

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION: One and a half story with concrete block foundation. Broad concrete front steps with large piers lead to full width, screened front porch under principal roof. Four concrete piers support large tapered wood piers. Siding on half-wall. East third of porch is glazed with ribbons of twenty light, wood casement windows. Flush front door with single large beveled light flanked by tall, beveled, single pane sidelights. Additional windows are double hung wood sash, three vertical lights over one, some having three light transoms. Projecting bay supported by wall beams on west elevation, with flared shed roof. Large front dormer is stucco with half-timbered gable. Dormer opens to a second story porch. Four piers with lapped siding, and balustrade with vertical slats. Gray narrow lapped siding. Wood piers, windows, door frames and bargeboards are white. Light gray composition shingle roof with flared eaves and knee braces. Rafter ends and bargeboards are deeply notched. Gray painted brick end wall fireplace chimney on east elevation. Another gray fireplace chimney towards rear of east elevation.

Landscaped with lawn, trellis with climbing roses south of sunporch, bulb plantings to the west of porch. Two sycamores in parking area. Original two car garage at rear with front gable, clapboard siding, and new panel garage door.

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

Film roll no.: 6
Negative no.: 8

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): Silcox, James M.: Born ca. 1862, Michigan. Died: 18 Dec 1921, Denver. Married: Pearl Bannister, 30 July 1908. Children: Laura, Louise and James, Jr. Career while in house (1910-1922?): Grand Junction Fruit Growers Association for 13 years, beginning in 1908. He became manager in 1915. His obituary notes that he had much to do with "making the local association one of the most successful and influential in the West." It also states that he was "interested in numerous other well-known local financial and business enterprises." Organizations: He was one of the charter members of the local Elks Lodge, serving as one of its first exalted rulers. (His wife, Pearl, was engaged in the family business, Bannisters, for a number of years.)

Blodgett, Elbert D: Born: 1874, New York. Died: 5 Nov 1953, LaJolla, CA. Married: Jane L. Children: Mrs. Nancy Denlow. Career while in house (1922-1951): Vice president of US Bank of Grand Junction. After the merger of US Bank with US Bank and Trust Company, he was elected president of United States Bank of Grand Junction. He retired from the position of president after the bank was sold in 1948. He also engaged in extensive farming and sheep raising operations for a number of years. Organizations: Masonic organizations including York and Scottish Rite bodies, and the Shriners; Elks Lodge; and the Lions Club.

This house should be examined closer at a later date for association with Allen Jones, manager of the Atomic Energy Commission Compound.

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: December 19, 1921, p. 1; April 27, 1927, p.1.

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: Agriculture; Social History; Economics

Contributes to a potential district:
 yes no
 District name:

Period of significance: 1910; 1926-1947

THEME(S):

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (briefly justify the significance checked above): This house is associated with two important early community leaders. James M. Silcox was credited with making the Grand Junction Fruit Growers Association one of the most successful and influential in the West during his 14 year tenure, the last seven as manager. The Association played a major role in the regional economy. Silcox was active in several other financial and business enterprises including Bannisters (furniture), and served as one of the first exalted rulers of the local Elks Lodge.

Elbert D. Blodgett was a well-known community leader and local financier, serving as president of the United States Bank of Grand Junction until 1926-1948. He also engaged in extensive farming and sheep raising operations for a number of years.

This house incorporates picturesque elements of Craftsman architecture and is the most outstanding example in Grand Junction. The large dormer on the facade opens onto a balcony, which is uncommon. The design is appropriate for a Craftsman house and is unique to Grand Junction.

INVENTORY COMPLETED BY: Museum Group Staff

DATE: 2/14/96

AFFILIATION: Museum of Western Colorado

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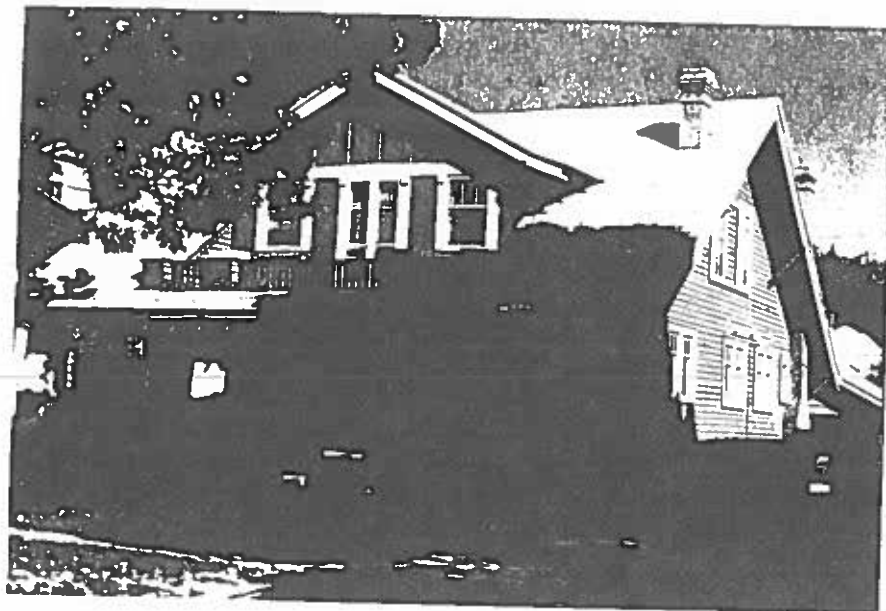
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PROJECT NAME: Grand Junction Historic Resources Survey, Phase 2



1244 Main St.
Grand Junction, Mesa Co, CO
2945-133-12-014
5ME7569

10/05/1995
Roll 6 Frame 8
View S Dir N/NW
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