

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

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

For NPS use only  
received APR 18 1984  
date entered

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

**1. Name**

historic Dr. Frank Finney House

and/or common Hofmann-Collins House

**2. Location**

street & number 608 Belleview Avenue n/a not for publication

city, town La Junta n/a vicinity of

state Colorado code 08 county Otero code 089

**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"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>n/a</u> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<u>n/a</u> 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

**4. Owner of Property**

name Dr. Rudolf Hofmann & Dr. Marcia Collins

street & number 608 Belleview Avenue

city, town La Junta n/a vicinity of state Colorado 81050

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Otero County Courthouse

street & number 200 Block, Colorado Avenue

city, town La Junta state Colorado 81050

**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 Colorado Office of Archaeology & Historic Preservation

city, town Denver state Colorado

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## 7. Description

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**Condition**

excellent  
 good  
 fair

deteriorated  
 ruins  
 unexposed

**Check one**

unaltered  
 altered

**Check one**

original site  
 moved      date \_\_\_\_\_

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**Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance**

The Finney House is located on a tree-lined street in an older residential section of La Junta. The 2½ story brick Edwardian vernacular building was constructed in 1899 with elaborate Colonial Revival detailing. The house, asymmetrical with a side gable roof, has as the most dominant features a two-story portico extending across the front facade, and a corner tower at the north end of the front wall. In addition to the classical elements, other trim that adds to the richness of the exterior include stone sills and lintels for most of the bays.

Colonial Revival elements applied to the exterior include a two-story portico supported by three pillars, with an oculus window centered in the modillioned cornice ; a partial balustrade around the portico; a frame entrance element with recessed panels and a shallow balcony; a false balcony under the upper story windows of the corner tower, supported by brackets; Ionic colonnettes separating the four double-hung windows in the corner tower on the first and second floor; and Ionic colonnettes on either side of the arched window on the south wall.

On the south, the upper half of the two-story wrap-around porch has been enclosed. Just west of the porch is a round arched window with stained glass in the lunette and stone arch with keystone. The remaining windows on the wall are square with stone lintels and sills.

At the rear, west facade, a wing extends out from the center of the house to form the kitchen and an open rear porch. On both north and south, where the back addition meets the main house, are further small additions. Another brick chimney protrudes from the roof of this section. A large "H" (for Hofmann) has been fixed to the gable end.

The front entrance contains sidelights composed of elongated ovals of beveled glass. The front entrance opens into a small, oak-paneled foyer. Double oak doors lead into the living room, with a mantel trimmed in brick and molded terra cotta. All the woodwork in the main part of the house is oak, with beading. At the north end of the living room is an ornate wood grill, with wood swags and wreaths superimposed. The oak stairway, leading from the entryway, is composed of slender balusters with heavy newell posts with finials.

Other important rooms downstairs include a dining room with a stained glass window and built-in oak sideboard. Upstairs is a spacious hall with a door opening onto the balcony over the front entrance; five rooms and two baths. The large master bedroom has a fireplace.

## 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/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

**Specific dates** 1899 **Builder/Architect** Architect: Walter Dubree  
 Builder: Blankenship Brothers

**Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)**

Constructed in 1899, the Finney House is a significant historic architectural resource in La Junta's large inventory of turn-of-the century residences. It is the largest historic house in this Plains community and exhibits the most lavishly detailed exterior in town. It is also the outstanding example of Colonial Revival styling in La Junta.

The house was built during an expansive period in La Junta's development. Founded in 1875 as a railroad center, the town grew in the late nineteenth century as a service center for the surrounding area. A prominent member of the community at the time, Dr. Frank Finney, built the residence on Belleview Avenue in time for a Christmas celebration party in 1899. A newspaper story reported that the house cost \$7400, excluding the heating apparatus. The building was considered luxurious by the town, with sumptuous detailing compared to existing residences.

Finney moved to La Junta in 1889 to administer the Santa Fe Railroad hospital. He became district surgeon for the Santa Fe Railroad, and was president of the Colorado Medical Society. He constructed several commercial structures in downtown La Junta; owned a drugstore; and was director and officer in two banking institutions--as well as being founder of one.

Dr. Finney died in 1919. The house remained in the family until 1942 when it was purchased by Edward F. and Rena Woodbridge. In 1955 the house was bought by G. Spencer and Margaret Burtis, which they sold in 1975 to Dr. and Mrs. Ronald Broyles. It was bought in 1979 by Ellen White, who sold it to the present owners, Drs. Hofmann and Collins.

Considered a landmark at the time of its construction, the Finney House remains one of the most important examples of residential architecture in La Junta. The Colonial Revival detailing of the exterior and the richness of the interior trim has defined the house as one of the most significant for its period and style.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet.

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property .4

Quadrangle name La Junta

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

### UTM References

A 

1	3	6	2	7	6	2	0	4	2	0	4	6	4	5
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 nominated property occupies La Junta, Colorado; Block 2, Lots 3,4,5,6 and 7; Mountain View Addition.

### 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 E. Frances Keck, President

organization La Junta Heritage Foundation Inc. date November 22, 1983

street & number 701 Grace Avenue telephone (303) 384-2702

city or town La Junta state Colorado 81050

# 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.

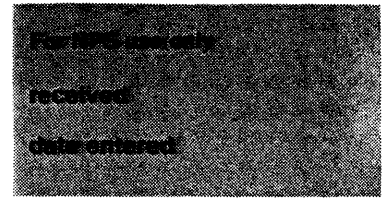
for Alvina Byers  
Keeper of the National Register

Entered in the National Register date 5/17/84

Attest: Chief of Registration date

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Continuation sheet Dr. Frank Finney House

Item number 9

Page 2

"Dr. Frank Finney". Obituary, Otero County Press, March 27, 1919.

La Junta Tribune files, 1899, Woodruff Memorial Library, La Junta.

Interview by Mary Alice Rollins, 1980, with Dr. Rudolf Hofmann and Dr. Marcia Collins.

"Finney House" Survey information, Colorado Preservation Office, Denver, Colorado.