

5-17-73

PH0087033

Form 10-300
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

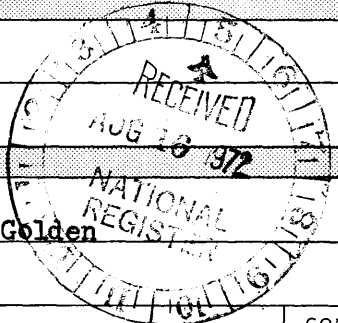
(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	Colorado	
COUNTY:	Jefferson	
FOR NPS USE ONLY		
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE	
08	MAR 1 1973	

1. NAME

COMMON:
Astor House Hotel

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Lake House Castle Rock House



2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
822 - 12th Street Lot 9 Block 4 South Golden

CITY OR TOWN:
Golden

STATE: **Colorado** CODE: **08** COUNTY: **Jefferson** CODE: **059**

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious	Being restored for	
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	community building	

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
City of Golden

STREET AND NUMBER:
911 Tenth Street

CITY OR TOWN: **Golden** STATE: **Colorado** CODE: **08**

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Jefferson County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:
1700 Arapahoe Street

CITY OR TOWN: **Golden** STATE: **Colorado** CODE: **08**

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Site Inventory of Historical Places in Golden

DATE OF SURVEY: **June 1972** Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Golden Landmarks Association

STREET AND NUMBER:
1307 Cheyenne Street

CITY OR TOWN: **Golden** STATE: **Colorado** CODE: **08**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: **Colorado**

COUNTY: **Jefferson**

FOR NPS USE ONLY

ENTRY NUMBER: **MAR 1 1973**

DATE: **08**

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Astor House is a two-story building with partial basement and attic, built in a stunted "T" plan, with wooden shed additions, two stories at the rear and one story along the east rear of the building. It follows no architectural style.

Originally, the building had a simple low gable roof with single stack chimneys centered at the top of each gable, a single stack chimney in front of the roof and one at the west rear corner, at the beginning of the rear extension. The original building also had a large balcony about half the length of the building, centered in front. This was removed around the turn of the century when a city ordinance was passed prohibiting balconies overhanging the sidewalks.

Since there were no facilities for quarrying the sandstone at the time of construction, each stone used in construction was hand cut. The foundation is of rounded fire clay and river rock about three feet thick. The upper stone walls are from 18 inches to two feet thick set in mortar.

The attic and roof were completely rebuilt after the fire of 1907. A roof dormer was placed at the east end of the roof, with the single stack chimney centered on it, between two narrow, verticle windows. A double wall dormer is centered in the front (south) roof, with a shorter single stack chimney attached to the east end of the dormer. The dormer has two double hung windows at each end and a half size pivoted window in the center. The west end of the roof was made hipped during alterations, and the original wooden shingle roof was replaced with corrugated iron roofing material.

INTERIOR

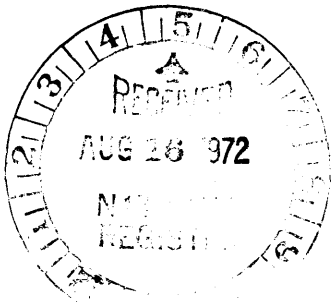
There are two separate basement compartments. One reached from a trap door in the enclosed back porch was dug, it is believed, around 1895, and contains storage space and the hot water heater. The other compartment is under the old dining room and is reached by a stairway under the main staircase. It was dug in 1920 for the installation of a furnace.

The ground floor still contains a large dining room (which is used more as a living room today), although a partition added a large bedroom. There is also a large kitchen to the rear and two bathrooms, and a back porch extending from the rear.

The second floor contains six bedrooms, three bathrooms, and a kitchen. There are three large bedrooms in the attic.

The Golden Landmark Association plans to eventually restore the entire building, with furnishings and furniture representing the hotel's heyday in the last century.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



SIGNIFICANCE

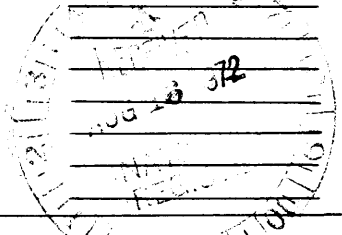
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian; 16th Century 18th Century 20th Century
 15th Century 17th Century 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social Dev. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | |



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

It may have been presumptuous of its builder, Seth Lake, to call this the Astor House. It was not ornate or architecturally outstanding in any way. But it is a good solid example of functional building from the very early frontier period in Colorado. And it was an imposing structure compared to the log buildings around it, many of which had names as presumptuous as the Astor House.

Newspapers announcing its opening in 1867 called the Astor House "the finest hotel in all of Colorado."

No one has yet challenged the Astor House claims of being the first quarried stone building in Colorado and the oldest hotel still standing in the state.

The hotel was often called the "Lake House" during its early years, for its owner and proprietor, who was usually called "Deacon" Lake for his strict religious ideas. (He never had a bar or sold liquor in his hotel.)

The hotel was kept busy and exciting by the many colorful characters going to or returning from the gold fields. Times were so busy that Lake added frame attachments to the main hotel for added sleeping rooms and kitchen facilities. These frame attachments were replaced years later with more permanent additions.

Before the room was partitioned, the entire front main floor room was the dining room. It could seat 60 people, and the cooking gained the hotel an excellent reputation.

Although the early register books from the hotel have been lost, it is reported that many Colorado and national personages stayed here.

Lake leased the hotel in 1873, but continued to live there until 1885 when he sold it to C. W. Mon Pleasure, who renamed the hotel the "Castle Rock House."

The hotel has had many owners since, and various reputations. It has deteriorated some in recent years from neglect, while it has sometimes been empty or served as a "fleabag" transient hotel.

The site was purchased in 1971 by the Golden Downtown Improvement District (DID), with plans to demolish the building and make the entire site into a parking lot. This stirred up a latent Golden group called the Golden Landmark Association that urged that the building be spared. The DID postponed demolition for six months to see if the Association could make the site presentable and come up with alternate plans for the site.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

(continued on following sheet)

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Golden Transcript Newspaper
 Research by the Golden Landmarks Association

13/481000/100420
 10 6 15 22 21

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		39 ° 45' 18 "	105° 13 ' 19"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **About 1/2 acre (140' x 50')**

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Perry Eberhart, Research Associate

ORGANIZATION: **State Historical Society of Colorado** DATE: **August 4, 1972**

STREET AND NUMBER:
200 Fourteenth Avenue

CITY OR TOWN: **Denver** STATE: **Colorado** CODE: **08**

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name *Stephen H. Hart*
Stephen H. Hart

Title **Colo. State Liaison Officer**

Date **August 6, 1972**

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

Robert H. Utley
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date **3/1/73**

ATTEST:
W. J. Neustach
 Keeper of The National Register

Date **2-27-73**

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Colorado	
COUNTY Jefferson	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	MAR 1 1973

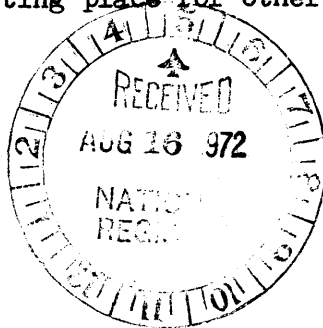
(Number all entries)

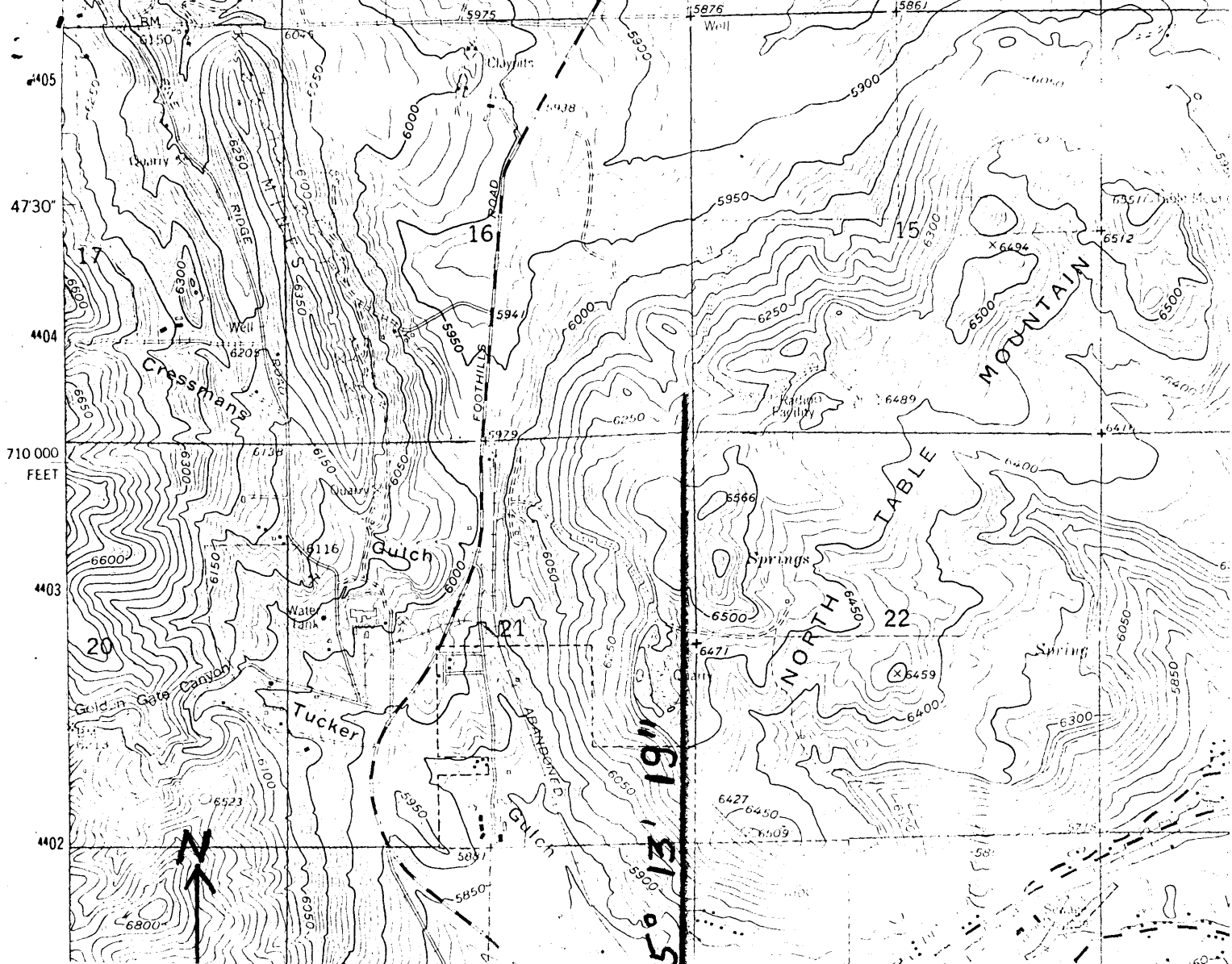
STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE: (continued)

The association, with the help of dozens of additional volunteers, spent thousands of hours restoring the site, cleaning up the house and grounds, repainting the exterior and much of the interior, wallpapering, and other work. The outside looks better than it has in a great many years, and the first floor rooms and part of the second floor rooms have been almost completely restored, looking as bright and colorful as the opening day more than 100 years ago. In the furniture and furnishings, the Association attempted to be faithful to the earlier periods of the hotel.

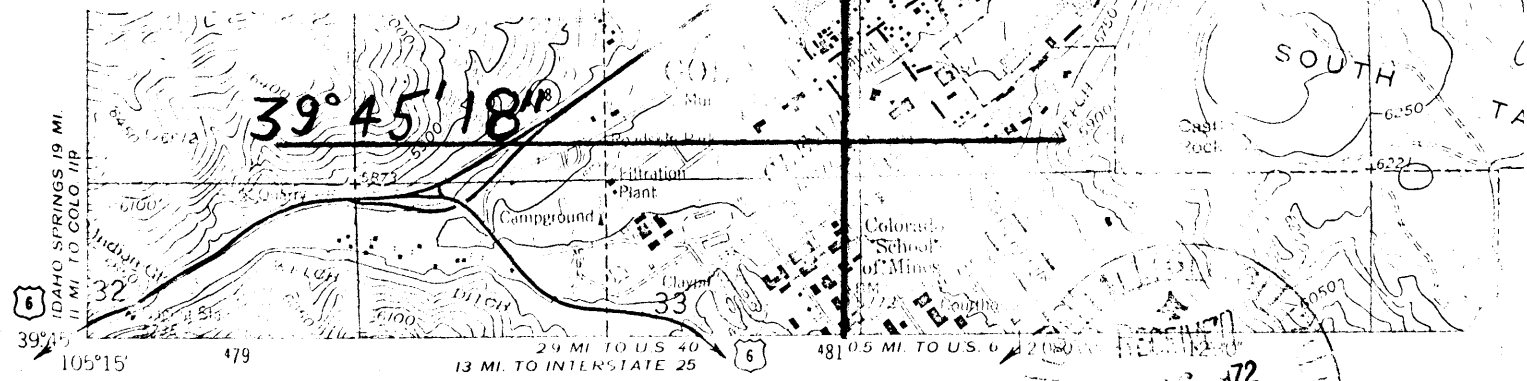
After all this, the DID decided that the Association could purchase the site for what it, the DID, paid for it. The Association was unable to raise that kind of money but urged the Golden City Council to allocate the funds. The City Council did not have the funds to spare but did not want to deny the preservation of the historic building, so they put it to a vote of the electorate. On June 20, 1972, Golden voters, by a 2 to 1 margin (654 to 301) voted to have the city purchase the hotel for \$31,488.55.

The Association and its many volunteers continue to work on the house. They headquarter here now and hold meetings. They hope soon to have the building in shape as a meeting place for other civic organizations, and for tours and for exhibitions.





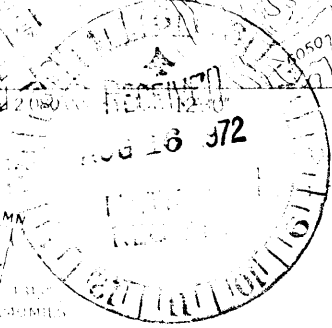
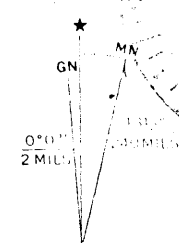
Astor House Hotel, Golden, Colo.
 U.S.G.S. Map, 7.5 Minute Series
 Golden, Colorado Quadrangle
 Scale: 1:2400 Date: 1965



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
 Control by USGS and USC&GS

Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial
 photographs taken 1954 and 1955 Field checked 1957
 Revised from aerial photographs taken 1964
 Field checked 1965

Plane projection, 1927 North American datum
 10 foot grid based on Colorado coordinate system, central zone
 U.S. Standard Universal Transverse Mercator grid
 U.S. Standard Meridian 105° 13' 19"



UTM GRID AND 1965 MEAN TIME
 DECLINATION AT CENTER OF MAP

EVERGREEN
 4-603 111 NE