

COLORADO HISTORICAL SOCIETY Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation 1300 Broadway Denver, CO 80203 HISTORIC BUILDING INVENTORY		SITE NO.: 5ME7450
COUNTY: Mesa CITY: Grand Junction		Eligible for National Register <input type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no date _____ initials _____ Criteria <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D Contributes to a potential National Register district <input type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no district name: _____
HISTORIC BUILDING NAME: Biggs, Clyde, House		Eligible for State Register <input type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no date _____ initials _____ Criteria <input type="checkbox"/> a <input type="checkbox"/> b <input type="checkbox"/> c <input type="checkbox"/> d <input type="checkbox"/> e Areas of significance: _____
CURRENT BUILDING NAME: Beckner Residence		Period of significance _____ Needs data ___ date _____ initials _____
ADDRESS: 1241 Gunnison Ave., Grand Junction, CO 81501-4438		LOCAL LANDMARK DESIGNATION: [] yes [X] no Date of designation: N/A Designating authority: N/A
OWNER NAME & ADDRESS: Larry B. Beckner, PO Box 220, Grand Junction, CO 81502-0220		P.M.: UTE township: 1S range:1W NW ¼ of NW ¼ of SW¼ of NW¼ of section 13
STYLE: English/Norman		UTM REFERENCE-12 Easting: 711850 Northing: 4327570
BUILDING TYPE:		USGS QUAD NAME: Grand Junction Year: 1962; photorevised 1973 [X] 7.5' [] 15'
MATERIALS: Concrete Foundation; Stucco Frame; Asphalt Shingle Roof		Block: 1 Lot(s): 5-11 Addition: Lincoln Park Year of addition: 1900
STORIES: 2 SQUARE FOOTAGE: 1814		[X] original location [] moved Date of moves(s): _____
PLAN SHAPE:		HISTORIC USE: Domestic PRESENT USE: Domestic
		DATE OF CONSTRUCTION- estimate: 1925 actual: Source of information: Tax Assessor's Records
		ARCHITECT: Unknown Source of information: _____
		BUILDER/CONTRACTOR: Unknown Source of information: _____
		ORIGINAL OWNER: C.H. Biggs Source of information: Lot and Block Books
		ASSOCIATED BUILDINGS- [] yes [X] no Type: _____

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION: Irregular plan with concrete foundation and buff, stucco walls. Main body of house is two story rectangle. Two story gabled wing on the east. One and a half story gabled wing on the west, with a two car garage. Eaves of main body of house have wall dormers over second story windows. Large cross gable on the west half of facade has a cat slide that continues down to the one story level, ending with a flared eave. Under the eave, an archway opens to a small integral entry porch and an arched batten door with small, four pane light. French doors, under small shingled hood, on west gable wall open to the driveway. Steel casement windows, generally five panes high on first story and four panes high on second story, without window surrounds, have red brick rowlock sills. Brown composition shingle roofs are steeply pitched with close to the wall eaves. Rakeboards. Gables have narrow, louvered ventilators with round arch heads. Fireplace chimney on east gable wall, and chimney on south slope are buff stucco, with red brick coping.

Landscaped by Sacco R. deBoer of Denver. Two sweeping curved walks on front lawn. Large spruces in front of house, and maple on lawn. Annual bed near house. Junipers banked along east walk. Three large elms, two oaks, and junipers in parking area.

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

Film roll no.: 1
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): Garage attic finished as second story in 1975. Pool, ca. 1950, removed in 1991.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND (discuss important persons and events associated with this building): Biggs, Clyde Hunter: Born Oct. 11, 1893, Tierra Amarillo, N.M., died May, 5, 1952, Grand Junction. Married: Josephine Ramsey, Aug. 30, 1924. Children: Elizabeth Zollner, Marjorie Zollner, Sally (deceased). Education: Canyon City, CO; U of Denver; Yale. Career highlights (1926-1952?): Manager (1918-1930) and president (1930-1952) of Biggs-Kurtz Co. (hardware); vice president, Independent Lumber CO, (1921-1952); president, C.A. Biggs Investment CO (many agricultural holdings); vice president, Mesa Federal Building & Loan (1936-1938); board member & director (1941-1943), 1st National Bank. Organizations: 32nd degree Mason, Elks Lodge, Rotary Club past president, American Legion (WWI army). Civic interests: Founder, Goodwill Industries; director, CO Chamber of Commerce; co-founder Western CO Boy Scout Council.

INFORMATION SOURCES (be specific): Plat map, Appraisal card, Ownership card, Grantor/Grantee index, Grand Junction City Directories, 1981 Historic Survey of Grand Junction. Daily Sentinel Newspaper; May 5, 1952, p. 1, 7; May 7 and 8, 1952.

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; Social History

Contributes to a potential district:
 yes no
 District name: Merchant/Professional Residential

Period of significance: 1925; 1904-1940

THEME(S):

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (briefly justify the significance checked above): Clyde Hunter Biggs was a significant Western Colorado businessman, community leader, and humanitarian. Biggs, an executive and partner in the lumber and wholesale hardware businesses of regional importance, was also president of the C.A. Biggs Investment Company, and owner of extensive agricultural holdings. He was a director of two local financial institutions, and of the Colorado Chamber of Commerce. Biggs, a founder and president of Goodwill Industries of Grand Junction which assisted the disadvantaged (financially and physically disabled), and for many years was a promoter of the Boy Scouts. A Yale alumnus, he encouraged local young men to be scholarship students at Yale.

This is also the best example of English/Norman style in Grand Junction, it is a 1920s simplified version. Without ornamentation, it relies for effect on balance, and repeated motifs of steep roofs and flared eave. Unadorned buff walls, not false half-timbering characterize the house. Built to high standards of construction, it is still in excellent original condition. Landscaping by Sacco de Boer, prominent Denver landscape architect. This building is located in the proposed Merchant/Professional Residential District. Between 1904 and 1940, the city of Grand Junction expanded to the east of the original square mile. Merchants and professionals settled into this area creating a distinctive neighborhood.

INVENTORY COMPLETED BY: Museum Group Staff

DATE: 2/14/96

AFFILIATION: Museum of Western Colorado

PHONE: (970) 241-9117

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

PROJECT NAME: Grand Junction Historic Resources Survey, Phase 2



1241 Gunnison Ave.
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2945-132-08-002
SME7450



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10/05/1995
Roll 1 Frame 9
View N Dir SW
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