

COLORADO HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation
1300 Broadway Denver, CO 80203

HISTORIC BUILDING INVENTORY

SITE NO.: 5ME8425

Eligible for National Register yes no
date _____ initials _____
Criteria A B C D
Contributes to a potential National Register district
 yes no district name: _____

Eligible for State Register yes no
date _____ initials _____
Criteria a b c d e
Areas of significance: _____

COUNTY: Mesa

CITY: Grand Junction

HISTORIC BUILDING NAME: The house at 859 Ouray Avenue

Period of significance _____
Needs data date _____ initials _____

CURRENT BUILDING NAME:

LOCAL LANDMARK DESIGNATION: yes no

ADDRESS: 859 Ouray Ave., Grand Junction, CO 81501

Date of designation: N/A
Designating authority: N/A

OWNER NAME & ADDRESS: Edwin B. Portson, Jr., 2217 Stanley Hills Dr., Los Angeles, CA 90046-1531

P.M.: UTE township: 1S range: 1W
SE 1/4 of SE 1/4 of SW 1/4 of NE 1/4 of section 14

UTM REFERENCE-12
Easting: 711315
Northing: 4327340

USGS QUAD NAME: Grand Junction

Year: 1962; photorevised 1973 7.5' 15'

STYLE: Bungalow

Block: 70
Lot(s): 15 and 16
Addition:
Year of addition:

BUILDING TYPE:

original location moved

Date of moves(s):

MATERIALS: Mud Sill Foundation - Wood Frame - Asphalt Shingle Roof

HISTORIC USE: Domestic

PRESENT USE: Domestic

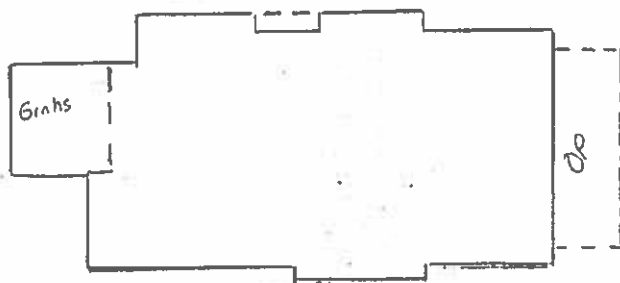
STORIES: 2

SQUARE FOOTAGE: 1156

DATE OF CONSTRUCTION- estimate: 1924 actual:
Source of information: Tax Assessor's Records

PLAN SHAPE:

north arrow



ARCHITECT: Unknown

Source of information:

BUILDER/CONTRACTOR: Unknown

Source of information:

ORIGINAL OWNER: Gertrude Ruess

Source of information: Lot and Block Books

ASSOCIATED BUILDINGS- yes no

Type: Garage

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION: Two story with front gable. Battered foundation. Concrete steps with wrought iron railings. A gabled screen porch extends across most of the facade. Siding on half-wall. Wide, squared half columns are on the corners. A wide tie beam across the head of the screen openings. The columns and the beam intersect with a short arc, and form a basket-handle arch on the porch facade and ends. A wood frame screen door. Front paneled door has light and sidelights. Windows on the first floor are varied, most are double hung, wood sash, transom over one. Projecting bay with transom window on the east elevation with the eave for a roof. Sliding windows on the rear of the first floor. Second floor windows are ribbons of pairs of sliding wood sashes. Storm windows have metal frames. Pale gray wood false bevel siding. Second floor addition has vertical wood siding. Door and window surrounds, columns and beams, corner boards, porch coping, second story window frames, bargeboards and knee braces are hepatica. Porch screen, first floor window frames, and exposed rafter ends are rose. Gray/green composition shingle roof. The new second story extends through three fourths of the original roof. The new upper roof is gabled with pitches to match the original roof and has fascia boards. Two new shallow bays on the west elevation rise to meet the upper addition. Long skylight on east slope of the original roof. Various metal flues on roof.

Lawn with roses on east elevation. Spirea and roses are on the west elevation. Cluster of evergreens are on the lawn corner. Large elm trees are on parking. A high, unpainted wood fence around the backyard.

One car garage at rear with front gable, deteriorated gray composition shingle roof, white false bevel siding and white, batten door.

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

Film roll no.: 34

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): Second story addition. Mill tailings removed, 1987. Greenhouse attached, date undetermined.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND (discuss important persons and events associated with this building): The house, listed as unfinished in 1924, was first owned by Gertrude Ruess, ca. 1924-1943. Renters during that time included a trainmaster; Walter C. Hiron, principal of Grand Junction High School; a U. S. Forest Service Technical Assistant; a railroad roadmaster; Clyde V. Barron, the owner of the Dr. Pepper Bottling Company; and Joe Keith, a detective with the Grand Junction Police Department. Grace and Elmer Jones, a Public Service Lineman, lived in the house circa 1946-1951.

INFORMATION SOURCES (be specific): Plat Map, Appraisal Card, Lot and Block Books, Grand Junction City Directories. Grand Junction Historic Resource Survey, 1981.

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

Contributes to a potential district:

yes no

District name:

THEME(S):

Period of significance: 1924

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (briefly justify the significance checked above): This Bungalow has been strongly modified. The new upper story which thrusts through the roof gives the appearance of an "Airplane Bungalow" from the Bungalow period. The new siding and windows are inappropriate. Although not eligible for the National Register, this house may contribute to a local register.

INVENTORY COMPLETED BY: Museum Group Staff

DATE: 5/31/96

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



1069
COURAY

859



859 Ouray Ave. , Grand Junction, Mesa Co, CO
2945-141-39-008 02/29/1996
Roll 34 Frame 9 View N Dir S/SW
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