3. State/Federal	authority under t	the National Historic P		966, as amended, I hereby cer
2. Location street & number 8 city or town Whea state Wyoming		county Platte	code <u>031</u>	not for publication <u>N/A</u> vicinity <u>N/A</u> zip code <u>82201</u>
Name of Proper historic name <u>Plat</u> other names/site r	te County Court	house		
NATIONAL REGIST REGISTRATION FO		C PLACES	NAT. R	EGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
United States Department of the Interior National Park Service			1303	SEP 0 3 2008
		fior	7 - 1 - No. 1 - A	SEP 0.3 2008

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

State or Federal agency and bureau

Wheatland, Wyoming (Page 2) 4. National Park Service Certification I hereby certify that this property is: ———————————————————————————————————	DI/NPS NRHP Register County Courthou	e		
I hereby certify that this property is: entered in the National Register See continuation sheet determined eligible for the National Register See continuation sheet determined not eligible for the National Register removed from the National Register other (explain):	eatiand, vvyoming (age 2)		
entered in the National Register See continuation sheet. determined eligible for the National Register See continuation sheet. determined not eligible for the National Register removed from the National Register other (explain):	National Park Service	Certification		
See continuation sheet. determined eligible for the National RegisterSee continuation sheet. determined not eligible for the National Register removed from the National Register other (explain):	ereby certify that this	property is:		1.11
See continuation sheet determined not eligible for the National Register removed from the National Register other (explain):			Linda McChilland	10/14/08
determined not eligible for the National Register removed from the National Register other (explain):			al Register	
other (explain):			ional Register	
			er	
Signature of Keeper Date of Action	_ otner (explain):			
	Signature of Keeper		Date of Action	
5. Classification	Classification			
Ownership of Bronosty (Charless many haves as apply)	nombin of Dronach	Charle as many b	avec en energy	
Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply) private	보이 이용 보이 되어보니까지 되어 없는 것이 되었다. 그런 그리고 그리고 그래?	Sheck as many be	oxes as apply)	
X public-local				
public-State				
_ public-Federal	_ public-Fede	al		
Category of Property (Check only one box)	egory of Property (C	neck only one box	x)	
X building(s)		100		
district	district			
_ site				
_ structure	the second secon			
_ object	_ object			
Number of Resources within Property	mber of Resources v	thin Property		
Contributing Noncontributing				
1 _ buildings	1			
_ sites				
_ structures				
objects	7 7			

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: N/A

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

USDI/NPS NRHP Registration Form Platte County Courthouse Wheatland, Wyoming (Page 3)

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: GOVERNMENT Sub: courthouse

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: GOVERNMENT Sub: courthouse

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: LATE 19TH AND EARLY 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS

Sub: Neo-Classical Revival

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation stone

roof <u>built up tar and gravel, tin</u>
walls <u>brick and stone, terra cotta</u>

other galvanized iron (cornice, pediment)

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

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 1

Platte County Courthouse Platte County, Wyoming

7. Description

The Platte County Courthouse, constructed in 1917, is located at 800 Ninth Street, in the commercial district of downtown Wheatland. It was designed by the Baerreson Brothers, a Denver, Colorado, architectural firm with a branch office in Cheyenne, and constructed by Archie Allison, a Cheyenne building contractor. It is a two-story brick and stone masonry building and is the most imposing edifice in downtown Wheatland. Many early twentieth-century commercial buildings line the east and west sides of Ninth Street, the main north-south thoroughfare through downtown Wheatland. The courthouse occupies the entire west half of Block 68 at the northeast corner of Ninth Street and Maple Street and is surrounded by a landscaped lawn with hand-planted trees and shrubs. The Law Enforcement Center Addition, a modern brick masonry building constructed in 1977, is attached to the garden level of the courthouse on the east (rear). The Platte County Sheriff building, a modern building, is located due east and across the alley from the courthouse. The Wheatland Public Library and the Wheatland Post Office, both modern buildings, are located in the next block north of the courthouse on the north side of Walnut Street. Two early twentieth-century commercial buildings, contemporary with the courthouse, line the west side of Ninth Street directly west of the courthouse. A large modern commercial building (the Coleman Building) occupies the lots on the south or opposite side of Maple Street from the courthouse.

Two monuments occupy the grounds immediately surrounding the courthouse. The most prominent is located at the southwest corner of the block and consists of a reproduction of the Statue of Liberty set on a rectangular marble base with brass plaques. One of the plaques state: "This monument is Dedicated to the Men and Women of Platte County Who Served in the United States Armed Forces in World War II." The original monument was designed by Harry E. Dearinger and was dedicated on November 7, 1943. It was restored by the WTK Woman's Club and rededicated on November 11, 1966. A monument entitled "The Irrigator" is located at the northwest corner of the block and depicts a statue of a farmer/irrigator set on a stone base with a brass plaque. The statue was commissioned by the Wyoming Centennial Committee and sculpted by Carl Jensen. It was dedicated on June 23, 1990, "to those whose livelihood had depended, does depend and will depend upon Wyoming's land and water."

Exterior

The courthouse is a two-story brick and stone masonry building (overall dimensions 96'4" north-south by 75' east-west) with a cross-shaped ground plan. The central portion measures 44' N-S by 75' E-W, and the north and south wings each measure 26'2" N-S by 53' E-W. The interior contains two main floors and a basement level. The courthouse faces west and fronts on Ninth Street. The foundation consists of stone laid in regular courses with regularly-spaced windows on all sides. Originally, the windows consisted of three over

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 2

Platte County Courthouse Platte County, Wyoming

one-light double-hung units, but they have been replaced with metal units consisting of two fixed upper lights with two small, side by side one-light horizontal sliding units at their base. The cornerstone for the building was laid on June 20, 1917, by the State Grand Master of the Masonic Lodge, Herbert J. King of Laramie, and is located at the southwest corner of the foundation. A shallow two-story projecting pavilion is centered on the facade of the courthouse but is nearly covered by a two-story monumental portico supported by four smooth columns covered with terra cotta and exhibiting lonic capitals and attic bases. Although the original plans called for a stone base or plinth for each column, brick was substituted. The columns are hollow and the center two columns have a steel beam core. The north and south columns are halved and are combined with square brick pilasters. The portico has a pediment roof and a pronounced galvanized iron cornice with dentils. The frieze bears a terra cotta panel inscribed with the words: "PLATTE COUNTY COURT HOUSE." A set of stone steps lead up to the main entrance and is flanked by low stone walls upon which cast iron lampposts are mounted.

One set of twin-leaf, glass and metal doors with transom open into a vestibule area, which has two sets of one-light twin-leaf wooden doors that open into the interior of the building. These doors are original and have transom lights with X-pattern muntins. A recessed terra cotta panel centered above the entrance is inscribed "A.D. 1917." A decorative terra cotta lintel above the entrance repeats the pediment shape of the portico. The first story of the portico contains tall, paired one-light fixed windows with two small horizontal sliding windows below. The units have metal sash and terra cotta sills set on either side of the door. The second story of the portico contains three similar windows aligned with the first story windows; however, these windows are taller. Originally all of the windows in the courthouse featured decorative X-pattern muntins in the upper lights, as did the transom over the door. However, when all of the windows were replaced at an unknown date, this feature was lost. Windows in the remainder of the facade are vertically aligned on the first and second stories and consist of recessed one-light fixed triple windows with two horizontal sliding windows at the bottom of each unit. The window bays have terra cotta sills accented with brick pilasters with terra cotta capitals that repeat the theme of the columns in the portico. The principal building corners also consist of brick pilasters with terra cotta capitals and stone bases. The tan brick wall of the facade has longitudinal recessed panels on either side of the window groupings and rectangular recessed panels under the second-story windows. A pronounced galvanized iron comice with dentils encircles the building. A brick parapet capped with galvanized iron rises above the cornice on all four sides of the building. The central portion of the courthouse has a gently sloping gable roof that is slightly higher than the portico roof but at the same pitch and is covered with tin with standing seams. The remainder of the building has a flat roof covered with tar and gravel. A tall rectangular interior brick chimney rises high above the southeast flat-roofed segment of the building.

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Section 7 Page 3

Platte County Courthouse Platte County, Wyoming

The rear or east side of the courthouse generally repeats the elements of the facade with a centered two-story advance pavilion, but without the monumental portico. The advance pavilion has slightly flared eaves and a semi-circular window with terra cotta arch, keystone, and sill. It contains a rectangular-shaped fixed window in the center that is flanked by louvers. Other repeated elements consist of the pronounced galvanized iron cornice with dentils and brick parapet capped with galvanized iron. The first and second story windows are aligned vertically, but the windows on each side of the portico that are triple sets on the facade are paired sets of windows in the east elevation. Two single windows are located near the junction of the advance pavilion with the north-south wall on the first and second stories in the south wing, and there is a single window aligned between the first and second story windows in the north wing. A single entry door with a stone lintel is located at the basement level aligned directly below this window. Originally it provided the only access to the east side of the building. However, in 1977, a one-story flat-roofed brick masonry Law Enforcement Center addition (77' N-S x 35'8" E-W) was constructed onto the east side of the garden level of the courthouse. The south wall of the addition aligns with the south wall of the original advance pavilion of the courthouse and continues north past the north building wall of the original courthouse component. The color of the brick generally matches that of the courthouse. The east side of the addition has seven evenly-spaced window bays, a single recessed pedestrian entry near its center, and an overhead garage door bay near the south end of the east side. Due to its location and low profile, the new addition is not generally visible from Ninth Street on the west or noticeable from Maple Street on the south.

The south and north sides of the courthouse are identical, and the fenestration pattern of the facade has been continued with four pairs of windows vertically aligned in the first and second stories of each side. A joined pair of windows is centered over the entrance. The pronounced cornice and brick parapet are also repeated. Both sides have a single centered pedimented entry with stone steps and stone half walls with iron pipe railings. Originally, these entries had twin-leaf one-light wooden doors with transom lights in an X-pattern. However, the doors have been replaced with one-light steel doors, and the transoms contain a single light. The south entrance is still in use, but the north entrance has been closed off.

Interior

The original architectural plans (included with this nomination) designate the interior floors as basement, first floor, and second floor As built, the basement contained the boiler room for a steam boiler, a coal room with an outside coal chute on the east side, two storage vaults, and a padded cell, all located in the east arm of the cross-shaped floor plan. The Superintendent of Schools and the County Engineer offices were located in the south wing. The west wing contained the Surveyor's Room, the Janitor's Room with living quarters, and a store room. The north wing contained the Sheriff's Quarters along with living quarters. The basement has since been renovated with plaster walls with wood panel wainscoting, dropped acoustic tile

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

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Platte County Courthouse Platte County, Wyoming

ceilings with fluorescent lighting, and carpeting. However, the original walk-in vault, constructed by the Diebold Safe & Lock Co., Canton, Ohio, remains in place. The County Commissioners' offices are now located in the basement.

The main entrance on the west side (Ninth Street) opens onto a vestibule. The floor of the vestibule features white and black patterned terrazzo tile. Two sets of twin-leaf glass and wood doors (original) open to a short inner stairway leading to the first floor of the courthouse. The north and south entrances are laid out in the same manner with smaller vestibules and only one set of twin-leaf doors. The north entrance is now shut off from access. The first floor has a T-shaped hallway; the short segment from the main or west entrance forms the base of the T and intersects a longer north-south hallway. The first floor hallway has white and black terrazzo tile floors, plaster walls, and retains the original wooden moldings, trim, baseboards, and wood panel doors with original casings and crowns; however, it now has a dropped acoustic tile ceiling with fluorescent lighting. The entire wooden stairway and ornate balustrade remain intact from the basement to the second floor, although the stair treads have been carpeted. The heads of the newel posts are handcarved. The first floor was originally laid out with the County Clerk and the Sheriff's Offices located in the north wing: the County Assessor and Treasurer Offices occupied the south wing, and the jail occupied the east wing. The jail contained six individual cells of four bunks each, a lockup room, and a jailor's room. The west wing contained a room for the County Commissioners and an office for the County Attorney. The County Clerk's Office now occupies the area where the jail was formerly located. The County Treasurer and Tax Assessor Offices remain on the first floor. The offices retain original wood moldings, trim, baseboards, and window and door casings and crowns. Interior doors and transoms contain smoked glass. The County Clerk's Office retains a large walk-in vault with the original steel door. A central elevator has also been installed to provide access to the basement and two floors. A wooden cabinet with a glass door contains the Directory for the building.

The second floor was originally occupied by the courtroom in the east wing with the judge's bench located at the north end of the room and the jury box situated to his right in the northwest corner. The Judge's Rooms and Clerk of Court occupied the north wing; the Jury Room and Witness Rooms (male and female separated) occupied the south wing. The Consultation Room and Law Library occupied the west wing. The original second floor layout has largely been retained. The second story hallway and rooms have been carpeted and are equipped with dropped acoustic tile ceilings with fluorescent lighting. Otherwise, they retain plaster walls, wood moldings and baseboards and original wood panel doors, casings and crowns and window casings and sills.

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Applic	able N	lational Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for gister listing)
X	Α	Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
-	В	Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
X	С	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.
Δ,	D	Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.
Criteri	a Con	siderations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)
_	Α	owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
-	В	removed from its original location.
Z	С	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.
Areas	ARC	nificance (Enter categories from instructions) HITECTURE TICS/GOVERNMENT
Period	of Sig	gnificance 1917 to 1958

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

February 15, 1918 (dedication)

Cultural Affiliation N/A

Architect/Builder Baerresen Brothers, Architects
Archie Allison, Contractor and Builder

Significant Dates June 20, 1917 (cornerstone laid)

USDI/NPS NRHP	Registration Form
Platte County Co	urthouse
Wheatland, Wyor	ming (Page 5)

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

9. Major Bibliographical References

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

Prev	ious documentation on file (NPS)
	preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
	previously listed in the National Register
ŭ.	previously determined eligible by the National Register
	designated a National Historic Landmark
	recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #
-	recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #
Prim	ary Location of Additional Data
X	State Historic Preservation Office
	Other State agency
	Federal agency
<u></u>	Local government (Platte County Courthouse)
	University
\overline{x}	Other
_	e of repository: Wyoming State Archives, Cheyenne

See Continuation sheets for continued bibliography

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property: approximately 1.3 acres

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

Zone Easting Northing 1 13 503943 4655761

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

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

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

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Platte County Courthouse Platte County, Wyoming

8. Significance

Constructed in 1917, the two-story, brick and stone masonry Platte County Courthouse is eligible to the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A, because it represents the early twentieth-century political growth of Platte County, which was created in 1911. Wheatland was chosen as the county seat, and the courthouse has continuously housed the important offices of the county government for over ninety years. It is the largest and most architecturally imposing edifice in the Town of Wheatland and Platte County and therefore reflects the confidence of the citizens of the county in their governmental institutions. The building is also eligible under Criterion C, because it is an outstanding example of early twentieth-century Neo-Classical Revival architecture in a public building. Baerresen Brothers, Architects, a prominent Denver, Colorado, architectural firm, designed the building. The exterior of the courthouse remains largely intact with only minimal changes. It retains several important architectural features, the most notable being the two-story monumental portico supported by four smooth columns exhibiting Ionic capitals and attic bases, and a pronounced galvanized iron cornice with dentils encircles the building. The building also features a unique interior layout designed for the various public offices, including a jail that has been converted to the County Clerk's Office, as well as County Commissioners' Offices, a second-story Courtroom, Jury Room, Witness Rooms, and Clerk of Court. Although portions of the interior have been remodeled, it still retains much of the original wood moldings, trim, baseboards, and wood panel doors with original casings and crowns, segments of white and black terrazzo tile floors, plaster walls, and a wooden stairway with ornate balustrade from the basement to the second floor.

The Wheatland Colony

Joseph M. Carey was the first to envision a productive agricultural region and a prosperous city on the plains east of Laramie Peak as the result of an irrigation system. Carey resided in Cheyenne but owned a large ranch at Careyhurst near today's Casper and developed his idea during the long horse-and-buggy trips back and forth through the area. On August 10, 1883, he and six other prominent men formed the Wyoming Development Company. The stated objectives were to develop an irrigation system and to "lay out a town and supply it with water, together with any railways, tramways, mills or factories that might be necessary." The endeavor was not a true agricultural colony in the sense of a cooperative, but rather consisted of individual irrigated farms. The Company was composed of Andrew Gilchrist, a rancher and banker; John M. Hoyt, the Postmaster at Cheyenne; Sir Horace C. Plunkett, a member of the British Parliament with extensive business interests in the western states; Carey, a U.S. Senator and later Governor of Wyoming; Francis E. Warren, a rancher and later U.S. Senator; and William C. Irvine, later Secretary of State and Senator.

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Section 8 Page 6

Platte County Courthouse Platte County, Wyoming

Water was diverted from the Laramie River in the Laramie Basin west of the Laramie Mountains. A survey was conducted in 1882, and in 1883 work began on portions of the large irrigation system. Construction involved boring a short tunnel and tunnel ditch in the Laramie Range needed to divert the water from the Laramie River into Blue Grass Creek on the east side of the range, which in turn flowed into Sybille Creek. Canal Nos. 1 and 2 then diverted water from Sybille Creek onto the lands that were to be irrigated. The headgate for the system was located at the main diversion tunnel near the head of Bluegrass Creek approximately twenty-five miles west-southwest of Wheatland. This appropriation was used to water an estimated 58,264 acres and dated from May 23, 1883.

An advertisement by the Wyoming Development Company in 1896 urged settlers to come to the "Wheatland Colony," situated ninety-six miles north of Cheyenne along the Cheyenne and Northern Railroad. The colony consisted of 60,000 acres of "the most fertile land to be found anywhere in the West." Land prices started at twenty dollars per acre, which included a perpetual water right. The irrigation system continued to expand with a small reservoir at Rock Lake to conserve the natural drainage water. In 1901-02, the huge No. 2 Reservoir was built along the Laramie River west of the mountains in Albany County to provide additional water to the system.

The Wheatland Colony became a Carey Act project, also the brainchild of Senator Joseph M. Carey. The Carey Act was adopted in August 1894 and was designed to supply federal and state aid to irrigation projects. The federal government could donate up to one million acres of arid lands to each state having such lands, under the condition that the state cause the lands to be reclaimed and settled by actual settlers on small tracts. Wyoming became the first state to accept the federal government's offer under the Carey Act. Carey Act lands were thus added to the Wheatland project in what were called the Sybille Tract and Bordeaux Tract, nearly doubling the amount of land in the project. The lands were advertised by the Wyoming Development Company in pamphlets replete with maps and encouraging statistics.

An integral part of the plan was to create a town, but actual town construction did not begin until 1893, in part due to a bitter controversy between two factions over the proposed location. One faction favored a location on the flat south of the present city park, where F.L. Miner had erected a store. Others favored the present site, where the Wyoming Development Company had erected an office from lumber hauled from a sawmill on Slate Creek. The Company called a public meeting, and a vote was taken favoring the present location. In July 1887, the Cheyenne and Northern Railway (later the Colorado and Southern) constructed a rail line through the region to the vicinity of Guernsey, and in 1894 built a depot at the new townsite at Wheatland. The Wyoming Development Company built quarters for carpenters and for its headquarters. Jeff Reed, a foreman for canal construction, was hired to help establish the townsite. On October 19, 1894, I.O. Middough established the Wheatland World, the first newspaper in Wheatland. Charles Goodrich built a

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Platte County Courthouse Platte County, Wyoming

brickyard in Wheatland in the mid-1890s, and many of the early commercial buildings were constructed from the pressed bricks manufactured there. An example was the Globe Hotel, constructed in 1894-95 at the northwest corner of Gilchrist Avenue and Eighth Street. The two-story building was operated by D.D. Wallace with a fine dining room on the first floor and rooms on the second floor. (The hotel was razed in 1980s for a parking lot.) The Commercial Hotel operated on the southeast corner of the same intersection and was established by T.J. Carroll, who came to Wheatland in 1895. The hotel was originally located on the site of the Wheatland Roller Mills on the north side of Gilchrist Avenue, then was moved to the latter location directly across from the railroad depot in about 1902. In the early 1900s, promoters organized excursion trips to the Wheatland area for prospective settlers via the railroad, and the Commercial Hotel became an integral part of the tour. Water from Canal No. 2 was diverted into ditches that lined each street, furnishing water for gardens and lawns, livestock and people. In 1897, the Wheatland Roller Mill Company, managed by W.H. Morrison, constructed a brick flour mill along the railroad tracks on the east side of Eighth Street across from the Globe Hotel. It processed the wheat grown throughout the irrigation project and received a gold medal at the 1904 World's Fair.

By 1895, Wheatland had a public school with thirteen pupils. By 1914, the town had a grade school, a school for seventh and eighth grades, and a modern high school with eleven classrooms, large gymnasium, library, and laboratory. The high school retained five teachers and offered a four-year course of study that included English, Latin, German, Commerce, Science, and Agriculture. This building was also built of Goodrich brick; it was demolished in 1964. A new high school building was constructed in 1927 between Twelfth and Thirteenth Streets on the north side of Oak Street but was destroyed by fire in 1973.

The State Bank of Wheatland was organized in 1903 by Silas Doty, the first president, as well as D.W. Brice, M.R. Johnson, Edward M. Banks, and Alexander Bowie. In 1908, the State Bank purchased the business and building of the First National Bank, which had been organized in 1906. The bank started with a capital stock of \$20,000 and by 1914, deposits averaged from \$350,000 to \$400,000. The Stock Growers Bank was organized in 1911, taking over the business of Ayers and Company. The bank featured a vault three stories high with walls three feet thick.

The Carnegie Library was formerly located on the site of the present library at the northeast corner of Ninth and Walnut Streets north of the courthouse. In May 1916, the Carnegie Library Fund gave Platte County \$12,500 to build a library, and it was constructed at about the same time as the courthouse.

In 1904, a census for Wheatland claimed a population of over 475; a petition for the incorporation of the town was signed by 124 residents that same year. In 1906, the first election and the first council meeting

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

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Platte County Courthouse Platte County, Wyoming

were held; thereafter, Wheatland's growth was stable and steady. In 1910, it had a population of 796 and by 1915, it had risen to 810. In 1911, it was designated the county seat for Platte County.

The Wheatland General Hospital, located at the northwest corner of Ninth and Water Streets, was established by Doctor F.W. Phifer in 1913. In 1914, it consisted of fifteen beds, X-ray machine, laboratory, and operating room equipped with "nitrous oxide-oxygen anesthesia." The hospital eventually grew to one hundred beds with a teaching hospital for nurses who were housed nearby. The hospital has since been razed, and a mural of it has been painted on the building that now occupies the location.

Settlers were attracted to the area from Colorado, Nebraska, and Iowa and raised such crops as alfalfa, wheat and oats, and two experimental farms were started that successfully grew corn, potatoes, barley, and sugar beets, as well as hay and other small grains. In 1897, M.R. Johnson introduced sugar beets to the area and advised the farmers in the colony to grow a small batch of beets as an experiment. From these humble beginnings, the sugar beet industry quickly grew, and in 1929-1930, the Great Western Sugar Company constructed a sugar beet factory on the north edge of Wheatland with a capacity for slicing 1600 tons of beets in twenty-four hours. In the early 1940s, the average daily output of the plant was 4000 bags weighing 100 pounds each. The company employed 250 men during the operating season. It was later converted to marble processing.

Water rights were transferred from the Wyoming Development Company to the farmers as the land was sold and occupied. Bordeaux Flats was extended onto state land that could be purchased at fifty cents per acre, but the settler was required to buy the water rights at \$46.00 per acre.

Although the Wheatland community ultimately prospered, the Wyoming Development Company was plagued with financial problems. During the 1930s, the Wheatland Irrigation District was formed to act as a management company for the financially troubled Wyoming Development Company. In about 1936, the Works Progress Administration (WPA) began work on the large Wheatland Reservoir No. 3, located a few miles west of Reservoir No. 2. The dam was completed in 1946. On December 31, 1947, the Wheatland Irrigation District was incorporated; this entity bought out the Wyoming Development Company. However, losses as of 1951 totaled over 1.5 million dollars. The Wheatland Irrigation District is headquartered in Wheatland and currently oversees the irrigation of approximately 54,000 acres.

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Platte County Courthouse Platte County, Wyoming

The Platte County Courthouse

The Eleventh Wyoming State Legislative Assembly passed an act creating Platte County on February 9, 1911. Both Platte and Goshen Counties were carved from the northern portion of Laramie County. A special election was held on April 25, 1911, to decide the location of the county seat, and Wheatland was chosen over Guernsey. However, a full slate of county officials was not elected until November 1912. Platte County's first term of district court convened in Wheatland in March 1913. The first building to serve as a courthouse for Platte County was the Windsor Hotel on Gilchrist Avenue. At first the county commissioners were opposed to the construction of a courthouse, but they subsequently found that they could not properly transact public business "under the handicap of inconvenient office room and working space." In addition, the county was forced to pay \$1,860 per year to rent county offices and to keep prisoners in the town jail, and when the county court met, it was often necessary to rent larger quarters at eight to ten dollars per day.

In 1913, an effort was launched by the Board of County Commissioners to build a courthouse and jail. Meeting on November 5, 1913, the Board called for a special bond election to be held December 16, 1913. The voters were to decide if the Board of County Commissioners should be authorized to issue registered coupon bonds to the amount of \$50,000 "...for the purpose of providing funds for the construction of a Court House and Jail, for purchasing the site therefore, and for the necessary furnishings and equipment of the same." The proclamation was dated November 6, 1913. However, in a meeting held on December 4, 1913, the Board of County Commissioners adopted a resolution stating that it had concluded that the majority of electors of Platte County were opposed to the floating of courthouse and jail bonds at that time, and a special election would be a needless expense. Therefore, the Board resolved that the Proclamation for the Special Election to be held December 16, 1913, was annulled. Ironically, at the same meeting, the Board chose the Baerresen Brothers of Cheyenne to complete plans and specifications for a courthouse and jail. The firm was chosen over William Redding & Son, Denver; W.N. Bowman, Denver; J.L. Chesebro, Salt Lake City; and Leon C. Goodrich, Wheatland. On March 3, 1914, the Board of County Commissioners paid Baerresen Brothers the sum of \$1000.00, indicating that the plans had been completed and accepted.

Once again in May 1916, the Board of County Commissioners drafted a proposition to issue bonds for the building of a courthouse to be voted on during the fall elections. On August 22, 1916, the Wheatland Times stated on the front page that it would cost \$50,000 to build a courthouse to be financed by a one-half of one percent assessed valuation of the county with twenty years to retire the bonds. On November 7, 1916, the courthouse bond issue was approved by voters by a vote of 1203 to 958. On January 3, 1917, the newly elected Board of County Commissioners adopted the resolution to advertise the sale of bonds for the construction of the courthouse and jail and for purchasing the building site and the necessary furnishings and equipment. The bonds were sold to the Keeler Brothers of Denver on February 9, 1917.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8 Page 10

Platte County Courthouse Platte County, Wyoming

The Wheatland Times carried an architect's drawing of the new courthouse, based on the Baerreson Brothers 1914 plans, on its front page on February 14, 1917. The Platte County Improvement Club met on February 17, 1917, and adopted a resolution that the new courthouse should be located in the business district of town as opposed to the residential section. This group held no legal power but represented a membership of influential Wheatland citizens. At a meeting held between Judge Carey and the County Commissioners on March 7, 1917, it was decided that the new courthouse would be built on the west half of Block 68 (Lots 11-20) between Walnut and Maple Streets on Ninth Street in the business district. This location was also adjacent to the site for the new Carnegie Library to be built in Block 69 to the north. The block was owned by the Wyoming Development Company and was purchased by the county via Warranty Deed for \$2,250.

Archie Allison, a Cheyenne building contractor, underbid two Denver contractors, and was awarded the courthouse contract. However, the courthouse plans had been drawn up in 1914, and building costs had risen; therefore, his bid of \$59,996 was nearly \$10,000 higher than the \$50,000 bond issue. As a result, the county commissioners called in the architect, Albert Baerresen, to make several alterations to the plans. The final contract was set at \$52,780, and the building was to be completed by January 1, 1918. The local newspaper rightly pointed out that, with the cost of inflation, the county could have saved \$15,000 if the courthouse had been built in 1914.

The cornerstone for the new courthouse was laid on June 20, 1917, during ceremonies held by the Masonic Grand Lodge of Wyoming, with Grand Master Herbert J. King, of Laramie, presiding. Businesses were closed during the ceremonies, and a large crowd watched the proceedings. By August 1917, the first story of the courthouse had been completed, and it was anticipated that it would be ready for occupation by the first of the year. By early December, county officials anticipated moving into their new quarters in early January, and most of the remaining work involved completing the interior. Finally, a short ceremony was held on the morning of February 15, 1918, as the county court was called to order.

Baerresen Brothers, Architects

The original Platte County Courthouse plans remain intact and have recently been curated in the Wyoming State Archives in Cheyenne. The plans date from 1914, and that date is depicted on the front elevation drawing. "Baerresen Bros. Architects, Cheyenne, Wyoming" is listed on each page of the plans.

Baerresen Brothers, Architects, was a Denver, Colorado, firm that consisted of four Barreresen brothers, Harold, Viggo, Albert, and Willemoes. All were born in Copenhagen, Denmark, where their father owned and operated a shipbuilding yard. The four brothers had a background in construction, architecture, carpentry, and design of buildings, ships, and harbors. Harold Baerresen took a trip around the world at the

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8 Page 11

Platte County Courthouse Platte County, Wyoming

age of fifteen, and when he returned, he apprenticed as a carpenter. In 1864, he was drafted into the army when war broke out between Denmark, Germany and Austria. After the war, he began his studies in architecture. In 1869, he immigrated to the United States and worked in New York as a carpenter. In 1872, Harold moved to Louisville, Kentucky, and worked there for several years in the baby buggy manufacturing business. In March 1879, Harold moved to Denver, Colorado, where he worked as an architect. His brother Viggo arrived in 1884, and the two men formed the firm Baerresen Brothers Architects in 1886. The other two brothers, Albert and Willemoes, established a construction company in Denver.

Baerresen Brothers, Architects, proceeded to design a variety of homes, office buildings, warehouses. and numerous fraternal lodges in Denver and the surrounding area. The firm was noted for their study of hotel design and for bringing to Denver the latest in technology. They designed the Adams Hotel (demolished), which included telephones in every room and the first push button elevator. The Baerresen Brothers also designed the Mosque of the El Jebel Temple, the Romeo Block, and the Tivoli Brewery Opera House and Tower addition, all listed in the National Register of Historic Places, as well as the Engelbach Building (demolished), the main section of St. Joseph's Hospital (demolished), and the All Saints Church of Eben Ezer in Brush, Colorado, also listed in the National Register. The El Jebel Temple, enrolled in the National Register in 1997, was also listed as an official Landmark by the Denver Landmark Commission and the Denver City Council in 1995; it has been identified as one of Denver's top five architecturally significant structures and cited in the City of Denver's Comprehensive Plan as a "priority building." Built in 1907 by the Shriners, the meeting hall reflects Moorish-inspired architecture with an eclectic mix of Moorish, Elizabethan, Arts and Crafts and French Provincial styles with minarets, carvings, arched windows, and an open roof balcony. The interior exhibits exotic fresco work in Egyptian, English Gothic, Turkish, Japanese, and Louis XIV styles in various rooms. The Romeo Block was constructed in 1889 and is a two-story brick Victorian commercial building with storefront fluted pilasters and multi-light clerestories, second-story oriel windows and multi-light transoms, decorative parapet above the cornice, and distinctive comer turret with onion-shaped dome and finial.

Harold Baerresen was a founding member of the Colorado chapter of the American Institute of Architects. Viggo served as Vice Consul for Denmark and Norway for several years while in Denver. After Harold died in 1918, Viggo continued to manage the architectural firm until he retired to California in 1928. The Baerresen Brothers Architects Papers, consisting of architectural drawings, scrapbooks, photographs and newspaper clippings, are housed at the Denver Public Library, Denver.

Albert A. Baerresen was born in Kentucky on January 24, 1874, to Harold William and Rosa Baerresen. He grew up in Denver, Colorado, and later worked as an architect in the family firm. In 1910, he resided with his parents in Denver. In about 1911, Albert A. Baerresen opened the Cheyenne office of Baerresen Brothers,

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8 Page 12

Platte County Courthouse Platte County, Wyoming

Architects. According to Cheyenne City Directories, the Cheyenne branch office was housed in Keefe Hall at 1814-16 Carey Avenue. (This entire block was since razed for bank construction.)

By 1915-16, Baerresen was in partnership with Robert T. Wieger of Sheridan, Wyoming. In 1915, the partners received a commission to design the Hospital/Death House Building and the Kitchen, Dining Room and Chapel Building complex for the Wyoming State Penitentiary. The latter building consisted of a two-story cement and steel addition attached to the original stone cell block. The exterior was covered in stucco and is a plain example of the Mission style with parapeted gables and a ceramic tile roof. The hospital was also a two-story cement and steel building that shared the same spare Mission Style with parapet-rimmed gables, ceramic tile roof, stucco wall finish and an enclosed shed-roofed porch. In addition to the hospital, the building at one time housed the gas chamber and death row. In 1915, the partnership also designed the Superintendent's Residence at the Wyoming State Training School in Lander. This was an attractive two-story brick masonry building with a truncated hipped roof with gable dormers and a prominent exterior chimney. It had a full-facade open porch supported by a series of paired columns and a balustraded veranda on the second story. The roof had extended boxed eaves with dentils and was clad with tile and featured a "widow's walk." The building was constructed at a cost of \$11,000. However, the Baerresen-Wieger partnership proved short-lived, as Albert Baerresen was listed individually in Cheyenne business directories in 1917-18 and 1919-1920.

When Albert registered for the draft in 1918, he was residing with his wife Hazel at 209 East Twentieth Street, Cheyenne, and listed his occupation as an architect. Around 1920, he took in Frederick Hutchinson Porter as a partner, and they advertised a series of home plans in the Home Builders' page of the Wyoming State Tribune during that year. In 1920, Albert was forty-six years old and his wife Hazel was thirty-eight. They had two sons, John, nine, and William, five. In 1921, Baerresen and Porter designed a large two and one-half story residence at 2220 Capitol Avenue for Warren Richardson. Stucco and half-timbered multiple gables created an interesting roofline with extended open eaves and brackets. However, the most dominant feature of the home was a two and one-half story octagonal tower. Richardson became a millionaire in the Salt Creek Oil Field and established Cheyenne's first newspaper, The Cheyenne Daily Leader. This fine residence has since been razed, and the Hathaway Building now occupies this portion of the block.

In 1922, city directories listed both Baerresen and Porter together and Frederick Hutchinson Porter separately. By 1924, directories once again listed Baerresen separately. In 1926, at the age of fifty-two, Baerresen closed his business in Cheyenne and moved to Los Angeles, California. He died there on February 25, 1944.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8 Page 13

Platte County Courthouse Platte County, Wyoming

Conclusion

The functions of the Platte County Courthouse have remained the same for the past ninety years, documenting the activities of its citizens and establishing a permanent record of births and deaths, marriages, divorces and adoptions, real estate and vehicle records, taxes, probate and court records, elections, and a wide array of county business as conducted by the county commissioners and documented in their minutes. As such, the courthouse acts as an archive for the history of Platte County and represents a symbol of the sense of community and permanence for its citizens. The building also serves as an important gathering place for the numerous public activities required of its citizens.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 9 Page 14

Platte County Courthouse Platte County, Wyoming

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 9 Page 15

Platte County Courthouse Platte County, Wyoming

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Newspapers

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- "Carnegie Gives Platte County \$12,500 for Library." The Wheatland Times, 24 May 1916.
- "Commissioners Call for Vote on County Court House Question." The Wheatland Times, 31 May 1916.
- "Cost of a Court House." The Wheatland Times, 22 August 1916, p. 1.
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- "Resolutions Adopted Favoring Business Location Court House." The Wheatland Times, 17 February 1917.
- "People Want Unconditional, Clear Title to Court House Site." The Wheatland Times, 7 March 1917.
- "Court House Site is Selected!" Wheatland World, 9 March 1917, p. 1.
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- "Archie Allison Gets Court House Contract." The Wheatland Times, 11 April 1917, p. 1.
- "Contract For Court House Awarded." Wheatland World, 13 April 1917, p. 1.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 9 Page 16

Platte County Courthouse Platte County, Wyoming

[&]quot;Corner Stone Laid New Court House." Wheatland World, 22 June 1917.

[&]quot;Masons Lay Court House Corner Stone." The Wheatland Times, 27 June 1917.

[&]quot;Court House Progress." The Wheatland Times, 8 August 1917.

[&]quot;Moving Day Soon." Wheatland World, 7 December 1917.

[&]quot;Platte County Court House Dedicated." Guernsey Gazette, Guernsey, Wyoming, 15 February 1918.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 10 Page 17

Platte County Courthouse Platte County, Wyoming

OMB No. 1024-0018

10. Geographical Data

Verbal Boundary Description

The property is located between Walnut and Maple Streets at 800 Ninth Street, Wheatland, Wyoming, and occupies Lots 11-20, Block 68 of the Original Town Plat.

Boundary Description

The boundary is defined by the legal boundary lot lines that the building and the associated grounds occupy.

USDI/NPS NRHP Registration Form Platte County Courthouse Wheatland, Wyoming (Page 6)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Robert G. Rosenberg, Historian organization Rosenberg Historical Consultants street & number 739 Crow Creek Road city or town Chevenne state WY

date <u>April 2008</u> telephone (307) 632-1144 zip code 82009

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

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

Property Owner

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

name Platte County, Wyoming street & number 800 9th Street city or town Wheatland state Wyoming zip code 82201 telephone (307)322-2315, County Clerk WALNUT STREET

MONUMENT : "THE IRRIGATOR" PLATTE CO. SHERIFF BLDG (MODERN) LAW ENFORCEMENT CENTER ADD'N (1977) MINTH STREET FACADE ALLEY PLATTE COUNTY COURTHOUSE MONUMENT: WORLD WAR II

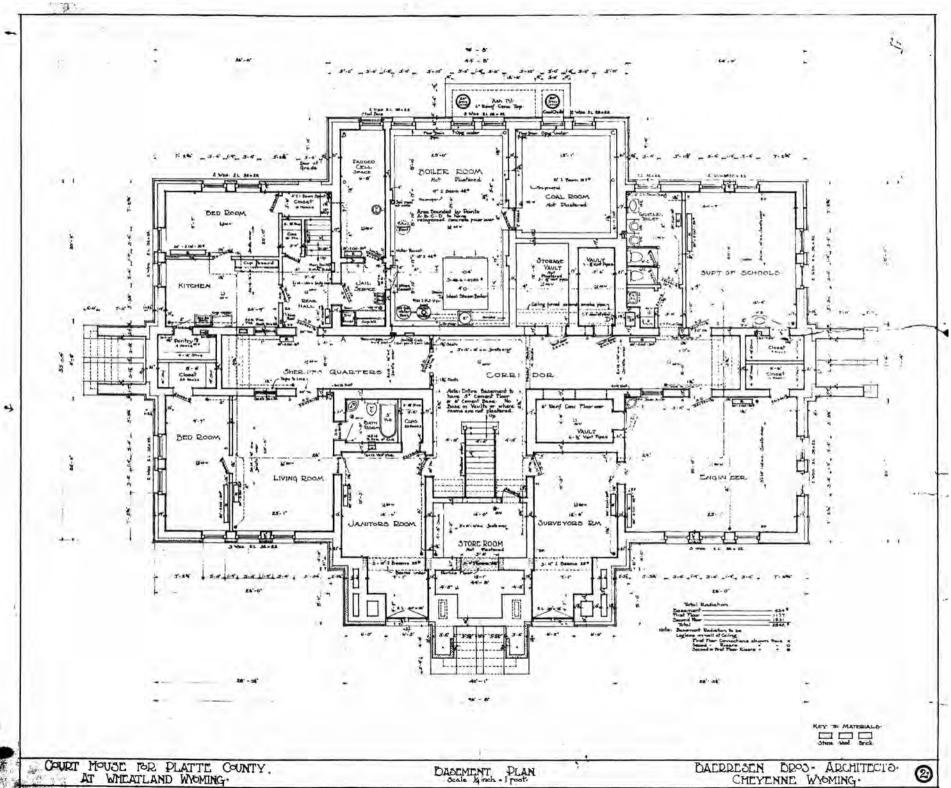
MAPLE STREET

SITE SKETCH: PLATTE COUNTY COURTHOUSE, WHEATLAND, WYOMING

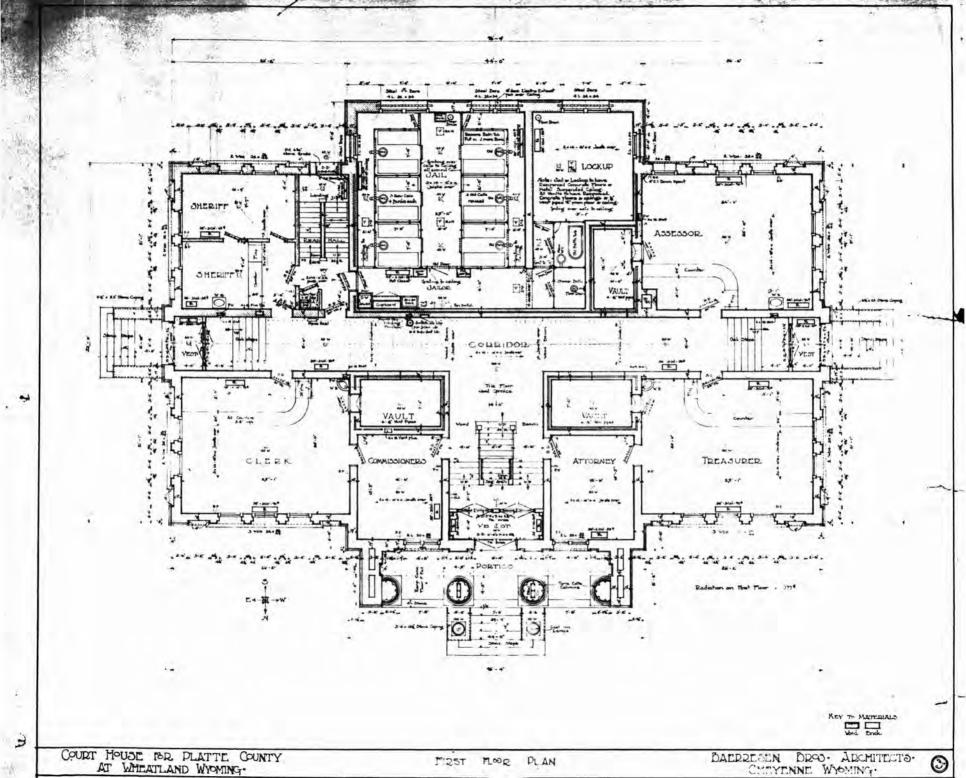


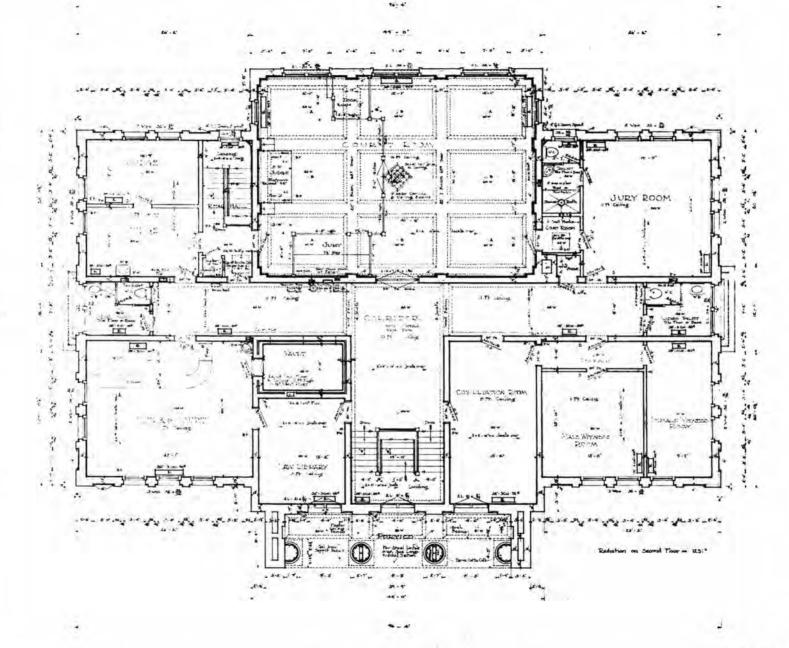
PLANS FOR PLATTE COUNTY COURTHOUSE (11 SHEETS)
BAERRESON BROTHERS, ARCHITECTS, CHEYENNE, WYOMING, 1914

(Source: Original blueprints, Wyoming State Archives, Cheyenne)



CHEYENNE WYOMING.



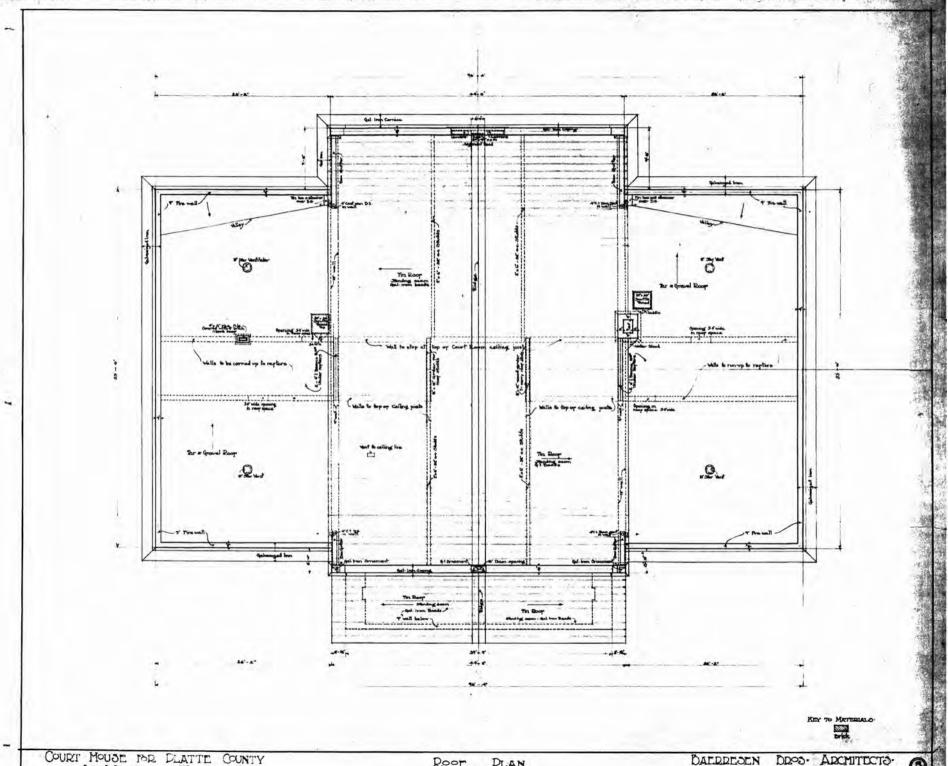


KEY TO MATERIALOY

COURT MOUSE FOR PLATTE COUNTY AT WMEATLAND WYOMING

SECOND HOOD PLAN

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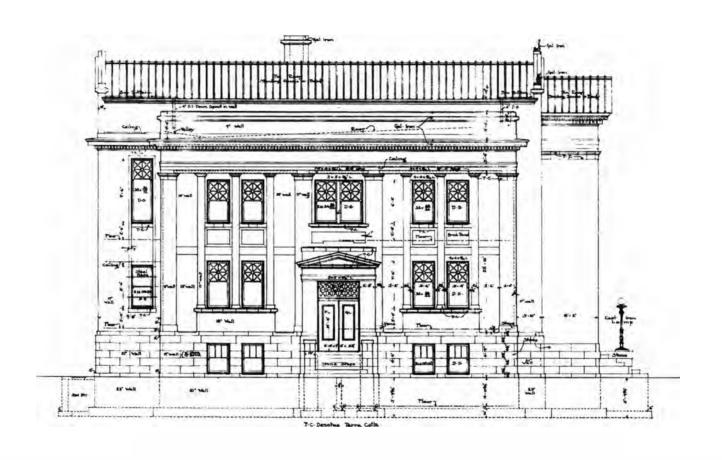


COURT MOUSE FOR PLATTE COUNTY AT WMEATLAND WYOMING

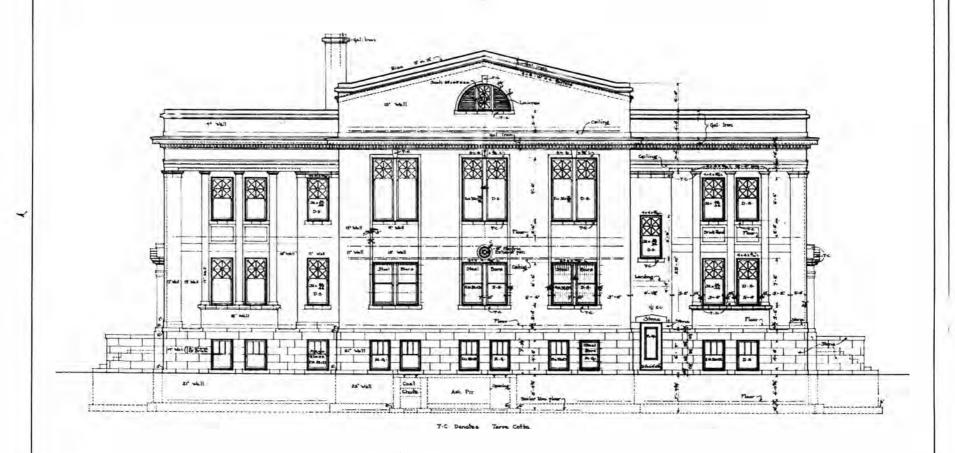
ROOF PLAN

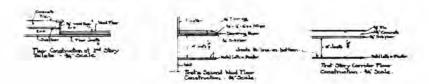
DAEDDESEN DOS ARCHITECTS CHEYENNE WYOMING

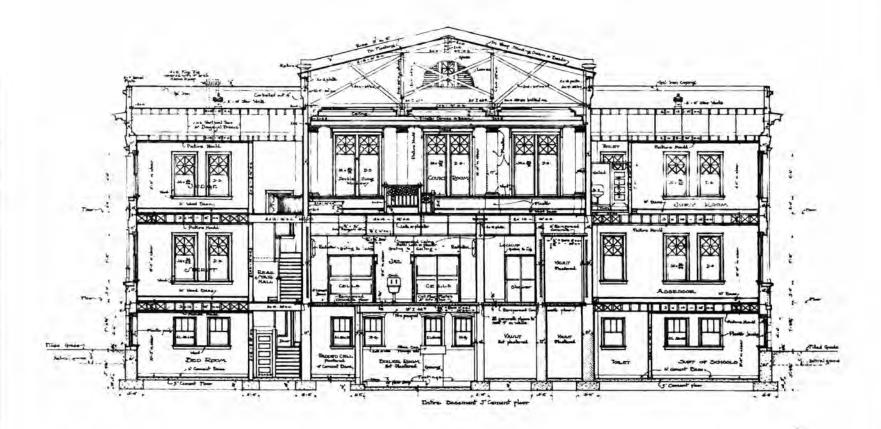






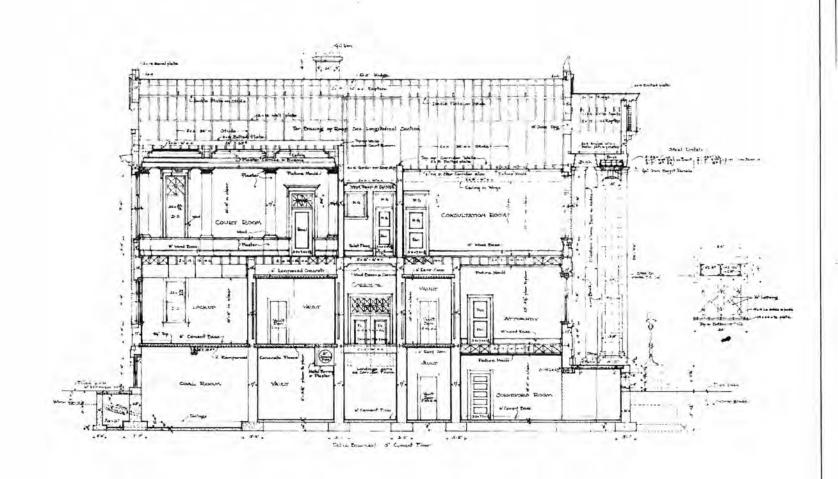




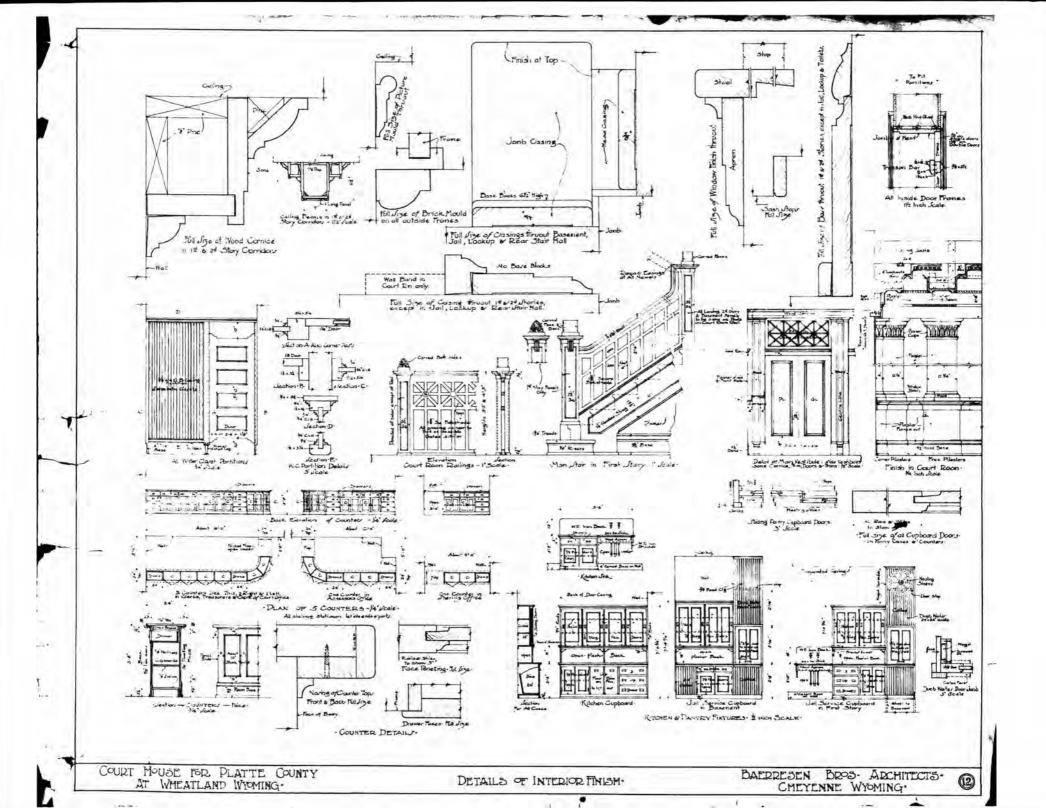


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Section number

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Contin	uation Sheet
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ame of Property	
ounty and State	

SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 08001004

Property Name: Platte County Courthouse

County: Platte State: Wyoming

Multiple Name: N/A

Page

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

Date of Action

Amended Items in Nomination:

Section 3: State Certification

The SHPO's signature, which is entered on the line intended for commenting officials, is, hereby, recognized as the signature of the certifying official to be consistent with the forwarding letter.

Section 5: Classification

Signature of the Keeper

The Count of Resources is, hereby, amended to add one contributing object and one noncontributing object for a total of two contributing resources and one noncontributing resource. This revision acknowledges the presence of two monuments on the courthouse grounds, one constructed within the period of significance and the other recently in 1990.

The staff of the Wyoming State Historic Preservation Office was notified of this amendment.

DISTRIBUTION:

National Register property file Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Platte County Courthouse NAME:
MULTIPLE NAME:
STATE & COUNTY: WYOMING, Platte
DATE RECEIVED: 9/03/08 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 9/22/08 DATE OF 16TH DAY: 10/07/08 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 10/17/08 DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:
REFERENCE NUMBER: 08001004
REASONS FOR REVIEW:
APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N REQUEST: Y SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: Y NATIONAL: N
COMMENT WAIVER: N
ACCEPTRETURNREJECTDATE
ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS: Focated in Wheatland, the Plate Co. Courthouse for the food in 1917 and was functional by Jeb. 1918. This was the first actual courthouse for the form the county which was established in 1911 from the county which was established in 1911 from the Moltheta portion of Laramie Co. Designets were Moltheta portion of Laramie Co. Designets were Moltheta portion of Laramie Co. Which had opened Moltheta proteins of Denver, Co, which had opened a Cheyenne branch in 1911. RECOM./CRITERIA Coff At a Cheyenne branch in 1911. RECOM./CRITERIA Coff At a Cheyenne branch in 1911. REVIEWER Mellan DISCIPLINE History the sensible of the Sensibility.
TELEPHONE DATE 10/10/05 Dand Parma
DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N hend if The local citizens
If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS. Is well as county legal matters county legal matters yand business. Fine example was not consideration and business.

Recommendation: SLR Return Action: SLR Return None Documentation Issues-Discussion Sheet State Name: WY County Name Plate Resource Name Matte Reference No. 1004 Multiple Name_ Solution: Problem: - photos not numbered - Ser & narrative - writter -Note: SHPO signed in wrong box Resolution: Yes No Database Change:



6-13-08
Platte County Courthouse, Front
Locatedat 800 9th St.; Wheatland, wyomine
Platte County
View is Sw looking at the (west) Front Entrance
Photographer: Richard Collier
#1



6-13-08
Platte County Courthouse, Front
Located at 800 9th St. in wheatland, wyoming
Platte County
View is East looking at frontentrance to the bldg.
Photographer: Richard Collier
H2



6-13-08
Platte County Courthouse, Front
Located at 800 9th St. in Wheatland, Wyoming
Platte County
View is East looking at (West) Front of the blog.
Photographer: Richard Collier
#3



6-13-08 Platte County Courthouse, Front + side Located at 8009th St. in Wheatland, Wyoming Platte County View is SElooking at the (West) Front & (South) Side of the bldg. Photographer, Richard Collier #4



6-13-08 Platte County Courthouse, Side Located at 800 9th St. in Wheatland, Wyoming Platte County View is South looking at enclosed door on the (North) Side of the bldg. Photographer: Richard Collier #5



G-13-08
Platte County Courthouse, Side
Located at 800 9th St. in Wheatland, Wyoming
Platte County
View is North looking at the (South) side of the bldg.
Photographer: Richard Collier
#6.



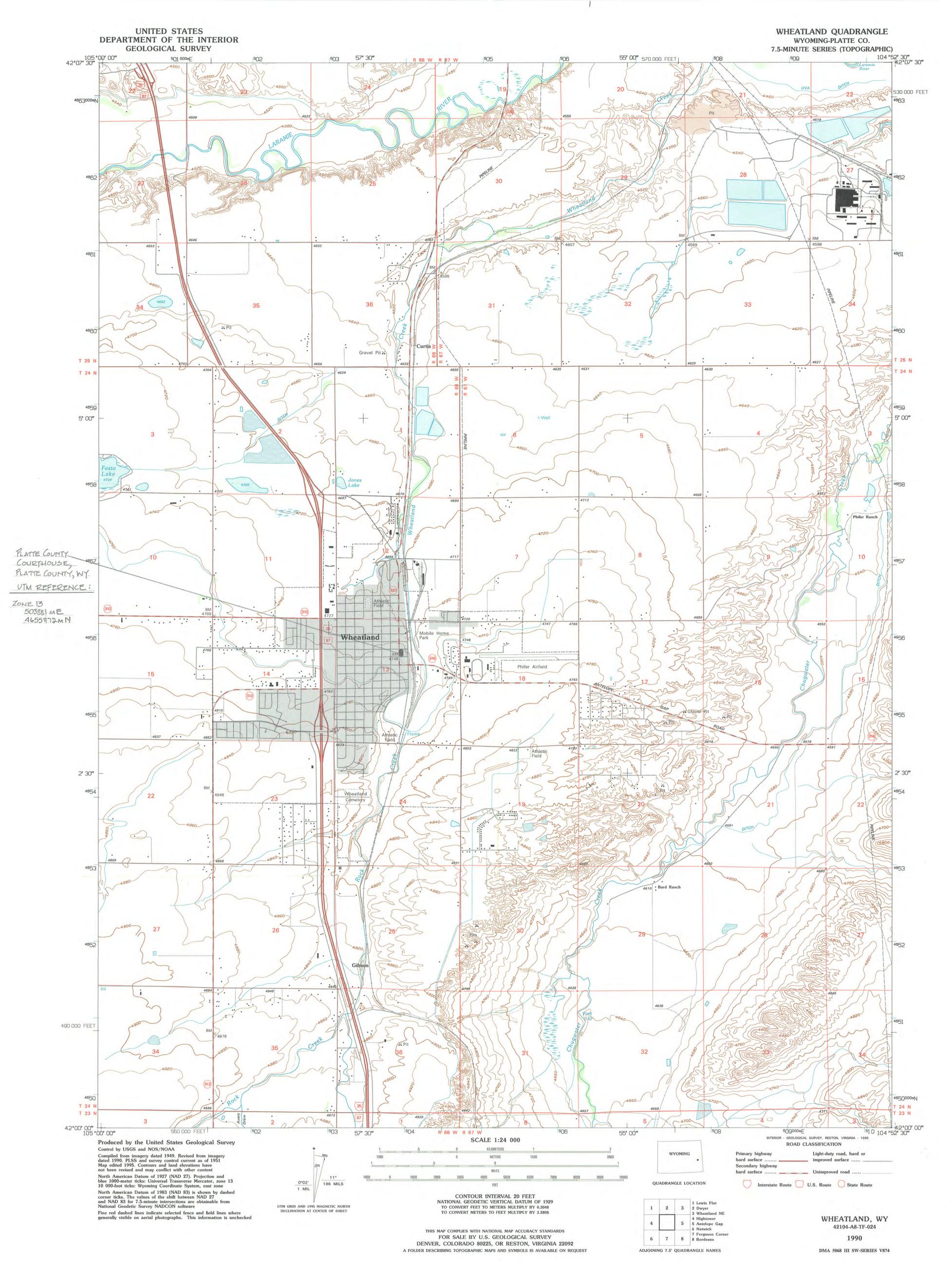
Platte County Courthouse, Rear Located at 800 9th St. in Wheatland, Wyoming Platte County View is NW looking at the (East) rear of the bldg. Photographer: Richard Collier Hy



6-13-08 Platte County Courthouse, Front + Side Located at 800 9th St. in wheatland, wyoming Platte County View is SE looking at the (west) front + (North) Side of the bldg. Photographer: Richard Collier #8



6-13-08 Platte County Courthouse, overview Located at 8009th St. in Wheatland, Wyoming Platte County Viewis NE looking at bldg. Sitting on the block. Photographer: Richard Collier





ARTS. PARKS. HISTORY.

Wyoming State Parks & Cultural Resources

State Historic Preservation Office

Barrett Building, 3rd Floor 2301 Central Avenue Cheyenne, WY 82002

Phone: (307) 777-7697 Fax: (307) 777-6421 http://wyoshpo.state.wy.us



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

