




2945-154-29-013

Historic Building Inventory Record

NOT FOR FIELD USE
 ELIGIBLE
 DET. NOT ELIGIBLE
 NOMINATED
 CERTIFIED REHAB
 DATE _____

project name		county	city	state ID no.	
		Mesa	Grand Junction		
current building name		owner			
		Spendrup and Associates PO Box 4308 Grand Junction, CO 81502-4308			
address		township 1S range 1W section 15 SE ¼, ¼			
545 Lawrence Ave Grand Junction, CO					
historic name		USGS quad name			
Joseph A. K. Crawford house		1962/revised 1973 yr. <u>X</u> 7.5' ___ 15'			
district name		block	lot(s)	addition	yr. of addition
		1	1 & 2	Crawford	1890
film roll	negative nos.	location of negatives		date of construction	
2 C. Howard III		Museum W. CO.		_____ estimate _____ actual	
		source			
		property record card Assessor's Office			
		use			
		residence _____ present residence _____ historic			
		condition			
		_____ excellent <u>X</u> good _____ fair _____ deteriorating			
		extent of alterations			
		<u>X</u> minor _____ moderate _____ major			
		describe:			
		replacement missing/rotted porch components w/matching reproductions, 1994-5.			
style		stories		date(s) of move:	
American four-square or Prairie Box		2		<u>X</u> original _____ moved	
materials		square footage		National Register Eligibility	
brick on brick roof - asphalt foundation - concrete		1728		Individual: <u>X</u> yes _____ no	
architectural description		Contributing to district:			
		<u>X</u> yes _____ no			
		local landmark designation			
		_____ name _____ date			
		associated buildings? <u>X</u> yes			
		type residence			
additional pages		if inventoried, list ID nos.			
_____ yes _____ <u>X</u> no		2945-154-29-012			

	architect	original owner
	source	Joseph A. K. Crawford
	builder/contractor	source Assessor's Office Clerk & Recorder's Office Obituary, Daily Sentinel Jan 1946
	source	theme(s)

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

Built in 1911, its facade remains largely intact. The present owner has replaced some woodwork on the exterior with reproductions made order to match the original style. Interior modernization (plumbing lighting, heating) has been done, but the only modification to the interior layout occurred in 1994 when the downstairs pantry was converted to a half bath. The present owner states that the original plaster, baseboards, wood floors and staircase still exist.

continued ___ yes no

Local background

This building has always been a residence. It was commissioned by the original owner Joseph A. K. Crawford, constructed with bricks from his brickyard (located to the west of the house), and lived in by the Crawford family until 1949 when it was sold out of the family. Mr. Crawford was an influential member of the community until his death at age 87. He emigrated from Canada and worked on constructing the narrow gauge railroad from Marshal Pass to Gunnison from 1881 to 1882. During the winter of 1882 he and two friends, William A. Lynch and Nelson Pritchard opened a coal mine on the point of Orchard Mesa, using the railroad and a ferry which they built, to transport the coal. In 1883 Mr. Crawford took out naturalization papers and eventually proved up on a 160 acre homestead to the west of town. Here he planted 100 fruit trees and hauled water by hand as there was no irrigation water at the time. He later went to Alaska to join the gold rush. Throughout his life in Grand Junction he invested in and sold real estate. In 1888 he opened his brickyard which supplied bricks for a number of buildings in Grand Junction,

continued yes ___ no

Significance (check appropriate categories and briefly justify below)

architectural significance:

- represents the work of a master
- possesses high artistic values
- represents a type, period or method of construction

historical significance:

- associated with significant persons
- associated with significant events or patterns
- contributes to an historic district

Statement of significance

This house is one of four two-story brick buildings constructed from 1910-1920. It is the only one of this type in the Riverside area and has survived nearly intact from its' original form. The bricks used in its construction came from the brickyard owned and run by the original owner. Said brickyard was located to the west of the house. It is part of the Crawford addition to Grand Junction, platted in 1890. Residents in the Riverside area throughout its early and middle history were employees of the railroad. It is also the center of a number of ethnic communities over time, Italian, German, and currently Hispanic. It has always been a residence, although currently it is a rental property.

continued ___ yes no

References (be specific)

- Assessor's Office: appraisal card, ownership card, lot & block books, homestead index
- Clerk & Recorder's Office: grantor/grantee indexes, deeds, survey/plat maps
- Obituary, Daily Sentinel, Jan 1946
- Civil Works Administration, oral interviews by WPA workers, 1930s
- Polk City Directories, multiple years
- Oral interviews with local historians, residents of area
- Museum of Western Colorado Archives

continued ___ yes no

Surveyed by	affiliation	date
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Historical Background (cont'd)

including the Odd Fellows Hall and the Opera House. During this time he lived at 537 Lawrence (block 1, lot 3), the house located next to the 2-story brick house he commissioned in 1911 on lots 1 and 2. His daughters were all school teachers in the area and married and raised families in Grand Junction. J. A. K. Crawford and Thomas B. Crawford (nephew of Governor Crawford) laid out and platted the Crawford addition to Grand Junction in June 1890. It is in this addition that Mr. Crawford had his business and both homes. Mr. Crawford was a member of the Presbyterian Church and Modern Woodmen of the World. He was a member of "The City Cornet Band", the first band organized in Grand Junction in 1883, and was a member of every band up to and including "The Silver Crescent Band" under Professor Boyer.

His eulogy in the Daily Sentinel described Joseph A. K. Crawford as a "an honored pioneer ... who sank his roots and immediately engaged in activities that promoted the development and general welfare of the town and community ... made contributions both tangible and intangible, of lasting value to our community ..."



