

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

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

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

1. Name

historic Dr. John A. Black House Complex

and/or common Dr. John A. Black House Complex

2. Location

street & number 102 West Pitkin Avenue n/a not for publication

city, town Pueblo n/a vicinity of

state Colorado code 08 county Pueblo code 101

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> museum
structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> park
site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
object	n/a in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
	n/a being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name House: Phylis & George Garcia Ancillary Building: The Estate of Terance Curran

street & number 114 West Pitkin c/o Dave Parlipiano, Attorney
102 West Pitkin, Pueblo, Colorado 81001

city, town Pueblo n/a vicinity of state Colorado 81001

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Pueblo County Courthouse

street & number 10th & Main

city, town Pueblo 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 Colorado Historical Society, OAHP, 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"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Dr. John A. Black House has a prominent location on the southwest corner of the intersection of Colorado and Pitkin avenues in Pueblo, Colorado. It is a 2½-story three bay blonde brick structure with a hipped roof, given a more massive appearance by a two-story front portico. The design of the house expresses many architectural features common to the Foursquare style, including its box-like configuration, its use of dormers, broad overhanging eaves with medallions, a classical frieze, and minimal surface ornamentation. Uncharacteristic to the style is the classical portico dominating the facade. It is rounded at the east end of the front wall and is supported by four fluted Ionic columns. A balcony with a wooden balustrade in a grillwork pattern shelters the central entrance. The doorway is flanked by wide leaded bevel glass sidelights with a transom overhead.

The majority of the bays are rectangular with one over one double-hung sash. One of the distinctive decorative features of the house is the extensive use of stained glass in many of these windows. A Palladian window is placed at the southeast corner of the house.

Adding a sense of monumentality to the building is the use of a stone foundation and the four-step approach to the entrance.

The only major alteration to the exterior of the house was the removal of the porte cochere (date of removal unknown) on the west of the structure.

Much of the interior remains intact. The first has been restored and its appearance reflects its original residential use. The second floor space has been renovated for offices. Features of note on the first floor include oak flooring, oak mantels, oak staircases, and classical oak pillars which serve as room dividers. One of the most interesting details is a red stencil design at cornice level which extends around the living room wall, up the staircase wall and to the attic. There is also extensive use of leaded and stained glass throughout the house.

The residence built for servants' quarters is located to the northwest side of the main house and faces Pitkin Avenue. It is a small 1½-story, brick house with a projecting center gable or dormer on the front facade. The dormer has a shingle covering and a central window. A one-story porch with Ionic columns supporting the pedimented roof covers the front entrance. The building, which dates to the construction of the main house, is considered a contributing element.

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"/>	<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"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science			
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/>	<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"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/			
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian			
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation			
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention			<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)			

Specific dates 1910

Builder/Architect Unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Dr. John A. Black House is of importance for its unusual application of classical detailing to a Foursquare design. The survival of the servants' quarters adds to its value in illustrating a more complete urban residential complex of the early 20th century period.

The original owner, Dr. John Black, was born in Wheeling, West Virginia on October 27, 1853. He studied medicine under a local physician, later entering the medical department of Columbian University in Washington. Two months after his graduation in March of 1882 he moved to Pueblo and opened an office.

Earlier in his career, Black was employed by the Philadelphia Smelting Company and the Denver and Rio Grande Railroad as the company doctor. He was also hired as a medical examiner for the New York Life Insurance Company, the United States Life Insurance, and the Pacific Mutual Insurance Company. On May 23, 1885, he was elected by South Pueblo Council as city physician. Dr. Black is also credited as one of the founders of St. Mary's Sanitarium and Hospital of Pueblo. This historic institution, managed and supported by the Catholic Sisters of Charity, accommodated one hundred patients. With its modern facilities it attracted some of the most talented physicians and surgeons in the state

Always active in the community, Black was elected county coroner in 1889 and remained in that office until 1891. Black was very active in medical societies locally and statewide. In 1912 he was elected president of the Colorado Medical Association.

Known for his generous and philanthropic acts, Dr. Black assisted many young people in furthering their education in the field of medicine. His popularity was evident in the eulogy published in the Pueblo Chieftain upon his death on April 5, 1922. He is characterized as "one of nature's noblemen. . . Few Men passing in Pueblo will be as greatly missed as Dr. John A. Black."

The Black House has architectural interest for its combination of classical and Foursquare elements in the design. It is this treatment of the front facade that makes the house unique among other Foursquares in Pueblo. The wide classical cornice supported by fluted Ionic columns extending the full height of the building adds a sense of monumentality to what would otherwise be a typical Foursquare residential building. The exterior and much of the interior remains intact. The servant's quarters (now under separate ownership) relates somewhat in style to the main house. Classical or Colonial elements are illustrated by the use of Ionic columns supporting the front porch roof and with the cornice return of the front gable.

9. Major Bibliographical References

(see continuation sheet)

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property .43

Quadrangle name NW Pueblo

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References

A	1 3	5 3 2 8 3 0	4 2 3 4 1 6 0
Zone	Easting	Northing	
C			
E			
G			

B			
Zone	Easting	Northing	
D			
F			
H			

Verbal boundary description and justification

Lots 29 to 32, Block 113--South Pueblo. The nominated area includes the main house and the adjacent servants' quarters building.

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

state	n/a	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title	Edward Simonich, Historic Surveyor James F. Munch, Planner	ED: GM
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organization	Pueblo Regional Planning Commission P.O. Box 1427	date 9/27/84
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street & number	1 City Hall Place Pueblo	telephone (303) 543-6006
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city or town	state Colorado
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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

title	State Historic Preservation Officer	date 9-4-85
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For NPS use only

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

Helen Byer
Keeper of the National Register

Entered in the
National Register

date 11-7-85

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

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

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Continuation sheet DR. JOHN A. BLACK HOUSE
 & ANCILLARY BUILDING

Item number 9

Page 2

For NPS use only
received
date entered

- 1) Portraits and Biography Record of the State of Colorado (Chapman Publishing Company), Chicago, Illinois, 1899, pp. 586 and 589.
- 2) Pueblo City Directory, 1886 to 1917 (R. L. Polk Directory Company, Publishers), Franklin Press, 115 Central Block, Pueblo, Colorado.
- 3) Colorado Livestock Review, May 23, 1885, p. 5, c. 1.
- 4) Pueblo Daily Chieftain, November 19, 1910 (Special Edition).
- 5) Pueblo Daily Chieftain, April 6, 1922, p. 10.
- 6) Pueblo Star Journal and Chieftain, July 31, 1977.
- 7) Photograph: "Street Scene, looking north at "B" Street and Union Avenue, showing Strait Block sign of his office in the window.
- 8) Oral Interviews:
 - a) Phyllis Garcia, 102 W. Pitkin, Pueblo, Colorado 81004
 - b) Bud McConnell, 320 Michigan, Pueblo, Colorado 81004
 - c) William Osnowitz, 525 West 8th Street, Pueblo, Colorado 81001