National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only received AUG 2 6 1983 date entered SEP 2 2 1983

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

1. Name

historic Curtis P	ark Historic Dist	rict, Expanded	}	•
and/or common Cur	tis-Champa Street	s Historic Distric	st Boundary In	- C
2. Locati	on Roughly 3	oth Stout, Dem	ning, and Arop	oh and
	e #10 verbal boun			a not for publication
city, town Denver	and the second sec	$\frac{n/a}{a}$ vicinity of	and the second second second	n an
state Colorado	code	08 county	Denver	code 031
3. Classi	fication			
XX district	mership _ public _ private _ both blic Acquisition _ in process _ being considered	Status XX occupied XX unoccupied XX work in progress Accessible XX XX yes: restricted XX yes: unrestricted XX no	Present Use agriculture XX commercial educational entertainment government industrial military	museum _XX park _XX private residence religious scientific transportation other:
4. Owner	of Proper	ty		
	nuation sheets)	•		
street & number			, ż	
city, town		vicinity of	state	······
	on of Lega	I Descriptio		
		nd County Building	·	
street & number 13	th and Bannock	•		
city, town Der	nver		state	Colorado
6. Repres	sentation i	n Existing	Surveys	
litle Historic Si	tes Inventory of	Colorado has this pro	perty been determined eli	gible? yes _XX_ no
date Ongoing			777	-
			federal AA stat	e county local

city, town Denver

state Colorado

7. Description

Conc	lition
------	--------

Condition		Check one
XX excellent	deteriorated	XX_ unaltere
XX_good	ruins	\underline{XX} altered
<u>xx</u> fair	unexposed	

Check one XX_ original site altered moved

date

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The extension of the Curtis-Champa Streets District includes 77 buildings which represent several diverse architectural styles as is the case in the original district. Encompassed is a similar mixture of cottages with two-story houses and an interspersing of one- and twostory row houses. The size of lots in the extension are all approximately the same and not as varied as those in the original district, indicating a smaller range of incomes with these residents than those that lived closer to the central downtown area.

As in the original district (which contains about 280 buildings), the styles of architecture are revivals of the Italianate style, Queen Anne style and Victorian Eclectic, with the inclusion as well of both Greek Revival and Neo-Classical Revival. The Greek Revival style is characterized by low pedimented roof lines, tall windows, dentils, attic windows in the frieze and pediment-shape window heads. The Neo-Classical Revival style is distinguished by symmetrical window and door arrangement, a simple roof line, porticos flanked by classical columns and the absence of arches.

Italianate

One of the most predominant styles found in the Curtis Park area, Italianate residences, are seen as both one-story cottages and two-story villas.

The best example of a one-story cottage is found at 3148 Champa, where this small brick home, built in 1886 by William H. Allen, a Colorado Real Estate Broker, has a truncated hip roof, scroll-shape eave brackets and dentils on both the roof and porch, tall windows with arched brick lintels and a small overdoor porch supported by plain square posts. Another 1886 one-story cottage is found at 3321 Curtis, this also of brick construction but with a flat roof.

The finest example of a two-story Italianate Villa is found at 3245 Curtis a brick home which is in excellent condition and whose truncated hip roof is crowned with the traditional iron cresting. The tall segmental arched windows have stone lintels and sills while the front veranda is supported by turned posts with wood decoration under the This home was built in 1882 by the E. E. Hartwells. eaves.

Another villa, circa 1884, can be found at 3263. This brick two-story home also has a truncated hip roof and a similar front veranda with turned wooden supports.

A variation of the Italianate Villa is seen at 823-39 31st Street, a two-story row house with front bays and a flat roof with decorative cornice. The structure is of smoothfaced stone with a rusticated stone foundation. The tall double-hung windows on both stories have smooth lintels. Unfortunately, the original canopy porches and steps have been replaced with metal canopies and concrete steps.

Queen Anne

Variations of the Queen Anne style are found throughout the extension area with both oneand two-story examples. A small one-story cottage of brick construction is found at 3317 Curtis, where the front gable is predominant and faced with fish scale shingles. The small gable on the overdoor porch is identically faced and has turned wooden supports. The tall windows have slightly arched brick lintels.

Continuation sheet

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A two-story brick Queen Anne residence, built in 1886, is found at 3242 Curtis. The front gable is predominant and faced in fish scale shingles with a pair of rectangular windows and a single pedimented window head. The eaves are finished by a plain over-hanging rascia board. The front porch has a gable roof and Doric columns.

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A second and more interesting two-story Queen Anne style house, circa 1890, is found at 3303 Curtis and is adorned with a cross gable roof with four front gables in all each of which is faced with fish scale shingles. The fascia board is decorated with plain and beaded mouldings. The front stringcourse and all lintels, sills and foundations are of rusticated stone, while the side stringcourses are brick. The small porch, supported with turned posts and pilasters has a spindle frieze in the Eastlake style.

Victorian Eclectic

Two different examples of Victorian Eclectic can be highlighted here, although this is by far the most predominant "style" in the neighborhood. This particular category was established to include all of those structures that combine many different architectural styles but have no dominating elements.

A one-story brick Victorian residence built in 1886 can be found at 3222 Champa which exhibits a truncated hip roof but with a predominant front gable. The gable is highlighted with a small arched attic window and an Eastlake-style decorative bracket. The tall windows have pedimented heads and tie in with the smooth front stringcourse. The overdoor porch is supported with turned posts and the foundation has been stuccoed.

Two-story Victorian residences are seen at 3239 Champa and 3241 Champa and are striking in their differences. The dwelling at 3239 Champa, circa 1888, is of brick construction and is asymmetrical with its odd-sized arched windows and door and the rectangular bay window that extends from the second floor. The tall double-hung windows in the bay are ornamented with geometric stained and leaded glass panes at the top, while the bay has a small gable roof and scroll-shape brackets as supports. The house has an unornamented flat roofline.

A rare example of a two-story frame house is seen at 3241 Champa, built in 1882, the only such residence in Curtis Park and one of the few in the entire city. The gable roof is decorated with cutout wood trim and the two upper story windows have flat lintels decorated with dentils. There is a simple front bay window and the small porch is supported with smooth columns between which are slatted railings. This house was built by Robert H. Reid, a stenographer with the First National Bank of Denver.

Greek Revival

Two examples of one-story Greek Revival frame residences are seen in the extension are, the first of which is located at 3227 Champa, built in 1887. Originally a double residence, the westernmost entrance was removed to create a single-family residence. The low gable roof has scroll-shape brackets at the ends of the two sections of the false front and the gable is highlighted with a small arched attic window. The flat front veranda is supported by five square posts with a slatted rail. The symmetrical windows and doors have pedimented headings. Continuation sheet

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The other frame cottage is found at 3229 Curtis, circa 1886, and has a front gable roof with a small rectangular attic window. The front veranda is supported with square wooden posts with dentils under the eaves. The door and tall windows have plain, non-decorative frames.

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Neo-Classical Revival

An example of Neo-Classical Revival is found in the single-story row house at 1001-21 30th Street. The flat-roofed brick structure has six plain porticos that are flanked with Doric columns. The eaves have plain brackets while the main decoration comes with the brick stringcourses near the roofline. The sills and steps are of rusticated stone.

Additional Comments

Two other structures require specific mention as contributing to the extension area. The first is Denver Fire Station #10, built in 1928, at 3201 Curtis, a typical example of late 1920s fire stations built in Denver. It is a two-story brick structure with a tile pent roof.

The second structure is a small, two-story brick Victorian residence that was moved from its original lot at 2457 Champa in June of 1981, to a vacant lot at 3209 Champa as part of a preservation effort on the part of the Mountain Bell Company and Historic Denver, Inc. The house was to be demolished in order for Mountain Bell to build a new switching station at that location, but instead was given to Historic Denver, along with the necessary funds to move the building to its new location. The hosue, circa 1888, fits attractively into its new lot and can be a contributing element in the block once it has been stabilized and restored.

Intrusions

Curtis Park Community Denver--contemporary building. 2900 Curtis. 3211 Champa--drastically altered historic building. 3331 Curtis--vacant lot. 3122 Champa--drastically altered historic building. 3251 Champa--contemporary commercial building. 3255 Champa--contemporary commercial building.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of SignificanceC	heck and justify below		
prehistoric 1400-1499 1500-1599 1600-1699 1700-1799 1800-1899 1900-	archeology-prehistoric	community planning conservation economics education engineering exploration/settlement	I military I music I philosophy I politics/government	e religion science sculpture social/ humanitarian theater transportation other (specify)

Specific dates 1870-1920

Builder/Architect n/a

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

An extension of the Curtis-Champa Streets Historic District boundaries is important to encompass those residences similar in period, styling and quality of architecture to those in the original district. Important examples of Italianate, Queen Anne, Victorian Eclectic, Greek Revival, and Neo-Classical Revival styles have been overlooked with the existing National Register district and are found in concentrated numbers along the fringe areas of the present boundaries. Acknowledgement of the seventy-sevenadditional structures is essential to a more valid historical and architectural treatment of the Curtis Park neighborhood as a whole.

The extension also includes the first park in the city of Denver--Curtis Park (see continuation sheet, Item #1, page 2). To leave out this segment of the neighborhood was merely a professional error and it is necessary to include the park in the historic district because it has been an influential factor in the historical development of the area as a community.

The majority of structures included in the extension were built at the same time as those in the original district, between 1885 and 1890 and follow, as well, the same modest size and varying styles. The residents of the extension area were similarly middle class working people--teachers (Miss Jennie M. Wrisley, 3219 Champa), clerks (Mr. Seth I. Terry, 3229 Curtis), railroad engineers (Mr. Michael Ryan, 3242 Curtis), stenographers (Mr. Robert H. Reid, 3241 Champa), and even confectioners (Mr. Albert A. Gerspach, 3231 Champa)--and their contribution to the development of late nineteenth century Denver is significant.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Norgren, Barbara. Historic survey. Colorado Preservation Office, Denver, Co., 1981.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property approximately 87 acres total (of which approx. 25 acres is expanded Quadrangle scale ______ Quadrangle name <u>Commerce City</u> area) **UTM References A** 1 3 50 2 3 2 0 B 1 3 5 0 2 3 2 5 Zone Easting 4 4 0 Northing 4,40,10,50 Northing Zone Easting **c 1** 3 5 0 1 8 0 0 4,40,02,50 D 1 3 5 0, 1 3, 4, 0 4,40,00,00,0 4 4 0 0 5 2 0 E 1 3 501350 F G H

Verbal boundary description and justification <u>JUSTIFICATION</u>--The boundary is extended to include those blocks similar in period and style to buildings within the Curtis-Champa Streets Historic District. Encompassed are those blocks that still retain sufficient physical integrity to constitute a visual unity with those residences in the district presently listed in the Register.

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

state n/a	code	county		code
state	code	county	•	code
11. Form	n Prepared By			
name/title	Barbara Norgren		•	
organization			date	·
street & number	7453 E. Jefferson Dri	.ve	telephone	740–7860
city or town	Denver		state	Colorado 80237
As the designated S 665), I hereby nomin	n Rional state State Historic Preservation Office nate this property for inclusion in teria and procedures set forth by	n the National Reg	ister and certify	ration Act of 1966 (Public Law 89- that it has been evaluated
•	ervation Officer signature	Jarbar	a Sud	ller
title State His	storic Preservation Offi	cer (Acting)		date August 16, 1983
For NPS use on I hereby certif Reeper of the N	ly that this property is included in	n the National Reg Intered in the National Regis	l	date 9/22/83
Attest:				date
Chief of Registr	ation			

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Major Bibliographical Continuation sheet References

Item number 9

Denver Building Department--Building Permit Applications

Denver Tax Assessor Office

Denver Water Department--Water Tap Permits

Blumenson, John J.G. <u>Identifying American Architecture</u>. Nashville: American Association for State and Local History, 1977.

Denver City Directories. Corbett and Bailinger, Denver.

1

Foley, Mary Mix. The American House. New York: Harper and Row, 1980.

Whiffen, Marcus. American Architecture Since 1780. Cambridge: MIT Press, 1969.

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Curtis Park Historic District, Continuation sheet Expanded It

(JUSTIFICATION CONTINUED)

Those areas surrounding the extended area that are excluded have either experienced severe deterioration or are commercial in character (as on the northeastern edge of the expanded area).

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Item number

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The new boundaries of the Curtis Park Historic District extend to the northeast from the present boundary of 30th Street along Curtis and Champa Streets to the point where those streets intersect with Downing Street at approximately 34th Street at Curtis and 33rd Street at Champa.

See Map 1 for the boundaries of the extension and the final boundaries of the Curtis Park Historic District.

The boundary description of the Curtis Park Historic District as it exists with the extensions to the district is as follows:

Beginning at the intersection of 25th Street and Arapahoe Street; then along Arapahoe Street to 26th Street; then along 26th Street to the alley between Arapahoe and Curtis Streets; then along the alley to 31st Street; then along 31st Street to Arapahoe Street; then along Arapahoe Street to 32nd Street to the alley between Arapahoe and Curtis Streets; then along the alley to 34th Street; then along 34th Street to Downing; then along Downing to Curtis Street; then along Curtis Street to 33rd Street; then along 33rd Street to Champa Street; then along Champa Street to the property line between lots 4 and 5, block 64, Case and Ebert's Addition; then along the property line to the alley between Champa and Stout Streets; then along the alley to the property line between lots 15 and 16, block 64, Case and Ebert's Addition; then along the property line to Stout Street; then along Stout Street to the property line between lots 29 and 30, block 63, Case and Ebert's Addition; then along the property line to the alley between Stout and Champa Streets; then along the alley to 31st Street; then along 31st Street to Champa Street; then along Champa Street to 30th Street; then along 30th Street to Stout Street; then along Stout Street to 28th Street; then along 28th Street to the alley between Stout and California Streets; then along the alley to 27th Street; then along 27th Street to California Street, then along California Street to 26th Street; then along 26th Street to the alley between California and Welton Streets; then along the alley to 25th Street; then along 25th Street to California Street; then along California Street to 24th Street; then along 24th Street to Stout Street; then along Stout Street to 23rd Street; then along 23rd Street to the alley between Champa and Stout Streets; then along the alley to the SW property line of 2446 Champa and extending along Champa to include the lots at 2446 Champa and 820-838 25th Street; then extending 25th Street; then along 25th Street to the alley between Curtis along Champa to and Champa Streets; then along the alley to 26th Street; then along 26th Street to Curtis Street; then along Curtis Street to 25th Street; then along 25th Street to Arapahoe Street, the point of beginning.

(Location is in the W $\frac{1}{2}$ of Section 26, the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ Section 27 and the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 34; Township 35; Range 68; 6th P.M.)

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Consideration is hereby requested of a formal change of name from the Curtis-Champa Streets Historic District to the Curtis Park Historic District. As mentioned above, Curtis Park was the first city park in Denver, having been donated to the city in 1868 by Francis Case and Frederick Ebert for such use. This first 2.44 acres of open space as bounded by Curtis, Arapahoe, 31st and 32nd Streets, was named after Samuel Curtis, an early pioneer who came to Denver in 1859 and was a member of the Denver Town Company.

It was six years after this donation that the movement of residents into the Curtis Park area was in full swing and the city council decided on March 20, 1874, to put in a fence and two rows of cottonwood trees around the park. Thus, through the first commitment to developing Curtis Park, the tradition of creating beautiful and livable neighborhoods in Denver was begun.

On April 27, 1912, an additional two-block area, blocks #56 and 357 of the Case and Ebert's Addition, was deeded to the city of Denver as an extension of the park land by the Walter S. Cheesman Realty Company. This additional open space, bounded by Curtis, Champa, 30th and 32nd Streets, is adjacent to the original parcel of land and tripled the size of Curtis Park.

Today, the park plays an important role in the Curtis Park neighborhood as the only large open space in the middle of this highly populated urban Park to citizens and government officials alike and, therefore, Curtis Park Historic District is both a more descriptive and familiar and familiar name to use in titling this historic area.

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(IR) means In Residence. Local addresses all zip 80205

OWNERS

NUMBERED STREETS

1001-1005-1009-1015-1017-1021 30th St. Merle Brewer PO 164 Grand Lake, CO 80447

821 31st Street Lillie Harrell Dennis (IR)

823-825-827-829 31st Street Zillenwaytt & Dennis Lee Simmons 2731 Clayton St. Denver, 80205

1010-1012 31st St. Elio & Maria Resendez (IR at 1012)

1016 31st St. Dolores Dominguez (IR)

800 32nd St. (vacant) Robert Stefanski 3145 Stout St. Denver, 80205

808 32nd St. (vacant John and Della Canino 160 S. Monoco Parkway, #100 Denver, 80222

816 32nd St. Dennis Kramer 4600 E. Asbury Circle Denver, 80222

818 32nd St. Russ Symons and Freeman Sherrill (IR)

805-07-11-13-17-19 32nd St. Jay Feichter and Lair Tienter 2435 California Denver, 80205 828 Twenty-fifth Street Doyal & Phoebe O'Dell 710 S. Krameria Street Denver, 80224

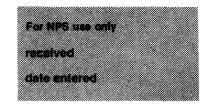
823 32nd St. John Michaels (IR)

835-39 32nd St. Arlene Levinson 310 S. Ames St. #10 Lakewood, 80226

906 33rd St. (6 unnumbered, abandoned row houses) Edward Willis PO Box 4005 Denver, 80204

924-26 33rd St. Lawrence Tolmie 2907 Lowell Ave. Irving, Texas 75062 OMB No. 1024-0018 Exp. 10-31-84

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CURTIS STREET

3011 Bernard A. Tichy 10607 W. 31 Place Denver, 80215		3212 Marion P. Hamilton 2212 Julian or c/o Judy Hamilton Denver 2951 Curtis
3015 Robert Stefanski 3145 Stout Denver, 80205		3216 Manuel & Esperanza Ruiz 3219 Champa Denver, 80205
3023 Stephen Moore (IR)	بور بارور . ب	3220 Ben Beierle 1878 Colo Highway 52 Erie, CO 80516
3029 Joanna Besseghini (IR) 2915 Champa Denver, 80205		3224 Stella V. Cabral (IR)
3033 James Gober (IR)		3200 (vacant lot between 3224 & 3234) Geo. Ahn c/o Manuel Martinez 3234 Curtis
3037 Jesus Santoya and family (IR)		3227 Masaru & T. Louise Nakatsuko (IR)
3045-47-49-51-53-55-57-59-61 Virginia Kimball PO Box 412		3229 Margaret B. Faulkner (IR)
Arvada, 80001		3233 Valerie & Terri Martiniez (IR)
Chizu, Kuga, Tsui, & Geo. Nakayama 12932 Elgin Place Denver, 80239		3234 Flora Espinoza (IR)
3201 (Fire House) City & County of Denver		3236 Charles Gilmer (IR)
1460 Cherokee St. Denver, 80202		3239 Magdalen M. Marquez (IR)
3208 Jesse Reyes and Paula Vasquez 3260 Curtis		3242 Daniel & Virginia Rodriquez (IR)
Denver, 80205		3243 James Bogue 3245 Curtis Denver, 80205

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CURTIS STREET (cont.)

3245 3339 James Bogue(IR) Jose & Maria Serna (IR) 3246 3343 John Reyes and Paula Vasquez (IR) Vicente & Margarita Mendoza (IR) 3251 3347 Downing Bernard A. & Maxine Saldana (IR) David Clift (IR) 3256 3351 Downing Robert Chamberlin (IR) Yori Teshima 11495 W. Hampden 3260 Denver, 80227 Joe Reyes & Paula Vasquez (IR) 3357 Downing (Downing Meat Market/ 3263 Commercial intrusion) Petia Vasquez 4122 S. Newport Way 2554 Champa Denver, 80237 Denver, 80205 3303 Flora Salazar (IR) 3307 Laurie Gordon (IR) 3311 Eugene & Marlene Salas (IR) 3313 Ardella Ikner 55 S. Albion Denver, 80222 3317 Catherine Ramirez (IR) 3321 Jesus & Maria Sarmiento (IR) 3325 Gilbert & Gloria Maldorado (IR) $2\frac{1}{2}$ vacant lots (listed as 3301) Denver Housing Authority

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CHAMPA STREET

3114 Alan Stein (IR) 3122	3214 Kenneth J. Shon 843 Garfield Denver
Don Missey (IR) 3126	3219 Manuel & Esperanza Ruiz (IR)
Patrick Kelly PO Box 5291 TA	3222
Denver, 80217 3130	Manuel & Esperanza Ruiz 3219 Champa Durana 20205
Galen & Sandra Bomgaars 3803 S. Quin ce	Denver, 80205 3225
Denver, 80237	Mancel & Urdalee Steadman (IR)
3134 Felipe & Amanda Zuniga (IR)	3231 Paul & Shirley Castro (IR)
3138 Hope Lucero 3542 Williams	3239 James Sunder (IR)
Denver 3142	3241 Victor Hebert
Alan Lenzi (IR)	1085 Zang St. Golden, 80401
3148 Linda Barajas (IR)	3247 Berneil Simmons & Judith Baird (IR)
3154 James C. Spinelli (IR)	3248 (vacant) H.A. Niernberger 3020 Ohm Way
3162 Wally Schulta (IR)	Denver, 80209
3205 Dale & Barbara Tomich (IR)	3255 (Liquor store/commercial intrusion) Theodore & Judith Aylsworth 1366 W. 101st St. P1. Northglenn, 80221
3211 Paul Castro 3231 Champa Denver, 80205	2446 Champa Street Joe and Sally Shirai same