

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY  
RECEIVED JUN 21 1978  
DATE ENTERED JUL 24 1978

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Helper Commercial District

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

See Continuation Sheet

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Helper

VICINITY OF

01

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Utah

CODE

84526

COUNTY

Carbon

CODE

17

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Multiple

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

VICINITY OF

STATE

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Recorder's Office

STREET & NUMBER

Carbon County Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Price

Utah 84501

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

Utah Historic Sites Survey

DATE

1977-78

FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Utah State Historical Society

CITY, TOWN

Salt Lake City, Utah

STATE

Utah 84101

# 7 DESCRIPTION

## CONDITION

EXCELLENT  
 GOOD  
 FAIR

DETERIORATED  
 RUINS  
 UNEXPOSED

## CHECK ONE

UNALTERED  
 ALTERED

## CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE  
 MOVED      DATE \_\_\_\_\_

---

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

See attached pages.

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

## PERIOD

## AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) recreation immigration
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

See attached pages.

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

See attached.

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 30 acres

QUADRANGLE NAME Helper, Utah

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24000

UTM REFERENCES

A 1,2 | 5,1,2 | 4,7,0 | 4,3,9,2 | 9,8,0

B 1,2 | 5,1,2 | 6,3,0 | 4,3,9,2 | 9,8,0

C 1,2 | 5,1,2 | 6,5,0 | 4,3,9,2 | 3,5,0

D 1,2 | 5,1,2 | 4,7,5 | 4,3,9,2 | 2,0,0

E    |    |    |    |   

F    |    |    |    |   

G    |    |    |    |   

H    |    |    |    |   

G    |    |    |    |   

H    |    |    |    |   

G    |    |    |    |   

H    |    |    |    |   

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

See Item 2

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

## 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Terrence W. Epperson, Historian

ORGANIZATION

Utah State Historical Society

DATE

February 1978

STREET & NUMBER

307 West 200 South Suite 1000

TELEPHONE

(801) 533-6017

CITY OR TOWN

Salt Lake City, Utah

STATE

84101

## 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

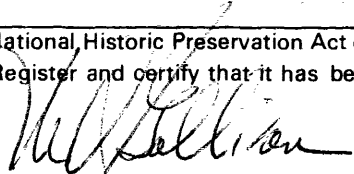
NATIONAL   

STATE X

LOCAL   

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE



TITLE

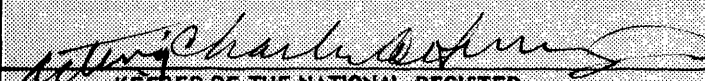
Michael D. Gallivan State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

May 4, 1978

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER



DATE

7-24-79

ATTEST: William H. Bradman

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

7-17-77

DATE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
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LOCATION CONTINUED

HELPER COMMERCIAL DISTRICT BOUNDARIES

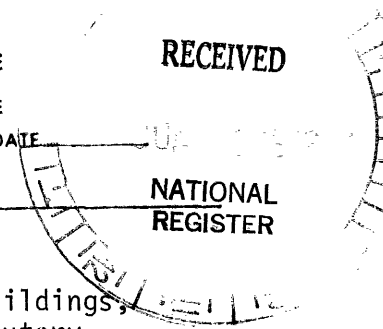
The Helper commercial district is located within the present city limits of Helper, Utah. The District is entirely within the E  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the NE  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 24, Township 13 South, Range 9E Salt Lake City Standard Meridian. The District is bounded on the north by Janet Street, on the west by First West Street, on the South by Locust Street and on the east by the Denver and Rio Grande Western (D&RGW) railyards. The size of the district is somewhat less than 40 acres and includes, but is not limited to, the entire extent of Pratt's and Mead's Survey Platts.

The existing boundaries were selected because of their tight nature, delineating the main Helper commercial district, as well as access points to that area. The inclusion of residences was determined by both their presence on Main Street or their adjacent location to the street and within business district, other residences were excluded and may be part of a future multiple resource nomination.

Janet Street is the northern boundary, and with its underpass (to the east) represents the effective beginning of Helper's Main Street. On the west is First West Street which contains some residences, but included major rear access ways to the commercial buildings on Main Street. Locust Street boards the district on the south, representing the end of the main commercial area. The eastern boundary follows the Rio Grande Western railway yards, which formed a vital part of Helper's commercial life.

# 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		DATE



DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Helper commercial district consists of a total of 110 buildings, of which 98 sites have been judged to be potentially contributory to the historic character of the area. A wide variety of both residential and commercial structures, arrayed along both sides of Main street in a north-south manner, comprise the district.

The residential buildings are generally one story and are fairly modest in appearance. Several styles and building materials were utilized, including; hand hewn stone, wood frame, stucco, and several types of brick. The commercial buildings also exhibit a wide degree of variability, although they are generally consistent in scale, with almost all buildings being one to two stories in height. The predominate building material was red brick, although hand hewn stone stucco, wood frame, and other types of brick were also utilized.

Comparison of the present appearance of the district with early Sanborn maps and historic photos indicates that the area still retains much of its historic character. Prior to 1927 the area east of Main Street was dominated by Denver and Rio Grande Western (D&RGW) railroad company houses, but after that time, the area began to acquire the predominately commercial appearance it retains today. The modifications of the residential buildings have been fairly minor and have generally consisted of the installation of "modern" siding materials and additions, and the enclosure or modification of the porches. The commercial buildings have often seen facade modifications, many of which are minor and reversable.

A description of each contributory building along with its capsule history is given below. The buildings are listed by their Utah Historical Society site inventory number.

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CR-07-651 Intrusion Recently constructed brick utility building.

CR-07-652 2 South Main Street. 1929. Present Owners:  
Daniel and Joyce Colacito

2 South Main St.

One story stucco house with hip roof, basically unaltered. This home served as the Joseph Litizzette residence from 1929 until 1948. The land was originally part of the August Litizzette Sr. farm of which Joseph, as eldest son, received the largest portion.

CR-07-653 6 South Main Street c. 1920  
Present Owners: William F. and Regina B. Kloefer

6 South Main St.

One story tan brick house with hip roof. This home served as the Joseph Litizzette residence prior to the construction of CR-07-652. Except for the painted brick exterior, this home remains basically unaltered. Land was originally part of the Litizzette farm.

CR-07-654 8 South Main Street 1909  
Present Owners: John and Mary Driscoll

c/o Martha Lacey  
P.O. Box 5

One story frame house with hip roof. Originally built as a duplex rental unit with two front entrances. This home is now a single family residence. Original lap board exterior has been covered with asbestos shingles. Joseph Litizzette was the original owner, and the land was part of the Litizzette farm.

CR-07-655 12 South Main St. 1908  
Present Owners: Richard and Martene Ghirardelli

120 Hillcrest Dr.

One story frame house with gable roof. First house commissioned by Joseph Litizzette, may have served as his first residence, was later a rental unit. Original lap board exterior has been covered with asbestos shingles. Land was part of the original Litizzette farm.

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CR-07-656 14 South Main c. 1911

Present Owners: Stan Litizzette and Louise Gonzales  
Helper, Utah

One story tan brick house with hip roof. Family home of Victor Litizzette, fourth son of August Litizzette Sr. Land was part of the original Litizzette farm. Red brick facade and additions installed c.1950.

CR-07-657 16 South Main Street 1914

Present Owners: Gertrude W. Buchanan, Et al.  
16 South Main

One story frame house with hip roof. Home of Minnie L. Wahl, eldest daughter of August Litizzette Sr. Original lap board exterior was covered with aluminum siding in 1974. Land was part of the original Litizzette farm.

CR-07-658 20 South Main Street 1914

Present Owners: Stan Litizzette and Louise Gonzales  
Helper, Utah

One story frame house, lap board exterior, hip roof, essentially unaltered. Family home of August Litizzette Jr., youngest son of August Sr. Land was part of the Litizzette farm.

CR-07-659 22 South Main Street 1911

Present Owner: Louise Gonzales  
c/o Stan Litizzette  
Helper, UTAH

One story frame house with hip roof. Rental home originally owned by August Litizzette Jr., presently owned by Louise Gonzales, grand daughter of August Sr. Original lap board exterior has been covered with asbestos shingles. Addition on front of building built by Dr. Gonzales to accommodate emergency medical room. Land was part of the Litizzette farm.

CR-07-660 Intrusion Extensively remodeled house 1969



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CR-07-661 26 South Main St. 1906  
Present Owner: Edith B. Litizzette  
26 S. Main

One story tan brick house with hip roof, essentially unaltered. Family home of August Litizzette Sr. and wife Lena. Converted into a duplex c. 1923, youngest daughter Mary L. Ford occupied north half. Lena Litizzette lived in the south half. Land was part of the Litizzette farm, and this house is near the location of the original Litizzette livery stable.

CR-07-662 Intrusion Brick house c. 1946

CR-07-663 Intrusion Brick Garage, barber and beauty hshop c. 1950

CR-07-664 42 South Main Street 1936  
Present Owner: Theresa A. Phelps  
Helper, Utah

One story red brick house with gable roof. Built as a rental duplex, was later owned by Minnie L. Wahl (eldest daughter of August Litizzette Sr.) and husband Albert. Has subsequently been converted into a doctor's office and appears to have an addition of the rear, but is otherwise unaltered.

CR-07-665 52 South Main 1913  
Present Owners: Albert and William D. Fossat  
52 South Main

One story red brick commercial and residential building, flat roof. Originally owned by Louis Fossat (initially spelled Lui Fossati) who operated the Helper Bakery, Meat and Grocery until c. 1940. The rear portion of the building served as the Fossat residence and the basement had a fresh water well which provided the water necessary to operate the store's ammonia cooling system. The building is presently owned by two of the Fossat sons who operate a photo studio. The front facade has been remodeled, but the building is basically unchanged otherwise.

CR-07-666 58 South Main Street 1912  
Present Owners: James A. Lupo  
398 Janet St. Helper, Utah

Photo #3

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CR-07-666 (con't)

Left hand side (LHS) two story red brick commercial building, right hand side (RHS) adjoining one story brick commercial building. These buildings were originally owned by Baptist Vignetto and have seen a variety of business uses. The downstairs portion of the LHS was once a silent movie theater and during the depression served as a government supported emergency station for transients. A sign which is still on the rear interior wall of the building states:

"This is only an emergency station. . . no person or persons will be allowed more than (2) meals and (10) hours rest. Meals will be served as follow . . . one meal when checking in and one meal when leaving providing that eight hours have elapsed between meals. (as this is only an emergency station - you are requested to keep moving toward your destination as soon as possible) PERSONS CHECKING IN FOR THE NIGHT WILL BE CALLED TO MAKE TRAINS".

Sometime later the Ricci Market was located in the LHS downstairs. The upstairs portion of the building housed the Elpe Hotel from at least 1924 through 1936. Mrs. Wanda Kadoto is listed as the manager in 1924, and Ray Inue and K. Shiota are listed for the later years. The RHS was apparently a Japanese restaurant during the earlier years. A photograph of the building during the early 30's shows a window sign "Sun Shine Noodles". After c. 1940 the building housed OK Cleaners. Both buildings are presently a private club and have had facade modifications.

CR-07-667 Intrusion New First Security Bank 1975

CR-07-668 66 South Main Street

1913

Present Owners: Peter and John Laboroi  
Helper, Utah

Two story red brick commercial building. Originally owned by Antonio Laboroi. This building has been known as the Helper Fish Market since it was built. In 1922 the fish market business was purchased from F.M. Arioshi by Kay Amano and his wife Masa Amano. The Amano family lived in part of the

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CR-07-668 (con't)

upstairs and utilized the rest as a small boarding house, primarily for Japanese roomers. The fish market was patronized by Japanese and non-Japanese alike, and was particularly popular with the sizeable Catholic population in Carbon County. The fish were imported by rail express daily from Galveston, Texas; Seattle Washington; and San Pedro, Calif. The Amanos also handled many Japanese specialty foods and did much of their business by truck in the surrounding coal camps. The fish market remained in operation until 1954. The downstairs portion is presently a business office with an apartment(s) upstairs. The lower front facade has been somewhat modified.

CR-07-669 68 South Main Street 1919  
Present Owners: Peter and John Laboroi  
Helper, Utah

Two story tan and red brick commercial building, originally owned by Antonio Laboroi. The second floor of this building was the Oakland Hotel during the 30's and was reputed to be a brothel as well as a rooming house. The 1935 business records list the manager as Elizabeth Spigarelli. The downstairs was a 10¢ 15¢ 20¢ Variety Store operated by Harry Eda, a very popular Japanese gentleman. In addition to the usual "dime store" items, the store also featured oriental specialties such as incense. During the summers Eda also operated a small school in the basement of his business for the children of the Japanese workers in Helper and the surrounding coal camps. After the variety store, the building also housed Helper's first state liquor store after prohibition. The downstairs portion is presently a business office with an apartment(s) upstairs. The lower front facade has been somewhat modified.

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CR-07-670 74 South Main Street 1919  
Present Owners: Mike and Evelyn Disorbis  
2465 Wilson Ave.  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84108

Two story red brick commercial building, originally owned by Baptist Flaim. The second story of this building was the Idaho Hotel which was operated by Francis Romero in 1932. The downstairs LHS had the Helper Chop Suey House, which was operated by W.T. Hayakawn. Building is on the site of the Flaim home which burned in 1919. A beauty shop and a professional office now occupy the first floor, the second floor appears vacant. The first floor front facade has been modified. The tin cornice and block name on the second floor facade remain unaltered.

CR-07-671 76 South Main Street 1919  
Present Owners: Sam and Mildred Miller  
Box 1223  
Wilmington, Calif.

Two story red brick stone and stucco commercial building. Present building was originally owned by Mike P. Bergera and was constructed from the brick and stone rubble of the Double Rock store building which burned in May 1919. The Helper Furniture and Hardware Company was located in the first floor. Begun by Mike Bergera, the furniture business was purchased by Joe and John Quilico in 1923. The original J.C. Penney business was located in the LHS of the first floor. The second floor was the Hotel Utah (presently called the Utah Hotel), operated in 1935 by D.C. Cavenah. The first floor decorative tile dates from the early 30's. Business offices presently occupy the first floor, and the front facade has been altered.

CR-07-672 80 South Main Street 1928  
Present Owners: Thorit and Janet Hatch  
c/o Darryl Webster  
Helper, Utah

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CR-07-672 (con't)

One story red brick commercial building, originally owned by John Milon, George Gigoumakis and Steve Zoulakis. This building was previously an O.P. Skaggs meat and grocery store operated by Barney Hyde, who was also mayor of Helper 1940-1943. A clothing store now occupies the building and there have been minor facade modifications.

CR-07-673 94 S. Main 1935  
Present Owner: Olympic Security Life Ins.  
3600 Market St.  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84119

One story tan brick theater building. Built on the site of the J. Tom Fitch home, which has been moved out of the district. The Bonnie Theater was originally owned by William Littlejohn, who had previously been a mine superintendent in Castle Gate. The largest movie theater in the Helper region, the Bonnie was also constructed with a special fly loft to accommodate scenery backdrops for Vaudeville shows which often played one night stands in Helper when traveling between Grand Junction, Colo. and Salt Lake City, Utah. In 1961 the theater was remodeled for bowling lanes. The RHS has always been a barber shop. The corner business was first a tavern operated by William Littlejohn, and later was the Land A Drug Store (Victor Litizzette and Allen). The original windows on the corner business have been bricked over.

CR-07-675 Rear of 94 South Main Street after 1935  
Present Owner: Olympic Security Life Ins.  
3600 Market St.  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84119

One story stucco hip roof residential building. Built as rental apartments by William Littlejohn after the theater was completed.

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CR-07-676 Rear of 76 South Main Street after 1923  
Present Owners: Sam and Mildred Miller  
Box 1223  
Wilmington, Calif.

One story hip roof, tan brick warehouse building constructed for Helper Furniture and Hardware Co.

CR-07-677 Rear of 74 South Main Street c. 1909  
Present Owners: Peter and John Laboroi  
Helper, Utah

One story gable roof, wood frame commercial building. This building was probably originally owned by Baptist Fossat and was initially located at the site of CR-07-668 and was later moved to the site of CR-07-669. In 1924 the building was then moved to its present location. The California Saloon, (operated by D. Bergera) was the earliest business known to have been located in this building. The building is presently vacant and in a state of disrepair but is important because it is the only known wooden commercial building still extant in the district.

CR-07-678 Rear of 74 South Main c 1933  
Present Owners: Mike and Evelyn Diserbio  
2565 Wilson Ave.  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84108

Machine cut stone house with a flat roof, built by Baptist Flaim as a residence.

CR-07-679 Rear of 66 South Main Street Rebuilt 1919  
Present Owners: Peter and John Laboroi  
Helper, Utah

One story gable roof stucco residence. Purchased in 1909 and used as the Antonio Laboroi residence. The building was substantially rebuilt after the 1919 fire. A small brick addition for a bathroom was added c. 1945.

CR-07-684 11 West Hill Street 1925  
Present Owners: Alphonso Ossano et al.  
Box 866  
Helper, Utah

Two story brick commercial building. Originally owned by J.C. and Helen Ossana. This building has always been the Hillcrest Apartments and remains essentially unaltered today.

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CR-07-685 100 South Main Street 1922  
Present Owners: Alphonso Ossano et.al.  
Box 866  
Helper, Utah

One story brick theater, originally owned by J.C. and Helen Ossana. The theater was initially called the Paramount, and was later changed to the Strand in 1929. William Littlejohn managed the theater from 1929 until 1935, when C.E. Huish of Eureka took it over. The basement used to house a Japanese "pool hall" operated by Harry Eda prior to the opening of the variety store. In addition to gambling and pool, the establishment also used to have silent Japanese movies and hosted traveling Kabuki theater groups. By 1934 the basement had been converted into the Strand Sweet Shop, operated by A.J. Ossano. The business on the LHS was Robert A. Nielson's gift shop and jewelery until 1927 when he moved across Main Street. The RHS business was at one time a confectionary and later (in 1936) was a fashion shop operated by (Bessie) DeViettie and Dusserre. Except for the RHS portion, the building is presently unoccupied and, except for a more recent theater sign, is essentially unaltered.

CR-07-686 120 South Main Street 1924  
Present Owners: J.J. Dalpiaz et. al.  
20 Garden (north two thirds of  
Helper, Utah building)  
Helper State Bank (south one third of  
Helper, Utah building)

Two story maroon brick commercial building, Dalpiaz portion originally owned by Celeste Dalpiaz, bank portion originally owned by Albert Ricci. The bank portion of the building contained the Mutual Mercantile Company, operated by John Skerl and Jim Rolando until c. 1945 when the business was moved to its present location. The upstairs of the bank portion has always been a small boarding house. The LHS of the Dalpiaz portion has always housed the Toggery clothing store, initially owned by Gus Tsangaris. The RHS of the Dalpiaz portion was once the "Reed's Stores Rite Way" and may have housed the Paramount Sweet Shop.

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CR-07-686 (con't)

operated by T.H. Joufflas in c. 1924. The basement of the RHS was the Dalpiaz Bowling Alley in c. 1935. There have been some minor modifications on the first floor facade but otherwise the building is basically unchanged. The original "stamped tin" ceilings are still visible in the first floor interiors.

CR-07-687 136 South Main Street 1914, 1924  
Present Owner: Helper State Bank  
Helper, Utah

Two adjoining stone and brick two story commercial buildings sharing a common facade, the LHS being the original Helper State Bank building constructed in 1914, the RHS constructed in 1924, both originally owned by Helper State Bank. The Helper State Bank was founded in 1910 at the original Joseph Barboglio building located where site CR-07-691 presently stands. The list of incorporators included:

Name	Residence	No. of Shares
Joseph Barboglio	Helper	30
William Hamilton	Helper	25
J.M. Whitmore	Price	20
George Whitmore	Nephi	20
Frank Grosso	Price	20
L.O. Hoffmann	Price	17
W.B. McCue	Sunnyside	10
D. Bergera	Helper	10
August Littizette	Helper	10
Peter Bozone	Helper	10
B. Vignetto	Helper	10
Joseph Blumberg	Helper	10
W.S. Avery	Helper	10
M.P. Bergera	Helper	10
Joseph Grosso	Helper	5



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CR-07-687 (con't)

Name	Residence	No. of Shares
B. Flaim	Helper	5
S. Sheya	Helper	5
Jouflas and Diamanti	Helper	5
F.R. Slopansky	Helper	10
James Rolando	Helper	3
R.B. Morrison	Helper	3
John SLice	Helper	1
Alex Gordon	Helper	1

In 1914 the bank was moved into the LHS of the building, and in c. 1960 it expanded into the RHS. The upstairs of both building have generally been professional offices, especially doctors and lawyers. The original Helper telephone exchange was housed in the rear of the RHS second floor. The first floor of the RHS has housed both the Castle Rock Mercantile managed by Vieta and Rebol; and probably the Helper Drug Store, managed by R.G. McGonigal. Major facade modifications have either destroyed or concealed the original "neo-classical" facade and ionic columns.

CR-07-688 138 South Main Street c. 1912  
Present Owners: Alex and Deloris Markakis  
P.O. Drawer 460  
Price, Utah 84501

Two story red brick commercial building originally owned by A. Elegante. During the early thirties the building housed the Central Meat and Grocery, operated by Joe Elegante, and a small rooming house upstairs. The original first floor front windows have been bricked over and the building is presently a bar.

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CR-07-689 144 South Main Street C. 1912  
Present Owners: Alex and Deloris Markakis  
P.O. Drawer 460  
Price, Utah 84501

One story red brick commercial building originally owned by A. Elegante. During the early thirties the main floor of the building housed the canyon pool Hall, operated by Angelo Pascuzzi and the branch office of the of the Salt Lake and Eastern Utah Stage line. The Liberty Cafe, operated in 1932 by George Kourakis, occupied the basement of the building. Much of the front facade has been bricked over.

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CR-07-690 148 South Main Street c. 1908

Present owners: John M. Skerl et. al.  
Helper, Utah

Two story stone commercial building originally owned by the Lowenstein Mercantile Company, of which Ben Stein was president. The Lowenstein Mercantile Company was associated with similar stores in both Price and Salt Lake City and occupied this building until c. 1945 when John Skerl and Jim Rolando moved the Mutual Mercantile Company (later Mutual Furniture and Hardware) to this site. The store was constructed of hand hewn stone blocks of irregular sizes. A hand powered elevator was installed on the south side of the building. The "stamped tin" first floor ceiling is still visible. During the earlier years of business "Uncle" Ben Martin used to travel from camp to camp showing silent movies, and the second floor of the Lowenstein building served as one of his temporary theaters. The entire front facade has been extensively remodeled.

CR-07-691 156 South Main Street . 1945

Present Owners: Helen B. Leavitt, et.al.  
675 East 3rd North  
Price, Utah 84501

One story commercial building located on the site of the original Barboglio building known as the Tika Tavern. Present building houses an annex of the Mutual Furniture Company and bakery.

CR-07-692 164 South Main Street rebuilt 1953

Present Owners: D.&I. and S.L. and J.A. Oliveto  
391 North 4th East  
Price, Utah 84501

Site of the two story Colonial Hotel owned by Jouflas and Diamanti which burned. Present building is rebuilt first floor of the original building.

CR-07-693 178 South Main Street 1922

Present Owner: Avalon Investment Inc.  
c/O Stan Litizzette  
26 South Main Street  
Helper, Utah

Three story brick commercial building originally owned by Victor Litizzette. The top two floors have always been the Avalon Hotel, initially operated by Victor's sister Minnie Wahl and her husband Albert (Skinny). The downstairs was

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CR-07-693 (con't)

the Golden Rule Store, managed by James Galanis until about 1935 when Vieta and Rebol moved the Castle Rock Mercantile into the building and changed the name to the Progressive Market. At that time the LHS of the first floor was partitioned off for use as a hotel lobby and living quarters for Minnie and Skinny Wahl. The RHS is presently a state liquor store.

CR-07-694            182 South Main Street            1922  
Present Owners: Betty J. Wycalis and E. Robertson  
                         182 South Main Street  
                         Helper, Utah

Two story red brick commercial building originally owned by Pete Lendaris. The basement housed the Light Pool Hall, operated until 1932 by H. Honda, a Japanese businessman and his wife. The second floor was the New House Annex operated by Maude Domico in 1932, and later the Palace Hotel. In 1932 the first floor was Hub Billiards, operated by Joe Bruno. The first floor facade has been totally remodeled. The second floor is presently vacant.

CR-07-695            190 South Main Street            1921  
Present Owner: Rose Sanfelice  
                         Helper, Utah

Two story brick commercial building originally owned by George Zeese and others. Upstairs, the building housed the Newhouse Hotel, managed in 1932 by Maude Domico, and in 1935 by Mike Morgan. Downstairs, LHS was the Schram Johnson drugstore in 1924, and on the RHS was the New Paris Cafe operated by Yee Ming. In 1932 the RHS business was the Merchant's Cafe, operated by Thos Karas. Except for the basement, the building is presently vacant and basically unaltered.

CR-07-696            4 Ivy Street            1911  
Present Owner: Carbon Transfer and Supply Company  
                         P.O. Box 180  
                         Helper, Utah

One story gable roof stucco frame building originally owned by Joe Grosso. Known as the Liberty Theater since August Jr. and Victor Litizzette purchased it in 1913, the building was an important early social center in Helper. Silent

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CR-07-696 (con't)

movies were shown early in the evenings, and after the movies were over everyone folded their chairs, rolled up the protective floor canvas, a band was brought in and a dance was held. In addition to dances and movies, Greek weddings, wrestling and boxing matches were also held in the building. World champion boxer Jack Dempsey may have even boxed in the Liberty Theater. The construction of the Strand theater in 1922 pretty well put an end to the popularity of the Liberty Theater. The building has been significantly modified.

CR-07-697 Behind 148 South Main Street after 1908  
Present owners: John M. Skerl et.al.  
Helper, Utah

One story gable roof, frame warehouse building constructed behind the Lowenstein Mercantile company.

CR-07-699 202 South Main Street 1921  
Present Owners: Robert and Peggy Marshall  
80 Stack  
Helper, Utah 84526

One story brick commercial building orginially owned by May or Mary Crowley. The corner business was the E.A. Greenhalgh Drugstore from at least 1924 through 1936. The LHS business was the Rose Barber Shop, operated in 1935 by M. Poletta. The building remains essentially unaltered.

CR-07-700 210 S. Main Street c. 1920  
Present Owners: A.S. and P.F. Veltri  
235 Vernal Street  
Helper, Utah

Two story brick commercial building originally owned by George Lendaris. In 1935 the California Hotel, operated by Florence Fatica occupied the second floor. The first floor LHS was the Greek Zappion Coffee House, operated by Steve Griekas and Tony Stamatakis. The entire builing is presently vacant and basically unaltered.

CR-07-703 Rear of 202 South Main Street 1933  
Present Owner: Annie C. Crowley et al.  
Helper, Utah

One story brick gable roof residential building attached to site CR-07-699, served as the Crowley family residence. Essentially unaltered.

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CR-07-705 220 South Main Street c. 1904(?)

Present Owners: James and Ida Bottino  
325 E Street  
Helper, Utah

One story frame residential building with a brick addition originally owned by John Bottino. From 1921 through c 1952 this building was the Carbon Rubber and Repair Service Station operated by Jim Bottino and Perry. The building has been vacant since the early 50's and is basically unaltered, although in a state of disrepair.

CR-07-706 230 South Main Street 1922

Present Owner: Mutual Furniture and Hardware Company  
148 South Main  
Helper, Utah

Two story stucco brick commercial building originally owned by Charles A. Bertolino. In 1935 the RHS of the first floor was the Athens Coffee House or Restaurant, operated by John Botauakis; the LHS was the Krissman Shoe Repair, operated by John Krissman. The building is presently being used only for storage and is basically unaltered.

CR-07-707 258 South Main Street 1915

Present Owners: Alex and Deloris Markakis  
P.O. Drawer 460  
Price, Utah 84501

Two story brick commercial building originally owned by either Charles A. or Florio C. Bertolina. Sometime during the early thirties the Venice Cafe was located in the LHS. From at least 1932-1936 Tony Skerl operated the Carbon Pool Hall in the RHS. In 1935 Mable Curtis operated the Carbon Hotel upstairs and K. Iwatake probably managed the Cook's Cafe in the LHS downstairs. The first floor front facade has been extensively modified.

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CR-07-708          276 South Main          1914  
Present Owner: Harry W. Clark  
Helper, Utah

One story red brick, hip roof, residential building with a full front porch, originally owned by Mussie Floyd. The front of the house has been modified and may have been a duplex at one time.

CR-07-709          282 S. Main Street          1924  
Present Owner: Harry W. Clark  
Helper, Utah

One story stucco, gable roof residence originally owned by Mussei Floyd. Building appears basically unaltered.

CR-07-710          284 South Main Street          1919  
Present Owner: Harry W. Clark  
Helper, Utah

One story gable roof, stucco residence originally owned by Mussie Floyd. Building appears basically unaltered.

CR-07-711          294 South Main Street          c. 1914  
Present Owner: D.&R.G.W.R.R.

Three story brick commercial building originally owned by the Helper Real Estate and Investment Company of which Joseph Barboglio was president. Originally known as the Hotel Helper, the business was managed by Joseph Litizzette, eldest son of August Sr. The Hotel was a favorite of traveling salesmen or "drummers" who came in on the trains. The LHS of the downstairs was a display area for the drummers to show their "wares" to the local merchants. The RHS housed the U.S. Post Office until it was moved to its present location in 1937. The D.&R.G.W.R.R. purchased the building in 1942 to replace the older Y.M.C.A. which was razed. Except for glass blocks in the front windows, the building appears unaltered.

CR-07-712          60-62 Popular Street          1912  
Present Owner: Joyce Hughes  
3493 South 3650 East  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84109

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CR-07-712 (con't)

One story hip roof, frame duplex probably originally owned by Robert B. Morrison. Except for the removal of chimney and changing of doors, the house remains basically unaltered.

CR-07-713, 714 Outbuildings

CR-07-715 277 S. 1st West 1922  
Present Owners: Richard A. and Frances E. Smith  
277 S. 1st West  
Helper, Utah

One story gable roof red brick residential building originally owned by C.A. Bertolina, is basically unaltered.

CR-07-716 267 S. 1st West 1912  
Present Owners: G.S. and Nancy Wiggains  
267 S. 1st West  
Helper, Utah

One story hip roof frame duplex residential building originally owned by C.A. Bertolina. The structure has been converted into a single family residence and has aluminum siding.

CR-07-717 257 S. 1st West 1911  
Present Owner: Louise G. Bosone  
257 S. 1st West  
Helper, Utah

One story hip roof residential brick building originally owned by C.A. Bertolina. The structure shares a common wall with site CR-07-718 which because of inaccurate surveying, extended two feet onto the Bertolina property. The building has seen major modifications, including change of roof line, change of window style, and aluminum siding.

CR-08-718 246 South 1st West 1903  
Present Owners: James and Ida Bottino  
325 e st.  
Helper, Utah

One story hand hewn stone gable roof residential building, probably originally owned by John Bottino. Constructed after the Bottino Boarding house (now razed), †This house was used as a rental until 1944 when John's son Jim Bottino took title and moved in. Building is very well maintained and virtually unchanged.



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CR-07-839 57 Poplar 1919

Present Owners: William and Mary Morrison  
Helper, Utah

One story stuccoed flat roofed residential structure originally owned by James Rolando. The exterior of the building has been somewhat altered.

CR-07-840 302 South Main Street 1922

Present Owners: Linette Eaquinta, et.al.  
357 S. 1st West

Three story brick commercial building originally owned by John Eaquinta (Giovanni Jaquanta). The upstairs portion is the LaSalle Hotel, managed by John Eaquinta from at least 1932 - 1936. The downstairs portion has seen a variety of businesses including: the "Red Rooster"; the Hub food store; and the Wonder Bar, managed by son Frank Eaquinta in 1936. The Safeway store may have been located in the downstairs portion prior to 1927. The first floor facades and interior have been modified, but otherwise the building is basically unaltered.

CR-07-841 Intrusion Apartments 1968

CR-07-842 330 South Main Street 1918

Present Owner: Grand Lodge, Knights of Pythias, Domain of Utah  
c/o James Paletta  
330 S. Main  
Helper, Utah

Two story stucco brick commercial building originally owned by James P. Rolando. In 1920 the Knights of Pythias Onward Lodge No. 15 purchased the building and have since used the second floor as a meeting hall. In 1935 R.L. Rogers operated an auto top and body shop in the first floor. The entire front facade has been modified.

CR-07-843 340 South Main Street 1924

Present owner: Rose C. Gigliotti  
68 Locust  
Helper, Utah

One story brick commercial building originally owned by Carmela De Julio. A number of automotive businesses have been located in this building, including Bunnell Motor Company, operated from at least 1932 through 1936 by

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CR-07-843 (con't)

S. Bert Bunnell. The front facade has been somewhat modified.

CR-07-844 374 South Main Street c. 1896 (?)

Present Owner: Angelina Martelle

P.O. Box 358

Helper, Utah

One story frame, gable roof residential building originally owned by Mrs. Mary Egan if the construction date is correct. Purchased by James Martelle in 1909, the house is still in the family. Martelle operated a saloon which was located south of site CR-07-700. The building has had at least one addition and several other minor modifications.

CR-07-845 Frame outbuilding located behind and associated with site CR-07-844. Original use unknown.

CR-07-846 Corner of Main and Locust Street 1924

Present Owners: Elmer H., Jr. and Melba J. Hamilton

60 B Street

Helper, Utah

One story flat roof stucco commercial building originally owned by A.J. Stafford who operated the Midland Service Station at this location since the building was constructed. The building has an addition on the north side but is otherwise basically unaltered.

CR-07-847 10 Locust Street 1910

Present Owners: Jay and Phyllis Sillitoe

14 Locust Street

Helper, Utah

One story hip roof stone house. This was the original Joseph Barboglio home which served as the family residence until the construction of CR-07-848. Barboglio may have done the actual construction of this house. The windows have been altered, but otherwise the house remains essentially unchanged.

CR-07-848 14 Locust St. 1927

Present Owners: Jay and Phyllis Sillitoe

14 Locust Street

Helper, Utah

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CR-07-848 (con't)

One story red brick residential structure which served as the Joseph Barboglio residence since its construction. Generally regarded as the most impressive historic home remaining in Helper, the home has been immaculately maintained. The original wrought iron fence is still intact as well as most of the interior furnishings. The exterior of the building is unaltered.

CR-07-849 Brick garage associated with CR-07-848

CR-07-850 Intrusion Trailer House

CR-07-851 357 South 1st West 1911  
Present Owners: Linette Eaquina et.al.  
357 South 1st West  
Helper, Utah

One and a half story, half hip roof, brick residential building originally owned by Frank Martinelli. From 1917 through 1945 the house was owned by the Baptist De Julio family. The major alteration is the enclosure of the front porch.

CR-07-852 347 South 1st West 1911  
Present Owners: John and Lillian Laboroi  
203 Canyon  
Helper, Utah

One story red brick, hip roof, residential building probably originally owned by J. Tom Fitch. From 1912 through 1921 the house was owned by Najib Sheya, and from 1921 until 1954 the house was owned by the Ernest Greenhalgh family. The house is basically unchanged.

CR-07-853 333 1st West 1911  
Present Owners: Martin and Mary Sunter  
333 1st West  
Helper, Utah

One story, hip roof, frame house with lap board siding originally owned by J. Tom Fitch. From 1912 through 1921 the house was owned by Najib Sheya, and from 1921 until 1954 the

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CR-07-853 (con't)

house was owned by the Ernest Greenhalgh family. The house has been resided with what appears to be asbestos shingles.

CR-07-854 Outbuilding behind and associated with site CR-07-853; may have been an ice house.

CR-07-855 -856 327 - 315 1st West c. 1913

Present Owner: Joyce Hughes  
3493 South 3650 East  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84109

Two one-story, hip roof, brick duplexes which were identical in appearance when they were constructed. Both buildings were originally owned by Joseph Blumberg, who held title until 1945. Both buildings basically retain their original character.

CR-07-719 5 South Main Street 1945

Present Owners: St. Anthony Parish  
7 South Main Street  
Helper, Utah 84526

One story brick and stone gable roof church building. This structure replaced the original wooden Catholic Church building which was located on a hill in the eastern portion of Helper. The present building has always served as a Catholic church and remains unaltered.

CR-07-720 7 South Main Street after 1945

Present Owner: St. Anthony Parish  
7 South Main Street  
Helper, Utah 84526

Two story, falt roof, brick rectory constructed adjacent to the Catholic Church. This building has always served as a rectory and remains unaltered.

CR-07-721 Intrusion School Bus Garage c. 1960

CR-07-722 Behind 19 South Main 1929

Present Owner: Denver and Rio Grande Western Railroad Co.  
P.O. Box 5482  
Denver, Colo. 80217  
(hereafter cited as "D&RGW")

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One story hip-roof frame building constructed to serve as the D&RGW express freight depot. The depot served as the receiving point for perishable foods and other priority freight shipped to Helper via the D&RGW passenger trains. The building is in need of repair, but is otherwise unaltered. The depot is presently unused except for storage purposes.

CR-07-723            19 South Main Street            1936  
Present Owner:    Helper City

Two story stone and brick flat roof auditorium constructed in the International Style by Scott and Welch, architects of Salt Lake City, Utah. The construction of this building was a public works Administration project (PWA Docket, Utah #1059 R.S.) which aided Helper's economy by employing local labor and materials whenever possible. The building still serves as the Helper Civic Auditorium and also houses the Helper Public Library and Mining Museum.

CR-07-724            35 South Main Street            1918  
Present Owners:    D&RGW (Land)  
                      David Miller (Building)  
                      35 South Main Street  
                      Helper, Utah 84526

One story hip roof frame house, may have originally been a D&RGW company house. Occupants have reportedly included Mike Apostol, owner of the Helper Shoe Store, and later Paul Pessetto operator of the Paul Pessetto Barber Shop. The building has been added onto and resided. The stone retaining wall in front of the house was a Works Progress Administration (W.P.A.) project.

CR-07-725            41 South Main Street            1914  
Present Owners:    D&RGW (Land)  
                      Ida & Gerald Bruno et al. (building)  
                      41 South Main Street  
                      Helper, Utah 84526

One story hip roof frame house, may have originally been a D&RGW company house. Occupants have reportedly included Tony Perry, co-owner of Carbon Rubber & Repair Co., and later Dominic Bruno who served as a Helper City Marshal. The building has been added onto and resided.

CR-07-726            Outbuilding

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CR-07-727            43 South Main Street            1914  
Present Owners: D&RGW (Land)  
Jimmy and Kayla Hanna  
43 South Main Street  
Helper, Utah 84526

One story hip roof frame house, may have originally been a D&RGW company house. The earliest known occupant was Rube Dart. The building is basically unaltered with the original lap board exterior still visible. The original appearance of sites 724 and 725 was similar to this building.

CR-07-728            Behind 45 South Main Street    C. 1930 (?)  
Present Owner:    D&RGW

Small one story gable roof building constructed to provide shelter for D&RGW railroad inspectors while they were waiting between trains. The building is in need of minor repairs but is otherwise unaltered, and may still be serving its original purpose.

CR-07-729            45 Main Street            1937  
Present Owner:    U.S. Postal Service  
475 L'Enfant Plaza S.W.  
Washington D.C.

One story flat roof red brick post office building. Louis Simon was the project supervising architect, Neal A. Melick was the supervising engineer, and the contractors included Paul M. Newstrom and Harold B. Davis. This building has always served as Helper's post office and remains unaltered.

CR-07-730    Outbuilding

CR-07-731    Intrusion    Trailer House

CR-07-732,733    Kessler Court            C. 1912  
Present Owner: D&RGW

Two frame one story gable roof houses originally constructed as D&RGW company houses. These two houses are all that remain of the original six houses that comprised Kessler Court, an area named after a D&RGW railroad engineer. Both houses retain most aspects of their original appearance, including the frame siding.

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CR-07-741	127 South Main Street Present Owners: D&RGW (Land) Helper Securities (Building)	1927
<p>One story red brick commercial block containing seven businesses originally owned by Helper Securities. The northern most section originally housed the J.C. Penny Building, Managed by M.P. Street. The portion to the immediate south was the Safeway Store during the early thirties. To the south of the Safeway portion of the block Central Cleaners has been in continuous business since 1933, the first owner being E.E. Iwanoto. The original occupants of the remaining four business are presently unknown, however the southern most portion was occupied by a drug store during the early thirties.</p>		
CR-07-742	133 South Main Street Present Owners: Charles and Mary Ghirardelli 11 5th Ave. Helper, Utah 84526	1929
<p>One story tan brick commercial building which housed the Helper Journal, managed by A. J. Stafford during the early thirties. The building facade has been somewhat modified.</p>		
CR-07-743	139 - 147 South Main Street Present Owner: Eugene Andreini 165 East Cove Crest Dr. Price, Utah 84501	c. 1926
<p>Two story red brick commercial building which originally housed the Henry Hall Plumbing and Heating business on the first floor, and the professional offices on the second floor. The lower front facade has been slightly modified, but otherwise the building retains its original appearance.</p>		
CR-07-744	155 South Main Street Present owner: Helper Insurance and Loan Inc. 155 South Main Street Helper, Utah	1929
<p>Two story tan brick commercial building. During the early thirties the RHS was the "Smart Shop" by N.A. Nilson. The second story housed Professional offices. The first floor windows have been bricked over, but the second floor facade remains unaltered.</p>		



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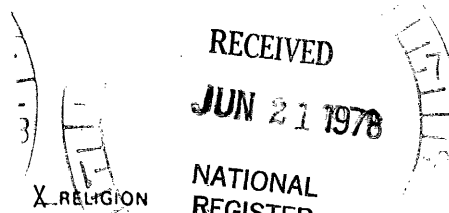
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CR-07-745	183 South Main Street	1927
Present Owners:	D&RGW (Land) Helper Securities ( Building)	
One story red brick commercial building containing five businesses, originally owned by Helper Securities. During the early thirties, the northern portion was occupied by Success Meat and Grocery Co., operated in 1932 by George Zeese and John Gerendas and in 1935 by A. J. Ossano. The building to the immediate south was a shoe store and to the south of the shoe store was the U.S. Post Office until the move to the present location in 1937. On the south end of the block was the Palace Candy store operated by D. J. Pappacostas. The front facades of all businesses have been somewhat altered.		
CR-07-746	behind 183 South Main Street	1899
Present Owner:	D&RGW	
One story flat roof stone and brick building, fashioned out of the basement foundation of the D&RGW railroad chapel. In addition to the use of the main floor for religious services, the basement of the chapel was used as a school room until the construction of Helper's Central School in c. 1920. The building corner stone is still in place, but otherwise the structure bears little resemblance to its original appearance, and is presently being used by the railroad for storage.		
CR-07-747	39 East Depot Street	c.1940
Present Owner:	D&RGW	
One story flat roof tan brick railroad depot built to replace the original depot which was located to the immediate north east of the present structure. The appearance of the building is unchanged, except for the gable roof presently being installed over the present flat roof.		
CR-07-748	Intrusion Service Station	
CR-07-749	211 South Main Street	c. 1917
Present Owner:	John B. Laboroi 203 Canyon Helper, Utah 84526	
One story painted brick garage building constructed by the D&RGW to serve as a maintenance building. Several automobile agencies were subsequently located here. The building is presently being used for storage. The center portion of the structure recently collapsed because of heavy snowfall.		



# 8 SIGNIFICANCE



PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> recreation
				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Immigration

SPECIFIC DATES \_\_\_\_\_ BUILDER/ARCHITECT \_\_\_\_\_

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Helper Commercial District is representative of several areas of significance in the history and cultural development of Carbon County and the surrounding region. Helper's development as a town was primarily the result of the Denver and Rio Grande Railroad and the mining of the surrounding bituminous coal fields. During the early twentieth century, Helper became the major service center for both the railroad and the regional coal fields. Helper also served as a social center for the hundreds of immigrants of various nationalities who came to Carbon County to work in the mines. Many of these immigrants and their children later became residents and business leaders in the community, thus contributing to Helper's distinctive ethnic heritage which is still evident today.

ARCHITECTURE

Although not necessarily representative of historically important "high" architectural styles, the Helper Commercial District is nevertheless architecturally significant. The district represents an interesting evolution of early twentieth century building types, and is also reflective of the cultural heritage of the Carbon County region.

The earliest commercial buildings were of the small wood frame type which were typical of "boom towns." However, a series of disastrous fires, especially in May of 1919 destroyed all but one of these "boom town" buildings. The one remaining wooden commercial building (#677) is therefore particularly significant because it represents the first stage in the districts architectural sequence.

As the commercial enterprises became more established, the hand hewn native stone structures, built by immigrant Italian stone masons, became more predominant. The outstanding example of this phase is the Lowenstein Mercantile (#690), a building that was a very important element in the town's early street scape.

During the later twenties the district experienced a substantial building boom which was reflective of the relative prosperity being

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experienced by the coal industry. Most of the commercial buildings in the district date from this period and are constructed in fairly standard commercial styles.

The two most important public buildings in the district, the City Hall and the Civic Auditorium are also architecturally significant. The City Hall (#735), designed by architect W.E. Ware of Salt Lake City in 1927, is a good example of a late Classical Revival style building. The Civic Auditorium (#723) was constructed in the International Style in 1936 by Scott and Welch of Salt Lake City.

The residential structures in the district also represent a variety of building types. There are numerous examples of "company town" style houses of which sites 658 and 796 are outstanding examples. It is possible that the location and size of the company houses was reflective of the occupational and social status of the occupant. Another building type of special interest is the stone house, of which site 718 is the best example in the district. Like the stone commercial buildings, these houses were hand crafted by immigrant Italian stone masons and may have special research potential. A comparative study, similar to Glassies Virginia Folk housing research,<sup>1</sup> could be instituted to examine what transformations occurred when the Italian masons adapted their craft to the needs of the American environment.

#### COMMERCE

As the service center for the Carbon County coal fields and the D&RGW railroad, Helper was an important focus of commercial activities, with a wide range of goods and services available. Grocery, furniture, variety, cleaning, clothing, and general mercantile stores as well as a bank were all present from the early periods of the town's history, and were often identified with or catered to a specific ethnic group.

Of the numerous sites in the district which once housed food stores (sites 665, 668, 672, 687, 688, 693, 741), two are of special significance. The Helper Bakery, Meat, and Grocery (665) was continuously operated from 1913 until c. 1940 by Louis Fossat, a first generation Italian immigrant who catered to the surrounding coal camps by delivery truck as well as to the local population. The Helper Fish Market (668) was operated by the Amanos, a first

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generation (Issei) Japanese family, from 1922 until 1954. Like the Fossat store, the Fish Market was associated with a specific ethnic group, but also served the general community as well.

Several sites in the district housed furniture and general mercantile businesses (671, 686, 690, 739, and 741). Of these, 686 and 690 are especially significant because of their association with the Mutual Mercantile Company. The Mutual Company has been in continuous operation since 1924 and is therefore the oldest retail business in Helper. It is also of interest because it represented an unusual partnership between an Italian, J.P. Rolando and a Slovene, John Skerl, who still helps operate the business today.

Until recently, the Helper State Bank (687) was the only banking institution in Helper, and controlled much of the commercial activity of the area. The bank's founder, Joseph Barboglio, was a first generation Northern Italian immigrant, as were about half of the bank's original stockholders. The bank therefore represents the high level of involvement of Northern Italian businessmen in the commercial activities of Helper. Helper State Bank has been in continuous operation in the present location since 1914, making it the oldest surviving commercial entity of any type in Helper today.

The Helper Commercial District therefore, provided the wide range of goods and services typically required in a mining region. In addition, the multi-ethnic character of the population also contributed to the formation of a very distinctive commercial district, unlike any other found in the state.

EDUCATION

Two sites in the district deserve significance from their involvement in the educational process in Carbon County. The basement of Harry Eda's variety store (669) was utilized as a summer school for the Japanese children in Helper and the surrounding coal camps. Although instruction was given in Japanese, the school was probably also an important factor in the adjustment of the children to their American environment. The basement of the Railroad Chapel (746) was also utilized for educational purposes. Classes for students of the general community were held in this building until the construction of the Helper Central School in c. 1920.

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POLITICS / GOVERNMENT

Three sites in the district as well as several landscape features are significant because of their association with both the local and federal government.

The Helper Civic Auditorium (#723) is important in the local governmental process as a meeting place for community and political party meetings. The auditorium is also of significance because it was a Public Works Administration (PWA) project (PWD Docket Utah # 1059 R.S.), one of many federal programs designed to help ease the unemployment problems associated with the Depression. Although not specifically a depression relief project, the construction of the United States Post Office (#729) in 1937 also probably provided needed economic stimulus for the community. The Helper City Hall (#735) has been the focus of the town's political process since its construction in 1927. All of the functions of city government as well as the volunteer fire department are centered at this building and will continue to be so in the foreseeable future.

Much of the landscape of the district is of significance because of its modification by Works Progress Administration (WPA) projects which were designed to promote resource conservation and unemployment relief during the depression. There are numerous stone retaining walls and other features in the district (such as in front of site 724) which date from this period. The channel of the Price River was also straightened and diverted at this time. As a result of this project, the channel of the Price River was diverted toward the west, away from the commercial district. In place of the river channel in the northern half of the district, First West Street (the western boundary of the present district) was built upon fill dirt which was hauled in, thus resulting in better flood control; improved access to the rest of the buildings, and a major modification of the landscape.

RELIGION

Three buildings in the district derive significance from the importance of religion in the history of Helper. Although it has suffered major modifications, the Railroad Chapel is still reflective of the religious heritage of the region. Non-Denominational services as well as a few Catholic and masses were held in this building since its construction in 1899.

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Because the original Catholic Church has been destroyed, the two buildings (719, 720) which serve the parish today are of greater significance than their relatively late construction dates (1945) would indicate. Catholicism was the major religion of the Helper region, and was especially important to the Italian, Slovenian, and Croatian immigrants. The Church served as a means of maintaining one's ethnic identity,<sup>2</sup> but later probably also served as an integrative mechanism for the various groups within the community. These two buildings therefore represent the continuation of the important religious and social functions of the Catholic Church.

SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN

In addition to the buildings listed under politics/government, one building in the district is of significance because it represents an aspect of the government's efforts to alleviate the social problems associated with the Depression. The Ricci Market building (666) served as an emergency shelter for transients passing through Helper, providing food and an overnight rest at no expense. Local informants indicate that there were many "hobos" who came through town on freight trains, using Helper as a "stopping-over" point.

TRANSPORTATION

The theme of transportation, especially the Denver and Rio Grande Railroad, is one of the most significant in Helper's history. The town derives its name from the "helper" locomotives which were added to the freight trains to assist the ascent of Soldier Summit enroute to Provo. The existence of Helper as a commercial entity can be traced back to the completion of the Denver-Salt Lake D&RGW route in 1883.

It was the railroad which made possible the continued development of Helper's economy. The exploitation of Carbon County's extensive coal mines was dependent upon the railroad for transportation to industrial centers elsewhere in Utah and the United States. The railroad itself was a major consumer of the region's coal and also served the commercial district by supplying wholesale goods and new residents, many of whom were foreign immigrants. Helper was and still is, a "turn around" point between Grand Junction Colorado and Salt Lake City Utah. This meant that many railroad workers were either permanently stationed in Helper or stayed overnight in the town before returning to either Salt Lake or Grand Junction. The high degree of interdependence between Carbon County and D&RG is demonstrated by the fact that the rail company devoted<sup>3</sup> its entire May, 1926 trade magazine to the promotion of Carbon County.

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So as would be expected a large number of buildings in the district derive their significance from their association with the railroad industry. At one time, the D&RG owned all of the land in the district east of Main Street, and still retains title to much of this area. Sites 724, 725, 727, 723, 733, and 793-797 were probably all railroad company houses, and represent only a remnant of the many residences which were originally located in the eastern half of the district. Also reflective of the company's concern for the welfare of its employees is the Railroad Chapel (746) which was constructed at company expense.

The involvement of the railroad in the commercial activities of the community is represented by the express freight depot (722), the receiving point for much of the town's perishable foodstuffs and other high priority freight. Two buildings in the district also represent the ongoing maintenance activities of the railroad. Site 728 served as a shelter for inspectors who checked the mechanical condition of trains stopped in the Helper railyards, and site 749 was utilized as a large maintenance garage. The present passenger depot (747), although of fairly recent construction (c.1940) is significant because it represents a continuation of a very important facet of Helper's commercial life. The depot presently serves the Rio Grande Zephyrs, one of the very few remaining privately owned passenger trains in the country.

Automotive transportation has also had an impact upon the history of Helper. Auto stage lines such as the Salt Lake and Eastern Utah (site 689) provided needed transportation, especially between the train depot and the surrounding communities which had no regularly scheduled rail passenger service. During the twenties the automobile came into widespread use, affecting the appearance and commerce of the town. During this time the streets were paved and Helper became more accessible to the surrounding camps. Numerous businesses were established to cater to the new industry (sites 689, 705, 842, 843, 846, and 749). In particular, the Midland Service Station (846) is remembered by many long-time residents as a special landmark that marked the southern edge of the commercial area.



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RECREATION

In addition to providing the goods and services normally required in any area, Helper also provided a distinctive range of services which could best be characterized as "recreational." The multi-ethnic character of the population and the predominance of single young men, many of whom were immigrants, combined to create a unique clientele for such businesses as theaters, coffee houses, restaurants, pool halls, and rooming houses.

Of the five sites in the district which once housed theaters (666,673, 685, 690, 696), two are of special interest. The Strand Theater (685) reportedly showed silent Japanese movies in the basement and hosted traveling Kabuki theater groups. The Liberty Theater (696) was the first silent movie theater in Helper, and also served as an important social center. Public dances and Greek weddings were often held here as well as sporting events such as wrestling and boxing matches.

For the Greek immigrant the coffee house was an especially important recreational center. The coffee house not only allowed them to smoke, gamble, drink Turkish coffee, and converse with friends, but also provided a way to maintain and reaffirm their ethnic identity and ties with the homeland.<sup>4</sup> At least two coffee houses were located in buildings which are still extant in the district. These were the Zappion Coffee House (700) and the Athens Coffee House (706). Both of these buildings had window signs in Greek and English.

The single miners and railroad men who worked in the Helper region depended heavily upon the town for their recreational activities. As evidenced by the capsule histories, there were a great many buildings in the district which contained saloons, pool halls, and restaurants, most of which catered, in some degree, to the single miner and railroader. Even during the prohibition period many of the pool halls and other businesses undoubtedly provided bootleg liquor.

As can be seen in the capsule histories, almost every multi-story building in the district had a rooming house or hotel in the upper stories. Some of these businesses such as the LaSalle Hotel (840)

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catered especially to railroad men, while others, such as the Hotel Helper (711) were patronized more by traveling salesmen or "drummers." A large portion of the rooming houses, however, catered primarily to single men who came to Helper from the surrounding camps for a few days of "R&R". Several of these houses (such as 669) were associated with prostitution. The "going rate" was described as \$1.00 a night for a room and an additional \$2.00 for the services of a prostitute. Prostitution has always been an element of Helper's "public reputation" and has perhaps been over exaggerated. A former city attorney described the prostitutes as "independent contractors" and doubts there was any organized crime involvement. He also estimated the number of working prostitutes as probably not much over twenty at any given time.<sup>5</sup>

IMMIGRATION

The most important unifying theme in the history of the Helper Commercial District is that of immigration. Carbon County has been called "Utah's Ellis Island" because of the large number of immigrants who came to the area to work in the coal fields and on the railroads. During the first half of this century an estimated 40 to 45 different nationalities or ethnic groups could be found in Carbon County.<sup>6</sup> In both the 1910 and 1920 censuses Carbon was the only county in the state having greater than 25% of its population classified as "foreign-born white." Shown below are the populations of some of the more important ethnic groups in the county<sup>7</sup>:

Year	Greek	Italian	South Slav & Austrian	Japanese
1910	797	798	544	197
1920	869	1,215	315	516
1930	533	935	397	384

As the service and social center for the region, Helper became the most ethnically diversified community in the county. Several historians have noted this fact and Stipanovich in particular states that Helper had one of the three largest South Slav communities in the state.<sup>8</sup> This large immigrant population not only provided a vital labor source, but also created unique demands for goods and services and provided many of the prominent business and social leaders of the area. The significance of this cultural heritage in the history of the Helper Commercial District can be demonstrated by examining the relationship between the above four ethnic groups and several of the more important buildings.

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The Italians were numerically the most important ethnic group in Helper and were the first to settle in the area in significant numbers. After the failure of the 1903-04 coal strike, a dispute which had been labeled an "Italian strike," many of the Italian miners began farming along the Price River or started businesses in Helper rather than return to the mines.<sup>9</sup> A notable exception to this pattern was August Litizzette Sr., a Northern Italian immigrant who, by 1900, had made enough money working in the mines to have started a business growing and selling produce in Helper and surrounding coal camps. The Litizzettes became one of the most prominent families in Helper, at one time owning thirteen of the sites in the district (652-659, 661, 664, 693, 696, and 711). Two of these, the Avalon Hotel (693) and the Hotel Helper (711) were among the largest and most important buildings in the district.

Another Northern Italian of special note was Joseph Barboglio, founder of Helper State Bank (687), the only financial institution in Helper during most of its history. Barboglio was originally a miner in Castle Gate and became involved in the 1903-04 strike as a union official. After extensive traveling and business dealings, he returned to Helper to build the Tika Tavern building in 1907 (where site 691 is now located) and establish Helper State Bank in 1910. Barboglio also served as Helper's last town president and first city mayor from 1912 through 1915. The two Barboglio residences graphically represent the family's growing prosperity and prestige. The first of these, a fairly modest stone home (847) was constructed in 1910, possibly by Joseph himself. The second home (848) is a very impressive red brick residence constructed next to the original home in 1927. The building is in immaculate condition and is considered by most Helper residents to be the outstanding historic home still extant in the town.

Although Northern Italians were the predominant ethnic group in the economic activities of the town, several Southern Italians also attained positions of prominence. One of these was John Equinta, who built the LaSalle block (840) in 1922 after operating sheep and goat ranches in the Spring Canyon area for several years.

Like the Italians, the Greeks also came to Carbon County in large numbers to work in the coal mines, most of them expecting to remain only a short time. However, for a variety of reasons, many Greeks stayed in Carbon County, and by the end of World War I, many were established in business enterprises. As a result of the 1922 coal strike, a struggle especially associated with the Greeks, many more men left the labor ranks to go into business for themselves. In Helper, some of the more important Greeks included Gus Tsangaris, owner of the Toggery clothing store (686), and George Zeese, president of Helper Securities from 1927 until 1945. Helper Securities controlled a

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significant portion of Helper's commercial district, including sites 695, 739-741, and 745.

South Slavs were in Carbon County as railroad workers as early as the 1890's. They later became involved in coal mining and participated with the Italians in the strike of 1903-04. Following World War I, there was a large influx of South Slavs into Carbon County from "the old country" and from other coal fields, especially those in Southern Colorado. The Slavic community in Helper was fairly substantial and included several prominent entrepreneurs such as Rudy Rebol, co-owner of the Castle Rock Mercantile (687, 693) and John Skerl, co-owner of the Mutual Mercantile (686,690).

Of the four groups being examined, the Japanese have probably had the least impact upon the cultural development of Carbon County. Although very few persons of Japanese ancestry remain in the area, there were over 500 Issei or first generation Japanese in Carbon County during the twenties, most of whom worked as laborers, especially on the railroad, and expected to return home within a short time. Most of the Japanese apparently either returned home or moved to other areas of the country. However a few, such as Harry Eda, operator of a popular variety store (669), and Kay and Masa Amano, owners of the Helper Fish Market (668) remained in Helper to become successful business operators and respected members of the community.

All four of these ethnic groups, as well as many others, have contributed aspects of their cultural heritages to the history of Helper, and these contributions are represented in the built environment of the town's commercial district.

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<sup>1</sup>Henry Glassie, Folk Housing in Middle Virginia (Knoxville: University of Tennessee Press, 1975).

<sup>2</sup>Joseph Stipanovich, The South Slavs in Utah: A Social History (San Francisco: Rand E Research Associates, 1975) p. 84.

<sup>3</sup>The Denver and Rio Grande Western Magazine, Vol. 2 (May 1926).

<sup>4</sup>Helen Z. Papanikolas, Toil and Rage in a New Land: The Greek Immigrants in Utah (Salt Lake City: Utah Historical Society, 1974) p. 18.

<sup>5</sup>Stan Litizzette, interview (Helper, Utah: 16 February 1978).

<sup>6</sup>Philip F. Notarianni, "Utah's Ellis Island: Carbon County Immigrants Find Americanization Difficult" (lecture delivered in Price, Utah, October, 1977).

<sup>7</sup>Department of Commerce and Labor, Bureau of the Census, Thirteenth Census of the United States (1910); Abstract with Supplement for Utah (Washington D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1913) pp. 585-587.

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<sup>8</sup>Stipanovich, South Slavs, pp. 46, 47.

<sup>9</sup>Allan Kent Powell, A History of Labor Union Activity in the Eastern Utah Coal Fields: 1900-1934 (Ph.D. dissertation: University of Utah, 1976) p. 137.

<sup>10</sup>Stipanovich, South Slavs, pp. 62-66.

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PEDESTALIAN WALK

15-18  
24-19

JANET

39  
40

PRICE

PEDESTALIAN UNDERPASS

HILL STREET

FIRST WEST STREET

MAIN STREET

MAIN STREET

DEPOT ST.

PETERSON COURT

EAST COURT

FIRST E.

2ND. EAST STREET

CEDA  
33 36 37 38

CRED  
39 40

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