

**United States Department of the Interior**  
 National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.

## 1. Name of Property

Historic name: Moore, Dr. Isaac E. and Katherine C., House

Other names/site number: Moore/Childress Tourist Home, Childress House/5EP.9963

Name of related multiple property listing:

Colorado African American Travel and Recreation Resources During Segregation

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

## 2. Location

Street & number: 738 North Spruce Street

City or town: Colorado Springs State: Colorado County: El Paso

Not For Publication:  Vicinity:

## 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this X nomination \_\_\_ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property \_\_\_ meets \_\_\_ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

\_\_\_ national      \_\_\_ statewide      X local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

X A      X B      \_\_\_ C      \_\_\_ D

<p>_____  <b>Signature of certifying official/Title:</b></p>	<p>_____  <b>Date</b></p>
<p>_____  <b>State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government</b></p>	

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In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.	
_____	_____
<b>Signature of commenting official:</b>	<b>Date</b>
_____	_____
<b>Title :</b>	<b>State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government</b>

**4. National Park Service Certification**

I hereby certify that this property is:

- \_\_\_ entered in the National Register
- \_\_\_ determined eligible for the National Register
- \_\_\_ determined not eligible for the National Register
- \_\_\_ removed from the National Register
- \_\_\_ other (explain:) \_\_\_\_\_

_____	_____
Signature of the Keeper	Date of Action

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- Private:
- Public – Local
- Public – State
- Public – Federal

**Category of Property**

(Check only one box.)

- Building(s)
- District

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Site

Structure

Object

**Number of Resources within Property**

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	buildings
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	sites
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	structures
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	objects
<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register None

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**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

- Domestic/Single Dwelling
- Health Care/Medical Office
- Domestic/Hotel

\_\_\_\_\_

**Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

- Domestic/Single Dwelling
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

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## 7. Description

### Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Late 19th and Early 20th Century American Movements/Craftsman

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Materials:** (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: Asbestos

### Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

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#### Summary Paragraph

The Dr. Isaac E. and Katherine C. Moore House was originally constructed about 1901 and expanded in the mid-1920s. The large, two-story, front gabled roof frame dwelling is located on a 0.14-acre, rectangular, midblock parcel in the Westside neighborhood of Colorado Springs (Photograph 1 and Figure 1).<sup>1</sup> The house faces east toward North Spruce Street. The foundation is painted concrete and stone (according to the assessor), and the walls are clad with wide cement asbestos shingles with a wood-grain surface pattern. All windows are flat-headed. The asphalt-shingled roof displays widely overhanging eaves with exposed rafter ends and triangular brackets. A tall red brick chimney is on the north roof slope. The house retains a high level of historic integrity.

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#### Narrative Description

*Setting.* The land slopes slightly downward from north to south. There is a concrete public sidewalk, and the gravel-covered treelawn holds two large trees (see Sketch Map). The building site is elevated above the level of the sidewalk, and there is a concrete retaining wall scored to resemble blocks. Concrete steps with concrete sidewalls rise from the public sidewalk to the level of the front yard, which is in grass. Two evergreen shrubs flank the steps. There is a shrub

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<sup>1</sup> Only real property, not water rights (per 36 CFR 60.6), is the subject of this nomination. There are no water structures within the nominated area.

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at the southeast corner of the house, and three shrubs and a small tree stand along the north property line. A gravel alley borders the rear of the property. The rear yard is enclosed with a chain link fence and features a gravel parking area at the northwest corner of the parcel enclosed with a horizontal board fence (Photographs 7 and 8). A gravel driveway extends from the alley to a gravel parking area at the rear of the house. A small evergreen tree stands south of the driveway, and a deciduous tree is near the southwest corner of the house.

*Front (East).* The symmetrical front of the house (Resource 1 on the Sketch Map) displays a one-story, hipped roof, open porch at the northeast corner (Photographs 2, 3, 4, and 10). The porch has square wood supports, a solid balustrade clad with coursed cement asbestos shingles, and a concrete deck. The walls facing the porch have vertical board-on-board cladding. A three-panel wood door with a large rectangular light and a one-over-one-light window face the porch. Above the porch, the second story contains a one-over-one-light wood window with decorative shutters. The gable face holds a three-light horizontal wood window with decorative shutters. The lower, projecting gable to the south holds a hipped roof bay window with angled sides; each side holds a one-over-one-light window (vinyl replacements). The gable face displays paired, wood, one-over-one-light windows.

*South Wall.* The first story contains a hipped roof oriel window at the east end with paired one-over-one-light wood windows (Photographs 4 and 5). Farther west is a single-light square window. The second story holds a one-over-one-light wood window above the oriel window, followed by a shorter one-over-one-light window, and a band of three short wood windows: the east two are six-light and the west one is a single-light.

*Rear (West Wall).* At the south end of the first story is a one-story gable roof projection (Photograph 6). Its north and south walls are unfenestrated while the west wall holds a one-over-one-light wood window. To the north is a one-over-one-light window (vinyl) abutting a three-panel wood door with a four-light upper section. The second story contains two short horizontal windows at the south end (a six-light and a single-light), followed by a small single-light window, and a band of four short, narrow, six-light windows. The gable face displays a small single-light window at its apex.

*North Wall.* The first story contains a small, two-part sliding window at the west end, followed by a single one-over-one-light window and paired one-over-one-light windows (these three appear to be vinyl) (Photographs 9 and 10). The second story exhibits a single one-over-one-light wood window at each end.

*Alterations.* No historic photograph of this house could be located. The 1907 Sanborn fire insurance map shows the southern part of the house as one-and-a-half-stories and the northern part as one story. At some point, the north and rear part of the house were raised to two stories. The widely overhanging eaves, knee braces, and bands of multi-light windows on the rear suggest this may have been done during Dr. Moore's 1925-31 occupation. Examination of a 1943 aerial of the block supports that the house had been raised and expanded by that date, given the presence of the one-story projection at the southwest and the height of the shadow on the ground. The walls have been reclad with cement asbestos shingles (date unknown; possibly

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historic). The front porch was originally open; it is labeled as enclosed in a circa 1973 El Paso County Assessor drawing and is now open. The front and rear doors are wood replacements and a few windows are one-over-one-light vinyl replacements in original openings. The porch supports and balustrade appear to have been replaced/modified.

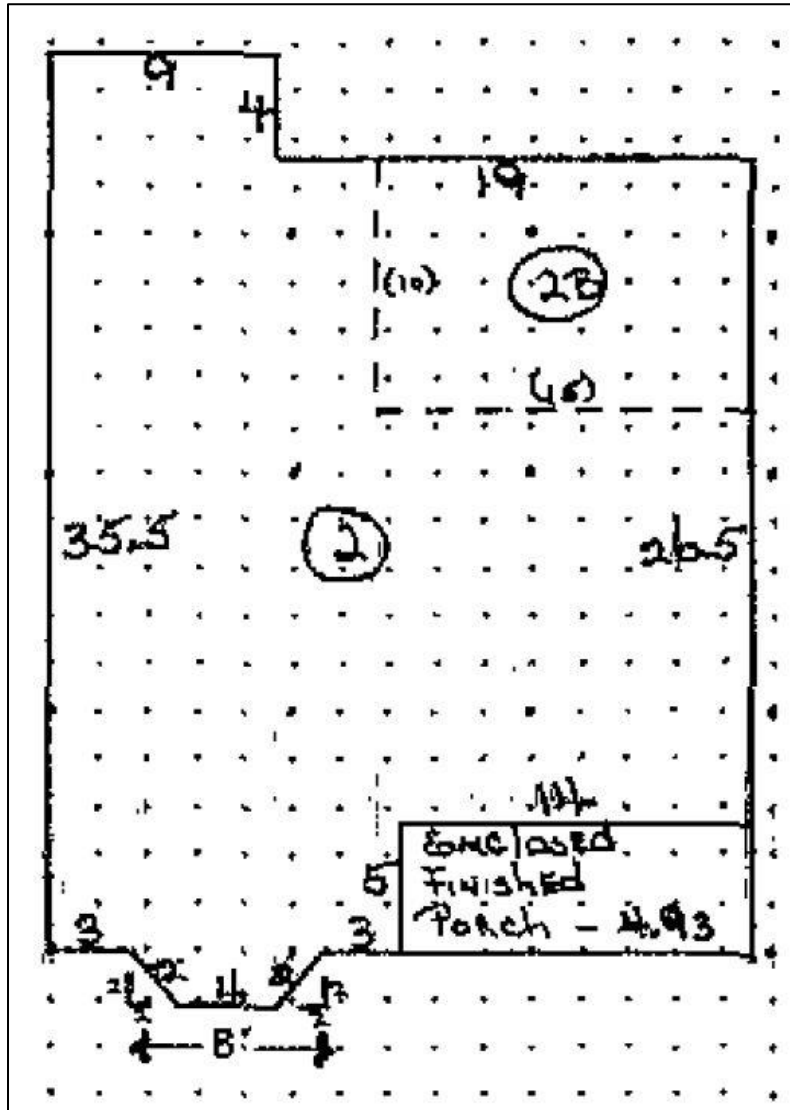


Figure 1. This circa 1967 El Paso County Assessor property card drawing shows the house with its current footprint. North is to the right, and North Spruce Street extends along the bottom edge. SOURCE: El Paso County Assessor, property card, circa 1973, Colorado Springs, Colorado.

*Shed.* A small shed roof shed (Resource 2) stands on the south property line southwest of the house (Photograph 11). It faces north and has walls clad with wood horizontal lap siding with

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cornerboards. The north wall contains double vertical board doors. The shed is classified as noncontributing as it appears to have been constructed outside the period of significance.

*Integrity.* The house retains very good historic integrity, with the principal modifications being porch alterations, some door and window replacements, and possibly the wall recladding at an unknown date. The house retains integrity of location as it is still where it was originally constructed. The house maintains integrity of design dating to its 1920s remodeling and expansion reflecting the decisions of Dr. Moore, including its footprint, scale, and ornamentation. The front porch was originally open, as it is today. A circa 1994 assessor property card shows the porch enclosed. The house appears to retain integrity of materials, including its frame construction, many original wood windows, and wood triangular braces. It is unknown when the cement asbestos wall shingles were applied, but they may date to the 1920s remodeling by Dr. Moore.<sup>2</sup> The house displays integrity of workmanship, including the gabled roofs, bay windows, overhanging eaves, and triangular braces. The integrity of setting is excellent, as the surrounding residential area reflects its historic character dating back to the early twentieth century. The house possesses very good integrity of association, serving as a direct link to the presence of a rare African American physician and civil rights leader during the early twentieth century in this Colorado Springs neighborhood. It is also an example of the types of houses utilized to serve as tourist homes during the segregation era. The house is still used as a single family dwelling located in a residential neighborhood although no longer occupied by African Americans. The house retains integrity of feeling as a relatively large home and office of a prosperous physician, later employed as a tourist home, through its substantial proportions, open front porch, and placement along the street.

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<sup>2</sup> “Asbestos Cement Siding or Asbestos Cement Shingles,” InspectAPedia website, <https://inspectapedia.com> (accessed September 16, 2024). Cement asbestos shingles with embossed surface patterns were employed from the 1920s through the 1960s.

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### 8. Statement of Significance

#### Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A. Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B. Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C. Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

#### Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes
- B. Removed from its original location
- C. A birthplace or grave
- D. A cemetery
- E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure
- F. A commemorative property
- G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

#### Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Ethnic Heritage/Black

Health/Medicine

Politics/Government

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



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**Period of Significance**

1925-1950

**Significant Dates**

1931

1934

**Significant Person**

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

Moore, Dr. Isaac Edward

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

**Architect/Builder**

N/A

**Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph** (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

The Dr. Isaac E. and Katherine Moore House is significant under Criterion A in the area of Ethnic Heritage/Black for its two-decades-long role as a tourist home for Black travelers during the era of segregation. It is further evaluated as eligible under Criterion B in the areas of Health/Medicine and Politics/Government for its association with Dr. Moore, who was the only Black physician in Colorado Springs from 1920 to 1931, founder of a hospital for Black residents, and active president of the local chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP). All areas of significance are at the local level. The overall period of significance extends from 1925 to 1950. The house retains very good historic integrity.

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**Narrative Statement of Significance** (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

**Criterion A.** This property is significant under Criterion A in the area of African American heritage for its operation as a tourist home for Black travelers to the Pikes Peak region from 1930 to 1950, first by Dr. Isaac E. and Katherine C. Moore from 1930 to about 1933 and then by Mrs. Blanche Childress from 1934 to 1950. The dwelling was listed in a number of African American travel guides, including the Hackley and Harrison guides of 1930 and 1931, *The Green Book* for 1939 and 1940, and *Travelguide* for 1947 through 1950. Such guidebooks informed Black travelers of welcoming facilities for lodging and other services during the era of segregation. The period of significance for African American Heritage is 1930-1950, reflecting the years it functioned as a tourist home. The property meets the registration requirements for listing under the Colorado African American Travel and Recreation Resources during Segregation Multiple Property Documentation Form.

**Criterion B.** The house is also significant under Criterion B in the area of Health/Medicine for its association with Dr. Isaac Edward Moore, an African American physician who moved to Colorado Springs in 1920 and opened a medical practice. A Mississippi native, Dr. Moore (1890-1931) graduated from a Black medical school in Tennessee and served in US Army in France during World War I as a physician with the 92<sup>nd</sup> Division, 366th Infantry Regiment. The Black community of Colorado Springs had been without an African American doctor for about two years when Dr. Moore arrived, and he remained the city's only Black doctor until he died in 1931. Dr. Moore established the Lincoln Sanatorium for Colored People (1922-25), served on the staff of St. Francis Hospital, and operated his medical practice in an office in this house. The period of significance for Health/Medicine extends from the acquisition of the house by Dr. Moore in 1925 to his death in 1931, likely from injuries he sustained in the war.

The property is further significant under Criterion B in the area of Politics/Government in Colorado Springs for Dr. Moore's efforts to gain full civil rights for African Americans. Immediately upon his arrival in the city, Dr. Moore became active in the local chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), giving public speeches, becoming the group's president by 1922, openly opposing the Ku Klux Klan (which reached its height of power in Colorado in the early 1920s), and attending national NAACP conventions. The period of significance for Politics/Government extends from Dr. Moore's occupation of the house in 1925 until his death in 1931.

Two other houses associated with the Dr. Moore are extant in Colorado Springs but possess shorter associations and/or integrity concerns: 317 West Monument Street, 1920-23, and 314 West Willamette Avenue, 1924-25. The Moores lived in the Monument Street house, which appears to retain historic integrity, but Dr. Moore had his practice in office space in downtown buildings. The Moore family also lived in the Willamette Avenue house as well as operating a hospital for Black patients. The house originally had a full-width one-story porch. Its historic integrity has been impacted by the removal of that porch and construction of a one-story entrance projection since 1963.

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## Developmental History/Additional Historic Context Information

### *Construction of the House and Early Occupants*

Based on city directory research, this house was built in Cahn's Addition Number 2 on the city's Westside about 1901.<sup>3</sup> Isaac Cahn, the owner of Cahn Lumber Company, platted the subdivision was platted in 1888. Significant development in the vicinity did not occur until the end of the nineteenth century. A history of the Westside neighborhood reported that the streetcar line up Spruce Street was completed in 1890 and smelting and railroads in the area created many new jobs. This resulted in the construction of one thousand new houses in the Westside between 1898 and 1900.<sup>4</sup> In addition to dealing in building materials, by 1902 Cahn Lumber constructed and rented or sold houses in the city; it appears likely the firm built this house. The Cahn Lumber Company advertised several unfurnished houses for rent in December 1904. Among them was 738 North Spruce Street, described as a six-room dwelling with bath, available for \$15 a month.<sup>5</sup> This house is shown on the 1907 Sanborn fire insurance map with a one-story northern part and a one-and-a-half-story southern part (see Figure 2).

The residents of the neighborhood were predominantly White through at least 1950. Manuscript census returns show that the residents of this house, the Moores in 1930 and the Childresses in 1940, were the only Black families living in the surrounding census tabulation area (enumeration district). By 1950, three other African American households had joined the Childresses in the 700-block of North Spruce Street and another ten families had moved onto the 800-block of North Walnut Street. The construction of Interstate 25 destroyed the eastern edge of the neighborhood, and in the 1950s and 1960s "signs of deterioration were also increasingly prevalent in the residential areas of the Westside."<sup>6</sup> The Black population increased in the neighborhood after World War II, and by the early 1960s the area near this house was all African American.

The initial residents of this house were working class Whites. In 1902 William A. Bland, a carpenter, is listed at this address, along with Nona E. Bland, who boarded here. The 1903 directory showed William (a coal dealer) here, as well as his wife, Minnie M. Also in the household were the Bland's daughter, Edith L. Essick, and her husband, Giles A. Essick, a marble cutter. William and Minne Bland were both born in Oregon in 1863. Their presence in Colorado Springs was a brief interlude, as they lived in Cottage Grove, Oregon, in both 1900 and 1910.

The 1904 city directory showed Benjamin P. and Caroline E. Keyes residing here. Benjamin, employed as a "ruler" in the printing industry, worked with printing machines. Actor Lon F.

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<sup>3</sup> The county assessor reported a 1904 year of construction for this house, but this address appears in the 1902 city directory (but not the 1901 directory), suggesting it was built in 1901. The house is shown on the 1907 Sanborn fire insurance map.

<sup>4</sup> Deborah Edge Abele, *The Westside: An Introduction to Its History and Architecture* (Colorado Springs: City of Colorado Springs, 1983), 27-28.

<sup>5</sup> *Colorado Springs Gazette*, December 31, 1904.

<sup>6</sup> Abele, *The Westside*, 33.

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Chaney boarded here that year. Chaney (1883-1930), a Colorado Springs native, began working in theaters and vaudeville in 1902. His greatest fame came in film, where he became an actor with extensive makeup skills from 1912 until his death. Lon Chaney is listed at this address only in 1904.<sup>7</sup>

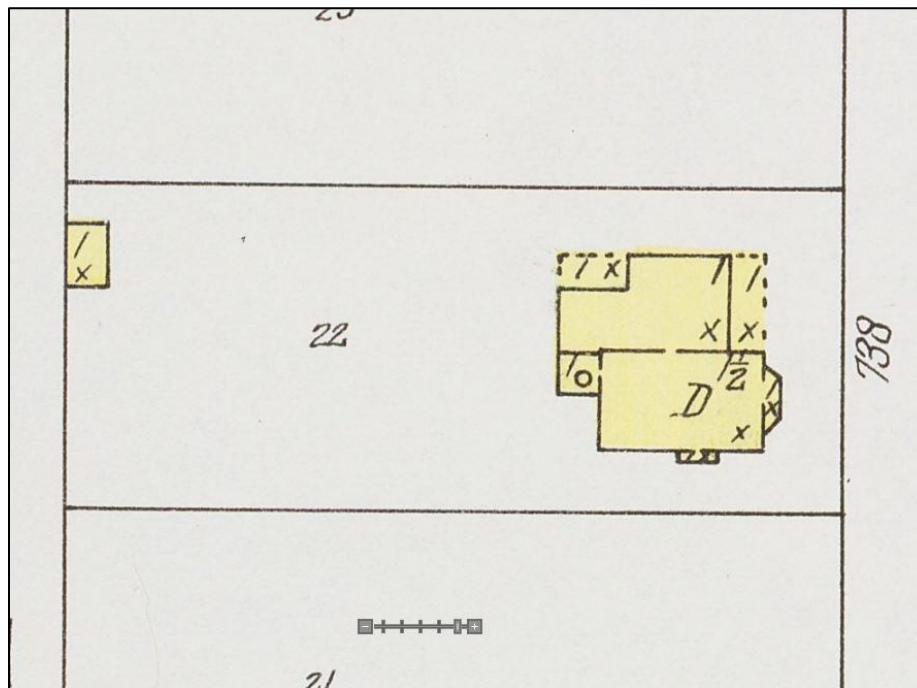


Figure 2. The 1907 Sanborn fire insurance map shows the footprint of the house prior to its expansion in the 1920s. North is to the top of the map and North Spruce Street extends along the right edge. SOURCE: Sanborn Map Company, "Colorado Springs, Colorado," fire insurance map (Pelham, New York: Sanborn Map Company, 1907).

### *Early African American Residents and Owners*

African American people resided in this house beginning in 1906 and continuing through the late twentieth century. The 1906 city directory listed Mrs. Gertrude H. Jefferson and Richard C. Jefferson, a bell boy, and Frank S. Sheldon, an employee of the El Paso Club (a private men's club), at this address. All were African American. In 1910 George Hatch, a porter, and Mrs. Hettie Hatch resided here, as well as porter Pitch Taylor. Given prevailing racial discrimination in hiring, employment as a porter was considered a good position for an African American man to secure. In 1912 Joseph Floris, a laborer, lived here. From 1914 to 1917 Herbert and Jane (Heard) Hines lived here. They had married in Colorado Springs in 1912. Herbert was a janitor with the Mountain States Telephone & Telegraph Company. In 1915 and 1917 Cecil Hines, a porter with Whitaker and Wells, also appeared at this address.

<sup>7</sup> Antonia Carlotta, Universally Me, "The Lon Chaney Tour of Colorado Springs," video, [www.antoniacarlotta.com](http://www.antoniacarlotta.com) (accessed June 4, 2024). This house was not the "boyhood home" of actor Lon Chaney, Jr., contrary to a web video making this assertion. He was not born until 1906.

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In 1920 Albert F. Fisher and his wife, Edna, resided here. Born in Philadelphia in 1890, Albert was a turnkey (jailer) at the county jail. Earlier he had served as a janitor with the Charles J. Fertig Company. Earl E. and Ethel M. Clark (both recorded as White) were listed here in 1921. Earl (1889-1952) was a baker; in 1920 he worked as truck driver. Several members of the Brazier family (identified by the census taker as Mulattos) lived here in 1922, including: Henry M. and Florence, Imogene, and Letty Brazier. McKay Reynolds (Florence's daughter) also appeared at this address in the city directory. No occupations were listed. In 1924 Mrs. Catherine Johnson, a dressmaker, lived here.

### ***Dr. Isaac E. and Katherine C. Moore***

*Early Life.* Dr. Isaac Edward Moore acquired this house in 1925, and continued to live here with his family until his death in 1931. Moore, an African American, was born in Vicksburg, Mississippi, in 1890 and grew up there. His father, William, likely was born enslaved in Mississippi in 1860. His mother, Annie, was born there in 1871. In 1900, William Moore worked as a porter, and the household included his wife Annie, Isaac, and Isaac's two siblings. By 1910 Annie had been widowed and worked as a seamstress. In addition to Isaac, the household included three brothers and an adopted sister. From these relatively humble and challenging beginnings, Isaac Moore rose to become a well-respected physician.

*Medical Education.* Beginning in 1911, Moore attended the University of West Tennessee (UWT) College of Medicine and Surgery, a medical school for educating Black physicians in Memphis, Tennessee. Miles Vandahurst Lynk founded UWT in 1900 in Jackson, Tennessee, and moved the facility to Memphis in 1907. Dr. Lynk, an African American, organized UWT as a "college for the professional training of ambitious Negroes."<sup>8</sup> Although the co-educational institution was open to all races and the small faculty was integrated, nearly all students were African American. Historian Todd L. Savitt notes that the creation of such separate, private medical schools for African Americans arose because segregation barred them from attending "publicly supported professional schools in the states where they lived and paid taxes."<sup>9</sup> UWT operated for twenty-three years and produced at least 155 physicians in addition to numbers of pharmacists, nurses, dentists, and attorneys. As medical education evolved, including higher standards and increased costs, small private schools lacking large endowments like UWT closed.

Moore graduated from UWT in 1915 (see Figure 3). In 1916 he married Katherine C. Brown, who was born in Georgia about 1890. She had worked as a school teacher in Athens, Georgia. By 1917 Dr. Moore and his wife settled in Jefferson City, Missouri, where he began his medical practice. The city then was experiencing growth and had a fairly large African American population.

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<sup>8</sup> Todd L. Savitt, *Race and Medicine in Nineteenth- and Early-Twentieth-Century America* (Kent, Ohio: Kent State University Press, 2007), 289.

<sup>9</sup> Savitt, *Race and Medicine in Nineteenth- and Early-Twentieth-Century America*, 301.

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*World War I Military Service.* World War I disrupted the Moores' lives. After the US entered the conflict, Dr. Moore volunteered for military service and was commissioned a first lieutenant in the US Army Medical Reserve Corps. He was fortunate in this regard, as many Black doctors were assigned to other duties instead of serving as physicians.<sup>10</sup> African Americans comprised about 10 percent of the four million Americans who served in the war. The Great War was the first conflict in which large numbers of American Blacks became officers.<sup>11</sup>



Figure 3. Isaac E. Moore graduated from the University of West Tennessee College of Medicine and Surgery in 1915. Names of individuals not legible. SOURCE: Lynk, *Sixty Years of Medicine or The Life and Times of Dr. Miles V. Lynk: An Autobiography* (1951), class of 1915 class photograph, 50, provided by Health Science Historical Collections, University of Tennessee Health Science Center, Memphis, Tennessee.

Starting in August 1917, Dr. Moore attended the Medical Officers Training Camp-Colored at Fort Des Moines, Iowa. He was one of just 104 African American doctors who completed

<sup>10</sup> Emmett J. Scott, *Scott's Official History of the American Negro in the World War* (Chicago: Homewood Press, 1919), 112.

<sup>11</sup> W. Douglas Fisher, and Joann H. Buckley, *African American Doctors of World War I: The Lives of 104 Volunteers* (Jefferson, North Carolina: McFarland and Company, 2016), 3.

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training and became commissioned officers.<sup>12</sup> Following training, Dr. Moore was assigned to Camp Dodge, Iowa, as a doctor with the 366<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment of the 92<sup>nd</sup> Division. The US Army remained segregated during World War I, and the 92<sup>nd</sup> Division was composed of Black enlisted men and junior officers along with White field grade commanding officers. The newly minted Black medical officers “were expected to become leaders and organize medical hospitals and infirmaries, supervise medics, submit regular reports, track and order supplies, and maintain combat readiness by caring for the health of the troops.”<sup>13</sup> The 366<sup>th</sup> Infantry served in France in 1918, experiencing its greatest action and casualties shortly before the Armistice in November.<sup>14</sup>

Historians W. Douglas Fisher and Joann H. Buckley, authors of *African American Doctors of World War I*, conclude that the Black doctors who trained at Fort Des Moines and served overseas “returned with new skill sets that they were able to use to serve themselves, their communities and their country for decades afterward. They were intelligent, self-selected, volunteer physicians and leaders. Their year and a half of army training and war experiences certainly equipped them well beyond anything they had learned in medical school.”<sup>15</sup> Fisher and Buckley include a profile of Dr. Moore in their book and report that he was “a victim of a gas shell, which troubled him in later years and probably shortened his life.”<sup>16</sup>

Dr. Moore returned to the US in February 1919, received an honorable discharge in March, and began a medical practice in St. Louis. The *St. Louis Argus* related in April 1919 that Dr. Moore, “like most of the officers and men who has [sic] returned from over there tells of some bitter experience with the American white soldiers while in foreign fields.”<sup>17</sup> In a May 1919 presentation at the Epworth League of the Union Memorial Methodist Episcopal Church in St. Louis, the *Argus* reported that “in a most interesting and forceful manner Lieut. Moore told of some of his experiences, both in camp here and overseas.”<sup>18</sup> Historian Jennifer D. Keene argued that the essence of the Black soldiers’ experience in France was “trying to serve with honor and distinction while encountering a steady torrent of racial prejudice” from their White military compatriots.<sup>19</sup> By contrast, the African American troops were treated equitably by the French military and civilian society.

W.E.B. DuBois, in a 1919 essay in *The Crisis*, argued that “this double experience of deliberate and devilish persecution from their own countrymen, coupled with a taste of real democracy and world-old [sic] culture, was revolutionizing. They began to hate prejudice and discrimination as they had never hated it before. They began to realize its eternal meaning and complications. Far

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<sup>12</sup> Fisher and Buckley, *African American Doctors of World War I*, 4. Other African Americans became commissioned officers in combat units.

<sup>13</sup> Fisher and Buckley, *African American Doctors of World War I*, 11-12.

<sup>14</sup> Fisher and Buckley, *African American Doctors of World War I*, 160.

<sup>15</sup> Fisher and Buckley, *African American Doctors of World War I*, 12.

<sup>16</sup> Fisher and Buckley, *African American Doctors of World War I*, 160.

<sup>17</sup> *St. Louis Argus*, April 4, 1919.

<sup>18</sup> *St. Louis Argus*, May 2, 1919.

<sup>19</sup> Jennifer D. Keene, “The Memory of the Great War in the African American Community,” in *Unknown Soldiers: The American Expeditionary Forces in Memory and Remembrance*, ed. Mark A. Snell (Kent, Ohio: Kent State University Press, 2008), 207.

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from filling them with a desire to escape from their race and country, they were filled with a bitter, dogged determination never to give up the fight for Negro equality in America.”<sup>20</sup>

*The Moores Move to Colorado Springs.* The Moores moved to Colorado Springs by December 1920. Many people experiencing lung problems found the climate, fresh air, and plentiful sunshine of the Pikes Peak region beneficial. The couple may have hoped that the location would improve Dr. Moore’s wartime lung injury. The Black population of the city was the third largest in the state in 1920, comprising slightly more than one thousand persons. Richard S. Grant, the city’s previous Black doctor, had left in 1919, and Dr. Moore became the only African America physician in the city.<sup>21</sup> The Moores initially lived on West Monument Avenue. The household also included Isaac’s younger brother William, who was working as a bell boy.

*NAACP and Other Civic Activities.* In Colorado Springs Dr. Moore immediately became involved in the local chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP). In December 1920, he was elected to the executive committee of the local chapter. In January 1921 he spoke at a public meeting of the NAACP at Payne Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Church. By 1922 Dr. Moore became the president of the local NAACP chapter. He presided at an NAACP event at Payne Chapel in February 1922 that paid tribute to Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass and celebrated the passage of an anti-lynching bill by the US House of Representatives.<sup>22</sup>

Dr. Moore and the Colorado Springs NAACP led early efforts to fight the Ku Klux Klan (KKK) in Colorado. In March 1922 the Denver and Colorado Springs branches of the NAACP filed a formal complaint with Colorado officials against approval of the incorporation of the KKK in the state. A telegram sent by the Colorado Springs branch was signed by Dr. Moore as branch president, as well as three Black church leaders. The complaint argued that the state should not recognize the KKK given the “nefarious work and promulgated doctrine of the organization, which are most positively un-American and un-democratic in principle and doctrines.”<sup>23</sup> Although the protest resulted in a grand jury investigation of the Klan, the group’s incorporation eventually was approved. The Klan became a powerful force in Colorado in the 1920s period, electing its supporters to local and statewide offices. On March 22, 1922 the local NAACP executive committee endorsed the anti-KKK position stand of *Colorado Springs Gazette*, which editorialized: “Terrorization never is in order. The policy of the Klan is just that; in other respects it is even more despicable. ... Colorado has no need for the order, and if experience elsewhere is a criterion, would be much better off without it.”<sup>24</sup>

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<sup>20</sup> W.E.B. DuBois, “An Essay Toward a History of the Black Man in the Great War,” *The Crisis* 18 (June 1919), 72. DuBois used documents and recollections provided by Black veterans who served in France to craft a series of essays in *The Crisis*.

<sup>21</sup> John Stokes Holley, ed. Takiyah Jemison and Heather Jordan, *Invisible People of the Pikes Peak Region: An African-American Chronicle* (Colorado Springs: Pikes Peak Library District, Friends of the Pikes Peak Library District, and Friends of the Colorado Springs Pioneer Museum, 2021), 148.

<sup>22</sup> *Colorado Springs Gazette*, December 6, 1920, January 9, 1921, and February 12, 1922. The Senate failed to act, however, and an anti-lynching act did not become law until 1922.

<sup>23</sup> *Colorado Statesman* (Denver), March 11, 1922.

<sup>24</sup> *Colorado Springs Gazette*, March 11, 1922.



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Dr. Moore was one of a small group of African Americans representing Colorado at the Negro Educational Congress in 1923 in Washington, DC, and in 1924 in Philadelphia.<sup>25</sup> Dr. Moore also became supportive of the ideals of Marcus Garvey's Universal Negro Improvement Association (UNIA) following a speech by Amy Jacques Garvey (Garvey's wife) at the People's Methodist Episcopal Church in Colorado Springs in October 1924. The National Register nomination for the church reported: "Dr. Moore had previously been unimpressed with the UNIA because he disagreed with statements made by Marcus Garvey. However, after hearing Mrs. Garvey 'appeal for more race pride and consciousness,' he declared himself 'thoroughly in accord with the principles of the UNIA.'"<sup>26</sup>

In 1925 Dr. Moore was a member of the NAACP All-Colorado and Wyoming Committee, which planned the group's national conference held in Denver that July. It is unknown how active he was in the NAACP toward the end of his life. During his time in Colorado Springs he also interested himself in other civic affairs. In April 1920 he served on a committee to organize Black participation in a Great American Day parade in the city. Dr. Moore attended a meeting in December 1922 to organize Pikes Peak area reserve army officers into a branch of the Association of the United States Army.<sup>27</sup>

*Medical Work.* Initially, Dr. Moore opened an office in downtown Colorado Springs on Tejon Street. In October 1921 he served as an attending physician at Beth-El Hospital, a Protestant facility.<sup>28</sup> In November 1922 Dr. Moore established the Lincoln Sanatorium for Tuberculosis in a two-story dwelling at 314 West Willamette Avenue (5EP.282). An advertisement for the facility appeared in the December 1922 issue of *The Crisis*, the national magazine of the NAACP, indicated it specialized in tuberculosis and other respiratory diseases.<sup>29</sup> The facility focused on Black patients, and the local African American community donated money and equipment to support the facility. In addition to Dr. Moore, the staff included Mrs. Minnie Chatters of Clarksdale, Mississippi and two graduate nurses from Memphis, Tennessee. The hospital advertised in the *Denver Star* in 1924.<sup>30</sup> The Moores lived in the second story of the hospital.

In 1925, for unstated reasons, Dr. Moore closed the hospital, and the Moores acquired this house a block northwest at 738 North Spruce Street. Evidence suggests that the Moores expanded the house to accommodate the needs of their family and to house his office. The northern half was raised to two stories, the south half was extended westward, and a one-story section was added at

<sup>25</sup> *Rocky Mountain News*, February 9, 1923; *Denver Post*, March 28, 1924.

<sup>26</sup> Justin Hutchcraft, People's Methodist Episcopal Church, Colorado Springs, Colorado, 5EP.7321, National Register of Historic Places nomination, NRIS 14000432, January 29, 2014, citing Lonnie C. Bassett, "Mrs. Amy Jacques Garvey Charms Big Audience with Wonderful Address at Colorado Springs," *Negro World*, October 10, 1924.

<sup>27</sup> *Colorado Statesman* (Denver), March 7, 1925; *Colorado Springs Gazette*, April 2, 1920 and December 16, 1922.

<sup>28</sup> *Colorado Springs Gazette*, October 30, 1921.

<sup>29</sup> *The Crisis*, December 1922, 89.

<sup>30</sup> *Colorado Springs Gazette*, October 29, 1922 and November 2, 1922; *Denver Star*, September 20, 1924. In the early 1950s the house served as the office of the local chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP).

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the south end of the rear.<sup>31</sup> Dr. Moore conducted his practice in the house and served on the staff of St. Francis Hospital. In March 1927 he showed a representative of the National Baptist Convention prospective sites for an African American sanatorium in the Colorado Springs area.<sup>32</sup>

The 1930 census listed the Moores at this address along with their sons Isaac E., Jr., 6 years old, and Frederick L., 3 ½ years old; both sons were born in Colorado. The couple valued the house at \$7,000 and owned a radio, an appliance not found in every home at the time. Their household was the only African American family in the immediate vicinity in 1930.

*Death of Dr. Moore.* Dr. Isaac E. Moore died on March 16, 1931 at age forty at Fitzsimons General Hospital, a World War I-era US Army facility in Aurora, Colorado. Historians Fisher and Buckley opine that Moore's "gassing in World War I made his lungs weak and ultimately led to pulmonary problems and then tuberculosis."<sup>33</sup> The *Colorado Springs Gazette* reported Dr. Moore's death on its front page, describing him as the "only colored physician in Colorado Springs" and noting "he took an active interest in civic affairs as affecting the colored residents of the city, and was well-known."<sup>34</sup> The *Colorado Statesman* (a Denver Black newspaper) also observed his passing, stating he was "a leader in civic and fraternal affairs of his city and county" and "well known in Denver."<sup>35</sup> Mrs. Moore and the children left Colorado Springs in about 1933 and were living in Los Angeles by 1940. Son Isaac E. Moore, Jr. later returned to Colorado in the mid-1940s, becoming the second Black graduate of the University of Colorado School of Law and serving in the state legislature in the late 1950s-mid-1960s. Katherine C. Brown died in Los Angeles in 1968.

### ***Listing in African American Travel Guides***

*Moore.* Dr. Moore and his wife had started operating a tourist home in the house by 1930. This house appeared as the "Dr. I. E. Moore Tourist Home" in the Hackley and Harrison guides of 1930 and 1931, offering rooms and meals. Such guides informed Black travelers of places that would welcome their patronage for lodging and other services. Colorado Springs drew traffic from US 85/87, a major north-south route through Colorado, and the Pikes Peak region was a major tourist destination.

*Childress.* After the Moores, African Americans John Wesley Childress, Sr. and his wife, Blanche A., acquired this property and were listed here in the 1934 city directory (see Figure 4).<sup>36</sup> Blanche Childress continued the tourist home started by the Moores, although the facility still was listed under Dr. Moore's name in the 1939 and 1940 editions of *The Green Book*. The 1947

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<sup>31</sup> US Geological Survey, Earth Explorer, aerial photograph, CSD-Roll 1-001, July 20, 1943, <https://earthexplorer.usgs.gov/>. These changes, which produced today's footprint of the house, were not reflected on the 1963 Sanborn sheet but are clearly shown on the cited 1943 aerial photograph. The remodeling introduced such Craftsman-style elements as triangular braces and bands of windows on the rear.

<sup>32</sup> *Denver Post*, March 8, 1927.

<sup>33</sup> Fisher and Buckley, *African American Doctors of World War I*, 161.

<sup>34</sup> *Colorado Springs Gazette*, March 17, 1931.

<sup>35</sup> *Colorado Statesman* (Denver), March 21, 1931.

<sup>36</sup> The Childresses moved here from a home less than a block away at 236 West Dale Street.

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through 1950 issues of *Travelguide*, another publication for Black travelers, identified this as the rooming house of Mrs. Blanche Childress. Newspaper accounts indicate that the Childresses accommodated out of state visitors. The *Colorado Voice* reported in 1949 that Mrs. F. Thomas of Chicago was a Childress guest, as were two couples from Tulsa, Oklahoma.<sup>37</sup>



Figure 4. Blanche A. and John Wesley Childress, Sr. and their family owned the house from about 1934 until 1961.  
SOURCE: Newell Moore Family Tree, Ancestry.com.

This property continued to be owned by the Childress family until 1961. John W. Childress and Blanche A. Colbert were both natives of Arkansas; he was born in Dermott in 1891 or 1892 and she in 1894. The couple married in 1920 and were living in Colorado Springs, where John worked as a miner. For most of his working life, John was employed as a janitor in the Colorado Savings Bank building in downtown Colorado Springs. City directories in the early 1950s show Blanche working as an elevator operator or maid in the same building. All of the Childress children were born in Colorado: Gladys E. (1921-2012), John W., Jr. (1922-1992), Eugene (1928-1978), and Ruth (1930-1993).

In 1950 John Childress worked as a janitor at a bank and at a garage, and Blanche performed maid work at a bank. Son Eugene C. was employed as a table waiter at a private club. It appears that all of the children graduated high school and that Gladys attended Colorado College. The 1951 city directory showed both elder Childresses employed by the Colorado Savings Bank. Blanche died in October 1952. John Childress continued to live here until his death in 1959. The family sold the property in 1961. Gordon Moss, who lives a few doors to the north, recalled the area was all Black when his family moved to this block in 1962.

<sup>37</sup> *Colorado Voice* (Colorado Springs), August 26, 1949.

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**Later Owners**

In 1961 Joseph V. Tafoya and his wife purchased this property from Mrs. Childress and held the property less than five years. African Americans L.D. and Marietta Young became owners in 1966, and the family remained owners until 1987. L.D. quitclaimed his ownership to Marietta in 1980. She apparently remarried, becoming Marietta Young Ward and adding Ulysses Ward, Jr. as a co-owner in 1985. Current owner Page Wesley Saulsbury relates that two members of the Ward family told her that twenty-two members of the extended Ward family lived in the house at some point during their tenure.<sup>38</sup>

Marietta Young Ward became sole owner in 1985, and Black ownership ended in 1987, when she sold the property to Dominick J. and Judith A. Luppino, who were short-term owners. Alfred Graziano and Terry Casey bought the property in 1988. After that couple defaulted on the mortgage, Shinae L. and Harry F. Schonleber bought the property from the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development (see Figure 5). Seth Thomas and Leigh A. Callhan became owners in 2001. Birgette R. Dodd purchased the property in 2004. The present owners, Chas M. Saulsbury and Page Wesley Saulsbury acquired the property in 2006.



Figure 5. The front and north side of the house is shown in this circa 1994 El Paso County Assessor property card photograph (view southwest). SOURCE: El Paso County Assessor, property card, circa 1994, Colorado Springs, Colorado.

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

**Bibliography** (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

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<sup>38</sup> Page Wesley Saulsbury, Colorado Springs, email to Thomas H. Simmons, August 5, 2024.

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**Previous documentation on file (NPS):**

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State Historic Preservation Office
  - Other State agency
  - Federal agency
  - Local government
  - University
  - Other
- Name of repository: \_\_\_\_\_

**Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):** 5EP.9963

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**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreage of Property** 0.14

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

**Latitude/Longitude Coordinates**

Datum if other than WGS84: \_\_\_\_\_

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

- |                        |                        |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Latitude: 38.844005 | Longitude: -104.832718 |
| 2. Latitude:           | Longitude:             |
| 3. Latitude:           | Longitude:             |
| 4. Latitude:           | Longitude:             |

**Or**

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**UTM References**

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927 or  NAD 1983

- |             |                 |                   |
|-------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| 1. Zone: 13 | Easting: 514517 | Northing: 4299479 |
| 2. Zone:    | Easting:        | Northing:         |
| 3. Zone:    | Easting:        | Northing:         |
| 4. Zone:    | Easting :       | Northing:         |

**Verbal Boundary Description** (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The nominated area consists of lot 22, block 1 of Cahn’s Addition No. 2 to Colorado Springs, which is El Paso County Assessor parcel number 7412405004.

**Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The nominated area includes all of the land historically associated with the dwelling.

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**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title: Thomas H. Simmons and R. Laurie Simmons, Historians  
organization: Front Range Research Associates, Inc.  
street & number: 3635 West 46<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
city or town: Denver state: Colorado zip code: 80211  
e-mail: fraden@msn.com www.frhistory.com  
telephone: 303-477-7597  
date: October 4, 2024 (revised)

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**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property’s location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)



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### Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

### Photo Log

Name of Property: Moore, Isaac E. and Katherine C., House

City or Vicinity: Colorado Springs

County: El Paso

State: Colorado

Photographer: Thomas H. Simmons

Date Photographed: March 2024

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

- 1 of 11. 738 North Spruce Street (center) in the context of the 700-block. View northwest.
- 2 of 11. The front of the house from the street, View west.
- 3 of 11. The front of the house from the sidewalk. View west.
- 4 of 11. The front of the house and south wall from the sidewalk. View northwest.
- 5 of 11. The south wall from the sidewalk the lawn of the adjoining property. View north-northwest.
- 6 of 11. The rear of the house (west wall) from the alley. View east.
- 7 of 11. The south portion of the backyard, showing the house at left and the small shed to the right. View southeast.
- 8 of 11. The house to the right and the gravel parking area at the northwest corner of the parcel. View east-northeast.
- 9 of 11. The north wall and the front from the sidewalk. View south-southwest.
- 10 of 11. The front and part of the north wall from the sidewalk, showing the porch detail. View west-southwest.
- 11 of 11. The front and west wall of the small shed on the south property line. View southwest.

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for nominations to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.). We may not conduct or sponsor and you are not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

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**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for each response using this form is estimated to be between the Tier 1 and Tier 4 levels with the estimate of the time for each tier as follows:

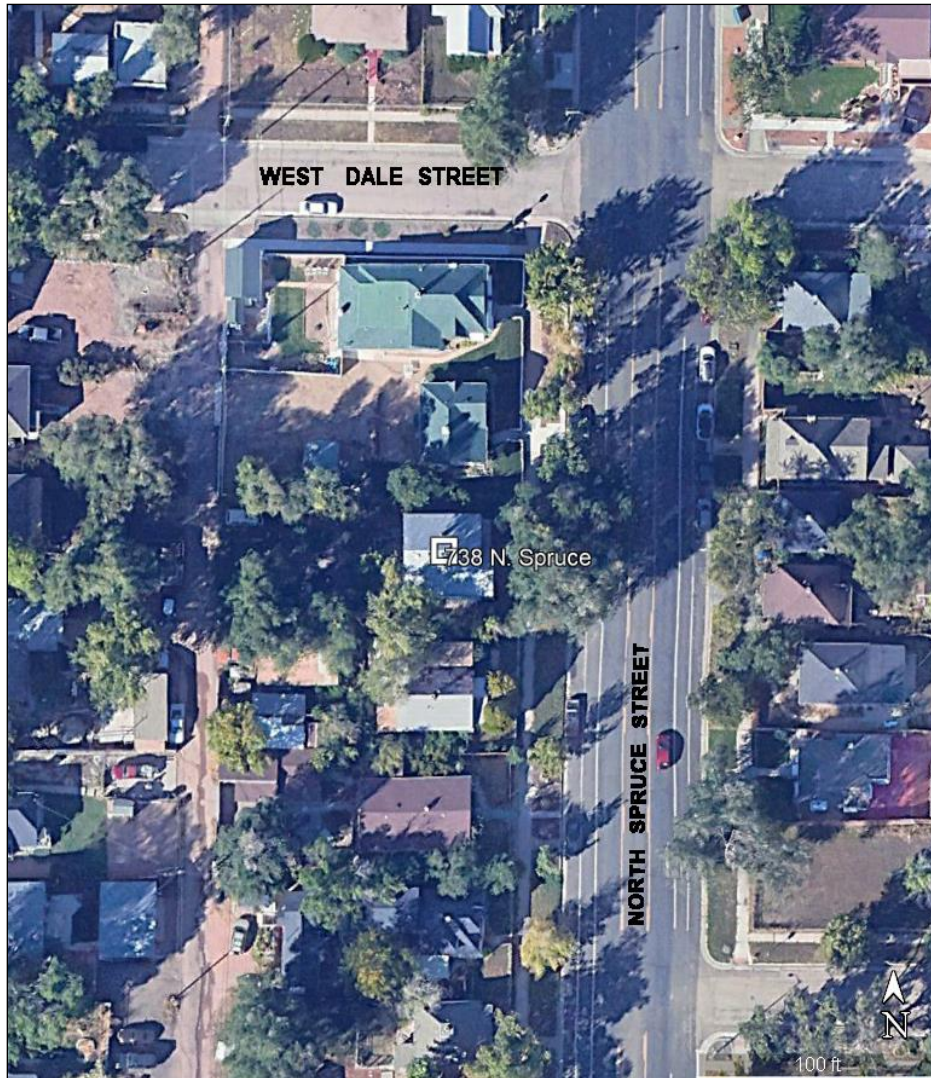
- Tier 1 – 60-100 hours
- Tier 2 – 120 hours
- Tier 3 – 230 hours
- Tier 4 – 280 hours

The above estimates include time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and preparing and transmitting nominations. Send comments regarding these estimates or any other aspect of the requirement(s) to the Service Information Collection Clearance Officer, National Park Service, 1201 Oakridge Drive Fort Collins, CO 80525.

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**Location Map**

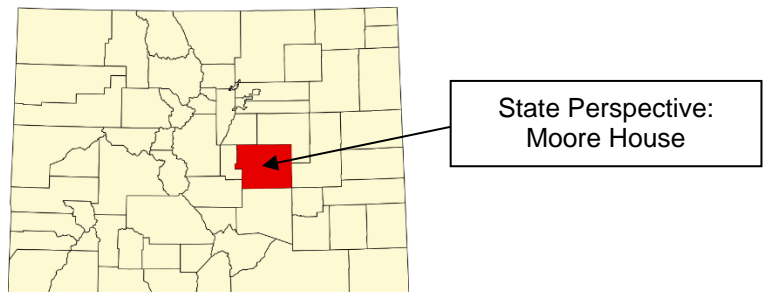


The labeled point indicates the location of the nominated resource, which has the following coordinates:

Latitude: 38.844005

Longitude: -104.832718

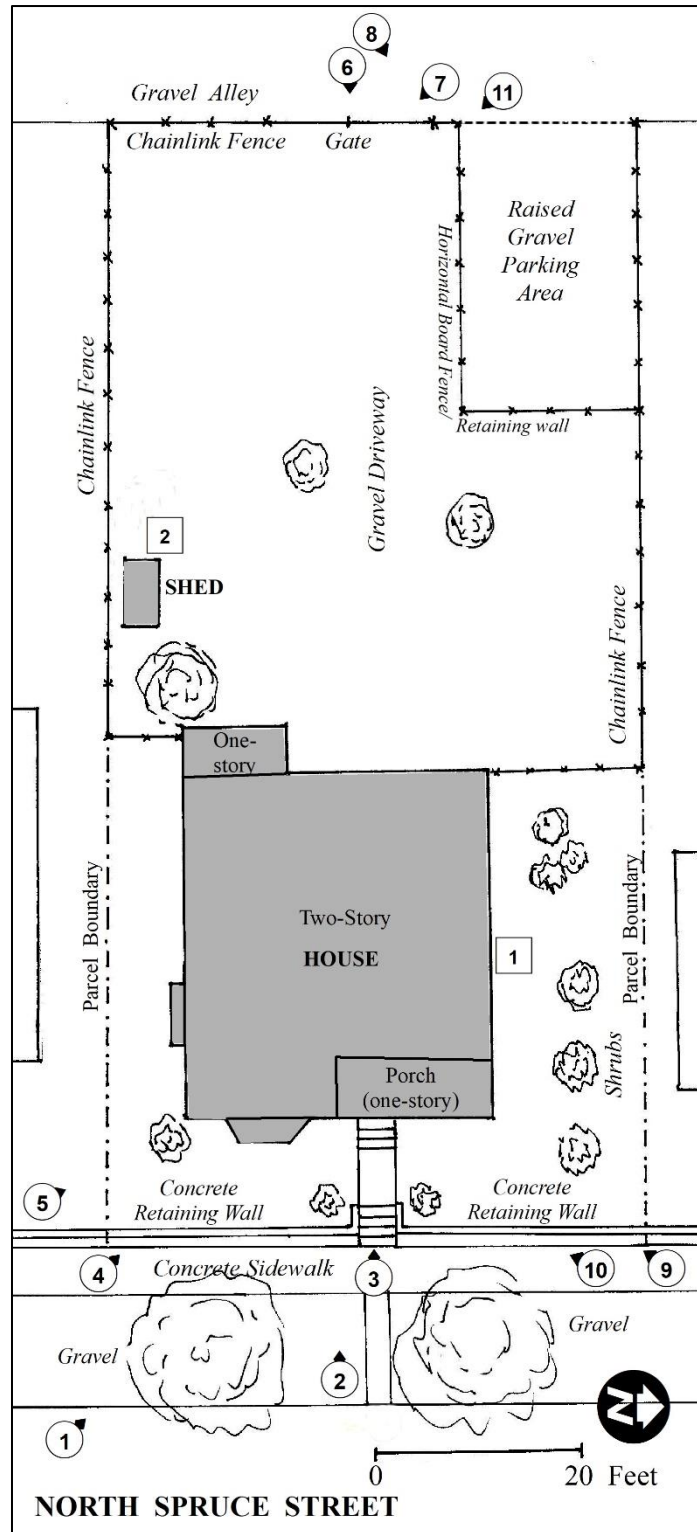
Image Date: October 6, 2023



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**Sketch Map**



Numbers in circles with arrows identify exterior photograph locations and camera directions.

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1 of 11. 738 North Spruce Street (center) in the context of the 700-block. View northwest.



2 of 11. The front of the house from the street. View west.

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3 of 11. The front of the house from the sidewalk. View west.



4 of 11. The front of the house and south wall from the sidewalk. View northwest.

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5 of 11. The south wall from the sidewalk the lawn of the adjoining property. View north-northwest.



6 of 11. The rear of the house (west wall) from the alley. View east.

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7 of 11. The south portion of the backyard, showing the house at left and the small shed to the right. View southeast.



8 of 11. The house to the right and the gravel parking area at the northwest corner of the parcel. View east-northeast.



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9 of 11. The north wall and the front from the sidewalk. View south-southwest.



10 of 11. The front and part of the north wall from the sidewalk, showing the porch detail. View west-southwest.

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11 of 11. The front and west wall of the small shed on the south property line. View southwest.