

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	SEP 26 1979
DATE ENTERED	NOV 14 1979

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

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

1 NAME

HISTORIC
Denver Athletic Club
AND/OR COMMON
D.A.C.

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
1325 Glenarm Place
CITY, TOWN
Denver
STATE
Colorado
VICINITY OF
1
COUNTY
Denver
CODE
08
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
1
CODE
C31

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER: ath- letics social

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
Denver Athletic Club Inc.
STREET & NUMBER
1325 Glenarm Street
CITY, TOWN
Denver
STATE
Colorado

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.
City and County Building Annex
STREET & NUMBER
1445 Cleveland Place
CITY, TOWN
Denver
STATE
Colorado

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
Colorado Inventory of Historic Sites (16/01/0289)
DATE
Ongoing
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 type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input 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

Located in downtown Denver at 1325 Glenarm Place, the Denver Athletic Club is a single detached structure built roughly in the shape of a rectangle, measuring approximately one hundred and twelve feet by two hundred and sixteen feet. The structure has six stories set over two partial basements. Originally designed by E. Philip Varian and Frederick J. Sterner, a part of the structure was erected in 1889--1890 and reflects a variety of architectural styles, most notably Romanesque. The main or east facade has eighteen bays facing the street with an additional variation of four to seven bays on the newer southeastern wing. There are four bays on the north side, four bays on the south side and approximately seven bays on the rear or west side of the building. The Club is actually a combination of three buildings due to new additions and a fire in 1951 which destroyed one half of the structure. The front northeastern facade (with ten bays) is the only original part of the 1889 building. The first two floors are of Arizona natural brown sandstone with the superstructure made of Kansas City pressed brick, relieved by masses of dressed brownstone. The 1924 addition (on the southwest side facing Glenarm Street) with eight bays was constructed as an integral part of the 1889 structure and was completely fireproof. Complete remodeling of the interior was done after the 1951 fire and a new modern athletic facility was added on the south side in 1972. The roof is flat.

The original entrance is a large attractive semi-circular arch with radiating voussoirs made of sandstone. All the windows on the front facade are double-hung. The windows on the first story are rectangular, flat with no designs or sills. Those on the second story are semi-circular with transom with radiating voussoirs over each bay. The third story windows are red brick rectangular, flat with no sills, and capped with smoothed dressed sandstone lintels. The fourth floor semi-circular arched windows with transom are capped again with radiating voussoirs and dressed sandstone slipsills. The fifth story windows have twice as many bays as the preceding floors with dressed sandstone slipsills and decorative elements between the openings. The sixth floor windows are a somewhat new addition, probably done in the 1950s.

There are many decorative elements to the building. Aside from the contrast between the red sandstone and reddish-brown pressed brick with sandstone trimmings, the roof cornice rests on supporting brackets - a decorative element again repeated under the sixth floor windows. The cornice is also boxed, decorated and frieze decorated. A series of belt courses divide the sandstone from the brick and within the upper story recessed arches are some more brackets to further enhance the carved trimmings.

Little of the interior remains the same due to remodeling and the 1951 fire, but the club still reflects much of its earlier grandeur with hardwood floors, overstuffed chairs and "unsurpassed facilities for everything in the way of indoor athletics."

8 SIGNIFICANCE

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

SPECIFIC DATES 1889 - present BUILDER/ARCHITECT E. P. Varian and Frederick J. Sterner

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Denver Athletic Club is significant for its role in the development of organized athletics and as a pioneer social organization in the Denver area. The building's architecture also reflects the work of two of Denver's finest architects, E. Philip Varian and Frederick J. Sterner.

As the Denver Republican stated in 1891, "The Denver Athletic Club is the finest organization of its kind between Chicago and San Francisco." It was also one of the "most prosperous." It was incorporated in 1884 by five men who were interested in pursuing indoor and outdoor athletics. As interest in the club developed both socially and athletically, the organization needed larger headquarters than those they shared at the old Baptist Church. Plans were drawn up by Varian and Sterner, and the new headquarters were built in 1889 at 1325 Glenarm Street. As the city grew, so did the club. It became a prominent meeting place for many of the city's business, cultural, social, as well as, most importantly, athletic affairs. It was a representative institution that kept pace with the advances of the city and state. Although "some of the greatest baseball, football, wrestling and boxing teams in Denver history were D.A.C.," the club was not limited to athletics alone. As the Denver Post described it, "Statesmen, philosophers, writers, artists, industrial tycoons - the club was familiar to them, for here the grace of social elbow-rubbing was a practiced, and not forgotten, art." Throughout its long history, the Denver Athletic Club has been comprised of some of the city's outstanding business and professional leaders and has always held a very prominent place in the ever growing Denver.

Architecturally, the Denver Athletic Club is a fine example of the work of Varian and Sterner. The large entrance arch is particularly attractive because of "its proportions and artistically carved trimmings - the arrangement of the windows into tiers leading to, and capped by the arches of the fourth story, with the cornice effect above giving an appearance of massiveness to the entire structure." Varian and Sterner were also the architects on the Daniels and Fisher Building; and Sterner alone designed "two of the greatest houses still standing in Denver - The Daniel Tears home and the Cuthbert home," as well as the Denver Club building and the Antlers Hotel in Colorado Springs. Architecturally, as well as socially and athletically, the Denver Athletic Club has held a place of esteem in Denver's history since 1890.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Denver Republican, various issues, 1890-1898.
Denver Post, various issues.
Denver Times, various issues, 1891-1902.
Rocky Mountain News, various issues.
Western Architect and Building News, various issued, March, October, 1890.

UTM NOT VERIFIED

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than 1

QUADRANGLE NAME Englewood

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24,000

UTM REFERENCES

A 1,3 5,0,0 5,9,0 4,3 9,8 8,7,0
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C

D

E

F

G

H

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

- (1) Lots 28-32 inclusive, North 5 feet of Lot 27, Block 171, East Denver.
- (2) Lots 17-26 inclusive, Southwest 20 feet of Lot 27, Block 171, East Denver.

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

Elizabeth B. Lutz

ORGANIZATION

Junior League

DATE

April 20, 1979

STREET & NUMBER

144 Race Street

TELEPHONE

(303) 399-3193

CITY OR TOWN

Denver

STATE

Colorado 80206

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. Johnson

TITLE State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

Sept. 17, 1979

FDR NPS USE ONLY

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

Carol O. Shull
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

11-14-79

ATTEST:

William H. Graham
CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

DATE

11-7-79