

Architectural Inventory Form

Official Eligibility Determination (for OAHF use only)

- 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: 5HN68.94
2. Temporary resource number: 51
3. County: Hinsdale
4. City: Lake City
5. Historic building name: Rapp House
6. Current building name:
7. Building address: 121 Silver Street, Lake City, CO 81235
8. Owner name and address: Althea Knowlton and Nathan Knowlton, 4315 County Road 230 , Durango CO 81301

II. Geographic Information

County Property No.: R1079

9. P.M. 6th Township 44N Range 4W NE4 of NW4 of NW4 of Section 34
10. UTM reference
Zone 13 296590 mE 4211180 mN
11. USGS quad name: Lake City Quad year: 1985 Map scale: X 7.5' ___ 15'
12. Block(s): 72 Lot(s): 5-7 Legal:
Addition: Year of Addition:
13. Boundary description and justification: Perimeter of parcel

III. Architectural Description

14. Building plan: Rectangular
15. Dimensions: 642 square feet
16. Number of stories: 1
17. External wall material(s): Wood, asphalt
18. Roof configuration: Front gabled
19. Roof material: Wood shingle
20. Special features: Chimney, porch, fence
21. General architectural description:
One-story, front-gabled frame dwelling. Metal roof with gable end friezeboard; brick chimney at rear of roof ridge; second chimney on south elevation of concrete blocks and brick. Walls clad in clapboards on front and brick-patterned rolled asphalt on sides. Windows are 2-over-2 double hungs with lintel molding. Entrance on right of facade has paneled 4-lite door, screen door, and a transom; is sheltered by a gabled stoop cover with decorative trim in gable end, pendants, and diagonal braces. Hipped-roof addition on rear has shed-roofed porch with square wood posts. No visible foundation.
22. Architectural style/Building type: No style
23. Landscaping or special setting:
Yard is enclosed in wire fence along street edge.

24. Associated building, features or objects:

Shed 1, circa 1930

One-story, side-gabled frame building. Roofed in metal and rolled asphalt strips; walls clad in vertical boards. Portion of south roof slope exposed and deteriorating. Gabled section on northeast, covered in plywood; has a paneled door. Windows are various square 4-lites. Entrance in south elevation covered in plywood.

Shed 2, circa 1930

Small, shed-roofed frame building. Corrugated metal roof; walls clad in horizontal boards. Door on south elevation is vertical boards with a diagonal brace.

Privy, circa 1930

Small, shed-roofed building with metal roof and walls clad in vertical boards; door of same material.

IV. Architectural History

25. Date of construction Estimate: _____ Actual: 1877 Source of info: SILVER WORLD, Sat., January 5, 1878, page 2.
26. Architect: None Source of info:
27. Builder/contractor: Unknown Source of info:
28. Original owner: Samuel and Abraham Rapp Source of info: Lake City SILVER WORLD, Sat., March 31, 1877
29. Construction history (major additions, alterations, demolitions):
Brick-patterned, rolled-asphalt material applied to rear of exterior walls circa 1935.
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): Vacant
34. Site type(s):
35. Historical background:

John D. Bartholf and his sons, Byron, William and Eugene, were among the founders of Lake City. The elder Bartholf was a member of the Lake City Town Company and obtained title to numerous town lots fronting Silver Street in Blocks 71 and 72, as well as the Block 72 frontage on Bluff Street. Bluff Street (approximately 130 Bluff, now the site of the Moon House) was the location of Bartholf's Elephant Corral livery stable and a cabin which Eugene Bartholf stated his father built in summer, 1874. The sequence of Lake City cabin-building, according to Bartholf, was J.D. Bartholf's Bluff Street cabin as first, followed by Enos Hotchkiss and the Lee brothers, who built the first and second cabins after the Lake City Townsite was formally surveyed in August, 1874.

Eugene Bartholf was the original owner of Lot 7, Block 72, on which the Rapp House (121 Silver) was constructed. Bartholf evidently had an agreement with physician Samuel Rapp and his brother, Abraham Rapp, in which Bartholf retained ownership of the lot while allowing the Rapp brothers to construct this 14x26' building. The front-gabled clapboard-sided dwelling was completed in 1877 at a cost of \$750. Eugene Bartholf retained ownership of the actual lot until 1879 when both building and lot were assessed to the Rapp brothers. Eugene Bartholf relocated to Leadville, Colorado, in 1879 and was still prospecting and mining in Alaska in 1931 when he drafted a letter recalling his family's association with the founding of Lake City.

Dr. Samuel Rapp was a native of New York City where he was born in 1855. Both Samuel and his brother, Abraham, were living in Del Norte, Colorado, in 1876. Abraham relocated to Lake City in 1876 in connection with his position as a clerk with the retail firm H. Schiffer & Co.; the Schiffer firm occupied the Finley Block across the street from 1877 until 1880. Dr. Samuel Rapp followed his brother to Lake City in March, 1877, after an initial tour and proclaiming to the SILVER WORLD "he is well pleased with the town."

The two bachelor brothers apparently shared living quarters, and possibly doctor's office space, at 121 Silver until 1878 when Dr. Rapp moved to the Moon House (originally the rear of the lot at 200 Silver, relocated to 130 Bluff in 1993). Samuel Rapp retained title to 121 Silver, however, and may have continued to use it for certain medical procedures. In 1880 he was assessed \$400 for improvements on the lot and \$75 for surgical instruments. Dr. Rapp married Carrie Stifel in New York City in March, 1880, and returned to returned to Lake City with his bride. He continued his local practice until 1884 when he returned to Del Norte, Colorado. In 1888 he made a final move, this time returning to his native New York City where he resumed his medical practice. Dr. and Mrs. Rapp's final visit to Lake City was on an auto tour in 1915 at which time the Lake City TIMES lauded Dr. Rapp as "one of the best physicians in Western Colorado in the early days."

Dr. Samuel Rapp's property ownership ties with Lake City continued until 1921 when the lot and house, the latter carrying a reduced taxable value of \$140, was transferred to Eugene Otis. Otis, a large Wade's Addition property owner who served for a time as Hinsdale County Judge, owned the property until 1937 when it was sold to Arthur P. "Brick" Griffiths (1885-1974), a Lake City native who amassed considerable south Silver Street property in the 1930s and 40s. Griffiths occupied the Rapp House as his home on an alternating basis, during summer months renting the abode to Texas visitors Lawrence and Melva Boynton from 1959 to 1986. Following A.P. Griffiths' death in 1974, the house was inherited by his niece, Althea Griffiths Knowlton, whose family still owns the property

36. Sources of information:

Hinsdale County tax rolls, 1876-1937; San Juan PROSPECTOR (Del Norte, Colorado), Sat., August 19, 1876, page 4; Lake City SILVER WORLD, Sat., March 31, 1877, page 3, Sat., January 5, 1878, page 2, Sat., March 20, 1880, page 3, Fri., March 3, 1889, page 3; Lake City MINING REGISTER, Fri., June 27, 1884, page 3; Lake City TIMES, July 22, 1915, page 3; news clipping from Gunnison NEWS-CHAMPION, n.d. (approximately December, 1931), Thurs., August 13, 1959, page 2; Historical Register, Crystal Lake Lodge No. 34, AF & AM, page 37.

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: 1877 -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 deteriorating but intact representative of the vernacular dwellings constructed in Lake City during this period, as reflected in its simple design, clapboards exterior, gabled roof, 2-over-2 double hung windows, gabled stoop cover, and lack of architectural details that indicate a particular style.

43. Assessment of historic physical integrity to significance:

The architectural integrity of this dwelling is intact, as evidenced by minimal alterations to its character-defining features.

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 13, frames 5-8, 11-14 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

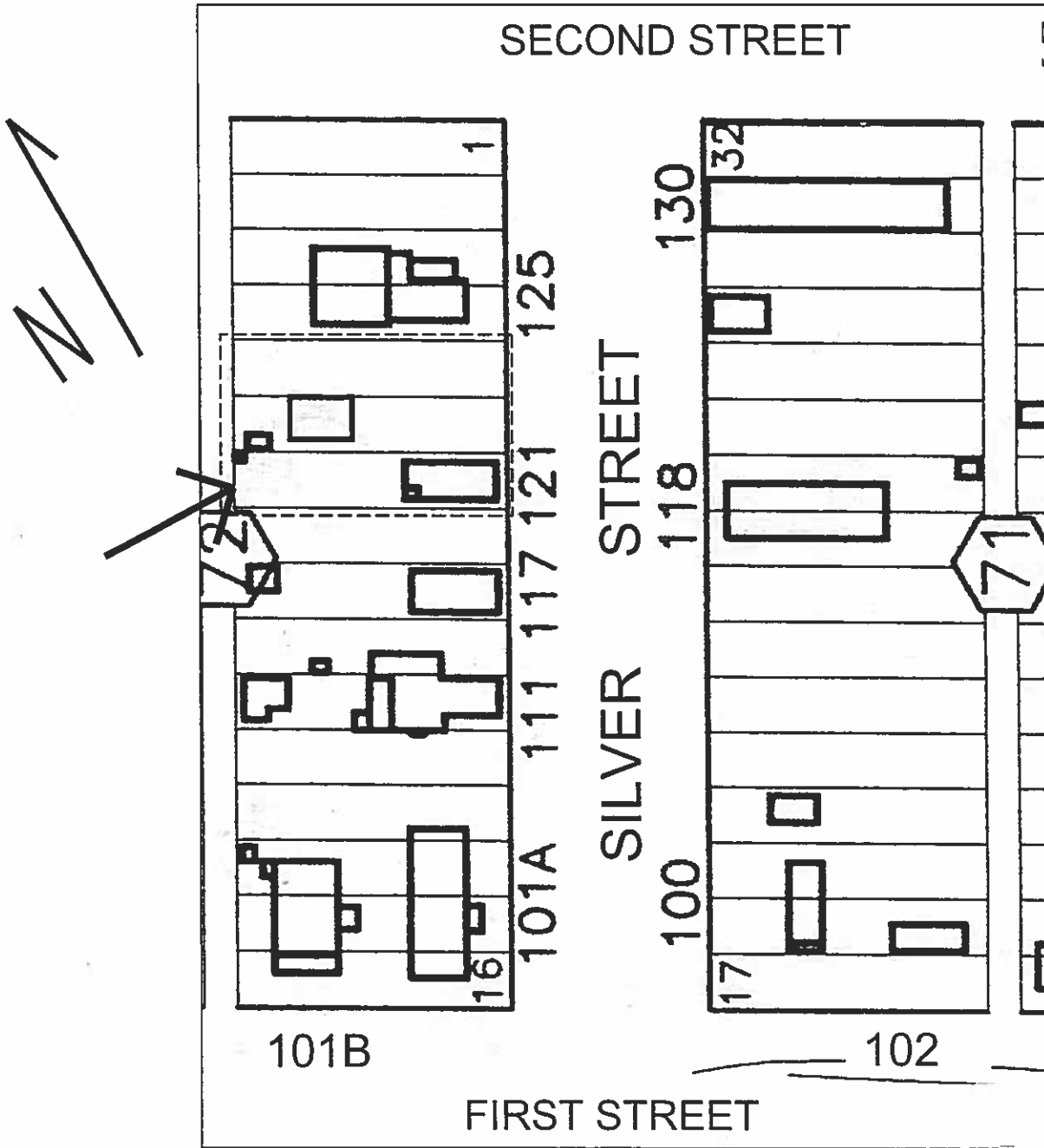
51. Organization: Town of Lake City

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

NOT TO SCALE



5HN68.94

121 Silver Street