

COLORADO CULTURAL RESOURCE SURVEY

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Initials \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_Determined Eligible - National Register

**Architectural Inventory Form**

**I. IDENTIFICATION**

\_\_\_\_Contributes to eligible National Register District

- 1. Resource number: **5RT2192**
- 2. Temporary number: **N/A**
- 3. County: **Routt County**
- 4. City: **Steamboat Springs**
- 5. Historic building name: **Thoning House**
- 6. Current building name: **Amsbary House**
- 7. Building address: **416 3rd Street**
- 8. Owner name: **Wayne Lowell Amsbary**  
 Owner address: **P.O. Box 773693**  
**Steamboat Springs, CO 80477**

**II. GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION**

- 9. P.M. **6th** Township

**Vertical Siding**

**NW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> of NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> of NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> of section 17**

- 10. UTM reference (NAD83)  
 Zone **13**  
 Easting: **345255**  
 Northing: **4483319**
- 11. USGS quad name: **Steamboat Springs, Colorado**  
 Year: **1969** (Map Scale: 1 : 25,000)
- 12. Lot(s): **10-11** Block:  
 Addition: **Steamboat Springs 1st Addition** Year of Addition **1910**

13. Boundary Description and Justification: **This legally defined parcel encompasses, but does not exceed, the land associated with this building since the time of construction.**

22. Architectural style / building type:

**No Style**

**Official Eligibility Determination**

(OAHP use only)

\_\_\_\_Determined Not Eligible - National Register

(Page 1 of 7) \_\_\_\_Determined Eligible - State Register

\_\_\_\_Determined Not Eligible - State Register

\_\_\_\_Needs Data

\_\_\_\_Noncontributing to eligible National Register District

**III. ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION**

- 14. Building plan (footprint, shape):  
**Rectangular Plan**
- 15. Dimensions in feet: **918 square feet**
- 16. Number of stories: **1.5**
- 17. Primary external wall material:  
**Wood / Shingle**  
**6N** Range **84W** **Wood** /
- 18. Roof configuration (enter one):  
**Gabled Roof / Front Gabled Roof**
- 19. Primary external roof material (enter one):  
**Metal Roof**
- 20. Special features (enter all that apply):  
**Porch**  
**Chimney**  
**7.5'**  
**12**

**21. General Architectural Description**

The residence at 416 3rd Street in Steamboat Springs is modest 1.5 story, rectangular-shaped, dwelling which measures 22' NE-SW (across) by 34' NW-SE (deep). Included in these dimensions are the original 22' by 24' gabled dwelling, as well as a 22' by 10' shed-roofed (nearly flat-roofed) addition to the southeast (rear) elevation. The house is set back approximately 40' from the curb on 3rd Street to the northwest, while a garage located near the house's south corner close to the southwest property line. The dwelling is supported by a concrete foundation, and there is no basement. The home's exterior walls are clad with painted beige square-cut wood shingle siding, over wood frame construction; although, vertical wood plank siding appears in the upper gable end on the facade (northwest elevation). The roof is a steeply-pitched front gable, covered with metal roofing material, and with painted white exposed rafter ends beneath the eaves. One red brick chimney is located on the northeast-facing roof slope. Three historic 3/1 (ribbon style) double-hung sash windows, including one in the upper gable end, penetrate the facade wall. A non-historic fixed-pane window penetrates the facade wall in the upper gable end, as well. A single 3/1 (ribbon style) double-hung sash window, and a small, non-historic, 2-light window are located on the southwest (side) elevation. All of the windows have painted white wood frames, and painted dark green wood surrounds. A painted black wood-paneled door, with one upper sash light, is located at the southwest end of the facade. This door leads into the house from a 2-step concrete porch, covered by a gable hood with knee brace supports. A single entry door, covered by an aluminum storm door, opens from the upper gable end onto the roof of the shed-roofed addition on the southeast elevation. The shed-roofed addition appears quite old. It features painted beige bead board exterior walls, a non-historic 1/1 double-hung sash window, and a non-historic 1x1 horizontal sliding window.

**22. Architectural style / building type:**

No Style

**23. Landscape or setting special features:**

This property is situated on the southeast side of 3rd Street, near the southeast end of Old Town Steamboat Springs' historic residential neighborhood. The property features planted grass front and back lawns with mature landscaping. A garage is located a short distance south of the house, near the southwest property line.

**24. Associated buildings, features, or objects**

Garage

The garage is a modest wood frame building which measures 14' NE-SW (across) by 18' NW-SE (deep). It is supported by a concrete foundation, and has painted beige horizontal wood siding, with painted green 1" by 4" corner boards. The garage roof is a moderately-pitched front gable, covered with metal roofing material laid over 1x wood decking and 2x wood rafters. The rafter ends are painted green, and are exposed beneath the eaves. A metal roll-away garage door, is located on the southeast elevation, facing toward 2nd Street. A single, painted beige, wood-paneled door is located near the northeast end of the southeast elevation. A painted white wood-paneled door, with one upper sash light, is located on the northwest elevation.

Resource Number: **5RT2192**

Temporary Resource Number: **N/A**

**Architectural Inventory Form**

(Page 3 of 7)

---

**IV. ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY**

25. Date of Construction:

Estimate **1928**

Actual

Source of information: **Routt County Assessor/ Treasurer Parcel Detail Information**

26. Architect: **unknown**

Source of information: **n/a**

27. Builder/ Contractor: **unknown**

Source of information: **n/a**

28. Original owner: **unknown**

Source of information: **n/a**

29. **Construction History** (include description and dates of major additions, alterations, or demolitions):

According to its current owner, Wayne Amsbary, and to other oral sources in the neighborhood, this house was originally built at Mt. Harris, a coal mining town located east of Hayden. According to Routt County Assessor records, the house was built in 1928, which could be the year it was erected in Mt. Harris. The Assessor records also lists "1940" as the "effective year built," which may refer to the year the shed-roofed addition was built. There have been no other additions to the house since it was evidently moved to Steamboat Springs in the years following 1958 when all of the buildings at Mt. Harris were sold at auction.

30. Original location: **no**

Moved **yes**

Date of move(s) **circa 1958**

---

**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):**Residence**

**35. Historical Background**

According to its current owner, Wayne Amsbary, and to other oral sources in the neighborhood, this house was originally built at Mt. Harris, a coal mining town located east of Hayden. Developed in the years following its founding in 1914, Mt. Harris was home to miners and their families who were employed at three area mines: the Mt. Harris Mine, owned by the Colorado-Utah Coal Company, which operated between 1914 and 1958; the Wolf Creek Mine, which was opened by the International Fuel Company in 1915, and was later operated by the Pinnacle-Kemmerer Coal Company; and the Wadge Mine, which was operated by the Victor American Fuel Company between 1917 and 1958. Mt. Harris was a complete and vibrant town. In addition to houses for miners, business owners, and others, Mt. Harris also boasted an extensive number of businesses, a post office, boardinghouses, hotels, a community center, offices for the mining companies, and other improvements. All of the town's buildings were sold at auction in 1958, and either razed, or moved to nearby towns. This house is one of several former Mt. Harris houses which were moved to Steamboat Springs in the late 1950s and early 1960s.

This house is presently owned and occupied by Wayne Amsbary, who purchased it circa 1999. Wayne works as a carpenter during the summer months, and is engaged in the hotel business during the busy winter months of the ski season. Wayne reported that he purchased the property from the Eric Thoning family, who he believes owned it from about 1989 to 1999. The Thoning family no longer lives in Routt County. A family named Corkery owned the property prior to the Thonings.

**36. Sources of Information**

A Guide to Colorado's Historic Architecture and Engineering, Denver: the State Historical Society of Colorado, 2003 (second edition).

Amsbary, Wayne. Oral interview with Carl McWilliams, October 26, 2004.

Holderness, Patricia (project director). History of Hayden and West Routt County 1876 - 1989. Dallas: Curtis Media Corp., 1989.

Routt County Assessor/ Treasurer Parcel Detail Information.

Winter and Company. "Historic Context of Routt County." Prepared for the Tread of Pioneers Museum, January 1994.

**VI. SIGNIFICANCE**

37. Local landmark designation:

Yes

No **xx**

Date of Designation: **n/a**

38. Applicable National Register Criteria

A. Associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns 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 possess high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction;

D. Has yielded, or may be likely to yield information important in prehistory or history;

Qualifies under Criteria Considerations A through G (see Manual).

**xx** Does not meet any of the above National Register criteria.

39. Area(s) of Significance: **n/a**

40. Period of Significance: **n/a**

41. Level of Significance:

National:

State:

Local: **xx**

**42. Statement of Significance**

Built originally at Mt. Harris (probably in the late 1920s), and later moved to Steamboat Springs, this house at one point may have been significant for its association with the theme of coal mining, and the development of the coal mining town of Mt. Harris. The house, however, lost its ability to convey its significance after it was moved. The building does not meet requirements for Criteria Consideration B, for moved properties, and as such it is evaluated as ineligible for individual listing in the National or State Registers of Historic Places. It also does not appear to be eligible for local landmark designation.

**43. Assessment of historic physical integrity related to significance:**

This house lost its integrity of location, setting, feeling, and association. when it was moved here from its original Mt. Harris location in the early 1960s. With the exception of some new windows, there appears to have been only modest changes to the building in recent years.

**VII. NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT**

44. National Register eligibility field assessment:

Eligible:

Not Eligible: **xx**

Need Data:

45. Is there National Register district potential?

Yes:

No: **xx**

Discuss: Historic residences in this area of Steamboat Springs do not collectively appear to display sufficient integrity, and are too dispersed, to qualify as a National or State Register Historic District.

If there is National Register district potential, is this building:

Contributing: **n/a**

Noncontributing: **n/a**

46. If the building is in an existing National Register district, is it:

Contributing: **n/a**

Noncontributing: **n/a**

**VIII. LOCAL LANDMARK ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT**

44a. Local Register eligibility field assessment:

Eligible:

Not Eligible: **xx**

Need Data:

45a. Discuss: Because it has been moved from its original location at Mt. Harris, this house is no longer able to convey a sense of its historic association with Mt. Harris or the theme of coal mining in Routt County.

46a. Architectural Style / Building Type (from Local Style Lexicon):

Steamboat Springs Wood Frame

Resource Number: **5RT2192**

Temporary Resource Number: **N/A**

**Architectural Inventory Form**

(Page 7 of 7)

---

**IX. RECORDING INFORMATION**

47. Photograph numbers:

Roll: **STEAM-1; STEAM-2**

Frame(s): **1-2; 15-16, 35-36**

Negatives filed at:**City of Steamboat Springs**

**137 10th Street**

**Steamboat Springs, Colorado 80477**

48. Report title:**Old Town Steamboat Springs Residential Survey IV: Architectural Survey Report**

49. Date: **October 18, 2004**

50. Recorder: **Carl McWilliams**

51. Organization: **Cultural Resource Historians**

52. Address:**1607 Dogwood Court**

**Fort Collins, Colorado 80525**

53. Phone number:**970/493-5270**

NOTE:Attached are a sketch map, a photocopy of the Steamboat Springs, Colorado USGS quadrangle map segment, indicating resource location, and black-and-white photographs.