

Architectural Inventory Form

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I. IDENTIFICATION

1. Resource number: **5BL7326**
2. Temporary number: **N/A**
3. County: **Boulder**
4. City: **Longmont**
5. Historic building name: **Taylor House; Slay House**
6. Current building name: **Overstreet House**
7. Building address: **739 Atwood Street**
8. Owner name: **Donald W. and Michael W. Overstreet**
Owner address: **1362 S. Owens Street**
Lakewood, CO 80232

II. GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

9. P.M. **6th** Township **2N** Range **69W**
NW¹/₄ of **SW¹/₄** of **NE¹/₄** of **NE¹/₄** of section **3**
10. UTM reference
Zone **13**
Easting: **491815**
Northing: **44466615**
11. USGS quad name: **Longmont, Colorado**
Year: **1968** (**Photorevised 1979**) **7.5'**
12. Lot(s): **N¹/₂ 8** Block: **19**
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:

**Late 19th and Early
Twentieth Century Revivals
/ Classic Cottage**

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: **1024 square feet**
16. Number of stories: **1¹/₂**
17. Primary external wall material
Wood / Horizontal Siding
18. Roof configuration (enter one):
Hipped Roof
19. Primary external roof material (enter one):
Asphalt Roof / Composition Roof
20. Special features (enter all that apply):
Chimney
Porch
Flared Eaves
Dormer

21. General Architectural Description

Built in the Classic Cottage style, the house at 739 Atwood Street is a 1½-story, rectangular-shaped, wood frame dwelling. The house measures 24' N-S (across) by 38' E-W (deep), with an 18' by 6' hipped-roof extension to the west elevation, and a 22' by 7' open wood porch on the east elevation (facade). The house is supported by a low painted blue coursed sandstone foundation, and the exterior walls are clad with painted blue horizontal wood siding with 1" by 4" corner boards. The dwelling is covered by a steeply-pitched hipped roof, covered with grey asphalt shingles, and with flared eaves with painted blue and red wood trim. A hipped dormer, with flared eaves, and with two square single-light windows, is located on the facade. There are two red brick chimneys - one located near the west end of the north-facing roof slope, and the other located on the roof ridge. The home's windows are entirely single 1/1 double-hung sash, with painted blue wood frames and surrounds, and with exterior metal storms. A stained natural brown glass-in-wood-frame entry door, with an egg-and-dart molding around its single glass light, leads into the home on the facade from a 22' by 7' open wood porch. The porch features a carpeted tongue-and-groove wood floor, bead board knee walls, Tuscan columns, and a low-pitched hipped roof. A painted white wood door, with an aluminum storm door, leads into the house from a flagstone patio on the west (rear) elevation.

A barn is located behind the house to the west, situated approximately nine feet in from the west (rear) property line, and fourteen feet in from the north (side) property line. This historic structure measures 35' N-S by 14' E-W overall, and consists of a 16' by 14' side-gabled 1½-story center section, with an 8' by 14' shed-roofed extension to the south, and a 10' by 14' one-story shed-roofed extension to the north. There are also two small, low, shed-roofed extensions to the barn's west (rear) elevation. The barn is supported by a wood timbers on grade foundation, and it has an earth floor. Its exterior walls are painted blue board-and-batten, over wood frame construction, and the gable and shed roofs are covered with grey asphalt shingles over 1x wood decking and 2x wood rafters. The rafter ends are exposed beneath the eaves, with a fascia board. Small rectangular-shaped window opening penetrate the upper gable ends of the 1½-story center section on the north and south elevations, and a boarded window opening is located on the west elevation. There are multiple openings on the barn's east elevation. From south-to-north these include: a set of paired board-and-batten doors, side hinged with metal strap hinges; a tall narrow board-and-batten door, topped by a small square loft-level door, which is no longer in use; a single board-and-batten door, side hinged with metal strap hinges; and a set of paired board-and-batten doors, side hinged with metal strap hinges. The barn appears in reasonably good condition, and displays excellent integrity.

A chicken house is located a short distance northeast of the barn, near the north property line. One story rectangular plan; 10' N-S by 20' E-W; painted blue board-and-batten exterior walls over wood frame construction; shed roof, with deteriorated wood shingles, over 1x wood decking and 2x wood rafters; six 6/6 double-hung sash windows, with painted blue wood frames and surrounds, located on the south elevation (many panes and muntins are broken); a single, painted blue wood-paneled door, is centered on the south elevation. The chicken house displays excellent integrity, but is in deteriorated condition.

22. Architectural style / building type:

Please see front page.

23. Landscape or setting special features:

This house, and accompanying outbuildings, are located on the west side of Atwood Street, the second house south of 8th Avenue, in Longmont's historic East Side neighborhood. Developed during the late 1800s and early 1900s, the East Side Neighborhood is an established area made up primarily of historic single-family homes. The Colorado and Southern Railroad tracks, which continue to carry freight trains, run down the center of Atwood Street, while the neighborhood overall features wide tree-lined streets, uniform house setbacks, and deep rectangular-shaped lots.

24. Associated buildings, features, or objects

Barn; Chicken House

IV. ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY

25. Date of Construction:
Estimate
Actual **1904**

Source of information:
"Town of Longmont, Colorado - Water Rent Collections" records.

26. Architect:
unknown

Source of information:
n/a

27. Builder/ Contractor:
unknown

Source of information:
n/a

28. Original owner:
Albert Taylor

Source of information:
"Town of Longmont, Colorado - Water Rent Collections" records.

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

Longmont water rent collection records indicate that this lot was initially developed in 1902 with the construction of a small two-room dwelling owned by Otho Bailey. In March 1904, the water records begin to list a 5-room dwelling at this location, owned by Albert Taylor. This structure, which measured 26' by 28' remained unaltered until 1929 when a 24' by 10' addition was built onto the west elevation. The barn and chicken house located near the rear of the lot probably date to about the same time as the house. The barn is depicted on the 1930 and 1956 Sanborn Insurance maps. The chicken house may also be depicted on the Sanborn maps, although not in its present location.

30. Original location: **yes**
Moved **no**
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): **Domestic / Single Dwelling**
34. Site type(s): **Residence**

35. Historical Background

Longmont water rent collection records indicate that this lot was initially developed in 1902 with the construction of a small two-room dwelling owned by Otho Bailey. In March 1904, the water records begin to list the extant dwelling, which at that time consisted of five rooms (the structure was enlarged in 1929). According to the water records, Albert Taylor was the property's original owner. The 1906 Longmont city directory lists Albert V. and Belle Taylor as residing on "Atwood near 8th", presumably in this house, while the 1910-1911 directory more precisely lists the Taylor family as residing here at "739 Atwood Street." The only reference to the Taylor family found in Longmont newspaper files sadly regarded the death of their six-week-old baby daughter, Ethel, in March 1905.

In 1919, 739 Atwood Street became the residence of Washington and Emma Slay, who previously had lived next door at 731 Atwood. Members of the Slay family then owned and lived here until the early 1980s, and, in fact, the property is still held by their descendants (in 2003). Washington M. Slay had been born in Jay County, Indiana on July 13, 1855. He married his wife Emma J. Slay (maiden name unknown) at Oskaloosa, Iowa in July 1881. The Slays came to Colorado in 1887, homesteading near Haxtun, before moving to Longmont in 1901. During these years, Washington and Emma raised a family of four sons (Elmer, Emory, Chalmer, and Millard), and one daughter (name unknown, however, she became Mrs. Walter Overstreet). In Longmont, Mr. Slay worked as a custodian at Longmont High School for twenty-five years, and the Slay family were members of the First Methodist Church. Washington Slay passed away in Longmont on May 22, 1943, at the age of 87. Emma Slay died five years later, in September 1948, at the age of 84.

Following the deaths of Washington and Emma, the property passed into the hands of their son, Chalmer Slay, and his wife Alma Estella (Nichols) Slay. Chalmer and Alma, who apparently had no children, lived here together until Chalmer's death in June 1969. Alma then continued to live here alone until her own death in May 1982. Chalmer Slay had been born at Oskaloosa, Iowa on October 18, 1886. He came with his family to Haxtun, Colorado, and then to Longmont just after the turn of the century. He served in World War I, and in Longmont, he worked variously as a laborer.

For the last several years, 739 Atwood Street has been maintained as a rental.

36. Sources of Information

"Alma E. Slay." *Longmont Times-Call*, May 21, 1982, p. 8.

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

"Chalmer Slay Dies of Four-Year Illness." *Longmont Times-Call*, June 30, 1969, p. 3.

"Death Claims Emma J. Slay." *Longmont Times-Call*, September 7, 1948, p. 1.

"Death Claims W.M. Slay." *Longmont Times-Call*, May 22, 1943, p. 1.

Longmont Ledger, March 3, 1905.

Polk's Boulder County 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 June 1930, and May 1956.

"Town of Longmont, Colorado - Water Rent Collections." On file at the Longmont Archives, Longmont Museum.

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;

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.

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

40. Period of Significance: **1905-1953**

41. Level of Significance:

National:

State:

Local: **XX**

42. Statement of Significance

This house is historically significant relative to National Register Criterion A for its association with Longmont's residential development during the period of significance, 1937-1953. The house is also architecturally notable, under Criterion C, for its representative, and very intact, representation of the Classic Cottage style of architecture. The property's significance in these regards is probably not to the extent that it would qualify for individual listing in the National Register of Historic Places. However, because the property displays an exceptionally high level of integrity, the property may qualify to be individually listed on the Colorado State Register of Historic Places. Moreover, the property also qualifies to be individually listed as a local landmark by the City of Longmont. This property is located outside the boundaries of the Longmont East Side Historic District. If the district's boundaries were to be expanded, this house, would likely qualify as a contributing resource within the district's newly expanded boundaries.

43. Assessment of historic physical integrity related to significance:

This property displays an exceptionally high level of historical integrity, relative to the seven aspects of integrity as defined by the National Park Service and the Colorado Historical Society - setting, location, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. There have been no additions, or notable exterior alterations, to the house following the period of significance. The property's integrity of setting is enhanced by the existence of the historic barn and chicken house.

VII. NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT

44. National Register eligibility field assessment:

Eligible:

Not Eligible: **xx**

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 outside the boundaries of the East Side Historic District, which is listed in the National Register of Historic Places. If the district's boundaries were to be expanded, this house could be considered a contributing resource.**

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-33**

Frame(s): **20-25**

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 27, 2003**

50. Recorders: **Carl McWilliams**

51. Organization: **Cultural Resource Historians**

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

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