

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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received AUG 22 1984
date entered SEP 20 1984

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

5PE526.60

historic J. L. Streit House

and/or common Creel House

2. Location

street & number 2201 Grand Avenue n/a not for publication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
<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	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<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 Waldemar R. and Carol Ann Tasch

street & number 15716 E. Brown Avenue

city, town Aurora n/a vicinity of state Colorado

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Pueblo County Courthouse

street & number 10th and Main streets

city, town Pueblo state Colorado

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Pueblo Historic & Architecture Survey
title Western Research Room--Pueblo has this property been determined eligible? yes no

Library District & Colorado Preservation Office
date 1980-1981 federal state county local

depository for survey records Colorado Historical Society, 1300 Broadway

city, town Denver state Colorado 80203

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The J. L. Streit House is located in an older residential area along Grand Avenue in Pueblo, Colorado. The spacious lot, combined with the large trees and plantings surrounding the house, give the two and one-half story residence an appropriate setting. The building is multi-gabled, designed in the Queen Anne style. The main body of the house is rectangular with the predominant architectural feature being the polygonal bay centered in the front (east) facade.

The polygonal tower so dominates the front elevation that the early newspaper articles describing the structure refer to it as the "octagon house."¹ The bay is three tiered with a double hung window placed on each face of the multi-sided bay. The first story has an encircling veranda supported by square wood piers with decorative corner brackets. The second story has the same dimensions as the first story and is separated from the third floor by a small roof skirt. The third story is smaller in size than the other two and is seven-sided. It is capped by a pyramidal roof with finial.

The first story of the house, including the polygonal bay, is brick, with the upper floors of frame. The first and second levels are separated by a band of fish-scale shingles. The third story of the polygonal bay and the top story under the gables is applied with diamond, octagon, and fish-scale shingles. The main gables on the north and south sides are also highlighted by a pair of multi-paned windows. Half-cove shingles have been used in the creation of a decorative pattern on the second floor porch at the rear (west) of the structure.

Other exterior elements of note include a one-story polygonal bay window on the first floor south wall. Heavy stone lintels trim each of the windows on the first floor.

Major interior features include a pair of matched multi-colored stained and leaded glass windows in the first floor dining room facing south and west. In addition, there are three carved fireplace mantles--two oak and one pine. (The pine mantle replaced the original cherry mantle with beveled glass mirrors removed in 1939).² The original oak flooring and oak molding on the first floor is intact. Also, the oak wainscoting around the bay window and in the polygonal bay survives as does the oak stairway located in the tower. The first floor door hinges and doorknob backup plates are engraved brass as are all window latches.

The original building site included all of lots 17, 18, 19, and 20 of Block 12, Dundee Place. In the early 1920s, the property was resubdivided and a duplex constructed on the rear 54' of lots 17, 18, and 19. The only other addition to the site is the construction of a garage in the 1920s, placed to the rear of the property.

¹The building obviously does not have a true octagon shape on the exterior. The first two levels of the front bay are five-sided; the third level has seven sides. However the interior of the tower does exhibit eight sides on the first and second levels. The third floor interior is seven sided.

²All fireplaces have original colored Venetian tiles portraying women in 1880s apparel.

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 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 October, 1888 **Builder/Architect** Patrick P. Mills, Architect

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph) Meyers Bros. Contractors & Builders

The J. L. Streit House is a significant Pueblo structure due to its historic role in the development of Pueblo as one of the premier model homes for the Dundee Investment Company, and for its unique octagonal frontal tower which gained, for it, local landmark status as the brainchild of pioneer architect, P. P. Mills.

The residence was built in October, 1888, by the Dundee Investment Company who commissioned locally prominent architect Patrick P. Mills to design their first seven model homes (Pueblo Chieftain, May 24, 1888) in the "Dundee Place" Subdivision. The Meyer Brothers were hired as the contractors and builders. The Octagon House was one of the first three of the seven homes built which were described as "models for architectural designs, completeness in arrangements, and modern conveniences" (Pueblo Chieftain, October 10, 1888). The 18-square block area, known as "Dundee Place," was a planned community of fine homes which was predicted to "rival Denver's Broadway Street in grandeur" (Pueblo Chieftain, May 18, 1888). This fact led to a petition to City Council to change the name of High Street to Grand Avenue (Pueblo Chieftain, May 18, 1888). At the time, Pueblo was a booming center of rail transportation and growing in importance as a processor of ores from mining towns such as Aspen and Leadville in addition to its burgeoning steel industry. Dundee Place was advertised as "The best residence portion of Pueblo. . .remote from the fumes and smoke of the smelters and furnaces" (Pueblo Chieftain, May 27, 1888). Dundee Place was one of the first subdivisions in Pueblo to institute protective covenants which required such things as a minimum building cost for residences to be constructed and forbade the planting of cottonwood trees "which turn the ladies black dresses white" (Pueblo Chieftain, June 5, 1888).

Mr. Streit, the first owner of the structure, was born on a farm in Philipsburg, Province of Quebec, Canada, on February 24, 1824. His childhood and early adult life were spent on a farm and in teaching school. From Philipsburg, Streit moved to Troy, New York, where he became a clerk and later formed a partnership with his brother-in-law under the firm name of Streit and Burdett. He went to New York in 1855 and was engaged in the wholesale and importing business. In 1888, he and his family moved to Pueblo to improve the health of his wife and daughter. The following article in the November 20, 1888 Pueblo Chieftain announced Mr. and Mrs. Streit arriving in Pueblo.

Mr. and Mrs. John L. Streit and daughter, Miss Fannie, arrived here from St. Albans, Vt., on Saturday afternoon, and are stopping at the Grand (hotel). Mr. Streit intends to invest in Pueblo and locate here permanently (Pueblo Chieftain, November 20, 1888).

9. Major Bibliographical References

Pueblo Chieftain: 5/17/1888; 5/18/1888; 5/24/1888; 5/27/1888; 6/5/1888; 6/26/1888; 7/15/1888; 10/30/1888; 11/20/1888; 11/23/1888; 11/25/1888; 12/5/1888; 3/22/1891; 4/14/1895; and 4/2/1933

Pueblo, Colorado. Its Resources & Developments. Chieftain Publishing Co., ca.1890,p.42.

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of nominated property .029
 Quadrangle name Northeast Pueblo Quadrangle

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References

A

1	3	5	3	3	9	6	0	4	2	3	6	7	2	0
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

East 114 Ft. of lots 17,18,19, and all of Lot 20, Block 12, Dundee Place.

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 Waldemar R. & Carol Ann Tasch
Property Owners
 organization Asst. by: James F. Munch, Planner
Pueblo Regional Planning Commission date
 street & number Tasch--15716 E. Brown Avenue telephone Tasch--(303) 699-8965
PRPC--P.O.Box 1427 telephone PRPC--(303) 543-6006
 city or town Tasch--Aurora state Colorado
PRPC--Pueblo

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 8-14-84

For NPS use only

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

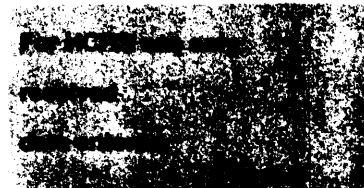
Julius Byers date 9-20-84
 Keeper of the National Register

Attest: _____ 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 STREIT OCTAGON HOUSE

Item number 8

Page 2

Mr. Streit was quick to invest in Pueblo. On December 1, 1888, Mr. Streit purchased the "Octagon House" from the Dundee Investment Company.

The following article appeared in the December 5, 1888, Pueblo Chieftain, shortly after the purchase of the property.

John L. Streit, Esq., with his family (wife and daughter) of St. Albans, Vermont, has moved to Pueblo to make it his future home. He leaves one of Vermont's most beautiful homes, situated on an elevation looking out on Lake Champlain, and adopts Pueblo, that they may avoid the severe winters of New England and enjoy the mild and equable climate of Pueblo. There are thousands of people to follow Mr. Streit's footsteps if they knew of Pueblo and its charming climate. For twenty-three years Mr. Streit has been a prominent wholesale merchant, in the best of standing, in New York city. He is now furnishing the octagon house on the corner of Grand avenue and Twenty-Second street, Dundee Place, built by the Dundee company, he is putting up a beautiful iron fence, enclosing 100 feet on Grand avenue by 168 on Twenty-Second street, and laying the walks in cement. Mr. Streit will make this one of Pueblo's most attractive homes. We like the royal manner in which they do things out Dundee way and hope some of our property owners in the business portion of the city will profit by their example and give us better walks. We heartily welcome Mr. Streit as a citizen. His good name and enterprise brings us new and good influence, and we hope that he will not only find our climate all that he desires, but that he may prosper in any enterprise that he may engage in.

Mr. Streit was a very prominent local Pueblo businessman who with his son Hiram J. operated as J. L. Streit & Son, Real Estate Brokers. On March 22, 1891, the Pueblo Chieftain quoted J. L. Streit: "Pueblo...is universally considered a better point for real estate investments than Denver as property is cheaper and profits on investments are larger." He died on April 13, 1895 in the Octagon house after what was termed a brief illness.

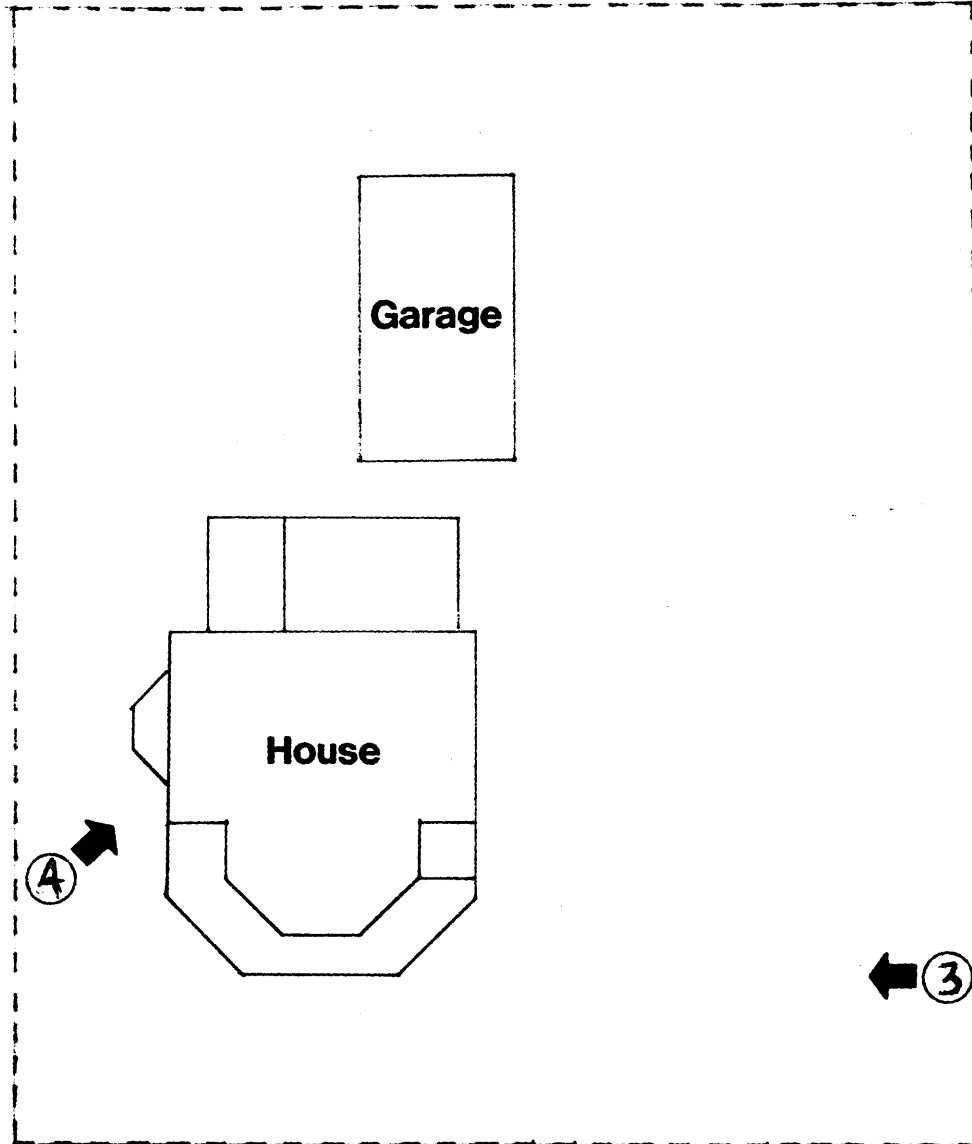
The architect for Dundee Investment Company and the Streit House was P. P. Mills. Patrick P. Mills, as stated in his obituary, was probably the first architect to open an office in Pueblo. Mills came to Pueblo in 1880 from Wooster, Massachusetts. The circa 1890 document, Pueblo Colorado Its Resources and Developments, published by the Daily Chieftain, states that P. P. Mills "skill and judgement rank him with the best architects in the state." Even though he was the architect for a number of residential and commercial buildings in Pueblo, his specialty was large public structures. These include the women's wing of the State Insane Asylum, County Jail, and St. Mary's Hospital. These structures are no longer standing. (All were located in Pueblo.)

Photo Log

J. L. Streit Home / Octagon House

2201 Grand Avenue

PUEBLO, COLORADO



NORTH 

 Denotes B/W Photo Only



Pueblo City Planning Office
1984 May

Map not drawn to scale