

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number _____ Page _____

SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 97001600

Property Name: Jenne Block

County: Converse State: Wyoming

Multiple Name

This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

Linda McClelland
Signature of the Keeper

January 6, 1998
Date of Action

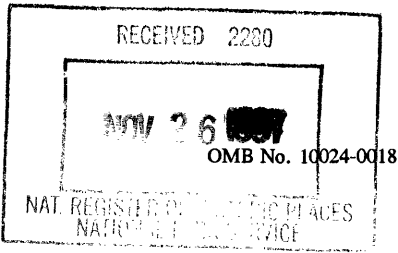
=====
Amended Items in Nomination:

Section 3. State/Federal Certification. The SHPO's certification is hereby verified to indicate that property is being nominated and that the SHPO believes the property is eligible for the National Register. The level of significance is, hereby, indicated as "local" to correspond to the narrative statement of significance.

Sheila Bricker-Wade of the Wyoming State Historic Preservation Office was notified of this amendment.

DISTRIBUTION:

- National Register property file
- Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determination for individual properties and districts. See instruction in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (N.S. Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Jenne Block

other names/site number Jenne Building (48CO2175)

2. Location

street & number 301 Center Street [N/A] not for publication

city or town Douglas [N/A] vicinity

state Wyoming code WY county Converse code 009 zip code 82633

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally.
(See continuation sheet for additional comments [].)

John J. Keck State Historic Preservation Officer 11/17/97
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State Historic Preservation Office
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria.
(See continuation sheet for additional comments [].)

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

entered in the National Register

See continuation sheet [].
 determined eligible for the

National Register
See continuation sheet [].
 determined not eligible for the

National Register.
 removed from the

National Register [] other, explain

Signature of the Keeper Date
Linda McClelland 1/6/98

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

Jenne Block
Name of Property

Converse County, WY
County/State

Page 2

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not count previously listed resources.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	buildings
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	sites
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	structures
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	objects
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	Total

Name of related multiple property listing.
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

**Number of contributing resources
previously listed in the National Register.**

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Function
(Enter categories from instructions)

Commerce: office building, bank, newspaper publishing

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Commerce: retail shops

Domestic: apartment building

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Commercial Style

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation CONCRETE

walls BRICK

roof UNKNOWN

other TERRA COTTA DETAILS

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

Jenne Block
Name of Property

Converse County, WY
County/State

Page 3

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F** a commemorative property.
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographic References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (N.S.):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey

- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

COMMERCE

Periods of Significance

1916 - 1947

Significant Dates

1916-Construction Date

Significant Person(s)

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Edward A. Reavill (builder)

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State Agency
- Federal Agency
- Local Government
- University
- Other:

Name of repository:

Converse County Courthouse
(Real estate deed and transaction records)

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

Jenne Block
Name of Property

Converse County, WY
County/State

Page 4

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property < 1 (.06 acre)

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1. 13 468650 4733940
Zone Easting Northing

3. Zone Easting Northing

2. Zone Easting Northing

4. Zone Easting Northing

[] See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Jason Marmor
organization RETROSPECT date April 8, 1997
street & number 1512 Briarcliff Road telephone (970) 482-3115
city or town Fort Collins state CO zip code 80524

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

- A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional Items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name Robert A. Funk
street & number P.O. Box 520 telephone 307-358-4232
city or town Douglas state WY zip code 82633

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 5

**Jenne Block
Douglas, Converse County, WY**

Narrative Description

This imposing two-story brick commercial building is situated on the southeast corner of Center and South Third Streets in downtown Douglas. It is rectangular in plan, with a canted corner entry and a full basement. The building measures 100 feet long (N-S) by 26 feet wide (E-W).

The Jenne Block is perhaps the most ornate commercial building in Douglas, due largely to the generous use of terra cotta detailing. The Jenne Block is constructed of orange-black mottled brick set in running bond, with a belt course of slightly corbeled soldier bricks at the midline, between floors. The main entry is recessed within the canted corner and is accessed by a set of concrete steps. The main entry door is a paneled wooden unit with glazed panel, transom and sidelights. Above this entry is an ornate terra cotta pediment carried by ornamental brackets over a terra cotta flat arch. At the top of the building on this canted corner is another ornate terra cotta parapet ornament; it is a shield design containing the monogram of two "Js" (representing "Jacob Jenne") in relief. The shield is surrounded by a garland of scrolls and acanthus leaves and surmounted by a stylized ribbon. Another entry is located on the narrow north facade and provides access to the second floor. This entry is slightly recessed, and is reached via a set of concrete steps; it is also surmounted by an ornate terra cotta hood, supported at each end by terra cotta triglyph brackets. Above the hood's cornice is a segmental arched panel in which is impressed the name "JENNE BLOCK" over the date "1916."

At the middle of the long west side of the building (facing South Third Street) is a raised entry accessed by a concrete stairway with a wrought-iron railing. This side entry is equipped with a glazed wooden door. Beneath this stairway is a concrete stairwell to the basement. To the right (south) of this entry is a non-historic modification to the building consisting of a wood paneled storefront with a recessed entry with angled walls. Another, entry of simple design is located on the south rear of the building.

Different fenestration is employed on the first and second floors of the Jenne Building. The first floor windows on the west facade consist of a series of four identical, 9-over-9, double-hung, units with six light sidelights (north of the central entry), as well as one 15-over-15, double-hung unit (south of the central entry). On the north side is a solitary 12-over-12, double-hung window with six-light sidelights. All of these windows have wood sash, loose lintels and terra cotta lug sills. The more recent storefront near the south end of the west side is equipped with pairs of small fixed-pane rectangular windows on

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 6

Jenne Block
Douglas, Converse County, WY

Narrative Description:

either side of the recessed entry. Along the base of the building are a series of sealed basement windows which are equipped with ornate wrought-iron grilles. There are three such grated apertures on the west side, and one on the north side below the first floor window.

The second story fenestration is all original. The west side second story windows all have multi-pane transoms over a sash with side-by-side panes. All of the west side second floor windows are fitted with fixed sheet metal awnings. A similar window is placed on the canted corner of the building, above the main entry, and on the north side are three identical 12-over-1, double-hung windows. All of the second-story windows have terra cotta sills, and a belt course of terra cotta extends at lintel level across the north and west sides, with flat arches above each window. Parallel to this lintel-level belt course near the top of the building is another, more elaborate belt of terra cotta forming a stylized entablature. This entablature consists of plain frieze band above which is a finely detailed cornice band. At intervals along this terra cotta entablature are stylized brackets. The cornice of the building's parapet wall is capped with plain, flat blocks of terra cotta. All of the terra cotta is a natural cream color, which effectively contrasts with the dark brick walls.

The east party wall of the building is made of plain red brick, and crude brick masonry visible on a portion of this side probably represents patching after an adjacent building was removed. Overall, the Jenne Building is in excellent condition, and the only non-historic alteration evident is the installation of a wood-paneled storefront on the west side.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 7

Jenne Block Douglas, Converse County, WY

Narrative Statement of Significance

Constructed in 1916, the Jenne Block embodies both architectural and historical significance. The building was originally constructed and owned by pioneer Douglas citizen Jacob Jenne. Jenne was a successful and influential Converse County sheep rancher and businessman in the early part of the twentieth century. He had relocated to Wyoming from Bates County, Missouri, in 1891, joining his brother in operating the Morton-Jenne Sheep Company. Jenne's success in the sheep business allowed him to diversify his enterprises, and he was also very active in promoting the development of Douglas. In 1912-13, Jenne served as one of five directors of the Douglas-based Good Roads Club and in 1914 served as its president. In 1915 Jenne purchased the lot at the southeast corner of Third and Center Streets for \$3,500, and in the following year he financed the construction of this ornate business block. The architect responsible for designing the new business block which bore his name has not been identified, but the prolific local contractor Edward A. Reavill was awarded the construction contract. Reavill was responsible for building many of Douglas' homes and landmark buildings, including the LaBonte Hotel and the Burlington Railroad Depot. Jacob Jenne was also president of the Douglas Mercantile Company, and from the early 1920s to the early 1930s served as vice-president of the Douglas National Bank. He died on October 15, 1935, leaving a legacy of community development that is exemplified by this landmark commercial building.

The Jenne Block is historically significant under National Register Criterion A for the important role it has played as a locus of business in Douglas for eighty years, from 1916 to the present (1997). The Jenne Block served as a bank and office building as well as the home of the Douglas Enterprise newspaper for several decades in the early twentieth century. The Commercial Bank and Trust Company (George W. Metcalf, president, William C. Irvine and John D. LeBar, vice presidents) moved into the northern portion of the building in September of 1916 and remained there at least into the early 1920s. Wyoming State Business Directory listings also indicate that the Converse County Abstract & Loan Company also occupied space in the new building. As early as 1920 the basement of the Jenne Block housed the printing presses of the Douglas Enterprise (newspaper) company. The building also contained the offices of many professionals in Douglas, including the office of petroleum engineer Charles A. Guenther in 1919, the law offices of Douglas attorneys John D. Dawson and T.C. Daniels in the 1930s, as well as the offices of the Converse Land Title Company (E. Walker Morrison), and the office of Ray E. Morrison, secretary treasurer of the National Farm Loan Association who also provided real estate

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 8

Jenne Block
Douglas, Converse County, WY

Narrative Statement of Significance

insurance and surety bonds. The Converse Land Title Company remained in the building at least as late as 1950, as did the Douglas Enterprise. Many of the businesses contained in the Jenne Block were important participants in the economic affairs of Douglas and rural Converse County, and the building has been a significant component of the downtown Douglas business district throughout the twentieth century.

The Jenne Block is a relatively intact and outstanding example of a twentieth century commercial building in Douglas, and its ornate architecture may be considered a local masterpiece of building design. The profuse use of terra cotta design elements reflects the prosperity of its owner, Jacob Jenne, and enhanced the building's appearance as an edifice worthy of the financial institutions and professional offices it contained. Because of its architectural quality, the Jenne Block is judged to be individually eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 9,10 Page 9

Jenne Block
Douglas, Converse County, WY

Bibliography

Douglas Budget

- 1915 "Jenne Gets City Lot." *The Douglas Budget*, August 26, 1915
- 1916a "Building Operations Lively - Several Buildings Started and Others are Contemplated." *The Douglas Budget*, March 16, 1916.
- 1916b "Work on Jenne Block and Church to Start Immediately." *The Douglas Budget*, March 30, 1916.
- 1916c "Will Move Bank Monday." *The Douglas Budget*, August 31, 1916.

Heritage Book Committee, Wyoming Pioneer Association

1986 *Pages from Converse County's Past*. Heritage Book Committee, Wyoming Pioneer Association, Douglas. Printed by Wyoming Historical Press, Casper, pp. 311, 608.

Sanborn maps (1912, 1920); Wyoming State Business Directories (1901-1950)

Verbal Boundary Description

The property boundary encompasses all of Lot 12 in Block 16 of Douglas (original plat). The boundary includes an area measuring 26 feet (E-W) by 100 feet (N-S).

Verbal Boundary Justification

The boundary is limited to the footprint of the building.