

COLORADO CULTURAL RESOURCE SURVEY

Architectural Inventory Form

Official Eligibility Determination
(OAHHP use only)

OAHHP1403
Rev. 9/98

- Date _____ Initials _____
- Determined Eligible – National Register
- Determined Not Eligible – National Register
- Determined Eligible – State Register
- Determine Not Eligible – State Register
- Need Data
- Contributes to eligible National Register District
- Noncontributing to eligible National Register District

I. IDENTIFICATION

- 1. Resource number: **5RT.2652** Parcel number(s): **176802003**
- 2. Temporary resource number: **N/A**
- 3. County: **Routt**
- 4. City: **Steamboat Springs**
- 5. Historic Building Name: **Bristol House**
- 6. Current Building Name: **Bristol House**
- 7. Building Address: **865 Pahwintah Street**
- 8. Owner Name: **Benita M. Bristol Living Trust**
- Owner Organization:
- Owner Address: **P.O. Box 770214**
Steamboat Springs, CO 80477



44. National Register eligibility field assessment:	Not Eligible
Local landmark eligibility field assessment:	Eligible

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II. GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

9. P.M.: **6th** Township: **6N** Range: **84 W**
NW ¼ of NE ¼ of NW ¼ of SE ¼ of Section 8
10. UTM reference (Datum: NAD27)
 Zone: **13** **344858 mE** **4484177 mN**
11. USGS quad name: **Steamboat Springs, Colorado**
 Year: **2000** Map scale: **7.5'**
12. Lot(s): **Lots 3 and 4, Block 3**
 Addition: **Yahmonite Addition** Year of addition: **1909**
13. Boundary description and justification:
This legally defined parcel encompasses, but does not exceed, the land historically associated with this property.
 Metes and bounds?: Describe:

III. ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

14. Building plan (footprint, shape): **Rectangular Plan**
15. Dimensions in feet: **53 feet by 32 feet**
16. Number of stories: **One (with a walk-out basement level)**
17. Primary external wall material(s): **Wood/Log**
18. Roof configuration: **Gabled Roof/Side Gabled Roof**
19. Primary external roof material: **Metal Roof**
20. Special features:
Porch
Chimney
Garage/Attached Garage
Windows/ Glass Block
21. General architectural description:
This distinctive Rustic style residence features a basic rectangular plan which measures 32' N-S (across) by 53' E-W (deep). It is one story in height, but with a full walkout basement level, including a garage, which opens onto a driveway on the east elevation. The building is supported by an unpainted concrete foundation, with the foundation wall penetrated by glass block windows which provide light into the basement level. The house's exterior walls are made of whole logs, sawn on three sides, and with concrete chinking applied over barbed wire between the logs. Stained natural brown vertical half logs appear in the upper gable end on the east elevation (façade). The house's front gabled roof is low-pitched and is covered with metal roofing material laid over plywood decking. 2x wood rafter ends are exposed beneath widely-overhanging eaves, while a central stone fireplace chimney, covered with concrete pargeting, is located near the center of the roof ridge. A single-light fixed-pane "picture window" is located near the east end of the south elevation, while a non-historic canted oriel window is located on the east elevation (façade). Windows elsewhere are primarily double-paned 3-light casements with stained natural brown wood frames and surrounds. A stained natural brown solid wood door, with three upper sash lights and with glass block sidelights, enters the south elevation from a 5-step concrete porch, covered by a shed roof and with a log railing and log supports. A stained natural brown wood-paneled door, with three horizontal upper sash lights, and covered by a stained brown wood screen door, enters the west (rear) elevation from a 4-step concrete and stone porch. A 32' by 19' fiberglass-covered shed-roofed patio extends from the porch covering the entire east elevation. Two brown metal roll-away garage doors, and a

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stained brown wood-paneled door with three horizontally-oriented upper sash lights, penetrate the walkout basement level on the east elevation. These doors open onto a concrete driveway which extends to Pahwintah Street to the east.

22. Architectural style: **Late 19th And Early 20th Century American Movements/Rustic**
 Building type:
23. Landscape or special setting features: **This well-maintained property is located on the west side of Pahwintah Street, in the block north of Merritt Street. The house is surrounded by a spacious planted grass lawn, with mature landscaping features including large pine and fir trees in the front yard.**
24. Associated buildings, features or objects: **Not Applicable**

IV. ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY

25. Date of construction: Estimate: Actual: **1950**
 Source of information: **Benita Bristol (property owner)**
26. Architect: **Everett and Benita Bristol**
 Source of information: **Benita Bristol**
27. Builder: **Everett and Benita Bristol and Clyde Bristol**
 Source of information: **Benita Bristol**
28. Original owner: **Everett and Benita Bristol**
 Source of information: **Benita Bristol**
29. Construction history:
This house was designed and built by its original and only owners, Everett and Benita Bristol. Mr. and Mrs. Bristol began building the house in 1950, but did not fully complete it until 1955. During much of this time, they lived in the basement while gradually finishing the house's main level. Clyde Bristol (Everett's father) also helped with the construction; in particular, he helped build the stone fireplace chimney. Everett and Benita drew up the house plans themselves, and hired contractors to pour the foundation, lay up the log walls, and put on the roof. Logs for the home were obtained from the Steamboat Lumber Company, with the bark still on. The logs were then peeled by Everett and Benita and sawn on three sides. After the logs were set in place, Mr. and Mrs. Bristol ran strands of barbed wire between the logs to help hold the concrete chinking in place. They then mixed and applied the chinking mortar, which consisted of cement, sand, sawdust and water. Mr. and Mrs. Bristol also erected the home's interior sheetrock walls and ceilings, and completed all of the interior finish work such as painting, door and window moldings, and the kitchen cabinetry. An oriel window installed on the façade elevation in 2006 is the only notable alteration to the original building.
30. Original location: Moved: Date of move(s):

V. HISTORICAL ASSOCIATIONS

31. Original use(s): **Domestic/Single Dwelling**
32. Intermediate use(s): **Domestic/Single Dwelling**
33. Current use(s): **Domestic/Single Dwelling**
34. Site type(s): **Single family dwelling**

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35. Historical background:

This home, at 865 Pahwintah Street, was constructed in 1950 by Everett and Benita Bristol, just three years after the couple were married. In this house, they were to share a lifetime of happiness, and raise their four adopted children: Deborah, David, Daniel and Diana.

Born in Nebraska, where he attended a one room schoolhouse, Everett C. "Ev" Bristol moved to Steamboat with his family in 1935, while still a teenager. His father, Clyde, served as a police officer with the Steamboat force, rising to the rank of Police Chief. In 1948, the Bristol family built the hotel at 917 Lincoln Avenue, which still bears their name. Everett received his high school education in Steamboat, graduating in 1940 in the same class as his future wife. He then attended the University of Colorado, where, in 1944, he received his Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical Engineering. Immediately following college, Everett Bristol was commissioned into the U.S. Navy, and served upon a destroyer in the South Pacific during World War II. Following the war, Everett returned to the Yampa Valley region, where, in 1947, he and Benita Ralston were married.

Benita Ralston was one of ten children born to Routt County pioneers Wallace and Neva Ralston. Sadly, five of the Ralston children died from diabetes. The children that reached adulthood were Hazel, Jack, Betty, Ruby, and Benita. Benita's sister Hazel "Hazie" Werner and her husband Ed Werner, were instrumental in promoting the ski industry in Steamboat Springs. Internationally famous as the First Family of skiing, the Werner's three children, Gladys "Skeeter" Werner Walker, Wallace "Buddy" Werner, and Loris "Bugs" Werner, all became Olympian skiers.

Benita herself was born just one day after her large family moved into the Jones place on Grouse Creek. It was a big two-story frame house, with a huge kitchen and wood-burning cook stove. Upstairs were seven big bedrooms with walk-in closets. It was not an easy life. The children's ranch chores included rising before 5:00 a.m. to help milk the 25-30 head of dairy cows, helping with the sizable garden, and caring for the chickens, turkeys, ducks, and geese, as well as the never-ending chores that are an integral part of ranching. Benita and her siblings attended one-room schools, skiing to school on homemade skis during the winter months, or riding horseback the rest of the year. When Benita first attended high school in Steamboat, she drove to town. When the snow accumulation made the trip too difficult, she lived with her sister, Ruby, and brother-in-law, Bob Heid. The next year, Benita and a brother and sister rented the second floor of a house in town. When Benita was a junior, the family purchased a home in Steamboat Springs on Missouri Avenue. This meant that Mrs. Ralston kept house in town during much of the school year, while Benita's father shouldered virtually all of the ranching chores.

Benita was the first in her family to graduate from high school and later attend college. Immediately following high school, she completed a one-year business program at Barnes Business School in Denver. Returning to Steamboat Springs, she used her bookkeeper skills at a variety of part time jobs, before landing a full-time position working with the Steamboat branch of the Office of Price Administration, responsible for rationing during the war. Despite her youth, she worked her way up to traveling chief clerk of the Denver office. She moved back home to the Yampa River Valley after the war, where she married her former classmate, Everett Bristol.

Everett Bristol worked for the Yampa Valley Electric Association (YVEA), where, before long, he held the position of chief engineer. Widely respected in his profession, in 1968 he received the Management Achievement Award

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at the national REA convention in San Francisco. During the winter months between 1964 and 1988, when his responsibilities slowed at the YVEA, Bristol was able to work on assignment with the Agency for International Development (USAID). His task was to conduct feasibility studies on various projects to bring electricity to rural areas in underdeveloped countries. This work allowed him to journey around the world to such unusual locations as Yemen, Egypt, Indonesia, Panama, and Brazil. Benita was able to travel with her husband, and often their children as well.

The Bristols were active and highly respected members of the Steamboat community. Everett found the time to serve for many years as Chairman of the Board of Educators, and held leadership positions in the United Methodist Church, Chamber of Commerce, Steamboat Kiwanis Club and the Sleeping Giant Toastmaster's Club. Benita was active in the local schools, was a 4-H and Brownie leader, and has been a member of the American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars auxiliaries. With a high regard for the value of education, Benita Bristol was the driving force for establishing Steamboat Springs' first kindergarten, in the fall of 1958.

The Bristols' lasting legacy, however, was their work with the Colorado Mountain College, which they were instrumental in bringing to Steamboat Springs. Everett was a founder of the Yampa Valley College, which later became the Alpine Campus of Colorado Mountain College; Benita served on its first board of directors, and later organized an auxiliary. In recognition, the College's Bristol Hall is named in Everett's honor.

Benita returned to college when in her fifties. In 1985 at the age of 60, she graduated from Colorado Mountain College, receiving an associate degree in political science with a business emphasis. In their 60s, the couple took up mountain climbing, and conquered 34 of Colorado's fourteeners, as well as Mt. Shasta and Mt. Whitney in California and to the 15,000 foot level of Nepal's K2. Sadly, Everett Bristol passed away in 1989. Benita Bristol continues to reside in their home on Pahwintah Street, and remains active through her volunteer work and community service.

36. Sources of information:

"Benita Bristol." *Steamboat Pilot*, May 3, 1973. Located in clipping file at Tread of Pioneer Museum.

"Benita Bristol Tackles New Role [as College Graduate]." *Steamboat Pilot*, n.d. (1985). Located in clipping file at Tread of Pioneer Museum.

"Benita Bristol - World Traveler, Mountain Climber, Grandmother." *Steamboat Pilot*, n.d. (circa 1990). Located in clipping file at Tread of Pioneer Museum.

Bristol, Benita. Oral Interview with Carl McWilliams, September 2008.

"Engineering Good Things for Steamboat." *Steamboat Pilot*, April 10, 1969. Located in clipping file at Tread of Pioneer Museum.

Mountain States Telephone and Telegraph/ Mountain Bell Telephone Directories for Steamboat Springs, 1956 – 2007. On file at the Denver Public Library, Western History Department.

"Routt County Assessor/Treasurer Parcel Detail Information."

"Routt County Assessor, Residential Property Appraisal Record."

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VI. SIGNIFICANCE

37. Local landmark designation: Yes No Date of designation:

Designating authority:

38. Applicable National Register criteria:

- A. Associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad pattern of our history;
 - B. Associated with the lives of persons significant in our past;
 - C. Embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or represents the work of a master, or that possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguished entity whose components may lack individual distinction;
 - D. Has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in history or prehistory.
- Qualifies under Criteria Considerations A through G (see Manual).

Does not meet any of the above National Register criteria.

Steamboat Springs Standards for Designation:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| Not Applicable | A. Its character, interest, or value as part of the development, heritage, or cultural characteristics of Routt County, the State of Colorado, or the United States. |
| Not Applicable | B. Its location as a site of a significant historic event. |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | C. Its identification with a person or persons who significantly contributed to the culture and development of Routt County. |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | D. Its exemplification of the cultural, economic, social, or historic heritage of Routt County. |
| Not Applicable | E. Its portrayal of the environment of a group of people in an era of history characterized by a distinctive architectural style. |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | F. Its embodiment of distinguishing characteristics of an architectural type or specimen. |
| Not Applicable | G. Its identification as the work of an architect or master builder whose individual work has influenced the development of Routt County. |
| Not Applicable | H. Its embodiment of elements of architectural design, detail, materials, and/or craftsmanship that represent a significant architectural innovation. |
| Not Applicable | I. Its relationship to other distinctive areas that are eligible for preservation according to a plan based on an historic, cultural, or architectural motif. |
| Not Applicable | J. Its unique location or singular physical characteristic representing an established and familiar visual feature of a neighborhood, a community, or Routt County. |

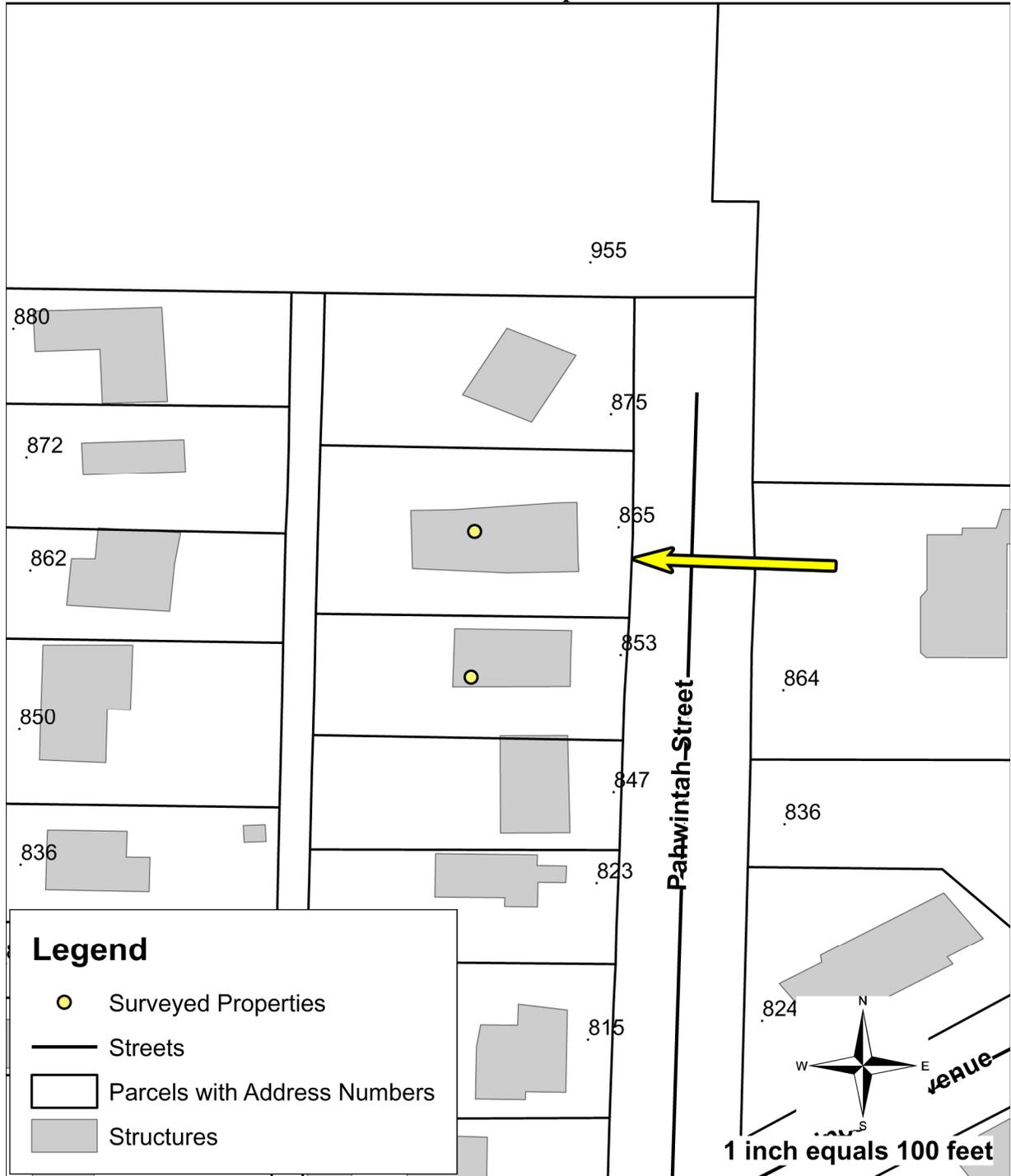
39. Area(s) of significance: **Not Applicable**

40. Period of significance: **Not Applicable**

41. Level of significance: National: State: Local:

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Sketch Map



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Location Map

