

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

PH0122912 DATA SHEET

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	APR 29 1975
DATE ENTERED	MAY 11 1976

**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

Owen E. LeFevre House

AND/OR COMMON

Owen E. LeFevre House

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

1311 York Street

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Denver

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

VICINITY OF

01

STATE

Colorado

CODE

08

COUNTY

Denver

CODE

031

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 type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER: Alcoholic Anonymous

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

1311 York Club Incorporated

STREET & NUMBER

1311 York Street

CITY, TOWN

Denver

VICINITY OF

STATE

Colorado

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Denver Assessment Division

STREET & NUMBER

1445 Cleveland Place

CITY, TOWN

Denver

STATE

Colorado

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Denver HABS and Historic Preservation Surveys

DATE

1967 & 1973

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Denver Landmark Preservation Commission

CITY, TOWN

1445 Cleveland Place, Room 300, Denver, Colorado

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

EXCELLENT
 GOOD
 FAIR

DETERIORATED
 RUINS
 UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED
 ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The LeFevre House is nearly square in basic plan, three floors plus attic and basement, constructed of red brick. The third floor is incorporated into the main hip roof structure and secondary intersecting hip and gable roofs. The Victorian period design reflects the Romanesque style in the sandstone foundation, sills, lintels, stringcourses and coping as well as in some treatment of openings. The east front facade of the primary structure is symmetric with the double entry door set in a slightly projecting bay, reached across a wide veranda from broad steps. The veranda, which extends full width across the east front and around nearly the length of the south side, has foundation and balustrade of sandstone; wood columns and eave trim of simple design. At the southwest corner of the house is a three story projecting bay, part circular, part rectangular, topped with a conical roof. The veranda and main roof eaves provide strong horizontal elements in the composition. The upper eaves are finished with regularly spaced brackets; roof ridges with crockets and finials. Openings are rectangular except round arched in the stone foundation wall of the veranda.

The exterior of the house has not been altered to any great extent except for the removal of a carriage entrance gate to the southwest of the house, from 13th Avenue.

The house was apparently built prior to 1896 before becoming the LeFevre home.

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 type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)		Local government and history
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION				

SPECIFIC DATES pre 1896

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

From Smiley, Jerome C., History of Denver, The Denver Times, The Times-Sun Publishing Company, Denver, 1901, pages 696:

"Owen E. LeFevre, recently one of the Judges of our District Court, is a native of Ohio. He was born August 6, 1848, in the village of Little York, Montgomery County, of that State. From the district school in Little York, and the graded school of Dayton, he entered the preparatory department of Antioch (Ohio) College. He was there a student until May 4, 1864, when the 154th Regiment Ohio Volunteers was organized. Though but a boy, he enlisted in that regiment and shared its fortunes until it was mustered out of service in the autumn of that year."

"In 1868, Judge LeFevre entered the Junior year in the University of Michigan where he graduated in the classical course with honors in June, 1870. He was engaged in the ensuing two years in teaching school, devoting his available time to study of the law. In 1872 he was admitted to practice by the Supreme Court of Ohio; he then entered the law office of John A. McMahon and George W. Houck, two noted Ohio lawyers at Dayton, and remained with them until the summer of 1873, when he came to Denver and immediately began the practice of his profession."

"Judge LeFevre established his home in the then suburban town of Highlands, now a beautiful division of Denver. In 1875, he was elected Attorney for Highlands, and re-elected in 1876. In 1885 he was chosen its Mayor, and at the close of his term received the indorsement of a re-election to that position. He was next called to the office of Attorney for Arapahoe county by the County Commissioners. He received the merited *e* indorsement of a re-election, and to this was added a second re-election, making three terms of diligent service in that important and arduous position. In 1892 he was elected Judge of the County Court, on the Republican ticket. It was in that year that the political upheaval occurred which placed the entire State administration in the hands of the Populists under Governor Waite. Nevertheless, Judge LeFevre was elected by a large plurality. In 1894, before the expiration of his term on the county bench, he was elected one of the Judges of the Second Judicial District--Arapahoe County".

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Smiley, Jerome C., History of Denver, The Denver Times, The Times-Sun Publishing Company, Denver, 1901, pages 574, 651, 969, 697, 714.

Interview--Mrs. Fredrica Lincoln

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY .7 acre

NTR OK HF

UTM REFERENCES

A

13	5103470	43198190
ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING

B

ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING

D

ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Robert L. Carper, Staff Secretary

ORGANIZATION

Denver Landmark Preservation Commission

DATE

November 27, 1974

STREET & NUMBER

1445 Cleveland Place, Room 300

TELEPHONE

303/297-2736

CITY OR TOWN

Denver,

STATE

Colorado 80202

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.

SIGNATURE

Cynthia Emrick

TITLE

Acting Preservation Officer

DATE

4-11-75

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

R. R. Montgomerie

DATE

6/11/75

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

W. M. ...

DATE

JUN 9 1975

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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"Our Courts are rarely confronted by a dearth of business, and therefore our Judges are, of necessity, busy, hard-working men." During his service on the County bench, Judge LeFevre so systematized the order of things in that Court by his energetic, effective disposition of its business, as to relieve it of its crowded and often congested condition, and introduce an innovation in its history. On the higher bench, as on the lower, his record was that of an able, impartial jurist of unimpeachable integrity -- "a just Judge" in the endless and intricate controversies of his fellow men."

"In politics Judge LeFevre is a consistent, steadfast, conservative Republican. He is a believer in his party and its principles, was long one of its capable and successful leaders, and is still one of its safe and trusted advisors. Upon his retirement from the District bench in January, 1901, he resumed practice of his profession."

"Judge LeFevre married Miss Eva Franch, of Troy, Ohio, June 28, 1871, the day on which she was graduated from the Ohio Wesleyan University at Delaware in that State. They have one child, a daughter, born in 1884. They continued their residence in Highlands until 1896 when they occupied their present fine home at 1311 York Street. It is adorned with what is perhaps the most choice collection of modern French paintings in Colorado, and is the center of art, literature and music. Judge LeFevre is a lover of books, and his home library, in which he has inclinations, is one of the best in the city of Denver.--J. C. S. "

Owen LeFevre died in 1921; Eva LeFevre, born in 1852, died in 1948. The LeFevre's one child, Fredrica, became the wife of Harry Belamy, a partner in a Denver stationary stores and printing company -- Kendrick-Belamy. Harry Belamy was born in 1874, died in 1956. Fredrica Belamy died in 1963. The Belamys lived from about 1915 at 1174 Race Street, built about 1900, where she lived until her death; the house was demolished in 1974. The Belamy's daughter, also Fredrica, is the wife of Colonel George Arthur Lincoln. Colonel Lincoln is well-known for his service to the country: aid to General Marshall in WWII, Head of the Department of Social Sciences at West point, many times military and political advisor, and among many other accomplishments, was in charge of the Office of Emergency Preparedness. He is now retired and the Lincolns reside in Evergreen, Colorado.

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Summary:

The LeFevre family was prominent in the molding of Denver history through law and politics. Judge LeFevre was instrumental in molding the Denver court system and the Arapahoe County court system. His home is one of a few remaining substantial mansions in the old Highlands area. It is a remarkable landmark in its environs and is a tribute to the unknown architect whose drawings are part of a very famous collection of Denver architects.