



**ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:** Two story with hip roof. Concrete steps and piers lead to screened porch covering west 3/4 of the facade. Shed roof on porch, with a cross gable over screen door. Eight fluted square half columns around porch. Front door is paneled with large single light. Sidelights and transom are leaded, beveled glass. Walls and foundation are rusticated concrete block. Windows are one-over-one, double hung wood sash. On second floor, over front door, are paired windows with geometric muntins. All wood trim around doors, windows, porch and eaves is white. Green composition shingle roof. Wide eaves on all sides have shaped rafter ends. Wide, pressed brick chimney on east slope. Two water tables of smooth concrete blocks. Two story bay on east facade. One story bay on west elevation, with balustrade of turned spindles.

Landscaped with lawn, spirea, and evergreens across facade. Metal link fence around lawn. Parking is succulent ground cover and broadmoor evergreens. Elm and ash trees in parking area.

New three car garage with alley access.

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

Film roll no.: 5  
Negative no.: 10

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

**CONSTRUCTION HISTORY** (include description and dates of major additions, alterations, or demolitions): Additional construction or modifications not noted in Assessor's Records.

**HISTORICAL BACKGROUND** (discuss important persons and events associated with this building): Rhone, Henry R.: Born 24 Nov. 1858, Altoma, IL; Died 19 Mar 1925, Grand Junction. Married Ida Franklin, Denver, CO, 22 Nov. 1887. Children: 7 sons, 2 daughters. Education: Bachelor of law degree, Union College of Laws at Northwestern and the University of Chicago. Career highlights in house (1906-1925?): Co-owner Rhone-Walker Realty; promoter with David Moffat of Auto Transportation & Toll Road Company. The route, acquired by the Denver & Rio Grande for the Dotsero Cut-off, provided a short cut between Denver and Salt Lake City. Rhone also promoted the Rhone Townsite north of Grand Junction. Civic Organizations: At his death he was president of the Bookcliff Camp, Woodman of the World, and was overseeing construction of a new lodge. (Rhone was one of Grand Junction's first attorneys. He completed the Roan Creek Toll Road between City and Glenwood Springs, in 1884, and in 1889-1990, served as City Attorney, Mayor, and Trustee.) His widow, Ida Rhone, continued to live in the house until the early 1940s. By 1946, Harry Litsey, a barber at White Star Barbershop, was in residence. According to a Rhone family history, this residence was the first built of concrete block in Grand Junction. The family, using the birth dates of the Rhone children, estimate that a barn was first built on the four lot property in 1903. They believe the house was built in 1906. The family history notes that it was often the case that a small house and/or barn was first built on a property and then replaced by a house - if the money became available to do so.

**INFORMATION SOURCES** (be specific): Appraisal Card, Ownership Card, Lot and Block Books, Obituary Index, Grand Junction City Directories., 1981 Historic Survey of Grand Junction. Daily Sentinel Newspaper: March 20, 1925, p. 1, 5; March 22, 1925, p. 3; March 23, 1925, March 25, 1925, p. 1, 2. Museum of Western Colorado Archival Collection and Photographic Collection: "Journal of the Western Slope," vol. 2 #1, Winter, 1987. "Echoes of a Dream," p. 249, 301, 303. "Henry Robert Rhone Manuscript," Museum of Western Colorado, Rhone Collection, 1979.70

**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;  
 Community Planning and Development

**Contributes to a potential district:**  
 yes  no  
 District name:

Period of significance: 1903

THEME(S):

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE** (briefly justify the significance checked above): Henry R. Rhone, a pioneer Grand Junction lawyer and civic leader, was co-owner of a realty company and a promoter of regional transportation with David Moffat. Their Dotsero route later became part of the mainline of the Denver and Rio Grande Western Railroad. He also promoted the Rhone Townsite.

This concrete block two story Edwardian is in excellent original condition with well detailed porch and roof elements. The grayness of the concrete walls is brightened by the white trim on roof window and porch. The repeated pattern of shaped rafter ends on the principal and porch roofs, and balustrade of turned spindles on west bay window, add visual interest.

INVENTORY COMPLETED BY: Museum Group Staff

DATE: 2/14/96

AFFILIATION: Museum of Western Colorado

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PROJECT NAME: Grand Junction Historic Resources Survey, Phase 2



1203 White Ave.  
Grand Junction, Mesa Co, CO  
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10/05/1995  
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