NPS Form 10-900 OMB No. 1024-0018 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 determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, <i>How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form.</i> If any 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 14 categories and subcategories from the instructions.
1. Name of Property Historic name: <u>Meeker I. O. O. F. Lodge-Valentine Lodge No. 47</u> Other names/site number: <u>Rooney's Hall/ Star Theatre/ Mountain Valley Bank / 5RB.2245</u> Name of related multiple property listing: N/A
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing
<b>2. Location</b> Street & number: <u>400 Main Street</u> City or town: <u>Meeker</u> State: <u>CO</u> County: <u>Rio Blanco</u> Not For Publication: <u>N/A</u> Vicinity: <u>N/A</u>
3. State/Federal Agency Certification As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this <u>X</u> nomination <u>request for determination of eligibility meets</u> 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 _X meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:
nationalstatewide _X_local Applicable National Register Criteria:
1
A = (2 - 1/24/14)
Signature of certifying official/Title: Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer Date
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government
In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria.
Signature of commenting official: Date
Title : State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

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## 4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
- \_\_\_\_ determined eligible for the National Register
- \_\_\_\_ determined not eligible for the National Register
- \_ removed from the National Register
- other (explain:)

Signature of the Keeper

3.19.

# Date of Action

# 5. Classification

## **Ownership of Property**

(Check as many bo Private:	oxes as apply.)
Public – Local	
Public – State	
Public – Federal	

# **Category of Property**

(Check only one box.)

Building(s)	x
District	
Site	
Structure	
Object	

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11.0

## Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
1	0	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register \_\_\_\_0

6. Function or Use **Historic Functions** (Enter categories from instructions.) Social/Meeting Hall

**Current Functions** 

(Enter categories from instructions.) **Commerce/Financial Institution** 

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### 7. Description

#### **Architectural Classification**

(Enter categories from instructions.) Late 19<sup>th</sup> and Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century Revivals

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.) Principal exterior materials of the property: \_\_\_\_\_Brick, rubblestone, sandstone, EPDM rubber membrane (roof)

#### Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with **a summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

#### Summary Paragraph

The 1896 I.O.O.F. (Independent Order of Odd Fellows) Lodge – Valentine Lodge No. 47 is a two-story masonry building with a one-story portion at the rear. It was one of the first two-story brick buildings in the burgeoning town of Meeker around the turn of the twentieth century, in the midst of transforming from a small ranching supply stop and military post to the major supply center for all of northwestern Colorado. In 1885 Meeker became the only incorporated town in northwestern Colorado and continued that status for over twenty years.

The building served as the I.O.O.F. Lodge for nearly 100 years with a commercial business on the lower level and a community room in the rear one-story section. Throughout its history it has been used by the community not only by I.O.O.F. members, but by other organizations, clubs and even as classrooms when the nearby schools could not be used. The local telephone company occupied the building for a time as did the Rio Blanco County offices. After the Meeker I.O.O.F. discontinued its charter in 1993, the lodge space was used as a private residence. In 2004, Mountain Valley Bank purchased the building and began restoring the building and rehabilitating it for use as a bank on the first floor and storage on the second floor.

#### Narrative Description

#### Setting

The I.O.O.F. Lodge is located in the heart of downtown Meeker on Main Street, just two blocks from the Court House and town square. It, sits on the southeast corner of Fourth and Main streets with the original building occupying Lot 1 and a portion of Lot 2 and the parking area and drive-up canopy occupying the remainder of Lot 2 and all of Lots 3, and A. The building faces north toward Main Street. Across Main Street to the north is the Meeker Elementary School (5RB.2244), which has been not been used as a school since 2009. To the west of the nomination boundary, at the opposite end of the block is the Meeker Library. A paved alley

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divides the block on which the I.O.O.F. Lodge sits in an east/west direction. South of the alley is a commercial building fronting Market Street, which is also Colorado Highway 13. Across Fourth Street to the east is a single-family residence.

A concrete sidewalk exists on the east and north-facing sides. Red crushed rock exists between the foundation and sidewalk on the east-facing side with crushed rock between the foundation and grass area on the west and south-facing sides. Grass also exists between the north (front) side of the drive-through canopy and the sidewalk near Main Street and the paved parking lot on the west-facing side and the back of the drive-through area.

#### **Narrative Description**

## I.O.O.F. Lodge, 1896-1897, drive-up canopy addition 2004; photos 1-21)

The I.O.O.F. Lodge No. 47 is a two-story red brick rectangular building with a one-story section at the rear. The two-story portion measures approximately  $51' \times 77'$  and the one-story portion adds an additional 40' for a total footprint of  $51' \times 117'$ .

The building sits on a rubble stone and concrete foundation. Its brickwork is laid two witheswide in a common bond with a header course at every seventh row. One-over-one single-hung windows exist throughout the building in segmental arched window openings, with the exception of the main façade's first-floor storefront windows. A stepped down flat roof covers the building. A drive-up canopy and parking lot was added in 2004 on the west side when Mountain Valley Bank purchased the building. The drive-up canopy is shorter than the Lodge building and much smaller in scale than the Lodge building. A freestanding flagstone sign on the north-facing (front) side of the drive-up exists, which measures approximately 10' high and 6' wide.

#### North-facing (main) façade

The main façade contains three bays divided by giant order brick pilasters. All three bays are identical in their architectural features, though the fenestration differs slightly. Double rowlock arches exist in the first level of each bay and extend to about three-quarters of the height of the first floor. An arched header course tops the rowlock. Immediately under the arches and set in by approximately 4" is a single rowlock arch, which is directly above compass head fanlight windows. Large two-over-two commercial storefront windows exist under the fanlight of the east bay. Wood raised-panel bulkheads exist under wood sills of the storefront windows. The original double-entry wood doors exist under the east arch of the middle bay while a two-overtwo storefront window exists under the west arch of the middle bay. These doors historically provided the main access to the commercial businesses that occupied the first floor. Although no longer used as the main entrance, the doors are wood panel in the lower half with a square fixed window in the upper half. A divided rectangular transom exists above the doors. The west bay contains a two-over-two commercial storefront window in the east arch and a non-historic (yet custom made to match the double doors) single wood panel and glass door, with a divided , rectangular transom and two flanking side lights. Although this entrance originally provided the only access to the Lodge space on the second floor, this door now provides the main entrance to the bank. A wide concrete step exists in front of the entrance. Next to the foundation at the northeast corner is the north-facing side of a cornerstone laid by the I.O.O.F. with an inscribed date of 1896.

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The second floor contains two windows in each bay. Brick corbelling exists below the second floor rough-faced sandstone window sills, spaced approximately 8" apart. Double rowlock segmental arches exist above each window with a protruding header course surrounding the arch. A decorative header course at the upper portion of each window extends horizontally between each window and column within the bay. Brick corbelling, matching the lower corbelling, exists toward the top of the building just below a brick frieze. Brick dentiling exists under the roof line within the brick frieze. A sandstone plate inscribed with "I. O. O. F." is centered under the brick corbelling in the middle bay.

#### East-facing side

The east-facing side contains five windows on the first floor and one ADA entry door. While the non-historic entrance door was added circa 2004 to provide ADA access to the bank, it is the location of an original entrance. The replacement door continues the pattern of being solid on the lower half with a fixed square window on the top half. With the 2004 rehabilitation, an ADA concrete ramp was also added; it extends east from the entrance door then north by approximately 15'. Seven windows exist in the second story. Three windows exist in the one-story rear section on the east-facing side. Next to the foundation near the north wall, the east-facing side of the sandstone cornerstone exists which contains an inscription of three connected rings, the symbol of the I.O.O.F.

#### South-facing (rear) side

The south-facing or rear side of the building contains an entrance door centered in the wall with two windows on either side. The non-historic door continues to have the original transom. Four concrete steps with simple metal pipe railing provide access to the entrance to the one-story section. Visible on the south-facing side are three windows on the second story, with the same placement as the openings of the first-story section.

#### West-facing side

Three windows exist in the one-story rear section of the west-facing side. Three windows also exist on the first floor of the two-story section and three windows exist on the second story. One window exists that is between the first and second story on the north end. This is a window at the top of the staircase.

To accommodate banking business, the Mountain Valley Bank added a drive-up canopy to the west-facing side of the I.O.O.F. building in 2004. It is set back by approximately 34' from Main Street, which historic photographs reveal was approximately the same set back that was there when a commercial building occupied the space circa 1900. The commercial building has been gone for at least forty years. The drive-up canopy sits on a concrete driveway with two vehicle bays for convenient vehicle banking. An enclosed teller area is adjacent to the west-facing side of the building and under the east portion of the canopy. A teller window exists on the teller area's west-facing side for drive-up service while a second teller window exists on the teller area's north-facing side for walk-up service. Under the west portion of the canopy is a glass enclosed area with an Automated Teller Machine (ATM), with an entrance on the south side. The canopy's south-facing side contains a sign "Mountain Valley Bank" in large green letters with "Member FDIC" in smaller letters under the green letters. The lower 4' of the teller area and a support pier contain a flagstone veneer while the canopy and remainder of the drive-up is

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covered in stucco. A concrete parking lot exists west of the drive-up canopy and with grassy areas located between Main Street and the drive-up canopy and west and south of the parking lot.

#### Interior

Originally the I.O.O.F. Lodge No.47 used the second floor space exclusively with access provided only by the oak staircase at the front northwest-end of the building through the single entry door on the main façade. The second floor originally contained a kitchen area, storage rooms toward the front and the Lodge's main hall with a stage for meetings and events toward the rear. Most of the original features remain in the second floor including the original wood plank floors over which oak hardwood floors exist, wood four-panel doors with transoms, doorknobs, door trim, wainscoting, and chair rail. Lath and plaster cover the walls. However, in some water-damaged areas the plaster was removed circa 2004, exposing the brick walls. The ceiling over the Lodge meeting space was removed circa 2004 due to water damage. A circa 1960s suspended ceiling exists in the kitchen area; however, historic and perhaps original kitchen cupboards remain intact. Two interior bathrooms were added in the first part of the twentieth century. The bank as the current owner plans to restore these rooms in the future.

The first floor of the I.O.O.F. Lodge No.47 building was historically used for commercial, governmental, educational, and recreational purposes with the layout historically having the commercial or governmental enterprise at the front of the building and storage /work space behind that area. Oak hardwood covered the floors of the first story. An original dumbwaiter in the northwestern area of the first floor to the basement provided easy access for the businesses to the basement storage; the dumbwaiter is still operational, however, it is not used by the bank. With the various leasees and uses, the layouts changed slightly according to the businesses needs. Today the bank occupies the entire first floor and maintains a relatively open layout.

The one-story rear section was originally and historically used as an open community room. It continues that use today with the original oak hardwood floors, door and window openings.

The basement is an open space for storage. Historically it was used by the various businesses that occupied the first floor.

#### Alterations

At an unknown date, but during the first part of the twentieth century the I. O. O. F. added interior plumbing and two bathrooms in the second floor. Circa 1960s it also added a suspended ceiling in the second floor kitchen area.

In 2004 after Mountain Valley Bank purchased the building, it constructed the vehicle drive through area and canopy on the west side of the building as a necessity to the operation of the bank (Photo 8). The drive-up canopy is set back from the front (north) of the building by 34' and is connected to the west side of the building. Although an addition to the original building, it should be noted that the Park Hotel (later the Colorow Hotel) was in this location by circa 1900 (demolished prior to 1977) and had approximately the same setback in very similar proximity as the current drive-through area. The Park Hotel's east wall was located only feet from the west

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wall of the I.O.O.F. building. The north front of the Park Hotel was also set back from the north front of the I.O.O.F. building very similarly to the current drive-through set back (Photo 27 and Sketch 3). When looking at the photo, it is difficult to ascertain whether or not the two buildings were connected.

While the I.O.O.F. Lodge maintained the building over the years, over time the Lodge's membership dwindled and funds became scarce, resulting in the building falling into disrepair. Due to a broken water line circa 1974, moisture in the basement area required the foundation to be braced. About this time, the leaking roof was repaired and some brick repointing occurred. This work was the last construction work of any substance that was done on the building until Mountain Valley Bank purchased the building in 2004.

When Mountain Valley Bank purchased the building the condition was poor. The west and east windows were broken, missing and/or covered with boards. Many of the original wood windows were beyond repair. The bank had new metal windows made in the same configuration and size to fit in the original window openings to maintain a consistent look. The first floor had been gutted with piles of insulation and a collapsing ceiling in various areas. Mountain Valley Bank took measures to preserve much of the original integrity of the building. The bricks and stone were cleaned, repaired, grouted and sealed. The dumb-waiter (Photo 12) and banister staircase (Photo 13) in the front of the building were cleaned, repaired and refurbished to their original condition. The hardwood floors (Photo 17) were sanded and refinished, retaining years of character. Much of the wood trim of the first floor was salvageable, and any that was not, the bank replaced with trim matching the original as closely as possible (Photos 18 (old) and 19 (new)). The rehabilitation was completed in accordance with the Secretary of Interiors Standards for Treatment of Historic Properties.

Mountain Valley Bank has maintained a very "open area" floor plan to keep some of the original atmosphere of the first floor. The offices are all large glass-front offices facing into the large open lobby area (Photos 14 and 15). The large safe deposit vault was built from brick matched to the original brick of the building (Photo 16). Adding local flair is the teller counter tops that are made of polished flagstone from a local quarry not far from where the original lime for the mortar was mined. The "Mountain Valley Bank" sign off the northwest corner of the building is a very large piece of this same stone (Photos 8 and 9). The large community room in the one-story rear section (Photo 24 and 25) (Sketch 2) continues to be available to the community for various organizations, entities and persons for meetings, dinners and other functions, as it had been during the Lodge's tenure. The room is currently used an average of 2-3 times per week with the cost to use the room kept very low as a service to the community, much the same as the Odd Fellows did historically.

### Integrity

The I.O.O.F. Lodge No. 47 maintains a high degree of historic physical integrity. Still in its original location, the building's setting continues to be in the heart of downtown Meeker, which is quite unchanged. The building's design in the Late 19<sup>th</sup> and Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century Revival style remains intact. The Lodge's principal materials are present and unobscured, including the original oak hardwood floors, dumb waiter, and staircase, original front double-entry doors, door and window openings, original wainscoting, and chair rail. The biggest change in materials is

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the replacement of the windows, and three doors, however, the size and configuration remained constant, and in the case of the doors, the purpose was to replace inappropriate non-historic doors. The windows were in very poor condition and some were not salvageable. Some of the original window trim was restored, however, in some was replicated in nearly the same design and materials. The architect design of the main façade giant order brick pilasters and decorative brickwork display the workmanship of the stone mason. Integrity of feeling, as a stately commercial and important social venue of the late nineteenth and early twentieth century reflects the prosperity and traditions of the period. While an ADA handicap ramp was added circa 2004 to the east-facing side door, it is not visible from the main entrance and was necessary to accommodate anyone from the community for the community space or for banking purposes. The 2004 drive-up canopy was also added to accommodate vehicular and walk-up banking customers, however due to its 34' set-back from the street and its comparatively smaller size, it does not detract from the building's overall integrity.

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## 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.)

X

- 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.)

- 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 old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

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Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions.) Social History Architecture

Period of Significance 1897-1964 1896-1897

### **Significant Dates**

<u>1896</u> 1897

\_\_\_\_\_

## Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.) N/A

**Cultural Affiliation** 

N/A

## Architect/Builder

<u>Herman Pfeiffer – Architect</u> John Rourke – Brick Contractor J.H. Beard – Foundation Supervision E. D. Hayden – Stone Master Mechanic Harry Niblock – Woodwork

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**Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph** (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

Fraternal organizations played a significant part in the social lives of small town residents across the United States in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century and especially in isolated northwestern Colorado. The International Order of Odd Fellows (I.O.O.F.) Lodge – Valentine Lodge No. 47 provided a social outlet for citizens in and ranchers near the small town of Meeker, along with insurance that medical assistance was available in the event of injury and in the event of death, burial and survivors' benefits were available.

The I.O.O.F. building is locally significant under **Criterion A** for *social history* for its long association with the I.O.O.F Lodge and for providing a venue for other community events and meetings, which it continues to do today. The period of significance for social history begins in 1897, when the Lodge held its first meeting in the building and continues until 1964, keeping with the National Register guidelines.

Additionally, it is locally significant under **Criterion C** for its *architecture*. The 1896 two-story brick building is an excellent example of a Late 19th and Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century Revival style building. The upper story served the I.O.O.F Lodge while the lower level served various merchants, a government office, local communications office and as educational space. The period of significance for architecture extends from 1896 when construction began to 1897 when construction was complete.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least one paragraph for each area of significance.)

### Criterion A – Social History

The I.O.O.F. Lodge – Valentine Lodge No. 47 building is significant for providing a social venue for interaction between ranchers and community members and to share assistance from fellow members in times of need. The 1896 building's second floor provided a meeting place for Lodge members as well as a community-meeting place for over ninety-seven years. The I.O.O.F. commissioned the construction of the building in 1896 to replace previous meeting quarters as membership grew; construction was complete in 1897. As with many I.O.O.F. buildings, the Lodge created an investment opportunity by creating a two-part commercial building resulting in the I.O.O.F. leasing the lower section of the building initially to Rio Blanco County for its offices. The Lodge held its charter until 1993 with only a few members remaining. The Lodge met at this building for over ninety-six years.

The I.O.O.F. Lodge – Valentine Lodge No. 47 was founded April 11, 1891 by D.D.G.M. John Hayes-Special Deputy. The first Charter Members were: A. Burnham, W.A. Keller, F.E. Sheridan, M. Niblock, S. Porges, L.F. VanCleave, W.E. Simpson, and F.W. Fairfield. The charter was granted at the 24th Annual Session held in Denver of the 21st day of October, 1891.<sup>1</sup> By 1896, membership warranted the construction of a meeting hall. The Lodge commissioned Herman Pfeiffer to design the building and construction started August 13, 1896.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Melba Lefevre and Julia Cooper, personal interview with Tawny S. Halandras, July 16, 2013, Meeker Valley Bank, Transcript on file at Mountain Valley Bank, Meeker, Colorado.

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The August 15, 1896 issue of *The Meeker Herald* noted: "Workmen commenced on Thursday tearing down the old McHatton adobe, on the site of which will be erected the new Odd Fellows hall. One by one the old landmarks are going." The McHatton adobe was the former military barracks building (see Figure 1).

The I.O.O.F. Hall was completed early in 1897 and the grand opening was held April 26, 1897 to coincide with the date of the North America Odd Fellows founding seventy-eight years earlier on April 26th. For the dedication and grand opening, the Lodge planned a community parade and an evening ball to which the public was invited.

Rio Blanco County leased the building's first floor as the county offices and jail for a monthly payment of \$150. Behind the county offices and jail was a large open room where dances were held, often sponsored by the I.O.O.F., but occasionally by other organizations. *The Meeker Herald* noted many of the events including a February 6, 1897 article: "Tickets for the Odd Fellows' ball are on sale at the postoffice and at Saltmarsh's. Price \$2, which will include supper at the Meeker Hotel for lady and gentleman" (Meeker Hotel: NRIS.80000923, 5RB.985). A February 20, 1897 article reads in part: "Those who failed to attend the Odd Fellows' dance on Wednesday evening missed the event of the season. Large Crowd – fine waxed floor – good music – excellent supper – arrangements perfect. What more could you ask?"

The rear one-story section of the building and the dance floor provided community space for various other organizations' meetings, dinners and dances for at least the next seventy years. The Meeker Catholic Church hosted an annual Saint Patrick Day Ball from 1900 – 1930. The Modern Woodmen of America, the Rio Blanco Woolgrowers, The Fireman, Meeker Oldtimers Association, and the Rio Blanco Cattlemen were among many organizations that met and held events at the I.O.O.F. building. The I.O.O.F annually hosted Stray Day dances, Valentine's Day carnivals and dances, 4<sup>th</sup> of July dances, and Thanksgiving dinners and dances and are still remembered by many community members. Beginning in the early 1900s through 1930 the I.O.O.F and the Woodmen of America hosted a joint community fish fry. The June 1920 fish fry drew over one thousand people including many from other areas of western Colorado and delegates from Denver.

Alcohol was not permitted in the building. However, folks attending events in the 1940 – 1960s recalled parking cars on the building's east side, slipping out the side or back door to enjoy alcoholic beverages in their cars. Several local gentlemen recently interviewed by the preparer remembered watching fighting and ruckus in the alley behind the building during the events. During the 1940s and 1950s the community room in the one-story rear section was used for community roller skating.

In addition to dances, the large community space provided an excellent venue for theatrical performances. A Meeker Opera House performance was held at the I.O.O.F. building on February 14, 1898. *The Meeker Herald* reported in its February 12, 1898 issue that it was a "testimonial benefit" to R. J. Cloherty and described it as a comedy performance including a "Grånd crush, biff, bang and smash," songs, and a quartette. The Meeker I.O.O.F also had a drama club and a women's group called the Josephine Rebekah Lodge (the Ladies Auxiliary to the I.O.O.F.), both which produced plays as fundraisers. *The Meeker Herald* reported in its December 25, 1897 issue of the performance "Ragged Jack the Vagabond," complete with a new orchestra. These performances continued through the 1960s.

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During World War I, the Joephine Rebekah Lodge hosted various events include a masquerade ball, plays and dances with part or all of the proceeds given to the Surgical Dressings Committee, the Meeker branch of the American Red Cross and the Junior Red Cross Society. The Meeker Women's Club held a reception and dance for young men who enlisted in the War, prior to their departure. At this time films were becoming available and some of the earliest shown in town were at the I.O.O.F building including, "Double Trouble" and "My Four Years in Germany," both in 1918.

The building was an integral part of Meeker's social history over time. The Odd Fellows were involved in the social aspects of the community from several vantage points. It was a charity-driven fraternity that raised funds and donated time to help community individuals in need or public causes. In 1917 the Lodge performed a play to benefit the library and the next day it held a benefit dance for Limekiln School. Many events often benefitted the entire community. Finally, the building acted as a location for other fraternities, groups and organizations to meet and host events.

#### **Criterion C – Architecture**

The Meeker I.O.O.F Lodge – Valentine Lodge No. 47 building is locally significant under **Criterion C** for *architecture* as an excellent intact example of a Late 19<sup>th</sup> and Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century Revival style building. Character-defining features include the two-story brick construction, giant order brick pilasters, a double entry, transomed windows and doors, compass head fanlights under double rowlock arches, brick corbelling and dentiling, decorative brickwork, and rough-faced sandstone window sills. Local Herman Pfeiffer designed the building.

The I.O.O.F. Lodge – Valentine Lodge No. 47 is an example of a two-part commercial block building. These were the most common property type (based on a typology of façade arrangement) for small and moderate-sized commercial buildings throughout the country for nearly a century. They were prevalent from the 1850s to the 1950s across America. Meeker has one other two-part commercial brick building, which is the J. W. Hugus Building located at 6th and Main Street; it was originally a mercantile business on the first floor with apartments on the second floor. The original J.W. Hugus Building burned circa 1910 with the two-part commercial building constructed in 1911 (5RB.2242, listed on the State Register in 1991).

Herman Pfeiffer arrived in Colorado circa 1876 and soon made his way to Aspen. He placed simple advertisements in the *Aspen Weekly Times* noting his profession as "H. Pfeiffer, Civil Engineer and U. S. Deputy Mineral Surveyor, Durant Street, A few doors east of Clarendon Hotel."<sup>2</sup> His status as the U.S. Deputy Surveyor came circa 1882, as the advertisements prior to that did not reflect that title. The *Steamboat Pilot* reported in its November 24, 1897, edition that he owned property near Craig, which is approximately 40 miles north of Meeker. Earlier that same year, Pfeiffer is shown as a member of the Meeker I.O.O.F.

Although it is unknown if Pfeiffer was directly involved, another building in Meeker reflects nearly the same exterior design. The Meeker Hotel's construction was completed in early 1896 and contains the same north-facing (main) façade brick design, decorative brickwork, brick arches

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Aspen Weekly Times, March 10, 1883.

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and pilasters and in the same architectural style (see figures 6 and 7) (NRIS.80000923, 5RT.985). The hotel is located at 560 Main Street, just 1 ½ blocks west of the I.O.O.F. building. The hotel's National Register nomination did not identify an architect, although a subsequent source listed I. G. Mitchell, a Meeker carpenter, as the builder.<sup>3</sup>

The brick, lime and stone were locally mined and produced. The brick material was mined in the Strawberry Creek area west of Meeker, the lime was mined from Lime Kiln, near what is now known as County Road 13, and the stone came from an area known as Little Meeker.<sup>4</sup> The following was printed in the September 12, 1896 *The Meeker Herald*:

The Odd Fellows of Meeker are getting a "hump" on themselves, at least as far as their new hall is concerned. The excavation for the foundation is about completed, and concrete is being put in the trenches, and brick are being molded at the rate of nearly ten thousand daily. It won't be long before the announcement will be made that the corner-stone will be laid amid much éclat.

A couple of weeks later, the October 3, 1896 edition of *The Meeker Herald reported:* "Contractor Rourke fired the largest brick kiln ever burned in this town on Wednesday evening. It contains 240,000 bricks which will be used in the I.O.O.F. building now in the course of erection" (Photos 2 and 3). The first story was complete by October 25, 1896 and plans were to complete the remaining second story and interior by year's end, as the sandstone inscription on the cornerstone reads "1896." However, *The Meeker Herald* reported in its November 2, 1896 issue that the completion was delayed due to a "cold snap set in, putting a stop to brick-laying, which will not be resumed until the weather moderates." It was January of 1897 before construction was complete.

## Historic Context

### Meeker Founding

The town is named for Nathan Meeker, the United States Indian Agent who was killed along with ten others by White River Ute Indians in the 1879 Meeker Massacre. The site of the massacre, the former White River Indian Agency, is located along State Highway 64 in Powell Park in the White River Valley. The site is marked by a prominent sign. None of the buildings remain.

The United States Army established a garrison on the current site of the town, called the Camp on the White River. After the Meeker Massacre and the 1882 Milk Creek Battle the U.S. Congress passed legislation requiring the Ute population to relocate to a reservation in Utah. The town of Meeker was founded in 1883 following the removal of the troops and the sale of the remaining military buildings at public auction. One of the military adobe buildings was on the site of the I.O.O.F building until circa 1896 when it was demolished to make room for the I.O.O.F

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Thomas J. Noel. *Buildings of Colorado*. Lincoln, NE: University of Nebraska Press, 1998, p. 516.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Interview between Evelyn Metzger and Edy George, May 16, 2013, Transcript on file at Mountain Valley Bank, Meeker, Colorado.

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building. The White River Museum is located just north of the Rio Blanco County Courthouse and is housed in some of the original wooden buildings of the Army garrison.<sup>5</sup>

Soon after the military's departure, Denverite D. M. Richards, a town promoter and developer, arrived in Meeker and organized the Meeker Town Company. His organizers included the early real estate investors who purchased the former military buildings. In 1885 Meeker became the only incorporated town in northwestern Colorado, the claim it held for more than twenty years. It became the center for business, banking, and commerce for the area, including a profitable Native American trade business. In 1887 the population of Meeker reached 300.<sup>6</sup>

With the larger population of the town as well as the surrounding areas, the commercial area had grown to include two large general stores, a lumber yard, two blacksmith and wagon shops, a saddlery and harness shop, shoe shop, carpenter, book and stationery supplier, bank, post office, barber, two delivery stables, an express office, *The Meeker Herald* newspaper, and a school. In 1889 the Hugus mercantile constructed a two-story brick building at the corner of 6<sup>th</sup> and Main Street, which was designed by Denver architectural firm Fisher & Fisher. This was the first brick building and signaled the turn of Meeker as a small frame-building settlement to Meeker as a thriving modern town and supply center for northwestern Colorado.<sup>7</sup> The town continued to grow and in the 1890s the Meeker Hotel and I.O.O.F. building became prominent architectural features of the town.

#### Independent Order of Odd Fellows (I.O.O.F)

The Independent Order of Odd Fellows (I O O F) origins date to 1745 in Manchester, England with a group of common working class individuals joining together to assist others calling themselves Manchester Unity. The concept of working class men joining forces for fellowship and mutual aid of others contradicted cultural practices of the time to the extent that the group was often deemed peculiar or odd. Outsiders believed that the group was "an odd bunch of fellows' who would behave in such a selfless and seemingly impractical fashion."8 The I. O. O. F., known as the "Three Link Fraternity", did not organize in North America until 1819 when in Baltimore, Maryland, Thomas Wildey and four others sought a charter. Once organized, a wide-spread yellow fever epidemic along with a high numbers of unemployment swept the city. The initial five-member Baltimore lodge determined its focus was to "visit the sick, relieve the distress, bury the dead and educate the orphans."9 Wildev traveled throughout North America to establish additional lodges. The growing organization became the first national fraternity to include women when in 1851 it adopted the Rebekah degree for membership. By 1881, lodge members totaled 489,363 nationwide.<sup>10</sup> Their Three Link symbol signifies their Friendship, Love and Truth motto. This is the symbol transcribed in the cornerstone of the Meeker I.O.O.F. Lodge. The Odd Fellows, by their philosophy and purpose,

<sup>9</sup> The Sovereign Grand Lodge Independent Order of Odd Fellows website

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Rio Blanco County Historical Society, Inc. *This is What I Remember*, Volume II. Meeker, Colorado: *The Meeker Herald*, 1978.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Ibid, 400-401, 420.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Suzannah Reid. Survey Report, Small Town Initiative, Meeker, 2007. On file at the Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, Denver, Colorado.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> The Sovereign Grand Lodge Independent Order of Odd Fellows website, last accessed July 13, 2011: <u>www.I O O</u> <u>F.org/aboutus</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Theodore Ross, History and Manual of Odd Fellowship. New York, NY: M. W. Hazen, Co., 1899, p. 621.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Ross. p. 621.

I.O.O.F. Lodge – Valentine Lodge No. 47 Name of Property Rio Blanco, Colorado County and State

represent the very core of a small community such as Meeker. The Independent Order of Odd Fellows was, and still is, dedicated to the following purposes:

1) to improve and elevate the character of mankind by promoting the principles of friendship, love, truth, faith, hope, charity and universal justice;

2) to help make the world a better place to live by aiding each other in times of need and by organizing charitable projects and activities that would benefit the less fortunate, the youth, the elderly, the environment and the community in every way possible;

3) to promote good will and harmony amongst peoples and nations through the principle of universal fraternity, holding the belief that all men and women regardless of race, nationality, religion, social status, gender, ranch and station are brothers and sisters; and

4) to promote a wholesome fraternal experience without violence, vices and discrimination of every form.<sup>11</sup>

The Odd Fellowship became the first national fraternity to include both men and women when it adopted the Rebekah Degree on September 20, 1851. It continues as an international organization focusing on a united and universal brotherhood.

### Meeker Independent Order of Odd Fellows (I.O.O.F) - Valentine Lodge No. 47

Over a 50 year span, the front portion of the first floor was used as office space, school classroom area, a banquet area and retail area. Rio Blanco County offices occupied the space until 1907, when a new Court House office was built. The Rio Blanco School in Meeker was condemned in 1907, and while a new one was being planned and built, the school occupied the front area as a classroom until 1911 when a new school was built. When the students moved to the new school, the new telephone company offices occupied the front portion of the first floor from 1911 until the 1920s.

On February 23, 1918 the Meeker Elementary School was condemned. The third, fifth, sixth and seventh grade children attended school at the I.O.O.F building, until new accommodations were complete in 1920. Again between 1937 and 1940, Meeker Elementary School held classes for the third and fourth grade students at the I.O.O.F building while another new school was built; yet another Meeker school was condemned.

Between 1918 and 1920, the Star Theatre sold tickets to silent movies at the I.O.O.F building. A pianist provided appropriate music to accompany the movies. During this time, occasionally the building was referred to as the Star Theatre.

When the I.O.O.F. building was originally financed and constructed, prominent financial backers became members of the Lodge. By 1910, several of these financial backers had left the Lodge

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup><u>www.wikipedia.org/wiki/Independent\_order\_of\_odd\_fellows</u> Accessed May 2, 2013; The Sovereign Grand Lodge Independent Order of Odd Fellows website.

I.O.O.F. Lodge – Valentine Lodge No. 47 Name of Property Rio Blanco, Colorado County and State

and removed their financial commitment. As a result, the mortgage holder foreclosed in 1910 with Mr. J. E. Rooney, a long-standing Lodge member, purchasing the building to protect himself from default judgment. Although the I.O.O.F. Lodge continued to meet as it always had and many continued to refer to it as the I.O.O.F Lodge, in some newspaper articles and some locals began referring to the building as Rooney's Hall. In 1930, when the Lodge was in a good financial condition, the I.O.O.F. Lodge purchased the building from Rooney for half of what it cost Rooney.<sup>12</sup>

In the early 1940s Dusty Rhoades operated a Maytag dealership in the front portion of the building's first floor. The remainder of the first floor was used as a rolling skating rink and dance floor. The I.O.O.F. Lodge rented skates and charged a nominal fee as a fundraiser. The roller skating at the building continued into the 1950s. Dances continued at the building into the 1960s with a local rock band, The Oracle Band, as the prominent performer.

As Lodge membership dwindled somewhat in the late 1950s and early 1960s, the Lodge rented rooms on the north end of the second floor primarily to ranch hands needing interim boarding during longer stays in town. Dances and community plays were held less frequently by the late 1960s. By 1970 John Stowe opened a teen center on the first floor. He had various games and music, which provide teens a place to "hang out." A retail clothing store occupied the front of the building's first floor about the same time.

As the financial condition of the Lodge was dim, the Odd Fellows borrowed funds from a gentleman by the name of Matt Villa around 1970. In 1974, the Lodge membership continued to drop to an all time low. In 1974 brothers James and Robert Ruckman purchased the building from the Odd Fellows in exchange for the pay off of the promissory note held by Mr. Villa. The Ruckmans completed substantial repair work, as the roof was leaking and the brick was in need of new mortar. The Ruckman brothers allowed the Lodge to continue meeting in the second floor charging only a very nominal fee. The Ruckman Construction Company office occupied most of the first floor. Included in the company was the All Weather Wood Foundation Franchise. Company employees pre-built foundations in the building's first floor when the weather was poor. By the late 1970s and early 1980s RC KWAL paint and interiors occupied the first floor, which was another Ruckman Construction enterprise. Various other businesses occupied the first floor into the 1990s, including a tile and carpet store.

On December 2, 1993, the I.O.O.F Lodge – Valentine Lodge No. 47 surrendered their charter. The active charter was cancelled and returned to The Grand Lodge. The original charter was placed in the White River Museum in Meeker. All other records were taken to The Grand Lodge office by William Campton-PGM, secretary of the Lodge. The Ruckmans rented the entire second floor as a private residence. The first floor remained vacant due to disrepair and the need for substantial work.

In 2004 Mountain Valley Bank purchased the building with the vision of revitalizing the building and creating a bank. The White River Museum has recently loaned the original charter to the Mountain Valley Bank (I.O.O.F. building) to display in the bank lobby.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> "Odd Fellows Buy Their Lodge Building" *The Meeker Herald*, March 14, 1930.

Rio Blanco, Colorado County and State

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

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- C. F. Brenner, Inc. Architecture. I.O.O.F. Building, Restoration Project, Sheet A3. June 28, 2004. On file at Mountain Valley Bank, Meeker, Colorado
- Kirkpatrick, Vera G. "I.O.O.F. Building" Building Inventory Record, June 1981. On file with the Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, Denver, Colorado.

Metzger, Evelyn. Personal Interview with Edy George, May 16, 2013. Transcript on file at Mountain Valley Bank, Meeker, Colorado.

Noel Thomas J. Buildings of Colorado. Lincoln, NE: University of Nebraska Press, 1998.

- Reid, Suzannah. Survey Report, Small Town Initiative, Meeker, 2007. On file at the Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, Denver, Colorado
- Rio Blanco County Historical Society, Inc. *This is What I Remember*, Volume II. Meeker, Colorado: *The Meeker Herald*, 1978.
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- Sovereign Grand Lodge Independent Order of Odd Fellows website, last accessed July 13, 2011: www.I O O F.org/aboutus\_and www.I O O F.org/faq.

U.S. Census, 1880, 1890, 1900

White River Museum, clippings, photos, and newspaper articles. Meeker, Colorado.

Wikipedia. "Independent Order of Odd Fellows" at: www.wikipedia.org/wiki/Independent order of odd fellows Accessed May 2, 2013.

Personal Interviews by Tawny S. Halandras (Transcripts archived at Mountain Valley Bank):

Amick, Robert. Personal Interview. August 9, 2013 Amick, Jim D. and Paula Amick. Personal Interviews. June 5, 2013 Anderson, Patty, Harold Anderson and Edy George. Personal Interviews. July 28, 2013 Goosman, Shirley and Kimberly Brown. Personal Interviews. August 15, 2013 Kracht, Bill and Kimberly Brown. Personal Interviews. May 28, 2013 Lefevre, George and Julia Cooper. Personal Interviews. July 17, 2013 Lefevre, Melba and Julia Cooper. Personal Interviews. July 16, 2013

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Love, Sam. Personal Interview. July 31, 2013 Ruckman, Jim. Personal Interview. May 14, 2013 Ruckman, Robert. Personal Interview. 05 Jun 2013. Vanderpool, Esther. Personal Interview. July 19, 2013

#### Newspaper Articles

Aspen Weekly Times, May 7, 1881 through March 10, 1883.

Steamboat Pilot, November 24, 1897, p.5.

The Meeker Herald:

August 15, 1896 "The Odd Fellows' Grand Ball", February 6, 1897 February 17, 1897 February 20, 1897 March 27, 1897 April 10, 1897 April 17, 1897 April 24, 1897 September 11, 1897 November 20, 1897 December 25, 1897 September 29, 1917 December 8, 1917 December 15, 1917 January 28, 1918 March 9, 1918 April 6, 1918 May 25, 1918 June 19, 1918 August 26, 1918 September 9, 1918 August 26, 1918 Clipping "Grand Fish Fry" no day and month, June 1920 "A notable Gathering of I.O. O.F.," June 26, 1920 Clipping from 1920, no month or date, "Meeker, Colorado County Seat of Rio Blanco County, A Growing City of Enterprise and Industrial Business, Homes, Churches and Schools" February 2, 1924 "Old Timers Dance," January 3, 1925 "Oddfellow's Fish Fry," June 6, 1925 October 11, 1929 "Odd Fellows Buy Their Lodge Building" March 14, 1930 January 23, 1931

I.O.O.F. Lodge – Valentine Lodge No. 47 Name of Property Rio Blanco, Colorado County and State

## Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- \_\_\_\_\_ 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 # \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_ recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # \_\_\_\_\_

## Primary location of additional data:

- X State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- \_\_\_\_ Federal agency
- \_\_\_\_ Local government
- \_\_\_\_ University
- X Other
- Name of repository: \_\_\_\_\_White River
- Museum\_

# Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): 5RB.2245

10. Geographical Data			
Acreage of Property Less than one		The UTM reference point was derived from heads up digitization on Digital Raster Graphic (DRG) maps provided to OAHP by the U.S. Bureau of Land	
UTM References		Management.	
Datum (indicated on USG	is map):		
NAD 1927 or	X NAD 1983		
1. Zone: 13	Easting: 251 61	Northing: 4435 979	
2. Zone:	Easting:	Northing:	
3. Zone:	Easting:	Northing:	
4. Zone:	Easting :	Northing:	

Rio Blanco, Colorado County and State

# Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The I.O.O.F Lodge – Valentine Lodge No. 47 is located in Lots 1, 2, 3, A and 4 of Block 2 of the Original Town of Meeker, further described as the southeast quarter of the southeast quarter of the northeast quarter of the southwest quarter of Section 23, of Township 1 north, Range 94 west of the 6<sup>th</sup> principal meridian, also known as 400 Main Street, Meeker, Colorado and containing approximately .80 acres.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The nomination boundary of the I.O.O.F Lodge – Valentine Lodge No. 47 is that all of the property historically associated with the Meeker I.O.O.F Lodge along with Lots 3 and A, which were added to the property circa 1974.

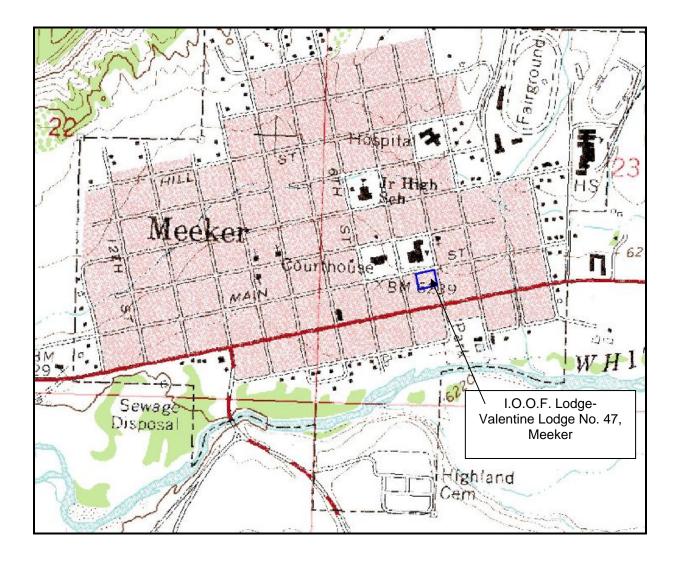
Elevation 6240'

## USGS – Regional Perspective Meeker quadrangle 7.5 minutes series

# I.O.O.F. Lodge-Valentine Lodge No. 47, Meeker Meeker Airport Capital ? Grave Meeker MEEKER DITCH n RIVER WHITE Sewage (ishland AGENCY PARK Flag

Rio Blanco, Colorado County and State

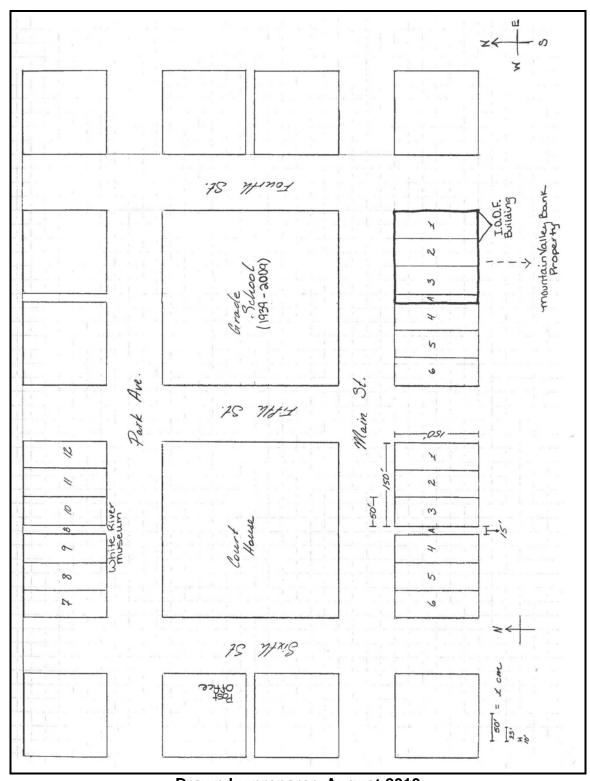
# USGS - close- up perspective



I.O.O.F. Lodge – Valentine Lodge No. 47

Rio Blanco, Colorado County and State

#### Name of Property



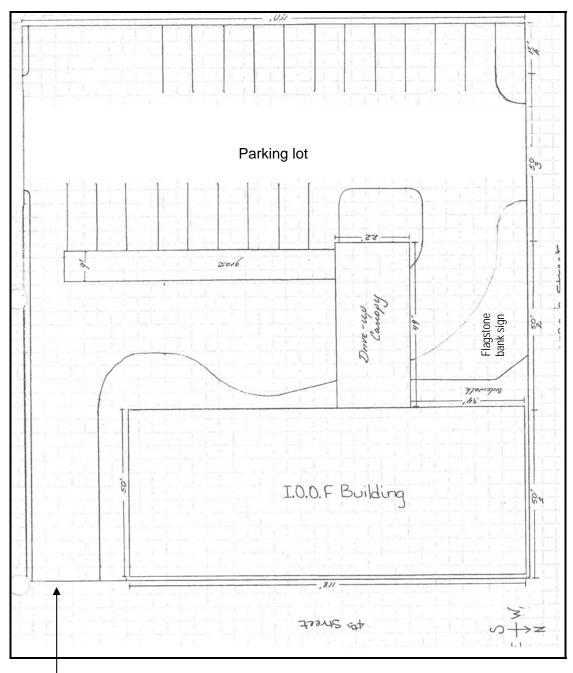
## **Property location in town block**

Drawn by preparer, August 2013

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Rio Blanco, Colorado County and State

# Site Plan of the building and parking lot showing nomination boundary



Nomination boundary is the solid line around the perimeter of the property Drawn by preparer, August 2013

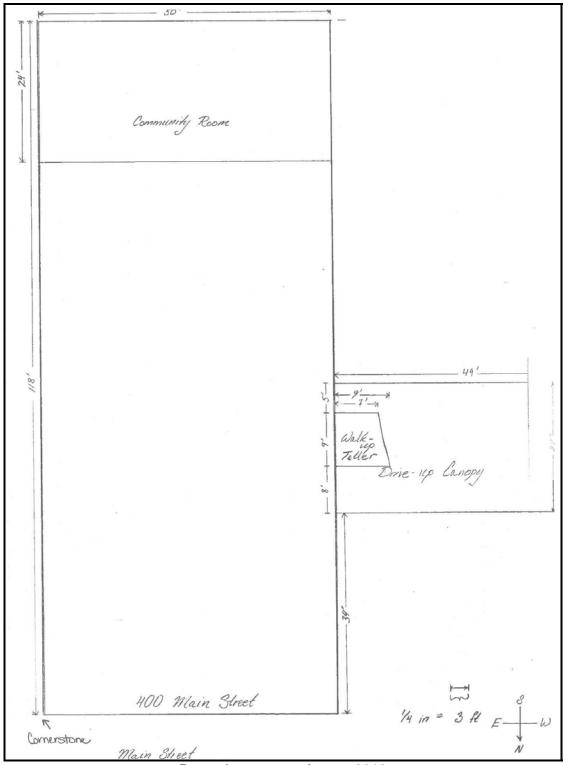
I.O.O.F. Lodge – Valentine Lodge No. 47

Name of Property

# Rio Blanco, Colorado

County and State

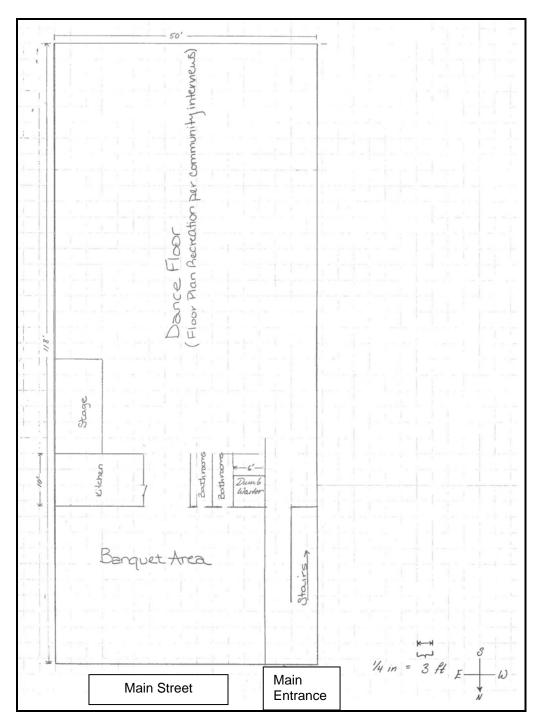
## **First Floor Plan**



Drawn by preparer August 2013

Rio Blanco, Colorado County and State

# Second Floor Plan – historic recreation based on oral interviews



Drawn by preparer August 2013

Rio Blanco, Colorado County and State

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title: _Tawny S. Halandras, Presi	ident		
organization: <u>Mountain Valley Bank</u>			
street & number: <u>400 Main Street</u>			
city or town: <u>Meeker</u>	_ state: <u>Colorado</u>	zip code:	<u>81641</u>
e-mail <u>tawnyh@bankmvb.com</u>			
telephone:_ <u>970-878-0103</u>			
date: August 16, 2013			

### Additional Documentation

### Submit the following items with the completed form:

Maps: A USGS map or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location. Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.

Additional items: (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

## Photo Log

Name of Property: I.O.O.F. LODGE – VALENTINE LODGE No. 47 (MOUNTAIN VALLEY BANK) City or Vicinity: MEEKER, COLORADO County: RIO BLANCO State: COLORADO Photographer: TAWNY S. HALANDRAS Date Photographed: MAY 23, 2013 TIFF Images on file with the National Register, Washington, D.C.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

### **Current Building Photos**

Photo 1: Building Front, North and East view (from corner of 4<sup>th</sup> and Main Streets)

Photo 2: Building Front, North view (from Main Street)

Photo 3: Building/Bank Drive Through/Sign Full North view (from Main Street)

Photo 4: Building/Bank Drive Through/Sign North and West view (from Main Street)

Photo 5: Building Full West view (from bank parking lot)

Photo 6: Building Full South view (from alley)

Photo 7: Building Full East view (from 4<sup>th</sup> Street)

Photo 8: Exterior Photo – I.O.O.F. Stone located on north top center of the building

Photo 9: Exterior Photo – Cornerstone north view

Photo 10: Exterior Photo – Cornerstone east view

Photo 11: Interior Photo – Dumb Waiter

Photo 12: Interior Photo – Staircase (from north front entrance)

Rio Blanco, Colorado County and State

Photo 13:	Interior Photo – Open Floor Plan – Bank Lobby
Photo 14:	Interior Photo – Bank Lobby
Photo 15:	Interior Photo – Interior brickwork matched to original brickwork
Photo 16:	Interior Photo – Refinished Wood Flooring
Photo 17:	Interior Photo – Original Building Trim
Photo 18:	Interior Photo – Trim throughout building to match original
Photo 19:	Interior/Exterior Photo – Window detail (6 north front lower level windows)
Photo 20:	Interior Photo – Community Room south building exit (exits to alley)
Photo 21:	Interior Photo – Community Room at Mountain Valley Bank

# **HISTORIC IMAGES**

Figure 1	Pre 1896 with soldiers barracks, present day I.O.O.F building - Mountain Valley Bank property (Courtesy of White River Museum)
Figure 2	Start of I.O.O.F. building construction, circa August 1896 (Courtesy of White River Museum)
Figure 3	First floor nearly complete, fall 1896 (Courtesy of White River Museum)
Figure 4	Start of second floor, fall 1896 (Courtesy Denver Public Library X-12458)
Figure 5	Shortly after completion, circa 1897 (Courtesy of Denver Public Library x-12453)
Figure 6	The Meeker Hotel after completion, circa August 1896, H. A. Wildhack, photographer (Courtesy of Denver Public Library X-12428)
Figure 7	First floor of Meeker Hotel nearly finished, June 17, 1896, H. A. Wildhack, photographer, (Courtesy of Denver Public Library X-12434)
Figure 8	Fourth of July rodeo at parade/rodeo grounds. I.O.O.F. building in background, next to the Park Hotel and Antlers Hotel, July 4, 1911 (Courtesy of White River Museum, Meeker, Colorado)
Figure 9	Woodman of America, date unknown (Courtesy of White River Museum, they acknowledged the mislabel of "I.O.O.F.")
Figure 10	Fifth annual fish fry, June 23, 1923, (Courtesy of Fawn Creek Gallery, Meeker, Colorado)
Figure 11	Prepping for the I.O.O.F. fish fry, 1920s, (Courtesy of White River Museum, Meeker, Colorado)
Figure 12	I.O.O.F. building 1977, on file with the Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, Denver, Colorado

Rio Blanco, Colorado County and State

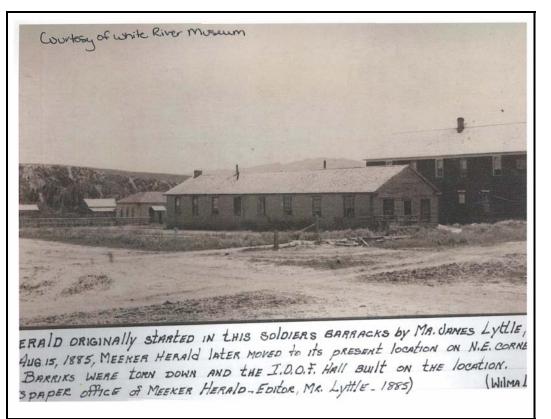


Figure 1: Pre-1896 with soldiers barracks, present day I.O.O.F building - Mountain Valley Bank property (Courtesy of White River Museum)

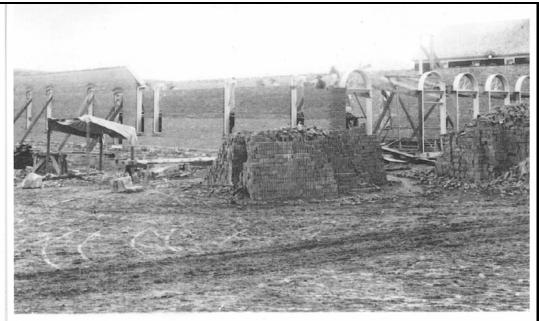


Figure 2: Start of I.O.O.F. building construction, circa August 1896 (Courtesy of White River Museum)

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Figure 3: First floor of I.O.O.F. nearly complete, fall 1896 (Courtesy of White River Museum)



Figure 4: Start of I.O.O.F. second floor, fall 1896 (Courtesy Denver Public Library X-12458)

I.O.O.F. Lodge – Valentine Lodge No. 47 Name of Property



Figure 5: Shortly after I.O.O.F. completion, circa 1897 (Courtesy of Denver Public Library x-12453)



**Figure 6:** The Meeker Hotel after completion, circa August 1896, H. A. Wildhack, photographer (Courtesy of Denver Public Library X-12428)



Figure 7: First floor of Meeker Hotel nearly finished, June 17, 1896, H. A. Wildhack, photographer, (Courtesy of Denver Public Library X-12434)

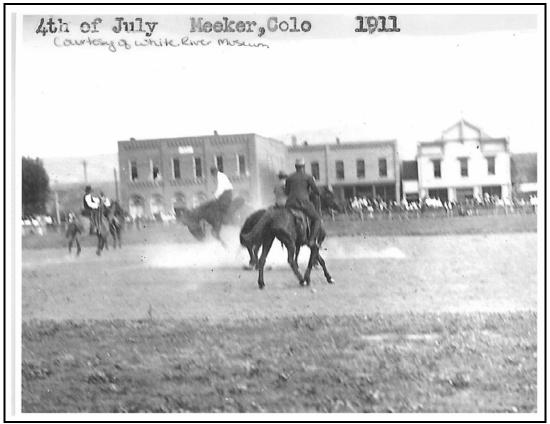


Figure 8: Fourth of July rodeo at parade/rodeo grounds. I.O.O.F. building in background on left. July 4, 1911 (Courtesy of White River Museum, Meeker, Colorado)

I.O.O.F. Lodge – Valentine Lodge No. 47 Name of Property

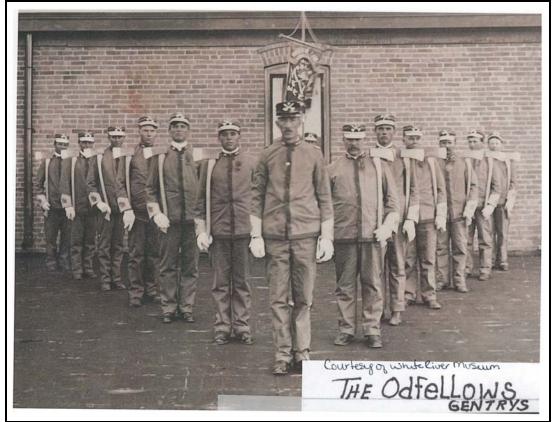


Figure 9: Woodman of America at I.O.O.F. building, date unknown (Courtesy of White River Museum, they acknowledged the mislabel of "I.O.O.F.")



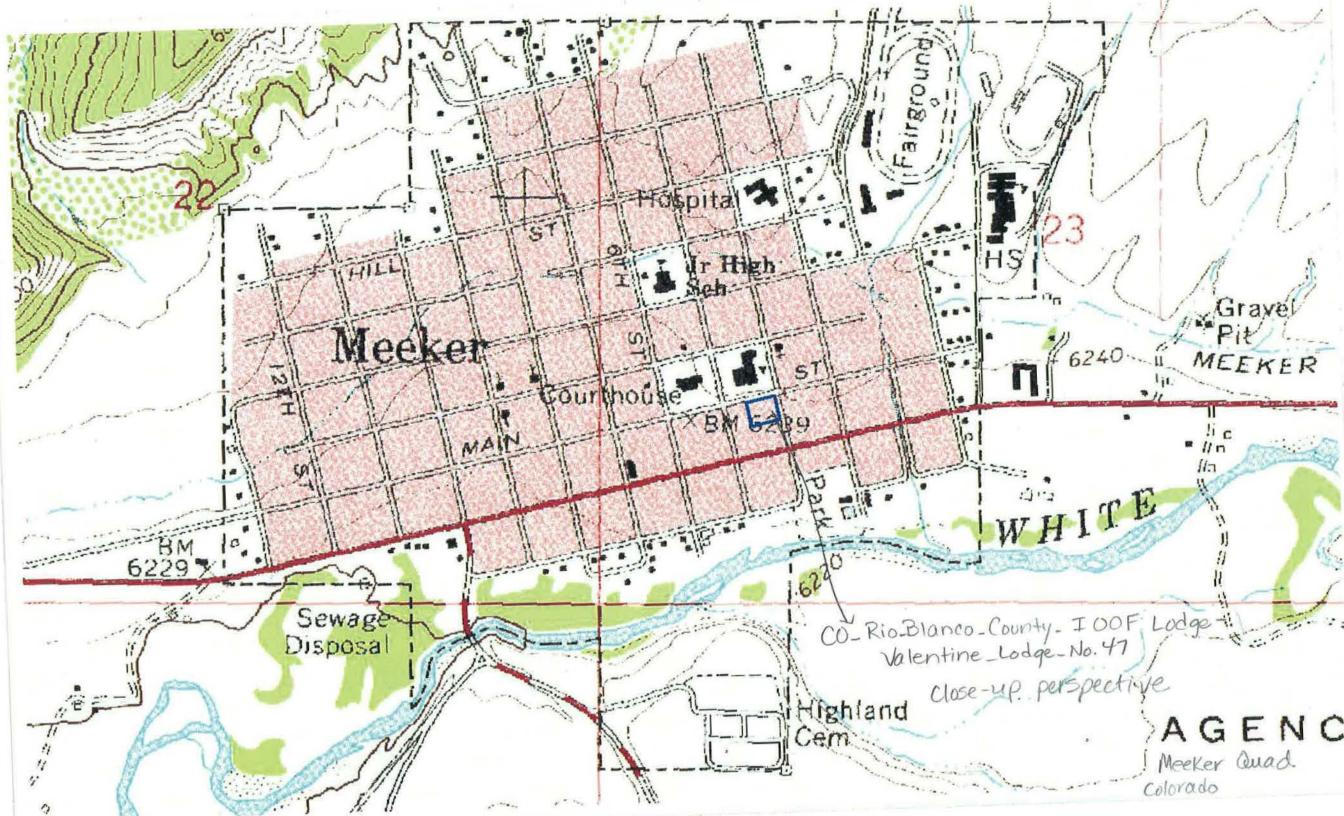
Figure 10: Fifth annual fish fry, June 23, 1923, I.O.O.F. building in back right side. (Courtesy of Fawn Creek Gallery, Meeker, Colorado)

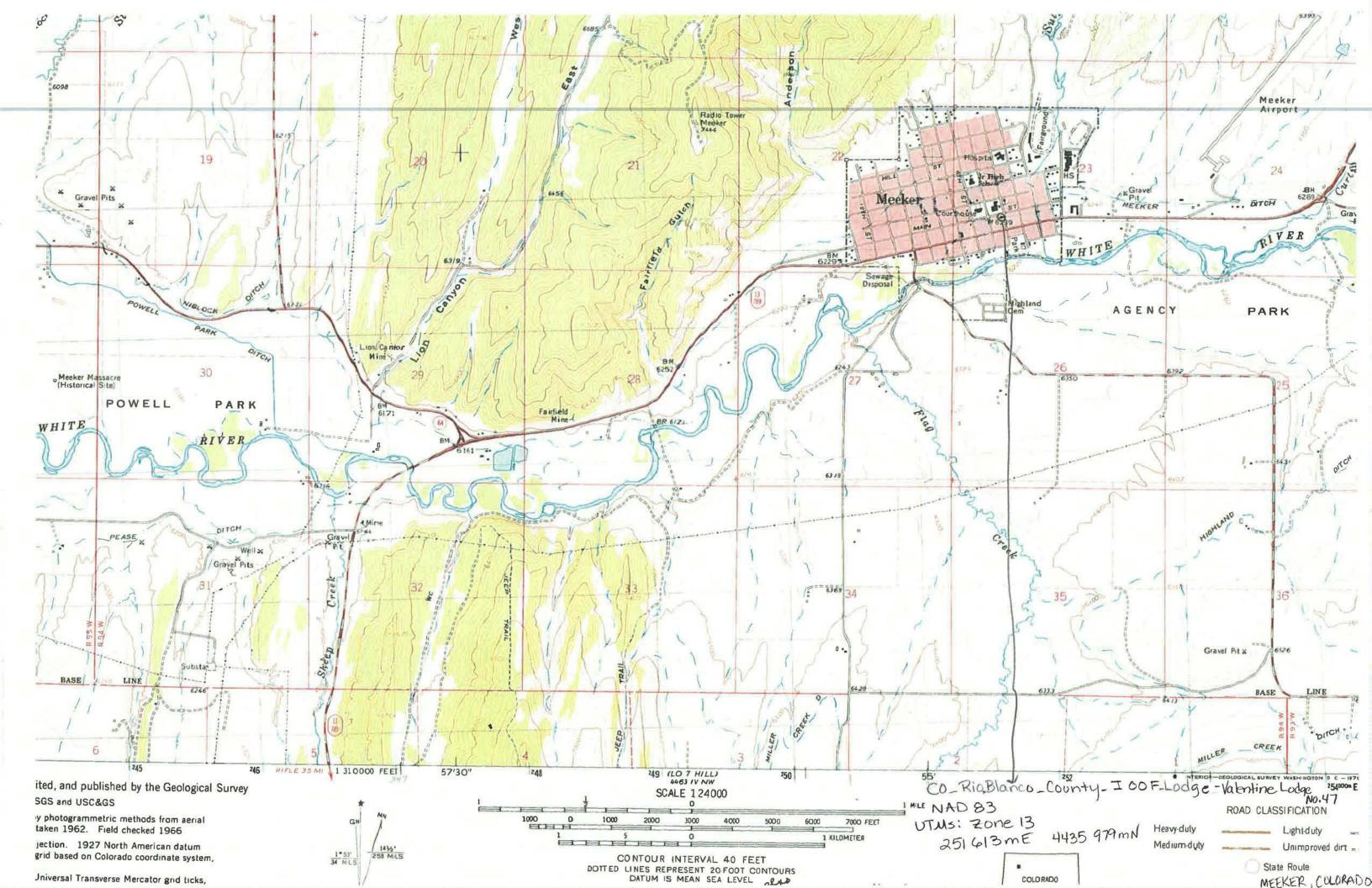


Figure 11: Prepping for the I.O.O.F. fish fry, 1920s (Courtesy of White River Museum, Meeker, Colorado)



Figure 12: I.O.O.F. building 1977, on file with the Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, Denver, Colorado



















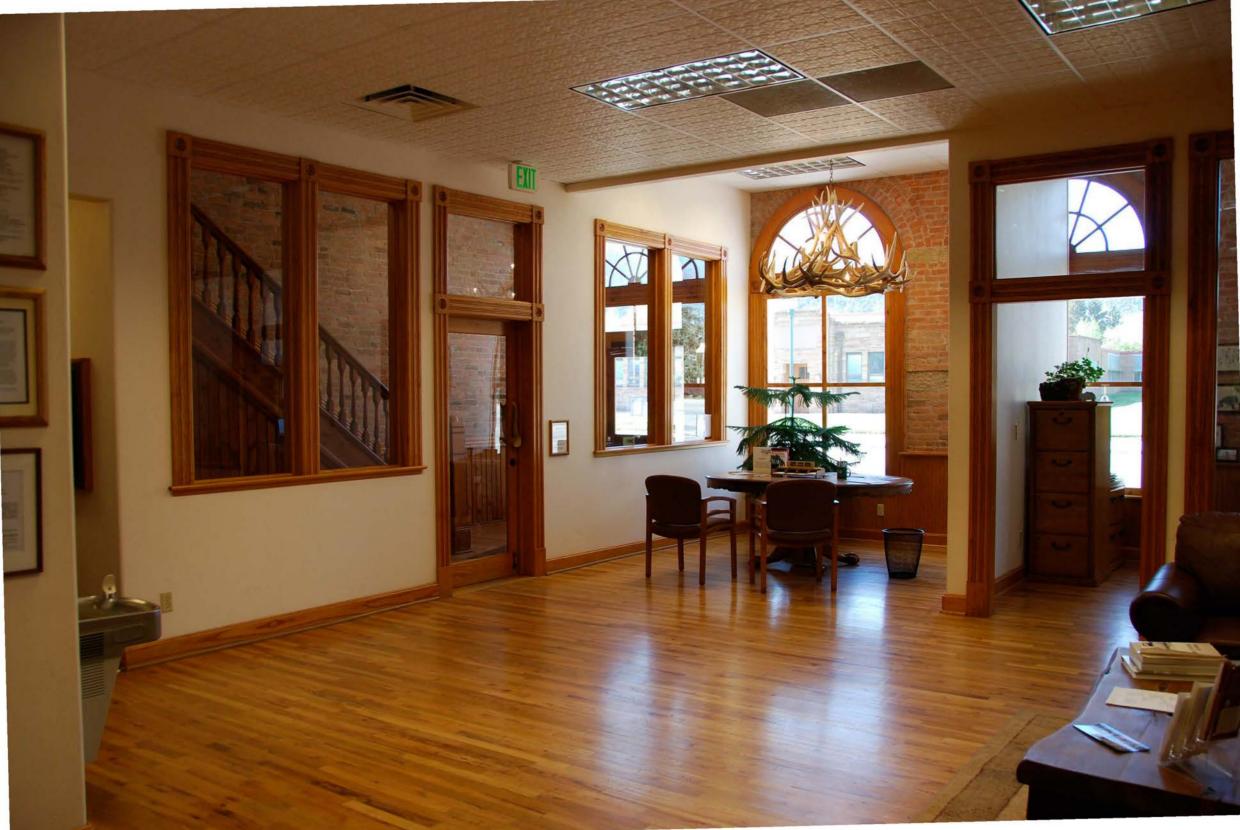




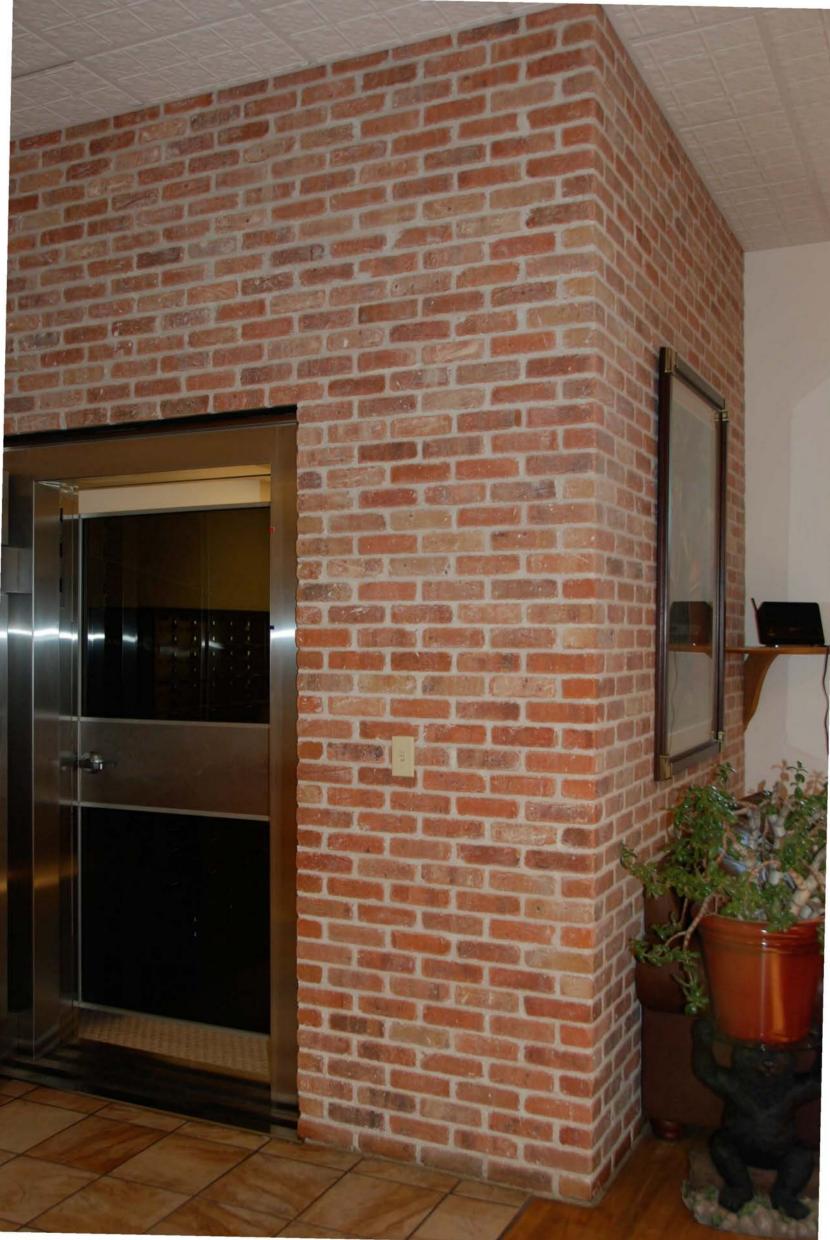










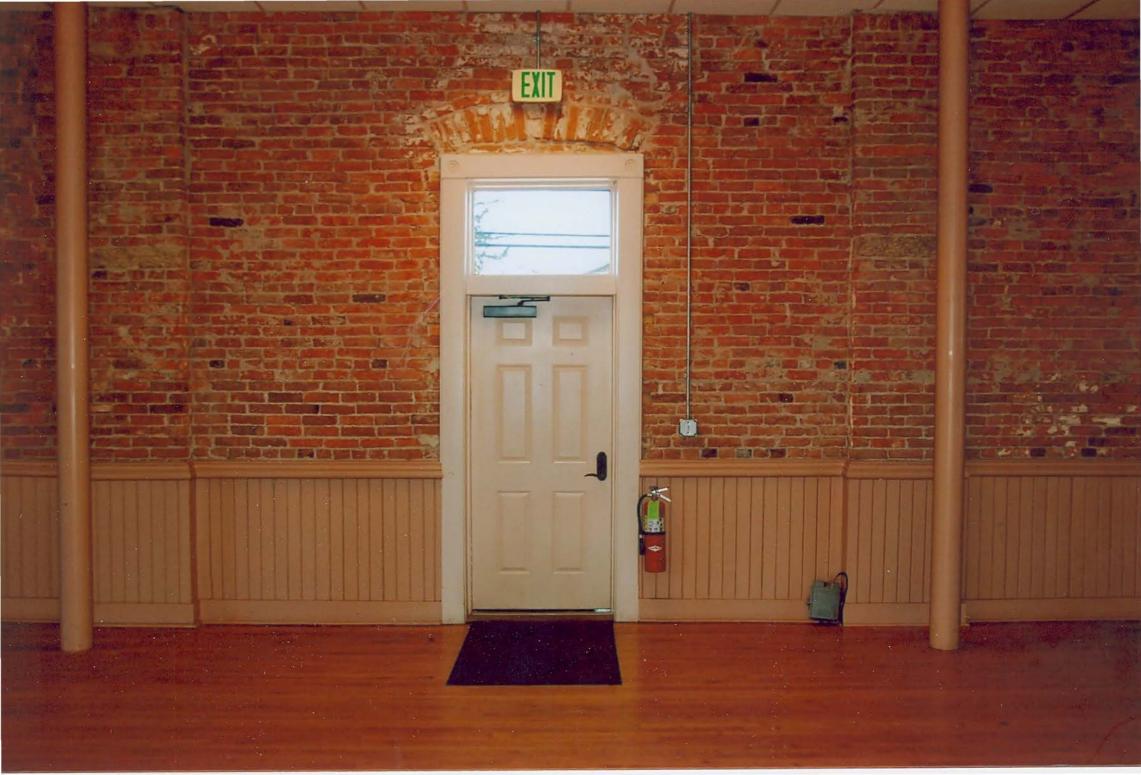














## UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Meeker I.O.O.F. Lodge--Valentine Lodge No. 47 NAME:

MULTTPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: COLORADO, Rio Blanco

DATE RECEIVED: 1/31/14 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 2/24/14 DATE OF 16TH DAY: 3/11/14 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 3/19/14 DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 14000060

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N OTHER:NPDIL:NPERIOD:NPROGRAM UNAPPROVED:NREQUEST:NSAMPLE:NSLR DRAFT:NNATIONAL:N COMMENT WAIVER: N **V**ACCEPT

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Entered in The National Register of Historic Places

RECOM./CRITERIA\_\_\_\_\_

REVIEWER DISCIPLINE

TELEPHONE DATE

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.



RECEIVED 2280 JAN 31 2014 OFFICE of ARCHAEOLOGY and HISTORIC PRESERVATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

January 29, 2014

Carol Shull Acting Keeper of the National Register National Register of Historic Places 1201 Eye "I" Street, N.W. 8th Floor (MS 2280) Washington, D.C. 20005-5905

Re: National Register Nomination for the I.O.O.F Lodge - Valentine Lodge No. 47, 400 Main Street, Meeker, Rio Blanco County, Colorado (5RB.2245)

Dear Ms. Shull:

We are pleased to submit for your review the enclosed National Register of Historic Places nomination of the I.O.O.F Lodge - Valentine Lodge No. 47. In accordance with the new submission policy, enclosed please find:

- CD with PDF nomination for the I.O.O.F Lodge Valentine Lodge No. 47 Note: The enclosed disk contains the true and correct copy of the nomination for the I.O.O.F Lodge - Valentine Lodge No. 47 to the National Register of Historic Places.
- CD with TIF images
- Copy of portion of USGS map and copy of enlarged portion of USGS map
- Physical nomination with original signature

The State Review Board reviewed the nomination at its meeting on January 17, 2014. The board voted unanimously to recommend to the State Historic Preservation Officer that the nomination met the criteria for listing in the National Register.

We look forward to the listing of this nomination. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at (303) 866-4684 or at heather.peterson@state.co.us.

Best regards, a Heather Peterson

National & State Register Historian

Enclosures above noted