

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED MAY 7 1982

DATE ENTERED JUN 3 1982

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS**1 NAME**

HISTORIC Dow-Rosenzweig House

AND/OR COMMON

Rosenzweig House

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

1129 East 17th Avenue

NA NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

CITY, TOWN

Denver

NA VICINITY OF

1

STATE

Colorado

CODE

08

COUNTY

Denver

CODE

031

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
NA DISTRICT	NA PUBLIC	X OCCUPIED	DA AGRICULTURE NA MUSEUM
X BUILDING(S)	X PRIVATE	NA UNOCCUPIED	X COMMERCIAL NA PARK
NA STRUCTURE	NA BOTH	NA WORK IN PROGRESS	NA EDUCATIONAL NA PRIVATE RESIDENCE
NA SITE	NA PUBLIC ACQUISITION	NA ACCESSIBLE	NA ENTERTAINMENT NA RELIGIOUS
NA OBJECT	NA IN PROCESS	NA YES: RESTRICTED	NA GOVERNMENT NA SCIENTIFIC
	NA BEING CONSIDERED	X YES: UNRESTRICTED	NA INDUSTRIAL NA TRANSPORTATION
		NA NO	NA MILITARY NA OTHER:

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME Industry Media, Inc.

STREET &amp; NUMBER

1129 East 17th Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Denver

NA VICINITY OF

STATE

Colorado

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

City and County Building

STREET &amp; NUMBER

1445 Cleveland Place

CITY, TOWN

Denver

STATE

Colorado

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

Colorado Inventory of Historic Sites

DATE

Ongoing

NA FEDERAL X STATE NA COUNTY NA LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Colorado Historical Society, 1300 Broadway

CITY, TOWN

Denver

STATE

Colorado 80203

## 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
X EXCELLENT	NA DETERIORATED	X UNALTERED
NP GOOD	NP RUINS	X ALTERED
PK FAIR	NA UNEXPOSED	NA ORIGINAL SITE

### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Dow-Rosenzweig house is a 2½ story, detached structure with a 2 story carriage house and a 1 story coal shed on the property. The buildings are of brick except for a 2 story addition built in 1888 at the rear of the house which has wooden siding. The roof of the house is primarily hipped, while the barn roof is gabled.

The house is Victorian eclectic in style and rectangular in shape with the narrow side facing south onto 17th Avenue. There are two entrances to the home, an unelaborated one in the southern facade and an entry under a porch on the long western facade, which looks out over Park Avenue. The porch is Eastlake in style with turned porch posts with patterned brackets, spindles along the porch frieze, and a gabled roof. To one side of the porch is a two story bay, and to the other a two story wing with gable roof. The eastern and rear facade of the house are unadorned except for regular rows of windows and a plain back door. The structure is crowned with a cornice decorated with dentils and bandsaw brackets. Windows are long narrow rectangles with double sashes. Window openings are decorated with rusticated stone labels with keystones and stone sills.

The carriage house is gable-roofed with dormers on the southern facade. It is slightly L-shaped around a small courtyard adjacent to the back entry of the house. The brick coal bin, also at the back of the house, is one story with a shed roof.

The house and shed have been converted to offices with care taken to maintain the integrity of the original design of the structure. The restoration of the building was conducted by the staff and crew used to restore the Ninth Street Park for Historic Denver. In the interior, care was taken to preserve the decorative medallions on the high ceilings, ornate hardware, fine woodwork and gaslights that were all still intact when the building was purchased by its present owners.

## 8 SIGNIFICANCE

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

SPECIFIC DATES

1882

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

Charles L. Dow

### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Dow-Rosenzweig home is significant for several reasons. It is an excellent example of a carpenter-built, vernacular home of the Victorian period, exhibiting the skill of its first owner and builder, Charles L. Dow. It is also significant for its connection with the Rosenzweig family, who occupied the house for over eighty years, and for their famous daughter, Frances Rose, who lived there in her retirement. The structure is also an important visual landmark along Denver's Park Avenue, one of the last Victorians left along this once fashionable street, and its best preserved. The house has already been designated a Denver Landmark.

The house was built in 1882 by Charles L. Dow for his own family. An early Denver history lists him as a mechanic who also was trained in the furniture business. He arrived in Denver in 1879 and established himself in his father's wall paper and paint business. He also speculated extensively in real estate and his own home was one of 25 or 30 that he erected in the city.

Dow sold the home in 1887 to a realtor by the name of Ernest Thomas, who lived in the house for only two years before moving into the home next door at 1133 E. 17th Avenue, one of the two homes which once stood where there is now a parking lot.

Thomas sold the home in 1888 to the Leopold Rosenzweig family, who occupied the house until the family's last member passed away in 1970. After purchasing the home, the Rosenzweigs remodeled it. They had the frame addition added with a bedroom upstairs and moved the kitchen to the back of the house, leaving more space for a large dining room and a fashionable front and back parlor. There is documentation which suggestss that the renowned Denver architect, William Lang supervised the remodeling. The elaborate side porch may have been added at this time. The carriage house was built in the late 1890's to replace a less imposing stable which had housed the family's cow and three horses.

Leopold Rosenzweig and his wife Berthat had seven daughters and two sons, some grown and married, when they moved to Denver. Their last child, Daniel, was born in the house in 1888. Denver became the family's permanent home only after many previous stops. Leopold Rosenzweig was born into a Jewish family with the surname Juif who lived in Russian-occupied Poland. At eighteen he was drafted into the Russian army, which demanded twenty-five years of service in those days. During the Crimean War in 1855, he deserted and made his way across Europe with a fake passport which gave his name as Leopold Rosenzweig. He ended up in friendly Sweden where he met and married his wife, a Swedish Jew, and fathered the first three of his daughters. He moved his family to England and then in 1869 emigrated to America with the family following in 1872.

## 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Uchill, Ida L. Pioneers, Peddlers, and Tsadikim. Boulder: Quality Line Printing Company, 1957.

Taped interview of Daniel Rosenzweig, 1970, Colorado State Historic Society

Denver newspapers, early biographies, and directories.

## 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 2 3 9 0 4 3 9 9 1 0 0

C ZONE EASTING NORTHING

E 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

G 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

B 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

D ZONE EASTING NORTHING

F 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

H 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

W ½ of L 16 to 19 inc, Blk 16 Park Avenue Addition

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

STATE

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

STATE

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

N/A

N/A

## 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Sharon Elfenbein

ORGANIZATION

Home Histories

STREET & NUMBER

170 Lafayette Street

CITY OR TOWN

Denver

DATE

October, 1980

TELEPHONE

722-8162

STATE

Colorado

## 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL NA

STATE NA

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. Immund*

TITLE

State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

3-27-82

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

Entered in the

National Register

DATE

6/3/82

ATTEST:

*Delores Boyer*

Keeper of the National Register

DATE

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

**United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

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

Continuation sheet	Significance	Item number	8	Page	2
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The Rosenzweigs lived in towns in New York and Pennsylvania before moving to Cleveland. Leopold spent several years in Texas in the business of buying horses from Mexico to be sold in the Kansas City markets. Then, crippled with rheumatism, he moved to Denver in 1887 for his health, with the family following soon after. His health recovered, he made a living in Denver in the hauling business and in real estate speculation.

The most famous member of the Rosenzweig family was the daughter Frances, who under the name of Frances Rose, became one of the world's leading Wagnerian sopranos. She studied in Cleveland and then Vienna where she received the offer of prima donna of the Breslau Opera. In America she had refused a handsome offer from the Metropolitan Opera because she wished to be with her husband, Theodore Konrad, who was a tenor with the Swedish Royal Opera Company. She was first soprano for the Royal Opera in Berlin for seven years, traveled with Richard Strauss throughout Europe, and sang before the King and Queen of England, Prince Henry of Prussia, and other crowned heads. World War I interrupted her career in Europe and she sang for a time with the Chicago Grand Opera Company. Her husband died in 1921. When she retired in 1936, she moved back to Denver and lived in the family home until her death in 1956.

Leopold Rosenzweig died in 1923, his wife predeceasing him by fourteen years. Two unmarried daughters, Josie and Sadie, and Daniel, except for the few years of his marriage, continued to occupy the house. The sisters died in the 1960's and Dan in 1970, after which the house was bought and remodeled for offices.