COLORADO CULTURAL RESOURCE SURVEY

Architectural Inventory Form

Official Eligibility Determination (OAHP use only) OAHP1403 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.2484** Parcel number(s): **115213002**
2. Temporary resource number: **N/A**
3. County: **Routt**
4. City: **Steamboat Springs**
5. Historic Building Name: **Wren House**
6. Current Building Name: **Leipold House**
7. Building Address: **203 Spruce Street**
8. Owner Name: **Elizabeth A. Leipold**

   Owner Organization:

   Owner Address: **P.O. Box 772137**
   Steamboat Springs, CO 80477

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

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II. GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

9. P.M.: **6th** Township: **6N** Range: **84 W**
   SE ¼ of **NW** ¼ of **SE** ¼ of **SE ¼** of Section **8**
10. UTM reference (Datum: NAD27)
    Zone: **13** **345126 mE** **4483382 mN**
11. USGS quad name: **Steamboat Springs, Colorado**
    Year: **1969** Map scale: **7.5'**
12. Lot(s): **Lot 2, Block 13**
    Addition: **Crawford Addition** Year of addition: **1902**
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: **3040 square feet**
16. Number of stories: **2**
17. Primary external wall material(s): **Stone**
18. Roof configuration: **Gabled Roof/Front Gabled Roof**
19. Primary external roof material: **Metal Roof**
20. Special features: **Porch**
    Garage/Attached Garage
    Fence
21. General architectural description:

This two-story dwelling is supported by a concrete foundation, and its first story walls are faced with river rock which extends to grade. The non-historic second story walls are clad with wide painted green horizontal wood siding with painted cream white 1" by 4" corner boards. The house is covered by a low-pitched front gable roof, with metal roofing material, and with painted white rafter ends exposed beneath widely-overhanging eaves. A painted white wood-paneled front door, covered by a painted cream white and burgundy wood storm door, enters the façade (north elevation) from a full-with, 7' by 27' open front porch. The porch features a concrete floor, river rock knee walls with sandstone capping, wood piers, and a hipped roof. The front entry door is spanned by a heavy sandstone lintel, and is flanked on either side by a 1/1 single-hung sash window with a sandstone lugsill and lintel. The original first story walls on the east and west elevations are 1/1 double-hung sash with painted white wood frames, painted burgundy wood storm windows, and with heavy sandstone lugsills and lintels. Windows in the non-historic second story are primarily single-light casements.

A 1999 addition to the south (rear) elevation incorporates a formerly detached single-stall garage, and is joined to the house by a low gabled connecting element. This addition is supported by a concrete foundation, and features wide, painted green, exterior horizontal wood siding, with painted cream white 1" by 4" corner boards. The addition is 1.5-stories in height, and is covered by a low-pitched gable roof with asphalt composition shingles. A painted cream white roll-away garage door penetrates the east elevation providing vehicular access via Grand Street to the east. A painted cream white and burgundy wood-paneled door enters the connecting element on the east elevation.

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22. Architectural style: **No Style**
    Building type:
23. Landscape or special setting features: **This property is located at the southwest corner of Spruce and Grand Streets. A planted grass front yard, and wide side yard west of the house are enclosed by a non-historic black metal fence.**
24. Associated buildings, features or objects: **Not Applicable**

IV. ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY

25. Date of construction: Estimate: **1916** Actual:
    Source of information: **"Routt County Assessor/Treasurer Parcel Detail Information."**
26. Architect: **Unknown**
    Source of information: **N/A**
27. Builder: **Unknown**
    Source of information: **N/A**
28. Original owner: **Ward Wren**
    Source of information: "**Steamboat Springs, CO. About 1910,"**
29. Construction history:
    Routt County Assessor records indicate that the original first story of this dwelling was built in 1916. An addition to the south (rear) elevation incorporating the formerly detached garage, and joined to the original dwelling by a connecting element, was constructed in 1999. The house's second story addition may also date to 1999.
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**

35. Historical background:

A retrospective map of Steamboat Springs titled "Steamboat Springs, CO. About 1910," indicates property at this location was owned by Ward Wren. Mountain States Telephone and Telegraph directories in the late 1950s and early 1960s list Ralph C. Wren (Ward's son) as the resident (and probable owner) of this house at 203 Spruce Street. Amasa W. "Ward" Wren was born in Decatur, Illinois on August 13, 1868. He and his wife Beulah, were early Routt County pioneers having arrived in the region from Kansas in the winter of 1894. Ward initially found work as a cattle feeder in Elgeria Park, while Beulah worked as a ranch cook and looked after sons Theron and Ralph, born respectively in 1887 and 1892. The Wrens moved to Steamboat Springs in the spring of 1895, where Beulah established a millinery store, and where Ward hauled freight, and would later gain employment with the Routt County Road Department. By the 1910s, he had become the county road overseer, a position he would hold until his retirement in 1954.

As the Wren family settled in Steamboat Springs in the late 1890s, another son, Laurence (Lawrence?) "Tuffy" was born in 1897, followed by a daughter, Florence, in 1899 or 1900. Nicknamed "Tuffy" Laurence Wren, as a young man, enjoyed an acclaimed career as a western bronc rider and true western rodeo cowboy. He was married to Emma Paulson in 1917, and fathered two sons - Hubert, who died in infancy, and Gordon, who would grow up to become a famous Olympic skier. Emma (Poulson) Wren died in 1924, and in 1925, Tuffy married his second wife, Marie Greenwald of Fort Morgan. The remained married until Tuffy's death in January 1988 at the age of 91. In the intervening years, Beulah Wren had passed away in 1952, at the age of 90, and Ward Wren had died in 1958 at the age of 89. Maria (Greenwald) Wren died in 1992.

Steamboat Springs native Gordon L. "Gordy" Wren (born in 1919 and died in 1999), was a skiing legend. A member of the 1948 United States Olympic team at St. Moritz, Switzerland, he is the only American to have ever qualified for the Olympics in the four skiing events of downhill, slalom, cross country, and ski jumping. He took second place at combined jumping, and won a fifth place medal in a special jumping event at St. Moritz, and was also the first American ski jumper to break the 300 feet mark. Previously, Gordon had served with the famed Tenth Mountain Division during World War II. In his later years, Gordon served as a coach and mentor to several other local skiing greats, including Wallace "Buddy" Werner, Marvin Crawford, Skeeter Werner Walker, and Jim "Moose" Barrows. Gordon Wren was selected as a member of the U.S. Ski Association's Hall of Fame in 1956, and was inducted into the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame in 1972.

More recent owners and residents of this property include Vivian M. Churches and Elizabeth A. Leipod.

36. Sources of information:

Fourteenth Census of the United States, 1920, Routt County Colorado, Precinct No. 1, Steamboat Springs.

"Gordon Wren." Typewritten manuscript located at the Tread of Pioneers Museum.

"Lawrence Wren 1897-1988." (obituary) *Steamboat Pilot*, January 28, 1988. Located in clipping file at Tread of Pioneers 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."

"Routt County Burial Index." http://yampavalley.info/history

"Ski Legend Gordy Wren Dies." *Steamboat Pilot and Today*, November 22, 1999, p. 2.. Located in clipping file at Tread of Pioneers Museum.

"Steamboat Springs, CO. About 1910," (map) On file at the Tread of Pioneers Museum.

"Souvenir Program Eighth Annual Awards Banquet Colorado Sports Hall of Fame 1972." Located in clipping file at Tread of Pioneers Museum.

Thirteenth Census of the United States, 1910, Routt County Colorado, Precinct No. 1, Steamboat Springs.

Twelfth Census of the United States, 1900, Routt County Colorado, Precinct No. 1, Steamboat Springs.

"Ward Wren is Routt County Pioneer Who Hauled Freight And Built Roads." *Steamboat Pilot*, October 11, 1956. Located in clipping file at Tread of Pioneers Museum.

"Ward Wren Died April 17; Served County 45 Years As Road Overseer." (obituary) *Steamboat Pilot*, April 24, 1958. Located in clipping file at Tread of Pioneers Museum.

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.
Not Applicable	C. Its identification with a person or persons who significantly contributed to the culture and development of Routt County.
Not Applicable	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.
Not Applicable	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: ☑

42. Statement of significance:

Due to a loss of integrity, this property may be considered ineligible for local landmark designation in the Routt County Register of Historic Places, and ineligible for individual listing in the National and State Registers.

43. Assessment of historic physical integrity related to significance:

This property exhibits a below average standard of physical integrity, relative to the seven aspects of integrity as defined by the National Park Service and the Colorado Historical Society, Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation - setting, location, design, materials, workmanship, feeling and association. An incompatible second story has been built on top of the historic single story dwelling, seriously diminishing the property's physical integrity. A sense of time and place relative to the historic dwelling which once existed here has been lost.

VII. NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT

44. National Register eligibility field assessment: **Not Eligible**

Local landmark eligibility field assessment: **Not Eligible**

45. Is there National Register district potential? Yes No ☑

Discuss: **Historic buildings within the survey area do not collectively possess sufficient historical or architectural significance, and/or display sufficient physical integrity, to comprise a State or National Register historic district.**

If there is National Register district potential, is this building: Contributing Noncontributing N/A: ☑

46. If the building is in existing National Register district, is it: Contributing Noncontributing N/A: ☑

VIII. RECORDING INFORMATION

47. Photograph number(s): **CD #1, Images 181-186** CDs filed at: **City of Steamboat Springs**
137 10th Street
Steamboat Springs, CO
80477

48. Report title: **Old Town Steamboat Springs Residential Survey Phase V**

49. Date(s): **05/10/08**

50. Recorder(s): **Carl McWilliams**
Timothy Wilder

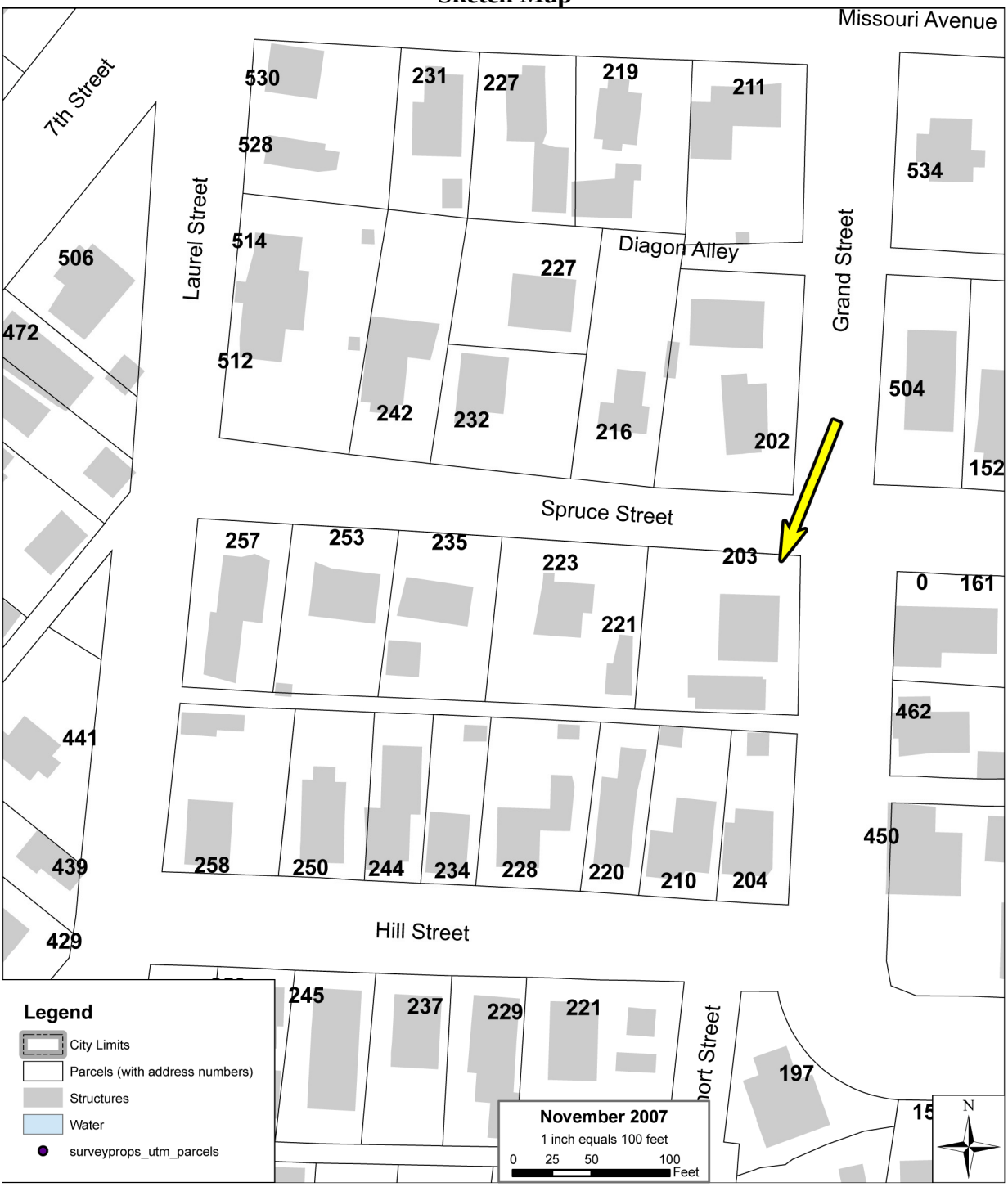
51. Organization: **Cultural Resource Historians**

52. Address: **1607 Dogwood Court**
Fort Collins, CO 80525

53. Phone number(s): **(970) 493-5270**

Architectural Inventory Form

Sketch Map



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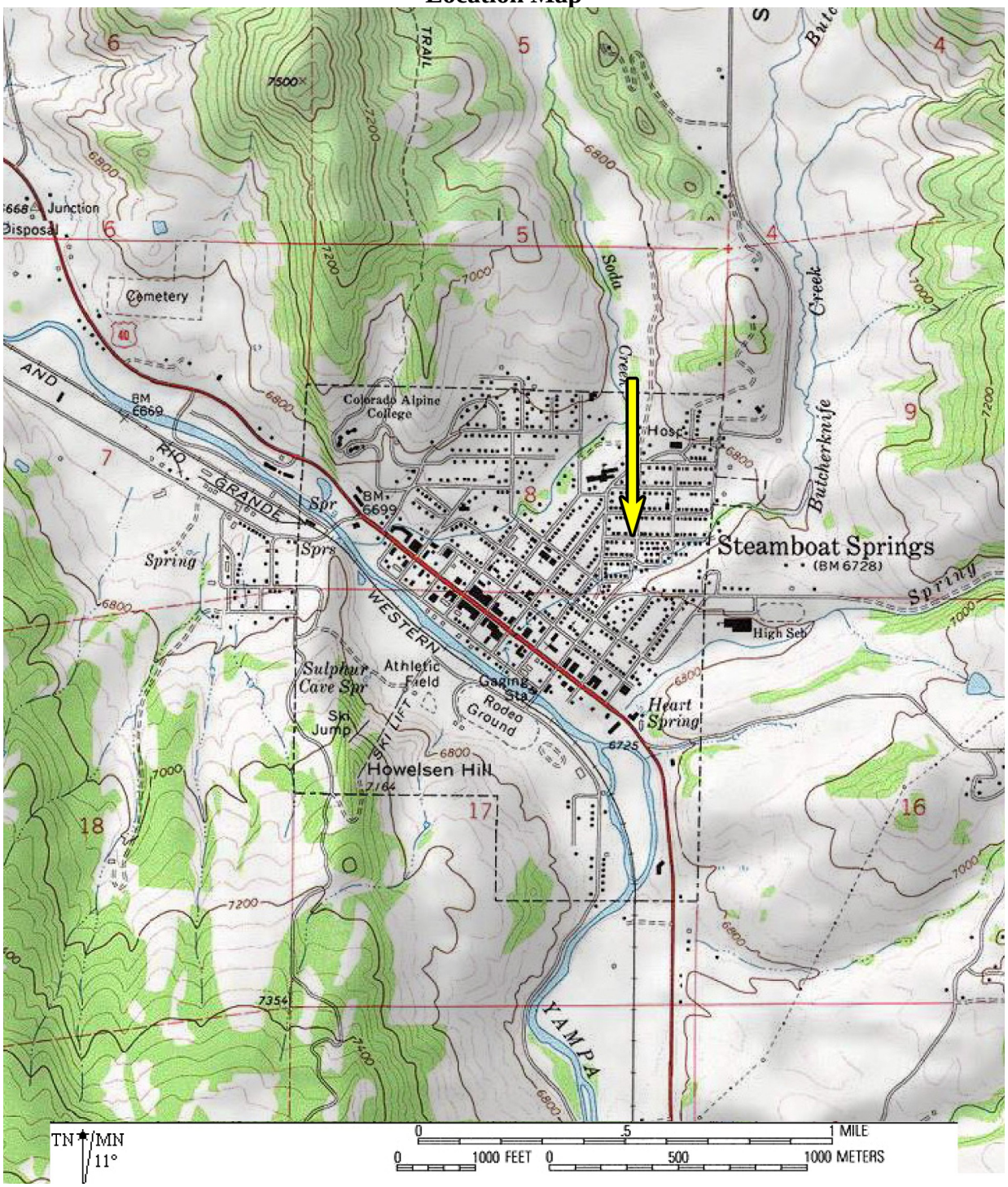
Location Map