

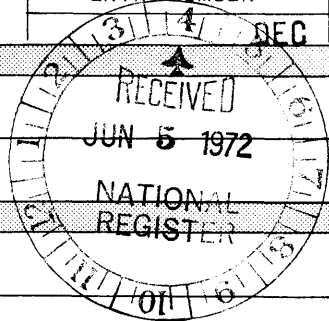
Form 10-300
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	Colorado	
COUNTY:	Clear Creek	
FOR NPS USE ONLY		
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE	
	DEC 5	1972



1. NAME

COMMON: McClellan House

AND/OR HISTORIC: McClellan House

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: 919 Taos Street

CITY OR TOWN: Georgetown

STATE: Colorado CODE: 08 COUNTY: Clear Creek CODE: 019

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious		
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific		

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: Dr. Benjamin Poff Draper

STREET AND NUMBER: 110 Longfellow Road

CITY OR TOWN: Mill Valley STATE: California CODE: 06

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Clear Creek County Court House

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Georgetown STATE: Colorado CODE: 08

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: Town map, 1867; Town Plat, 1874

DATE OF SURVEY: 1867 and 1874 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Clear Creek County Court House

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Georgetown STATE: Colorado CODE: 08

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Colorado

COUNTY: Clear Creek

ENTRY NUMBER: DEC 5 1972

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DATE

7. DESCRIPTION

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

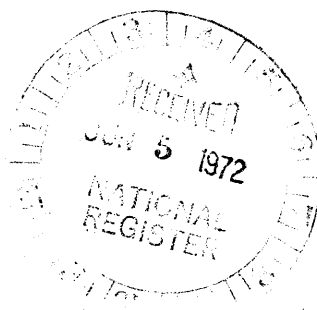
DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The McClellan House is a 2 story rectangular frame building constructed of whip-sawn boards, beneath a gable roof. The exterior wall boards are sealed with strips of flattened tin cans applied directly to the vertical joints. Designed as an 8-room boarding house, the building was originally divided in half structurally. Within this plan, each half was serviced by its own entry, central hall and stairway. Alterations include the removal of one stairwell (and corresponding partitions on each floor), relocation of one exterior entrance and the construction of a narrow, one story addition at the rear of the building.

Although basically unimaginative in plan, the profuse application of wood ornament to exterior wall surfaces distinguishes the McClellan House from its neighbors. The pattern and design of exterior ornament is, however, wholly the product of Erskine McClellan's imagination, without reference, in the combination of elements, to any one particular style of architecture.

According to the present owner, McClellan operated a wood-working shop at the rear boundary of his property. In this shop he produced ornamental wood quoins and curvilinear window caps, in addition to rows of board sawn to form an ornamental edge, which he applied horizontally to the gable ends of the house. A very simple bargeboard trims the gable roof edge above. Paint, applied with imagination, accentuates ornamental details on all facades.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input checked="" 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) **ca. 1865**

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

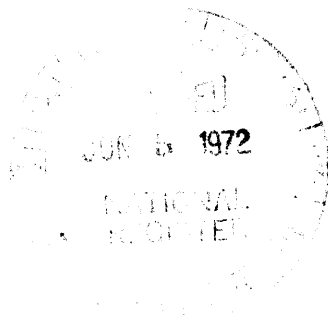
- | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <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 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 type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

County records indicate that Erskine and Job McClellan were among the first wave of miners to settle in Clear Creek County following the momentous silver strike of 1864. Sometime between that date and 1866, when tax records first document existence of the building, Erskine McClellan completed construction of a two-story, eight-room boarding house in lower Georgetown, on Taos Street. Later, McClellan built an opera house at the corner of Taos and Alpine Streets which, according to local sources, was similar in design and ornament to the boarding house, although grander in scale. The McClellan Opera House was destroyed by fire in 1892.

Although most commonly accorded significance either as the one surviving building associated with Erskine McClellan, founding manager of the renowned McClellan Opera House, or as the oldest surviving residence in Georgetown, the McClellan House merits, in addition, recognition as an architectural landmark. Even though more sophisticated houses were constructed within the next decade by miners more successful than Erskine McClellan, none possess the primitive charm of McClellan's hand-crafted creation. As an expression of one man's imagination, the McClellan House is unique.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Cushman, Samuel. THE MINES OF CLEAR CREEK COUNTY, COLORADO. Denver: Times Steam Printing House, 1876.

Draper, Benjamin Poff. "Cultural Life in Georgetown, Colorado, 1859-1900." Unpublished Master's thesis, University of Denver, 1936.

Horner, John Willard. SILVER TOWN. Caldwell, Idaho: Caxton Printers, 1950.

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 4394600
 440390

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE			LONGITUDE		
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	0	'	"	39	0	42 . 31.5
NE	0	'	"	105	0	41 . 42 "
SE	0	'	"			
SW	0	'	"			

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **less than one (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:
Susan A. Nieminen, Assistant to the Director

ORGANIZATION: **State Historical Society of Colorado** DATE: **15 May 1972**

STREET AND NUMBER:
200 Fourteenth Avenue

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

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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 H. Hart*
Stephen H. Hart

Title: Colorado State Liaison Officer

Date: 22 May 1972

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

Robert M. Utley
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 12/5/72

ATTEST:
William J. Smiley
 Keeper of The National Register

Date: 11-30-72