NPS Form 10-900 (Rev. Aug. 2002)	RECEIVED 2280 Expires 1-31-2009)
United States Department of the Interior National Park Service	SEP 03 2008
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM	NAT. REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete* the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If 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 categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Prope	rty			_		
Historic name	Grant Street C	Brocery and Market				
Other names/site r	umber					_
2. Location						
Street & Number	815 South Grant Stre	et			Not for Publication	
City or Town	Casper				Vicinity	
ong or room						
State	Wyoming	Code	WY County	Natrona	Code	025

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for re Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 <u>X</u> meets	gistering properties in the National Register of CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property this property be considered significant
Mary M. Hophins Signature of certifying official	
State or Federal Agency or Tribal government In my opinion, the propertymeetsdoes not meet the National Register criteria.	(See continuation sheet for additional comments.)
Signature of commenting official/Title	Date
State or Federal agency and bureau	

USDI/NPS NRHP Registration Form

4. National Park Service Certification		Date of Action
I, hereby certify that this property is:	Signature of Keeper	12 15 05
<pre> entered in the National Register</pre>	Junda Hellard	10/10/00
See continuation sheet. determined eligible for the		/ /
National Register		
See continuation sheet.		
determined not eligible for the National Register		
removed from the National		
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other (explain):		
5. Classification		
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Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "N/A" if property is not N/A part of a multiple property listing.)

USDI/NPS NRHP Registration Form

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Historic Function	ns (Enter categories from instructions)		
	Commerce	Sub:	Department Store
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See Continuation Sheets

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet-Additional Documentation

Section 7 Page 1

Grant Street Grocery and Market Casper, Natrona County, WY

Narrative Description

Grant Street Grocery and Market sits in a residential neighborhood on the corner of Grant Street and Divine Avenue. The west façade, which serves as the primary entrance for the store, has changed little from its original construction in 1921. In contrast, the rear or east elevation contains multiple additions. These alterations, while appearing somewhat haphazard, expanded the store and allowed the owners to provide additional services and products.

The one-story building has a parapet, which hides a gable roof and bears the name Grant Street Grocery. The name, decorative elements, and much of the rear additions are in a dark brown. The majority of the remaining building is tan stucco covering a wood frame that rests on a concrete foundation and is centered on a recessed entrance.

The recessed entrance has two wood panel doors, each of which contains a large lite, allowing a view into the interior of the store. Above each door are one lite transoms. Flanking on either side of the doors are large one lite wood frame display widows. On each side of the entrance, the building is covered with four burgundy panels, approximately five and one-half feet high. These panels are set in aluminum frames above which are four windows in the same aluminum frames. Running the length of the façade, above the two sets of windows and the transoms is a white and brown aluminum awning. In a wood frame, above the awning, are a series of ribbon windows. They contain seven lites separated by a wooden mullion, then four lites and another mullion followed by seven additional lites.

On both the north and south ends of the façade and surrounding the above features are two pilasters topped with a cornice; all painted a dark brown. Capping each pilaster is a stylized urn. Above the cornice and centered on the parapet is the name Grant Street Grocery painted in the same dark brown. Coping covers the parapet and is also painted brown.

Both the north and south elevations are relatively unadorned. Each elevation is covered in tan stucco interrupted by pilasters. On these elevations, the parapet, also protected by coping, steps down from sixteen feet to twelve feet.

The north elevation, on the west end near the façade, is projected slightly outward about two inches, for two feet in length. Continuing east along the elevation are three pilasters each between eleven and twelve feet apart. This elevation is interrupted by two window openings. The first, centered between the first and second pilasters, currently holds an air-conditioner. The second, centered between the second and third pilasters, is a wood frame hopper window with three lites.

The opposite side of the building or south elevation also has a slight projection of two inches near the west façade. Then five feet four inches to the right is a brick chimney, which is painted dark brown. The top portion of the chimney is deteriorating. Two feet further east is an aluminum-cooling unit that is ten feet in length with an aluminum shed roof. This unit partially conceals a pilaster with only the top portion of the pilaster visible. Another two feet east is a swamp cooler. At the east end of the south elevation is a window opening that is now boarded closed. Just to the right of this, the stucco portion of the building terminates. Beyond the stucco portion, is the side of an addition constructed off the east end of the building.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet-Additional Documentation

Section 7 Page 2

OMB No. 1024-0018 (Expires 1-31-2009)

> Grant Street Grocery and Market Casper, Natrona County, WY

The east elevation, which is the rear of the store, underwent multiple additions since construction in 1921. The various changes obscure much of the original construction. According to county records, the only major additions occurred in 1937; however, the appearance of this elevation indicates multiple, somewhat jumbled alterations, which seemed to occur over time.

An addition on the south end of the elevation measuring approximately two and one-half feet by thirteen feet is clad in wood paneling made to appear as vertical wood siding. A shed roof covers it. Another addition, built in the center of the elevation, is constructed of horizontal lap siding with a shed roof. This addition contains two one over one lite wood windows. Vertical bars protect these windows. Separating these two additions is a three foot recessed doorway. Both of these additions are painted the same dark brown as the decorative elements on the façade. The east elevation has a third addition, which unlike the other two, is clad with tan stucco providing the appearance of the rest of the building. Attached to this addition is a small, approximately three feet long and five feet high, storage area, which leads to the final addition.

This larger addition, eighteen feet by twenty-five feet, extends further east. It has a side gable roof with exposed rafters and covered with asphalt shingles. As with the rest of the east elevation, it too has an irregular appearance. It contains a metal door surrounded by a compilation of material. To the left of the door is wood paneling meant to appear as vertical wood siding. On the right side of the door, is a mesh of material; the majority of the top half of the elevation is a piece of corrugated metal seven feet three inches long. The lower half is covered by plywood, which is severely deteriorating, held in place by vertical strips of wood that are beginning to fail. This slightly ramshackle addition abuts to the house immediately to the east. Overall, the rear elevation has a haphazard appearance resulting from the changes and alterations owners made to increase the viability of the store.

The adjacent house, while sharing a common wall with the store, is excluded from the nomination due to its separate legal description, lack of integrity, and a history of separate ownership. Currently, the two properties have separate legal descriptions. Although initially intended as a residence for the storeowners, the store and house shared the same owner for only 31 years. W.H. Brown purchased the land on which the house and store now sit in 1918. According to county records, the following year he built the house and constructed the store in 1921. As alterations occurred to the store and ownership of the properties changed, the rear of the market slowly expanded eastward, edging closer to the house.

The integrity of the store remains, as the alterations occurred within the period of significance. The additions illustrate the changes required to maintain a business for over eight decades. Sitting in the same location, surrounded by the neighborhood it maintains the same feeling and association of a small community business.

The interior of the store also maintains both the feeling and association of a small neighborhood market. The basic size and shape of the store remains from construction in 1921. Only the depth has changed as owners added, altered, or expanded the rear of the store and the back rooms to fit their needs. According to current owner, Bill Wayte, a few of the store's older fixtures still remain. The refrigeration unit, currently holding imported cheese, dates from the mid-1930s and the original butchers block still survives, now used to serve gourmet sandwiches. Although interior display arrangements and layouts may have varied over the past 87 years, the overall feeling is retained. It is a local market serving the surrounding neighborhoods.

8. Statemen	t of Sign	ificance
Applicable Register lis		l Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for Nationa
<u> </u>	A	Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns o our history.
	В	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 Co	onsiderat	ions (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)
	A	owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
-	В	removed from its original location.
-	c	a birthplace or a grave.
-	D	a cemetery.
	E	a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
	F	a commemorative property.
	G	less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.
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Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.) See Continuation Sheets

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet-Additional Documentation

Section 8 Page 3

Grant Street Grocery and Market Casper, Natrona County, WY

Statement of Significance

Grant Street Grocery and Market is eligible under Criterion A due to its association with the development of Casper and the stores survival through changing economic climates during the 1920s and continuing oil boom, the Great Depression, World War II, and the post-World War II era. Established in 1921, Grant Street Grocery served as a family owned grocery and meat market. Over the years, it retained its local neighborhood atmosphere, during varying economic conditions and changes in ownership. Each successive owner adapted the store to fit the needs of the time, yet maintained the store as an essential and integral part of both the immediate neighborhood and the community.

Casper is situated on the bank of the North Platte River in the east central portion of the state. Historically the river served as a path-marking feature for Indians and the earliest white settlers. In the effort to locate a route to the west coast, the Platte River proved the key. Mountain men explored its tributary, the Sweetwater River west of Casper, and found a broad area through the Continental Divide where wagons could pass with ease. The route became the path of more than 300,000 emigrants bound for Utah, California, and Oregon in the 1840s and 1850s. From the 1860s to the 1880s, large cattle ranches were established in the Platte River Valley. Even though these ranches began to emerge, an actual town did not appear until the late 1880s.

Although ranches populated the surrounding area, Casper primarily had its root as a railroad town. It was first laid out in 1888 when the Chicago and North Western Railroad extended its line westward from Nebraska. Casper served as a commercial center for the far-flung ranches and as a major rail shipping point for livestock and agriculture products. At first the ranching-oriented town grew slowly, in 1900 the population was less than nine hundred. However, the commercial production of oil in the area, starting in the 1910s, quickly changed the character of the Casper community. The great Salt Creek Oil Field, located about forty miles north of Casper, was extensively developed after 1910. Casper, strategically located as the nearest railhead to the field, became the major shipping point for oil products.

As a result of these developments, Casper experienced an oil boom period that began in 1913-14 and continued well into the next decade. The major oil companies established their headquarters in Casper, providing employment and injecting capital into the local economy. The population of 2,639 in 1910 nearly doubled in the next five years to 4,040. Casper transformed during the decade and a half boom as the population continued to increase at a staggering rate.

The rising population and the sudden prosperity accelerated community development and the construction of new buildings. This expansion demanded additional local services within walking distance of people's homes. As the city expanded, the neighborhood grocery store became a common sight; in 1923, 60 neighborhood grocery stores existed in Casper.

Among these 60 was the Grant Street Grocery and Market, which is south of downtown Casper in a residential neighborhood. The Carey Brothers, the original landowners, platted Block 136, Lots 1-4 in 1914 and three years later they deeded Lot 4 to W.H. Brown. W. H. Brown founder of the Midwest Commissary Company in 1914, owned the parcel for one year, and then sold it to E.R. Williams. Williams owned several other neighborhood grocery stores including Central Grocery and Market, established in 1915, Blue Front Grocery, established in 1916, and the Grand Grocery, established in 1921. In 1921, Williams built the Grant Street Grocery as a small local market.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet-Additional Documentation

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OMB No. 1024-0018 (Expires 1-31-2009)

> Grant Street Grocery and Market Casper, Natrona County, WY

A severe depression following World War I left E. R. Williams struggling financially. He chose to lease Grant Street Grocery and Market to Arthur L. LaClair in 1926. Previous ownership of the Pioneer Grocery and Market provided the LaClairs with the experience required to operate a small business. Six years later, Arthur "Art" LaClair and his wife, Mary, purchased the store from E. R. Williams. As an established store, the market never closed during the transfer of ownership.

In order for the business to succeed, the LaClairs expended great effort to make Grant Street Grocery and Market the best in both products and service. Arthur traveled to meat markets south of Buffalo, Wyoming to procure quality pork, while ordering butter from Sheridan, Wyoming and cottage cheese from Seattle, Washington. During the holidays, he drove 100 miles east of Casper to Lusk and hand picked turkeys, which he then delivered. The LaClairs not only delivered during the holiday season, but also offered deliveries six days a week. Striving to continue the best service to their customers, fresh flowers were also available. Adding to the personal service, neighborhood children always received a cookie when they entered Grant Street Grocery; Arthur LaClair became known as the "Cookie Man."

According to local residents, the store expanded as LaClair, who insisted on selling the best meats, built a chicken house at the back of the store. In this building, he fattened, butchered, and dressed his own chickens, turkeys and other small poultry. With the addition of the chicken house, the store then had access to fresh eggs.

In an effort to increase economic viability during the Great Depression, the LaClairs again altered the building and increased the services offered. They enlarged the store to include a bakery, the first in-store bakery in Casper. According to county records, in 1937 the LaClairs built an addition at the rear of the building into which they relocated the chicken house. The new bakery then moved into the old chicken room. As another way to maintain the store, Arthur and Mary's family worked with them. Their daughter became the family bookkeeper, Mary's sister served as Casper's first woman butcher, and Arthur's siblings also worked in the store. These changes proved to be an advantage to the store as the economic instability required different avenues of revenue.

Due to Arthur's poor health, he and Mary sold the store to Walt and Marian Schlessman in 1946. The Schlessmans maintained the local market in the growing Casper area. They provided fresh fruit and meat, knew customers by name, and continued to make deliveries once a day.

In the early fifties, they joined the Associated Grocers of Colorado, a co-op within which small non-chain stores could purchase and sell competitively with larger stores. Customers continued to shop at the small store as it still offered excellent service and quality products. Although most small grocery stores began disappearing, Grant Street Grocery survived the onslaught of chain stores.

When the Schlessmans decided to sell, they sought someone with experience in running a local business who would maintain the store's atmosphere. J.R. Jones and his son, Scott, purchased the store in July of 1980. They continued the same practices of their predecessors and as the other neighborhood stores dwindled, Grant Street Grocery remained financially stable.

The current owners wanted to maintain the local market tradition. Bill and Nancy Wayte purchased Grant Street Grocery and Market in 2004. They still have charge accounts and a regular clientele of 250 customers, most of whom they know by name. In order to increase business, they now offer a selection of specialty items and gourmet

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet-Additional Documentation

Section 8 Page 5

Grant Street Grocery and Market Casper, Natrona County, WY

sandwiches, added an imported cheese line, and still have the best meat in town. As a local resident stated, this is "not a store - it is a market with a little bit extra."

Grant Street Grocery and Market was established in 1921 during the oil boom and expansive growth of Casper. It continued to serve the neighborhood through various financial climates. The owners sustained the market by maintaining a local atmosphere, providing quality service and products, and adapting to the changing economic environment. Grant Street Grocery survived and remains the sole neighborhood grocery store in Casper.

9. Major Bibliogra	anhical Refer	ences				
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11. Form Prepare	ed By					
Name/title	Connie Bry	ant - Commission	Member			-
Organization	Casper His	storic Preservation	Commission	Date	May 1, 2008	_
Street & number	PO Box 59	18		Telephone	307-472-5041	_
City or town	Mills			State WY	Zip code 82644	
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NPS Form 10-900-a (8-02) United States Department of the Interior

National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet-Additional Documentation

Section 9 Page 6

Major Bibliographic References

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OMB No. 1024-0018 (Expires 1-31-2009)

> Grant Street Grocery and Market Casper, Natrona County, WY

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet-Additional Documentation

Section 9 Page 7

Grant Street Grocery and Market Casper, Natrona County, WY

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet-Additional Documentation

Section 10 Page 8

Geographical Data

Boundary Description

Grant Street Grocery and Market occupies Casper Block 136 Lot 4 East 85'

Boundary Justification

This is the legal boundary of the property. The adjacent house, which abuts the store, is excluded from the nomination due to its separate legal description and a history of separate ownership. Lot 4 West 55' at times shared the same owner as the East 85'. However, since the store's construction in 1921, the store and house only shared the same owner for 31 years.

OMB No. 1024-0018 (Expires 1-31-2009)

> Grant Street Grocery and Market Casper, Natrona County, WY

Additional Docum	nentation		
Submit the followi	ng items with the completed form:		
Continuat	tion Sheets		
Maps			
	A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indica	ting the property's location.	
4	A sketch map for historic districts and propert	ies having large acreage or numerous resources.	
Photograp	phs		
	Representative black and white photographs o	f the property.	
Additiona	al items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for an	y additional items)	
Property Owner			
Property Owner	m at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)		
Property Owner			
Property Owner (Complete this iter	m at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)	Telephone	
Property Owner (Complete this iter Name	m at the request of the SHPO or FPO.) William and Nancy Wayte		

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.). A federal agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to range from approximately 18 hours to 36 hours depending on several factors including, but not limited to, how much documentation may already exist on the type of property being nominated and whether the property is being nominated as part of a Multiple Property Documentation Form. In most cases, it is estimated to average 36 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form to meet minimum National Register documentation requirements. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, 1849 C St., NW, Washington, DC 20240.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

Grant Street Grocery and Market PROPERTY NAME :

MULTIPLE NAME :

STATE & COUNTY: WYOMING, Natrona

DATE OF PENDING LIST: 9/22/08 9/03/08 DATE RECEIVED: 10/17/08 DATE OF 45TH DAY: DATE OF 16TH DAY: 10/07/08 DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 08001005

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL:	N	DATA PROBLEM:	N	LANDSCAPE:	N	LESS THAN 50 YEARS:	N
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COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT

RETURN REJECT

DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Significant in local commuce and reflective laspar's economic prospenty consisting the oil mg the 1920s and its expansion geowth, this were store is one of the few to survive the every store is one of the few to survive the rights g roughly 60 that once secured ents in following once con RECOM . ullas DISCIPLINE REVIEWER TELEPHONE 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.

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9-7-07 Grant Street Grocery & Market, Front Located at 815 Grant Street Casper, Wyoming Natrona County View is SE looking at the (NW) Front Of the Bldg. Photographer: Richard Collier



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9-7-07
Grant Street Grocery & Market, Front
Located at 815 Grant Street
Casper, Wyoming
Natrona County
View is South looking at the (NW) Front
of the bldg.
Photographer: Richard Collier
7
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9-7-07
Grant Street Grocery + Market
Located at 815 Grant Street
Casper, Wyoming
Natrona County
View is East looking at the (NW) front
of the bldg.
Photographer: Richard Collier
 6
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9-7-07
Grant Street Grocery + Market
Located at 815 Grant St.
Casper, Wyoming
Natrona County
View is East
Photographer: Richard Collier
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9-7-07
Grant Street Grocery + Market, Rear of Grocery
Located at 815 Grant St.
Casper, Wyoming
Natrona County
View is North looking at (SE) rear of the Grocery
Photographer: Richard Collier
4
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6
9-7-07
Grant Street Grocery and Market, rear of Grocery + House
Located at 815 Grant St.
Casper, Wyoming
Natrona County
View is NE looking at (SE) rear of Grocery and
(SW) Front of house
Photographer: Richard Collier
 3
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9.7-07
Grant Street Grocery and Market, Grocery + House
Located at 815 Grant St.
Casper, Wyoming
Natrona County
View is NE
Photographer: Richard Collier
2
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State Historic Preservation Office Barrett Building, 3rd Floor 2301 Central Avenue Cheyenne, WY 82002 Phone: (307) 777-7697 Fax: (307) 777-6421 http://wyoshpo.etate.wy.us RECEIVED 2280 SEP 0 3 2008

28 August 2008

Janet Matthews Keeper of the National Register of Historic Places National Park Service 1201 Eye St., NW 8th Floor (MS 2280) Washington, DC 20005

Re: Submission of the Grant Street Grocery and Market, the Hotel LaBonte, the Gillette Post Office, and Platte County Court House Nominations

Dear Ms. Matthews:

The Wyoming State Historic Preservation Office is submitting the Grant Street Grocery and Market, the Hotel LaBonte, the Gillette Post Office, and Platte County Court House nominations for your review, which the State Review Board accepted and Mary Hopkins, the Wyoming Interim State Historic Preservation Officer, signed.

Please contact me at 307-777-7828 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Kara Hahn

Kara Hahn

National Register Program Coordinator Wyoming State Historic Preservation Office 2301 Central Avenue Cheyenne, WY 82002 307-777-7828



Dave Freudenthal, Governor Milward Simpson, Director