mahogany finish used in the building of stairways and reception hall, many rooms were finished in bird's-eye maple and rosewood. A great library and host drawing-room on the third floor, where the host could entertain his friends, were paneled in solid mahogany. William Garrett Fisher had spent a fortune collecting original paintings by famous artists.

"The art gallery and ballroom, added later as a special wing, is said to have cost \$75,000 although it was built in a day of cheap labor and materials. The walls of this wing are finished in rich satinwood imported directly from Argentina, highly polished and hand-carved French mirrors sixteen feet high are impaneled in the walls. At one end is a huge stage with special artistic lighting features; this stage accommodates a full orchestra and boasts a full-sized motion picture screen."

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



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)

1896

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input 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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Mr. William Garrett Fisher was attracted to Colorado not because of gold but because of the profits to be made in merchandising. He was born in 1844 in Cambridge, New York, served in the Civil War in the Black Horse Cavalry, and later worked in Iowa City with W. B. Daniels. When Daniels opened a store in Denver in 1870 Fisher became an employee. In 1872 he became Daniels' partner. In 1873 he married Mary Frances Cherry. Mr. Fisher served as first Vice President of the Consolidated Electric Light Co. and originated the "Festival of Mountain and Plain", which became an annual affair. He left his greatest achievement in the Daniels and Fishers Store and the tower which still rises over Denver's downtown area. His death in 1897 came just a year after the home on Logan St. was finished. His wife added the annex at a cost of \$75,000.

There have been five owners since the Fishers. In 1922 it was used by the Colorado National Bank for offices and the University of Healing Arts as a Chiropractic clinic. In 1942 The Brotherhood of the White Temple owned the house. The Rocky Mtn. Motor Tariff Bureau owned it in 1947, and Howard R. and Beulah D. Cherne bought it in 1957. It is now used as the International House restaurant and club and the 3rd floor is rented out as office space.

The house itself has been much changed since the grand days of the Fishers.* The exterior, with its cut lava stone, is eroded badly. Of note on the interior is the carved mahogany stairway with beautiful crests and shields, the hand-carved built-in buffet with beveled glass and mirrors, the breakfast room of walnut paneling with an attractive fireplace. The wood flooring is covered by linoleum in the hallways. Much of the paneling elsewhere has been painted. The fixtures are not original. The annex has been completely altered, and though it could still seat 200 people there is no grandeur or elegance. International House does not seem interested in the building's history and in preservation of its features whenever possible and practical.

*Note: The author is referring to interior rather than exterior changes.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Denver Post clippings, DPL
Denver's Historic Mansions Edith Kohl
Rocky Mountain News, DPL and State Hist. Soc. Library
 Historic American Building Survey Records

HB
 13 / 501600
 4397750

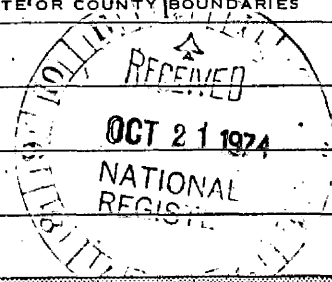
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

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	°	'	"	°	'	"	39°	44'	32"
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"	104°	58'	55"
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"			
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"			

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: approx 1 acre

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Evelyn Mishur - Preservation Volunteer

ORGANIZATION: Colorado State Historical Society DATE: Aug. 20, 1974

STREET AND NUMBER: 200 Fourteenth Ave. State Museum Building

CITY OR TOWN: Denver STATE: Colorado CODE: 08

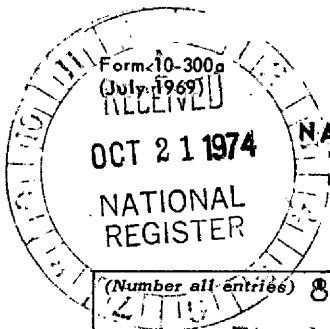
12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

<p>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:</p> <p>National <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> Local <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Name: <u>[Signature]</u></p> <p>Title: <u>Colorado State Liaison Officer</u></p> <p>Date: <u>10/14/74</u></p>	<p>I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.</p> <p><u>[Signature]</u> Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation</p> <p>Date: <u>11/20/74</u></p> <p>ATTEST:</p> <p><u>[Signature]</u> Keeper of The National Register</p> <p>Date: <u>11.14.74</u></p>
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STATE Colorado	
COUNTY Denver	
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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)



(Number all entries) 8. Statement of Significance

It should be noted that though the remainder of the Daniels and Fisher store in downtown Denver was razed as part of Denver's Urban Renewal program, the tower of the building was saved and designated as a Denver Historic Landmark in 1968. It is also on the National Register of Historic Places. As Edith Kohl notes, "When Fisher built his fabulous mansion, 1600 Logan Street became a landmark of the merchant king just as the store's tower had been for years. The designer was Frank E. Edbrooke, who built the Tabor Opera House of Denver, nationally famed for its lavish features."

In his recent work, Historic Denver, The Architects and The Architecture, 1858-1893, Richard Brettell discusses the significance of Edbrooke and his architecture to Denver:

"There were three major architects in nineteenth century Denver: Frank E. Edbrooke, William Lang, and Robert Roeschlaub... These three architects stand without question as the strongest architects of the city during their lives—architects whose works were constantly mimicked, copied, and challenged by their lesser contemporaries.

"Frank E. Edbrooke (1840-1918) was almost single-handedly responsible for the architectural maturity of Denver's Downtown in the late 1880's and 1890's."

Edbrooke designed the Fisher mansion in about 1895. Though different from his eclectic and exuberant pre-crash buildings, it is equally expressive of the mood of the city as it settled down to a more sober and solemn existence. As Brettell states, "Frank E. Edbrooke survived the crash of 1893 with some success. His prominence in the city was preserved, and he was the pre-eminent architect of post-crash Denver as he had been the pre-eminent architect of pre-crash Denver. His buildings of the later nineties and the early years of the twentieth century are noticeably blander and probably poorer than his commercial structures of the late eighties and early nineties, but they are in no way bad buildings. Edbrooke participated in the broad evolution into a drier and more appropriate architecture which characterized almost all the architecture in America of the 1890's. He, like most of the architects of his generation who lived into the twentieth century, concentrated his efforts to refine, consolidate, and civilize American architecture. The architecture in America at the end of the century was good, solid, respectable, and almost self-consciously dull architecture, an architecture which ended an old century more than it began a new one."

The work of William Garrett Fisher still lives on in Denver. Though the May Company, a national department store chain, bought the Daniels and Fisher store, it was stipulated to that, in this area, the store would be named the May-D&F, and that

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Colorado	
COUNTY Denver	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	NOV 20 1974

(Number all entries) 8. Statement of Significance (Cont. Sheet #2)

is what it and its many branches in the Denver area are still called. Fisher's dream of a great merchandising mart, growing with the West just as he had, has come true.

The importance of preserving this stately mansion which sits with pride in the deteriorating Capitol Hill district cannot be overstated. It is a landmark of the city, both because of its owner and its architect. Perhaps Edith Kohl's comment concerning the carved lions which still guard the entrance to the mansion best sums up the importance of this building as a symbol of the spirit which made Fisher, and the city of Denver in that era, great: "The stone lions at the doorway became a symbol for these Empire builders -- some said they denoted strength and fearlessness to achieve."

