

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	AUG 7 1979
DATE ENTERED	SEP 14 1979

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

1 NAME

HISTORIC

The McClure House

(Strathmore Hotel)

AND/OR COMMON

The Strathmore Hotel

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

323-331 Main Street

__ NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Canon City

__ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

3

STATE

Colorado

CODE

08

COUNTY

Fremont

CODE

043

CLASSIFICATION

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

OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Dale J. and Gerry K. Grippe

STREET & NUMBER

331 Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Canon City

__ VICINITY OF

STATE

Colorado 81212

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Fremont County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

P.O. Box 349

CITY, TOWN

Canon City

STATE

Colorado 81212

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Colorado Inventory of Historic Sites (#22/07/0003)

DATE

Ongoing

__ FEDERAL STATE __ COUNTY __ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Colorado Historical Society; 1300 Broadway

CITY, TOWN

Denver

STATE

Colorado 80203

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input checked="" 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 at the corner of 4th and Main Streets in Canon City, the Strathmore Hotel is a single, tripartite structure built roughly in the shape of an "L". The three parts are the main section, a three-story building standing at the corner; the back section, an attached two story structure with a mansard roof, situated along 4th Street; and the west section, a two story structure attached to the main section on Main Street. The building material is brick set in courses of stretcher bond. Both the main and west sections have two entrances; the back section one entrance. The main or north facade has eighteen bays, the east facade eleven bays. The roof is flat.

The secondary features are not elaborate, but reflect the origin of the structure which dates from the mid-1870s. The windows on the second and third stories are tall, narrow, two-sashed and double-hung. Those along the north facade have decorative treatment consisting of radiating voussoirs with keystone on the second story, and a flat arch with keystone on the third story. Most windows have lugsills. The fenestration of the other sides is much less elaborate. The openings at the street level have all been altered, but still have colored glass in the transoms. At the roof line both the main and west sections have an attractive decorative treatment in their corbelling and cornice work. The structure has two unobtrusive chimneys visible only from the back. The main door sits at an angle on the corner of 4th and Main Streets.

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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES 1872-present BUILDER/ARCHITECT Probably William H. McClure

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The McClure House, also known as the Strathmore Hotel, is significant for its role in commerce in Canon City. The structure is thought to be the oldest building in Colorado used continuously as a hotel. Architecturally, the structure is significant because it is a vestige of the vernacular architecture of the territorial period.

The builder of the hotel was William H. McClure, civic leader and developer in early-day Canon City, a town in the Arkansas River Valley and site of the state penitentiary. It is not certain who designed the hotel, but it was probably McClure himself. In any event he began construction in 1872, the work went slowly, and it was not until 1874 that amidst great fanfare he opened for business. Most people regarded the hotel as very elaborate and comfortable for its time and place. Scarcely a year after McClure opened, a scribe for Pueblo Daily Chieftain observed that it was "the pride of the community" and "the equal to any hotel in Colorado in point of comfort and all that goes to make hotel life pleasant and agreeable." The good service and elaborate interior made it a mecca for important people traveling through Canon City. Yet the McClure was more than a hotel, for it served as a social hub and housed a bank and other business establishments. Twenty years after McClure built the hotel, it was sold to a syndicate headed by the Earl of Strathmore, hence its new name "The Strathmore." Under this management, the building continued to enjoy its reputation for excellence, but as time passed the winds of change carried the hotel into a long period of decline. Yet new owners hope to rescue it from this nadir of fortune.

From an architectural perspective, the hotel reflects the vernacular style of building in early-day Colorado. McClure began construction a scant thirteen years after the gold rush, a time when professional architects were virtually unknown in the Territory. Yet even so, the characteristic features of Victorian architecture can be seen in the tall narrow windows, radiating voussoirs, stone lugsills, and cornice work. Clearly, the structure represents the movement and adaption of contemporary architectural ideas into a relatively undeveloped area of the United States.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Canon City Times, 1872-1874.

Canon City Daily Record, July 12, 1952, and January 2, 1974.

Sandra Dallas, No More Than Five in a Bed (Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1967).

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 0.44

QUADRANGLE NAME Canon City

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24000

UTM REFERENCES

A 1,3 4,7,8 9,2,0 4,2 5,4 4,5,0

B

C

D

E

F

G

H

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The Strathmore Hotel occupies the northwest corner of Main and Fourth streets in Canon City, Colorado. The property is 160' 1" along Main Street and 120' 2" along Fourth Street.

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Theodore B. (Ted) James, Executive Secretary

ORGANIZATION

Fremont-Custer Historical Society, Inc.

DATE

August 25, 1978

STREET & NUMBER

P.O. Box 965

TELEPHONE

Office: (303) 275-2318 Home: (303) 275-5509

CITY OR TOWN

Canon City

STATE

Colorado 81212

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. Jermann

TITLE

DATE

July 30, 1979

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DATE

9-14-79

ATTEST:

William H. Kreamer

DATE

9-11-79

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION