

Architectural Inventory Form

1 of 4

Official eligibility determination (OAHP use only)

Date _____ Initials _____

- Determined Eligible- NR
- Determined Not Eligible- NR
- Determined Eligible- SR
- Determined Not Eligible- SR
- Need Data
- Contributes to eligible NR District
- Noncontributing to eligible NR District

I. Identification

1. Resource number: 5ME.14917
2. Temporary resource number: 550.NOR
3. County: Mesa
4. City: Grand Junction
5. Historic building name: Martin's Mortuary
6. Current building name: Martin's Mortuary
7. Building address: 550 North Ave.
8. Owner name and address: Colorado Funeral Services
Po Box 130548 Houston, TX 77219-0548

II. Geographic Information

9. P.M. Ute Principal Meridian Township 1 South Range 1 West
SW 1/4 of SE 1/4 of SE 1/4 of SW 1/4 of section 11
10. UTM reference
Zone 1 2 ; 7 1 0 7 5 2 mE 4 3 2 8 2 5 9 mN
11. USGS quad name: Grand Junction Quadrangle
Year: 1962 rev.1973 Map scale: 7.5' X 15' *Attach photo copy of appropriate map section.*
12. Lot(s): 1 to 3 Block: 7
Addition: Shafroth Rodgers Addition Year of Addition: 1938
13. Boundary Description and Justification: Legal description of the site is: Lot 1 To 3 Blk 7
Shafroth Rodgers Addition + Beg At Ne Cor Lot 3 W 402ft To W Li blk 4 Of High School
Addition To Gr Jct N 150ft E 175ft S 62deg45' E To A Pt N Of beg S To Beg + Beg At Sw
Cor Lot 1 W 65ft N 360ft E 65ft S To Beg Exc Row As desc B-2092 P-664/665 Mesa Co
Records.
Assessors Office Parcel ID # 2945-113-21-003
This description was chosen as the most specific and customary description of the site.

III. Architectural Description

14. Building plan (footprint, shape): Irregular Plan
15. Dimensions in feet: Length 180' x Width 150'
16. Number of stories: 2
17. Primary external wall material(s) (enter no more than two): Brick
18. Roof configuration: (enter no more than one): Flat Roof

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20. Special features (enter all that apply): Porch, Chimney, Porte Cochere, Balcony, Segmental Arch
21. General architectural description: This building is comprised of a series of additive volumes, in a symmetrical stacked pattern. The building base is a rectangular one story form, which is visible at the corners and rear. Attached to the front and each side is a rectangular volume that has a series of segmental arched openings open to the air. The upper level is also a rectangular volume which is stepped back from the edge of the base below. The upper level corners are inverted, which adds to the stepped impression of the composition. All exposed surfaces are brick and a single repetitive casement window type appears in regular intervals around the façade. The openings vary only by the number of units grouped together. The main façade has two larger window groups on either side of center. The windows appear to be steel frame casements that are vertically proportioned with the vertical meeting rail and additional horizontal muntins dividing the glass. The heads and sills are located at the same heights throughout. At the head of the windows, on both levels, a decorative brick cornice band wraps the building. A large chimney is located near the rear of the building on the east side.
22. Architectural style/building type: Modern Movements
23. Landscaping or special setting features: The building sits at the top of a rising hill in the center of a large city block. It does not share the block with any other owners and is set well back from the street on all sides. This is unusual on this busy commercial strip. The block is predominantly lawn, with several substantial trees are located on the site and sculpted shrubs are located near the building. Wide curving drives access the buildings entrance and service areas. A pond is located on the west side of the building.
24. Associated buildings, features, or objects: A small brick flat roofed outbuilding is located off the east side of the building. It has similar detailing and a glass block window.

IV. Architectural History

25. Date of Construction: Estimate: 1940 Actual: _____
Source of information: Mesa County Assessors Office
26. Architect: unknown
Source of information: _____
27. Builder/Contractor: unknown
Source of information: _____
28. Original owner: Edward A. Martin
Source of information: Western History Museum Archives, See also Phase Three Survey Report

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29. Construction history (include description and dates of major additions, alterations, or demolitions): No alterations are apparent
30. Original location Moved Date of move(s): _____

V. Historical Associations

31. Original use(s): Funerary; Mortuary
32. Intermediate use(s): _____
33. Current use(s): Funerary; Mortuary
34. Site type(s): Commercial Strip
35. Historical background: Edward A. Martin [1902-1987] came to Grand Junction in 1917, where his father, Clyde Martin founded Martin's Mortuary at 623 Colorado Avenue. Another mortuary in Delta was purchased and the family moved there, only to later return to Grand Junction. In 1937 Edward Martin entered the mortuary business with his father. Martin's Mortuary was moved to the North Avenue location in 1940. Mr. Martin authored the book Psychology of Funeral Service, of which six editions were eventually published. The text is still being used in colleges of mortuary science as of 1987. This site was originally part of the Shafroth-Rogers Addition, which was platted in 1938, later to become the North Avenue Addition in 1940.
- Sources of information: Mesa County Assessors Office; Western History Museum Archives; Obituaries, Grand Junction Daily Sentinel, May 14, 1987, p.5

VI. Significance

37. Local landmark designation: Yes No Date of designation: _____
Designating authority: _____
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 possess 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 (see Manual)
- Does not meet any of the above National Register criteria
39. Area(s) of significance: Architecture, Commerce

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40. Period of significance: 1940; 1940 to 1987 Edward Martin's Association with the building
41. Level of significance: National State Local
42. Statement of significance: This building is significant for its association with a prominent Grand Junction resident. Edward A. Martin was a prominent member of the community and a leader in the field of mortuary science. The building itself is a carefully designed substantial structure that evokes the qualities of restfulness and permanence. These qualities are important to the function and physical presence of the building. This purpose built mortuary is significant since many mortuaries and funeral homes are adapted from residential uses. The design intent of the building extends to the landscape and setting. The building is a good example of 1940s' Modern Movements in architecture and is intact in its original form. The building is still associated with the original family business.
43. Assessment of historic physical integrity related to significance: This building appears to be intact in its original form, materials, and setting.

VII. National Register Eligibility Assessment

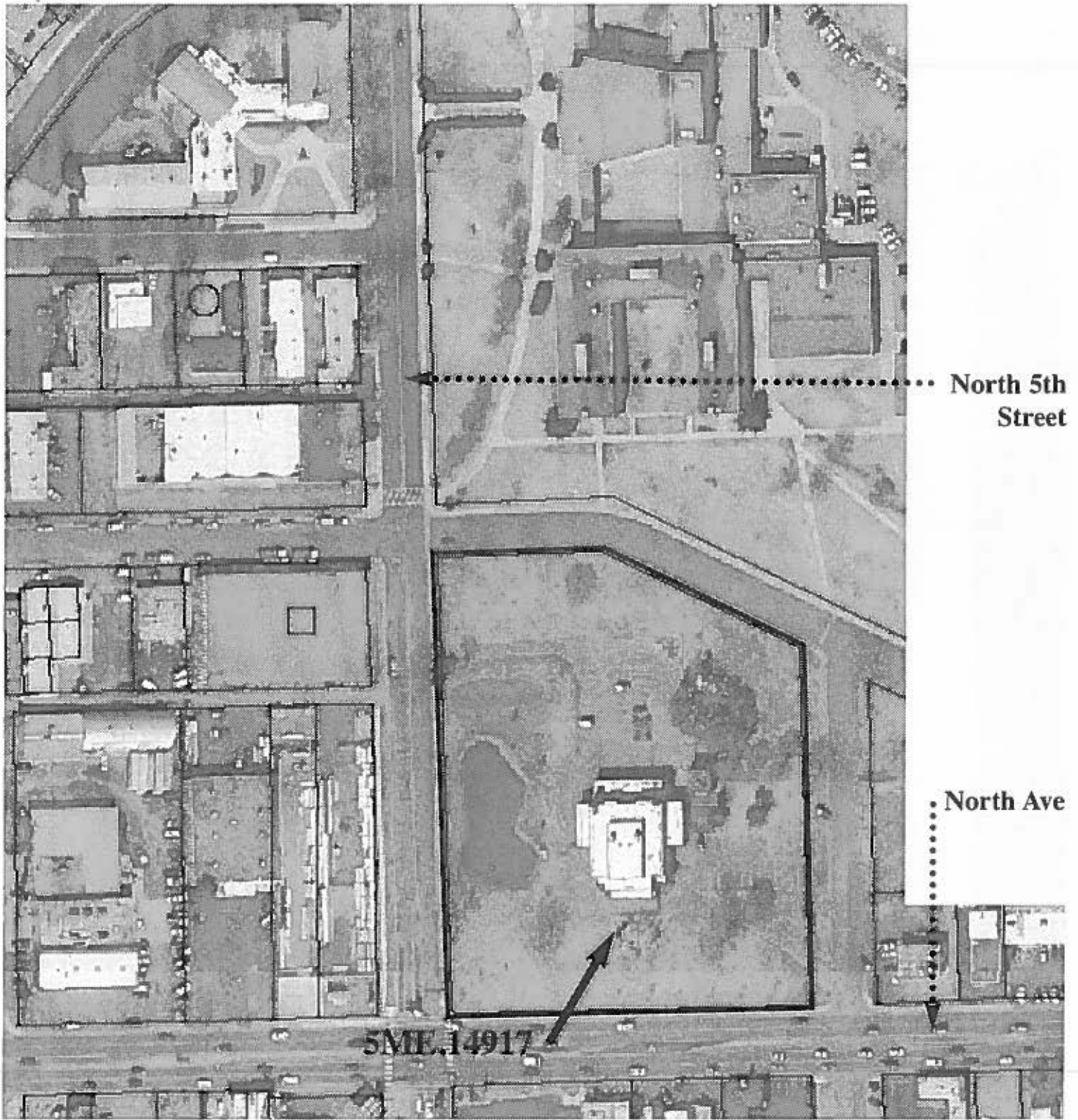
44. National Register eligibility field assessment:
Eligible Not Eligible Need Data
45. Is there National Register district potential? Yes No Discuss: _____
If there is National Register district potential, is this building: Contributing _____
Noncontributing _____
46. If the building is in existing National Register district, is it: Contributing _____
Noncontributing _____

VIII. Recording Information

47. Photograph numbers: Roll # 8 Frame # 33 & 36
Negatives filed at: City of Grand Junction Planning Dept.
48. Report title: Grand Junction Phase 3 Survey 49. Date(s): March 2005
50. Recorder(s): Suzannah Reid, Patrick Duffield and Lydia Herron
51. Organization: Reid Architects, Inc.
52. Address: PO Box 1303 Aspen, Colorado 81612
53. Phone number(s): 970 920 9225

NOTE: Please attach a sketch map, a photocopy of the USGS quad. map indicating resource location, and photographs.

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



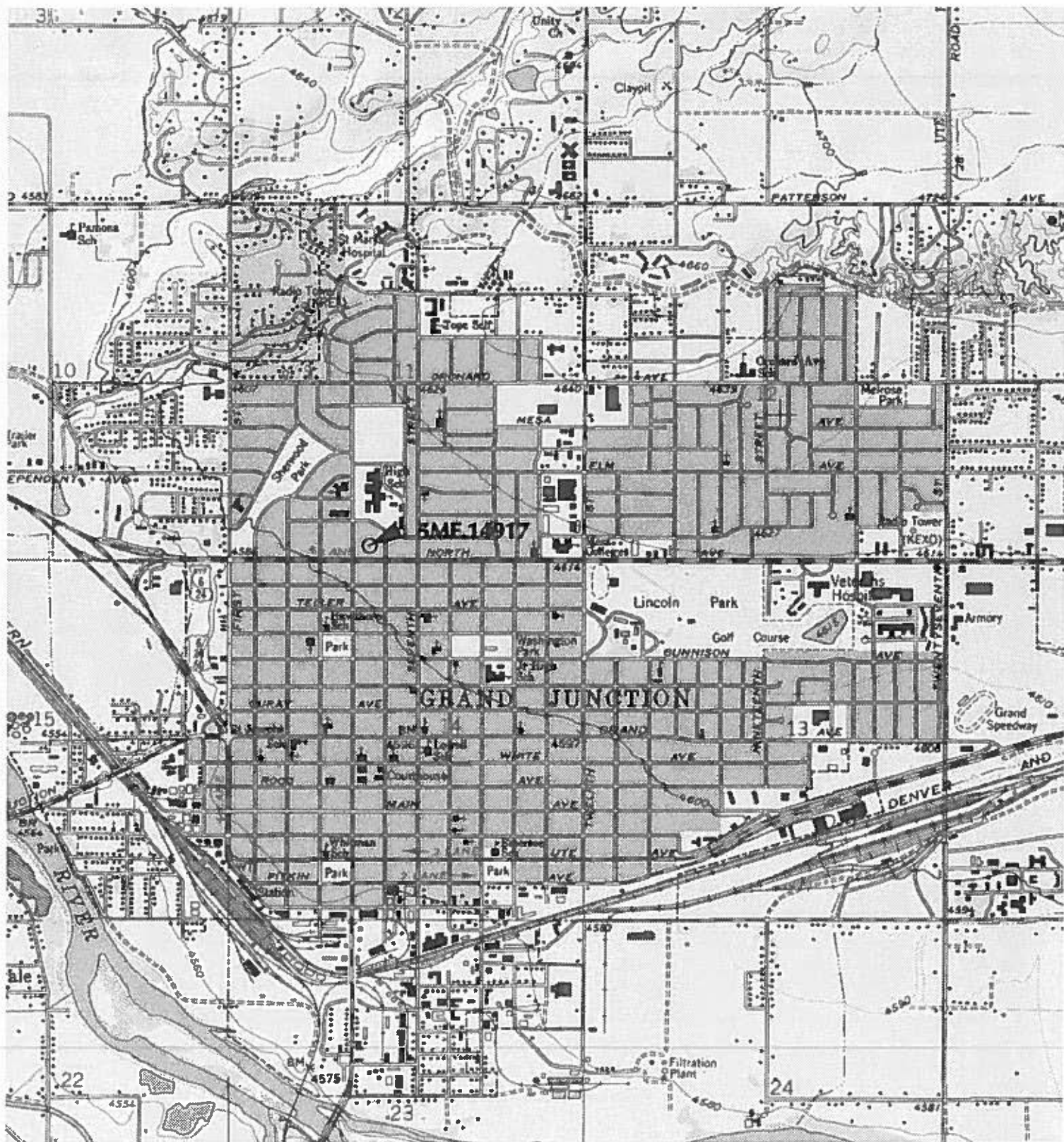
550 North Ave.



North

Grand Junction, Colorado
image from 2002 aerial map

City of Grand Junction • Phase Three Survey
2004



TN \uparrow MN
11 1/2°



Map created with TOPO!® ©2003 National Geographic (www.nationalgeographic.com/topo)

GRAND JUNCTION, COLORADO

Phase Three Historic Survey

2004



5ME.14917 550 North Ave.

Roll # 8 Frame # 33

Looking northwest

Grand Junction, Mesa County, CO

WHF BA010A1X0N NNN+ 1 5881 002926

035

sharp

57894

5ME.14917

550 North Ave.

Roll # 8 Frame # 36

Looking west

Grand Junction, Mesa County, CO

WHF BA010A1X0N NNN 0 5881 002926

038

sharp

57897