

Architectural Inventory Form

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

I. Identification

1. Resource number: 5HN68.12
2. Temporary resource number: 117
3. County: Hinsdale
4. City: Lake City
5. Historic building name: Foot-Vickers House
6. Current building name:
7. Building address: 117 South Silver Street, Lake City, CO 81235
8. Owner name and address: Knecht and Wyant families, 18144 East 95th Street North, Owasso OK 74055

II. Geographic Information

County Property No.: R1217

9. P.M. 6th Township 44N Range 4W NW4 of SW4 of NW4 of Section 34
10. UTM reference
 Zone 13 296560 mE 4210920 mN
11. USGS quad name: Lake City Quad year: 1985 Map scale: X 7.5' ___ 15'
12. Block(s): 5 Lot(s): 22-28 Legal:
 Addition: Foote & Richardson Addition Year of Addition: 1881
13. Boundary description and justification: Perimeter of parcel

III. Architectural Description

14. Building plan: Irregular
15. Dimensions: 1339 square feet
16. Number of stories: 1, 2
17. External wall material(s): Brick
18. Roof configuration: Mansard
19. Roof material: Composition
20. Special features: Porch, decorative shingles, segmental arch windows, chimney, garage
21. General architectural description:

1-1/2 and one-story painted brick dwelling. Mansard roof with flared eaves is covered in diamond, fishscale, and square wood shingles. Façade has elaborate bay window with shallow, flared roof with brackets, round-cornered 1-over-1 double hung windows, wood keystones with "S" motif, and vertical, rounded trim on corners. First-story has 2-over-2, segmental-arched windows with clay or stone sills, paired on west and north elevations, single on east elevation. Upper story windows are 1-over-1 with carved frames. Brick is somewhat porous and covered in paint. Entrance at left of bay window is enclosed in brick, date unknown. Compatible 1980 two-story rear addition has the same roof form, brick walls, and decorative shingles. Entrance in northeast ell, has segmental-arched entrance with transom and paneled door with two round-arched lites. Shed-roofed porch in northeast ell has turned posts, angled entrance with triangular pediment, spindlework frieze, and low railing with turned balusters.

Circa 1980 one-story addition on southeast corner has rows of fixed-sash windows, an entrance with segmental arched transom, storm door, and paneled and glazed door. One-story, half-hipped porch in southwest ell is enclosed in screen; has turned posts

22. Architectural style/Building type: Second Empire Revival

23. Landscaping or special setting:

24. Associated building, features or objects:

Garage, ca 1998

One-story, front-gabled frame building. Wood-shingled roof; walls are clad in lapped wood siding trimmed in cornerboards. Gable end is covered in diamond, fishscale and square shingles; has round vent and spoked gable ornament. Double car garage entrance in north elevation; entrance in west elevation has a metal security door and solid door.

IV. Architectural History

25. Date of construction Estimate: _____ Actual: 1881 Source of info: Lake City SILVER WORLD, Sat., October 29, 1881, page 3, Sat., January 14, 1882, page 3.

26. Architect: Unknown Source of info:

27. Builder/contractor: Unknown Source of info:

28. Original owner: Smith C. Foote Source of info: Lake City SILVER WORLD, Sat., October 29, 1881, page 3, Sat., January 14, 1882, page 3.

29. Construction history (major additions, alterations, demolitions):

Five-sided addition on southeast corner, circa 1980. Source: Tax Assessor records.

30. Original location: Moved Date of move(s) _____

V. Historical Associations

31. Original use(s): Single dwelling

32. Intermediate use(s):

33. Current use(s): Single dwelling

34. Site type(s):

35. Historical background:

Indiana native Smith C. Foote and Dr. J.P. Richardson were real estate speculators who promoted development of the Foote & Richardson Addition to the Town of Lake City, located to the immediate south of Henson Creek. Foote contracted for this Foote & Richardson Addition residence located on a prominent elevated location looking out over Lake City toward the north. It is unknown whether Foote actually intended to utilize the house on his own or whether it was intended for purely speculative purposes. At any rate, Foote's fortunes were on the decline by late 1881 and by the time the house was completed in January, 1882, the property was owned by John Sharp.

The Foote House was the third and final substantial brick residential structure built during Lake City's second building boom which began in 1880 and concluded in 1882. It is contemporary with two other prominent brick residences which were built for Lake City businessmen in 1880 and 1881, the Kohler-Ralph House, 500 Silver, and Hilgenhaus House, 531 Gunnison.

S.C. Foote is a colorful -- if somewhat contradictory -- figure in Lake City history. A prominent businessman, his name is primarily recalled today through his association with the Foote & Richardson Addition. In the 1870s, however, he was one of the region's best known businessmen and speculators ranking with A.E. Reynolds, John S. Hough, and H.A. McIntire. Unlike his contemporaries, Foote's life self-destructed as a result of bad business investments in addition to alcoholism.

He came to Lake City in 1875 as a ranking member of Colorado Spring's business elite. Foote was an early promoter of Hinsdale County Bank and was associated with both H.A. McIntire of First National Bank of Colorado Springs, and James H.B. McFerran, President of the People's Bank of Colorado Springs. McFerran and Foote, together with A.E. Reynolds, were early owners of the Belle of the East Mine on the Lake Fork above Lake City. Foote formed a succession of business partnerships in Lake City and constructed some of the earliest frame commercial buildings in 1875 and 1876. He was a

partner with George A. Kellogg (Kellogg-Avery House, 425 Silver) in the drug store business, and teamed up with J.A. Hunt in the brick manufacturing business. Foote & Hunt burned 130,000 bricks in 1880, a large portion used in construction of the new public school building. Conversely, there were occasional reports of Foote's reckless business behavior and rowdiness, including a news item reprinted in the December 1, Colorado Springs GAZETTE, from the Del Norte PROSPECTOR which characterized Foote as a "desperado... having at diverse times put small chunks of lead into different individuals."

Foote was reportedly experiencing Delirium Tremens when he ran screaming from the Belle of the East Mine in late April, 1883. Despite the successive efforts of search parties and a reward offered by his brother, J.F. Foote, he completely disappeared. The ongoing Foote mystery was at last cleared away in April, 1889, when prospector S.P. Robinson discovered his skeleton wedged beneath a fallen tree in a gulch on Hotchkiss Mountain. "S.C. Foote was one of the pioneers of Hinsdale County," the Hinsdale PHONOGRAPH wrote, "and at one time was one of Lake City's most prominent business men. He became a hard drinker, however, and for some time prior to his disappearance would go on prolonged and desperate sprees whenever he could get a little money, and would not sober up until the money was gone."

S.C. Foote's brick residence at 117 South Silver was perhaps envisioned at a more optimistic time, both for Foote and Lake City. The first newspaper notation on the structure occurred in late October, 1881, when the SILVER WORLD noted Foote was at work on his brick house "situate on the mesa near the lixiviation works." By January, 1882, it was noted Foote had completed the "charming brick residence" for its owner, John Sharp. The house, according to the SILVER WORLD, "is by far the nicest place in the city and the costliest as well."

Total cost was "upwards of \$4,000" for the five-room structure, 18x32' main building with 16x18' wing, and 14x18' kitchen. "A handsome bay window in the parlor affords a fine view of the city and valley below. The entire building is of brick -- all white finished, except the parlor, which has the handsomest satin paper obtainable.

John Sharp's role as owner of the Foote residence was evidently fleeting. He was followed by a succession of owners, the best known being two Canadian businessmen, R.J. Paterson at the start of the 20th Century, and John W. Vickers in the 1930s. Up until Paterson's ownership the Foote house consisted of a front-facing gabled residence with "L" wing and a kitchen addition at the rear. The appearance of the house was substantially altered in February, 1902, with the addition of the extant mansard roof on the upper story. Like Foote, who had an interest in a brick yard at the time he built the house, Paterson was also in a good business position when it came time to improve his house. Paterson owned sawmills on the Cebolla and Slumgullion Pass, and operated a lumber yard which was located on the flat immediately below the house.

As completed by Paterson, the mansard roof with cut shingle decoration was built over the main 18x32' portion of the house, together with the 16-18' wing, leaving the gabled kitchen addition at the back of the house. Paterson sold the property to Luis N. Rahn for \$1,000 in 1906. The increased bedroom space provided by the mansard roof came in handy in the 1930s when the house was owned by another Canadian businessman, John W. Vickers. Vickers held interests in a variety of Lake City businesses, including a livery stable and saloon, together with the well known Vickers Ranch on the Lake Fork south of Lake City. By the 1940s the house had deteriorated and is depicted as a semi-abandoned Victorian ruin in a series of photographs taken by Boulder, Colorado, artist Muriel Sibyl Wolle.

Arthur and Deron Hoffman purchased the Foote House from Vickers in 1946 and promptly resold it to two Texas couples, R.E. and Charlotte Gibson and Oscar and Louise Phillips. Also acquired from the Hoffmans was land in the Garbutt & Abbott Placer, near Crooke Falls to the south of Lake City, which was the location of a tourist court known as The Texan developed by Gibson and Phillips starting in 1946. The couples also worked to renovate the Foote-Vickers House, the first task being to "clean out the debris from wandering burros which had laid claim to the premises."

R.E. and Charlotte Gibson sold The Texan in 1959 and transferred their tourist court interest to Foote & Richardson Addition. In addition to the Foote-Vickers House, the Gibsons acquired Emma Liska's neighboring rental cabins, together with vacant land adjacent to Henson Creek which was used as a trailer park. The Gibsons lived in the Foote-Vickers House on a seasonal basis until selling the property in 1973. The house's later history includes use as Larry and Beverly Ingram's "Fisherman's Inn" restaurant in 1975. It was updated and remodeled by Walter and Carolyn Rucker in the early 1980s, including removing the deteriorated rear kitchen and replacing it with a two-story addition with matching mansard roof; the original flat mansard roof was reconfigured with a slight pitch to allow for better

drainage. Also added were a single-story sun room addition to the south, a screened porch facing west, and detached garage with decorative cut shingles in the gable end.

36. Sources of information:

Lake City SILVER WORLD, Sat., July 31, 1875, page 3, Sat., August 21, 1875, page 3, Sat., September 4, 1875, page 3, Sat., January 1, 1881, page 3, Sat., October 29, 1881, page 3, Sat., January 14, 1882, page 3, Fri., June 8, 1884, page 4, Fri., October 9, 1887, page 12, Fri., October 9, 1898, page 3; Colorado Springs GAZETTE, December 1, 1878; Hinsdale PHONOGRAPH, Sat., April 13, 1889, page 1; Lake City MINING REGISTER, June 8, 1883, page 3; Lake City PHONOGRAPH, Sat., February 22, 1902, page 3; Lake City TIMES, Thurs., January 25, 1906, page 3; Lake City TRIBUNE, Thurs., August 1, 1946, page 16; Gunnison COUNTRY TIMES, Thurs., August 21, 1975, page 7.

VI. Significance

37. Local landmark: Yes No Date of design.: _____ Design. authority: _____

Within Lake City Historic District (local historic district)

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 distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or
- D. Has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in history or prehistory
- Qualifies under Criteria Considerations A through G
- Does not meet any of the above National Register criteria

39. Area(s) of significance: Social history, architecture

40. Period of significance: 1881 - 1904

41. Level of significance: National State Local

42. Statement of significance:

This house is associated with settlement and development of Lake City during the late 1800s mining era. It is a rare example of Second Empire Revival in Lake City, as evidenced by the Mansard roof. It is also one of the few remaining brick residences in town. Its construction was initiated by prominent local businessman and brick manufacturer Smith C. Foote, however Foote never lived in it.

43. Assessment of historic physical integrity to significance:

The architectural integrity is somewhat diminished by the rear addition, but the property retains sufficient integrity to contribute to the historic district.

VII. National Register Eligibility Assessment

44. National Register eligibility field assessment: Eligible Not Eligible Need Data

45. Is there National Register district potential? Yes No

Discuss _____

If there is National Register district potential, is this building Contributing Noncontributing

46. If the building is in an existing National Register district is it? Contributing Noncontributing
(Lake City National Historic District)

VIII. Recording Information

47. Photograph numbers: Roll 20, frames 5A, 6A, 9A, 10A, 12A Negatives filed at: Lake City Town Hall

48. Report title: 2003 Architectural Survey of Lake City, Colorado

49. Date(s): September 2002 - June 2003

50. Recordors Cathleen M. Norman and Grant E. Houston

51. Organization: Town of Lake City

52. Address: 230 Bluff Street, Lake City CO 81235 53. Phone no. (970) 944-2333

**Colorado Historical Society - Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation
1300 Broadway, Denver CO 80203 (303) 866-3395**



5HN68.12

117 South Silver Avenue



