

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

For NPS use only

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

received APR 18 1984

date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Joseph A. Woodbury House

and/or common Joseph A. Woodbury House

2. Location

street & number 1124 Seventh Street n/a not for publication

city, town Greeley n/a vicinity of

state Colorado code 08 county Weld code 123

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input 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"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	n/a in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	n/a being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: vacant

4. Owner of Property

name Robert L. Beighley

street & number 3395 Eastman Avenue

city, town Boulder n/a vicinity of state Colorado

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Weld County Recorder's Office

street & number

city, town Greeley state Colorado

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Colorado Inventory of Historic Sites has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date Ongoing federal state county local

depository for survey records Office of Archaeology & Historic Preservation, 1300 Broadway

city, town Denver state Colorado 80203

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Joseph A. Woodbury House is a one and one half story frame cottage, Gothic in form, dating to 1870. It is located near downtown Greeley, approximately three blocks from the Weld County Courthouse and one-half block from Greeley's original high school. The Woodbury House is the oldest residence in an older, well-kept neighborhood, where it occupies about 1 1/3 of its original two-lot space.

The building faces north toward Seventh Street and is somewhat symmetrical in appearance. It is characterized by a projecting central bay, which extends above the first floor to become a projecting gable, with a round-arched window centered in the middle and a decorative apex detail. The entrance is composed of double doors. To the east of the door, on the east end of the front wall, is a double hung window. The window on the west end has been altered. A one-story Colonial Revival porch with a central projecting pediment covers the first floor. In that the porch covers the front door transom, it is felt to be a later addition.

The east wall has a projecting bay on the first floor and double arched windows centered in the upper gable. The gable has a decorative apex detail. Adjoining the south wall is a one-story addition, with a bay at the south end of the east wall.

Extending to the west off the rear addition is another frame shed addition.

On the west wall is a window centered at the first level and, directly above, another at attic level. A decorative apex remains.

The original floor plan of the interior remains intact. The first floor of the 1 1/2 story section contains a front vestibule, which leads into a large living room, behind which is another room. One room is placed on the west side of the house. In the one-story addition, there are two rooms, one of which is the kitchen. Most of the window and door molding survives, with remnants of the baseboard with a molded cap also remaining.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
___ prehistoric	___ archeology-prehistoric	___ community planning	___ landscape architecture	___ religion
___ 1400-1499	___ archeology-historic	___ conservation	___ law	___ science
___ 1500-1599	___ agriculture	___ economics	___ literature	___ sculpture
___ 1600-1699	<u>XX</u> architecture	___ education	___ military	___ social/
___ 1700-1799	___ art	___ engineering	___ music	___ humanitarian
<u>XX</u> 1800-1899	___ commerce	___ exploration/settlement	___ philosophy	___ theater
___ 1900-	___ communications	___ industry	___ politics/government	___ transportation
		___ invention		___ other (specify)

Specific dates 1870-71 **Builder/Architect** Unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Joseph Woodbury House, constructed in 1870-71, is one of the better examples of a Gothic cottage in Greeley, an agricultural community in north central Colorado.

The town was founded in 1870 by the Union Colony, a group of settlers organized by Nathan Meeker, a farm columnist for the New York Tribune, and Horace Greeley, owner of the Tribune. Meeker had advertised for subscribers to join the colony in 1869 with the intent of establishing a settlement in the rich flat land in the South Platte River Valley, some 45 miles north of Denver. Named for its patron, Greeley was seen as having exciting farming potential.¹

In May 1870, the first party of Union Colony settlers arrived, numbering around fifty. In the following months, several hundred others came, mainly from New England, New York, Ohio and Indiana, the majority of which were farmers. By 1871, the population had risen to 1,155.²

A likely recruit for the colony was Joseph A. Woodbury, from Beverly, Massachusetts. Born in 1832, it is said Woodbury apprenticed as a carpenter from 1850-53 in Chelsea, Massachusetts. After his move to Greeley in 1870, it is said he worked as a builder, responsible for the construction of the Greeley High School in 1872-74. He was to become Greeley's first chief of the fire department. In 1873, '86, '87, and '88, he was a member of the city council. In 1890, he was elected mayor, and elected again in 1897.³

The Woodbury House is located in an older neighborhood near the downtown commercial district of Greeley. The house is one of the earliest residences in the town and one of the best remaining examples of Gothic styling in Greeley. With its steeply pitched intersecting gables, the house is a clear representative of vernacular interpretation of Gothic architecture as would be expected to be found in the smaller communities of Colorado.

¹Marshall Sprague, p.60.

²Wilbur Stone, p.160

³Information provided by Robert Beighley, Boulder, Colorado, 1983.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Sprague, Marshall. Colorado A Bicentennial History.

Stone, Wilbur F. History of Colorado. Vol. I. Chicago: J. Publishing Company, 1918.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property .10

Quadrangle name Greeley, Colorado

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References

A

1	3	5	2	5	7	3	0	4	4	7	4	8	4	0
Zone		Easting						Northing						

B

Zone		Easting						Northing						

C

Zone		Easting						Northing						

D

Zone		Easting						Northing						

E

Zone		Easting						Northing						

F

Zone		Easting						Northing						

G

Zone		Easting						Northing						

H

Zone		Easting						Northing						

Verbal boundary description and justification

The East 25 feet of Lot Four (4) and the West $\frac{1}{2}$ of Lot Three (3) Block Forty-Seven (47) in the City of Greeley.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state n/a code county code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Gloria Mills and Robert Beighley

organization Office of Archaeology & Historic Preservation

date January 18, 1984

street & number 1300 Broadway

telephone (303) 866-3394

city or town Denver

state Colorado 80203

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

Barbara Sudler

title State Historic Preservation Officer

date 4/10/84

For NPS use only

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

for Alvin Byers
Keeper of the National Register

Entered in the
National Register

date

5/17/84

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration