

Architectural Inventory Form

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I. IDENTIFICATION

1. Resource number: **5BL6740**
2. Temporary number: **N/A**
3. County: **Boulder**
4. City: **Longmont**
5. Historic building name: **Beckwith House / Bragg House**
6. Current building name: **Davis House**
7. Building address: **530 Kimbark Street**
8. Owner name: **Wendell Davis**
Owner address: **1010 Corey Street**
Longmont, CO 80501

II. GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

9. P.M. **6th** Township **2N** Range **69W**
SE¹/₄ of **NW¹/₄** of **SW¹/₄** of **NE¹/₄** of section **3**
10. UTM reference
Zone **13**
Easting: **491460**
Northing: **4446280**
11. USGS quad name: **Longmont, Colorado**
Year: **1968** (**Photorevised 1979**) **7.5'**
12. Lot(s): **4, 5** Block: **41**
Addition: **Longmont Original Town** Year of Addition **1872**
13. Boundary Description and Justification: **This legally defined parcel encompasses but does not exceed the land historically associated with this property.**

22. Architectural style /
building type:

Other Style (Wood Frame Hipped and Gabled Roof Dwelling)

Official Eligibility Determination

(OAHP use only)

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

III. ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

14. Building plan (footprint, shape):
Rectangular Plan
15. Dimensions in feet **1210 square feet**
16. Number of stories: **1**
17. Primary external wall material
Wood / Horizontal Siding
Wood / Shingle
18. Roof configuration (enter one):
Hipped Roof / Gable-on-Hip Roof
19. Primary external roof material (enter one):
Asphalt Roof / Composition Roof
20. Special features (enter all that apply):
Porch
Decorative Shingles
Chimney
Fence

21. General Architectural Description

This house is located on the east side of Kimbark Street, between 526 Kimbark Street to the south and 538 Kimbark Street on the corner of the block to the north. The building is surrounded by a planted grass yard, with mature landscaping. The backyard is partially enclosed by a picket fence, and a garage is located southeast of the house. The residence is set back approximately forty-eight feet from the street, and there is a wide grass strip separating the front sidewalk from the curb. Oriented to the west, the house rests on a coursed sandstone foundation, with 2-light hopper basement windows. The exterior walls are clad with painted white horizontal wood siding, with 1" by 4" corner boards. Variegated wood shingles appear in the upper gable ends on all elevations; those on the facade are painted red, white, and blue. The roof is steeply pitched, with intersecting hip and gable roof forms. It is covered with grey asphalt shingles and has boxed eaves. One red brick chimney is located on the roof ridge. Windows on the façade (west elevation) include two 1/1 double-hung sash windows, with painted white wood frames and surrounds, and with painted blue exterior wood screens. A band of five single-light fixed-pane windows, each with four transom lights, appear on an enclosed front porch at the south end of the facade. The porch is covered by a low-pitched hipped roof. A 15-light glass-in-wood-frame door opens from the porch onto a 4-step concrete stoop, flanked by sandstone kneewalls and a low black wrought iron railing. A painted white wood-paneled door, with one upper sash light, and with a transom light, opens onto a 6-step wood porch at the south end of the east elevation.

A garage is located southeast of the house. Accessed historically by a driveway extending along the south side of the house, the garage is a rectangular-shaped building which measures 18' N-S by 20' E-W. The garage is one-story tall, has a concrete foundation, and its exterior walls are clad with painted white horizontal wood siding. Its roof is a moderately-pitched front gable, with grey asphalt shingles over 1x wood decking and exposed 2x wood rafters. A blond brick chimney, with a corbelled cap, is located at the west end of the roof ridge. Two 4-light hopper windows, with painted white wood frames and surrounds, are located on the garage's north elevation. Paired, painted white, vertical wood plank doors, side hinged with metal strap hinges, open toward the alley on the garage's east elevation. Another set of paired, painted white, wood-paneled garage doors, side hinged with metal strap hinges, open onto a concrete driveway (no longer in use) on the west elevation.

22. Architectural style / building type:

Please see front page.

23. Landscape or setting special features:

This building is located on the east side of Kimbark Street in one of Longmont's oldest core residential neighborhoods. The area, which was platted in 1872 as part of Longmont's original townsite, is now home to a mixture of single-family residences, small retail shops, professional offices, and a few small apartment buildings.

24. Associated buildings, features, or objects

Garage

IV. ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY

25. Date of Construction:
Estimate **ca. 1898**
Actual

Source of information:
1895 and 1900 Sanborn maps

26. Architect:
n/a

Source of information:
n/a

27. Builder/ Contractor:
unknown

Source of information:
n/a

28. Original owner:
F.S. Beckwith (probably)

Source of information:
"Water Ledger City of Longmont 1907-1910."

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

Boulder County Assessor records list 1910 as this house's years of construction. Sanborn insurance maps, however, provide evidence that the house actually built between 1895 and 1900. Alice Sittner, who presently operates "Possibilities Unlimited Antiques and Uniques" in the building, believes it was built in 1898. Sanborn maps indicate that the house was enlarged to the rear (east elevation) between 1918 and 1930. The garage was built sometime between 1930 and 1956. (Based on its appearance, the garage was probably built in the 1930s.) The house has been very minimally altered since 1930.

30. Original location: **Yes**
Moved
Date of move(s) **n/a**

V. HISTORICAL ASSOCIATIONS

31. Original use(s): **Domestic / Single Dwelling**
32. Intermediate use(s): **Domestic / Single Dwelling**
33. Current use(s): **Commerce and Trade / Specialty Store**
34. Site type(s): **Residence / Antique Store**

35. Historical Background

This house was built circa 1898, and served as a single-family residence up until the 1980s. The property's first known owners and residents, were the Fenton S., and L. May Beckwith family, who lived here during the early 1900s. Fenton Stockbridge Beckwith was born in Longmont on August 28, 1876. He was the grandson of Eleanor (Fenton) and Lawson Beckwith, who were among the St. Vrain Valley's earliest settlers. Members of the Beckwith family arrive in what was to become Colorado Territory in 1859. In the early 1870s, they were influential founders of Burlington and Longmont, as members of the Chicago Colony. Fenton Beckwith, along with his father, Elmer F. Beckwith, and brother Francis Beckwith, founded the *Longmont Times* newspaper. Fenton worked to publish the paper from 1893 into the 1910s.

By the mid-1910s, this property had become the residence of J. Dale Williamson. He was born March 21, 1886, in Melvern, Kansas, and on November 15, 1909, he was married to Marry E. Wiggins in Denver. Mr. Williamson began working for the Longmont National Bank in 1927, and was employed there for the next thirty-seven years. He retired in 1964, as the bank's vice-president. In addition to his career, Mr. Williamson was a member of the I.O.O.F., and served two terms as president of the St. Vrain Valley School Board, in the early 1950s. Mr. Williamson's wife died in January 1978, and he passed away eight months later, in early September 1978.

For much of the 1900s, from circa 1930 until the early 1970s, this property was associated with the Bragg family. George T. and Anna C. (Miller) Bragg were married in July 1929, and began living in this house soon afterward. They had one daughter, Irene. George had been born at Red Wing, Minnesota on April 21, 1885, the son of Anthony and Belle Bragg. The family came west to Colorado Springs in 1897, operating a meat market there until 1911. The Braggs then moved to Longmont where they opened a meat market on Main Street. Known initially as "Braggs and Sons," and later as "Bragg's Meat Market," the family business was operated over the years by Anthony Bragg, and his three sons, Pete, Tony and George. In all, Bragg's Meat Market was in business in downtown Longmont from 1911 until 1946. Following the meat market's closure, George Bragg worked as a real estate agent, until his death in November 1952. Following his death, his widow, Anna, continued to live in the family home until the early 1970s. She then moved to 1440 Coffman Street, and eventually passed away on December 4, 1988, at the age of 97.

In the early 1980s, the Salud Health Clinic was located in this building, then in the late 1980s and early 1990s, the building stood vacant. For the past three years, an antique and gift store, name "Possibilities Unlimited," has been located here.

36. Sources of Information

"Anna C. Bragg." (obituary) *Longmont Times-Call*, December 5, 1988, p. 2.

(Boulder County) "Real Estate Appraisal Card – Urban Master." On file at the Boulder Carnegie Library.

"Francis Beckwith Dies in California." *Longmont Times-Call*, April 26, 1968, p. 1.

"Geo. Bragg Married Two Months Ago." *Longmont Daily Times*, September 16, 1929, p. 1.

"George Bragg Dies Saturday While Hunting." *Longmont Daily Times*, November 17, 1952, p. 1.

Polk's Longmont City Directory, [generally published annually], Denver, Kansas City, and Salt Lake City: R.L. Polk and Company Publishers.

Polk's Longmont City Directory, [generally published annually], Denver, Kansas City, and Salt Lake City: R.L. Polk and Company, Publishers, 1966 - 1997.

Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps, dated December 1890, September 1895, November 1900, April 1906, June 1911, March 1918, June 1930, and May 1956.

Sittner, Alice. Interview with Carl McWilliams, March 10, 2001.

They Came to Stay: Longmont, Colorado 1858-1920, Longmont: St. Vrain Valley Historical Association, 1971.

"Water Ledger City of Longmont, 1907-1910." On file at the Longmont Archives, Longmont Public Library.

VI. SIGNIFICANCE

37. Local landmark designation:

Yes

No **xx**

Date of Designation: **n/a**

38. **Applicable National Register Criteria**

xx A. Associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history;

xx B. Associated with the lives of persons significant in our past;

xx 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 history or prehistory;

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

Does not meet any of the above National Register criteria.

City of Longmont Standards for Designation

xx 2.56.040-A (1) The structure or district has character, interest or value, as part of the development, heritage or cultural characteristics of the city, state or nation.

2.56.040-A (2) The structure or district is the site of a historic event with an effect upon society.

xx 2.56.040-A (3) The structure or district is identified with a person or group of persons who had some influence on society.

xx 2.56.040-A (4) The structure or district exemplifies the cultural, political, economic, social or historic heritage of the community.

2.56.040-B (1) The structure or district portrays the environment of a group of people in an era of history characterized by a distinctive architectural style.

xx 2.56.040-B (2) The structure or district embodies those distinguishing characteristics of an architectural type specimen.

2.56.040-B (3) The structure or district is the work of an architect or master builder whose individual work has influenced the development of Longmont.

2.56.040-C (1) The structure or district, because of being part of or related to a square, park or other distinctive area, should be developed or preserved according to a plan based on a historic, cultural or architectural motif.

2.56.040-C (2) The structure or district, due to its unique location or singular physical characteristics, represents an established and familiar visual feature of a neighborhood, community or the city.

Does not meet any of the above City of Longmont Standards for Designation.

39. Area(s) of Significance:

Architecture; Community Planning and Development; Ethnic Heritage / European

40. Period of Significance: **ca. 1898-1951**

41. Level of Significance:

National:

State:

Local: **XX**

42. Statement of Significance

This property is historically significant for its association with residential development in Longmont, beginning in the late 1800s and extending through the first half of the twentieth century. In addition, the property is significant for its association with the Beckwith, Williamson, and Bragg families, all of whom made important contributions to Longmont during the early 1900s. The house is also architecturally significant because it is an intact home, dating from the late Victorian era. The property's combined levels of historical significance and physical integrity may well be to the extent that it would qualify for individual listing in the National Register of Historic Places. The property certainly may be regarded as individually eligible to be designated as a City of Longmont landmark. The property would also be a contributing resource within either a National Register or local landmark historic district.

43. Assessment of historic physical integrity related to significance:

This residence displays a high degree of historical integrity, relative to the seven aspects of integrity defined by the National Park Service and the Colorado Historical Society – location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling and association. There have been no additions, and no notable exterior alterations, to the building subsequent to the end of the 1920s. The garage, which was probably built in the 1930s, also appears unaltered from its historic appearance.

VII. NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT

44. National Register eligibility field assessment:

Eligible: **xx**

Not Eligible:

Need Data:

City of Longmont Local Landmark eligibility field assessment:

Eligible: **xx**

Not Eligible:

Need Data:

45. Is there National Register district potential?

Yes: **xx**

No:

Discuss: **This property is located one block west of the East Side Historic District, which is listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Properties in this area along Kimbark Street do have the potential to form a historic district of their own, or to be incorporated into the existing East Side Historic District.**

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

Contributing: **xx**

Noncontributing:

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

Contributing: **n/a**

Noncontributing: **n/a**

VIII. RECORDING INFORMATION

47. Photograph numbers:

Roll: **LONG-3**

Frame(s): **10-16**

Negatives filed at: **City of Longmont
Department of Community Development, Planning Division
Civic Center Complex
350 Kimbark Street
Longmont, Colorado 80501**

48. Report title: **East Side Neighborhood: Historic Context and Survey Report**

49. Date: **March 10, 2001**

50. Recordors: **Carl McWilliams and Karen McWilliams**

51. Organization: **Cultural Resource Historians**

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

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