

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:

One story with side gable. Foundation is slightly battered. Concrete steps, with brick piers and concrete coping, lead up to full width screened porch under principal roof. Half-wall is brick with concrete coping. Four, full height brick columns across porch have corbeled capitals. Wood screen door is flanked by two short half-walls, each with two molded panels. Wide front door is paneled with five vertical lights of beveled glass. Windows around house are mainly double hung wood sash, one-over-one. Small six light wood casements flank the fireplace. Yellow vinyl lapped siding. Window surrounds on east and west elevations are brown on the first floor, yellow on the second floor. Brown wood shingles on gables faces and dormers. Gray composition shingle roof. Large wall beams with large curved braces under wide eaves. Exposed rafter ends. Bargeboards have notched ends. Gabled dormer on facade. Full height fireplace chimney on east gable wall. Another brick chimney on south slope. Chimneys, porch half-wall and columns are all of the same tan brick.

Landscaped with lawn and evergreens on east porch facade. Tall tree on west lawn with sycamore and elm trees in parking area.
One car garage with front gable, green composition shingle roof, slightly battered foundation, yellow lapped siding and paneled door.

PHOTOGRAPHS (include photographs showing each side of building and any associated buildings)

Film roll no.: 24
Negative no.: 9

Photographer: Carolyn Howard
Location of negatives: City Of Grand Junction

CONSTRUCTION HISTORY (include description and dates of major additions, alterations, or demolitions): Vinyl siding, gable windows. Additional construction or modifications not noted in Assessor's records.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND (discuss important persons and events associated with this building): The first owner of the house, constructed ca. 1923, was W.H. Jones. Ora and Harry W. Harris, a early local fruit grower, automobile dealer, and civic leader, were the owners/occupants ca. 1924 until Mr. Harris' death in 1954. The Harrises sold their fruit ranch at Highland Park in 1923, and Harris went into business with William Murr, acquiring the local Buick agency and establishing the Murr-Harris Auto Company at 7th and Main. In 1925, the business was moved to 619 Main, and in 1931 Harris formed Harris Auto Company after he bought out his partner's interest in the dealership. He took over the local Pontiac dealership in 1932. Harris helped form the Rotary Club in 1919, and in 1947 was named "Rotarian of the Year." At one time he headed up the local Red Cross Chapter, served on the U.S. Bank board, and donated the land on North Avenue where the Episcopal Church now stands. The Harris Wing of the church is named for him. He was also a supporter of Big League baseball.

INFORMATION SOURCES (be specific): Plat Map, Appraisal Card, Lot and Block Books, Grand Junction City Directories. Grand Junction Daily Sentinel Newspaper, 9 Jun 1954.

SIGNIFICANCE (check appropriate categories)

Architectural significance:
 represents the work of a master
 possess high artistic value
 represents a type, period, or method of construction

Historical significance:
 associated with significant person(s)
 associated with significant event
 associated with a pattern of events
 contributes to an historic district

National Register eligibility:
 Individual yes no
 Criteria: A B C D
 Area(s) of significance: Architecture; Commerce

Contributes to a potential district:
 yes no
 District name:

Period of significance: 1923

THEME(S):

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (briefly justify the significance checked above): A large Bungalow, designed and built with better than average materials. Brick porch facade and substantial wall beams under the eaves are not common. Basically original, although some of the second story window replacements are not authentic. New vinyl siding is a match for the original lapped wood. The house, based on its association with Harris, should be considered for inclusion on the local register.

INVENTORY COMPLETED BY: Museum Group Staff

DATE: 3/29/96

AFFILIATION: Museum of Western Colorado

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ADDRESS: PO Box 20000-5020, Grand Junction, Colorado 81502-5020

PROJECT NAME: Grand Junction Historic Resources Survey, Phase 2



631 Ouray Ave. , Grand Junction, Mesa Co, CO

2945-142-42-005

02/05/1996

Roll 24 Frame 9 View N Dir SW

5ME0243



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Roll 24 Frame 9 View N Dir SW
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