

COLORADO HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation
1300 Broadway
Denver, Colorado 80203

HISTORIC BUILDING INVENTORY RECORD

Project name: Grand Junction Downtown Survey
County: Mesa city: Grand Junction

State ID no. 5ME 7106 temporary no.

Current building name: Various

Address: 300 Main, Grand Junction, CO 81501

Owner: Various

Township: 1S range: 1W section: 14, NW 1/4, SW 1/4

Historic name: Morrison Building (original J.C. Penney's Bldg.)

USGS quad name: Grand Jct., CO 1962 N3900-W10830 X 7.5' 15'

District name:

Block: 102 lot(s) 30, 31, 32 Addition: City

Yr. of addition

Film roll by: Marty Alexandroff no.

Negative nos. 5854-18, 5854-19, 6943-7, 6943-12

Location of negatives: City of Grand Junction

Ddate of construction: _____ estimate 1916 actual

Source: 1981 Historic Survey of City

Use: commercial _____ present commercial _____ historic

Condition: _____ excellent X good _____ fair _____ deteriorating

Extent of alterations: ___minor ___moderate Xmajor

Describe: facade in photos 5854-19 and 5854-18 has been removed; original building underneath has recently been restored

Style: Commercial

Stories: 2

X original ___moved date(s) of move:

Materials: Brick

Square footage: 9375

National Register Eligibility:

Individual: Xyes ___no

Contributing to district: Xyes ___no

Local landmark designation: _____name _____date

Associated buildings? _____yes type:

If inventoried, list ID nos.

Architectural description: Two-story, brick commercial building with brick detailing along sides and across top. At this writing the recessed entrance and display windows are still in tact. However, the building is being restored to its original character. Upper level one-over-two windows are being replaced.

Architect: unknown

Source:

Original owner: unknown

Source:

Builder/contractor: unknown

Source:

Theme(s): Plateau Country/commercial

Construction history: (description, names, dates, etc. relating to major additions or alterations to original structure)

Building is being restored to its original character--1994

Historic background (discuss important persons and events associated with this structure)

This structure is located within the original platted area of Grand Junction and is representative of the early 1900 town building.

Up through 1912, these 3 lots saw a variety of smaller, temporary structures: a dry goods store, a "wash room", a cabin and a restaurant, at varied times. Ca. 1909 JB Masser bought lots 30 and 31 (not 32), and erected a 2-story, 2-lot building. By 1912 Hoel's Business College is in the Masser Building, and the predecessor J.C. Penney's, Mudd-Joclyn & Penney, is at 308 Main. By 1916, the name JC Penney Co was in use. Both the business college and Penney's had moved to new locatiions by 1919. Grand Junction Seed Co. had moved into 306 by 1924, and purchased the building by 1926 (lot 32 remained bare ground for most of this time). In ca. 1929, the seed company had also purchased lot 32 and apparently built today's building--the valuation of improvements to the 3 lots combined jumped from \$4250 to \$74000. Montgomery Ward & Co. moved into 302-306 about 1930, where it stayed for about 5 years. When wards moved out, Gambel Stores inc. moved in (ca. 1937). In 1939, physician EH Munro and dentist OM Morrison had purchased the building. The 1940s saw a new class of tenants -- the US Army -- followed by a 1950s invasion of the uranium industry.

Significance: (check appropriate categories and briefly justify below)

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>Architectural significance:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> represents the work of a master</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> possesses high artistic values</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> represents a type, period or method of construction</p> | <p>Historic significance:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> associated with significant persons</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> associated with significant events or patterns</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> contributes to an historic district</p> |
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Statement of significance:

Contributing; This structure is located within the original platted area of Grand Junction and was representative of the early 1900s town building.

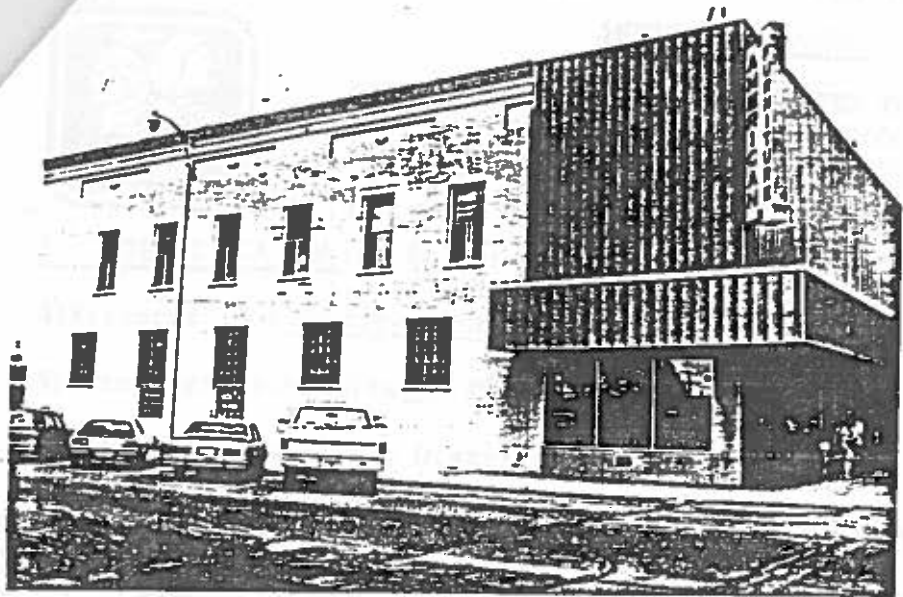
References (be specific)

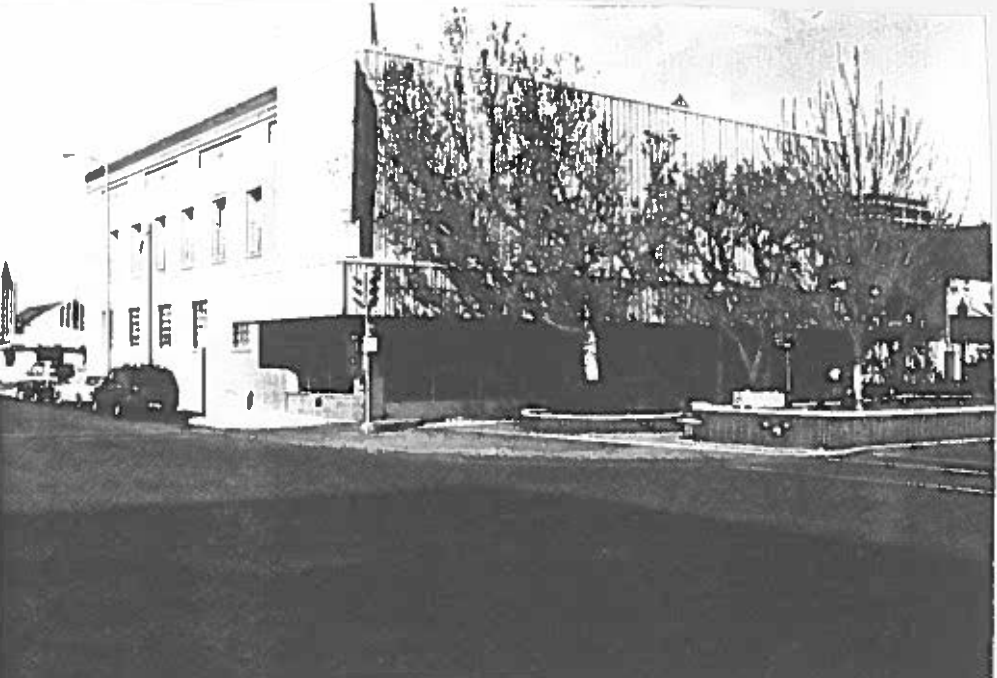
- 1981 Historic Survey of City
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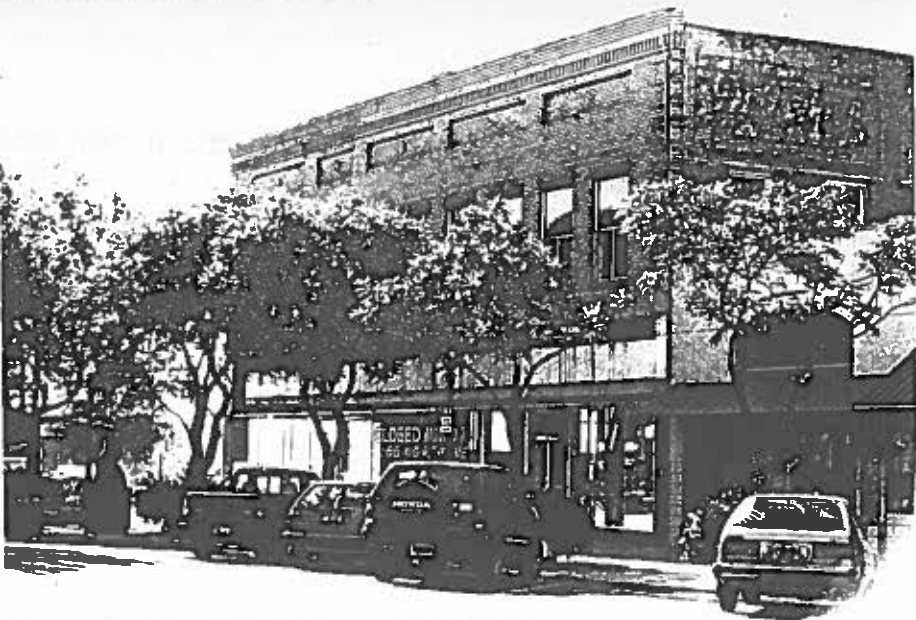
Surveyed by: Marty Alexandroff affiliation: Winter & Company

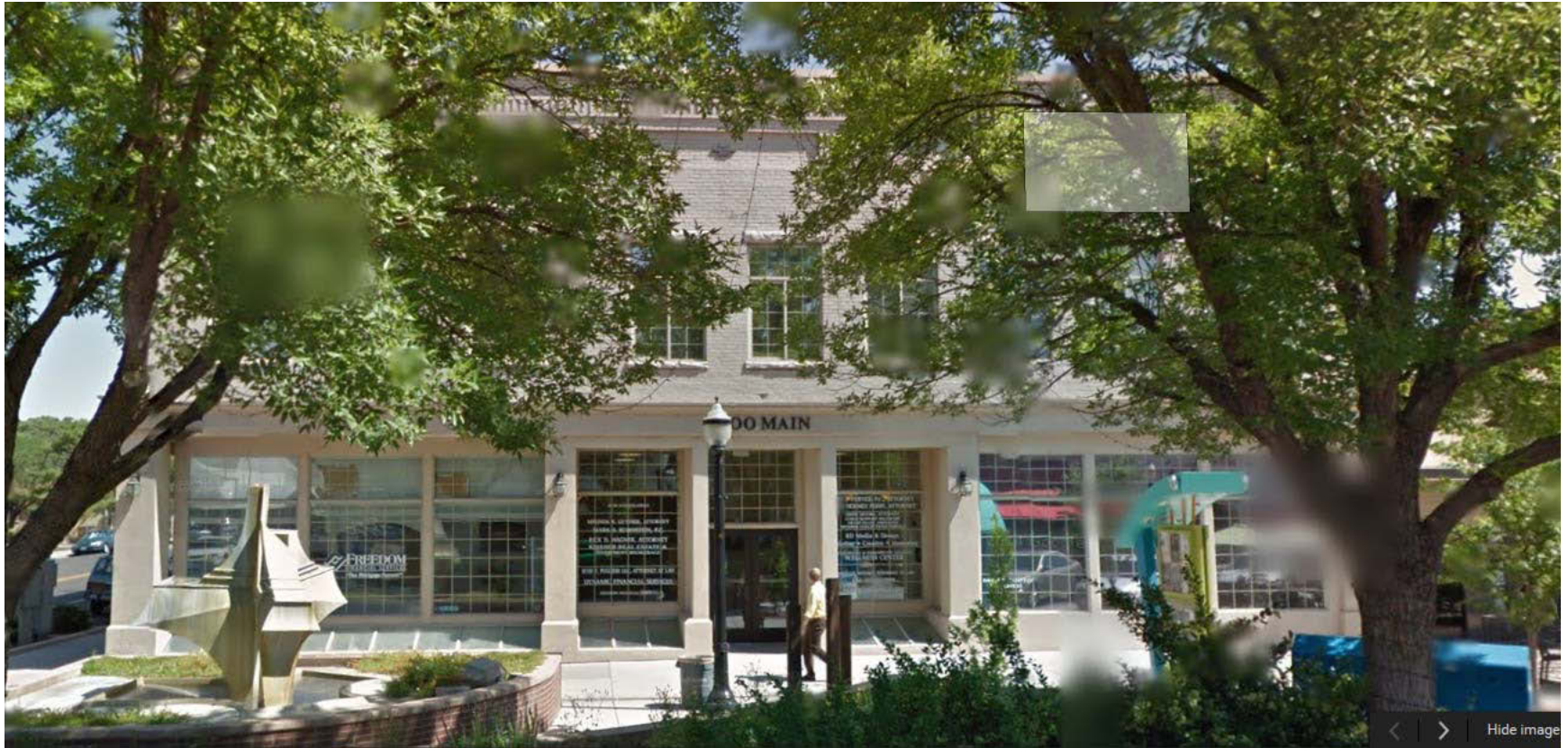
Date: July, 1994

CE NO. 2945-143-15-007









300 Main Street

Current Google Street View

July 2012



300 Main Street

Most Current Google Street View

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Owner: Various *Thomas R. Nielson*

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Surveyed by: Marty Alexandroff affiliation: Winter & Company

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2945-143 - 49-011/012,
013/014

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