

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, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. 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 certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).**

## 1. Name of Property

historic name Meeker Historic District

other names/site number 5RB.8837

## 2. Location

street & number Main Street, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> streets

N/A	not for publication
N/A	vicinity

city or town Meeker

state Colorado code CO county Rio Blanco code 103 zip code 81641

## 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this  nomination  request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

national  statewide  local

Shelley K. Nanto  
Signature of certifying official/Title

Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

10/23/18  
Date

Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, History

Colorado

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:)

*Barbara Wyatt*  
 Signature of the Keeper

*1-28-19*  
 Date of Action

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**  
 (Check as many boxes as apply.)

**Category of Property**  
 (Check only **one** box.)

**Number of Resources within Property**  
 (Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

- Private  
 public - Local  
 public - State  
 public - Federal

- building(s)  
 district  
 site  
 structure  
 object

Contributing	Noncontributing	
31	21	buildings
0	0	district
0	0	site
0	0	structure
0	0	object
31	21	<b>Total</b>

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

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

N/A

2

**6. Function or Use**

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions.)	Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions.)
DOMESTIC / Single Dwelling	DOMESTIC / Single Dwelling
DOMESTIC / Secondary Structure	DOMESTIC / Multiple Dwelling
DOMESTIC / Hotel	DOMESTIC / Secondary Structure
SOCIAL / Meeting Hall	DOMESTIC / Hotel
COMMERCE/TRADE / Business	COMMERCE/TRADE / Business
COMMERCE/TRADE / Professional	COMMERCE/TRADE / Professional
COMMERCE/TRADE / Financial Institution	COMMERCE/TRADE / Financial Institution
COMMERCE/TRADE / Specialty Store	COMMERCE/TRADE / Specialty Store
COMMERCE/TRADE / Department Store	COMMERCE/TRADE / Restaurant
COMMERCE/TRADE / Restaurant	GOVERNMENT / Courthouse
GOVERNMENT / Courthouse	GOVERNMENT / Post Office

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<b>Historic Functions</b> (Enter categories from instructions.)		<b>Current Functions</b> (Enter categories from instructions.)
GOVERNMENT / Post Office		GOVERNMENT / Government Office (Justice Center)
EDUCATION / School		EDUCATION / Library
RECREATION AND CULTURE / Theater		RECREATION AND CULTURE / Museum
RECREATION AND CULTURE / Museum		
INDUSTRY/PROCESSING/EXTRACTION / Communications Facility		
DEFENSE / Military Facility		
LANDSCAPE (military post parade grounds)		

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

- LATE 19TH & EARLY 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS / Commercial Style
- LATE 19TH & EARLY 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS / WPA Rustic
- LATE 19TH & EARLY 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS / Minimal Traditional
- LATE 19TH & EARLY 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS / Bungalow / Craftsman
- LATE VICTORIAN
- MODERN MOVEMENT
- MODERN MOVEMENT / Ranch Type
- OTHER / Pioneer Log
- OTHER / Classic Cottage
- OTHER / Hipped-Roof Box
- NO STYLE

**Materials**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

- foundation: CONCRETE, STONE
- walls: BRICK, STONE, WOOD, STUCCO
- roof: ASPHALT
- other:

**Narrative Description**

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance of the property. Explain contributing and noncontributing resources if necessary. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, setting, size, and significant features.)

**Summary**

The Town of Meeker, with a population of 2,475 inhabitants, is at an elevation of 6,240' above sea level in the White River Valley of northwestern Colorado. The town's corporate limits encompass 3.51 square miles of land, with the original townsite, platted in 1885, located in sections 22 and 23 of Township 1 North, Range 94 West of the 6th Principal Meridian. Administratively, Meeker is one of two incorporated towns in Rio Blanco County, and has served as the county seat since

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1889 when the county was formed out of Garfield County to the south. Rio Blanco County is bordered by Moffatt County to the north, Routt County to the northeast, Garfield County to the south and southeast, and the Utah state line to the west. The closest incorporated towns are Rifle, located along Interstate 70, 41 miles to the south via Colorado Highway 13, Craig (the Moffatt County Seat), 48 miles to the north via Colorado Highway 13, and Rangely, 57 miles to the west via Colorado Highway 64. The White River, flows along the town's southern periphery. A major tributary of the Green River (which in turn is a tributary of the Colorado River), the White River rises in the Flat Tops Wilderness east of Meeker. The river enters Meeker from the east and then flows generally westward past the abandoned townsite of White River City, past the incorporated community of Rangely, and into Utah to its confluence with the Green River south of Vernal.

The Meeker Historic District encompasses all or portions of eleven city blocks that encompasses the historic downtown commercial core and portions of the adjacent residential neighborhood. As platted in 1885, these include blocks 1, 2, 6-10, and 24. The district also encompasses two city blocks (currently respectively designated as the "Parade Grounds" and as the "Center of Town"), which are occupied by the Rio Blanco County Courthouse (built in 1935) and the former Meeker Elementary School (built in 1938-1939). The land encompassing these two blocks served as the parade ground for the U.S. Army's Camp on White River that existed between 1880 and 1883, and later as Meeker's town park until the courthouse was built in 1935. Overall, the district is bordered on the north by the alley between Park and Garfield streets, on the east by 4<sup>th</sup> Street, on the south by the alley between Main and Market streets, and on the west by 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> streets.

### ***The District's Buildings<sup>1</sup>***

The district is composed of fifty-two buildings. Thirty-one buildings are considered contributing, while twenty-one are considered noncontributing. Dates of construction in the district range from 1880 to 2011, with only five buildings constructed after the periods of significance which end in 1967. The other sixteen noncontributing buildings date from the period of significance, but have been altered to such an extent that they no longer convey a sense of their historic significance. Two of the contributing buildings are individually listed in the National Register of Historic Places: the International Order of Oddfellows Building at 400 Main Street (NRIS: 14000060; 5RB.2245), and the Meeker Hotel at 560 Main Street (NRIS: 800009235RB.985). One contributing building is individually listed in the State Register of Historic Properties: the Hugus Block / A. Oldland & Company Building at 594 Main Street (5RB.2242).

The district's three oldest buildings were built in 1880 as part of the U. S. Army's "Camp on White River," and are notable examples of "piece-sur-piece" Pioneer Log construction. Elsewhere, the district includes 23 commercial buildings, 19 single-family dwellings, one multi-family dwelling, and six governmental / institutional buildings. The commercial buildings form the core of Meeker's downtown business district, and primarily display attributes of Late 19<sup>th</sup> Century and Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century commercial styles of architecture. These are almost entirely rectangular-shaped one-story and two-story buildings that front directly onto wide concrete sidewalks, primarily along Main and 6<sup>th</sup> streets. Residences within the district include examples of Late Victorian, Classic Cottage, Bungalow, Craftsman, Minimal Traditional, Modern Movement, and Ranch,

<sup>1</sup> A challenge to the nomination was the lack of research materials, particularly those that provide detail and help identify dates of construction, dates of additions and alterations, and when materials may have changed. There are no Sanborn maps or city directories for Meeker, and virtually no building permit files. Building permits were issued by the county until the late 1980s, with no permit records from that time period and earlier known to exist. More recent building permits, issued and administered by the Town of Meeker, were reviewed but contain very limited information for only a handful of buildings. Moreover, even today, permits are required only for relatively major projects. For example, per information from the Town Manager: "The Town has not previously and still does not require permitting for façade, cosmetic, and non-structural improvements such as stucco, exterior remodeling, or awning replacements/installations."

Historic photos were reviewed at various repositories and were of some help in identifying dates of additions, alterations, and changes in materials. Most historic photos, however, were taken early in Meeker's history and tended to be general views of streetscapes rather than of individual buildings.

Oral information regarding additions, alterations, and changes in materials was sought from building and business owners and others, with somewhat limited success. As part of this methodology, a number of public meetings were held at the Rio Blanco Heritage Center where members of the community viewed photos of various buildings and related what they knew or remembered about when certain building features may have changed – particularly additions, façade changes such as fixed wood awnings, and door and window arrangements and materials. Information thus obtained was incorporated into the inventory forms and nomination.



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styles and types of architecture. Governmental / institutional buildings within the district include the Rio Blanco County Courthouse and former Meeker Elementary School (both of which are notable examples the Late 19<sup>th</sup> and Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century American Movements / WPA Rustic style of architecture), the Meeker Public Library, the Meeker Post Office, the Rio Blanco County Heritage Culture Center, and the Masonic Temple.

No surface evidence of archaeological features was observed within the district; however, there may be buried deposits beneath the paved streets, alleys, parking lots, and buildings, including deposits from outbuildings or privies that are no longer extant. While future research or ground-penetrating radar may reveal additional information regarding buried features, such investigation is not within the scope of this nomination.

***Buildings by Decade of Construction***

<u>Decade</u>	<u>Number of Buildings Constructed</u>
1880-1889	6
1890-1899	5
1900-1909	13
1910-1919	5
1920-1929	3
1930-1939	4
1940-1949	5
1950- 1959	4
1960-1969	3
1970-1979	3
1980-1989	1
1990-1999	0
2000-2009	0
2010-	1 (2011)

**CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS**

Descriptions of contributing buildings are presented under a single heading, numerically by address beginning with Main Street, followed by Park Avenue, 6<sup>th</sup> Street, and 7<sup>th</sup> Street.

**400 Main Street** 5RB.2245, NR, Listed, NRIS: 14000060, (sketch map no. 1, photo no(s). 2, 53, 54)  
**Historic Name:** IOOF Building. I.O.O.F. Valentine Lodge #47  
**Current Name:** IOOF Building, Mountain Valley Bank  
**Construction Date:** 1896  
**Architectural Style:** Late 19<sup>th</sup> and Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century American Movements / Commercial Style

This two-story commercial building rests on a stone foundation, and features a rectangular-shaped plan that measures 118' (deep) x 50' E-W (across). Included in these dimensions are a main two-story section fronting onto Main Street, that measures 77' N-S (deep) x 50' E-W (across), and a one-story rear section, that measures 41' N-S x 50- E-W.

The façade wall (facing Main Street to the north) is made of red brick laid in running bond, and is divided into three bays defined by four slightly projecting brick columns. Decorative corbelled brickwork appears at the top of the parapet, and below the second story windows visually dividing the façade's first and second stories. The south (rear) and east and west (side) walls are made of softer red brick laid in common bond. Star-shaped anchors attached to tie rods are visible on the east and west walls. A cornerstone with the date "1896" is at the base of the east column on the façade. A concrete or stone panel centered in the upper façade is inscribed: "I.O.O.F." A National Register plaque is fastened to the west

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column, adjacent to the main entry. This plaque is inscribed: "THE I.O.O.F. LODGE – VALENTINE LODGE #47 HAS BEEN PLACED ON THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES BY THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR MARCH 19, 2014."

Each bay in the façade's first story contains two rounded brick arch door or window arrangements. Four window arrangements each consist of a large four-light fixed-pane window, with a multi-paned fanlight and with a painted beige wood frame and surrounds. Painted beige color kick plates appear below the four window arrangements. The remaining two rounded arches on the façade each respectively contain the main entry, and a former entry that is no longer in use. The main entry is within the rounded brick arch at the west end of the façade where a painted beige wood-paneled door, with an upper sash light, narrow side light, and a narrow two-light transom, is situated below a multi-paned fanlight within the rounded brick arch. The former entry is in the façade's center bay and consists of a set of paired painted beige wood-paneled doors, each with an upper sash light, and topped by a narrow two-light transom. This former doorway is also situated below a multi-paned fanlight within a rounded brick arch.

The façade's second story contains six one-over-one double-hung sash windows (two within each bay), with segmental labeled brick arches, painted beige wood frames, and a continuous sill (broken by the brick columns). The east wall (facing 4<sup>th</sup> Street) contains several one-over-one double-hung sash windows with sandstone lugsills, segmental brick arches, and painted wood frames and surrounds. A concrete handicap-accessible ramp with a painted purple metal railing is also on the building's east side. This ramp leads to a painted purple paneled door, with one upper sash light and with a transom, below a segmental brick arch. Another painted purple paneled door, with a transom, is below a segmental brick arch on the south side of the building. The south (rear) wall of the one-story section contains two one-over-one double-hung sash windows with sandstone lugsills, segmental brick arches, and painted wood frames and surrounds. The south (rear) wall of the main two-story section contains three one-over-one double-hung sash windows, with segmental brick arches, that overlook the one-story section. A non-historic drive-through teller facility is attached to the building's original west wall.

The IOOF building was individually listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 2014. It displays an overall high standard of integrity.

**550 Main Street** 5RB.2240 (sketch map no. 6, photo no(s). 6, 55, 57)  
**Historic Name:** Meeker Post Office, Meeker Cafe  
**Current Name:** Meeker Cafe  
**Construction Date:** Circa 1900  
**Architectural Style:** Late 19<sup>th</sup> and Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century Revivals / Romanesque Revival

The Meeker Café is a one-story, rectangular-shaped, commercial building that measures 91' N-S (deep) x 28' E-W (deep). It is supported by a coursed sandstone foundation, and it is covered by a flat roof with a parapet on the façade, and with a short, sloped, shed-roofed section to the rear. Facing Main Street to the north, the façade wall is made of coursed sandstone blocks. A metal sign advertising the "Meeker CAFÉ" is fastened with metal brackets and hangs perpendicular to the upper façade wall. The south (rear) wall and the exposed south end of the west (side) wall are clad with grey color metal.

The façade is divided into three symmetrical bays, with each bay defined by a rounded sandstone arch. The center bay contains a slightly recessed entryway, while the outer two bays contain large one-over-one double-hung sash windows with painted pale blue wood frames and stained-glass fanlights within the rounded arches. The slightly recessed entryway contains a painted pale blue wood frame door, with glass block side lights and a two-light transom. A stained-glass fanlight appears above the transom within the rounded arch. A white metal utility door enters the building through the south (rear) door.

There are no additions or notable exterior alterations to the historic building.

**560 Main Street** 5RB.985, NR Listed, NRIS 80000923, (sketch map no. 7, photo no(s). 7, 55, 56, 57)  
**Historic Name:** Meeker Hotel  
**Current Name:** Meeker Hotel  
**Construction Date:** 1896 (center section), 1904 (east and west wings)  
**Architectural Style:** Late 19<sup>th</sup> and Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century American Movements / Commercial Style

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The Meeker Hotel is composed of a two-story central core built in 1896, and two flanking two-story wings built in 1904. The entire building is supported by a stone or concrete foundation, with brick wall construction, and a flat roof. The original central section is recessed in seven feet from the front sidewalk, and measures 105' N-S (deep) x 42' E-W (across); the west wing fronts directly onto the front sidewalk and measures 112' N-S x 27' E-W; the east wing also fronts directly onto the front sidewalk and measures 55' N-S x 36' E-W. The inside front corners of the east and west wings are curved, providing architectural detail and highlighting the central core as the most prominent section of the overall building. The Meeker Café building at 550 Main Street (5RB.2240), adjacent to the east, was also constructed in 1904, and has been associated with the hotel throughout its history.

The façade wall is made of painted blue brick laid in running bond. Extensive painted red brick corbelling appears along the top of the parapet on the façade. The center of the parapet is defined by a projecting painted red brick arch above a sign proclaiming "MEEKER HOTEL" in painted white letters on a painted black brick background. A painted red stringcourse, with sawtooth brickwork, extends between the façade's second-story windows, decoratively joining the painted red segmental arched labeled lintels over the second-story windows, as well as a rounded arch over a second-story glass-in-wood-frame door which opens onto a balcony from the center of the original 1896 central core. This second-story door is directly below the "MEEKER HOTEL" sign, and features a transom and a fanlight below the rounded red brick arch. The balcony, which stretches across the full 42' width of the central core's façade, features a painted white wood balustrade, decorative black wrought iron below the balcony floor, and is supported by six painted blue knee braces.

The rear (south-facing) walls of the central section and west wing are made of unpainted red brick laid in common bond. The exposed rear portion of the east-facing wall of the center section, and the rear (south-facing) wall of the east wing, are made of painted red brick laid in common bond. A tall red brick chimney is at the south end of the central section.

The first-story façade wall of the central section contains one entry door and four large windows, each below a stained-glass fanlight within a decorative painted red rounded brick arch. The door, which is the main entry into the hotel, is a painted pale blue glass-in-wood-frame door, with side lights and a transom. Three of the windows are east of the door, and are single-light fixed-pane windows with painted pale blue wood frames. The fourth window, to the west of the door, is a single-light fixed-pane window. This entry door and four windows are directly below the balcony.

The first-story façade wall of the west wing contains a recessed glass-in-metal-frame door with a transom, and a wood-paneled door with one upper sash light and a transom. These doors are flanked by large single-light fixed-pane windows with wood-paneled kickplates and painted transoms. The first-story façade wall of the east wing contains a recessed painted pale blue glass-in-wood-frame door, and a painted pale blue door with three small vertically-oriented upper sash lights, side lights and a transom. These doors are also flanked by large single-light fixed-pane windows with wood-paneled kickplates and transoms. The façade's second-story wall contains fifteen one-over-one double-hung sash windows with painted white wood frames, painted blue sandstone lugsills, and painted red segmental brick arches. Six of these windows are in the east wing, four are in the central wing overlooking the balcony, and five are in the west wing.

The south-facing walls of the central and west wings contain white metal service doors. A plywood-filled door, with a segmental brick arch, is in the south-facing wall of the east wing. A white metal door enters a small one-story metal extension to the south-facing wall of the east wing. The second-story south wall of the east wing contains a painted white wood-paneled door, with one upper sash light, a transom, and a segmental brick arch. This door opens onto a small painted white wood balcony with knee brace supports. The south walls of the central core and of the west wing contain white metal doors that also open onto small painted white wood balconies with knee brace supports. Metal fire escape ladders extend to the ground from the balconies.

The south-facing wall of the central wing contains two, one-over-one, sash second-story windows with painted white wood frames and red brick rowlock sills. The south-facing wall of the west wing contains two, one-over-one, sash second-story windows with painted white wood frames and red brick rowlock sills. The exposed rear (east-facing) wall of the central section contains three, two-over-two, sash first-story windows, and six, one-over-one, sash second-story windows, all with painted white wood frames, sandstone lugsills, and segmental brick arches. The ground floor of this east-facing wall section also contains a white metal service door, a plywood-filled door with a segmental brick arch, and a painted white wood-paneled door with a segmental brick arch.

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The Meeker Hotel was individually listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1979. There have been no additions or notable exterior alterations from that time to the present. The building continues to function as a hotel and displays an overall high degree of integrity.

**555 Main Street** 5RB.2243 (sketch map no. 8, photo no(s). 14)  
**Historic Name:** Rio Blanco County Courthouse  
**Current Name:** Rio Blanco County Courthouse  
**Construction Date:** 1935  
**Architectural Style:** Late 19<sup>th</sup> and Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century American Movements / WPA Rustic

The Rio Blanco County Courthouse is centered in the block historically bordered by 5<sup>th</sup> Street on the east, Main Street on the south, 6<sup>th</sup> Street on the west, and Park Avenue on the north. This land comprised the west half of the parade grounds of the U. S. Army's Camp on White River between 1880 and 1883, and it later became the Meeker Town Park. The former Meeker Elementary School (now the Rio Blanco County Justice Center) is in the block to the east, which historically was the east half of the parade grounds. There are no other buildings in these two blocks. 5<sup>th</sup> Street has been vacated between the courthouse and the former elementary school so that the grounds around the two buildings feature a uniform landscape design. The courthouse grounds include: a 1949 Colorado Historical Society "Founding of Meeker" tablet on a large granite stone, a veterans' memorial titled "Sacrifice and Resolution," a sculpture of three sheep being herded by a sheep dog, and a street clock near the northeast corner of Main and 6<sup>th</sup> streets.

The courthouse is a large 2½-story building, with a modern (circa 2008) two-story addition to the east end of the original north-facing wall. The original courthouse overall measures 65' N-S (deep) x 134' E-W (across). Included in these dimensions are a main north block that measures 48' N-S x 134' E-W, and a smaller centered south block that measures 17' N-S x 93' E-W. The modern addition measures 65' N-S x 25' E-W. The courthouse has a garden-level basement so that there are effectively three floors. The façade faces Main Street to the south.

Built in 1935, the courthouse features a symmetrical plan, with a concrete foundation, coursed locally-quarried sandstone walls, and a flat roof. A symmetrical stepped parapet extends above the roofline on the front centered section of the façade, with flat parapets elsewhere. Slightly projecting sandstone belt courses encircle the building above the basement windows and second story windows. A cornerstone at the southeast corner of the façade contains the following text:

L A I D B Y  
 T H E M . W . G R A N D L O D G E  
 A . F . A N D A . M . O F C O L O R A D O  
 J U L Y 2 3 A . D . 1 9 3 5 . A . L . 5 9 3 5

A set of paired glass-in-metal-frame doors, with flanking side lights and a transom, provide the main entry into the building through an enclosed entryway centered on the façade. This entryway measures approximately 7' N-S x 18' E-W, and features sandstone columns and a flat roof. A sign above the main entry reads "RIO BLANCO COUNTY COURTHOUSE." A glass-in-metal-frame door, with side lights and a transom, enters another enclosed entryway at the south end of the west-facing wall. This entryway measures approximately 8' N-S x 7' E-W, with sandstone columns and a flat roof. The courthouse's windows are symmetrically arranged one-over-one sash with sandstone sills and lintels.

The two-story addition at the east end of the courthouse's original north-facing wall measures approximately 75' N-S x 25' E-W, and features a poured concrete foundation, coursed stone exterior lower walls, metal screening in the upper walls, and a curved metal roof supported by steel I-beam rafters. The addition is utilized as a garage / workshop, with three garage service bay doors in the west-facing wall.

The circa 2008 addition to the east end of the original north wall is the only alteration to the courthouse's historic appearance.

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**594 Main Street** 5RB.2242, SR Listed (sketch map no. 9, photo no(s). 8, 55, 56, 57)  
**Historic Name:** Hugus & Company Block, A. Oldland & Company Building  
**Current Name:** Hugus & Company Block, A. Oldland & Company Building  
**Construction Date:** 1911  
**Architectural Style:** Late 19<sup>th</sup> and Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century American Movements / Commercial Style

The Hugus & Company Block was designed by the Denver architectural firm of Fisher and Fisher, and erected during the summer and fall of 1911. Known later as the A. Oldland & Company store, it is a prominent two-story commercial building at the southeast corner of Main and 6<sup>th</sup> streets in downtown Meeker. The building measures 125' N-S (deep) x 76' E-W (across). The north-facing (façade) wall fronts directly onto the public sidewalk paralleling Main Street, while the west-facing wall fronts directly onto the public sidewalk paralleling 6<sup>th</sup> Street. The building is supported by a coursed sandstone foundation, and its exterior walls are made of red brick laid in common bond. Flat parapets extend above the roofline on all four sides. The roof is nearly flat, but slopes gently to the south (rear). The parapet on the façade features a taller segmental-arched section, offset toward the east end. The text "HUGUS & CO. BLOCK" appears in a concrete panel, outlined by projecting red bricks laid as rowlocks, just below the segmental-arched section of the parapet. Recessed brick panels appear in the upper north and east-facing walls, overlooking Main and 6<sup>th</sup> streets. A red brick chimney is near the building's rear southwest corner.

The façade's first story contains three entrances. From east-to-west, these are: a set of paired painted turquoise color glass-in-wood-frame doors with a leaded glass transom; a set of paired painted cream white glass-in-wood-frame doors with a leaded-glass transom; a glass-in-metal-frame door with a transom, within a recessed entryway. The south-facing wall contains three painted cream white wood-paneled doors, each with six upper sash lights; one of these doors has a segmental brick arch. These three doors open onto a poured concrete dock covered by a flat metal roof supported by round steel posts. A set of poured concrete steps descend to a basement-level door at the west end of the south-facing wall.

The façade's first story also contains expanses of fixed-pane storefront display windows, between and flanking the three entryways. The storefront display windows are set in cream color metal frames with fretwork. A course of bricks laid as rowlocks forms a stringcourse over the entryways and storefront display windows on the façade. The façade's second story wall contains ten sets of paired one-over-one double-hung sash windows in cream color metal frames. The upper portion of the west-facing first story wall contains ten, fifty-light, glass block windows, one, one-by-one, horizontal sliding window, and one, four-by-four, horizontal sliding window. The west-facing second story wall contains fourteen sets of paired one-over-one double-hung sash windows in cream color metal frames. The upper portion of the south-facing first story wall contains five, nine-light, windows with segmental brick arches, and one other former window opening filled with plywood. A larger, one-over-one, sash window with a segmental brick arch is at the east end of the south-facing wall. The south-facing second story wall contains eight, one-over-one, windows with segmental brick arches.

This building was designed by the architectural firm of Fisher and Fisher in 1911. It was individually listed in the Colorado State Register of Historic Properties in 1991. There are no additions and no notable exterior alterations to the historic building.

**600 Main Street** 5RB.2251 (sketch map no. 10, photo no(s). 9, 58, 59)  
**Historic Name:** Baer Block, Tagert's Hardware, Strehlke's Drugstore, Sides Rexall Drugstore  
**Current Name:** Cleverly Building  
**Construction Date:** 1923  
**Architectural Style:** Late 19<sup>th</sup> and Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century American Movements / Commercial Style

This prominent one story commercial building measures 51½' N-S (deep) x 48½' E-W (across), with a corner entry at the front northeast corner, and with a 12½' x 13' projection at the rear southwest corner. The north-facing wall fronts directly onto the public sidewalk paralleling Main Street, while the east-facing wall fronts directly onto the public sidewalk paralleling 6<sup>th</sup> Street.

The building rests on a coursed sandstone foundation, and the exterior walls are made of brown brick laid in running bond. Horizontally-oriented recessed brick panels with diamond-shaped motifs appear in the upper north-facing and east-facing walls. Parapets, with sandstone coping, extend above the roofline. A taller triangular pediment, also with sandstone



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coping, is above the corner entry. A glass-in-metal-frame door, with sidelights and a transom, enters the corner entry at the building's front northeast corner. The corner entry is flanked by storefront display windows – to the south facing toward 6<sup>th</sup> Street, and to the west facing toward Main Street. The north-facing wall contains bands of six, single-light, fixed-pane display windows with metal frames, and with transoms covered by green panels. The east wall contains two single-light fixed-pane display windows also with metal frames, and with transoms covered by green panels. A painted mural depicting cowboys on horseback and cattle adorns the north-facing wall.

The building was erected in 1923, substantially replacing a circa 1891 building known as the Baer Block. The earlier building was owned by a prominent western Colorado businessman and cattleman named Isaac "Ike" Baer. Between 1923 and 1952, the building was occupied by Tagert's Hardware Store, owned and operated by James L. Tagert and his wife Fannie. Circa 1952, the hardware business was acquired by Charles Conrado who renamed it Meeker Hardware, and moved it around the corner to 654 Main Street (5RB.8696), where it remained in business until 1967.

Following the departure of Tagert Hardware, this building became the location of Strehlke's Drugstore, owned and operated by Albert L. Strehlke. In the late 1950s, the drugstore was acquired by Bill and Bernice Sides, who ran it as Sides Rexall Drugs for many years. The drugstore business eventually became Meeker Drugs which remains in business in the Neal Block at the northwest corner of Main and 6<sup>th</sup> Streets (5RB.2250). More recently, the building has served as a Radio Shack outlet, as an auto parts store, and as Shepherd's Office Outfitter store.

There are no additions to the original 1923 construction. According to oral sources, the Main and 6<sup>h</sup> Streets façades date from the 1950s or earlier.

**610/628 Main Street** 5RB.2252 (sketch map no. 11, photo no(s). 10, 58, 59)  
**Historic Name:** Pilkington Bakery, Jangle Jewelry, Bowden Sheet Metal Shop  
**Current Name:** Hughes Building  
**Construction Date:** Circa 1900  
**Architectural Style:** Late 19<sup>th</sup> and Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century American Movements / Commercial Style

This single-story commercial building features a rectangular-shaped plan that measures 39' N-S (deep) x 50' E-W (across). It is supported by a poured concrete foundation, and its roof is flat. The façade faces Main Street to the north, and contains two commercial storefronts, respectively addressed as 610 Main Street (east) and 628 Main Street (west). The façade wall is made of mottled red brick laid in running bond. The south-facing (rear) wall is made of red brick laid in common bond. A flat parapet extends above the roofline on the façade, while a stepped parapet extends above the roofline at the top of the south-facing wall.

The two storefronts are each covered by a fixed wood awning with wood shingles. The east storefront contains a centered painted pale grey glass-in-wood-frame door with a transom. The address number "610" appears between the top of the door frame and the transom. This door is flanked by fixed-pane windows with wood-paneled kick plates. The west storefront contains a centered recessed entryway. The floor of the entryway is poured concrete, and is approached by two poured concrete steps leading from the front sidewalk. The recessed entryway contains a painted pale grey glass-in-wood-frame door, with painted red accents and with flanking side lights. The address number "628" appears in the fixed transom over the door. The entryway is flanked by fixed-pane windows with wood-paneled kick plates. The south-facing (rear) wall contains two window openings with segmental brick arches, and two doorways (no longer in use) also with segmental brick arches.

There are no additions to this building's original construction. The only notable exterior alteration is the fixed wood awnings, which were installed in the early 1970s.

**617 Main Street / 315 6<sup>th</sup> Street** 5RB.2250 (sketch map no. 12, photo no(s). 15, 70)  
**Historic Name:** Neal Block, First State Bank Building  
**Current Name:** Neal Block, Meeker Drugs Building  
**Construction Date:** 1919-1920  
**Architectural Style:** Late 19<sup>th</sup> and Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century American Movements / Commercial Style

The Neal Block is a one-story commercial building at the northwest corner of Main and 6<sup>th</sup> streets in downtown Meeker. The building features a rectangular plan measuring 50'N-S x 148' E-W, with an angled entry at the front southeast corner. The building rests on an unpainted coursed sandstone foundation. The walls are made of alternating courses of unpainted

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sandstone blocks and tinted scored concrete or sandstone blocks. The roof is flat, with flat parapets extending above the roofline at the top of the east and south walls, and with a stepped parapet extending above the roofline on the north wall. A slightly projecting cornice extends along the east and south sides approximately two feet below the top of the parapet. The corner entry contains a glass-in-metal-frame door, with a sidelight and a transom. Above the entry door, a prominent sign block is inscribed with the words "NEAL BLOCK," and is outlined by a projecting labeled lintel. An oval-shaped sign band advertising "MEEKER DRUGS" is above the sign block. A flagpole flying the American flag is at the apex of the corner entry. A set of concrete steps with a silver pipe railing descends to a basement-level entry door on the south (Main Street) side. The north half of the east-facing wall (6<sup>th</sup> Street side) contains a symmetrical storefront. This storefront consists of a painted red glass-in-wood-frame door, with a sidelight and transom, within a centered recessed entryway, flanked by storefront display windows. A band of eight clerestory windows extends across the entire storefront. The western end of the south-facing wall (Main Street side) contains a storefront with a set of paired glass-in-metal-frame doors, within a recessed entryway, flanked by bands of storefront display windows. Non-original fixed wood-shingled awnings shade the display windows. A painted white wood-paneled door, with one upper sash light and a fanlight, enters the eastern end of the south-facing wall from within a rounded arch entryway. The eastern end of the south-facing wall also contains seven, single-light fixed-pane windows, each topped by a three-light awning window, all with sandstone sills and labeled lintels. The south end of the east-facing wall contains two large single-light fixed-pane windows, also with sandstone sills and labeled lintels.

The Neal Block displays a high degree of integrity. There are no additions to its original construction. The only notable exterior alteration are the wood-shingled awnings at the west end of the south-facing side which were installed in the early 1970s.

**645 Main Street** 5RB.8698 (sketch map no.14, photo no(s). 29)  
**Historic Name:** Mountain States Telephone & Telegraph Building  
**Current Name:** Meeker Realty  
**Construction Date:** 1919-1920  
**Architectural Style:** Late 19<sup>th</sup> and Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century American Movements / Commercial Style

This small commercial building measures 50' N-S (deep) x 17' E-W (across). It is supported by a poured concrete foundation, and it is covered by a flat roof with metal roofing material. The façade faces Main Street to the south, and contains a symmetrical storefront. A painted green wood-paneled door, with one upper sash light and a transom, enters the center of the storefront from within a canted recessed entryway. The entry is flanked by single-light fixed-pane storefront display windows with white and green metal frames. A fixed wood awning with wood shingles is fastened to the façade wall over the storefront. Surrounding the storefront, the façade wall is made of brown brick laid in running bond. This includes a tall parapet that extends above the roofline, brick columns at either end, and the kick plate areas below the storefront display windows. The building's west wall faces an alley and is clad with beige color stucco. The west wall contains a painted blue door within a recessed entryway, and four small one-over-one double-hung sash windows with white metal frames.

The building was constructed in 1930 to house Meeker's Mountain States Telephone and Telegraph exchange. Joseph Newton Neal, owner of the Neal Block next door to the east (5RB.2250) arranged for the building's construction and then leased it to the telephone company. The initial lease was for ten years. George Glasgow was the building contractor.

There are no additions to the original 1930 building. The only notable exterior alteration is the fixed wood awning, which dates from the early 1970s.

**654 Main Street** 5RB.8696 (sketch map no. 16, photo no(s). 13, 58, 59)  
**Historic Name:** Meeker Hardware  
**Current Name:** Strata Networks  
**Construction Date:** Circa 1946  
**Architectural Style:** Late 19<sup>th</sup> and Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century American Movements / Commercial Style

This one-story commercial building features a rectangular-shaped plan that measures 100' N-S (deep) x 25' E-W (across). It is supported by a poured concrete foundation, and the roof is flat, hidden behind tall parapets on the north (façade) and on the east side. The building's asymmetrical façade faces Main Street to the north. The upper façade wall and columns

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at either end of the façade are covered with a silver metal veneer. The kick plate area below the storefront display windows is covered with a veneer of red brick. The west-facing (side) wall, south-facing (rear) wall, and the exposed rear portion of the east-facing (side) wall are clad with beige vertical metal siding. The façade contains a single storefront. A glass-in-metal-frame door, with a side light and a transom, enters the building near the center of the façade. The entry door is recessed in from the front sidewalk, and to its west the door is flanked by a band of four large single-light fixed-pane windows in silver metal frames. This band of windows is angled outward from the recessed entry door extending to the column at the west end of the façade. Three additional large single-light fixed-pane windows (two north-facing and one west-facing) form the east section of the storefront, east of the entry door. A white metal utility door enters the rear of the building.

This building's angled storefront and metal veneer on the façade were installed in 1951. Sporting its new façade, the building opened as Meeker Hardware in 1952, which occupied the building until 1967. There are no additions and no notable exterior alterations from 1951 to the present.

**733 Main Street** 5RB.8701 (sketch map no. 19, photo no(s). 32)  
**Historic Name:** Halandras Building  
**Current Name:** Halandras Building  
**Construction Date:** 1965  
**Architectural Style:** Modern Movement

This free-standing one-story commercial building features a rectangular-shaped plan that measures 144' N-S x 58' E-W. It rests on a poured concrete foundation, and is covered by a low-pitched hipped roof, with metal roofing material and boxed eaves. The exterior walls are composed of alternating sections of beige stucco and stone veneer. The east, south, and west-facing sides of the building contain glass-in-metal-frame doors with sidelights that enter into the following businesses: Farm Bureau Insurance, Meeker Chiropractic & Acupuncture, Moody Construction, Aspen Leaf Dental, Cimarron Telecommunications, and the USDA Service Center - Natural Resources Conservation Service. The building's windows are one-by-one horizontal sliders with white or silver metal frames.

There are no additions and no notable exterior alterations to this building's original construction.

**767 Main Street** 5RB.6518 (sketch map no. 20, photo no(s). 33)  
**Historic Name:** Dykeman House, Niblock House, Dougan House, Starbuck House  
**Current Name:** Starbuck House  
**Construction Date:** Circa 1899  
**Architectural Style:** High Style Hipped-Roof Cottage

This Late Victorian era 1½-story dwelling features a rectangular-shaped plan that measures 42' N-S (deep) x 30' E-W (across). It is supported by a low sandstone foundation covered with concrete parging, and is covered by a steeply-pitched truncated hipped roof. The roof is finished with green metal shingles and painted white boxed eaves. A shed-roofed dormer, with a band of three paired casement windows with transoms, overlooks the façade on the south-facing roof slope. Shed-roofed dormers on the east, north, and west-facing roof slopes each have two one-over-one double-hung sash windows. A red brick chimney with a corbelled cap is on the roof ridge. The home's exterior walls are made of red brick laid in common bond, except for an enclosed rear porch where the exterior walls are painted white horizontal wood siding. The porch measures 5' N-S x 13' E-W, and is recessed under the house's northeast corner.

The asymmetrical façade faces Main Street to the south. A painted white wood-paneled door, with narrow sidelights and a transom, and covered by a silver metal storm door, enters the east half of the façade from a rounded two-step stone and concrete porch. This porch is covered by a molded hood supported by curved brackets. A silver metal storm door enters the enclosed rear porch. Windows in the main level are almost exclusively one-over-one double-hung sash with painted white wood frames, segmental brick arches, and sandstone lugsills. The only exception is a non-original one-by-one horizontal sliding window in the wall of the enclosed back porch.

A shed, that measures approximately 8' N-S x 20' E-W, is adjacent to the alley at the northeast corner of the property. The shed rests on a wood timbers on grade foundation, and its walls are made of square-cut logs with square-cut flush corner notching. The south and west walls are covered with rolled asphalt displaying a faux brick pattern. This small utilitarian building is covered by a shed roof with metal roofing material laid over 1x wood decking and 2x wood rafters. The rafter

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ends are exposed beneath the eaves. A small square wood-plank shuttered opening, side-hinged with metal strap hinges, is in the north-facing wall. The entry door is in the south-facing wall.

There are no additions and no notable exterior alterations to this dwelling's original construction.

**787 Main Street** 5RB.4393 (sketch map no. 21, photo no(s). 34)  
**Historic Name:** Wilson House, Ruckman House  
**Current Name:** Ruckman House  
**Construction Date:** 1899  
**Architectural Style:** Late Victorian

This Late Victorian era dwelling features a rectangular-shaped plan with a main 1½-story gable-on-hipped-roof section, that measures 41' N-S x 33' E-W, an enclosed front porch that measures 7' N-S x 28' E-W, and a bay window on the east side that measures 7' N-S x 3' E-W. The house is supported by a low concrete foundation, or possibly a stone foundation with the foundation walls covered with concrete parging above grade. The exterior walls are clad with yellow color horizontal vinyl siding, with a band of vertical vinyl siding just above the foundation wall. The roof is covered with brown metal roofing material, and the eaves are boxed. A large gabled dormer, with a set of paired one-over-one double-hung sash windows, overlooks the façade on the south-facing roof slope. The façade is symmetrical, and faces Main Street to the south. A set of paired brown metal storm doors enter the center of the enclosed gabled front porch below a triangular pediment. Two concrete steps and a wood stoop lead to the enclosed front porch. A rear entry door in the north-facing wall is covered by a brown metal storm door with nine upper sash lights. The bay window on the east side is covered by a hipped-roof, and has four one-over-one double-hung sash windows. Elsewhere, the home's windows are predominantly one-over-one sash with painted brown wood surrounds and triangular pediments.

The enclosed front porch and dormer overlooking the façade reportedly date from the 1960s. The vinyl siding reportedly dates from the 1970s. There are no other known additions or exterior alterations to the historic dwelling.

This property includes three secondary buildings, including a former one-room schoolhouse that was moved to this location several decades ago from an unknown rural location. Now used as a garage / shed, this building is near the northwest corner of the property, and measures approximately 24' N-S x 16' E-W. It has a poured concrete foundation and floor, and its exterior walls are clad with painted yellow horizontal wood siding with 1" x 4" corner boards. The roof is a steeply-pitched gable, covered with silver metal roofing material, and with painted white boxed eaves. A red brick chimney is at the north end of the roof ridge. A painted yellow horizontal weatherboard overhead garage door opens toward 8<sup>th</sup> Street to the west. A painted white wood-paneled door enters the south-facing wall. The west-facing wall contains a two-over-two sash window with a painted white wood frame and surround. A hipped-roof bay, with three-over-one (ribbon-style) windows is at the south end of the east-facing wall.

A former carriage house (now used as a secondary residence is adjacent to the alley) is at the rear of the property. Measuring 15' N-S x 46' E-W, this building is composed of three elements: a side-gabled one-story section at the east end, a 1½-story side-gabled section in the middle, and a one-story shed-roofed section at the west end. The exterior walls are clad with white and yellow horizontal vinyl siding, except for the shed-roofed section that has painted white horizontal weatherboard exterior siding. The roof is covered with metal roofing material, and the eaves are boxed. A painted white door, with one upper sash light, enters the south-facing wall of the shed-roofed section. Two other entry doors, both covered by white metal or synthetic storm doors, enter the south-facing walls of the two gabled sections from shed-roofed porches. This building's windows are predominantly one-over-one sash.

A small wood frame shed at the rear northeast corner of the property measures approximately 10' x 5'. It rests on a stone foundation, and its exterior walls are clad with rolled brown asphalt displaying a faux brick pattern. The shed roof is a steeply-pitched side-gable, with green asphalt composition shingles laid over 1x wood decking and 2x wood rafters. The rafter ends are painted white and are exposed beneath the eaves. A narrow painted white vertical wood plank door enters the west-facing wall. A small one-over-one sash window, with a painted white wood frame and surround, penetrates the south wall.

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**425 Park Avenue** 5RB.4381 (sketch map no. 22, photo no(s).35)  
**Historic Name:** Wildhack House  
**Current Name:** Davis / Oliver House  
**Construction Date:** 1903  
**Architectural Style:** Classic Cottage

This 1½-story Late Victorian era dwelling features a rectangular-shaped plan that measures 52' N-S (deep) x 36' E-W (across). An enclosed shed-roofed side porch at the northwest corner measures 20' N-S x 7' E-W. The house is supported by a coursed sandstone foundation, with the foundation wall above grade penetrated by segmental-arched basement windows. The exterior walls are made of red brick laid in common bond. The house is covered by a steeply-pitched hipped roof, with green asphalt composition shingles, and with painted white boxed eaves. Hipped-roof dormers are on all four roof slopes. The dormers on the south-facing and west-facing slopes each contain two one-over-one double-hung sash windows. The dormers on the east-facing and north-facing slopes each contain a single, one-over-one, sash window. A tall red brick chimney is near the base of the east-facing roof slope. An enclosed front porch, that measures 10' N-S x 21' E-W, is recessed under the front southeast corner of the house. The porch's lower exterior walls are clad with white horizontal wood siding, while the upper walls contain three single-light fixed-pane windows, divided by painted white square wood posts. The porch is decorated with a painted white bracketed spindle frieze. Three wood steps, with a black wrought iron railing, lead to a silver metal storm door at the exterior of the enclosed front porch. A stained natural brown wood-paneled door, with one upper sash light, and covered by a brown metal storm door, leads from within the enclosed front porch into the home's interior. Another door (not currently in use) enters the east end of the enclosed front porch from three concrete steps. The exterior walls of the enclosed porch at the northwest corner are clad with stained brown vertical wood siding. On the west side of the house, a painted white wood-paneled door, with one upper sash light, and covered by a metal storm door, enters into the enclosed side porch from a two-step concrete stoop. On the north side of the house, a painted white wood-paneled door, with one upper sash light, and covered by a metal storm door, enters into the same enclosed porch from a three-step wood stoop covered by a shed roof. The home's windows are primarily, one-over-one sash with painted white wood frames and surrounds, sandstone lugsills, and exterior metal storm windows.

A small metal gable-roofed shed, with a flat-roofed extension is in the side yard west of the primary dwelling.

The primary dwelling's shed-roofed enclosed porch at the north end of the west-facing wall appears to date from the 1960s or 1970s. The front porch was originally open, with the porch windows having been installed at an early unknown date. No other additions or exterior alterations are known to exist.

**425 4<sup>th</sup> Street** 5RB.8901 (sketch map no. 53)  
**Historic Name:** Unknown  
**Current Name:** Wederquist House  
**Construction Date:** c. 1941  
**Architectural Style:** Minimal Traditional

This modest one-story home is of wood frame construction, resting on a low poured concrete foundation. The exterior walls are clad with white undulated asbestos shingle siding. The roof is a moderately-pitched side-gable, with an intersecting gable at the south end of the east-facing wall. The roof is covered with metal roofing material, and the minimally-overhanging eaves are boxed with painted green wood trim. Windows are one-over-one sash with painted green wood surrounds. A stained natural brown glass-in-wood-frame door, with latticed lights, and covered by a white metal storm door, enters the enclosed front porch from a concrete stoop.

The garage is north of the residence and appears to date from circa 1970s. It rests on a poured concrete foundation, and its exterior walls are clad with white horizontal metal siding. The garage roof is a moderately-pitched front gable, covered with brown asphalt composition shingles. A painted white wood-paneled roll-away garage door faces toward 4<sup>th</sup> Street to the east.

A small gable-roofed shed is immediately west of the garage. This shed has white fiberboard exterior walls, red asphalt composition roof shingles, and exposed rafter ends. A painted white wood-paneled door, with four upper sash lights, enters the south-facing wall.



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There are no additions or notable exterior alterations to this building's original construction.

**449 Park Avenue** 5RB.4380 (sketch map no. 23, photo no(s). 36, 60)  
**Historic Name:** Salmon House, Aldrich House  
**Current Name:** Conrado House  
**Construction Date:** Circa 1886  
**Architectural Style:** Late Victorian

This single-story wood frame dwelling consists of the following elements: a main cross-gabled T-shaped section to the front (south), that overall measures 32' N-S (deep) x 32' E-W (across); a small shed-roofed addition that measures 6' N-S x 14' E-W, and that fills in the back side of the main T-shaped section at the east end of the main section's north side; a relatively large, circa 1971, gabled addition to the west end of the main section's north side that measures 26' N-S x 24' E-W. The house is supported by a low stone or concrete foundation, and the exterior walls are clad with rose color horizontal wood siding with painted white 1" x 4" corner boards. The main cross-gabled roof is covered with brown metal roofing material and the eaves are boxed with painted white wood trim. A small hipped-roof cupola with a weather vane is on the roof ridge. A painted white gable ornament is in the façade's upper gable end (facing Park Avenue to the south). A chimney is on the west-facing roof slope of the gabled rear addition. Two small bubble skylights are on the main west-facing roof slope. A front porch that is six feet wide extends across the entire façade. The front porch features a poured concrete floor, painted white turned columns and engaged columns, a painted white bracketed frieze, and a low-pitched hipped roof. Two entry doors lead into the house from the front porch. The porch's east entry is a painted white wood-paneled door with one upper sash light, and is covered by a painted white wood screen door. The west entry is a painted white wood-paneled door with latticed upper sash lights, and is covered by a metal storm door. An uncovered wood deck with an open wood railing extends across the north-facing wall of the gabled rear addition. Another painted white wood-paneled door with latticed upper sash lights, and covered by a white metal storm door enters the dwelling from the wood deck. Sets of ten-by-ten-by-ten casement windows are on the façade and on the west-facing side. Other window patterns include one-over-one sash, six-by-six casements, single-light casements, paired single-light casements, and one-by-one horizontal sliders. All of the windows have painted white wood frames and surrounds, and those toward the front also have painted white decorative shutters.

Other improvements on this property include a garage / barn, a shed, and a carport. The garage / barn is 1½-stories in height, and measures approximately 14' N-S x 22' E-W. Located adjacent to the alley at the rear of the property, this building rests on a poured concrete foundation, and its exterior walls and steeply-pitched gable roof are clad with corrugated metal. The east-facing wall contains a white metal rollaway garage door. The south-facing wall contains a vertical wood plank door, side-hinged with metal strap hinges, and a one-over-one sash window. A four-light window is in the west-facing wall's upper gable end. A shed-roofed wall dormer, with a vertical wood-plank shuttered opening, side-hinged with metal strap hinges, overlooks the alley on the north side of the building. Two window openings in the west-facing wall are covered with fiberglass panels.

Measuring approximately 14' N-S x 8' E-W, the shed is in the backyard between the dwelling and the garage / barn. The shed rests on a poured concrete foundation, and its exterior walls are clad with stained reddish-brown board-and-batten with painted white 1" x 4" corner boards. A shed roof is covered with metal roofing material, and the eaves are boxed with painted white wood trim. A concrete porch / sidewalk extends along the shed's east side, covered by a shed roof supported by painted white 6" x 6" wood posts. The east-facing façade wall extends above the roofline creating the appearance of a false front. A painted white horizontal sliding vertical wood plank door enters the shed from the porch. The north-facing and south-facing walls contain single eight-light windows with painted white wood frames and surrounds.

The carport measures approximately 18' N-S x 16' E-W, and is near the rear northeast corner of the property. It is of steel pipe construction with a gabled metal roof.

The original (circa 1886) front part of the gabled-T section of the primary dwelling is of log and sod construction beneath the existing siding. The additions to the north end of the original dwelling were constructed by Brian Conrado soon after he purchased the property in 1971. The shed and carport were also constructed at that time. The garage / barn dates from the very early 1900s. No other additions or exterior alterations are known to exist.

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**487 Park Avenue** 5RB.4379 (sketch map no. 25, photo no(s). 38, 60)  
**Historic Name:** Watson House, Oldland House  
**Current Name:** Oldland House  
**Construction Date:** 1887  
**Architectural Style:** Late Victorian

This 1½-story wood-frame dwelling consists of a central truncated hipped-roof core, a one-story enclosed hipped-roof porch on the west side, an enclosed one-story hipped-roof porch on the east side, and an enclosed, L-shaped, one-story porch that wraps around the front southeast corner. Overall, the central truncated hipped-roof core measures 58' N-S x 36' E-W; the enclosed hipped-roof porch on the west side measures 32' N-S x 13' E-W; the enclosed porch on the east side measures 33' N-S x 11' E-W; the enclosed L-shaped front porch overall measures 14' N-S x 13' E-W.

The house is supported by a stone and concrete foundation, while the exterior walls are clad with pale green color horizontal weatherboard siding. A painted olive green color horizontal 1x board with a water table separates the foundation from the weatherboard siding. Painted olive green wood blocks at the corners create the appearance of quoining. The truncated hipped roof is steeply-pitched, and is covered with green asphalt composition shingles. The eaves are boxed with painted white and olive green trim and decorative brackets. A gabled dormer on the south-facing roof slope (overlooking the façade) contains a painted red glass-in-wood-frame door, covered by a storm door, that opens onto a balcony with a painted white wood railing. A gabled dormer on the east-facing roof slope contains two, one-over-one double-hung sash windows. A large gabled dormer on the west-facing roof slope also contains two one-over-one double-hung sash windows. A glass storm door with a white metal or synthetic frame enters the enclosed front porch near the east end of the façade. An atrium door enters the enclosed porch on the west side of the house from a three-step concrete stoop. A painted red wood-paneled door, with two upper sash lights and with flanking sidelights, enters through the north-facing (rear) wall. This entry is covered by a low-pitched hipped roof with an intersecting gable, supported by painted olive green 4" x 4" wood posts with decorative brackets. A canted hipped-roof bay, with three, one-over-one double-hung, sash windows is near the west end of the façade. A rectangular shed-roofed bay is on the west side. The enclosed porch on the west side contains a band of three, six-over-three, ribbon-style, double-hung sash windows and a single, six-over-three, ribbon-style, double-hung sash window. The home's windows elsewhere are predominantly one-over-one double-hung sash with painted white wood frames and painted olive green wood surrounds.

A two-stall garage, that measures approximately 22' N-S x 26' E-W, is adjacent to the alley at the rear of the property. The garage has a poured concrete slab foundation and floor, while its exterior walls are clad with white horizontal metal siding over wood frame construction. The garage roof is a low-pitched front gable covered with asphalt composition shingles, and with metal-clad boxed eaves. A white metal-paneled garage rollaway garage door, and a white metal-paneled single-entry door, open onto a concrete driveway that extends toward 5<sup>th</sup> Street to the east. The garage's south wall contains two, one-by-one, horizontal sliding windows.

The residence was built in 1887. Thomas Watson, who operated a mercantile store at Main and 5<sup>th</sup> Streets was the home's original owner and is credited with its construction. Circa 1890, Watson sold his mercantile business and this house to Reuben and Sarah Oldland. This property was subsequently owned and occupied by members of the Oldland family until the 1960s. The building was then converted into a restaurant named Inge's Kitchen, before later becoming an attorney's office. Janice Oldland began renting the property in 1981, and purchased in 1991, once again bringing it under Oldland family ownership. Janice is the great-granddaughter of Reuben and Sarah Oldland who had acquired the property circa 1890. Relying on family photographs and oral history, she has rehabilitated the residence to how it appeared prior to when it was converted to commercial use in the 1960s.

**545 Park Avenue** 5RB.2247 (sketch map no. 27, photo no(s). 40, 61, 62)  
**Historic Name:** Camp on White River Army Officer Quarters, The Garrison  
**Current Name:** White River Museum  
**Construction Date:** 1880, moved circa 1885  
**Architectural Style:** Pioneer Log

Known as "The Garrison" and used originally as officers' quarters, the original portion of this building is one of three log buildings remaining from the U.S. Army's Camp on White River that existed from 1880 to 1883. This building and the one to the west at 565 Park Avenue (5RB.2248) are now both part of the Meeker Museum, and are owned by Rio Blanco

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County. The third building at 587 Park Avenue (5RB.2249), at the northeast corner of Park Avenue and 6<sup>th</sup> Street, is privately owned. The three buildings are believed to have been moved from within the immediate vicinity to their current locations fronting onto Park Avenue when the town of Meeker was platted in 1885.

This Pioneer Log building consists of an original (1880) one-story side-gabled log building, that measures 32' N-S (deep) x 40' E-W (across), and a lower gabled (1950) addition to the west end of the original north-facing wall, that measures 12' N-S x 31' E-W. Together, the original 1880 building and its 1950 addition form an L-shaped building. The building is supported by a poured concrete foundation, with river rock and concrete above grade on the façade. The walls are made of hand-hewn horizontal logs, from cottonwood trees, with vertical logs at the corners and at intervals along each side of the building. Known as "piece-sur-piece" this construction technique utilized a mortise and tenon system whereby tenons at the ends of the horizontal logs were mortised into the vertical logs. Commonly used in the construction of military buildings in the west during the late nineteenth century, piece-sur-piece construction allowed for the use of shorter logs that were easier to obtain and move to the building site, while still enabling the construction of longer wall sections.

The original side-gabled roof, and the roof over the addition are covered with wood shingles laid over 1x wood decking. Exposed rafter ends, with a fascia board, appear beneath the eaves of the side-gabled roof. The addition's roof eaves are boxed with stained brown wood trim.

The building's symmetrical façade faces Park Avenue to the south. A stained brown wood door, with diagonal, vertical and horizontal members, a diamond-shaped light, and sidelights, enters the center of the façade from a small two-step concrete porch flanked by log railings. This front entry door is flanked on either side by a six-over-six sash window with 2x wood frames and log surrounds. Windows elsewhere also have 2x wood frames and log surrounds. A fifteen-light glass-in-wood-frame door, with sidelights, enters the north wall of the original side-gabled section. This wall also contains a six-over-six sash window and a six-light fixed-pane window. The west wall of the side-gabled section contains three, six-over-six double-hung, sash windows. The east wall of the side-gabled section contains two six-over-six double-hung sash windows. A painted beige wood-paneled door, with four upper sash lights, enters the north wall of the addition. The west wall of the addition contains a six-over-six sash window and a set of paired six-light windows, while its east wall is penetrated by a single six-light fixed-pane window.

A historic privy and several large artifacts are located on the museum grounds. These include a Fresno scraper, a hay delivery rake, a hose cart, a lumber wagon, a forge and anvil, a seed separator, and a merry-go-round. According to an interpretive sign, the privy was built by Will Brittner in 1917, and was moved from the Martin Villa Ranch at an unknown date.

The 12' by 31' gabled addition at the west end of the original north elevation was constructed in 1950 when the property was owned by the Richard Lough family. When completed, the addition comprised two bedrooms and a kitchen. No other additions or alterations are known to exist.

**565 Park Avenue** 5RB.2248 (sketch map no. 28, photo no(s). 41, 61, 62)  
**Historic Name:** Camp on White River Army Officer Quarters  
**Current Name:** White River Museum  
**Construction Date:** 1880, moved circa 1885  
**Architectural Style:** Pioneer Log

Used originally as officers' quarters, the original portion of this building is one of three log buildings remaining from the U.S. Army's Camp on White River that existed from 1880 to 1883. This building, and the next building to the east at 545 Park Avenue (5RB.2247) are now both part of the Meeker Museum, and are owned by Rio Blanco County. The third building at 587 Park Avenue (5RB.2249), at the northeast corner of Park Avenue and 6<sup>th</sup> Street, is privately owned. The three buildings are believed to have been moved from within the immediate vicinity to their current locations fronting onto Park Avenue when the town of Meeker was platted in 1885.

This building now consists of the original (1880) log building erected by the U. S. Army, with three additions to its north end, respectively built in 1957, 1967, and in the 1990s. The original log building measures 33' N-S (deep) x 41' E-W (across). The 1957 and 1967 (center) additions measure a combined 87' N-S x 39' E-W. The 1990s (rear) addition measures 27' N-S x 58' E-W.

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The original 1880 log building is supported by a concrete foundation. The walls are made of hand-hewn horizontal logs, from cottonwood trees, with vertical logs at the corners and at intervals along each side of the building. Known as "piece-sur-piece" this construction technique utilized a mortise and tenon system whereby tenons at the ends of the horizontal logs were mortised into the vertical logs. The roof is a moderately-pitched side-gable, with beige color metal roofing material, and stained brown boxed eaves. Stained brown vertical wood siding appears in the upper gable ends on the east and west sides. A wood sign on the roof ridge faces the Park Avenue, denoting the building's use: "WHITE RIVER MUSEUM." The building's symmetrical façade faces directly onto the public sidewalk paralleling Park Avenue. A painted brown wood-paneled door, with small sidelights, enters the center of the façade. An eight-over-one sash window penetrates the façade wall west of the door, and a six-over-six sash window penetrates the façade wall east of the door. These windows have stained brown wood frames and surrounds. The east and west walls each contain two eight-over-one double-hung sash windows with stained brown wood frames and surrounds. All windows in the original building have steel security bars.

Constructed in 1957 and in 1967, the two center additions are one-story in height, and combined measure 87' N-S x 39' E-W. This section of the building rests on a poured concrete foundation, and its exterior walls are made of painted beige concrete blocks. The roof is a low-pitched gable, with metal roofing material and painted beige boxed eaves. The east-facing wall contains two sets of paired metal service doors, and six, one-by-one horizontal sliding windows with metal frames, concrete block sills, and steel security bars. The west wall contains four, one-by-one, horizontal sliding windows with metal frames, concrete block sills, and steel security bars.

Constructed in the 1990s, the rear, or northernmost, addition is a tall one-story section that measures 27' N-S x 58' E-W. It rests on a poured concrete foundation, and its exterior walls are made of painted beige concrete blocks. The upper south-facing wall is clad with beige vertical metal siding. A set of large, paired, diagonal plank doors, side-hinged with metal strap hinges, are in the east end of the south-facing wall. Two bands of six, single-light windows, penetrate the upper south-facing wall.

A garage of log and wood frame construction, dating from the early 1900s, is adjacent to the alley at the northeast corner of the property. The garage measures approximately 12' N-S x 18' E-W. The east, north and south walls are made of horizontal logs with concrete chinking, and with stained brown vertical 1x and 2x boards at the corners. The south wall is made of horizontal wood planks with 1" x 4" corner boards. The roof is a moderately-pitched front gable, covered with corrugated metal laid over 1x wood decking and 2x wood rafters. The rafter ends are exposed beneath the eaves. The south wall contains a set of paired vertical wood plank garage doors, side-hinged with metal strap hinges.

No other additions or exterior alterations are known to exist.

**587 Park Avenue** 5RB.2249 (sketch map no. 29, photo no(s). 42, 61, 62)  
**Historic Name:** Camp on White River Army Officer Quarters, Major House  
**Current Name:** MKP Property LLC House  
**Construction Date:** 1880, moved circa 1885  
**Architectural Style:** Pioneer Log

Used originally as officers' quarters, this is one of three log buildings remaining from the U.S. Army's Camp on White River that existed from 1880 to 1883. This building is privately owned, while the other two buildings – to the west at 545 Park Avenue (5RB.2247) and 565 Park Avenue (5RB.2248) - are now both part of the Meeker Museum, and are owned by Rio Blanco County. The three buildings are believed to have been moved from within the immediate vicinity to their current locations fronting onto Park Avenue when the town of Meeker was platted in 1885.

This building is composed of an original (1880) T-shaped 1½-story cross-gabled building, with two very early, historic, one-story, gabled extensions to its original north wall. The main side-gabled section of the original building fronts directly onto the public sidewalk paralleling Park Avenue, and measures approximately 26' N-S (deep) x 41' E-W (across). The rear gabled wing (forming the base of the "T") measures 21' N-S x 16' E-W. The one-story gabled addition to the east end of the original north wall measures 73' N-S x 13' E-W. The one-story gabled extension to the west end of the original north wall measures 65' N-S x 12' E-W. No other additions or exterior alterations are known to exist.

The original 1½-story gabled-T section rests on a poured concrete foundation. Its walls are made of hand-hewn horizontal

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logs, from cottonwood trees, with vertical logs at the corners and at intervals along each side of the building. Known as "piece-sur-piece" this construction technique utilized a mortise and tenon system whereby tenons at the ends of the horizontal logs were mortised into the vertical logs. The roof is covered with brown asphalt composition shingles laid over 1x wood decking and 2x wood rafters. Horizontal wood siding appears in the upper gable end on the west-facing side. Decorative rafter ends, with a fascia board, are exposed beneath the eaves on the façade. A stone chimney is near the east end of the south-facing roof slope. The symmetrical façade faces directly onto the public sidewalk paralleling Park Avenue. A painted white wood-paneled door, with small sidelights, enters the center of the façade, flanked on either side by a six-over-six sash window with painted white wood frames and surrounds and storm windows. The east-facing wall contains two six-over-six double-hung sash windows with painted white wood frames and surrounds and storm windows. The west-facing wall contains three six-over-six double-hung sash windows with painted white wood frames and surrounds and storm windows. A set of paired double-hung sash windows are in the west upper gable end; one sash window is in the east upper gable end. A painted white glass-in-wood-frame door, covered by a painted white wood screen door, opens from the upper half story on the building's east side onto an upper half story porch. This elevated porch measures 13' x 6', and is supported by square wood posts. The north wall (which is in-between the two gabled additions) contains a painted white wood-paneled door, with twelve upper sash lights, and covered by a painted white wood screen door.

The one-story gabled addition to the east end of the original north wall is supported by a concrete foundation. Its walls feature "piece-sur-piece" log construction, and its gabled roof is covered with metal roofing material. The east wall contains: a painted white wood-paneled door, with one upper sash light, and covered by a painted white wood screen door, a two-light window, and a six-light window. The north wall contains a one-over-one sash window. The west wall contains two eight-over-eight double-hung sash windows.

The one-story gabled addition to the west end of the original north wall is supported by a concrete foundation. Its walls feature "piece-sur-piece" log construction, and its gabled roof is covered with metal roofing material. A tall stone chimney is on the west-facing roof slope. The west wall contains three, one-over-one double-hung sash windows. The north wall contains a set of paired one-over-one double-hung sash windows.

A small historic log building, apparently used at one time in its history as a garage, is near the rear northwest corner of the property. This building measures approximately 12' N-S x 18' E-W. Its walls are made of unpeeled horizontal half logs, with vertical logs at the corners, at 6' intervals along the north and south sides, and at 4' intervals on the east and west sides. The roof is a steeply-pitched front gable, covered with corrugated metal laid over 1x wood decking and 2x wood rafters. The south wall contains a narrow door and a six-light window. The west wall (facing 6<sup>th</sup> Street) contains a set of paired diagonal plank garage doors. These doors are hidden behind small trees and shrubbery and appear not to have been used in many years.

The one-story gabled extensions to the original north wall represent very early additions, and may have been taken from other log structures also built originally as part of the Camp on White River.

**613 Park Avenue** 5RB.4397 (sketch map no. 30, photo no(s). 43, 63)  
**Historic Name:** Neal House, Spence House, Sides House  
**Current Name:** Fennessy House and Law Office  
**Construction Date:** 1919-1920  
**Architectural Style:** Late 19<sup>th</sup> and Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century American Movements / Bungalow/Craftsman

This Craftsman-style dwelling consists of: a main, rectangular-shaped, 1½-story core that measures 40' N-S (deep) x 42' E-W (across); an enclosed, rectangular-shaped, gabled front porch that forms the east end of the façade (facing Park Avenue to the south), and that measures 9' N-S x 16' E-W; an enclosed, rectangular-shaped, shed-roofed side porch on the west side, that overall measures 12' N-S x 12' E-W.

The house is supported by a coursed sandstone foundation, which is unpainted above grade and is penetrated by three-light hopper basement windows with painted red wood frames. A cream color 1x board with a water table separates the foundation from the wall surface above. The exterior walls are clad with stained dark brown square-cut wood shingles, with cream color 1" x 4" corner boards. Stained dark brown variegated wood shingles appear in the upper gable ends and on shed-roofed dormers on the east-facing and west-facing roof slopes. The front gabled roof is moderately pitched, and



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is covered with green metal roofing material. Cream color rafter ends are exposed beneath widely-overhanging eaves. Cream color gable ornaments, and decorative purlins with knee braces appear in the upper gable ends. The shed-roofed dormer on the east-facing roof slope contains a set of paired six-over-one double-hung sash windows. The shed-roofed dormer on the west-facing roof slope has a smaller shed-roofed dormer extension, and contains one six-light and one two-light window. A large stone fireplace chimney is on the east side.

A stained brown wood-paneled door with one upper sash light enters the enclosed front porch from a seven-step concrete stoop and handicap-accessible ramp. The porch's two front corners are formed by coursed sandstone pillars that support the corners of the porch's gable roof. Another stained brown wood-paneled door enters the enclosed porch on the west side from a seven-step wood stoop with a wood railing. All of the home's windows have painted red wood frames and exterior storm windows, and painted cream color wood surrounds. A large eight-over-one sash window, flanked on either side by narrower four-over-one double-hung sash windows, penetrates the façade wall west of the front porch. A large single-light window, flanked by narrower four-over-one double-hung sash windows, penetrates the façade's upper gable end. A one-over-one sash window, flanked by narrower one-over-one double-hung sash windows appears in the north-facing upper gable end. Windows elsewhere are predominantly single and paired four-over-one, none-over-one, twelve-over-one, and fifteen-over-one, double-hung sash.

A single-stall garage, with an attached carport extension on its east side, and a low gabled extension on its west side, is adjacent to the alley at the rear of the property. The garage with its gabled extension measures approximately 14' N-S x 16' E-W. The garage's exterior walls are clad with stained brown horizontal weatherboard, with painted cream color 1" x 4" corner boards. The garage's gabled roof is covered with green asphalt composition shingles laid over 1x wood decking and 2x wood rafters that are painted cream color and exposed beneath the eaves. The carport features a gabled roof with a shed-roofed extension to the south side. The carport roof is supported by steel poles. The carport has a green fiberglass north wall (adjacent to the alley), while its east and south sides are open. The garage and carport face onto a concrete driveway that extends to 6<sup>th</sup> Street to the east.

This house appears little changed from its original construction. The only notable exterior alteration is an aesthetically well-designed handicapped-accessible ramp that was installed in 2006.

**683 Park Avenue** 5RB.6524 (sketch map no. 32, photo no(s). 45, 64)  
**Historic Name:** Oldland House  
**Current Name:** Washburn House  
**Construction Date:** 1919-1920  
**Architectural Style:** Late 19<sup>th</sup> and Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century American Movements / Bungalow/Craftsman

This 1½-story Craftsman-style residence rests on an unpainted coursed sandstone foundation. The foundation wall above grade is penetrated by three-light hopper basement windows. A painted white 1x board and a water table separate the foundation from the wall surface above. The exterior walls are clad with painted yellow horizontal wood siding, with variegated wood shingles in the upper gable ends and on shed-roofed dormers on the east and west facing roof slopes. The front gabled roof is moderately pitched, and is covered with metal roofing material. Painted white rafter ends, with a fascia board, are exposed beneath widely-overhanging eaves. Gable ornaments and decorative purlins with knee braces appear in the upper gable ends. Shed-roofed dormers on the east and west facing roof slopes contain paired six-over-one double-hung sash windows. A stone chimney is near the north end of the west-facing roof slope.

A set of paired white metal storm doors enter an enclosed shed-roofed front porch. The porch is approached by six stone and concrete steps. The porch's two front corners are formed by coursed sandstone pillars that support the corners of the porch's shed roof. A rear entry door enters through the north-facing wall from beneath a shed-roofed patio and car port that measures 13' N-S x 31' E-W. The home's windows uniformly feature painted black wood frames and painted white wood surrounds. The north and south-facing upper gable ends each contain an eight-over-one double-hung sash window flanked by two-over-one double-hung sash windows. Elsewhere, windows are primarily six-over-one (ribbon-style) double-hung sash.

A garage, that measures approximately 18' N-S x 14' E-W, is near the northwest corner of the property. The garage has a poured concrete foundation and floor, and its exterior walls are made of red brick laid in common bond. Painted cream color square-cut wood shingles appear in the upper gable ends. The south wall contains a cream color vertical wood

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plank horizontal-sliding garage door. One-over-one double-hung sash windows, with painted black window frames, painted white wood surrounds, and sandstone lugsills penetrate the east and west walls.

This house at 683 Park Avenue and the house at 613 Park Avenue (5RB.4397) were designed by Denver architect William N. Bowman. Bowman had recently designed the Moffat County Courthouse in Craig, and as a result apparently made business contacts in Meeker. In April of 1920 Bowman obtained a commission to design the Neal Block in downtown Meeker, to be occupied by the First State Bank of Meeker. At the same time, Bowman was also contracted to design residences for the new bank's principal owners, Joseph N. Neal and Edmund Pauls. Completed in early 1920, the Neal Block is at the northwest corner of Main and 6<sup>th</sup> streets (5RB.2250). There are no additions to this house's original construction. The only notable exterior alteration is a rear patio/carport.

**715 Park Avenue** 5RB.2666 (sketch map no. 33, photo no(s). 46, 65)  
**Historic Name:** Lyttle House  
**Current Name:** Thorsby House  
**Construction Date:** Circa 1889  
**Architectural Style:** Late Victorian

This Late Victorian era residence consists of an original (circa 1889) 1½-story, cross-gabled, T-shaped dwelling, with two small extensions to its north-facing (rear) wall. The front-gabled (west) wing of the original T-shaped dwelling measures 33' N-S (deep) x 17' E-W (across). The side-gabled (east) wing of the original T-shaped dwelling measures 17' N-S x 16' E-W. A one-story gabled addition to the north wall of the original west wing measures 19' N-S x 17' E-W. A small 6' x 10' shed-roofed addition to the north wall of the original east wing measures 6' N-S x 10' E-W.

The house rests on a low sandstone foundation, and its exterior walls are covered with white horizontal vinyl siding. The roof is covered with metal roofing material and the eaves are boxed. There are two red brick chimneys on the two ridges of the original cross-gabled roof. The dwelling's asymmetrical façade faces Park Avenue to the south. A painted white wood-paneled door, with one upper sash light and a transom, and covered by a silver metal storm door, enters the façade near the west end of an elaborate front porch. Another entry door (no longer in use) also with a transom, and covered by a silver metal storm door, formerly entered the façade near the east end of the front porch. Extending across the entire façade, the porch is approached by four concrete steps, and features a wood plank floor, an open painted white wood railing, decoratively bracketed chamfered wood posts on wood pedestals, and a decorative painted white wood frieze. The porch is covered by a low-pitched hipped and shed roof. A rear entry door enters the north side of the building from a back porch with a painted white wood railing and covered by a low-pitched hipped roof. A canted hipped-roof bay, with four, one-over-one double-hung sash windows is on the east-facing side. A slightly projecting rectangular hipped-roof bay, with a set of paired one-over-one double-hung sash windows, is on the west-facing side. A large single-light fixed-pane window overlooks the front porch. Windows elsewhere are primarily one-over-one sash with painted white wood frames and pale blue vinyl surrounds.

A circa 1930s or 1940s wood frame garage, that measures approximately 20' x 28', is adjacent to the alley at the northeast corner of the property. The garage has a poured concrete foundation and floor, corrugated metal exterior walls, and a gabled roof. The roof is covered with corrugated metal laid over 1x wood decking and 2x wood rafters. Painted green rafter ends with a fascia board are exposed beneath the eaves. The garage's south wall contains two windows with painted green wood frames. Two brown metal overhead garage doors in the east wall open onto a concrete driveway that extends to 7<sup>th</sup> Street.

A wood-frame shed, that measures approximately 8' x 26', is immediately west of the garage. This building has painted white horizontal weatherboard exterior siding, and a shed roof covered with corrugated metal laid over 1x wood decking and 2x wood rafters. The rafter ends, covered by a fascia board, are exposed beneath the eaves. The entry door is in the south wall, opening into the backyard.

This house was owned and occupied by James and Selena Lyttle for many years beginning in the late 1800s. Mr. Lyttle founded *The Meeker Herald* newspaper in 1885, and served as the paper's owner and publisher until his death in 1925. There are no additions to the historic dwelling.

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**758 Park Avenue** 5RB.8707 (sketch map no. 36, photo no(s). 51, 67, 68)  
**Historic Name:** Unknown  
**Current Name:** Rio Blanco County Abstract Company House  
**Construction Date:** Circa 1933  
**Architectural Style:** Late 19<sup>th</sup> and Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century American Movements / Bungalow/Craftsman

This 1½-story Bungalow type dwelling features a rectangular-shaped plan that measures 30' N-S (deep) x 29' E-W (across). It is supported by a coursed sandstone foundation (or possibly a concrete foundation faced with sandstone). The exterior walls are finished with painted white stucco or concrete parging over wood frame construction. A painted mint green 1x board with a painted dark green accent forms a belt course that encircles the building just below the roof eave. The roof is a moderately-pitched front-gable, covered with brown metal roofing material. The boxed eaves are painted mint green, with a bead board underside and painted dark green accents. A tall brick chimney, covered with concrete parging, is on the west-facing roof slope.

The asymmetrical façade faces toward Park Avenue to the north. A painted dark green wood-paneled door, with one upper sash light, enters the façade from an 8' x 14' open front porch covered by a gabled roof. The porch features a concrete floor, river rock and concrete knee walls and distinctive tapered columns also made of river rock and concrete. A painted mint green solid wood door, with one upper sash light, enters through the south wall from a concrete stoop. The façade wall contains a large six-over-one (ribbon-style) double-hung sash window, to the west of the front porch. A set of paired four-over-one (ribbon-style) windows are in the façade's upper gable end. The west wall contains a large six-over-one (ribbon-style) sash window, and a set of paired four-over-one (ribbon-style) windows. The east wall contains a six-over-one (ribbon-style) sash window, a four-over-one (ribbon-style) sash window, and a one-by-one horizontal sliding bathroom window.

There are no additions or notable exterior alterations to this dwelling's original construction.

**777 Park Avenue** 5RB.4399 (sketch map no. 37, photo no(s). 48)  
**Historic Name:** Servant's Quarters for 785 Park Avenue  
**Current Name:** Seycash LLC House  
**Construction Date:** Circa 1903  
**Architectural Style:** No Defined Style

This wood frame dwelling is set far back from Park Avenue to the south, with its north wall adjacent to the alley. The dwelling features a rectangular-shaped plan that measures 29' N-S x 32' E-W. It is composed of a 1½-story front-gabled section in the center, with one-story shed-roofed extensions on the east and west sides. The main front-gabled section measures 25' N-S x 16' E-W. The east shed-roofed extension measures 29' N-S x 8' E-W. The west shed-roofed extension measures 20' N-S x 8' E-W. The building rests on a low stone or concrete foundation, and the roof is covered with brown asphalt composition shingles. Painted white rafter ends are exposed beneath the eaves. A red brick chimney is on the roof ridge. The exterior walls are clad with beige horizontal wood siding, with painted white 1" x 6" corner boards. Beige variegated wood shingles appear in the façade's upper gable end. Painted beige square-cut wood shingles appear in the north-facing upper gable end.

A painted white wood-paneled door, with one upper sash light, and covered by a wood screen door, enters the façade from an open front porch that wraps around to cover the south end of the west-facing wall. The porch features a tongue-and-groove wood floor, painted white turned columns, and a low-pitched hipped roof. A secondary entry door is at the north end of the west-facing wall. A one-over-one sash window with Queen Anne lights is in the façade's upper gable end. The north and east-facing walls each contain two, one-by-one, horizontal sliding windows. The west-facing wall contains a set of paired two-light windows.

This relatively small dwelling was historically associated with, and was the servant's quarters for, the larger dwelling next door at 785 Park Avenue.

The two shed-roofed extensions may have been built later than the center gabled section. No other alterations are known to exist.

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**785 Park Avenue** 5RB.4382 (sketch map no. 38, photo no(s). 49, 65, 66)  
**Historic Name:** Hay House, Hulett House, Clark House, Park House  
**Current Name:** Brennan House  
**Construction Date:** Circa 1897  
**Architectural Style:** Late Victorian

This Late Victorian era residence is supported by a painted red coursed sandstone foundation, with the foundation wall on the façade faced with a stone veneer. A bulkhead cellar is on the building's west side. The home's exterior walls are finished with painted red horizontal wood siding, with 1" x 4" corner boards. A band of sawtooth wood pattern shingles creates a belt course at a level just above the top of the windows. Square-cut and diamond-shaped wood pattern shingles appear in the upper gable ends, on the façade (south), east and west. The house is covered by a steeply-pitched hipped roof with intersecting gable and hipped-roofed extensions to the east, north and west. The roof is finished with brown asphalt composition shingles, while painted red rafter ends are exposed beneath the eaves. A hipped-roof dormer, with flared eaves, and paired latticed windows with decorative painted white wood shutters, overlooks the façade on the south-facing roof slope. A tall red brick chimney with a corbelled cap is on the ridge of the west gable-on-hipped roof section.

The dwelling's asymmetrical façade faces Park Avenue to the south. A stained brown wood-paneled door, with one upper sash light, and covered by a stained brown wood screen door, enters the façade from an open front porch. This three-step porch measures 10' N-S x 19' E-W, and features a carpeted wood floor, a painted white open wood railing, painted white square wood posts, and a shed roof. Another stained brown wood-paneled door, with latticed upper sash lights, also enters the façade from the east end of the front porch. A screened-in shed-roofed porch, that measures 23' N-S x 7' E-W, is at the rear northeast corner. The home's window patterns include one-over-one double-hung sash and one-by-one horizontal sliders, with painted white wood frames and surrounds, and with decorative painted white wood shutters. Some windows have Queen Anne or latticed upper sash lights.

A garage / workshop is near the rear northwest corner of the property. This building measures approximately 26' N-S x 28' E-W. It is supported by a low poured concrete foundation, and its exterior walls are clad with red horizontal Masonite type siding with 1" x 4" corner boards. The garage / workshop is covered by a low-pitched gabled roof, with corrugated metal roofing material and boxed eaves. A fiberglass rollaway garage door, and a white wood-paneled door with a fanlight, in the west-facing wall, opens onto a short gravel driveway that extends to 8<sup>th</sup> Street. A painted white solid wood door enters the south end of the east-facing wall. Windows are primarily four-by-four horizontal sliders with painted white wood frames and surrounds.

This property displays an overall high degree of integrity. There are no additions and no notable exterior alterations to the historic dwelling.

**788 Park Avenue** 5RB.6525 (sketch map no. 39, photo no(s). 52, 67)  
**Historic Name:** Unknown  
**Current Name:** Hallebach House  
**Construction Date:** Circa 1908  
**Architectural Style:** Late Victorian

This Late Victorian style dwelling features an irregular-shaped plan that overall measures 54' N-S (deep) x 68' E-W (across). An attached 24' N-S x 30' E-W garage is included in these dimensions. The residential portion of the dwelling consists of a main 1½-story cross-gabled section that measures 32' N-S x 24' E-W, an enclosed hipped-roof front porch that measures 7' N-S x 11' E-W, a one-story low-pitched hipped extension on the east-facing side that measures 22' N-S x 14' E-W, and a shed-roofed enclosed back porch on the south-facing side that measures 9' N-S x 21' E-W. The building rests on a poured concrete foundation, while the exterior walls are finished with cream yellow color horizontal wood siding with painted green 1" x 4" corner boards. Painted cream color square-cut wood shingles in the upper gable ends, and a painted red and green wood shingle diamond motif is in the façade's upper gable end.

The main 1½-story section is covered by a steeply-pitched front-gabled roof, with lower intersecting gables to the east and west. The west one-story extension is covered by a hipped roof, while the enclosed back porch extension is covered by a shed roof. All of the roof forms are covered with brown asphalt composition shingles, and the eaves are boxed with painted green wood trim. A red brick chimney is on the ridge.

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The dwelling's asymmetrical façade faces Park Avenue to the north. A painted red wood screen door enters the enclosed hipped-roof front porch from a three-step concrete stoop with black pipe railings. A cream yellow color wood-paneled door with one upper sash light enters into the enclosed back porch from a small uncovered deck at the southeast corner. A single-hung sash window with Queen Anne lights penetrates the façade wall west of the enclosed front porch. Windows elsewhere are primarily single and paired one-over-one double-hung sash with painted red wood frames and painted green wood surrounds.

A small shed is in the backyard southeast of the dwelling. The shed's exterior walls are made of cream yellow vertical wood siding with painted green 1" x 4" corner boards. The roof is a low-pitched front gable, with asphalt composition and painted green wood eaves. A painted red wood-paneled door enters the north wall. A six-light window, with a painted red wood frame and painted green wood surround, is in the west wall.

The attached garage and one-story extensions to this home's original east and south walls appear to early additions. No other alterations are known to exist.

**335 6<sup>th</sup> Street** 5RB.8713 (sketch map no. 45, photo no(s). 16, 70)  
**Historic Name:** Parker Mall  
**Current Name:** Parker Mall  
**Construction Date:** Circa 1954  
**Architectural Style:** Late 19<sup>th</sup> and Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century American Movements / Commercial Style

This one-story commercial building consists of a main front section that measures 49' N-S (across) x 74½' E-W (deep), with extensions to the west (rear), that overall measure 30' N-S by 69½' E-W, and which extend the rear of the building to the alley line to the west. The building rests on a poured concrete foundation, and the roof is flat, behind a behind a parapet that extends above the roofline on the façade. The rear extensions are of concrete block construction and are also covered by a flat roof.

The lower façade wall is finished with painted pale green horizontal wood siding, with painted dark green 1" x 4" corner boards. The upper façade wall, to the top of the parapet, is finished with painted pale green board and batten. A fixed wood awning, with wood processed shake shingles, extends across the façade over the entry doors and windows, visually separating the upper and lower façade. The east end of the north-facing wall is clad with a veneer of narrow red brick. The remainder of the building's walls is of concrete block construction.

A set of paired painted red glass-in-wood-frame doors, with flanking sidelights, enter the façade from within a recessed entryway. South of the entryway, the façade wall contains a set of paired single-light fixed-pane windows, and two other single-light fixed-pane windows with casement windows on either side. North of the entryway, the façade wall contains two single-light fixed-pane windows with flanking casement windows. All windows on the façade have painted dark green wood frames. Three utility doors and a white metal-paneled rollaway garage door enter the rear of the building.

This building was erected circa 1954, substantially replacing an earlier commercial building that had been built in 1919. The storefront has been periodically modified to accommodate new retail uses. No other alterations are known to exist.

**345 6<sup>th</sup> Street** 5RB.8714 (sketch map no. 46, photo no(s). 17, 69, 70)  
**Historic Name:** Unknown  
**Current Name:** Riegel Building  
**Construction Date:** Circa 1954  
**Architectural Style:** Ranch Type

This two-story, free-standing, commercial building features a rectangular-shaped plan that measures 44' N-S (across) x 64' E-W (deep). It rests on a poured concrete foundation, and it is covered by a (nearly flat) shed roof with metal-clad eaves. The lower façade wall (facing 6<sup>th</sup> Street to the east) is clad with a red brick veneer. The lower south wall is of unpainted concrete block construction. The lower north and west walls are covered with troweled grey color concrete parging, over concrete block construction. The upper south wall is covered with brown corrugated metal over concrete block construction. The building's second story features a neo Mansard roof design, covered with processed wood shake



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shingles on the east, north and west sides. The topmost section of the east, north and west walls are covered with brown corrugated metal.

A set of (north-facing) glass-in-silver metal-frame doors enter the north end of the façade. South of these doors, the lower façade wall contains three sets of large fixed-pane windows with brick rowlock sills, and two horizontally-oriented windows. A door in the façade's second story opens onto a wood balcony. A painted white solid wood door, with one upper sash light, enters the building's west side. Windows in the west-facing and north-facing walls are primarily one-by-one horizontal sliders, with white metal frames and stained brown wood surrounds.

**365 6<sup>th</sup> Street** 5RB.8715 (sketch map no. 47, photo no(s). 18, 69, 70)  
**Historic Name:** Meeker Colorado U. S. Post Office  
**Current Name:** Meeker Colorado U. S. Post Office  
**Construction Date:** Circa 1963  
**Architectural Style:** Modern Movement

The Meeker Post Office is a free-standing, one-story, rectangular-shaped building. It measures 55' N-S (across) x 65' E-W (deep), is supported by a poured concrete foundation, and is covered by a flat roof. The building's façade faces toward 6<sup>th</sup> Street to the east. The south end of the façade wall is clad with a veneer of wire-cut red brick laid in running bond. The remaining sections of the façade wall are divided into vertical sections of alternating fixed-pane windows and peach color tile. The secondary walls, on the building's north, west, and east sides are also clad with a wire-cut red brick veneer laid in running bond.

A glass-in-metal-frame door, with a sidelight and transom, enters the north end of the façade. This door enters the building from a concrete porch and handicapped-accessible ramp covered by a shed roof with steel post supports. Windows in the south wall include a set of paired one-over-one windows in metal frames and with a red brick rowlock sill, a band of six two-light windows with metal frames and red brick rowlock sills, and a small two-light frosted glass window with a red brick rowlock sill. A band of six two-light windows, with metal frames and red brick rowlock sills, are located in the north wall. The west (rear) wall contains a set of paired twelve-light horizontally-oriented windows, and three other twelve-light horizontally-oriented windows, with painted white wood frames and red brick rowlock sills. A set of paired painted red and green metal doors enter the rear of the building from a delivery dock covered by a flat extended roof overhang.

There are no additions or notable exterior alterations to this building's original construction.

**385 6<sup>th</sup> Street** 5RB.8717 (sketch map no. 49, photo no(s). 20, 69)  
**Historic Name:** Unknown  
**Current Name:** Sunday LLC House  
**Construction Date:** Circa 1938  
**Architectural Style:** Minimal Traditional

This 1½-story wood frame dwelling measures 30' N-S (across) x 56' E-W (deep). It rests on a painted brown poured concrete foundation, and its exterior walls are clad with pale white color asbestos shingle siding. The house is covered by a moderately-pitched side-gabled roof, with a swept side-gable extension to the west (rear). The roof is covered with brown asphalt-composition shingles, and the eaves are closed with painted brown wood trim. Two gabled dormers, each with a nine-over-nine sash window, are on the east-facing roof slope overlooking the façade. A large shed-roofed dormer, with two one-over-one double-hung sash windows, is on the west-facing roof slope. A tall red brick chimney is on the roof ridge.

The house features a symmetrical façade that faces 6<sup>th</sup> Street to the east. A stained brown wood-paneled front door, with a small upper sash light, and covered by a white metal storm door, enters the center of the façade from an open front porch. This porch measures 8' x 3', has a concrete floor, and a segmental-arched porch roof supported by two painted brown 4" x 4" wood posts. A stained brown wood-paneled door, with one upper sash light, and covered by a black metal storm door, enters the north end of the west-facing wall from a small uncovered three-step concrete porch. The front porch is flanked on each side by an eight-over-eight sash window. Windows elsewhere are one-over-one, six-over-six, and eight-over-eight, sash, predominantly with painted brown wood frames and surrounds.

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The only notable exterior alteration to the original dwelling is an older, large, shed-roofed dormer on the west-facing roof slope.

**389 7<sup>th</sup> Street** 5RB.8719 (sketch map no. 51, photo no(s). 22, 68)  
**Historic Name:** Unknown  
**Current Name:** Schram House  
**Construction Date:** Circa 1923  
**Architectural Style:** Late 19<sup>th</sup> and Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century American Movements / Commercial Style  
**Architectural Style:** Hipped Roof Dwelling

This one-story wood-frame dwelling features an irregular-shaped plan that overall measures 28' N-S x 47' E-W. It rests on a poured concrete foundation, and it is covered by a moderately-pitched hipped roof with red metal roofing material, and with exposed rafter ends beneath the eaves. A red brick chimney is on the ridge. A brick fireplace chimney is on the north-facing wall. The lower portion of this chimney below the roof eave is clad with white stucco, while the chimney's pale red color bricks are exposed in the upper portion above the roof eave. The house's exterior walls are covered with white horizontal vinyl siding.

The façade faces toward 7<sup>th</sup> Street to the east. A painted white wood-paneled door, with a fanlight, and covered by a white metal storm door, enters the façade from a small uncovered concrete porch. A white paneled door, covered by a white metal storm door, enters the east end of the south-facing wall from a 5' x 8' uncovered porch with a wood railing. The home's windows are primarily one-over-one sash and single-light fixed-panes.

A two-stall garage is south of the dwelling. The garage measures 24' N-S x 30' E-W, has a poured concrete foundation and floor, and white horizontal vinyl exterior siding over wood frame construction. The garage roof is a low-pitched front gable, with grey asphalt composition shingles and boxed eaves. A white paneled roll-away garage door in the south-facing wall opens onto a gravel driveway. Vehicular access is from the alley to the south or from 7<sup>th</sup> Street to the east.

There are no additions to this dwelling's original construction. The application of vinyl siding and the alteration of some window openings are the only notable exterior alterations.

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**NONCONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS**

Descriptions of noncontributing buildings on are presented under a single heading, beginning with Main Street, followed by Park Avenue, 5<sup>th</sup> Street, 6<sup>th</sup> Street, 7<sup>th</sup> Street, and 8<sup>th</sup> Street. Six of the noncontributing buildings postdate the period of significance (1880-1967). The remaining nine noncontributing buildings date from the period of significance, but have been altered to such an extent that they no longer convey a sense of their historic significance.

**455 Main Street** 5RB.2244 (sketch map no. 2, photo no(s). 1)  
**Historic Name:** Meeker Elementary School  
**Current Name:** Rio Blanco County Justice Center  
**Construction Date:** 1938-1939  
**Architectural Style:** Late 19<sup>th</sup> and Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century American Movements / WPA Rustic

The former Meeker Elementary School building is centered in the block historically bordered by 4<sup>th</sup> Street on the east, Main Street on the south, 5<sup>th</sup> Street on the west, and Park Avenue on the north. This land comprised the east half of the parade grounds of the U. S. Army's Camp on White River between 1880 and 1883, and it later became the Meeker Town Park. The Rio Blanco County Courthouse is in the block to the west, which historically was the west half of the parade grounds. There are no other buildings in these two blocks. 5<sup>th</sup> Street has been vacated between the courthouse and the former elementary school so that the grounds around the two buildings feature a uniform landscape design. The former school building was built as a WPA project in 1938-1939 and served its original purpose until the school's closure in 2010. A large modern addition was subsequently built onto the school's original north-facing wall, and an entryway addition was built onto the south-facing (façade) wall. The entire building now houses the Rio Blanco County Justice Center and Sheriff's Office.

The original 1938-1939 school measures 100' N-S x 152' E-W. Built in the WPA Rustic style of architecture, and featuring a symmetrical plan, the former school is a one-story building with a poured concrete foundation, locally quarried coursed sandstone walls, and a flat roof. A sandstone belt course is approximately 3½' below the roofline. The façade faces toward Main Street to the south. The façade was historically divided into three bays and three projecting elements, two of which contained entry doors. The façade now also includes the modern entryway addition that has replaced the original main entry. Door and window openings in the façade wall include (from west to east): a large non-historic twelve-light fixed-pane window (historically an entry door); five, four-over-one, fixed-pane windows; a set of paired, four-over-one, fixed-pane windows; ten four-over-one fixed-pane windows; the modern entryway addition; five four-over-one, fixed-pane windows. The west-facing wall contains one entry with a glass-in-metal-frame door, with side lights and a transom. The west-facing wall also contains seven, four-over-one, fixed-pane windows. The east-facing wall contains twelve, four-over-one, fixed-pane windows. The school's original north-facing wall is entirely covered by the large modern justice center addition.

The modern entry on the façade contains a set of paired south-facing glass-in-metal-frame doors with a large sixteen-light transom, and two other glass-in-metal-frame doors that respectively face east and west. These doors are flanked by tall four-over-one fixed-pane windows. The lower exterior walls of the entryway addition are made of coursed sandstone blocks, while the upper walls are made of brown brick laid in running bond. The front, south-facing, wall of the entryway addition features a symmetrical parapet that extends above the roofline of the original school building. The large rear addition to the school's original north-facing wall features a poured concrete foundation, buff color concrete block exterior walls, and a flat roof. Windows in the addition are four-over-one fixed-panes.

The school building served its original purpose until 2010. In 2016, the building was retrofitted to serve as the new Rio Blanco County Justice Center. As part of that effort, a large modern addition was constructed onto the school's original north wall, a new modern entry was placed facing Main Street on the façade, and the windows were altered. Due to the alterations, it is considered noncontributing. There are no other additions or exterior alterations to the historic building.

**490 Main Street** 5RB.8693 (sketch map no. 3, photo no(s). 3, 53, 54)  
**Historic Name:** White River Lumber Company Building, Independent Lumber Company Building  
**Current Name:** Meeker Public Library  
**Construction Date:** Circa 1950  
**Architectural Style:** Modern Movement

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Located at the southeast corner of Main and 5<sup>th</sup> streets, the Meeker Public Library building consists of a circa 1950 rectangular-shaped building (that originally housed a lumber company), and a 2014 addition built onto the north end of the west side of the original building. Together, the original circa 1950 building and its 2014 addition form an L-shaped edifice. The original building measures 100' N-S (deep) x 58' E-W (across). The addition measures 36' N-S x 41' E-W.

The building is supported by a poured concrete foundation, and it is covered by a flat roof hidden behind a flat parapet on the north side and behind stepped parapets on the east and west sides. The original north, east and south exterior walls, are of mottled brick construction. The west wall (facing 5<sup>th</sup> Street) is made of pale orange color clay tile blocks, with five pale orange color brick buttresses with concrete bases and metal caps.

Two entry doors are on the library's south side. One of these – a horizontal-sliding glass bypass door – is the main entry into the library. The other entry door on the south side is a glass-in-dark brown-metal-frame door with flanking side lights. Both of these doors enter the building from a concrete sidewalk and porch covered by a flat roof supported by round steel posts and a steel I-beam. Two glass-in-dark-brown-metal-frame doors respectively enter the building at the center of the north side and near the south end of the west side. The north wall (facing Main Street) contains seven large single-light fixed-pane windows with dark brown stuccoed surrounds. The west wall (facing 5<sup>th</sup> Street) contains three large single-light fixed-pane windows with dark brown stuccoed surrounds (at the north end) and four smaller single-light fixed-pane windows with brick rowlock sills.

The 2014 addition features a concrete foundation, red brick walls laid in running bond, and a flat roof. The north wall contains a band of four large, floor-to-ceiling, fixed-pane windows with dark brown metal frames, as well as a glass-in-dark-brown-metal-frame door, with side lights and a transom. The word "LIBRARY" in large block letters is fastened to the north wall centered above the windows. A courtyard, that measures 17' N-S x 30' E-W, is adjacent to the south end of the addition, and is enclosed by a red brick wall.

This building has not been altered from 2014 to the present.

**504 Main Street** 5RB.2238 (sketch map no. 4, photo no(s). 4, 55, 57)  
**Historic Name:** First National Bank of Meeker  
**Current Name:** Bank of the San Juans  
**Construction Date:** Circa 1904  
**Architectural Style:** Late 19<sup>th</sup> and Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century American Movements / Commercial Style

This commercial building rests on a coursed sandstone foundation, and consists of a two-story section at the southwest corner of Main and 5<sup>th</sup> streets (originally housing the First National Bank of Meeker), that measures 78' N-S (deep) x 51' E-W (across), and two single-story sections to the west, that historically comprised a double storefront. The entire ground floor space is currently occupied by the Bank of the San Juans. The two-story section and the single-story sections are covered by flat roofs. Tall parapets, topped by painted white cornices, extend along the top of the north and east walls of the two-story section. A lower parapet, topped by a painted white bracketed cornice, extends along the top of the south wall of the two-story section. A red brick chimney is at the south end of the two-story section.

The first story of the façade wall (facing Main Street to the north) of the two-story section is finished with a veneer of pale red brick laid in running bond, topped by a projecting belt course of two soldier courses and two rowlock courses. This first story façade wall finish also wraps around to the north end of the east-facing wall (facing 5<sup>th</sup> Street). The façade's second story wall is made of darker red brick laid in running bond, with decorative brickwork surrounding the second story windows and below the cornice. The first story of the east-facing wall is clad with a veneer of alternating stone and concrete blocks, below and between the first story windows. The east wall's second story is made of darker red brick laid in running bond, with decorative brickwork below the cornice. The south (rear) wall is made of red brick laid in common bond.

The façade (north) walls of the two single-story sections are finished with a veneer of pale red brick laid in running bond, topped by projecting belt courses of two soldier courses and two rowlock courses. The façade wall of the eastern one-story section has a taller parapet than the western one-story section. A clock face with Roman numerals, and advertising for "BANK OF THE SAN JUANS" appears in the upper wall surface of the western single-story section. The south (rear)

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walls of the two single-story sections are made of red brick laid in running bond. A sign band with white lettering on a black background is fastened to the upper south wall of the western single-story section. This sign advertises: "BANK OF THE SAN JUANS."

The main entrance into the building is through the north wall of the eastern single-story section. Here, a set of paired doors, with slender vertically-oriented lights and flanking side lights, enter the building from within a deeply-recessed rounded brick archway. A glass-in-metal-frame door, with a side light and transom, enters the south end of the east-facing wall below a molded green metal hood. A set of paired glass-in-metal-frame doors enter the west end of the south-facing wall beneath a triangular-shaped flat awning.

The first story façade wall of the two-story section contains eight, floor-to-ceiling, single-light fixed-pane windows with projecting brick surrounds. The second story façade wall of the two-story section contains eight one-over-one double-hung sash windows with brick surrounds and a continuous concrete sill. The east side's first-story wall contains four sets of four single-light fixed-pane windows with dark brown metal frames. The east side's second story wall contains twelve one-over-one double-hung sash windows with brick surrounds and a continuous concrete sill. The second story south wall of the two-story section contains six one-over-one double-hung sash windows with sandstone lugsills and segmental brick arches. The north (façade) wall of the western one-story section contains four vertically-oriented single-light fixed-pane windows. The south wall of the western one-story section contains a single-light fixed-pane window. A drive-through bank teller facility has been built onto the south side of the two-story section.

The two-story section was built originally as the First National Bank of Meeker. Founded in Meeker, this banking concern branched out to Grand Junction, Steamboat Springs, Oak Creek, and Rangely, and eventually merged with the Bank of the San Juans. The two single-story sections originally comprised a double storefront, with separate businesses throughout much of their history. Retail establishments over the years include Strehlke Drug, followed by Sides Rexall Drug, the Meeker Commercial Club, a variety shop, and a Western Auto Parts store. The bank expanded into the adjacent double storefront in the early 1980s. The storefront's façade and a drive-through bank teller facility on the south (back) side of the building date from that time.

No other alterations are known to exist.

**530 Main Street** 5RB.2239 (sketch map no.5, photo no(s). 5, 55, 57)  
**Historic Name:** Meeker Drugs Building  
**Current Name:** Meeker Drugs Building  
**Construction Date:** Circa 1914  
**Architectural Style:** Late 19<sup>th</sup> and Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century American Movements / Commercial Style

This one-story commercial building features a rectangular-shaped plan that measures 24' N-S (deep) x 95' E-W (across). It is covered by a flat roof, with a flat parapet on the façade and a stepped parapet on the west side. The facade wall, facing Main Street to the north, is presently covered with concrete parging over red brick construction. (Carrara glass which had covered the façade wall was recently removed.) A projecting concrete or stone cornice is slightly below the top of the parapet on the façade, while above the cornice, the original red brick wall is exposed at the top of the parapet. The south (rear) wall is made of painted beige color brick laid in common bond. The exposed portion of the west (side) wall is made of red brick laid in common bond.

The façade contains a symmetrical single storefront. A glass-in-metal-frame door, with a side light and a transom, enters the center of the façade from within an angled recessed entryway. Fixed-pane storefront display windows flank the angled recessed entryway, while the entryway and display windows all topped by a band of clerestory windows. A black metal utility door enters the building through the south (rear) wall below a segmental brick arch. The south wall also contains a plywood-filled window with a sandstone lugsill and a segmental brick arch.

There are no additions to the historic building. The recent removal of the Carrara glass on the façade is the only known exterior alteration.

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**640 Main Street** 5RB.8694 (sketch map no. 13, photo no(s). 11, 58, 59)  
**Historic Name:** Smokehouse, Northwest Credit Bureau, Montgomery Ward  
**Current Name:** Kindler Building, Identity Graphics, Mountain Hair Benders  
**Construction Date:** Circa 1946  
**Architectural Style:** Late 19<sup>th</sup> and Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century American Movements / Commercial Style

This single-story commercial building features a rectangular-shaped plan that measures 50' N-S (deep) x 32½' E-W (across). It is supported by a poured concrete foundation. The roof is flat, behind a symmetrical stepped parapet on the façade. A red brick chimney is on the building's west side. Facing Main Street to the north, the façade wall is clad with painted dark grey stucco. The south-facing (rear) wall is made of painted white concrete blocks.

The façade contains a single symmetrical storefront. A painted black glass-in-wood-frame door, with one upper sash light, and with side lights and a transom, enters the center of the façade from within a canted recessed entryway. The entryway is flanked on either side by a set of paired single-light fixed-pane windows with painted black wood frames. A black canvas awning with a metal frame extends over the storefront. The south-facing wall contains a painted beige color utility door and two one-over-one double-hung sash windows with concrete lintels.

There are no additions to this building's original construction. The façade wall was stuccoed at an unknown date, and the storefront has been periodically modified to accommodate new retail uses.

**646 Main Street** 5RB.8695 (sketch map no. 15, photo no(s). 12, 58, 59)  
**Historic Name:** Premier Cleaners  
**Current Name:** Joy Surveying Building  
**Construction Date:** Circa 1945  
**Architectural Style:** Late 19<sup>th</sup> and Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century American Movements / Commercial Style

This one-story commercial building features a rectangular-shaped plan that measures 73' N-S (deep) x 25' E-W (across). It is supported by a poured concrete foundation. The roof is flat, covered with metal roofing material, and has a short shed-roofed section to the rear. The roof is hidden behind a flat parapet on the façade, and there are stepped parapets on the east and west sides. The façade wall, facing Main Street to the north, is clad with painted pale beige color stucco. The west half of the south-facing (rear) wall is covered with painted white vertical wood siding. The east half of the south-facing wall is made of unpainted concrete. The exposed south end of the east (side) wall is covered with unpainted vertical wood siding. A white metal door, with one upper sash light, and with side lights and a transom, enters the center of the symmetrical façade from within a recessed entryway. Flanking the door, the walls of the entryway are finished with stained natural brown vertical wood siding. The entryway is flanked by single-light fixed-pane windows with painted brown wood frames. A sign band advertising "JOY SURVEYING CO." in white letters on a brown background is fastened to the upper façade wall above the entry.

The building was home to Meeker Hardware, owned by Charles Conrado between circa 1952 and 1967, and was later home to Premier Cleaners. The façade wall was stuccoed at an unknown date, and the storefront was periodically modified to accommodate new retail uses.

**675 Main Street** 5RB.8699 (sketch map no. 17, photo no(s). 30)  
**Historic Name:** Dodge Dealership Building  
**Current Name:** Zagarbrown LLC Building  
**Construction Date:** Circa 1909  
**Architectural Style:** Late 19<sup>th</sup> and Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century American Movements / Commercial Style

This free-standing one-story commercial building features a rectangular-shaped plan that measures 150' N-S (deep) x 38' E-W (across). It is supported by a poured concrete foundation. The building is covered by a truncated gambrel roof, with red metal roofing material on the front (south) section, and with red asphalt composition shingles on the rear (north) section. Painted white exposed rafter ends appear beneath the eaves. The façade wall, facing Main Street to the south, is made of wire-cut red brick laid in common bond. The upper gambrel end on the façade is clad with white horizontal metal siding. The south section of the west-facing wall is made of red brick laid in common bond; the north section of the west-facing wall is covered with red corrugated metal. The south section of the east-facing wall is made of painted red concrete blocks; the north section of the east-facing wall is covered with red corrugated metal. The north-facing (rear) wall is

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covered with red corrugated metal with rolled asphalt in the upper gable end. The façade contains a grey metal rollaway garage door, a narrow single-entry door, a two-light industrial sash window with a brick rowlock sill, and a large window arrangement also with a brick rowlock sill, currently covered by a sheet of red metal. The south section of the west-facing wall contains a single-entry door, two segmental-arched windows, and one flat-arched window currently covered with plywood. The north section of the west-facing wall contains a plywood-filled window, two one-over-one double-hung sash windows, and a set of paired six-light windows with painted white wood frames. The south section of the east-facing wall contains a white metal rollaway garage door, a single white utility door, and a two-light window with a metal frame and concrete sill. The north section of the east-facing wall contains a horizontal-sliding plywood door, a white metal-paneled door, and three sets of paired windows with painted white wood frames. The north-facing wall contains a six-over-six sash window, and two one-over-six double-hung sash windows with painted white wood frames.

There are no additions to the historic building. Evidence of its historic use as an automobile dealership and garage remains reasonably intact.

**685 Main Street** 5RB.8700 (sketch map no. 18, photo no(s). 31)  
**Historic Name:** N/A  
**Current Name:** The Main Street Building  
**Construction Date:** 1974  
**Architectural Style:** Modern Movement

This free-standing, one-story, commercial building measures 126' N-S x 70' E-W. It is supported by a poured concrete foundation, and its exterior walls are made of pale buff color brick. The building is covered by low-pitched intersecting gable roof forms, finished with red clay tiles. Stained brown exposed rafter ends, with a fascia board, appear beneath the eaves. Decorative stained brown purlins and ridge poles appear in the upper gable ends.

Door and window openings in the south and west-facing walls are symmetrically arranged. A set of paired glass-in-wood-frame doors below a segmental arch, enter the center of the south-facing wall from within a rounded arch stuccoed entryway. On either side of the entryway there is a single-light fixed-pane window, flanked by two casement windows in brown metal frames. On the building's west-facing side there is a centered recessed uncovered porch with Trex type flooring material and with a black metal railing. A series of rounded arch door and window openings, including some with canvas awnings, overlook the recessed porch. The north-facing wall contains three single-light fixed-pane windows, flanked by two casement windows in brown metal frames. The east-facing wall contains two service doors and three single-light fixed-pane windows, flanked by two casement windows in brown metal frames.

This building has not been altered subsequent to its construction in 1974.

**465 Park Avenue** RB.8702 (sketch map no 24, photo no(s). 37, 60)  
**Historic Name:** N/A  
**Current Name:** Oldland / Uphoff Building  
**Construction Date:** 1978  
**Architectural Style:** Modern Movement

This triplex residential building features an irregular-shaped plan that measures 46' N-S x 58' E-W. The building is two-stories in height, rests on a poured concrete foundation, and is covered by a low-pitched side gable roof with metal roofing material and boxed eaves. The exterior walls are finished with alternating sections of beige color horizontal vinyl siding and mottled brown brick. Boxed chimneys are at the east and west ends of the building.

Three entry doors enter the building's three residential units on the façade (facing Park Avenue to the south). These are stained brown solid wood doors, covered with brown metal storm doors, each of which enter the building from a small concrete porch. The porches are partially covered by the roof eave. Window patterns include one-by-one horizontal sliders and single-light fixed-panes set over single-light awning type windows.

A gable-roofed wood frame car port is in a gravel parking lot at the rear of the property.

This building has not been altered subsequent to its construction in 1978.

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**517 Park Avenue** 5RB.8703 (sketch map no. 26, photo no(s). 39)  
**Historic Name:** Meeker Mortuary  
**Current Name:** Rio Blanco County Heritage Culture Center  
**Construction Date:** 1975  
**Architectural Style:** Modern Movement

This free-standing, one-story, building features a rectangular-shaped plan that measures 50' N-S (deep) x 70' E-W (across). It rests on a poured concrete foundation, and its exterior walls are clad with white horizontal metal siding over wood frame construction. The building is covered by a low-pitched side-gabled roof, with green corrugated metal roofing material. The eaves are boxed with painted white and green wood trim.

The façade faces Park Avenue to the south. Door and window openings in the façade, from west to east, include: a three-light horizontal sliding window; a single-light fixed-pane window; a white metal entry door, with an oval-shaped leaded-glass light, beneath a small intersecting gable; a single-light fixed-pane window; a single-light fixed-pane window flanked on each side by a narrow one-over-one sash window; and two one-over-one double-hung sash windows within a former garage bay door opening now filled with painted white plywood. The north (rear) wall contains a painted green wood-paneled rollaway garage door, and two painted green metal service entry doors. The east wall (facing 5<sup>th</sup> Street) contains a white paneled door. The upper west wall contains one shuttered window opening.

Originally home to the Meeker Mortuary, this building was recently retrofitted to serve as the Rio Blanco County Heritage Culture Center.

**631 Park Avenue** 5RB.8704 (sketch map no. 31, photo no(s). 44, 63, 64)  
**Historic Name:** Unknown  
**Current Name:** Lupoli House  
**Construction Date:** Circa 1929  
**Architectural Style:** Late 19<sup>th</sup> and Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century American Movements / Bungalow / Craftsman

This 1½-story residence features a rectangular-shaped plan that measures 68' N-S x 29' E-W. It is supported by a concrete foundation, faced with a stone veneer. The foundation walls above grade are penetrated by single-light and two-light hopper basement windows. The exterior walls are finished with beige color horizontal siding. The roof is a moderately-pitched front gable, covered with silver metal roofing material. A large upper half-story addition rises above the original roofline and extends the original building to the rear. A 13' x 8' gabled addition at the front southeast corner is covered by a gable roof. A tall red brick chimney is on the east-facing roof slope.

The house's asymmetrical façade faces toward Park Avenue to the south. A white paneled door, covered by a white metal or synthetic storm door, enters the west end of the façade from a six-step concrete and stone porch. A secondary entry door, covered by a white metal or synthetic storm door, enters the east-facing wall beneath a shed-roofed porch. The façade wall contains a single-light fixed-pane window and a band of three single-light fixed-pane windows. Single-light fixed-pane windows, with flanking casement windows, are at the south end of the east-facing and west-facing walls. Windows elsewhere are primarily one-by-one horizontal sliders.

An oversized two-stall garage is at the rear of the property. The garage features a poured concrete foundation and floor, beige color horizontal vinyl siding over wood frame construction, and a low-pitched gabled roof. The roof is covered with metal roofing material and the eaves are boxed. A white metal rollaway garage door and a smaller door are located on the south side. Vehicular access is from Park Avenue via a concrete driveway along the west side of the house.

Modern alterations to this historic dwelling include the application of vinyl siding, a large upper half story addition, and new door and window treatments, along with a large oversized garage.

**732/738 Park Avenue** 5RB.8706 (sketch map no. 34, photo no(s). 50, 67, 68)  
**Historic Name:** Unknown  
**Current Name:** Pearce House  
**Construction Date:** Circa 1898  
**Architectural Style:** Modern Movement



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This 1½-story residence measures 38' N-S (deep) x 37' E-W (across), not including an attached garage on the east side, that measures 23' N-S x 12' E-W, and a small 7' x 4' shed-roofed projection on the west side. The house rests on a poured concrete foundation covered with beige color stucco, and the exterior walls are finished with painted beige color stucco over wood frame construction. The roof is a moderately-pitched side-gable, with a lower intersecting gable to the rear (south) above a one-story shed-roofed extension. The roof is covered with red metal roofing material and the eaves are boxed. A shed-roofed dormer, with a small, one-by-one, horizontal sliding window, overlooks the façade on the north-facing roof slope.

The house's asymmetrical façade faces toward Park Avenue to the north. A narrow 3' N-S x 32' E-W concrete porch is covered by a shed roof and extends across the façade. Immediately west of the porch, a white metal or synthetic storm door enters into a small enclosed porch that measures 5' N-W x 5' E-W. This is the primary front entry into the dwelling. To the west of the enclosed porch, a white metal-paneled rollaway garage door allows for vehicular access into the attached garage. A painted white solid wood door, with three stepped upper sash lights, enters the south wall of the attached garage from a shed-roofed covered stoop. A back door enters through the south wall of the dwelling from a gable-roofed patio that measures 10' N-S x 18' E-W. A non-historic canted bay window overlooks the front porch on the façade. Windows elsewhere are primarily non-original, one-by-one, horizontal sliders. Two windows in the west-facing wall are covered by aluminum awnings.

Addressed as 738 Park Avenue, a secondary residence is in the backyard behind the primary dwelling. This building rests on a low unpainted poured concrete foundation, and its exterior walls are clad with wide painted white horizontal wood siding. The building is covered by gabled and shed roof forms, with a lower gabled addition to the east. The roof is covered with red metal roofing material, with painted white rafter ends exposed beneath the eaves. A painted white wood-paneled door, with one upper sash light, enters through the east-facing wall. This wall also contains a set of paired six-light windows. Other windows are predominantly one-by-one horizontal sliders.

A wood-frame garage, that measures approximately 20' N-S x 18' E-W, is adjacent to the alley at the rear southwest corner of the property. The garage rests on a poured concrete foundation, and its exterior walls are clad with white horizontal metal siding. The garage roof is a moderately-pitched front gable, with silver corrugated metal roofing material, and with painted white rafter ends exposed beneath the eaves. A set of paired painted white plywood doors, side-hinged with metal strap hinges, in the east wall open onto a gravel driveway. Vehicular access is via the asphalt-paved alley between Park Avenue and Main Street. A one-by-one horizontal sliding window in the south wall overlooks the alley. The west wall contains a small two-light window.

Modern alterations to the historic dwelling include a rear addition, newer windows, stuccoed walls, and an attached garage addition.

**745 Park Avenue** 5RB.8705 (sketch map no. 35, photo no(s). 47, 66)  
**Historic Name:** Unknown  
**Current Name:** Rienau House  
**Construction Date:** Circa 1954  
**Architectural Style:** Ranch Type

This single-story residence features a rectangular-shaped plan that measures 50' N-S x 41' E-W. It rests on a poured concrete foundation, and it is covered by a low-pitched side-gabled roof, with brown metal roofing material. The exterior walls are clad with brown metal panels over wood frame construction. The upper gable ends are finished with painted white horizontal wood siding.

The façade faces toward Park Avenue to the south. A stained brown solid wood door, with three angled upper sash lights, enters the façade from a two-step concrete porch. The porch measures 4' N-S x 16' E-W, and is covered by a shed roof supported by painted white 4" x 4" wood posts. A wood-paneled door, covered by a painted white wood storm door, enters the west-facing wall from a small porch. An attached garage is incorporated into the building's northeast corner. Vehicular access is via a garage door at the north end of the east-facing wall. The façade wall contains a large nine-light fixed-pane window, a large six-light fixed-pane window, and a single-light window. The east-facing wall contains three single-light

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windows. The west-facing wall contains a four-light window and a single-light window. The north (rear) wall contains two eight-light windows.

Modern alterations to this dwelling include a large fixed-pane window on the façade and an attached garage. The metal panel wall cladding also may not be original.

**443 5<sup>th</sup> Street** 5RB.8708 (sketch map no. 40, photo no(s). 24)  
**Historic Name:** Unknown  
**Current Name:** Moodie / Burke House  
**Construction Date:** Circa 1962  
**Architectural Style:** Ranch Type

This single-story dwelling features a rectangular-shaped plan that measures 54' N-S (across) x 30' E-W (deep). It is supported by a poured concrete foundation, and it is covered by a low-pitched side-gabled roof with grey metal roofing material and boxed eaves. The lower walls are faced with a stone veneer, while the upper walls are covered with grey color stucco with some areas faced with a stone veneer.

The house's asymmetrical façade faces 5<sup>th</sup> Street to the east. A stained brown wood-paneled door, with an oval-shaped light, and covered by a white metal storm door, enters the south end of the façade. Another stained brown wood-paneled door, with an oval-shaped light, and covered by a white metal storm door, enters the north half of the façade. Both of these doors enter the façade from small concrete porches recessed under the extended roof eave. A painted white wood-paneled door, with one upper sash light and covered by a white metal storm door, enters the house at the south end of the west-facing wall from a three-step wood porch beneath a shed roof. Windows are primarily one-by-one horizontal sliders and single-light casements, with white vinyl or metal frames, and painted dark grey wood surrounds.

A garage / workshop that measures approximately 29' N-S x 28' E-W is west of the dwelling. Built in 1995-1996, this building rests on a foundation of poured concrete perimeter walls, and has a poured concrete floor. The lower exterior walls are covered with white horizontal Masonite type siding, while the upper exterior walls are covered with white vertical wood siding. The building is covered by a shed roof with corrugated metal roofing material and boxed eaves. A rollaway garage door in the north wall faces the alley. A painted white wood-paneled door, with nine upper sash lights, is at the south end of the east-facing wall.

Modern alterations to this dwelling include its stone and stucco wall veneer and the alteration of some window openings, along with the construction of the large garage / workshop.

**265 6<sup>th</sup> Street** 5RB.8709 (sketch map no. 41, photo no(s). 25, 71)  
**Historic Name:** Unknown  
**Current Name:** Flora Bellas, Ellis Building  
**Construction Date:** Circa 1902  
**Architectural Style:** Late 19<sup>th</sup> and Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century American Movements / Commercial Style

This one-story commercial building features a rectangular-shaped plan that measures 26' N-S (across) x 135' E-W (deep). The building is composed of an original section to the front (east), and an early shed-roofed concrete block addition to the west. It is supported by a stone foundation covered with concrete parging, and it is covered by a flat roof, with a flat parapet on the façade and a stepped parapet on the south.

Facing 6<sup>th</sup> Street to the east, the façade contains a single storefront consisting of a set of paired glass-in-metal-frame doors within an angled recessed entryway flanked by storefront display windows. The lower façade wall, to either side of the entryway and below the storefront display windows, is covered with a stone veneer. The upper façade wall is clad with a blue metal veneer to the top of the parapet. Flanking the storefront display windows, the north and south ends of the façade are clad with blue vertical wood siding. A fixed wood awning with processed wood shake shingles is over the storefront. The south wall, facing the alley, is made of painted white brick laid in common bond. The walls of the older rear addition are of concrete block construction. A stained brown wood-paneled door, within a small recessed entryway, enters the south-facing wall from the alley. A wood-paneled door enters the (rear) west-facing wall of the concrete block addition. The addition's north-facing wall contains two, two-light, windows partially covered with plywood.

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There are no modern additions to this building; however, its façade has been altered, most notably by the application of a fixed wood awning.

**267 6<sup>th</sup> Street** 5RB.8710 (sketch map no. 42, photo no(s). 26, 71)  
**Historic Name:** Unknown  
**Current Name:** Mind Springs Health  
**Construction Date:** Circa 1900  
**Architectural Style:** Late 19<sup>th</sup> and Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century American Movements / Commercial Style

This single-story commercial building features a rectangular-shaped plan that measures 25' N-S (across) x 60' E-W (deep). It is supported by a stone or poured concrete foundation, and it is covered by a flat roof behind a parapet that extends above the roofline on the façade. Facing 6<sup>th</sup> Street to the east, the façade contains a symmetrical single storefront. The lower façade wall, below the storefront display windows, is faced with a stone veneer. Above the storefront, the upper façade wall is finished with painted white vertical wood siding to the top of the parapet. A fixed wood awning with processed wood shake shingles is over the storefront. A white metal-paneled door, with one upper sash light, enters the façade from within an angled recessed entryway. A small one-by-one horizontal sliding window is above the entry door. The entryway is flanked on either side by storefront display windows with painted cream white and green wood frames. The west-facing (rear) wall is made of red brick laid in common bond. A white paneled door, with a plywood-filled transom, and with a segmental brick arch, is in the west-facing wall.

There are no additions to this building's original construction. The storefront has been periodically modified to accommodate new retail uses. The most notable façade alteration is a fixed wood awning.

**275 6<sup>th</sup> Street** 5RB.8711 (sketch map no. 43, photo no(s). 27, 71)  
**Historic Name:** Unknown  
**Current Name:** Country Raised  
**Construction Date:** Circa 1905  
**Architectural Style:** Late 19<sup>th</sup> and Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century American Movements / Commercial Style

This one-story commercial building features a rectangular-shaped plan that measures 21' N-S (across) x 104' E-W (deep). It rests on a coursed sandstone foundation, and it is covered by a flat roof behind a parapet that extends above the roofline on the façade.

Facing 6<sup>th</sup> Street to the east, the façade contains an asymmetrical single storefront. A painted black glass-in-wood-frame door enters the south end of the façade from within a recessed entryway. North of the entryway, the façade wall contains four single-light fixed-pane storefront display windows with metal frames and painted brown wood surrounds. Surrounding the storefront, the façade wall is finished with painted black vertical wood siding. A fixed wood awning extends over the storefront visually separating the storefront from the upper façade wall and parapet. A metal sign fastened perpendicular to the upper façade displays a rooster weathervane motif and advertises the building's retail business "country raised." The exposed rear sections of the north and south-facing walls are made of red brick laid in running bond.

A small addition, which appears to date from the early decades of the twentieth century, to the west end of the original building measures approximately 21' N-S x 8' E-W. It is covered by a shed roof, and its exterior walls are clad with cream color vertical metal siding. A metal-clad door enters through the addition's west wall. The addition's date of construction is unknown. No other exterior alterations are known to exist.

**285 6<sup>th</sup> Street** 5RB.8712 (sketch map no. 44, photo no(s). 28, 58, 71)  
**Historic Name:** VFW Hall  
**Current Name:** Chippers  
**Construction Date:** Circa 1902  
**Architectural Style:** Late 19<sup>th</sup> and Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century American Movements / Commercial Style

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This one-story commercial building features a rectangular-shaped plan that measures 28' N-S (across) x 62' E-W (deep). It is supported by a coursed sandstone foundation, and it is covered by a flat roof behind a parapet which extends above the roofline on the façade.

The façade is symmetrical, and faces 6<sup>th</sup> Street to the east. The lower façade wall is faced with a veneer of yellow brick laid in running bond. The upper façade wall, to the top of the parapet, is covered with a veneer of beige color particle board panels. A fixed wood awning, covered with green metal roofing material visually separates the upper and lower façade. A painted red solid wood door, with one upper sash light and a transom, enters the center of the façade from within a recessed entryway. The walls within the entryway are clad with a veneer of stained or painted dark brown vertical wood siding. North and south of the entryway, the façade wall contains four small rectangular-shaped windows with painted brown wood frames. The west wall is made of red brick laid in common bond. A painted green wood-paneled door enters through the west wall from a 28' x 9' rear patio. The patio features a concrete floor, square posts with knee braces, and a shed roof.

There are no additions to this building's original construction. The storefront has been periodically modified to accommodate new retail uses.

**375 6<sup>th</sup> Street** 5RB.8716 (sketch map no. 48, photo no(s). 19, 69)  
**Historic Name:** N/A  
**Current Name:** Stewart House  
**Construction Date:** 2011  
**Architectural Style:** No Defined Style

This small one-story dwelling features a rectangular-shaped plan that measures 20' N-S x 40' E-W. It rests on a poured concrete foundation, and its exterior walls are clad with pale grey color wide horizontal Masonite type siding. The house is covered by a low-pitched side-gable roof, with an intersecting gable to the rear (west). The roof is finished with black asphalt composition shingles and the eaves are boxed.

The façade is symmetrical and faces toward 6<sup>th</sup> Street to the east. A painted grey glass-in-wood-frame door enters the center of the façade from an open front porch. Measuring 20' x 6', the porch is covered by an extension of the roof eave, and features a floor made of recycled Trex type material, a black wrought iron railing, and painted brown square wood posts supporting the extended roof eave. A grey paneled door enters through the west-facing wall from a wood and metal handicapped-accessible ramp. Two nine-over-nine double-hung sash windows, with decorative turquoise color exterior shutters, flank the front entry door. The west wall contains two nine-over-nine double-hung sash windows with decorative turquoise color exterior shutters. The north wall also contains two nine-over-nine double-hung sash windows with decorative turquoise color exterior shutters.

This dwelling has not been altered subsequent to its construction in 2011.

**364 7<sup>th</sup> Street** 5RB.8718 (sketch map no. 50, photo no(s). 21)  
**Historic Name:** Bernie's Super 8 Grocery  
**Current Name:** Masonic Temple Building  
**Construction Date:** Circa 1947  
**Architectural Style:** Modern Movement

This single-story building features a rectangular-shaped plan that overall measures 54' N-S (across) x 75' E-W (deep). Historically a grocery store, the building consists of the following elements: a large main shed-roofed section that measures 44' N-S x 75' E-W, including a small lower shed-roofed section at the rear southeast corner, a long narrow shed-roofed section along the north side, that measures 10' N-S x 50' E-W, and an open shed-roofed porch on the west side (façade) that also wraps around to the west ends of the north and south sides. The building rests on a poured concrete foundation, and the roof is covered with silver metal roofing material. The roof eaves are closed.

The façade wall (facing 7<sup>th</sup> Street to the west) and the north wall are covered with pale yellow color stucco with chocolate brown color accents. The south and east walls are made of painted yellow brick laid in running bond. A tall stepped parapet, displaying the Masonic insignia, extends above the roofline on the façade. The words "RIO BLANCO MASONIC

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TEMPLE" appear across the front eave of the front porch roof. Cornerstones at the north end of the façade, dating from when the building was converted for use as a Masonic Temple, contain the following text:

RIO BLANCO MASONIC TEMPLE LAID BY THE M.W. GRAND LODGE A.F. & A.M. OF COLORADO  
MAY 22 A.D. 1999 MAY 22 A.L. 5999 KENT R. GOULD GRAND MASTER

RIO BLANCO LODGE NO. 80 MEEKER CHAPTER NO. 100 O.E.S. MEEKER COMMANDRY K.T. NO.  
33 N.W. COLORADO COUNCIL NO. 22 MEEKER CHAPTER 12.A.M. NO. 37

A set of paired painted cream yellow color doors, with a transom, enters near the north end of the façade from the open shed-roofed front porch. The porch roof is supported by a series of seven stuccoed columns. A set of paired painted cream yellow doors enter the narrow shed-roofed section at the north end of the façade. Two entry doors are near the east end of the north-facing wall. Two entry doors, including one below a gabled hood, are in the south-facing wall. A door in the east-facing wall opens onto a small patio enclosed by a wood privacy fence. A band of three, twenty-four-light, glass block windows are at the rounded front southwest corner. Three, one-by-one, horizontal sliding windows are near the east end of the north-facing wall. The south-facing wall contains four window openings.

Historically a grocery store, this building was substantially altered in 1999 when it was converted for use as a Masonic Temple.

**336 8<sup>th</sup> Street**                    5RB.8720 (sketch map no. 52, photo no(s). 23)  
**Historic Name:**                    N/A  
**Current Name:**                    Ruckman Building  
**Construction Date:**            1981  
**Architectural Style:**            No Defined Style

This single-story building features a rectangular-shaped plan that measures 32' N-S x 81' E-W. It rests on a poured concrete foundation, and its exterior walls are finished with pebble dash stucco over wood frame construction. Stained brown diagonal wood siding appears in the upper gable ends. The building is covered by a low-pitched side-gabled roof, with brown asphalt composition shingles and widely-overhanging boxed eaves.

Two brown metal doors, and a brown metal roll-away garage door, are in the south-facing wall. The south-facing wall also contains three, one-by-one, horizontal sliding windows. The north-facing wall contains two, one-by-one, horizontal sliding windows.

This building has not been altered subsequent to its construction in 1981.

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## **INTEGRITY**

The Meeker Historic District displays an overall high degree of integrity, relative to the seven aspects of integrity as defined by the National Park Service, location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

**Location:** The district's buildings are all on the original lots where they were constructed, and, thus, retain their integrity of location.

**Design:** The district's commercial buildings are one-story and two-story, rectangular-shaped, buildings, each with a unique façade, typically containing one or two storefronts. A number of these façades were periodically altered during the period of significance, to accommodate new commercial uses. These alterations tell the story of the district's commercial history as they show the pattern of façade changes through the decades. The district's residences display readily-identifiable attributes of several architectural styles and types that were in vogue from the late 1800s through the latter decades of the 1900s. The Rio Blanco County Courthouse and the former Meeker Elementary School represent the district's most noteworthy governmental / institutional buildings, and are excellent examples of the Great Depression era WPA Rustic style of architecture. Considered as a whole, the district's buildings display a strong sense of integrity of design.

**Setting:** The district's integrity of setting remains intact. The courthouse and former elementary school building continue to occupy the two blocks in the center of town, as they have since the 1930s. Main Street and 6<sup>th</sup> Street, south and west of the courthouse, still form the core of the downtown business district. The three former log buildings from the Camp on White River continue to exist along Park Avenue north of the courthouse, with two of these buildings having been adaptively reused as the Rio Blanco County Museum for the past several decades. Residences, especially along Park Avenue, are little changed in recent decades, with minimal modern infill. Many residential secondary buildings including garages and sheds are also still in place. The widths of the streets and avenues remain unchanged, as do the widths of the alleys and sidewalks. The buildings' spatial relationships, relative to each other, and relative to the streets, alleys, and sidewalks, are also minimally changed subsequent to the period of significance.

**Materials:** Evidence of the buildings' original and historic construction materials remain strongly evident throughout the district. These include stone and poured concrete foundations, log, horizontal wood siding, brick, and stone wall finishes, glass-in-wood-frame and glass-in-metal-frame commercial entry doors, and storefront display windows in metal frames. The district, thus, maintains a strong sense of integrity of materials.

**Workmanship:** The skill of the architects and contractors who designed and constructed the district's buildings remains evident. It is on display in such building elements as solid foundations, level horizontal surfaces, plumb vertical surfaces, uniform mortar joints, and in the buildings' aesthetic appearances and overall functionality. Quality of workmanship is also evident in decorative elements, and in door and window details on the buildings' facades and secondary walls.

**Feeling:** The historic district continues to evoke an aesthetic or historic sense of life in Meeker during the period of significance, and for this reason, it maintains its integrity of feeling.

**Association:** The district continues to maintain a direct link to Meeker's settlement and commercial and residential growth upon which its significance is based. As a result, the district retains its integrity of association.

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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.)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	A	Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
<input type="checkbox"/>	B	Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
<input type="checkbox"/>	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.
<input type="checkbox"/>	D	Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

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

Property is:

<input type="checkbox"/>	A	Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
<input type="checkbox"/>	B	removed from its original location.
<input type="checkbox"/>	C	a birthplace or grave.
<input type="checkbox"/>	D	a cemetery.
<input type="checkbox"/>	E	a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
<input type="checkbox"/>	F	a commemorative property.
<input type="checkbox"/>	G	less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

COMMERCE

EXPLORATION / SETTLEMENT

**Period of Significance**

1885-1967

1880-1923

**Significant Dates**

1880, 1885

**Significant Person**

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

**Architects/Builders**

William N. Bowman

W. E. Coombs

Walter DeMordaunt

Tom Ekrem

William E. Fisher and Arthur A. Fisher (Fisher and Fisher)

George Glasgow

J. D. Miller

I. C. Mitchell

N. G. Petry

Herman Pfeiffer

Charles Francis Pillsbury

Harry Pollard

F. F. Seeley

W. A. Thomas

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### Period of Significance (justification)

The period of significance for Exploration and Settlement begins in 1880, the year the Camp on White River was established and the district's earliest buildings were constructed. The period of significance for Exploration and Settlement concludes in 1923, marking the end of Meeker's initial settlement and building phase. Following that year, no commercial buildings, and almost no residences, were constructed within the district until after World War II. The period of significance for Commerce begins in 1885, the year Meeker was founded and its earliest commercial establishments opened for business. The period of significance for Commerce ends in 1967, fifty years before the present in keeping with National Register guidelines.

### Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary) N/A

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

The Meeker Historic District is locally significant under Criterion A in the areas of Exploration / Settlement and Commerce. The district is significant under Exploration / Settlement because it contains the remaining buildings from the Camp on White River as well as the core of commercial and residential buildings constructed by the town's original settlers during Meeker's settlement phase which began with the town's founding in 1885. The district is significant under Commerce because it encompasses Meeker's downtown commercial core.

Although the Camp on White River Army Officer Quarters at 545, 565, and 587 Park Avenue (site numbers 5RB.2247, 5RB.2248, and 5RB.2249 respectively) were moved from within the immediate vicinity to their current locations ca. 1885 as the town was platted, according to National Register Bulletin 15, "How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation:"

Examples of Properties that DO NOT Need to Meet Criterion Consideration B:

Moved Properties: A district in which only a small percentage of typical buildings in a district are moved.<sup>2</sup>

Therefore, these three buildings are contributing resources and the nomination does not need to meet Criteria Consideration B for moved buildings.

### Criterion A: Exploration / Settlement

The town of Meeker was founded in 1885 on the site of a U. S. Army post named the Camp on White River that existed from 1880 to 1883. The military post was established following the "Meeker Massacre," in which Nathan Meeker and ten other men were killed at the White River Indian Agency, and the Battle of Milk Creek between members of the White River Utes and U.S. Army soldiers. Located in Powell Park (three miles west of the Camp on White River and the Meeker townsite), the White River Agency had been established in 1868 as part of a treaty between the U. S. government and the Ute tribes. The "Meeker Massacre" took place on September 29, 1879. The Battle of Milk Creek began on that date and continued for a period of several days.

Meeker's founders and first residents were the region's earliest settlers of European descent. In the aftermath of the Battle of Milk Creek, the U. S. government systematically relegated members of the Northern Ute tribe to the Uintah Reservation in Utah, and the White River Valley was opened for settlement by European Americans. Meeker was the first permanent town in northwestern Colorado, and it remained the region's only incorporated town until Steamboat Springs (sixty-five miles northeast of Meeker) was incorporated in 1900. Three existing log buildings within the Meeker Historic District were built as part of the Camp on White River, and several of its existing residences were built by the town's original pioneer settlers beginning in the mid-to-late 1880s. These buildings represent the establishment and earliest development of Meeker and of northwestern Colorado.

<sup>2</sup> National Register Bulletin 15, "How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation," Washington, D.C., pp. 29-30.



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**Criterion A: Commerce**

From its beginnings in the 1880s, Meeker's economy developed as a regional agricultural service center and as the center of government for Rio Blanco County. With Rio Blanco County consistently among the state leaders for both beef cattle and sheep, almost everyone's livelihood was directly or indirectly dependent on ranching. The town's commercial establishments provided nearly all of their various supplies. Within a few years of its founding in 1885, Meeker's downtown included two mercantiles, a lumberyard, two blacksmith and wagon shops, a saddlery and harness shop, a cobbler, a carpenter shop, a book and stationery supplier, a bank, a post office, a barbershop, two livery stables, an express office, and the *Meeker Herald* newspaper office.

From the very early 1900s, Meeker's economy has also been based on its status as a tourist destination for hunters, anglers, and others recreating in the nearby White River National Forest and Flat Tops Wilderness Area. Vice-President-elect Theodore Roosevelt famously stayed in Meeker while on a mountain lion hunt in January 1901, and he returned to the area on other hunting expeditions while serving as President between September 1901 and March 1909. The surrounding region subsequently became known as a paradise for outdoor sports enthusiasts, and Meeker's retailers capitalized by furnishing their supplies alongside those for area ranchers.

Meeker's earliest commercial buildings were located in surplus log and adobe buildings left over from the U.S. Army's Camp on White River, and in other hastily-built wood frame buildings with false-front facades. These early buildings were gradually replaced with more substantial brick and stone commercial buildings between the early 1890s and the early 1920s. No commercial buildings were constructed in downtown Meeker from the mid-1920s to the mid-1940s, during the years of the Great Depression and World War II. A relatively small number of primarily one-story commercial buildings were then erected during the post-war years, after which time few buildable commercial lots remained. The Meeker Historic District accordingly reflects the progression of the town's commercial growth from the late nineteenth century to the late 1960s.

**HISTORIC CONTEXT***European-American Exploration of Western Colorado and Settlement of the White River Valley*

The White River Valley is within lands that are the ancestral home of the Ute people. Traditionally composed of many affiliated nomadic bands, the Utes have resided in what is now western Colorado, eastern Utah, and portions of New Mexico and Wyoming for several hundred years. Contact between Utes and persons of European descent occurred in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. The Utes obtained horses and trade goods from the Spanish in the mid-1700s, expanding their geographic range while at the same time transforming and disrupting their traditional way of life.<sup>3</sup> Unbeknown to native people, under the treaty of Fontainebleau in 1762, France ceded to Spain all of Louisiana Territory west of the Mississippi River, and the lands the Territory comprised then remained under Spain's control for the next forty years.<sup>4</sup> The Spanish explored lands northwest of Santa Fe, and in the ensuing decades the region's rivers, mountains, and other natural features were identified with Spanish names. In the early 1760s, Don Juan Maria del Rivera conducted expeditions from Santa Fe through the rugged San Juan Mountains and north to the Gunnison River, in search of precious metals.<sup>5</sup> In 1776, two Spanish priests, Francisco Dominguez and Silvestre Escalante led a small expedition exploring the San Juan Mountains to the Dolores River, before moving north to the Gunnison, Grand (Colorado) and White Rivers. The Dominguez-Escalante expedition then traveled west, near the Great Salt Lake, before returning to Santa Fe by way of present-day southeastern Utah and northeastern Arizona.<sup>6</sup>

<sup>3</sup> Michael B. Husband. "Colorado Plateau Country Historic Context," State Historical Society of Colorado, Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, 1984, p. 2.1.

<sup>4</sup> Carl Ubbelohde, Maxine Benson, and Duane Smith, eds. *A Colorado History*, (Boulder: Pruett Publishing Company, 1972), p. 15.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid.

<sup>6</sup> Ubbelohde, et. al., p. 16.

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Interest in the White River region by Spanish and other Europeans, remained limited for the next several decades, however, as the land's political ownership was ultimately determined by the United States and European powers. Much of what would become Colorado was once part of Louisiana Territory, transferred from Spain to France, and then to the United States in the famed Louisiana Purchase of 1803. The White River Valley, however, remained under Spanish control until Mexico gained its independence from Spain in 1821. It was then part of Mexican territory until 1848 when it was included in lands ceded to the United States under the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo at the end of the Mexican-American War.<sup>7</sup> All of the future state of Colorado was held by the United States after that date, although the western portion was initially part of Utah Territory.

For the Utes, future contact with European-Americans therefore came primarily from the east rather than from the south. Early nineteenth century exploring expeditions, including those led by Meriwether Lewis and William Clark (1804-1806), Zebulon Pike (1806-1807), and Stephen H. Long (1819-1820), fostered wide-spread interest, opening the western United States initially to forays by fur trappers and traders, and later to gold seekers and settlers. Interest in what would become the western regions of Colorado was further inspired by U. S. Geological Surveys in the 1860s and 1870s, led by John Wesley Powell, Ferdinand Hayden, Clarence King, and George Wheeler.

Nonetheless, settlement of far western Colorado developed somewhat gradually following the Pike's Peak gold rush of the late 1850s. As Colorado became a Territory in 1861, settlement concentrated along the eastern Front Range of the Rocky Mountains, and in mining camps such as Central City, Black Hawk, Georgetown, and Breckenridge. In the 1870s and early 1880s, however, miners and other pioneering settlers began to disperse westward, establishing such communities as Leadville, Telluride, Aspen, and Glenwood Springs. Many settlers also began to turn to other economic interests other than mining, most notably agriculture.

To facilitate the settlement of western Colorado, and in response to public pressure, the U. S. government negotiated a series of treaties with the Ute Indians under which the Utes were pushed westward and ultimately exiled to the Uintah Reservation in Utah. The first of these was the 1849 "Calhoun Treaty" (also known as the "Abiquiu Treaty") under which the Ute tribes agreed to "recognize American sovereignty and to remain within their traditional hunting ranges."<sup>8</sup> The 1863 "Evans Treaty," followed five years later by the "Hunt Treaty," resulted from increased mining and settlement pressures in the new Colorado Territory. Under these treaties, the U.S. government recognized the affiliated Ute bands as a single entity. Under the Hunt Treaty, the Utes relinquished their lands in the San Luis Valley and in South, Middle and North Parks, with the eastern edge of the Ute's domain recognized as being close to the 107th meridian, west of an imaginary line between present-day Steamboat Springs and Pagosa Springs, comprising approximately one-third of the total area of Colorado.<sup>9</sup> In return, the federal government agreed to provide the Utes with clothing, food and supplies, and to establish two agencies on the reservation. The Los Pinos Agency, for the Southern and Tabeguache Utes was initially located on Cochetopa Creek west of present-day Saguache, but was later moved to Uncompahgre River Valley south of present-day Montrose. The other agency, for the Northern or White River Utes, was located on the White River near present-day Meeker. In 1873, yet another treaty resulted directly from increased mining interest in the San Juan region of southwest Colorado. Known as the "Brunot Agreement" or the "Brunot Treaty," it forced the Utes to cede a large quadrangular-shaped area of land comprising the entire San Juan mining region, including the future sites of Silverton and Telluride.<sup>10</sup>

*Nathan Meeker, The Battle of Milk Creek and the "Meeker Massacre"*

In the 1868 Hunt Treaty the Utes were represented by Chief Ouray who had traveled to Washington D.C., and who the U. S. government recognized as chief of all Ute people. The White River Utes, however, were led by sub-chiefs - known as "Colorow," "Quinkent" (Douglass), "Canalla" or "Cavanish" (Johnson), and "Nicaagat" (Jack) - who generally viewed Ouray as too compromising and favored a more militant response to the ever-increasing encroachment of Ute lands. During the

<sup>7</sup> Ibid., p. 49.

<sup>8</sup> Husband, p. 2.1. The Calhoun Treaty was named for James S. Calhoun, Superintendent of Indian Affairs in New Mexico.

<sup>9</sup> Jill Seyfarth and Ruth Lambert, Ph.D. "Pioneers, Prospectors and Trout: A Historic Context for La Plata County, Colorado, January 2010, p. 7. See also, Paul M. O'Rourke, "Frontiers in Transition: A History of Southwestern Colorado," Bureau of Land Management, 1982, p. 46. The Hunt Treaty was named for Colorado Territorial Governor Alexander C. Hunt.

<sup>10</sup> Ibid. The Brunot Agreement was named for Felix Brunot, Chairman of the Board of Indian Commissioners.

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same time period, as Colorado achieved statehood in 1876, the new state's political leaders, newspaper editors, and other influential individuals increasingly agitated to further subjugate the Utes by removing them from any land that could be mined, farmed, or ranched. It was against this potentially volatile backdrop that Nathan Meeker was appointed Indian Agent at the White River Agency in May of 1878. Working under the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Meeker was in part tasked with converting the White River Utes from nomadic hunters and gatherers into sedentary farmers in settled communities.

The son of Enoch and Sorana (Hulbert) Meeker, Nathan Cook Meeker was born in Cuyahoga County, Ohio on July 12, 1817. He graduated from Oberlin College in 1840 where he became deeply influenced by the writings and ideas of the French socialist reformer Francois Marie Charles Fournier. On April 8, 1844, Nathan Meeker married Arvilla Delight Smith. That same year, Nathan and Arvilla joined the North American Phalanx in Trumbull, Ohio, an agricultural cooperative community based on Fournier's concepts. In 1865, Mr. and Mrs. Meeker moved to New York where Nathan became the agricultural editor of the *New York Tribune*, owned and published by Horace Greeley. In *Tribune* newspaper columns, Meeker promoted the concept of establishing agricultural colonies in the west, and in 1869, with Greeley's support and financial backing, Meeker founded the Union Colony at present-day Greeley, Colorado.<sup>11</sup>

Meeker arrived at the White River Agency on May 15, 1878, accompanied by his wife, Arvilla, and their daughter, Josephine. Also accompanying Meeker were a farmer named Shadrach Price, with his wife, Flora Ellen, and their two children, along with a handful of other men from Greeley's Union Colony. Philosophically, Meeker perhaps accepted the post as Indian Agent to further realize his ideals of creating utopian agrarian communities. From a practical standpoint, however, Meeker also reportedly accepted the position because he was indebted to the heirs of Horace Greeley who had died in 1872.<sup>12</sup>

With little understanding of Ute culture, Meeker zealously bent to the task of converting the White River Utes into sedentary agriculturalists. He viewed the Utes love for horses as a key obstacle and unsuccessfully tried to persuade the men to farm rather than go on extended hunts. For the Ute men, though, horses represented wealth and status. They provided the means to range great distances for hunting and were also used for sport. Conversely, to operate a plow was considered demeaning. Growing increasingly frustrated, Meeker moved the agency to Powell Park (three miles west of present-day Meeker), where the Utes held pony races at a race track. In September 1879 Meeker ordered his men from Union Colony to plow up the race track, an action that precipitated an immediate angry and potentially violent response, which, in turn, prompted Meeker to wire for military assistance.<sup>13</sup>

After receiving orders, on September 21, 1879, Major Thomas T. Thornburgh departed Fort Fred Steele (east of Rawlins, Wyoming), with some 180 soldiers, a supply train of 25 wagons, and rations for thirty days, enroute to the White River Agency. On September 29, 1879, Thornburgh and his troops reached Milk Creek, some fifteen miles north of the agency, where they engaged in battle with the Utes. From the perspective of the soldiers, they were endeavoring to provide protection for Meeker and the others at the agency. From the perspective of the Utes, they were protecting their people and sovereign land from an invading army. While the battle raged at Milk Creek, enraged Utes attacked the agency killing Nathan Meeker, Shadrach Price, and nine other men. Arvilla and Josephine Meeker, Flora Ellen Price, and her two children, were taken captive and held for twenty-three days.<sup>14</sup>

With Major Thornburgh having been killed early on, the Battle of Milk Creek continued for a period of several days. During this time, army scout Joe Rankin rode 150 miles back to Rawlins in 28 hours to report news of the battle and request reinforcements. On October 5, 1879, a contingent of over 200 soldiers and 20 officers led by Colonel Wesley Merritt of Fort D. A. Russell (at Cheyenne, Wyoming), arrived at Milk River, by which time the Utes who had engaged in combat had dispersed into the surrounding region. Assistance had also come from the south, three days earlier, in the form of a contingent of (African American) "Buffalo Soldiers" led by Captain Francis Dodge. Headquartered at Fort Garland in southern Colorado, Dodge and his troops (Company D of the 9<sup>th</sup> Cavalry) were in Middle Park near present-day

<sup>11</sup> Betsy Kellums, "Greeley Downtown," National Register of Historic Places Registration Form, November 9, 2007. See also: Peggy Ford, "A Historic Background, Greeley, Colorado: Agricultural Mecca of the West," May 1996.

<sup>12</sup> Ibid.

<sup>13</sup> Elmer R. Burkey, "The Thornburgh Battle with the Utes on Milk Creek," Colorado Magazine, vol. xiii, no. 3, May 1936.

<sup>14</sup> Ibid. See also, Marshall D. Moody, "The Meeker Massacre," Colorado Magazine, vol. xxx, no. 2, April 1953.

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Kremmling, Colorado when they received word of the ongoing battle at Milk Creek.<sup>15</sup>

In the immediate aftermath of the hostilities, Charles Adams, the former White River Indian agent, Chief Ouray, and Ouray's wife, Chipeta, negotiated the peaceful release of the women and children hostages. Arvilla Meeker and her daughter Josephine returned to Greeley where they lived for the remainder of their lives. The bodies of Nathan Meeker, and other men formerly from the Union Colony who were killed, were returned to Greeley where they were buried in Linn Grove Cemetery.

In the months that followed, Euro-American public demand that the Utes be removed from western Colorado reached a fevered pitch. Following the death of Chief Ouray on August 24, 1880, the U. S. government relegated the White River Utes to the Uintah Reservation in eastern Utah. To facilitate removal of the Utes from the White River Valley, and to guard against further hostilities, the U. S. Army established a military post, some three miles east of the destroyed White River Agency. Known as the "Camp on White River," the military post existed only until 1883 by which time the Utes had been effectively removed, and the region opened for settlement by Euro-Americans.

### *The Camp on White River*

Located at the current site of Meeker, the Camp on White River consisted of a series of military buildings constructed around and facing onto a central parade ground. Rectangular in shape, the parade ground measured approximately 475' N-S x 800' E-W. A series of nine soldiers' barracks, with adobe walls and gable roofs, were along the southern perimeter of the parade ground, while on the northern perimeter there were five log buildings used as quarters for the officers and their families. A large hospital building, also of log construction, was east of the parade ground, while several other buildings were south and southwest of the soldiers' barracks. These included a sutler's store, an officers' club, a soldiers' club known as the "Bounce House," and other infrastructure such as corrals and stables. A flagpole was in the center of the parade ground. All land within a four-mile radius of the flagpole was designated as a military reservation, with all persons in the area subject to military rule.<sup>16</sup> During its relatively brief existence, the Camp on White River was a busy military post, home to hundreds of officers and soldiers who drilled in the parade ground and went on maneuvers, and with mule and ox drawn supply trains coming and going.<sup>17</sup> In the summer of 1883, the post was decommissioned, with all but a handful of soldiers withdrawn. On August 13, 1883, the post's buildings were sold at auction, many of which became the town of Meeker's original buildings.<sup>18</sup> Three of the former log officers' quarters buildings remain in existence, located adjacent to each other at 545 Park Avenue (5RB.2247), 565 Park Avenue (5RB.2248) and 587 Park Avenue (5RB.2249). Two of these buildings are currently part of the White River Museum, while the third, at the northeast corner of Park Avenue and 6<sup>th</sup> Street, is a private residence.

### *Commercial Development*

Founded by the Meeker Townsite Corporation, the town of Meeker was platted in September of 1885 (see Figure 16). The lots and blocks were laid out around the former parade ground which became the town park. The southernmost of the east-west trending streets (closest to the White River) was named Water Street. The other east-west running streets were respectively named Market, Main, Park (Avenue), Garfield, Hill, Cedar, and Pine. The north-south trending streets, meanwhile, were numbered from 1<sup>st</sup> Street on the east to 13<sup>th</sup> Street on the west.<sup>19</sup> Charter members of the Townsite Corporation who formed the nucleus of the nascent community included Newton Major, Susan Wright, Charles Dunbar, George Allsebrook, Samuel Fairfield, J. L. McHatton, A. J. Gregory, F. E. Sheridan, Ed Wilber, W. H. Clark, G. D. Thayer,

<sup>15</sup> Ibid.

<sup>16</sup> W. D. Simms, "The Founding and Founders of Meeker." *The Colorado Magazine*, vol. xxiii, no. 3, July 1949, p. 271. See also: *This is What I Remember*, vol. I, (Meeker: Rio Blanco County Historical Society, 1972), pp. 6-7.

<sup>17</sup> Ibid, p. 272.

<sup>18</sup> *This is What I Remember*, vol. I, (Meeker: Rio Blanco County Historical Society, 1972), p. 6.

<sup>19</sup> "Town of Meeker Original Town Plot," [sic.] <https://www.facebook.com/thisoldphoto.rioblancocounty/photos/>. Interestingly the original town plat also labeled 1<sup>st</sup> Street through 9<sup>th</sup> Street respectively as Hickory, Ash, Oak, Maple, Willow, Cedar, Pine, Walnut and Plum streets.

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J. J. Miner, and Charles Attix.<sup>20</sup> Meeker's first election was held on November 25, 1885, with W. H. Clark elected mayor, and James L. McHatton, Charles Attix, T. J. Lyttle, George Allsebrook, and James Lyttle elected as the first board of trustees.<sup>21</sup>

In the ensuing decades, Meeker developed first and foremost as a regional agricultural service center, with Rio Blanco County among the state leaders for both cattle and sheep ranching, a legacy that continues to the present day. Early on in its history, Meeker was the only town between the Denver and Rio Grande Railroad which passed through Grand Junction to the south, and the Union Pacific main line in Wyoming to the north. Meeker, in fact, remained the only incorporated town in northwestern Colorado until Steamboat Springs was incorporated at the turn of the twentieth century.

The town's businesses were initially located in former military buildings and in new wood frame buildings, including many constructed with false front facades. As the town subsequently prospered in the 1890s and early 1900s, the wood frame buildings were gradually replaced with more substantial brick buildings. This was especially true on the south side of the 500 block of Main Street, across from the town park, which became known as Meeker's "brick block."

Three prominent brick buildings constructed originally in the 1890s were the International Order of Oddfellows building, the Meeker Hotel and the J. W. Hugus & Company block.

The two-story IOOF building at 400 Main Street (5RB.2245) was designed by Herman Pfeiffer and constructed in 1896-1897. IOOF Valentine Lodge No. 47 used the second floor as meeting space, and was associated with the building until December of 1993 when its charter was relinquished due to low membership. Rio Blanco County Courthouse offices and the county jail occupied space in the ground floor between 1897 and 1906. Otherwise, the building's first story was home to numerous businesses through the years, while also at times serving as classroom space, and as a community center for various organizations and activities. Rio Blanco School District No. 1 held classes in the building from 1907-1911, from 1918-1920, and again from 1937-1940, during times when old school buildings had been condemned and new schools were under construction. The local Mountain States Telephone and Telegraph Company exchange office was in the building between circa 1911 and 1920. (In earlier years the telephone exchange was in the Meeker Hotel, and in later years it was in a small brick building at 645 Main Street (5RB.8698), built specifically for the exchange).

Retail establishments through the years in the IOOF building include a Maytag appliances dealership, a Kwal paints store, a photo shop, an amusement arcade, picture frame, pottery, and yarn shops, a silk screen T-shirt shop, a construction and plumbing business owned by the Ruckman family, and a carpet store. Organizations other than the Oddfellows also used the building as meeting space. These included the Modern Woodmen of America, the Rio Blanco County Woolgrowers, the Rio Blanco County Cattlemen, and the Meeker Commercial Club, an organization founded in 1913 as a men's social club and to promote the town's businesses.<sup>22</sup> The IOOF building also served as an opera house in the 1890s, as a theater showing silent movies in the 1910s, as a roller skating rink in the 1950s and 1960s, and throughout its history as a popular venue for community dances.<sup>23</sup>

The long and colorful history of the Meeker Hotel traces to August of 1883 when the U.S. Army decommissioned the Camp on White River and auctioned off its buildings. Susan C. "Annie" Wright acquired one of the former barracks buildings, arranged for the construction of a false front façade, and in association with Charles Duncan, opened the building as the Meeker Hotel. Originally from South Carolina, Susan Wright was the lone female member of the Meeker Townsite Corporation and was affectionately known as the "Mother of Meeker." When she passed away in 1893, ownership of the hotel business passed to her stepbrother Reuben S. Ball. In 1896, Mr. Ball arranged for the construction of a new brick hotel building at 560 Main Street (5RB.985), and eight years later he contracted with I. C. Mitchell, a local

<sup>20</sup> *This is What I Remember*, vol. III, (Meeker: Rio Blanco County Historical Society, 1996), p. 297.

<sup>21</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>22</sup> "Commercial Club Organized." *Meeker Herald*, January 18, 1913, p. 1.

<sup>23</sup> Tawny Halandras, "I.O.O.F. Lodge – Valentine Lodge No. 47," National Register of Historic Places Registration Form, January 24, 2014.

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contractor, to build east and west wings onto the hotel's original central core. The building has functioned as a hotel throughout its history and is still in operation as of 2017. Theodore Roosevelt, who stayed at the hotel in January 1901 while on a mountain lion hunt is regarded as its most famous lodger. Roosevelt was vice-president elect at that time and he became president in September of that year following the assassination of President McKinley. Roosevelt returned to northwestern Colorado on other hunting expeditions during his presidency, including an extended visit in 1905 when he stayed at the Hotel Colorado in Glenwood Springs.

In 1904, a one-story building with sandstone walls and three rounded-arch openings on its façade was erected just east of the Meeker Hotel. This building (550 Main Street, 5RB.2240) originally housed the Meeker Post Office, but early on in its history became the Meeker Café. The café became affiliated with the hotel, and at some point in their history the two buildings came under common ownership. Owners and operators of the café over the years include Jessie Adams, Helen Jean Miller and Betty Wilson, B. V. Stephenson, and the Knox and Wallace families. The Meeker Hotel and Meeker Café remain in business as of 2017.

The J. W. Hugus & Company mercantile business in Meeker similarly had its start in one of the former barracks buildings. Newton Major, the store's early manager, also acquired and lived in a former officers' quarters residence at the northeast corner of Park Avenue and 6<sup>th</sup> Street (5RB.2249). J. W. Hugus & Company was founded by John William Hugus in partnership with John C. Davis. The former post trader at Fort Steele, Hugus opened the company's first mercantile at Rawlins, Wyoming in 1880, followed by the store in Meeker in 1883. Hugus & Company soon opened other mercantiles at Dixon, Wyoming, and at Hayden, DeBeque, and Steamboat Springs in Colorado. Other Hugus stores were later located in Delta, Montrose, Wolcott, and Parshall. A full-service mercantile, J. W. Hugus & Co. was perhaps Colorado's earliest chain retailer, reportedly "[selling] everything from needles to threshing machines, groceries, dry goods, stock supplies - in fact everything needed for existence by the early day ranchers and homesteaders."<sup>24</sup>

Meeker's Hugus & Company store was located in the former military barracks until 1891 when the company erected a two-story brick commercial building at the southeast corner of Main and 6<sup>th</sup> streets. The building's ground floor space was also occupied by the First National Bank of Meeker, which in 1896 was the scene of an infamous bank robbery and shootout. On the afternoon of October 13, 1896, three armed men, later tentatively identified as "George Bain" (aliases George Low or George Law and George Harvies), "Jim Shirley," and "Kid Pierce," walked into the building and announced a holdup. People in the building at the time included A. C. Moulton, manager of the Hugus & Company store, Dave Smith, the bank cashier, and customers C. A. Booth, Ed Hall, Joe Rooney and Victor A. Dykeman.

Two of the outlaws held the employees and customers at gunpoint while the third pointed his gun and demanded money from the cashier. One of the robbers then made a fatal mistake by firing a gunshot through the cashier's window. The shot alerted nearby citizens who quickly armed themselves and approached the bank. Realizing they could not make a clean getaway, the robbers further armed themselves taking three rifles from the store's sales rack, along with ammunition. They then attempted to use the employees and customers as shields or hostages as they exited the bank. The outlaws' horses were tied to a freight wagon behind the bank along 6<sup>th</sup> Street. When they reached that point and stepped out of line from their hostages, the robbers were shot down by local citizens Horace "Simp" Harp, Frank JoHantgen and Ben Nichols. All three robbers died from their wounds and were buried in Meeker's Highland Cemetery, in a small section apart from other graves. Victor Dykeman and C. A. Booth were also shot in the exchange of gunfire but later recovered from their wounds.<sup>25</sup>

A Late 19<sup>th</sup> Century Commercial Style building, the 1891 Hugus & Company building anchored the west end of Meeker's "Brick Block" until the night of March 10, 1911 when it burned to the ground in what the *Meeker Herald* termed the "Most Disastrous Fire in Meeker's History."<sup>26</sup> After the fire, Hugus & Company contracted with the Denver architectural firm of Fisher and Fisher to design a new two-story brick commercial building on the same site (5RB.2242). The new building

<sup>24</sup> "J. W. Hugus & Co., One of First Chain Store Groups in Nation." *Steamboat Pilot*, July 30, 1959, p. 7B.

<sup>25</sup> "Meeker Bank Robbery," *This is What I Remember Volume 1*, p. 194. See also, "Robbers Meet Death." *Craig Courier*, October 17, 1896. P. 1.

<sup>26</sup> "Most Disastrous Fire in Meeker's History." *The Meeker Herald*, March 11, 1911, p. 1.

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was completed in November of 1911, and was occupied by the Hugus & Company store until 1919 when the company sold out to A. Oldland & Company mercantile.

Owned and operated by Ambrose Oldland and his descendants, the A. Oldland & Company store was then a fixture in downtown Meeker until its closure in the late 1980s. Ambrose and his older brother Reuben were two of Rio Blanco County's earliest and most influential pioneers. Ambrose Oldland was born in Gloucestershire, England in August 1864. He immigrated to America in 1881, joining Reuben who had immigrated in 1873. Reuben had moved west to Leadville, Colorado in the late 1870s, and from there to the Piceance Creek basin southwest of Meeker where he established the Oldland Spur Ranch.

Ambrose joined his older brother at Piceance Creek, and circa 1887 established a general store at White River City - a small settlement some thirty miles west of Meeker. Circa 1890, Reuben and Ambrose both moved their families to Meeker. Reuben and his family purchased from Thomas Watson the house at 487 Park Avenue (5RB.4379), where they lived for many years. Ambrose Oldland also acquired Watson's mercantile business - then located in a wood frame false-front building at Main and 5<sup>th</sup> streets - renaming it "A. Oldland & Company." The business existed at that location until 1919 when Ambrose Oldland bought out the Hugus & Company store one block to the west at the corner of Main and 6<sup>th</sup> streets.

Other notable Main Street commercial buildings include the First National Bank of Meeker, the Meeker Drugs building, the Baer Block / Tagert Hardware building, the Neal Block, and the Mountain States Telephone and Telegraph Company building.

The two-story building at 504 Main Street (5RB.2283), at the southwest corner of Main and 5<sup>th</sup> streets, was built circa 1904 as the First National Bank of Meeker. Founded circa 1890, this banking concern later branched out to Grand Junction, Steamboat Springs, Oak Creek, and Rangely. It eventually merged with the Bank of the San Juans, which as of 2017 continues in business in the building at 504 Main Street. The bank was remodeled in the 1980s to also incorporate two one-story retail spaces adjacent to the west.

The one-story commercial building at 530 Main Street (5RB.2239) was erected in 1914, and served as a drugstore throughout most of its history. It was known as Robertson's Pharmacy in the 1930s, and in the 1940s it was owned and operated by Walter "Doc" Taylor and his wife Marguerite. The business was renamed "Meeker Drugs" after it was acquired by Guy B. and Thelma Russell circa 1950. Meeker Drugs then occupied the building until 2013 when it moved into the nearby Neal Block at 617/627 Main Street (5RB.2250).

The original Baer Block at the southwest corner of Main and 6<sup>th</sup> streets was erected circa 1891, and was originally home to the Gates Kersburg saloon. Rio Blanco County Courthouse offices were also in a portion of the building between 1892 and 1898. The building was named for and originally owned by Isaac "Ike" Baer, a prominent western Colorado businessman and cattleman. A German immigrant, Baer settled in Leadville in the 1880s where he went into the liquor business before developing cattle and other business interests in Rio Blanco County. Isaac Baer and his wife Hattie died prematurely on November 16, 1920 when their car was struck by a passenger train near Santa Fe, New Mexico.

The 1891 Baer Block was substantially rebuilt in 1923 (5RB.2251). The building was subsequently occupied by Tagert's Hardware store between 1923 and 1952, followed by Strehlke's Drugstore and Sides Rexall Drugs. More recently, the building has served as a Radio Shack outlet, as an auto parts store, and as Shepherd's Office Outfitter store.

Located at the northwest corner of Main and 6<sup>th</sup> streets, the Neal Block (617/627 Main Street / 315 6<sup>th</sup> Street, 5RB.2250) was designed by Denver architect William N. Bowman in 1919, and opened the following year as the First State Bank of Meeker. Joseph N. Neal and Edmund Pauls were the banks principal owners. Joseph Newton Neal was born in Newton County, Missouri in 1875. The Neal family moved to northwestern Colorado circa 1896 where they established a ranch in the Piceance Creek area southwest of Meeker. In 1901, Joseph married Emeline (Emma) Aves, who was born in Marion County, Iowa 1876. On February 4, 1910, a daughter, Virginia, was born to the couple.

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Capitalizing on his success in the cattle business, in 1917 Neal moved his family to Meeker, and partnered with Edmund Pauls to found the First State Bank of Meeker. In April 1919, Neal and Pauls contracted with Denver architect William N. Bowman to design a bank building at the northwest corner of Main and 6<sup>th</sup> streets, and also to design Craftsman-style homes for their families, respectively at 613 Park Avenue (5RB.4397) and at 683 Park Avenue (5RB.6524). Bowman had recently designed the Moffatt County Courthouse in Craig, during which time he made business contacts in Meeker. Bowman and the Rio Blanco County Commissioners, in fact, discussed plans for a new courthouse building in Meeker; however, those plans never came to fruition. Bowman though did obtain the commission to design the Neal Block and the two Craftsman-style residences. In addition to the First State Bank, the Neal Block has housed numerous retail establishments over the decades, including Sentry Hardware, Sherwin Williams Paints, and Meeker Drugs for the past several years.

In 1930, Neal contracted with local builder George Glasgow to construct a small one-story commercial building adjacent to the Neal Block to the west (645 Main Street 5RB.8698), which he then leased long term to the Mountain States Telephone and Telegraph Company.

*Residential Development*

Notable residences within the historic district include the aforementioned William N. Bowman designed houses at 613 and 683 Park Avenue, along with the Wildhack House at 425 Park Avenue (5RB.4381), the Salmon House at 449 Park Avenue (5RB.4380), the Reuben Oldland House at 487 Park Avenue (5RB.4379), and the Lyttle House at 715 Park Avenue.

Virginia Neal was ten years old when she and her parents, Joseph and Emma Neal, moved into the new William Bowman-designed house at 613 Park Avenue. She spent her formative years in the home, and the property remained with the Neal family until circa 1946 when Joseph and Emma retired to Mesa, Arizona. Virginia graduated from the University of Colorado with a degree in economics in 1931, and on January 28, 1934, she married James Elliot Blue. The couple made their home in Meeker for the next several years where two sons were born to the couple, James N., in 1935, and Linden E., in 1936.

The Blue family moved to Denver circa 1950 where James and Virginia founded the real estate firm of Blue and Blue, and where Virginia became highly-prominent in Colorado state politics and in Denver business circles. She served on the University Colorado Board of Regents from 1952 to 1958, and in the early 1960s became the first female president of the University of Colorado Associated Alumni. In 1962, she was named Denver realtor of the year, the first woman to be so honored in what was then a male-dominated profession. In 1966, she was elected Colorado State Treasurer, becoming the first woman to hold one of Colorado's four highest elected offices (Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Treasurer, and Secretary of State). Prior to becoming State Treasurer, between 1964 and 1966, Virginia served as chairperson for the Colorado Commission on the Status of Women, an entity established by the administration of Governor John Love. By the early 1970s, the Commission on the Status of Women resulted in the creation of resource centers for women at community colleges throughout Colorado designed to help women adjust to college life and ultimately to succeed in the work place. They were named the Virginia Neal Blue Foundation of Women's Centers, with the first such resource center established in 1972 at the El Paso Community College (Pikes Peak Community College), in Colorado Springs. Virginia (Neal) Blue died at age 66 on December 16, 1970 while still serving as Colorado State Treasurer. A portrait in her honor hangs within a stained-glass window in the Senate Gallery on the second floor of the Colorado State Capitol.<sup>27</sup>

Soon after it was constructed in 1920, the William Bowman designed house at 683 Park Avenue was acquired by Ambrose and Mary (Delaney) Oldland. After emigrating from England and joining his brother Reuben in the Piceance Creek basin, circa 1887 Ambrose established a mercantile store at the small settlement of White River City. The Oldlands moved to Meeker, circa 1890, where Ambrose took over a mercantile business previously operated by Thomas Watson. In 1919, Ambrose bought the Hugus & Company store at 594 Main Street (5RB.2242) where the A. Oldland & Company

<sup>27</sup> "Virginia Melba Neal Blue." <https://www.findagrave.com/cgi-bin/fg.cgi?page=gr&GRid=14045415>; "Report of the Governor's Commission on the Status of Women 1965." [file:///C:/Users/User/Downloads/gov\\_102015-gov362r311965internet%20\(1\).pdf](file:///C:/Users/User/Downloads/gov_102015-gov362r311965internet%20(1).pdf).; "Virginia Neal Blue, State Treasurer, Dies in Denver," *Greeley Tribune*, September 17, 1970.



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store then remained in business for the next seven decades.

Ambrose and Mary owned and lived in the home at 683 Park Avenue until their respective deaths in 1960 and 1961. They were the parents of five children, two of whom died tragically during childhood after contracting scarlet fever - Hartley Ernest (born December 3, 1892 and died May 27, 1902) and Mary Louise (born February 24, 1900 and died June 1, 1902). Another daughter, Katherine (born July 15, 1894), also died tragically at age nineteen in Rio Blanco County's first fatal automobile accident on September 7, 1913. Enroute to the railroad depot in Rifle, the car in which she was riding overturned as it approached the Rio Blanco Hill about seventeen miles south of Meeker during a heavy rainstorm. The car skidded on a rain-soaked narrow wood plank bridge and overturned into a flooded ditch. The car's other occupants all survived with minor injuries. Ambrose and Mary's two surviving children were Margaret Oldland (born April 14, 1904 and died December 16, 1996), and Henry John Oldland (born February 28, 1908 and died August 30, 1990). In 2017, the home at 683 Park Avenue is owned and occupied by Ambrose and Mary's granddaughter, Mary (Oldland) Washburn and her husband Michael Washburn.

Located at the northwest corner of Park Avenue and 4<sup>th</sup> Street, the dwelling at 425 Park Avenue was erected in 1903 as a residence for Henry and Anna Wildhack. A native of Illinois, Wildhack moved to Leadville in the 1870s and from there to Meeker in the early 1890s. In June 1892, he married Anna Kuneman who was born in Canada in 1868. Following their marriage, Henry and Anna lived in Meeker for the remainder of their lives. Three daughters were born to the couple, May, born in 1893, Leona, born in 1896, and Katherine, born in 1901. Henry Wildhack served as the U. S. Land Commissioner for the Government Land Office (G.L.O.), initially for Garfield County, and then for Rio Blanco County after it was founded in 1889. In this capacity he was responsible for the surveying, platting, and sale of public lands. Wildhack later opened an abstract office in Meeker completing title and abstract work for property transactions throughout the region. In deference to his profession, he was popularly referred to as "Judge Wildhack" although he was not truly a judge in the legal sense. Wildhack chronicled much of Meeker's early history and is also credited with having taken several early town photos. Henry and Anna Wildhack owned and lived in this Park Avenue home from the time it was built until their respective deaths in December 1936 and November 1953.

The original portion of the house at 449 Park Avenue was built circa 1886, and is of log and sod construction beneath the modern exterior siding. Elijah Salmon was the house's earliest known owner, and he was sufficiently prominent as a cattle rancher that in 1905 his biography was chronicled in *Progressive Men of Western Colorado*, published by A. W. Bowen and Company. A native of England, Salmon immigrated to America in 1863. He settled initially in Mercer County, Pennsylvania before coming west to Colorado Territory in 1874. He worked as a coal miner in Fremont County, before relocating to Routt County in the early 1880s. Entering into the cattle business, Salmon established successful ranches in the Bear (Yampa) and White River valleys. In July 1884, Salmon married Annie Edwards. A native of Wales, Annie, had immigrated to America with her parents in 1868. When Elijah Salmon died in March 1912, several western Colorado newspapers noted his passing, referring to him as "...one of the Meeker Valley's earliest and best-known pioneers and a cattleman of prominence..."<sup>28</sup>

Located at the northeast corner of Park Avenue and 5<sup>th</sup> Street, the residence at 487 Park Avenue was constructed in 1887. Thomas Watson, its original owner, operated an early mercantile business in Meeker located at the southeast corner of Main and 5<sup>th</sup> streets. Circa 1890, Watson sold his residence to Reuben and Sarah Oldland. The property was subsequently owned and occupied by members of the Oldland family until the 1960s. The building was then converted into a restaurant named Inge's Kitchen, before later becoming an attorney's office. Janice Oldland (the great-granddaughter of Reuben and Sarah) purchased the property in 1991, bringing it once again under Oldland family name.

A native of Gloucestershire, England, Reuben Oldland immigrated to America circa 1873. He came west to Leadville in the late 1870s, and from there to the Piceance Creek basin. Entering into the cattle business, Reuben traveled to Dodge City, Kansas where he purchased a thousand cows, thirty bulls, a mess wagon, and the rights to the Spur brand. He trailed the cattle from Kansas to Colorado Springs, and ultimately to Piceance Creek where he established the Oldland Spur Ranch.

<sup>28</sup> *The Salida Record*, March 29, 1912, p. 4; *Del Norte San Juan Prospector*, March 30, 1912, p. 1.

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Reuben married Sarah Jones in 1883. A native of Pennsylvania, and of Welsh heritage, Sarah was born in April 1867. Reuben and Sarah raised a family of three sons and one daughter -initially on their ranch, and later in Meeker. Their oldest son, John Ernest Oldland, was born in July 1887, followed by Caroline "Carrie," in August 1888, Gerald, in July 1890, and Walter in March 1892. Capitalizing on his success in the cattle business, Reuben Oldland founded the First National Bank of Meeker as well as other business interests. Politically, he served as Garfield County's first Clerk and Recorder (prior to the establishment of Rio Blanco County), as Rio Blanco County Treasurer, as Mayor of Meeker, and as a member of the Colorado State Legislature. Reuben Oldland passed away in July 1933 at the age of 77. In his obituary, the *Meeker Herald* hailed him as "Rio Blanco County's most loved citizen."<sup>29</sup>

The residence at 715 Park Avenue was associated with the Lyttle family throughout much of its history. James Lyttle, the earliest known owner, was the founder and original publisher and owner of the *Meeker Herald* newspaper. Born in Tyrone County, Ireland in 1858, Lyttle immigrated to America with his parents in 1869. The Lyttle family settled in Pittsburgh, where at age 12 James was apprenticed in the printer's trade in the office of the *Pittsburgh Gazette*. In 1880, Lyttle came west to Denver securing employment with the *Denver Tribune*. In 1883, he moved to Leadville taking a position with the *Herald-Democrat* newspaper. Two years later, Lyttle moved to Meeker where he founded the *Meeker Herald*. First published on August 15, 1885, the *Meeker Herald* was northwest Colorado's second newspaper following the *Steamboat Pilot* that began publication just two weeks earlier.

Lyttle owned and published the newspaper until his death on May 24, 1925. He was also active in civic affairs and in local and state-wide politics. He was a member of Meeker's original town board, and later served as mayor, as Rio Blanco School District No. 1 school superintendent, and in the 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> General Assemblies of the Colorado State Legislature. Lyttle married Selena Doak in August 1895, to whom three sons were born, Hugh, George, and Richard. Born in March 1901, Richard Lyttle took over the operation of the *Meeker Herald* following his father's death. He passed away on March 22, 1988 at the age of 87, also having published the paper throughout his lifetime. Now known as the (Rio Blanco) *Herald-Times*, the newspaper remains in circulation as one of Colorado's oldest publications.

*The Rio Blanco County Courthouse and the Meeker Elementary School*

The Rio Blanco County Courthouse (555 Main Street, 5RB.2243) and the Meeker Elementary School (455 Main Street, 5RB.2244) were erected in the 1930s as Great Depression-era New Deal projects. The buildings were erected in the centers of the two blocks that had originally been the parade ground for the Camp on White River, and that later became the town park.

Rio Blanco County was formed in 1889, with Meeker designated as the county seat. Earlier, between 1861 and 1883, lands encompassing Rio Blanco County were within the boundaries of Summit County (one of Colorado's seventeen original counties), and within the boundaries of Garfield County, between 1883 and 1889.

Prior to the construction of the current courthouse in 1935, Rio Blanco County offices were first located (from 1889 to 1892) in a large log building that had previously been used as a hospital as part of the Camp on White River. This (no longer extant) building was also used as classroom space by the school district, and for various other community purposes. County offices were next located (between 1892 and 1898) in the Baer Block at the southwest corner of Main and 6<sup>th</sup> streets (5RB.2251). They were then moved to the International Order of Oddfellow building at the southwest corner of Main and 4<sup>th</sup> streets (5RB.2245) where they were located until 1906. The courthouse was then located in the (no longer extant) Antlers Hotel building, located on the south side of the 400 block of Main Street, until the current courthouse was completed in 1935.

The 1935 Rio Blanco County Courthouse was designed by Denver architect Charles Francis Pillsbury. Pillsbury, who had designed the Eagle County Courthouse in 1932, was commissioned to design a similar courthouse building for Rio Blanco County in the fall of 1934. The architectural drawings were completed in January 1935 and excavation work began the following month. The courthouse building was then constructed between May and July 1935, under the auspices of the Federal Emergency Relief Administration (FERA), predecessor of the Works Progress Administration (WPA). Bids for the

<sup>29</sup> *Meeker Herald*, July 27, 1933, p. 1.

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building's construction were advertised on April 1, 1935, separated into those for a general contractor, stonework, plumbing and heating, and jail equipment. N. G. Petry of Denver was awarded the contract to serve as general contractor with a low bid of \$35,157. The other contracts were awarded to: Tom Ekrem (stonework), George Wilson and George Unfred of Grand Junction (plumbing and heating), and the Southern Prison Company of San Antonio, Texas (jail equipment). In reporting the winning bids, the *Meeker Herald* took pains to justify awarding the jail equipment contract to an out of state company. The newspaper explained that only two bids were received, both from out of state, and that the steel for the jail equipment would be made in Pueblo (presumably by Colorado Fuel & Iron), which the newspaper explained "makes it really a Colorado job."<sup>30</sup>

The courthouse was completed in late July 1935. Led by the local Masonic Lodge, a gala cornerstone laying ceremony was held on July 23, 1935. A copper box measuring 3½ inches x 5½ inches x 11 inches was placed behind the cornerstone. Items placed in the box included: a copy of the first issue of the *Meeker Herald*, a current (July 18, 1935) copy of the *Meeker Herald*, copies of the first and last issues of the *White River Review* newspaper, a membership roll of the Masonic Lodge, a certificate of the County Commissioners proceedings relating to the courthouse's construction, a medal struck in the honor of the Mother of God, a souvenir trowel, and numerous photographs including one of a monument erected in memory of Nathan Meeker.<sup>31</sup>

The Rio Blanco County Courthouse is one of five known Colorado courthouses designed by Charles Francis Pillsbury between 1932 and 1964. The others are the Eagle County Courthouse in Eagle (5EA.1828) in 1932, the Montezuma County Courthouse in Cortez (5MT.12689) in 1937, the Kiowa County Courthouse in Eads (5KW.176) in 1956, and the La Plata County Courthouse in Durango (5LP.4924) in 1964.

The Meeker Elementary School was designed by Pueblo architect Walter DeMordaunt and erected under the auspices of the Works Progress Administration (WPA) in 1938-1939. Preliminary planning for the building's construction began in October 1937 when the previous grade school (built in 1919), was condemned as unsafe for school purposes. With no local funds available, Ray Hume, superintendent for Rio Blanco County School District No. 1, unsuccessfully requested emergency funds from the office of the state superintendent of schools. The school board then sought the assistance of Fritz A. Carstens, director of the Rio Blanco County Welfare Department. Carstens guided the board through the federal process of obtaining a WPA project, and also agreed to donate sandstone from the D. B. Cannafax Ranch on the upper White River.

In April 1938, the school board and Meeker Town Council agreed that the new elementary school should be located in the "Town Park" east of the recently-built Rio Blanco County Courthouse. Ground was broken on July 7, 1938, apparently with WPA funding not yet formally approved. A month later, the *Meeker Herald* reported: "On Monday of this week, Congressman Edward T. Taylor wired the *Herald* as follows: 'Am just advised that President Roosevelt approved WPA application for school building project at Meeker in amount of \$25,134. Kindly advise those interested.'"<sup>32</sup>

Utilizing DeMordaunt's design, the school building was constructed under the supervision of Harry Pollard, foreman and building superintendent for the WPA. On January 30, 1939, a cornerstone laying ceremony was held, organized by members of the Masonic Lodge, and attended by such dignitaries as Colorado state WPA director Paul Shriver and state welfare director Earl Kouns. A copper box containing the following items was placed within the cornerstone: a bible, a copy of the cornerstone laying program, a history of the organization of Rio Blanco County School District No. 1, a list of the WPA employees (project #3246), a picture of the groundbreaking ceremony, a list of the children attending the new elementary for the 1939 school year, photos of the students and their teachers for grades 1-8, a copy of "class responses," and copies of the *Meeker Herald* dated January 19 and January 26, 1939.<sup>33</sup>

<sup>30</sup> "Contract Let for New County Court House." *The Meeker Herald*, May 2, 1935, p. 1.

<sup>31</sup> "Corner Stone of New Court House Now in Place." *The Meeker Herald*, July 25, 1935, p. 1.

<sup>32</sup> "WPA Made Old Meeker Elementary School Possible." <http://www.theheraldtimes.com/wpa-made-old-meeker-elementary-school-possible/meeker>.

<sup>33</sup> "Corner Stone of New Court House Now in Place." *The Meeker Herald*, July 25, 1935, p. 1.

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*Meeker in the Late Twentieth and Early Twenty-First Centuries*

Meeker's economy has remained primarily agricultural-based in recent decades, as serving the retail needs of the area's sheep and cattle ranchers has continued as the mainstay of the local economy. As a result, a number of early downtown businesses have endured to the present day. These include the First National Bank of Meeker / Bank of the San Juans at 504 Main Street, the Meeker Café at 550 Main Street, the Meeker Hotel at 560 Main Street, and Meeker Drugs at 617 Main Street / 315 6<sup>th</sup> Street. Similarly, a number of historic residences remain associated with descendants of their original or early owners, including the Starbuck House at 767 Main Street, the Ruckman House at 787 Main Street, the Reuben Oldland House at 487 Park Avenue, and the Ambrose Oldland House at 683 Park Avenue.

In addition to agriculture, Meeker's economy is also based on tourism with a strong emphasis on outdoor recreation, the energy sector, including coal, oil and natural gas, and on local and federal government agencies. Popularized by visits from Theodore Roosevelt in the early 1900s, Meeker has served as a commercial hub for hunters, anglers, backpackers, and other outdoor enthusiasts in the nearby Flat Tops Wilderness and White River National Forest for more than one hundred years. Attracting large numbers of big game hunters each fall, this area is reputedly home to the largest elk herd in the nation. The Blanco Ranger District of the White River National Forest, and the White River Conservation District of the Bureau of Land Management, are both headquartered in Meeker in support of federal land management policies. Other government / public entities headquartered in Meeker include Rio Blanco County, the Town of Meeker, a satellite campus of the Rangely-based Northwestern Colorado Community College, a U.S Department of Agriculture Farm Service Agency office, and Meeker School District RE-1.

Apart from outdoor recreation, heritage tourism and agritourism have also become increasingly important in recent decades. The Rio Blanco County Historical Society and White River Museum are actively engaged in promoting and interpreting the region's colorful history, while planned celebrations and events are gaining national and even international followings. The most notable of these are the annual Meeker Classic Sheepdog Championship Trials, held each September since 1987, and the Fourth of July Range Call Celebration held annually since Meeker was founded in 1885.

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Reid, Suzannah. Survey Report, Small Town Initiative – Meeker, Colorado. November 2009. On file with History Colorado, Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation.

Seyfarth, Jill, and Ruth Lambert, Ph.D. "Pioneers, Prospectors and Trout: A Historic Context for La Plata County, Colorado." Prepared for the La Plata County Planning Department, January, 2010.

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Meeker Historic District

Rio Blanco County, CO

Name of Property

County and State

*This is What I Remember: The First One Hundred Years 1889 - 1989, Volume III.* Meeker, Colorado: The Rio Blanco County Historical Society, 1991.

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United States Federal Census Records (accessed online via Ancestry.com at [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com), and HeritageQuest at [www.heritagequestonline.com.ezproxy.denverlibrary.org](http://www.heritagequestonline.com.ezproxy.denverlibrary.org)).

Welle, Thomas J. "Officers' Quarters – Camp on White River, Colorado." State Register of Historic Properties Nomination Form (draft), August 27, 1996.

Wilber Ed P. (as told to J. N. Neal and recorded by Ethel Starbuck). "Reminiscences of the Meeker Country." *Colorado Magazine*, vol. xxiii, no. 5, September 1946, pp. 198-207.

Willard, James F., ed. "The Union Colony at Greeley, Colorado 1869-1871," University of Colorado Historical Collection Series, Volume 1, 1918.

**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:**

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other
- Name of repository: History Colorado

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): 5RB.8837

Meeker Historic District

Rio Blanco County, CO

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**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreage of Property** 24.953

(Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

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 Management.

**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

<p>1 <u>13</u>      <u>251139</u>      <u>4436101</u>            Zone    Easting      Northing</p> <p>3 <u>13</u>      <u>251646</u>      <u>4435957</u>            Zone    Easting      Northing</p> <p>5 <u>13</u>      <u>251337</u>      <u>4435968</u>            Zone    Easting      Northing</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">(NAD 83)</p> <p>2 <u>13</u>      <u>251598</u>      <u>4436193</u>            Zone    Easting      Northing</p> <p>4 <u>13</u>      <u>251350</u>      <u>4435897</u>            Zone    Easting      Northing</p> <p>6 <u>13</u>      <u>251172</u>      <u>4435937</u>            Zone    Easting      Northing</p>
--	---

**Verbal Boundary Description**

Beginning at the point where the curb line on the east side of 8th Street intersects the midline of the alley between Park Avenue and Garfield Street (Point 1). From point 1, proceed easterly along the midline of the alley between Park Avenue and Garfield Street, crossing 7th Street, crossing 6th Street, crossing 5th Street, and continuing to the point where the said midline intersects the curb line on the west side of 4th Street (Point 2). From point 2, proceed southerly along the curb line on the west side of 4th Street, crossing Park Avenue, crossing Main Street, and continuing to the point where the said curb line intersects the midline of the alley between Main Street and Market Street (Point 3). From point 3, proceed westerly along the midline of the alley between Main Street and Market Street, crossing 5th Street, crossing 6th Street, and continuing to the point where the said midline intersects the southwest corner of Parcel no. 1409-233-10005 (610/628 Main Street) (Point 4). From point 4 proceed northerly along the property line of Parcel no. 1409-233-10007 (654 Main Street) to the point where said line intersects the curb on the north side of Main Street (Point 5). From point 5, proceed westerly along the curb line on the north side of Main Street, crossing 7th Street, and continuing westerly along the curb line on the north side of Main Street to the point at the northeast corner of Main Street and 8th Street (Point 6). From point 6, proceed northerly along the curb line on the east side of 8th Street, crossing Park Avenue, and continuing to the point of beginning (Point 1).

**Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The district boundary encompasses the core of Meeker's historic commercial and residential buildings, including the three log buildings remaining from the Camp on White River established by the U. S. Army in 1880, the Rio Blanco County Courthouse, and the former Meeker Elementary School. Areas outside this historic core have a greater number of non-historic buildings and a higher concentration of altered historic buildings, and thus are excluded from the district boundaries.



Meeker Historic District

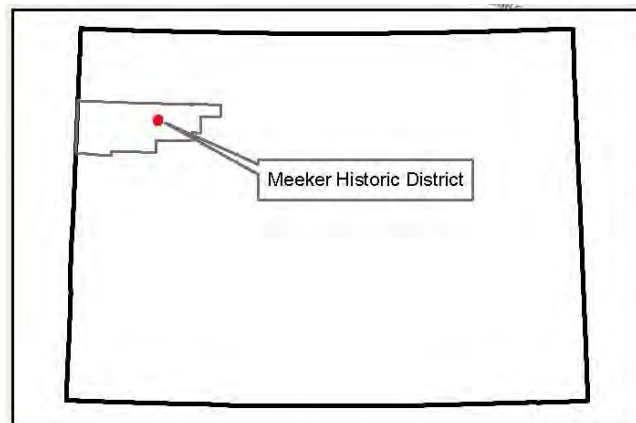
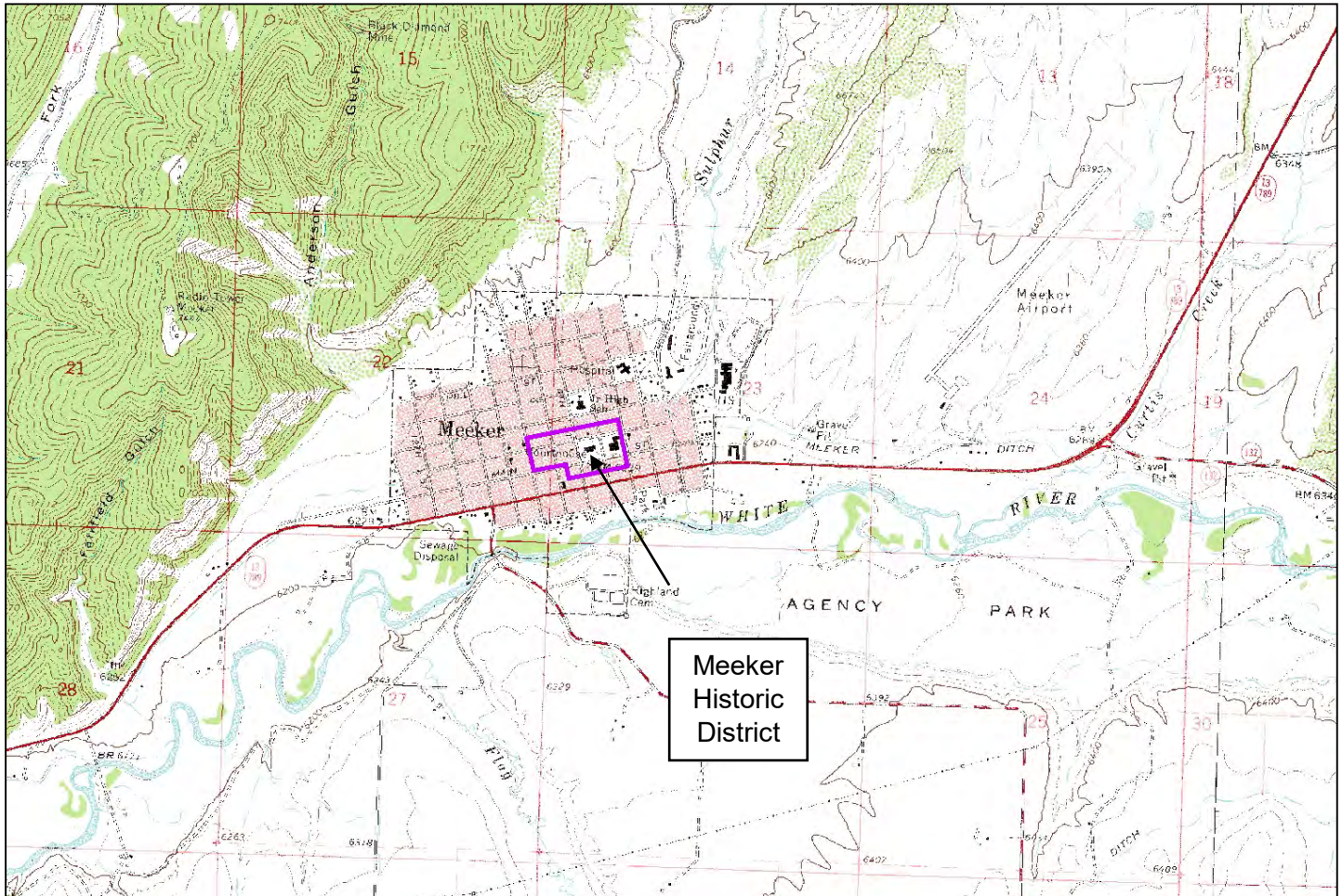
Rio Blanco County, CO

Name of Property

County and State

USGS TOPOGRAPHIC MAP- Regional Perspective  
Meeker Quadrangle  
7.5 Minute Series

Elevation: 6239'





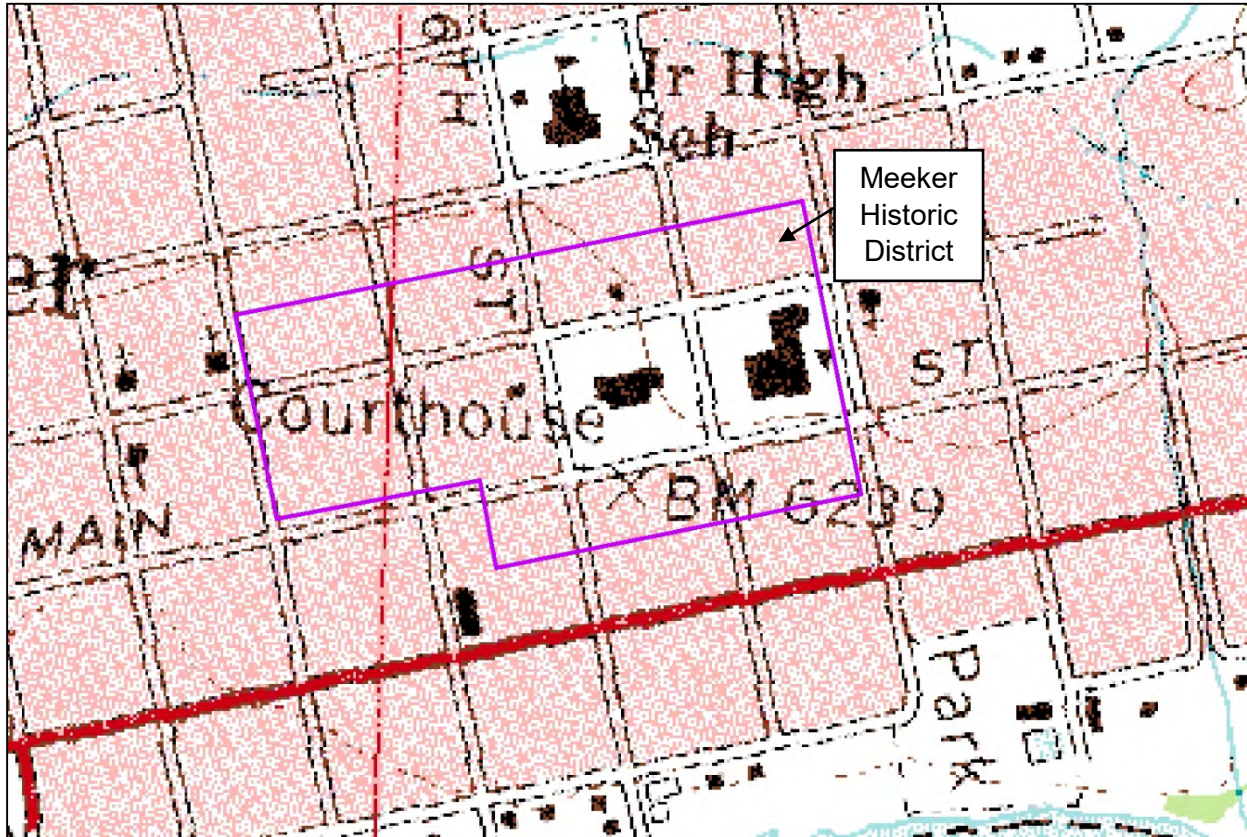
Meeker Historic District

Rio Blanco County, CO

Name of Property

County and State

USGS TOPOGRAPHIC MAP- Close-up Perspective



Meeker Historic District

Rio Blanco County, CO

Name of Property

County and State

Meeker Historic District Contributing and Noncontributing Buildings



Map by Mike Dinwiddie at White River Electric Association for the Town of Meeker, December 2017.  
Revised by Amy Unger, June 2018.



Meeker Historic District

Rio Blanco County, CO

Name of Property

County and State



Map by Mike Dinwiddie at White River Electric Association for the Town of Meeker, December 2017; modified by preparer and revised by Amy Unger, June 2018.

Meeker Historic District

Rio Blanco County, CO

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**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Carl McWilliams (for property owners)

organization Cultural Resource Historians LLC

date November 1, 2017

street & number 1607 Dogwood Court

telephone (970) 493-5270

city or town Fort Collins

state CO

zip code 80525

e-mail [historians@frii.com](mailto:historians@frii.com)

**Additional Documentation:**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.

**Photographs:**

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map.

**CURRENT PHOTOGRAPH LOG**

**Property Name:** Meeker Historic District  
**Location:** Meeker, Rio Blanco County, Colorado  
**Photographer:** Carl McWilliams  
**Dates of Photographs:** September 2017  
**Digital CDs stored at:** History Colorado, Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation and National Register in Washington, D.C.

Photo No.	Site No(s).	Address(es)	View to:
1	5RB.2245	455 Main Street	Northwest
2	5RB.2245	400 Main Street	South
3	5RB.8693	490 Main Street	Southeast
4	5RB.2238	504 Main Street	Southwest
5	5RB.2239	530 Main Street	Southwest
6	5RB.2240	550 Main Street	Southwest
7	5RB.985	560 Main Street	South
8	5RB.2242	594 Main Street	Southeast
9	5RB.2251	600 Main Street	Southwest
10	5RB.2252	610/628 Main Street	Southeast
11	5RB.8694	640 Main Street	South
12	5RB.8695	646 Main Street	Southeast
13	5RB.8696	654 Main Street	Southwest
14	5RB.2243	555 Main Street	North
15	5RB.2250	617 Main Street / 315 6 <sup>th</sup> Street	Northwest
16	5RB.8713	335 6 <sup>th</sup> Street	West
17	5RB.8714	345 6 <sup>th</sup> Street	Southwest

## Meeker Historic District

Rio Blanco County, CO

Name of Property

County and State

18	5RB.8715	365 6 <sup>th</sup> Street	Northwest
19	5RB.8716	375 6 <sup>th</sup> Street	West
20	5RB.8717	385 6 <sup>th</sup> Street	Northwest
21	5RB.8718	364 7 <sup>th</sup> Street	Northeast
22	5RB.8719	389 7 <sup>th</sup> Street	West
23	5RB.8720	336 8 <sup>th</sup> Street	Northeast
24	5RB.8708	443 5 <sup>th</sup> Street	West
25	5RB.8709	265 6 <sup>th</sup> Street	West
26	5RB.8710	267 6 <sup>th</sup> Street	West
27	5RB.8711	275 6 <sup>th</sup> Street	Southwest
28	5RB.8712	285 6 <sup>th</sup> Street	West
29	5RB.8698	645 Main Street	North
30	5RB.8699	675 Main Street	North
31	5RB.8700	685 Main Street	Northeast
32	5RB.8701	733 Main Street	Southwest
33	5RB.6518	767 Main Street	Northwest
34	5RB.4393	787 Main Street	Northwest
35	5RB.4381	425 Park Avenue	Northwest
36	5RB.4380	449 Park Avenue	North
37	5RB.8702	465 Park Avenue	Northeast
38	5RB.4379	487 Park Avenue	North
39	5RB.8703	517 Park Avenue	Northwest
40	5RB.2247	545 Park Avenue	Northeast
41	5RB.2248	565 Park Avenue	North
42	5RB.2249	587 Park Avenue	North
43	5RB.4397	613 Park Avenue	Northeast
44	5RB.8704	631 Park Avenue	Northeast
45	5RB.6524	683 Park Avenue	Northwest
46	5RB.2666	715 Park Avenue	Northwest
47	5RB.8705	745 Park Avenue	North
48	5RB.4399	777 Park Avenue	North
49	5RB.4382	785 Park Avenue	North
50	5RB.8706	732/738 Park Avenue	South
51	5RB.8707	758 Park Avenue	South
52	5RB.6625	788 Park Avenue	South
53	5RB.2245 5RB.8693	400 Main Street 490 Main Street	Southwest
54	5RB.2245 5RB.8693	400 Main Street 490 Main Street	Southeast
55	5RB.2238 5RB.2239 5RB.2240 5RB.985 5RB.2242	504 Main Street 530 Main Street 550 Main Street 560 Main Street 594 Main Street	Southwest

## Meeker Historic District

Rio Blanco County, CO

Name of Property

County and State

56	5RB.985 5RB.2242	560 Main Street 594 Main Street	South
57	5RB.2238 5RB.2239 5RB.2240 5RB.985 5RB.2242	504 Main Street 530 Main Street 550 Main Street 560 Main Street 594 Main Street	Southeast
58	5RB.2251 5RB.2252 5RB.8694 5RB.8695 5RB.8696 5RB.8712	600 Main Street 610/628 Main Street 640 Main Street 646 Main Street 654 Main Street 285 6 <sup>th</sup> Street	Southwest
59	5RB.2251 5RB.2252 5RB.8694 5RB.8695 5RB.8696	600 Main Street 610/628 Main Street 640 Main Street 646 Main Street 654 Main Street	Southeast
60	5RB.4380 5RB.8702 5RB.4379	449 Park Avenue 465 Park Avenue 487 Park Avenue	Northeast
61	5RB.2247 5RB.2248 5RB.2249	545 Park Avenue 565 Park Avenue 587 Park Avenue	Northwest
62	5RB.2247 5RB.2248 5RB.2249	545 Park Avenue 565 Park Avenue 587 Park Avenue	Northeast
63	5RB.4397 5RB.8704	613 Park Avenue 631 Park Avenue	Northwest
64	5RB.8704 5RB.6524	631 Park Avenue 683 Park Avenue	Northeast
65	5RB.2666 5RB.4382	715 Park Avenue 785 Park Avenue	Northwest
66	5RB.8705 5RB.4382	745 Park Avenue 785 Park Avenue	Northeast
67	5RB.8706 5RB.8707 5RB.6625	732 Park Avenue 758 Park Avenue 788 Park Avenue	Southeast
68	5RB.8719 5RB.8706 5RB.8707	389 7 <sup>th</sup> Street 732 Park Avenue 758 Park Avenue	Southwest
69	5RB.8714 5RB.8715 5RB.8716 5RB.8717	345 6 <sup>th</sup> Street 365 6 <sup>th</sup> Street 375 6 <sup>th</sup> Street 385 6 <sup>th</sup> Street	Southwest
70	5RB.2250 5RB.8713 5RB.8714 5RB.8715	617 Main Street / 315 6 <sup>th</sup> Street 335 6 <sup>th</sup> Street 345 6 <sup>th</sup> Street 365 6 <sup>th</sup> Street	Northwest
71	5RB.8709 5RB.8710 5RB.8711 5RB.8712	265 6 <sup>th</sup> Street 267 6 <sup>th</sup> Street 275 6 <sup>th</sup> Street 285 6 <sup>th</sup> Street	Northwest



Name of Property

County and State

**HISTORIC IMAGES**



Figure 1: Log building erected in 1880 by the U. S. Army and used as a hospital as part of the Camp on White River. The building was later used as a school, as Rio Blanco County's first courthouse, and for other community purposes, circa 1890, courtesy of Rio Blanco County Historical Society and White River Museum.



Figure 2: James "Jim" Lyttle, founder and publisher of the *Meeker Herald*, standing in front of the newspaper's office at Main and 4<sup>th</sup> streets, circa 1888, courtesy of Rio Blanco County Historical Society and White River Museum.

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GATES KERSBURG SALOON S.W. CORNER 6<sup>th</sup> & MAIN  
J.W. HUGAS & CO. - S.E. CORNER 6<sup>th</sup> & MAIN  
*Fred Peaslee*

Figure 3: Baer Block / Gates Kersburg Saloon at the southwest corner of Main and 6<sup>th</sup> streets (right), and the Hugus & Company Block at the southeast corner, view to southwest, circa 1895, courtesy of Rio Blanco County Historical Society and White River Museum.



Figure 4: Buildings on the south side of the 500 block of Main Street, view to southwest, circa 1901, courtesy of Rio Blanco County Historical Society and White River Museum.



Meeker Historic District

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Figure 5: Image of Vice President- Elect Theodore Roosevelt's hunting party outside the Meeker Hotel, view to southeast, 1901, courtesy of Library of Congress, <https://www.loc.gov/item/2013651451>. The following notations in ink appear on this photo's border: "Roosevelt, Theo Hunting Pres File Copyrighted 1901 by" and it is stamped "(C. A. Booth, Meeker, Colo.)."



Figure 6: Buildings on the south side of the 400 block of Main Street, view to southwest from near the corner of Main and 4<sup>th</sup> streets, circa late 1880s, courtesy of Rio Blanco County Historical Society and White River Museum.

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Figure 7: Original Hugus & Co. Block, constructed in 1891 and replaced by a new Hugus & Co. Block after it burned in 1911 (594 Main Street, 5RB.2242), 1896, view to south, courtesy of Denver Public Library, x-12397.



Figure 8: Hugus & Co. block, constructed in 1911 (594 Main Street, 5RB.2242), circa 1920s, view to southeast, courtesy of Rio Blanco County Historical Society and White River Museum.

Meeker Historic District

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Figure 9: Original central wing of the Meeker Hotel (560 Main Street, 5RB.985), view to south, 1896, courtesy of Denver Public Library, x-12428.



Figure 10: Meeker Hotel (560 Main Street, 5RB.985), view to south, circa 1955, courtesy of Denver Public Library, z-11990.



Meeker Historic District

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Figure 11: International Order of Oddfellows Building (400 Main Street, 5RB.2242), circa 1897, courtesy of Denver Public Library, x-12453.



Figure 12: Former Camp on White River buildings (545, 565 and 587 Park Avenue, 5RB.2247, 5RB.2248, 5RB.2249), view to northeast from corner of Park Avenue and 6<sup>th</sup> Street, circa 1947, courtesy Denver Public Library, x-12396.

Meeker Historic District

Rio Blanco County, CO

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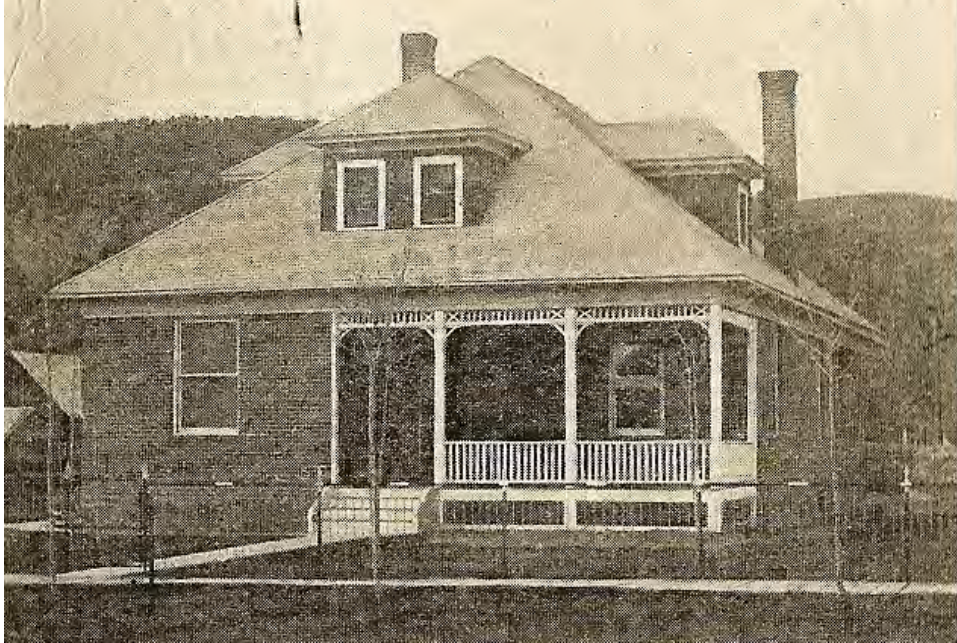


Figure 13: Wildhack House at the northwest corner of Park Avenue and 4<sup>th</sup> Street (425 Park Avenue, 5RB.4381), view to north, circa 1905, courtesy of Rio Blanco County Historical Society and White River Museum.



Figure 14: buildings on the south side of the 500 block of Main Street, view to southwest from near the corner of Main and 5<sup>th</sup> streets, circa 1960, courtesy of Rio Blanco County Historical Society and White River Museum.



Meeker Historic District

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Figure 15: First National Bank Building, 504 Main Street (5RB.2238), view to southwest, circa 1920, courtesy of Rio Blanco County Historical Society and White River Museum.

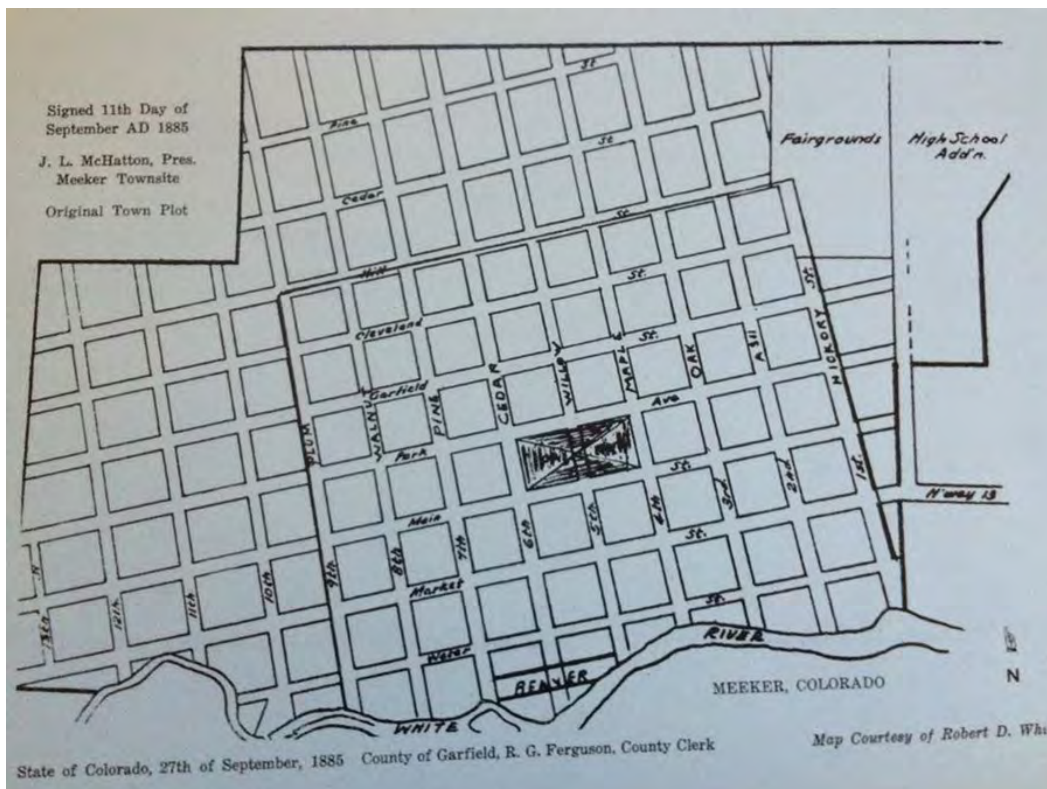


Figure 16: Meeker's original town plat, filed on November 5, 1885 in the Garfield County Clerk and Recorder's Office, Book TR 1, Page 252.



RIO BLANCO COUNTY  
JUSTICE CENTER  
435 MAIN STREET





100F

400

Missouri  
Light Bank







BANK OF THE SAN JUAN

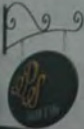
WESBURY

2025





NO PARKING  
THIS SIDE OF STREET  
FIVE MINUTE  
PERMITS  
ONLY



550  
MAIN  
STREET

Meeker  
CAFE

OPEN





Meeker  
CAFE

• Hair  
• Skin  
• Nails  
• Massage  
• Waxing  
• Tanning  
Walk-ins Welcome

Budweiser  
OPEN

OPEN  
OPEN

OPEN  
OPEN

RANGER





MEEKER  
HOTEL



WILSON'S BOOKSTORE

HOTEL



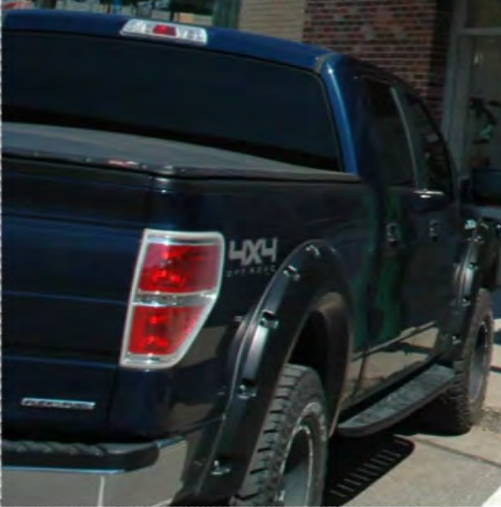




 State Farm

628

State Farm  
  
Kevin  
Amack





640

WELCOME  
HUNTERS

OPEN



JOY SURVEYING CO.



NO  
PARKING  
THIS SIDE  
OF STREET  
TUES-THURS  
FROM  
12AM-7AM

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**hotspot**  
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FROM  
12AM-7AM  
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- Scratch Proof Your Device** by STRATA
- ed text** \$5.20
- SCRATCH PROOF** by STRATA
- CLEAR PROTECTOR** by STRATA

Central glass door with the STRATA logo and the address number 552 above it.











MEEKER DRUGS

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BLOCK

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IN ZONE

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for the  
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ANYTIME  
ON THIS  
SIDE OF  
STREET

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ANYTIME  
ON THIS  
SIDE OF  
STREET

GRAND  
OPENING  
CONCERN  
COURT

Starbucks  
@ 345 6th  
408-4000



UNITED STATES  
POST OFFICE  
MEEKER COLORADO 81641











395





RIO BLANCO MASONIC CENTER







389











NO  
PARKING  
ON  
STREET  
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FRONT  
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BUILDING

ONE WAY

265





FAUNTE



NO  
PARKING  
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265





265

My Clay Plus  
All the items  
in the store  
are made  
in the  
USA

267

MINNEAPOLIS  
MINNEAPOLIS  
MINNEAPOLIS

275







NO PARKING  
THE SIDE  
OF STREET  
VIOLATION  
FINE \$100

YOGA  
STUDIO

Barthman  
THE HEROES  
WITH FRAMES

SHOCKTOP

TASH CHAIRS



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OF STREET  
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3070 748-8006

NO PARKING  
IN FRONT  
OF THIS  
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DURING  
BUSINESS  
HOURS



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OR VEHICLES  
WITH A PERMIT

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SUNSHINE  
CITY

WELCOME TO  
SUNSHINE  
CITY









767

















OLD WEST  
HERITAGE CULTURE CENTER  
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WHITE RIVER MUSEUM

505





WHITE RIVER MUSEUM

THE  
WHITE RIVER  
MUSEUM

565  
NOPE  
NO FEES



































785

















1007









BANK OF THE SAN JUAN

Meeker

CAFE







WAGON WHEEL HOTEL

WAGON WHEEL HOTEL

MECKY  
CAFE

Wagon Wheel  
Hotel

Wagon Wheel  
Hotel

Wagon Wheel  
Hotel

Wagon Wheel  
Hotel



LIONS CLUB

HOTEL

MICKY CAFE

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National Register of Historic Places  
Memo to File

# Correspondence

The Correspondence consists of communications from (and possibly to) the nominating authority, notes from the staff of the National Register of Historic Places, and/or other material the National Register of Historic Places received associated with the property.

Correspondence may also include information from other sources, drafts of the nomination, letters of support or objection, memorandums, and ephemera which document the efforts to recognize the property.



OFFICE of ARCHAEOLOGY and HISTORIC PRESERVATION



February 26, 2018

J. Paul Loether, Deputy Keeper and Chief,  
National Register and NHL Programs  
National Register of Historic Places  
Mail Stop 7228  
1849 C St, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20240

Re: National Register Nomination for the Meeker Historic District, Meeker, Rio Blanco County,  
Colorado (5RB.8837)

Dear Mr. Loether:

We are pleased to submit for your review the enclosed National Register of Historic Places nomination for the Meeker Historic District, roughly bounded by Main Street, Park Avenue, 4<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> streets in Meeker, Colorado. In accordance with the digital submission policy, enclosed please find:

- CD with PDF of the nomination for the Meeker Historic District. Note: **The enclosed disk contains the true and correct copy of the nomination for the Meeker Historic District to the National Register of Historic Places.**
- CD with USGS Topo maps from ArcView GIS
- CDs (2) with TIF images
- Physical signature pages to the nomination (by SHPO and for NPS signature)

The State Review Board reviewed the nomination at its meeting on January 19, 2017. The board voted 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](mailto:heather.peterson@state.co.us).

Best regards,

Heather Peterson  
National & State Register Historian

Enclosures as above noted





## Re: Photo Crisis!

1 message

**Warzel - HC, Erika** <erika.warzel@state.co.us>  
To: "Wyatt, Barbara" <barbara\_wyatt@nps.gov>  
Cc: Rustin Quaide <rustin\_quaide@nps.gov>, Heather Peterson <heather.peterson@state.co.us>

Mon, Mar 12, 2018 at 2:14 PM

Thanks, Barbara. We will send a new CD for the photos ASAP unless Rus instructs otherwise. Sorry for the mix-up!

Best,  
Erika



Erika Warzel  
State Preservation Planning Manager | National and State Register Coordinator  
History Colorado | Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation  
303-866-4683 (w) | erika.warzel@state.co.us  
History Colorado Center, 1200 Broadway, Denver, CO 80203 | historycolorado.org

On Mon, Mar 12, 2018 at 2:06 PM, Wyatt, Barbara <barbara\_wyatt@nps.gov> wrote:

Hi Erika,

I received this note from Rus, part of our NR processing team. He found some photos to be missing from the Meeker Historic District, specifically #2, 3, and 4. It might be easier if you send a new disk that's complete, but I'm copying Rus on this in case he wants to give a different instruction. If you don't hear from him, please send a complete cd.

Many thanks!  
Barbara

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Quaide, Rustin** <rustin\_quaide@nps.gov>  
Date: Fri, Mar 9, 2018 at 3:09 PM  
Subject: Re: Photo Crisis!  
To: "Wyatt, Barbara" <barbara\_wyatt@nps.gov>

Missing three photos, 2, 3, and 4.

On Fri, Mar 9, 2018 at 12:09 PM, Wyatt, Barbara <barbara\_wyatt@nps.gov> wrote:

OK, will do! Just one question: Photos 2-4 sounds like 3 photos . . . Are the missing 4 in fact the missing 3 or is it Photos 1-4 or 2-5 that are missing?

Thanks!  
Barbara

On Fri, Mar 9, 2018 at 11:25 AM, Quaide, Rustin <rustin\_quaide@nps.gov> wrote:  
Barbara,

My eyesight distinguishing between the purple and blue States on my Reviewer Map has betrayed me. It appears that Photos 2-4 in the Meeker Historic District, in Rio Blanco County, CO (SG100002306) were not included in the CD they sent us If you could bother the CO SHPO about the missing 4 photos, that would be great.

I will not bother James again with the wrong SHPO and put in for a color-eye Parrot that can read color and tell me what States are whose.

Sincerely,  
Rustin Quaide

----- Forwarded message -----  
From: **Quaide, Rustin** <rustin\_quaide@nps.gov>

Date: Fri, Mar 9, 2018 at 11:17 AM  
Subject: Photo Crisis!  
To: James Gabbert <james\_gabbert@nps.gov>

-- James,

. It appears that Photos 2-4 in the Meeker Historic District, in Rio Blanco County, CO (SG100002306) were not included in the CD they sent us If you could bother the CO SHPO about the missing 4 photos, that would be great.

Thank you,

Rustin Quaide,  
National Register of Historic Places  
Main Interior Building  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington DC, 20240  
Room 7217

--

Rustin Quaide,  
National Register of Historic Places  
Main Interior Building  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington DC, 20240  
Room 7217

--  
Barbara Wyatt, ASLA  
202-354-2252  
National Park Service  
National Register/NHL Programs  
1849 C Street NW, Mail Stop 7228  
Washington, DC 20240

--  
Rustin Quaide,  
National Register of Historic Places  
Main Interior Building  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington DC, 20240  
Room 7217

--  
Barbara Wyatt, ASLA



202-354-2252  
National Park Service  
National Register/NHL Programs  
1849 C Street NW, Mail Stop 7228  
Washington, DC 20240



OFFICE of ARCHAEOLOGY and HISTORIC PRESERVATION



March 13, 2018

Rustin Quaide,  
for Paul Loether  
National Register of Historic Places  
Mail Stop 7228  
1849 C St, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20240

Re: National Register Nomination for the Meeker Historic District, Meeker, Rio Blanco County,  
Colorado (5RB.8837)

Dear Mr. Quaide:

We are pleased to re-submit the enclosed CD with TIF images 1-37 for the National Register of Historic Places nomination for the Meeker Historic District, roughly bounded by Main Street, Park Avenue, 4<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> streets in Meeker, Colorado.

This is a replacement CD, as the original one submitted on February 26, 2018 was missing photos 2-4. Please add this to the original packet of nomination materials previously submitted on said date.

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](mailto:heather.peterson@state.co.us).

Best regards,

Heather Peterson  
National & State Register Historian

Enclosure as above noted



56-2306

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, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. 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 certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).**

### 1. Name of Property

historic name Meeker Historic District

other names/site number 5RB.8837

### 2. Location

street & number Roughly bounded by Main Street, Park Avenue, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> streets

N/A	not for publication
N/A	vicinity

city or town Meeker

state Colorado code CO county Rio Blanco code 103 zip code 81641

### 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this  nomination  request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

national  statewide  local

Holly B. Norton  
Signature of certifying official/Title

Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

1/19/18  
Date

Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, History Colorado  
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 \_\_\_\_\_

### 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 \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Action \_\_\_\_\_

Meeker Historic District

Rio Blanco County, CO

Name of Property

County and State

**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

Date of Action

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**  
(Check as many boxes as apply.)

**Category of Property**  
(Check only **one** box.)

**Number of Resources within Property**  
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

- Private
- public - Local
- public - State
- public - Federal

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

Contributing	Noncontributing	
31	21	buildings
0	0	district
0	0	site
0	0	structure
0	0	object
31	21	<b>Total</b>

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

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

N/A

2

**6. Function or Use**

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions.)	Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions.)
DOMESTIC / Single Dwelling	DOMESTIC / Single Dwelling
DOMESTIC / Secondary Structure	DOMESTIC / Multiple Dwelling
DOMESTIC / Hotel	DOMESTIC / Secondary Structure
SOCIAL / Meeting Hall	DOMESTIC / Hotel
COMMERCE/TRADE / Business	COMMERCE/TRADE / Business
COMMERCE/TRADE / Professional	COMMERCE/TRADE / Professional
COMMERCE/TRADE / Financial Institution	COMMERCE/TRADE / Financial Institution
COMMERCE/TRADE / Specialty Store	COMMERCE/TRADE / Specialty Store
COMMERCE/TRADE / Department Store	COMMERCE/TRADE / Restaurant
COMMERCE/TRADE / Restaurant	GOVERNMENT / Courthouse
GOVERNMENT / Courthouse	GOVERNMENT / Post Office



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<b>Historic Functions</b> (Enter categories from instructions.)		<b>Current Functions</b> (Enter categories from instructions.)
GOVERNMENT / Post Office		GOVERNMENT / Government Office (Justice Center)
EDUCATION / School		EDUCATION / Library
RECREATION AND CULTURE / Theater		RECREATION AND CULTURE / Museum
RECREATION AND CULTURE / Museum		
INDUSTRY/PROCESSING/EXTRACTION / Communications Facility		
DEFENSE / Military Facility		
LANDSCAPE (military post parade grounds)		

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

- LATE 19TH & EARLY 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS / Commercial Style
- LATE 19<sup>TH</sup> & EARLY 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS / WPA Rustic
- LATE 19<sup>TH</sup> & EARLY 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS / Minimal Traditional
- LATE 19<sup>TH</sup> & EARLY 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS / Bungalow / Craftsman
- LATE VICTORIAN
- MODERN MOVEMENT
- MODERN MOVEMENT / Ranch Type
- OTHER / Pioneer Log
- OTHER / Classic Cottage
- OTHER / Hipped-Roof Box
- NO STYLE

**Materials**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

- foundation: CONCRETE, STONE
- walls: BRICK, STONE, WOOD, STUCCO
- roof: ASPHALT
- other:

**Narrative Description**

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance of the property. Explain contributing and noncontributing resources if necessary. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, setting, size, and significant features.)

**Summary**

The Town of Meeker, with a population of 2,475 inhabitants, is at an elevation of 6,240' above sea level in the White River Valley of northwestern Colorado. The town's corporate limits encompass 3.51 square miles of land, with the original townsite, platted in 1885, located in sections 22 and 23 of Township 1 North, Range 94 West of the 6th Principal Meridian. Administratively, Meeker is one of two incorporated towns in Rio Blanco County, and has served as the county seat since

## Meeker Historic District

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1889 when the county was formed out of Garfield County to the south. Rio Blanco County is bordered by Moffatt County to the north, Routt County to the northeast, Garfield County to the south and southeast, and the Utah state line to the west. The closest incorporated towns are Rifle, located along Interstate 70, 41 miles to the south via Colorado Highway 13, Craig (the Moffatt County Seat), 48 miles to the north via Colorado Highway 13, and Rangely, 57 miles to the west via Colorado Highway 64. The White River, flows along the town's southern periphery. A major tributary of the Green River (which in turn is a tributary of the Colorado River), the White River rises in the Flat Tops Wilderness east of Meeker. The river enters Meeker from the east and then flows generally westward past the abandoned townsite of White River City, past the incorporated community of Rangely, and into Utah to its confluence with the Green River south of Vernal.

The Meeker Historic District encompasses all or portions of eleven city blocks that encompasses the historic downtown commercial core and portions of the adjacent residential neighborhood. As platted in 1885, these include blocks 1, 2, 6-10, and 24. The district also encompasses two city blocks (currently respectively designated as the "Parade Grounds" and as the "Center of Town"), which are occupied by the Rio Blanco County Courthouse (built in 1935) and the former Meeker Elementary School (built in 1938-1939). The land encompassing these two blocks served as the parade ground for the U.S. Army's Camp on White River that existed between 1880 and 1883, and later as Meeker's town park until the courthouse was built in 1935. Overall, the district is bordered on the north by the alley between Park and Garfield streets, on the east by 4<sup>th</sup> Street, on the south by the alley between Main and Market streets, and on the west by 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> streets.

### ***The District's Buildings<sup>1</sup>***

The district is composed of fifty-two buildings. Thirty-one buildings are considered contributing, while twenty-one are considered noncontributing. Dates of construction in the district range from 1880 to 2011, with only five buildings constructed after the periods of significance which end in 1967. The other sixteen noncontributing buildings date from the period of significance, but have been altered to such an extent that they no longer convey a sense of their historic significance. Two of the contributing buildings are individually listed in the National Register of Historic Places: the International Order of Oddfellows Building at 400 Main Street (NRIS: 14000060; 5RB.2245), and the Meeker Hotel at 560 Main Street (NRIS: 800009235RB.985). One contributing building is individually listed in the State Register of Historic Properties: the Hugus Block / A. Oldland & Company Building at 594 Main Street (5RB.2242).

The district's three oldest buildings were built in 1880 as part of the U. S. Army's "Camp on White River," and are notable examples of "piece-sur-piece" Pioneer Log construction. Elsewhere, the district includes 23 commercial buildings, 19 single-family dwellings, one multi-family dwelling, and six governmental / institutional buildings. The commercial buildings form the core of Meeker's downtown business district, and primarily display attributes of Late 19<sup>th</sup> Century and Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century commercial styles of architecture. These are almost entirely rectangular-shaped one-story and two-story buildings that front directly onto wide concrete sidewalks, primarily along Main and 6<sup>th</sup> streets. Residences within the district include examples of Late Victorian, Classic Cottage, Bungalow, Craftsman, Minimal Traditional, Modern Movement, and Ranch,

<sup>1</sup> A challenge to the nomination was the lack of research materials, particularly those that provide detail and help identify dates of construction, dates of additions and alterations, and when materials may have changed. There are no Sanborn maps or city directories for Meeker, and virtually no building permit files. Building permits were issued by the county until the late 1980s, with no permit records from that time period and earlier known to exist. More recent building permits, issued and administered by the Town of Meeker, were reviewed but contain very limited information for only a handful of buildings. Moreover, even today, permits are required only for relatively major projects. For example, per information from the Town Manager: "The Town has not previously and still does not require permitting for façade, cosmetic, and non-structural improvements such as stucco, exterior remodeling, or awning replacements/installations."

Historic photos were reviewed at various repositories and were of some help in identifying dates of additions, alterations, and changes in materials. Most historic photos, however, were taken early in Meeker's history and tended to be general views of streetscapes rather than of individual buildings.

Oral information regarding additions, alterations, and changes in materials was sought from building and business owners and others, with somewhat limited success. As part of this methodology, a number of public meetings were held at the Rio Blanco Heritage Center where members of the community viewed photos of various buildings and related what they knew or remembered about when certain building features may have changed – particularly additions, façade changes such as fixed wood awnings, and door and window arrangements and materials. Information thus obtained was incorporated into the inventory forms and nomination.



## Meeker Historic District

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styles and types of architecture. Governmental / institutional buildings within the district include the Rio Blanco County Courthouse and former Meeker Elementary School (both of which are notable examples the Late 19<sup>th</sup> and Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century American Movements / WPA Rustic style of architecture), the Meeker Public Library, the Meeker Post Office, the Rio Blanco County Heritage Culture Center, and the Masonic Temple.

No surface evidence of archaeological features was observed within the district; however, there may be buried deposits beneath the paved streets, alleys, parking lots, and buildings, including deposits from outbuildings or privies that are no longer extant. While future research or ground-penetrating radar may reveal additional information regarding buried features, such investigation is not within the scope of this nomination.

***Buildings by Decade of Construction***

<u>Decade</u>	<u>Number of Buildings Constructed</u>
1880-1889	6
1890-1899	5
1900-1909	13
1910-1919	5
1920-1929	3
1930-1939	4
1940-1949	4
1950- 1959	4
1960-1969	3
1970-1979	3
1980-1989	1
1990-1999	0
2000-2009	0
2010-	1 (2011)

**CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS**

Descriptions of contributing buildings are presented under a single heading, numerically by address beginning with Main Street, followed by Park Avenue, 6<sup>th</sup> Street, and 7<sup>th</sup> Street.

**400 Main Street** 5RB.2245, NR, Listed, NRIS: 14000060, (sketch map no. 1, photo no(s). 2, 53, 54)  
**Historic Name:** IOOF Building. I.O.O.F. Valentine Lodge #47  
**Current Name:** IOOF Building, Mountain Valley Bank  
**Construction Date:** 1896  
**Architectural Style:** Late 19<sup>th</sup> and Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century American Movements / Commercial Style

This two-story commercial building rests on a stone foundation, and features a rectangular-shaped plan that measures 118' (deep) x 50' E-W (across). Included in these dimensions are a main two-story section fronting onto Main Street, that measures 77' N-S (deep) x 50' E-W (across), and a one-story rear section, that measures 41' N-S x 50- E-W.

The façade wall (facing Main Street to the north) is made of red brick laid in running bond, and is divided into three bays defined by four slightly projecting brick columns. Decorative corbelled brickwork appears at the top of the parapet, and below the second story windows visually dividing the façade's first and second stories. The south (rear) and east and west (side) walls are made of softer red brick laid in common bond. Star-shaped anchors attached to tie rods are visible on the east and west walls. A cornerstone with the date "1896" is at the base of the east column on the façade. A concrete or stone panel centered in the upper façade is inscribed: "I.O.O.F." A National Register plaque is fastened to the west

## Meeker Historic District

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column, adjacent to the main entry. This plaque is inscribed: "THE I.O.O.F. LODGE – VALENTINE LODGE #47 HAS BEEN PLACED ON THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES BY THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR MARCH 19, 2014."

Each bay in the façade's first story contains two rounded brick arch door or window arrangements. Four window arrangements each consist of a large four-light fixed-pane window, with a multi-paned fanlight and with a painted beige wood frame and surrounds. Painted beige color kick plates appear below the four window arrangements. The remaining two rounded arches on the façade each respectively contain the main entry, and a former entry that is no longer in use. The main entry is within the rounded brick arch at the west end of the façade where a painted beige wood-paneled door, with an upper sash light, narrow side light, and a narrow two-light transom, is situated below a multi-paned fanlight within the rounded brick arch. The former entry is in the façade's center bay and consists of a set of paired painted beige wood-paneled doors, each with an upper sash light, and topped by a narrow two-light transom. This former doorway is also situated below a multi-paned fanlight within a rounded brick arch.

The façade's second story contains six one-over-one double-hung sash windows (two within each bay), with segmental labeled brick arches, painted beige wood frames, and a continuous sill (broken by the brick columns). The east wall (facing 4<sup>th</sup> Street) contains several one-over-one double-hung sash windows with sandstone lugsills, segmental brick arches, and painted wood frames and surrounds. A concrete handicap-accessible ramp with a painted purple metal railing is also on the building's east side. This ramp leads to a painted purple paneled door, with one upper sash light and with a transom, below a segmental brick arch. Another painted purple paneled door, with a transom, is below a segmental brick arch on the south side of the building. The south (rear) wall of the one-story section contains two one-over-one double-hung sash windows with sandstone lugsills, segmental brick arches, and painted wood frames and surrounds. The south (rear) wall of the main two-story section contains three one-over-one double-hung sash windows, with segmental brick arches, that overlook the one-story section. A non-historic drive-through teller facility is attached to the building's original west wall.

The IOOF building was individually listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 2014. It displays an overall high standard of integrity.

**550 Main Street** 5RB.2240 (sketch map no. 6, photo no(s). 6, 55, 57)  
**Historic Name:** Meeker Post Office, Meeker Cafe  
**Current Name:** Meeker Cafe  
**Construction Date:** Circa 1900  
**Architectural Style:** Late 19<sup>th</sup> and Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century Revivals / Romanesque Revival

The Meeker Café is a one-story, rectangular-shaped, commercial building that measures 91' N-S (deep) x 28' E-W (deep). It is supported by a coursed sandstone foundation, and it is covered by a flat roof with a parapet on the façade, and with a short, sloped, shed-roofed section to the rear. Facing Main Street to the north, the façade wall is made of coursed sandstone blocks. A metal sign advertising the "Meeker CAFÉ" is fastened with metal brackets and hangs perpendicular to the upper façade wall. The south (rear) wall and the exposed south end of the west (side) wall are clad with grey color metal.

The façade is divided into three symmetrical bays, with each bay defined by a rounded sandstone arch. The center bay contains a slightly recessed entryway, while the outer two bays contain large one-over-one double-hung sash windows with painted pale blue wood frames and stained-glass fanlights within the rounded arches. The slightly recessed entryway contains a painted pale blue wood frame door, with glass block side lights and a two-light transom. A stained-glass fanlight appears above the transom within the rounded arch. A white metal utility door enters the building through the south (rear) door.

There are no additions or notable exterior alterations to the historic building.

**560 Main Street** 5RB.985, NR Listed, NRIS 80000923, (sketch map no. 7, photo no(s). 7, 55, 56, 57)  
**Historic Name:** Meeker Hotel  
**Current Name:** Meeker Hotel  
**Construction Date:** 1896 (center section), 1904 (east and west wings)  
**Architectural Style:** Late 19<sup>th</sup> and Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century American Movements / Commercial Style



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The Meeker Hotel is composed of a two-story central core built in 1896, and two flanking two-story wings built in 1904. The entire building is supported by a stone or concrete foundation, with brick wall construction, and a flat roof. The original central section is recessed in seven feet from the front sidewalk, and measures 105' N-S (deep) x 42' E-W (across); the west wing fronts directly onto the front sidewalk and measures 112' N-S x 27' E-W; the east wing also fronts directly onto the front sidewalk and measures 55' N-S x 36' E-W. The inside front corners of the east and west wings are curved, providing architectural detail and highlighting the central core as the most prominent section of the overall building. The Meeker Café building at 550 Main Street (5RB.2240), adjacent to the east, was also constructed in 1904, and has been associated with the hotel throughout its history.

The façade wall is made of painted blue brick laid in running bond. Extensive painted red brick corbelling appears along the top of the parapet on the façade. The center of the parapet is defined by a projecting painted red brick arch above a sign proclaiming "MEEKER HOTEL" in painted white letters on a painted black brick background. A painted red stringcourse, with sawtooth brickwork, extends between the façade's second-story windows, decoratively joining the painted red segmental arched labeled lintels over the second-story windows, as well as a rounded arch over a second-story glass-in-wood-frame door which opens onto a balcony from the center of the original 1896 central core. This second-story door is directly below the "MEEKER HOTEL" sign, and features a transom and a fanlight below the rounded red brick arch. The balcony, which stretches across the full 42' width of the central core's façade, features a painted white wood balustrade, decorative black wrought iron below the balcony floor, and is supported by six painted blue knee braces.

The rear (south-facing) walls of the central section and west wing are made of unpainted red brick laid in common bond. The exposed rear portion of the east-facing wall of the center section, and the rear (south-facing) wall of the east wing, are made of painted red brick laid in common bond. A tall red brick chimney is at the south end of the central section.

The first-story façade wall of the central section contains one entry door and four large windows, each below a stained-glass fanlight within a decorative painted red rounded brick arch. The door, which is the main entry into the hotel, is a painted pale blue glass-in-wood-frame door, with side lights and a transom. Three of the windows are east of the door, and are single-light fixed-pane windows with painted pale blue wood frames. The fourth window, to the west of the door, is a single-light fixed-pane window. This entry door and four windows are directly below the balcony.

The first-story façade wall of the west wing contains a recessed glass-in-metal-frame door with a transom, and a wood-paneled door with one upper sash light and a transom. These doors are flanked by large single-light fixed-pane windows with wood-paneled kickplates and painted transoms. The first-story façade wall of the east wing contains a recessed painted pale blue glass-in-wood-frame door, and a painted pale blue door with three small vertically-oriented upper sash lights, side lights and a transom. These doors are also flanked by large single-light fixed-pane windows with wood-paneled kickplates and transoms. The façade's second-story wall contains fifteen one-over-one double-hung sash windows with painted white wood frames, painted blue sandstone lugsills, and painted red segmental brick arches. Six of these windows are in the east wing, four are in the central wing overlooking the balcony, and five are in the west wing.

The south-facing walls of the central and west wings contain white metal service doors. A plywood-filled door, with a segmental brick arch, is in the south-facing wall of the east wing. A white metal door enters a small one-story metal extension to the south-facing wall of the east wing. The second-story south wall of the east wing contains a painted white wood-paneled door, with one upper sash light, a transom, and a segmental brick arch. This door opens onto a small painted white wood balcony with knee brace supports. The south walls of the central core and of the west wing contain white metal doors that also open onto small painted white wood balconies with knee brace supports. Metal fire escape ladders extend to the ground from the balconies.

The south-facing wall of the central wing contains two, one-over-one, sash second-story windows with painted white wood frames and red brick rowlock sills. The south-facing wall of the west wing contains two, one-over-one, sash second-story windows with painted white wood frames and red brick rowlock sills. The exposed rear (east-facing) wall of the central section contains three, two-over-two, sash first-story windows, and six, one-over-one, sash second-story windows, all with painted white wood frames, sandstone lugsills, and segmental brick arches. The ground floor of this east-facing wall section also contains a white metal service door, a plywood-filled door with a segmental brick arch, and a painted white wood-paneled door with a segmental brick arch.

## Meeker Historic District

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The Meeker Hotel was individually listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1979. There have been no additions or notable exterior alterations from that time to the present. The building continues to function as a hotel and displays an overall high degree of integrity.

**565 Main Street** 5RB.2243 (sketch map no. 8, photo no(s). 14)  
**Historic Name:** Rio Blanco County Courthouse  
**Current Name:** Rio Blanco County Courthouse  
**Construction Date:** 1935  
**Architectural Style:** Late 19<sup>th</sup> and Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century American Movements / WPA Rustic

The Rio Blanco County Courthouse is centered in the block historically bordered by 5<sup>th</sup> Street on the east, Main Street on the south, 6<sup>th</sup> Street on the west, and Park Avenue on the north. This land comprised the west half of the parade grounds of the U. S. Army's Camp on White River between 1880 and 1883, and it later became the Meeker Town Park. The former Meeker Elementary School (now the Rio Blanco County Justice Center) is in the block to the east, which historically was the east half of the parade grounds. There are no other buildings in these two blocks. 5<sup>th</sup> Street has been vacated between the courthouse and the former elementary school so that the grounds around the two buildings feature a uniform landscape design. The courthouse grounds include: a 1949 Colorado Historical Society "Founding of Meeker" tablet on a large granite stone, a veterans' memorial titled "Sacrifice and Resolution," a sculpture of three sheep being herded by a sheep dog, and a street clock near the northeast corner of Main and 6<sup>th</sup> streets.

The courthouse is a large 2½-story building, with a modern (circa 2008) two-story addition to the east end of the original north-facing wall. The original courthouse overall measures 65' N-S (deep) x 134' E-W (across). Included in these dimensions are a main north block that measures 48' N-S x 134' E-W, and a smaller centered south block that measures 17' N-S x 93' E-W. The modern addition measures 65' N-S x 25' E-W. The courthouse has a garden-level basement so that there are effectively three floors. The façade faces Main Street to the south.

Built in 1935, the courthouse features a symmetrical plan, with a concrete foundation, coursed locally-quarried sandstone walls, and a flat roof. A symmetrical stepped parapet extends above the roofline on the front centered section of the façade, with flat parapets elsewhere. Slightly projecting sandstone belt courses encircle the building above the basement windows and second story windows. A cornerstone at the southeast corner of the façade contains the following text:

L A I D B Y  
 T H E M . W . G R A N D L O D G E  
 A . F . A N D A . M . O F C O L O R A D O  
 J U L Y 2 3 A . D . 1 9 3 5 . A . L . 5 9 3 5

A set of paired glass-in-metal-frame doors, with flanking side lights and a transom, provide the main entry into the building through an enclosed entryway centered on the façade. This entryway measures approximately 7' N-S x 18' E-W, and features sandstone columns and a flat roof. A sign above the main entry reads "RIO BLANCO COUNTY COURTHOUSE." A glass-in-metal-frame door, with side lights and a transom, enters another enclosed entryway at the south end of the west-facing wall. This entryway measures approximately 8' N-S x 7' E-W, with sandstone columns and a flat roof. The courthouse's windows are symmetrically arranged one-over-one sash with sandstone sills and lintels.

The two-story addition at the east end of the courthouse's original north-facing wall measures approximately 75' N-S x 25' E-W, and features a poured concrete foundation, coursed stone exterior lower walls, metal screening in the upper walls, and a curved metal roof supported by steel I-beam rafters. The addition is utilized as a garage / workshop, with three garage service bay doors in the west-facing wall.

The circa 2008 addition to the east end of the original north wall is the only alteration to the courthouse's historic appearance.

**594 Main Street** 5RB.2242, SR Listed (sketch map no. 9, photo no(s). 8, 55, 56, 57)  
**Historic Name:** Hugus & Company Block, A. Oldland & Company Building  
**Current Name:** Hugus & Company Block, A. Oldland & Company Building  
**Construction Date:** 1911

Meeker Historic District

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**Architectural Style:** Late 19<sup>th</sup> and Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century American Movements / Commercial Style

The Hugus & Company Block was designed by the Denver architectural firm of Fisher and Fisher, and erected during the summer and fall of 1911. Known later as the A. Oldland & Company store, it is a prominent two-story commercial building at the southeast corner of Main and 6<sup>th</sup> streets in downtown Meeker. The building measures 125' N-S (deep) x 76' E-W (across). The north-facing (façade) wall fronts directly onto the public sidewalk paralleling Main Street, while the west-facing wall fronts directly onto the public sidewalk paralleling 6<sup>th</sup> Street. The building is supported by a coursed sandstone foundation, and its exterior walls are made of red brick laid in common bond. Flat parapets extend above the roofline on all four sides. The roof is nearly flat, but slopes gently to the south (rear). The parapet on the façade features a taller segmental-arched section, offset toward the east end. The text "HUGUS & CO. BLOCK" appears in a concrete panel, outlined by projecting red bricks laid as rowlocks, just below the segmental-arched section of the parapet. Recessed brick panels appear in the upper north and east-facing walls, overlooking Main and 6<sup>th</sup> streets. A red brick chimney is near the building's rear southwest corner.

The façade's first story contains three entrances. From east-to-west, these are: a set of paired painted turquoise color glass-in-wood-frame doors with a leaded glass transom; a set of paired painted cream white glass-in-wood-frame doors with a leaded-glass transom; a glass-in-metal-frame door with a transom, within a recessed entryway. The south-facing wall contains three painted cream white wood-paneled doors, each with six upper sash lights; one of these doors has a segmental brick arch. These three doors open onto a poured concrete dock covered by a flat metal roof supported by round steel posts. A set of poured concrete steps descend to a basement-level door at the west end of the south-facing wall.

The façade's first story also contains expanses of fixed-pane storefront display windows, between and flanking the three entryways. The storefront display windows are set in cream color metal frames with fretwork. A course of bricks laid as rowlocks forms a stringcourse over the entryways and storefront display windows on the façade. The façade's second story wall contains ten sets of paired one-over-one double-hung sash windows in cream color metal frames. The upper portion of the west-facing first story wall contains ten, fifty-light, glass block windows, one, one-by-one, horizontal sliding window, and one, four-by-four, horizontal sliding window. The west-facing second story wall contains fourteen sets of paired one-over-one double-hung sash windows in cream color metal frames. The upper portion of the south-facing first story wall contains five, nine-light, windows with segmental brick arches, and one other former window opening filled with plywood. A larger, one-over-one, sash window with a segmental brick arch is at the east end of the south-facing wall. The south-facing second story wall contains eight, one-over-one, windows with segmental brick arches.

This building was designed by the architectural firm of Fisher and Fisher in 1911. It was individually listed in the Colorado State Register of Historic Properties in 1991. There are no additions and no notable exterior alterations to the historic building.

**600 Main Street** 5RB.2251 (sketch map no. 10, photo no(s). 9, 58, 59)  
**Historic Name:** Baer Block, Tagert's Hardware, Strehlke's Drugstore, Sides Rexall Drugstore  
**Current Name:** Cleverly Building  
**Construction Date:** 1923  
**Architectural Style:** Late 19<sup>th</sup> and Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century American Movements / Commercial Style

This prominent one story commercial building measures 51½' N-S (deep) x 48½' E-W (across), with a corner entry at the front northeast corner, and with a 12½' x 13' projection at the rear southwest corner. The north-facing wall fronts directly onto the public sidewalk paralleling Main Street, while the east-facing wall fronts directly onto the public sidewalk paralleling 6<sup>th</sup> Street.

The building rests on a coursed sandstone foundation, and the exterior walls are made of brown brick laid in running bond. Horizontally-oriented recessed brick panels with diamond-shaped motifs appear in the upper north-facing and east-facing walls. Parapets, with sandstone coping, extend above the roofline. A taller triangular pediment, also with sandstone coping, is above the corner entry. A glass-in-metal-frame door, with sidelights and a transom, enters the corner entry at the building's front northeast corner. The corner entry is flanked by storefront display windows – to the south facing toward 6<sup>th</sup> Street, and to the west facing toward Main Street. The north-facing wall contains bands of six, single-light, fixed-pane display windows with metal frames, and with transoms covered by green panels. The east wall contains two single-light



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fixed-pane display windows also with metal frames, and with transoms covered by green panels. A painted mural depicting cowboys on horseback and cattle adorns the north-facing wall.

The building was erected in 1923, substantially replacing a circa 1891 building known as the Baer Block. The earlier building was owned by a prominent western Colorado businessman and cattleman named Isaac "Ike" Baer. Between 1923 and 1952, the building was occupied by Tagert's Hardware Store, owned and operated by James L. Tagert and his wife Fannie. Circa 1952, the hardware business was acquired by Charles Conrado who renamed it Meeker Hardware, and moved it around the corner to 654 Main Street (5RB.8696), where it remained in business until 1967.

Following the departure of Tagert Hardware, this building became the location of Strehlke's Drugstore, owned and operated by Albert L. Strehlke. In the late 1950s, the drugstore was acquired by Bill and Bernice Sides, who ran it as Sides Rexall Drugs for many years. The drugstore business eventually became Meeker Drugs which remains in business in the Neal Block at the northwest corner of Main and 6<sup>th</sup> Streets (5RB.2250). More recently, the building has served as a Radio Shack outlet, as an auto parts store, and as Shepherd's Office Outfitter store.

There are no additions to the original 1923 construction. According to oral sources, the Main and 6<sup>h</sup> Streets façades date from the 1950s or earlier.

**610/628 Main Street** 5RB.2252 (sketch map no. 11, photo no(s). 10, 58, 59)  
**Historic Name:** Pilkington Bakery, Jangle Jewelry, Bowden Sheet Metal Shop  
**Current Name:** Hughes Building  
**Construction Date:** Circa 1900  
**Architectural Style:** Late 19<sup>th</sup> and Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century American Movements / Commercial Style

This single-story commercial building features a rectangular-shaped plan that measures 39' N-S (deep) x 50' E-W (across). It is supported by a poured concrete foundation, and its roof is flat. The façade faces Main Street to the north, and contains two commercial storefronts, respectively addressed as 610 Main Street (east) and 628 Main Street (west). The façade wall is made of mottled red brick laid in running bond. The south-facing (rear) wall is made of red brick laid in common bond. A flat parapet extends above the roofline on the façade, while a stepped parapet extends above the roofline at the top of the south-facing wall.

The two storefronts are each covered by a fixed wood awning with wood shingles. The east storefront contains a centered painted pale grey glass-in-wood-frame door with a transom. The address number "610" appears between the top of the door frame and the transom. This door is flanked by fixed-pane windows with wood-paneled kick plates. The west storefront contains a centered recessed entryway. The floor of the entryway is poured concrete, and is approached by two poured concrete steps leading from the front sidewalk. The recessed entryway contains a painted pale grey glass-in-wood-frame door, with painted red accents and with flanking side lights. The address number "628" appears in the fixed transom over the door. The entryway is flanked by fixed-pane windows with wood-paneled kick plates. The south-facing (rear) wall contains two window openings with segmental brick arches, and two doorways (no longer in use) also with segmental brick arches.

There are no additions to this building's original construction. The only notable exterior alteration is the fixed wood awnings, which were installed in the early 1970s.

**617 Main Street / 315 6<sup>th</sup> Street** 5RB.2250 (sketch map no. 12, photo no(s). 15, 70)  
**Historic Name:** Neal Block, First State Bank Building  
**Current Name:** Neal Block, Meeker Drugs Building  
**Construction Date:** 1919-1920  
**Architectural Style:** Late 19<sup>th</sup> and Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century American Movements / Commercial Style

The Neal Block is a one-story commercial building at the northwest corner of Main and 6<sup>th</sup> streets in downtown Meeker. The building features a rectangular plan measuring 50' N-S x 148' E-W, with an angled entry at the front southeast corner. The building rests on an unpainted coursed sandstone foundation. The walls are made of alternating courses of unpainted sandstone blocks and tinted scored concrete or sandstone blocks. The roof is flat, with flat parapets extending above the roofline at the top of the east and south walls, and with a stepped parapet extending above the roofline on the north wall. A slightly projecting cornice extends along the east and south sides approximately two feet below the top of the parapet. The corner entry contains a glass-in-metal-frame door, with a sidelight and a transom. Above the entry door, a prominent

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sign block is inscribed with the words "NEAL BLOCK," and is outlined by a projecting labeled lintel. An oval-shaped sign band advertising "MEEKER DRUGS" is above the sign block. A flagpole flying the American flag is at the apex of the corner entry. A set of concrete steps with a silver pipe railing descends to a basement-level entry door on the south (Main Street) side. The north half of the east-facing wall (6<sup>th</sup> Street side) contains a symmetrical storefront. This storefront consists of a painted red glass-in-wood-frame door, with a sidelight and transom, within a centered recessed entryway, flanked by storefront display windows. A band of eight clerestory windows extends across the entire storefront. The western end of the south-facing wall (Main Street side) contains a storefront with a set of paired glass-in-metal-frame doors, within a recessed entryway, flanked by bands of storefront display windows. Non-original fixed wood-shingled awnings shade the display windows. A painted white wood-paneled door, with one upper sash light and a fanlight, enters the eastern end of the south-facing wall from within a rounded arch entryway. The eastern end of the south-facing wall also contains seven, single-light fixed-pane windows, each topped by a three-light awning window, all with sandstone sills and labeled lintels. The south end of the east-facing wall contains two large single-light fixed-pane windows, also with sandstone sills and labeled lintels.

The Neal Block displays a high degree of integrity. There are no additions to its original construction. The only notable exterior alteration are the wood-shingled awnings at the west end of the south-facing side which were installed in the early 1970s.

**645 Main Street** 5RB.8698 (sketch map no.14, photo no(s). 29)  
**Historic Name:** Mountain States Telephone & Telegraph Building  
**Current Name:** Meeker Realty  
**Construction Date:** 1919-1920  
**Architectural Style:** Late 19<sup>th</sup> and Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century American Movements / Commercial Style

This small commercial building measures 50' N-S (deep) x 17' E-W (across). It is supported by a poured concrete foundation, and it is covered by a flat roof with metal roofing material. The façade faces Main Street to the south, and contains a symmetrical storefront. A painted green wood-paneled door, with one upper sash light and a transom, enters the center of the storefront from within a canted recessed entryway. The entry is flanked by single-light fixed-pane storefront display windows with white and green metal frames. A fixed wood awning with wood shingles is fastened to the façade wall over the storefront. Surrounding the storefront, the façade wall is made of brown brick laid in running bond. This includes a tall parapet that extends above the roofline, brick columns at either end, and the kick plate areas below the storefront display windows. The building's west wall faces an alley and is clad with beige color stucco. The west wall contains a painted blue door within a recessed entryway, and four small one-over-one double-hung sash windows with white metal frames.

The building was constructed in 1930 to house Meeker's Mountain States Telephone and Telegraph exchange. Joseph Newton Neal, owner of the Neal Block next door to the east (5RB.2250) arranged for the building's construction and then leased it to the telephone company. The initial lease was for ten years. George Glasgow was the building contractor.

There are no additions to the original 1930 building. The only notable exterior alteration is the fixed wood awning, which dates from the early 1970s.

**654 Main Street** 5RB.8696 (sketch map no. 16, photo no(s). 13, 58, 59)  
**Historic Name:** Meeker Hardware  
**Current Name:** Strata Networks  
**Construction Date:** Circa 1946  
**Architectural Style:** Late 19<sup>th</sup> and Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century American Movements / Commercial Style

This one-story commercial building features a rectangular-shaped plan that measures 100' N-S (deep) x 25' E-W (across). It is supported by a poured concrete foundation, and the roof is flat, hidden behind tall parapets on the north (façade) and on the east side. The building's asymmetrical façade faces Main Street to the north. The upper façade wall and columns at either end of the façade are covered with a silver metal veneer. The kick plate area below the storefront display windows is covered with a veneer of red brick. The west-facing (side) wall, south-facing (rear) wall, and the exposed rear portion of the east-facing (side) wall are clad with beige vertical metal siding. The façade contains a single storefront. A glass-in-metal-frame door, with a side light and a transom, enters the building near the center of the façade. The entry

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door is recessed in from the front sidewalk, and to its west the door is flanked by a band of four large single-light fixed-pane windows in silver metal frames. This band of windows is angled outward from the recessed entry door extending to the column at the west end of the façade. Three additional large single-light fixed-pane windows (two north-facing and one west-facing) form the east section of the storefront, east of the entry door. A white metal utility door enters the rear of the building.

This building's angled storefront and metal veneer on the façade were installed in 1951. Sporting its new façade, the building opened as Meeker Hardware in 1952, which occupied the building until 1967. There are no additions and no notable exterior alterations from 1951 to the present.

**733 Main Street** 5RB.8701 (sketch map no. 19, photo no(s). 32)  
**Historic Name:** Halandras Building  
**Current Name:** Halandras Building  
**Construction Date:** 1965  
**Architectural Style:** Modern Movement

This free-standing one-story commercial building features a rectangular-shaped plan that measures 144' N-S x 58' E-W. It rests on a poured concrete foundation, and is covered by a low-pitched hipped roof, with metal roofing material and boxed eaves. The exterior walls are composed of alternating sections of beige stucco and stone veneer. The east, south, and west-facing sides of the building contain glass-in-metal-frame doors with sidelights that enter into the following businesses: Farm Bureau Insurance, Meeker Chiropractic & Acupuncture, Moody Construction, Aspen Leaf Dental, Cimarron Telecommunications, and the USDA Service Center - Natural Resources Conservation Service. The building's windows are one-by-one horizontal sliders with white or silver metal frames.

There are no additions and no notable exterior alterations to this building's original construction.

**767 Main Street** 5RB.6518 (sketch map no. 20, photo no(s). 33)  
**Historic Name:** Dykeman House, Niblock House, Dougan House, Starbuck House  
**Current Name:** Starbuck House  
**Construction Date:** Circa 1899  
**Architectural Style:** High Style Hipped-Roof Cottage

This Late Victorian era 1½-story dwelling features a rectangular-shaped plan that measures 42' N-S (deep) x 30' E-W (across). It is supported by a low sandstone foundation covered with concrete parging, and is covered by a steeply-pitched truncated hipped roof. The roof is finished with green metal shingles and painted white boxed eaves. A shed-roofed dormer, with a band of three paired casement windows with transoms, overlooks the façade on the south-facing roof slope. Shed-roofed dormers on the east, north, and west-facing roof slopes each have two one-over-one double-hung sash windows. A red brick chimney with a corbelled cap is on the roof ridge. The home's exterior walls are made of red brick laid in common bond, except for an enclosed rear porch where the exterior walls are painted white horizontal wood siding. The porch measures 5' N-S x 13' E-W, and is recessed under the house's northeast corner.

The asymmetrical façade faces Main Street to the south. A painted white wood-paneled door, with narrow sidelights and a transom, and covered by a silver metal storm door, enters the east half of the façade from a rounded two-step stone and concrete porch. This porch is covered by a molded hood supported by curved brackets. A silver metal storm door enters the enclosed rear porch. Windows in the main level are almost exclusively one-over-one double-hung sash with painted white wood frames, segmental brick arches, and sandstone lugsills. The only exception is a non-original one-by-one horizontal sliding window in the wall of the enclosed back porch.

A shed, that measures approximately 8' N-S x 20' E-W, is adjacent to the alley at the northeast corner of the property. The shed rests on a wood timbers on grade foundation, and its walls are made of square-cut logs with square-cut flush corner notching. The south and west walls are covered with rolled asphalt displaying a faux brick pattern. This small utilitarian building is covered by a shed roof with metal roofing material laid over 1x wood decking and 2x wood rafters. The rafter ends are exposed beneath the eaves. A small square wood-plank shuttered opening, side-hinged with metal strap hinges, is in the north-facing wall. The entry door is in the south-facing wall.

There are no additions and no notable exterior alterations to this dwelling's original construction.



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**787 Main Street** 5RB.4393 (sketch map no. 21, photo no(s). 34)  
**Historic Name:** Wilson House, Ruckman House  
**Current Name:** Ruckman House  
**Construction Date:** 1899  
**Architectural Style:** Late Victorian

This Late Victorian era dwelling features a rectangular-shaped plan with a main 1½-story gable-on-hipped-roof section, that measures 41' N-S x 33' E-W, an enclosed front porch that measures 7' N-S x 28' E-W, and a bay window on the east side that measures 7' N-S x 3' E-W. The house is supported by a low concrete foundation, or possibly a stone foundation with the foundation walls covered with concrete parging above grade. The exterior walls are clad with yellow color horizontal vinyl siding, with a band of vertical vinyl siding just above the foundation wall. The roof is covered with brown metal roofing material, and the eaves are boxed. A large gabled dormer, with a set of paired one-over-one double-hung sash windows, overlooks the façade on the south-facing roof slope. The façade is symmetrical, and faces Main Street to the south. A set of paired brown metal storm doors enter the center of the enclosed gabled front porch below a triangular pediment. Two concrete steps and a wood stoop lead to the enclosed front porch. A rear entry door in the north-facing wall is covered by a brown metal storm door with nine upper sash lights. The bay window on the east side is covered by a hipped-roof, and has four one-over-one double-hung sash windows. Elsewhere, the home's windows are predominantly one-over-one sash with painted brown wood surrounds and triangular pediments.

The enclosed front porch and dormer overlooking the façade reportedly date from the 1960s. The vinyl siding reportedly dates from the 1970s. There are no other known additions or exterior alterations to the historic dwelling.

This property includes three secondary buildings, including a former one-room schoolhouse that was moved to this location several decades ago from an unknown rural location. Now used as a garage / shed, this building is near the northwest corner of the property, and measures approximately 24' N-S x 16' E-W. It has a poured concrete foundation and floor, and its exterior walls are clad with painted yellow horizontal wood siding with 1" x 4" corner boards. The roof is a steeply-pitched gable, covered with silver metal roofing material, and with painted white boxed eaves. A red brick chimney is at the north end of the roof ridge. A painted yellow horizontal weatherboard overhead garage door opens toward 8<sup>th</sup> Street to the west. A painted white wood-paneled door enters the south-facing wall. The west-facing wall contains a two-over-two sash window with a painted white wood frame and surround. A hipped-roof bay, with three-over-one (ribbon-style) windows is at the south end of the east-facing wall.

A former carriage house (now used as a secondary residence is adjacent to the alley) is at the rear of the property. Measuring 15' N-S x 46' E-W, this building is composed of three elements: a side-gabled one-story section at the east end, a 1½-story side-gabled section in the middle, and a one-story shed-roofed section at the west end. The exterior walls are clad with white and yellow horizontal vinyl siding, except for the shed-roofed section that has painted white horizontal weatherboard exterior siding. The roof is covered with metal roofing material, and the eaves are boxed. A painted white door, with one upper sash light, enters the south-facing wall of the shed-roofed section. Two other entry doors, both covered by white metal or synthetic storm doors, enter the south-facing walls of the two gabled sections from shed-roofed porches. This building's windows are predominantly one-over-one sash.

A small wood frame shed at the rear northeast corner of the property measures approximately 10' x 5'. It rests on a stone foundation, and its exterior walls are clad with rolled brown asphalt displaying a faux brick pattern. The shed roof is a steeply-pitched side-gable, with green asphalt composition shingles laid over 1x wood decking and 2x wood rafters. The rafter ends are painted white and are exposed beneath the eaves. A narrow painted white vertical wood plank door enters the west-facing wall. A small one-over-one sash window, with a painted white wood frame and surround, penetrates the south wall.

**425 Park Avenue** 5RB.4381 (sketch map no. 22, photo no(s).35)  
**Historic Name:** Wildhack House  
**Current Name:** Davis / Oliver House  
**Construction Date:** 1903  
**Architectural Style:** Classic Cottage

This 1½-story Late Victorian era dwelling features a rectangular-shaped plan that measures 52' N-S (deep) x 36' E-W

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(across). An enclosed shed-roofed side porch at the northwest corner measures 20' N-S x 7' E-W. The house is supported by a coursed sandstone foundation, with the foundation wall above grade penetrated by segmental-arched basement windows. The exterior walls are made of red brick laid in common bond. The house is covered by a steeply-pitched hipped roof, with green asphalt composition shingles, and with painted white boxed eaves. Hipped-roof dormers are on all four roof slopes. The dormers on the south-facing and west-facing slopes each contain two one-over-one double-hung sash windows. The dormers on the east-facing and north-facing slopes each contain a single, one-over-one, sash window. A tall red brick chimney is near the base of the east-facing roof slope. An enclosed front porch, that measures 10' N-S x 21' E-W, is recessed under the front southeast corner of the house. The porch's lower exterior walls are clad with white horizontal wood siding, while the upper walls contain three single-light fixed-pane windows, divided by painted white square wood posts. The porch is decorated with a painted white bracketed spindle frieze. Three wood steps, with a black wrought iron railing, lead to a silver metal storm door at the exterior of the enclosed front porch. A stained natural brown wood-paneled door, with one upper sash light, and covered by a brown metal storm door, leads from within the enclosed front porch into the home's interior. Another door (not currently in use) enters the east end of the enclosed front porch from three concrete steps. The exterior walls of the enclosed porch at the northwest corner are clad with stained brown vertical wood siding. On the west side of the house, a painted white wood-paneled door, with one upper sash light, and covered by a metal storm door, enters into the enclosed side porch from a two-step concrete stoop. On the north side of the house, a painted white wood-paneled door, with one upper sash light, and covered by a metal storm door, enters into the same enclosed porch from a three-step wood stoop covered by a shed roof. The home's windows are primarily, one-over-one sash with painted white wood frames and surrounds, sandstone lugsills, and exterior metal storm windows.

Other buildings on this property include a secondary residence, a garage, and two small sheds. Located north of the primary dwelling, the secondary residence faces toward 4<sup>th</sup> Street to the east. This modest one-story home is of wood frame construction, resting on a low poured concrete foundation. The exterior walls are clad with white undulated asbestos shingle siding. The roof is a moderately-pitched side-gable, with an intersecting gable over an enclosed front porch at the south end of the east-facing wall. The roof is covered with metal roofing material, and the minimally-overhanging eaves are boxed with painted green wood trim. Windows are one-over-one sash with painted green wood surrounds. A stained natural brown glass-in-wood-frame door, with latticed lights, and covered by a white metal storm door, enters the enclosed front porch from a concrete stoop.

The garage is north of the secondary residence. It rests on a poured concrete foundation, and its exterior walls are clad with white horizontal metal siding. The garage roof is a moderately-pitched front gable, covered with brown asphalt composition shingles. A painted white wood-paneled roll-away garage door faces toward 4<sup>th</sup> Street to the east.

A small metal gable-roofed shed, with a flat-roofed extension is in the side yard west of the primary dwelling. Another small gable-roofed shed is immediately west of the garage. This shed has white fiberboard exterior walls, red asphalt composition roof shingles, and exposed rafter ends. A painted white wood-paneled door, with four upper sash lights, enters the south-facing wall.

The primary dwelling's shed-roofed enclosed porch at the north end of the west-facing wall appears to date from the 1960s or 1970s. The front porch was originally open, with the porch windows having been installed at an early unknown date. The secondary residence appears to date from circa 1940. The garage appears to date from circa 1970s. No other additions or exterior alterations are known to exist.

**449 Park Avenue** 5RB.4380 (sketch map no. 23, photo no(s). 36, 60)  
**Historic Name:** Salmon House, Aldrich House  
**Current Name:** Conrado House  
**Construction Date:** Circa 1886  
**Architectural Style:** Late Victorian

This single-story wood frame dwelling consists of the following elements: a main cross-gabled T-shaped section to the front (south), that overall measures 32' N-S (deep) x 32' E-W (across); a small shed-roofed addition that measures 6' N-S x 14' E-W, and that fills in the back side of the main T-shaped section at the east end of the main section's north side; a relatively large, circa 1971, gabled addition to the west end of the main section's north side that measures 26' N-S x 24' E-W. The house is supported by a low stone or concrete foundation, and the exterior walls are clad with rose color

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horizontal wood siding with painted white 1" x 4" corner boards. The main cross-gabled roof is covered with brown metal roofing material and the eaves are boxed with painted white wood trim. A small hipped-roof cupola with a weather vane is on the roof ridge. A painted white gable ornament is in the façade's upper gable end (facing Park Avenue to the south). A chimney is on the west-facing roof slope of the gabled rear addition. Two small bubble skylights are on the main west-facing roof slope. A front porch that is six feet wide extends across the entire façade. The front porch features a poured concrete floor, painted white turned columns and engaged columns, a painted white bracketed frieze, and a low-pitched hipped roof. Two entry doors lead into the house from the front porch. The porch's east entry is a painted white wood-paneled door with one upper sash light, and is covered by a painted white wood screen door. The west entry is a painted white wood-paneled door with latticed upper sash lights, and is covered by a metal storm door. An uncovered wood deck with an open wood railing extends across the north-facing wall of the gabled rear addition. Another painted white wood-paneled door with latticed upper sash lights, and covered by a white metal storm door enters the dwelling from the wood deck. Sets of ten-by-ten-by-ten casement windows are on the façade and on the west-facing side. Other window patterns include one-over-one sash, six-by-six casements, single-light casements, paired single-light casements, and one-by-one horizontal sliders. All of the windows have painted white wood frames and surrounds, and those toward the front also have painted white decorative shutters.

Other improvements on this property include a garage / barn, a shed, and a carport. The garage / barn is 1½-stories in height, and measures approximately 14' N-S x 22' E-W. Located adjacent to the alley at the rear of the property, this building rests on a poured concrete foundation, and its exterior walls and steeply-pitched gable roof are clad with corrugated metal. The east-facing wall contains a white metal rollaway garage door. The south-facing wall contains a vertical wood plank door, side-hinged with metal strap hinges, and a one-over-one sash window. A four-light window is in the west-facing wall's upper gable end. A shed-roofed wall dormer, with a vertical wood-plank shuttered opening, side-hinged with metal strap hinges, overlooks the alley on the north side of the building. Two window openings in the west-facing wall are covered with fiberglass panels.

Measuring approximately 14' N-S x 8' E-W, the shed is in the backyard between the dwelling and the garage / barn. The shed rests on a poured concrete foundation, and its exterior walls are clad with stained reddish-brown board-and-batten with painted white 1" x 4" corner boards. A shed roof is covered with metal roofing material, and the eaves are boxed with painted white wood trim. A concrete porch / sidewalk extends along the shed's east side, covered by a shed roof supported by painted white 6" x 6" wood posts. The east-facing façade wall extends above the roofline creating the appearance of a false front. A painted white horizontal sliding vertical wood plank door enters the shed from the porch. The north-facing and south-facing walls contain single eight-light windows with painted white wood frames and surrounds.

The carport measures approximately 18' N-S x 16' E-W, and is near the rear northeast corner of the property. It is of steel pipe construction with a gabled metal roof.

The original (circa 1886) front part of the gabled-T section of the primary dwelling is of log and sod construction beneath the existing siding. The additions to the north end of the original dwelling were constructed by Brian Conrado soon after he purchased the property in 1971. The shed and carport were also constructed at that time. The garage / barn dates from the very early 1900s. No other additions or exterior alterations are known to exist.

**487 Park Avenue** 5RB.4379 (sketch map no. 25, photo no(s). 38, 60)  
**Historic Name:** Watson House, Oldland House  
**Current Name:** Oldland House  
**Construction Date:** 1887  
**Architectural Style:** Late Victorian

This 1½-story wood-frame dwelling consists of a central truncated hipped-roof core, a one-story enclosed hipped-roof porch on the west side, an enclosed one-story hipped-roof porch on the east side, and an enclosed, L-shaped, one-story porch that wraps around the front southeast corner. Overall, the central truncated hipped-roof core measures 58' N-S x 36' E-W; the enclosed hipped-roof porch on the west side measures 32' N-S x 13' E-W; the enclosed porch on the east side measures 33' N-S x 11' E-W; the enclosed L-shaped front porch overall measures 14' N-S x 13' E-W.

The house is supported by a stone and concrete foundation, while the exterior walls are clad with pale green color horizontal weatherboard siding. A painted olive green color horizontal 1x board with a water table separates the



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foundation from the weatherboard siding. Painted olive green wood blocks at the corners create the appearance of quoining. The truncated hipped roof is steeply-pitched, and is covered with green asphalt composition shingles. The eaves are boxed with painted white and olive green trim and decorative brackets. A gabled dormer on the south-facing roof slope (overlooking the façade) contains a painted red glass-in-wood-frame door, covered by a storm door, that opens onto a balcony with a painted white wood railing. A gabled dormer on the east-facing roof slope contains two, one-over-one double-hung sash windows. A large gabled dormer on the west-facing roof slope also contains two one-over-one double-hung sash windows. A glass storm door with a white metal or synthetic frame enters the enclosed front porch near the east end of the façade. An atrium door enters the enclosed porch on the west side of the house from a three-step concrete stoop. A painted red wood-paneled door, with two upper sash lights and with flanking sidelights, enters through the north-facing (rear) wall. This entry is covered by a low-pitched hipped roof with an intersecting gable, supported by painted olive green 4" x 4" wood posts with decorative brackets. A canted hipped-roof bay, with three, one-over-one double-hung, sash windows is near the west end of the façade. A rectangular shed-roofed bay is on the west side. The enclosed porch on the west side contains a band of three, six-over-three, ribbon-style, double-hung sash windows and a single, six-over-three, ribbon-style, double-hung sash window. The home's windows elsewhere are predominantly one-over-one double-hung sash with painted white wood frames and painted olive green wood surrounds.

A two-stall garage, that measures approximately 22' N-S x 26' E-W, is adjacent to the alley at the rear of the property. The garage has a poured concrete slab foundation and floor, while its exterior walls are clad with white horizontal metal siding over wood frame construction. The garage roof is a low-pitched front gable covered with asphalt composition shingles, and with metal-clad boxed eaves. A white metal-paneled garage rollaway garage door, and a white metal-paneled single-entry door, open onto a concrete driveway that extends toward 5<sup>th</sup> Street to the east. The garage's south wall contains two, one-by-one, horizontal sliding windows.

The residence was built in 1887. Thomas Watson, who operated a mercantile store at Main and 5<sup>th</sup> Streets was the home's original owner and is credited with its construction. Circa 1890, Watson sold his mercantile business and this house to Reuben and Sarah Oldland. This property was subsequently owned and occupied by members of the Oldland family until the 1960s. The building was then converted into a restaurant named Inge's Kitchen, before later becoming an attorney's office. Janice Oldland began renting the property in 1981, and purchased in 1991, once again bringing it under Oldland family ownership. Janice is the great-granddaughter of Reuben and Sarah Oldland who had acquired the property circa 1890. Relying on family photographs and oral history, she has rehabilitated the residence to how it appeared prior to when it was converted to commercial use in the 1960s.

**545 Park Avenue** 5RB.2247 (sketch map no. 27, photo no(s). 40, 61, 62)  
**Historic Name:** Camp on White River Army Officer Quarters, The Garrison  
**Current Name:** White River Museum  
**Construction Date:** 1880, moved circa 1885  
**Architectural Style:** Pioneer Log

Known as "The Garrison" and used originally as officers' quarters, the original portion of this building is one of three log buildings remaining from the U.S. Army's Camp on White River that existed from 1880 to 1883. This building and the one to the west at 565 Park Avenue (5RB.2248) are now both part of the Meeker Museum, and are owned by Rio Blanco County. The third building at 587 Park Avenue (5RB.2249), at the northeast corner of Park Avenue and 6<sup>th</sup> Street, is privately owned. The three buildings are believed to have been moved from within the immediate vicinity to their current locations fronting onto Park Avenue when the town of Meeker was platted in 1885.

This Pioneer Log building consists of an original (1880) one-story side-gabled log building, that measures 32' N-S (deep) x 40' E-W (across), and a lower gabled (1950) addition to the west end of the original north-facing wall, that measures 12' N-S x 31' E-W. Together, the original 1880 building and its 1950 addition form an L-shaped building. The building is supported by a poured concrete foundation, with river rock and concrete above grade on the façade. The walls are made of hand-hewn horizontal logs, from cottonwood trees, with vertical logs at the corners and at intervals along each side of the building. Known as "piece-sur-piece" this construction technique utilized a mortise and tenon system whereby tenons at the ends of the horizontal logs were mortised into the vertical logs. Commonly used in the construction of military buildings in the west during the late nineteenth century, piece-sur-piece construction allowed for the use of shorter logs that were easier to obtain and move to the building site, while still enabling the construction of longer wall sections.

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The original side-gabled roof, and the roof over the addition are covered with wood shingles laid over 1x wood decking. Exposed rafter ends, with a fascia board, appear beneath the eaves of the side-gabled roof. The addition's roof eaves are boxed with stained brown wood trim.

The building's symmetrical façade faces Park Avenue to the south. A stained brown wood door, with diagonal, vertical and horizontal members, a diamond-shaped light, and sidelights, enters the center of the façade from a small two-step concrete porch flanked by log railings. This front entry door is flanked on either side by a six-over-six sash window with 2x wood frames and log surrounds. Windows elsewhere also have 2x wood frames and log surrounds. A fifteen-light glass-in-wood-frame door, with sidelights, enters the north wall of the original side-gabled section. This wall also contains a six-over-six sash window and a six-light fixed-pane window. The west wall of the side-gabled section contains three, six-over-six double-hung, sash windows. The east wall of the side-gabled section contains two six-over-six double-hung sash windows. A painted beige wood-paneled door, with four upper sash lights, enters the north wall of the addition. The west wall of the addition contains a six-over-six sash window and a set of paired six-light windows, while its east wall is penetrated by a single six-light fixed-pane window.

A historic privy and several large artifacts are located on the museum grounds. These include a Fresno scraper, a hay delivery rake, a hose cart, a lumber wagon, a forge and anvil, a seed separator, and a merry-go-round. According to an interpretive sign, the privy was built by Will Brittner in 1917, and was moved from the Martin Villa Ranch at an unknown date.

The 12' by 31' gabled addition at the west end of the original north elevation was constructed in 1950 when the property was owned by the Richard Lough family. When completed, the addition comprised two bedrooms and a kitchen. No other additions or alterations are known to exist.

**565 Park Avenue** 5RB.2248 (sketch map no. 28, photo no(s). 41, 61, 62)  
**Historic Name:** Camp on White River Army Officer Quarters  
**Current Name:** White River Museum  
**Construction Date:** 1880, moved circa 1885  
**Architectural Style:** Pioneer Log

Used originally as officers' quarters, the original portion of this building is one of three log buildings remaining from the U.S. Army's Camp on White River that existed from 1880 to 1883. This building, and the next building to the east at 545 Park Avenue (5RB.2247) are now both part of the Meeker Museum, and are owned by Rio Blanco County. The third building at 587 Park Avenue (5RB.2249), at the northeast corner of Park Avenue and 6<sup>th</sup> Street, is privately owned. The three buildings are believed to have been moved from within the immediate vicinity to their current locations fronting onto Park Avenue when the town of Meeker was platted in 1885.

This building now consists of the original (1880) log building erected by the U. S. Army, with three additions to its north end, respectively built in 1957, 1967, and in the 1990s. The original log building measures 33' N-S (deep) x 41' E-W (across). The 1957 and 1967 (center) additions measure a combined 87' N-S x 39' E-W. The 1990s (rear) addition measures 27' N-S x 58' E-W.

The original 1880 log building is supported by a concrete foundation. The walls are made of hand-hewn horizontal logs, from cottonwood trees, with vertical logs at the corners and at intervals along each side of the building. Known as "piece-sur-piece" this construction technique utilized a mortise and tenon system whereby tenons at the ends of the horizontal logs were mortised into the vertical logs. The roof is a moderately-pitched side-gable, with beige color metal roofing material, and stained brown boxed eaves. Stained brown vertical wood siding appears in the upper gable ends on the east and west sides. A wood sign on the roof ridge faces the Park Avenue, denoting the building's use: "WHITE RIVER MUSEUM." The building's symmetrical façade faces directly onto the public sidewalk paralleling Park Avenue. A painted brown wood-paneled door, with small sidelights, enters the center of the façade. An eight-over-one sash window penetrates the façade wall west of the door, and a six-over-six sash window penetrates the façade wall east of the door. These windows have stained brown wood frames and surrounds. The east and west walls each contain two eight-over-one double-hung sash windows with stained brown wood frames and surrounds. All windows in the original building have steel security bars.

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Constructed in 1957 and in 1967, the two center additions are one-story in height, and combined measure 87' N-S x 39' E-W. This section of the building rests on a poured concrete foundation, and its exterior walls are made of painted beige concrete blocks. The roof is a low-pitched gable, with metal roofing material and painted beige boxed eaves. The east-facing wall contains two sets of paired metal service doors, and six, one-by-one horizontal sliding windows with metal frames, concrete block sills, and steel security bars. The west wall contains four, one-by-one, horizontal sliding windows with metal frames, concrete block sills, and steel security bars.

Constructed in the 1990s, the rear, or northernmost, addition is a tall one-story section that measures 27' N-S x 58' E-W. It rests on a poured concrete foundation, and its exterior walls are made of painted beige concrete blocks. The upper south-facing wall is clad with beige vertical metal siding. A set of large, paired, diagonal plank doors, side-hinged with metal strap hinges, are in the east end of the south-facing wall. Two bands of six, single-light windows, penetrate the upper south-facing wall.

A garage of log and wood frame construction, dating from the early 1900s, is adjacent to the alley at the northeast corner of the property. The garage measures approximately 12' N-S x 18' E-W. The east, north and south walls are made of horizontal logs with concrete chinking, and with stained brown vertical 1x and 2x boards at the corners. The south wall is made of horizontal wood planks with 1" x 4" corner boards. The roof is a moderately-pitched front gable, covered with corrugated metal laid over 1x wood decking and 2x wood rafters. The rafter ends are exposed beneath the eaves. The south wall contains a set of paired vertical wood plank garage doors, side-hinged with metal strap hinges.

No other additions or exterior alterations are known to exist.

**587 Park Avenue** 5RB.2249 (sketch map no. 29, photo no(s). 42, 61, 62)  
**Historic Name:** Camp on White River Army Officer Quarters, Major House  
**Current Name:** MKP Property LLC House  
**Construction Date:** 1880, moved circa 1885  
**Architectural Style:** Pioneer Log

Used originally as officers' quarters, this is one of three log buildings remaining from the U.S. Army's Camp on White River that existed from 1880 to 1883. This building is privately owned, while the other two buildings – to the west at 545 Park Avenue (5RB.2247) and 565 Park Avenue (5RB.2248) - are now both part of the Meeker Museum, and are owned by Rio Blanco County. The three buildings are believed to have been moved from within the immediate vicinity to their current locations fronting onto Park Avenue when the town of Meeker was platted in 1885.

This building is composed of an original (1880) T-shaped 1½-story cross-gabled building, with two very early, historic, one-story, gabled extensions to its original north wall. The main side-gabled section of the original building fronts directly onto the public sidewalk paralleling Park Avenue, and measures approximately 26' N-S (deep) x 41' E-W (across). The rear gabled wing (forming the base of the "T") measures 21' N-S x 16' E-W. The one-story gabled addition to the east end of the original north wall measures 73' N-S x 13' E-W. The one-story gabled extension to the west end of the original north wall measures 65' N-S x 12' E-W. No other additions or exterior alterations are known to exist.

The original 1½-story gabled-T section rests on a poured concrete foundation. Its walls are made of hand-hewn horizontal logs, from cottonwood trees, with vertical logs at the corners and at intervals along each side of the building. Known as "piece-sur-piece" this construction technique utilized a mortise and tenon system whereby tenons at the ends of the horizontal logs were mortised into the vertical logs. The roof is covered with brown asphalt composition shingles laid over 1x wood decking and 2x wood rafters. Horizontal wood siding appears in the upper gable end on the west-facing side. Decorative rafter ends, with a fascia board, are exposed beneath the eaves on the façade. A stone chimney is near the east end of the south-facing roof slope. The symmetrical façade faces directly onto the public sidewalk paralleling Park Avenue. A painted white wood-paneled door, with small sidelights, enters the center of the façade, flanked on either side by a six-over-six sash window with painted white wood frames and surrounds and storm windows. The east-facing wall contains two six-over-six double-hung sash windows with painted white wood frames and surrounds and storm windows. The west-facing wall contains three six-over-six double-hung sash windows with painted white wood frames and surrounds and storm windows. A set of paired double-hung sash windows are in the west upper gable end; one sash window is in the east upper gable end. A painted white glass-in-wood-frame door, covered by a painted white wood screen door, opens from the upper half story on the building's east side onto an upper half story porch. This elevated



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porch measures 13' x 6', and is supported by square wood posts. The north wall (which is in-between the two gabled additions) contains a painted white wood-paneled door, with twelve upper sash lights, and covered by a painted white wood screen door.

The one-story gabled addition to the east end of the original north wall is supported by a concrete foundation. Its walls feature "piece-sur-piece" log construction, and its gabled roof is covered with metal roofing material. The east wall contains: a painted white wood-paneled door, with one upper sash light, and covered by a painted white wood screen door, a two-light window, and a six-light window. The north wall contains a one-over-one sash window. The west wall contains two eight-over-eight double-hung sash windows.

The one-story gabled addition to the west end of the original north wall is supported by a concrete foundation. Its walls feature "piece-sur-piece" log construction, and its gabled roof is covered with metal roofing material. A tall stone chimney is on the west-facing roof slope. The west wall contains three, one-over-one double-hung sash windows. The north wall contains a set of paired one-over-one double-hung sash windows.

A small historic log building, apparently used at one time in its history as a garage, is near the rear northwest corner of the property. This building measures approximately 12' N-S x 18' E-W. Its walls are made of unpeeled horizontal half logs, with vertical logs at the corners, at 6' intervals along the north and south sides, and at 4' intervals on the east and west sides. The roof is a steeply-pitched front gable, covered with corrugated metal laid over 1x wood decking and 2x wood rafters. The south wall contains a narrow door and a six-light window. The west wall (facing 6<sup>th</sup> Street) contains a set of paired diagonal plank garage doors. These doors are hidden behind small trees and shrubbery and appear not to have been used in many years.

The one-story gabled extensions to the original north wall represent very early additions, and may have been taken from other log structures also built originally as part of the Camp on White River.

**613 Park Avenue** 5RB.4397 (sketch map no. 30, photo no(s). 43, 63)  
**Historic Name:** Neal House, Spence House, Sides House  
**Current Name:** Fennessy House and Law Office  
**Construction Date:** 1919-1920  
**Architectural Style:** Late 19<sup>th</sup> and Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century American Movements / Bungalow/Craftsman

This Craftsman-style dwelling consists of: a main, rectangular-shaped, 1½-story core that measures 40' N-S (deep) x 42' E-W (across); an enclosed, rectangular-shaped, gabled front porch that forms the east end of the façade (facing Park Avenue to the south), and that measures 9' N-S x 16' E-W; an enclosed, rectangular-shaped, shed-roofed side porch on the west side, that overall measures 12' N-S x 12' E-W.

The house is supported by a coursed sandstone foundation, which is unpainted above grade and is penetrated by three-light hopper basement windows with painted red wood frames. A cream color 1x board with a water table separates the foundation from the wall surface above. The exterior walls are clad with stained dark brown square-cut wood shingles, with cream color 1" x 4" corner boards. Stained dark brown variegated wood shingles appear in the upper gable ends and on shed-roofed dormers on the east-facing and west-facing roof slopes. The front gabled roof is moderately pitched, and is covered with green metal roofing material. Cream color rafter ends are exposed beneath widely-overhanging eaves. Cream color gable ornaments, and decorative purlins with knee braces appear in the upper gable ends. The shed-roofed dormer on the east-facing roof slope contains a set of paired six-over-one double-hung sash windows. The shed-roofed dormer on the west-facing roof slope has a smaller shed-roofed dormer extension, and contains one six-light and one two-light window. A large stone fireplace chimney is on the east side.

A stained brown wood-paneled door with one upper sash light enters the enclosed front porch from a seven-step concrete stoop and handicap-accessible ramp. The porch's two front corners are formed by coursed sandstone pillars that support the corners of the porch's gable roof. Another stained brown wood-paneled door enters the enclosed porch on the west side from a seven-step wood stoop with a wood railing. All of the home's windows have painted red wood frames and exterior storm windows, and painted cream color wood surrounds. A large eight-over-one sash window, flanked on either side by narrower four-over-one double-hung sash windows, penetrates the façade wall west of the front porch. A large single-light window, flanked by narrower four-over-one double-hung sash windows, penetrates the façade's upper gable

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end. A one-over-one sash window, flanked by narrower one-over-one double-hung sash windows appears in the north-facing upper gable end. Windows elsewhere are predominantly single and paired four-over-one, none-over-one, twelve-over-one, and fifteen-over-one, double-hung sash.

A single-stall garage, with an attached carport extension on its east side, and a low gabled extension on its west side, is adjacent to the alley at the rear of the property. The garage with its gabled extension measures approximately 14' N-S x 16' E-W. The garage's exterior walls are clad with stained brown horizontal weatherboard, with painted cream color 1" x 4" corner boards. The garage's gabled roof is covered with green asphalt composition shingles laid over 1x wood decking and 2x wood rafters that are painted cream color and exposed beneath the eaves. The carport features a gabled roof with a shed-roofed extension to the south side. The carport roof is supported by steel poles. The carport has a green fiberglass north wall (adjacent to the alley), while its east and south sides are open. The garage and carport face onto a concrete driveway that extends to 6<sup>th</sup> Street to the east.

This house appears little changed from its original construction. The only notable exterior alteration is an aesthetically well-designed handicapped-accessible ramp that was installed in 2006.

**683 Park Avenue** 5RB.6524 (sketch map no. 32, photo no(s). 45, 64)  
**Historic Name:** Oldland House  
**Current Name:** Washburn House  
**Construction Date:** 1919-1920  
**Architectural Style:** Late 19<sup>th</sup> and Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century American Movements / Bungalow/Craftsman

This 1½-story Craftsman-style residence rests on an unpainted coursed sandstone foundation. The foundation wall above grade is penetrated by three-light hopper basement windows. A painted white 1x board and a water table separate the foundation from the wall surface above. The exterior walls are clad with painted yellow horizontal wood siding, with variegated wood shingles in the upper gable ends and on shed-roofed dormers on the east and west facing roof slopes. The front gabled roof is moderately pitched, and is covered with metal roofing material. Painted white rafter ends, with a fascia board, are exposed beneath widely-overhanging eaves. Gable ornaments and decorative purlins with knee braces appear in the upper gable ends. Shed-roofed dormers on the east and west facing roof slopes contain paired six-over-one double-hung sash windows. A stone chimney is near the north end of the west-facing roof slope.

A set of paired white metal storm doors enter an enclosed shed-roofed front porch. The porch is approached by six stone and concrete steps. The porch's two front corners are formed by coursed sandstone pillars that support the corners of the porch's shed roof. A rear entry door enters through the north-facing wall from beneath a shed-roofed patio and car port that measures 13' N-S x 31' E-W. The home's windows uniformly feature painted black wood frames and painted white wood surrounds. The north and south-facing upper gable ends each contain an eight-over-one double-hung sash window flanked by two-over-one double-hung sash windows. Elsewhere, windows are primarily six-over-one (ribbon-style) double-hung sash.

A garage, that measures approximately 18' N-S x 14' E-W, is near the northwest corner of the property. The garage has a poured concrete foundation and floor, and its exterior walls are made of red brick laid in common bond. Painted cream color square-cut wood shingles appear in the upper gable ends. The south wall contains a cream color vertical wood plank horizontal-sliding garage door. One-over-one double-hung sash windows, with painted black window frames, painted white wood surrounds, and sandstone lugsills penetrate the east and west walls.

This house at 683 Park Avenue and the house at 613 Park Avenue (5RB.4397) were designed by Denver architect William N. Bowman. Bowman had recently designed the Moffat County Courthouse in Craig, and as a result apparently made business contacts in Meeker. In April of 1920 Bowman obtained a commission to design the Neal Block in downtown Meeker, to be occupied by the First State Bank of Meeker. At the same time, Bowman was also contracted to design residences for the new bank's principal owners, Joseph N. Neal and Edmund Pauls. Completed in early 1920, the Neal Block is at the northwest corner of Main and 6<sup>th</sup> streets (5RB.2250). There are no additions to this house's original construction. The only notable exterior alteration is a rear patio/carport.

**715 Park Avenue** 5RB.2666 (sketch map no. 33, photo no(s). 46, 65)  
**Historic Name:** Lyttle House

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**Current Name:** Thorsby House  
**Construction Date:** Circa 1889  
**Architectural Style:** Late Victorian

This Late Victorian era residence consists of an original (circa 1889) 1½-story, cross-gabled, T-shaped dwelling, with two small extensions to its north-facing (rear) wall. The front-gabled (west) wing of the original T-shaped dwelling measures 33' N-S (deep) x 17' E-W (across). The side-gabled (east) wing of the original T-shaped dwelling measures 17' N-S x 16' E-W. A one-story gabled addition to the north wall of the original west wing measures 19' N-S x 17' E-W. A small 6' x 10' shed-roofed addition to the north wall of the original east wing measures 6' N-S x 10' E-W.

The house rests on a low sandstone foundation, and its exterior walls are covered with white horizontal vinyl siding. The roof is covered with metal roofing material and the eaves are boxed. There are two red brick chimneys on the two ridges of the original cross-gabled roof. The dwelling's asymmetrical façade faces Park Avenue to the south. A painted white wood-paneled door, with one upper sash light and a transom, and covered by a silver metal storm door, enters the façade near the west end of an elaborate front porch. Another entry door (no longer in use) also with a transom, and covered by a silver metal storm door, formerly entered the façade near the east end of the front porch. Extending across the entire façade, the porch is approached by four concrete steps, and features a wood plank floor, an open painted white wood railing, decoratively bracketed chamfered wood posts on wood pedestals, and a decorative painted white wood frieze. The porch is covered by a low-pitched hipped and shed roof. A rear entry door enters the north side of the building from a back porch with a painted white wood railing and covered by a low-pitched hipped roof. A canted hipped-roof bay, with four, one-over-one double-hung sash windows is on the east-facing side. A slightly projecting rectangular hipped-roof bay, with a set of paired one-over-one double-hung sash windows, is on the west-facing side. A large single-light fixed-pane window overlooks the front porch. Windows elsewhere are primarily one-over-one sash with painted white wood frames and pale blue vinyl surrounds.

A circa 1930s or 1940s wood frame garage, that measures approximately 20' x 28', is adjacent to the alley at the northeast corner of the property. The garage has a poured concrete foundation and floor, corrugated metal exterior walls, and a gabled roof. The roof is covered with corrugated metal laid over 1x wood decking and 2x wood rafters. Painted green rafter ends with a fascia board are exposed beneath the eaves. The garage's south wall contains two windows with painted green wood frames. Two brown metal overhead garage doors in the east wall open onto a concrete driveway that extends to 7<sup>th</sup> Street.

A wood-frame shed, that measures approximately 8' x 26', is immediately west of the garage. This building has painted white horizontal weatherboard exterior siding, and a shed roof covered with corrugated metal laid over 1x wood decking and 2x wood rafters. The rafter ends, covered by a fascia board, are exposed beneath the eaves. The entry door is in the south wall, opening into the backyard.

This house was owned and occupied by James and Selena Lyttle for many years beginning in the late 1800s. Mr. Lyttle founded *The Meeker Herald* newspaper in 1885, and served as the paper's owner and publisher until his death in 1925. There are no additions to the historic dwelling.

**758 Park Avenue** 5RB.8707 (sketch map no. 36, photo no(s). 51, 67, 68)  
**Historic Name:** Unknown  
**Current Name:** Rio Blanco County Abstract Company House  
**Construction Date:** Circa 1933  
**Architectural Style:** Late 19<sup>th</sup> and Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century American Movements / Bungalow/Craftsman

This 1½-story Bungalow type dwelling features a rectangular-shaped plan that measures 30' N-S (deep) x 29' E-W (across). It is supported by a coursed sandstone foundation (or possibly a concrete foundation faced with sandstone). The exterior walls are finished with painted white stucco or concrete parging over wood frame construction. A painted mint green 1x board with a painted dark green accent forms a belt course that encircles the building just below the roof eave. The roof is a moderately-pitched front-gable, covered with brown metal roofing material. The boxed eaves are painted mint green, with a bead board underside and painted dark green accents. A tall brick chimney, covered with concrete parging, is on the west-facing roof slope.



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The asymmetrical façade faces toward Park Avenue to the north. A painted dark green wood-paneled door, with one upper sash light, enters the façade from an 8' x 14' open front porch covered by a gabled roof. The porch features a concrete floor, river rock and concrete knee walls and distinctive tapered columns also made of river rock and concrete. A painted mint green solid wood door, with one upper sash light, enters through the south wall from a concrete stoop. The façade wall contains a large six-over-one (ribbon-style) double-hung sash window, to the west of the front porch. A set of paired four-over-one (ribbon-style) windows are in the façade's upper gable end. The west wall contains a large six-over-one (ribbon-style) sash window, and a set of paired four-over-one (ribbon-style) windows. The east wall contains a six-over-one (ribbon-style) sash window, a four-over-one (ribbon-style) sash window, and a one-by-one horizontal sliding bathroom window.

There are no additions or notable exterior alterations to this dwelling's original construction.

**777 Park Avenue** 5RB.4399 (sketch map no. 37, photo no(s). 48)  
**Historic Name:** Servant's Quarters for 785 Park Avenue  
**Current Name:** Seycash LLC House  
**Construction Date:** Circa 1903  
**Architectural Style:** No Defined Style

This wood frame dwelling is set far back from Park Avenue to the south, with its north wall adjacent to the alley. The dwelling features a rectangular-shaped plan that measures 29' N-S x 32' E-W. It is composed of a 1½-story front-gabled section in the center, with one-story shed-roofed extensions on the east and west sides. The main front-gabled section measures 25' N-S x 16' E-W. The east shed-roofed extension measures 29' N-S x 8' E-W. The west shed-roofed extension measures 20' N-S x 8' E-W. The building rests on a low stone or concrete foundation, and the roof is covered with brown asphalt composition shingles. Painted white rafter ends are exposed beneath the eaves. A red brick chimney is on the roof ridge. The exterior walls are clad with beige horizontal wood siding, with painted white 1" x 6" corner boards. Beige variegated wood shingles appear in the façade's upper gable end. Painted beige square-cut wood shingles appear in the north-facing upper gable end.

A painted white wood-paneled door, with one upper sash light, and covered by a wood screen door, enters the façade from an open front porch that wraps around to cover the south end of the west-facing wall. The porch features a tongue-and-groove wood floor, painted white turned columns, and a low-pitched hipped roof. A secondary entry door is at the north end of the west-facing wall. A one-over-one sash window with Queen Anne lights is in the façade's upper gable end. The north and east-facing walls each contain two, one-by-one, horizontal sliding windows. The west-facing wall contains a set of paired two-light windows.

This relatively small dwelling was historically associated with, and was the servant's quarters for, the larger dwelling next door at 785 Park Avenue.

The two shed-roofed extensions may have been built later than the center gabled section. No other alterations are known to exist.

**785 Park Avenue** 5RB.4382 (sketch map no. 38, photo no(s). 49, 65, 66)  
**Historic Name:** Hay House, Hulett House, Clark House, Park House  
**Current Name:** Brennan House  
**Construction Date:** Circa 1897  
**Architectural Style:** Late Victorian

This Late Victorian era residence is supported by a painted red coursed sandstone foundation, with the foundation wall on the façade faced with a stone veneer. A bulkhead cellar is on the building's west side. The home's exterior walls are finished with painted red horizontal wood siding, with 1" x 4" corner boards. A band of sawtooth wood pattern shingles creates a belt course at a level just above the top of the windows. Square-cut and diamond-shaped wood pattern shingles appear in the upper gable ends, on the façade (south), east and west. The house is covered by a steeply-pitched hipped roof with intersecting gable and hipped-roofed extensions to the east, north and west. The roof is finished with brown asphalt composition shingles, while painted red rafter ends are exposed beneath the eaves. A hipped-roof dormer, with flared eaves, and paired latticed windows with decorative painted white wood shutters, overlooks the façade on the south-facing roof slope. A tall red brick chimney with a corbelled cap is on the ridge of the west gable-on-hipped roof section.

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The dwelling's asymmetrical façade faces Park Avenue to the south. A stained brown wood-paneled door, with one upper sash light, and covered by a stained brown wood screen door, enters the façade from an open front porch. This three-step porch measures 10' N-S x 19' E-W, and features a carpeted wood floor, a painted white open wood railing, painted white square wood posts, and a shed roof. Another stained brown wood-paneled door, with latticed upper sash lights, also enters the façade from the east end of the front porch. A screened-in shed-roofed porch, that measures 23' N-S x 7' E-W, is at the rear northeast corner. The home's window patterns include one-over-one double-hung sash and one-by-one horizontal sliders, with painted white wood frames and surrounds, and with decorative painted white wood shutters. Some windows have Queen Anne or latticed upper sash lights.

A garage / workshop is near the rear northwest corner of the property. This building measures approximately 26' N-S x 28' E-W. It is supported by a low poured concrete foundation, and its exterior walls are clad with red horizontal Masonite type siding with 1" x 4" corner boards. The garage / workshop is covered by a low-pitched gabled roof, with corrugated metal roofing material and boxed eaves. A fiberglass rollaway garage door, and a white wood-paneled door with a fanlight, in the west-facing wall, opens onto a short gravel driveway that extends to 8<sup>th</sup> Street. A painted white solid wood door enters the south end of the east-facing wall. Windows are primarily four-by-four horizontal sliders with painted white wood frames and surrounds.

This property displays an overall high degree of integrity. There are no additions and no notable exterior alterations to the historic dwelling.

**788 Park Avenue** 5RB.6525 (sketch map no. 39, photo no(s). 52, 67)  
**Historic Name:** Unknown  
**Current Name:** Hallebach House  
**Construction Date:** Circa 1908  
**Architectural Style:** Late Victorian

This Late Victorian style dwelling features an irregular-shaped plan that overall measures 54' N-S (deep) x 68' E-W (across). An attached 24' N-S x 30' E-W garage is included in these dimensions. The residential portion of the dwelling consists of a main 1½-story cross-gabled section that measures 32' N-S x 24' E-W, an enclosed hipped-roof front porch that measures 7' N-S x 11' E-W, a one-story low-pitched hipped extension on the east-facing side that measures 22' N-S x 14' E-W, and a shed-roofed enclosed back porch on the south-facing side that measures 9' N-S x 21' E-W. The building rests on a poured concrete foundation, while the exterior walls are finished with cream yellow color horizontal wood siding with painted green 1" x 4" corner boards. Painted cream color square-cut wood shingles in the upper gable ends, and a painted red and green wood shingle diamond motif is in the façade's upper gable end.

The main 1½-story section is covered by a steeply-pitched front-gabled roof, with lower intersecting gables to the east and west. The west one-story extension is covered by a hipped roof, while the enclosed back porch extension is covered by a shed roof. All of the roof forms are covered with brown asphalt composition shingles, and the eaves are boxed with painted green wood trim. A red brick chimney is on the ridge.

The dwelling's asymmetrical façade faces Park Avenue to the north. A painted red wood screen door enters the enclosed hipped-roof front porch from a three-step concrete stoop with black pipe railings. A cream yellow color wood-paneled door with one upper sash light enters into the enclosed back porch from a small uncovered deck at the southeast corner. A single-hung sash window with Queen Anne lights penetrates the façade wall west of the enclosed front porch. Windows elsewhere are primarily single and paired one-over-one double-hung sash with painted red wood frames and painted green wood surrounds.

A small shed is in the backyard southeast of the dwelling. The shed's exterior walls are made of cream yellow vertical wood siding with painted green 1" x 4" corner boards. The roof is a low-pitched front gable, with asphalt composition and painted green wood eaves. A painted red wood-paneled door enters the north wall. A six-light window, with a painted red wood frame and painted green wood surround, is in the west wall.

The attached garage and one-story extensions to this home's original east and south walls appear to early additions. No other alterations are known to exist.

**335 6<sup>th</sup> Street** 5RB.8713 (sketch map no. 45, photo no(s). 16, 70)  
**Historic Name:** Parker Mall

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**Current Name:** Parker Mall  
**Construction Date:** Circa 1954  
**Architectural Style:** Late 19<sup>th</sup> and Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century American Movements / Commercial Style

This one-story commercial building consists of a main front section that measures 49' N-S (across) x 74½' E-W (deep), with extensions to the west (rear), that overall measure 30' N-S by 69½' E-W, and which extend the rear of the building to the alley line to the west. The building rests on a poured concrete foundation, and the roof is flat, behind a behind a parapet that extends above the roofline on the façade. The rear extensions are of concrete block construction and are also covered by a flat roof.

The lower façade wall is finished with painted pale green horizontal wood siding, with painted dark green 1" x 4" corner boards. The upper façade wall, to the top of the parapet, is finished with painted pale green board and batten. A fixed wood awning, with wood processed shake shingles, extends across the façade over the entry doors and windows, visually separating the upper and lower façade. The east end of the north-facing wall is clad with a veneer of narrow red brick. The remainder of the building's walls is of concrete block construction.

A set of paired painted red glass-in-wood-frame doors, with flanking sidelights, enter the façade from within a recessed entryway. South of the entryway, the façade wall contains a set of paired single-light fixed-pane windows, and two other single-light fixed-pane windows with casement windows on either side. North of the entryway, the façade wall contains two single-light fixed-pane windows with flanking casement windows. All windows on the façade have painted dark green wood frames. Three utility doors and a white metal-paneled rollaway garage door enter the rear of the building.

This building was erected circa 1954, substantially replacing an earlier commercial building that had been built in 1919. The storefront has been periodically modified to accommodate new retail uses. No other alterations are known to exist.

**345 6<sup>th</sup> Street** 5RB.8714 (sketch map no. 46, photo no(s). 17, 69, 70)  
**Historic Name:** Unknown  
**Current Name:** Riegel Building  
**Construction Date:** Circa 1954  
**Architectural Style:** Ranch Type

This two-story, free-standing, commercial building features a rectangular-shaped plan that measures 44' N-S (across) x 64' E-W (deep). It rests on a poured concrete foundation, and it is covered by a (nearly flat) shed roof with metal-clad eaves. The lower façade wall (facing 6<sup>th</sup> Street to the east) is clad with a red brick veneer. The lower south wall is of unpainted concrete block construction. The lower north and west walls are covered with troweled grey color concrete parging, over concrete block construction. The upper south wall is covered with brown corrugated metal over concrete block construction. The building's second story features a neo Mansard roof design, covered with processed wood shake shingles on the east, north and west sides. The topmost section of the east, north and west walls are covered with brown corrugated metal.

A set of (north-facing) glass-in-silver metal-frame doors enter the north end of the façade. South of these doors, the lower façade wall contains three sets of large fixed-pane windows with brick rowlock sills, and two horizontally-oriented windows. A door in the façade's second story opens onto a wood balcony. A painted white solid wood door, with one upper sash light, enters the building's west side. Windows in the west-facing and north-facing walls are primarily one-by-one horizontal sliders, with white metal frames and stained brown wood surrounds.

**365 6<sup>th</sup> Street** 5RB.8715 (sketch map no. 47, photo no(s). 18, 69, 70)  
**Historic Name:** Meeker Colorado U. S. Post Office  
**Current Name:** Meeker Colorado U. S. Post Office  
**Construction Date:** Circa 1963  
**Architectural Style:** Modern Movement

The Meeker Post Office is a free-standing, one-story, rectangular-shaped building. It measures 55' N-S (across) x 65' E-W (deep), is supported by a poured concrete foundation, and is covered by a flat roof. The building's façade faces toward 6<sup>th</sup> Street to the east. The south end of the façade wall is clad with a veneer of wire-cut red brick laid in running bond. The



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remaining sections of the façade wall are divided into vertical sections of alternating fixed-pane windows and peach color tile. The secondary walls, on the building's north, west, and east sides are also clad with a wire-cut red brick veneer laid in running bond.

A glass-in-metal-frame door, with a sidelight and transom, enters the north end of the façade. This door enters the building from a concrete porch and handicapped-accessible ramp covered by a shed roof with steel post supports. Windows in the south wall include a set of paired one-over-one windows in metal frames and with a red brick rowlock sill, a band of six two-light windows with metal frames and red brick rowlock sills, and a small two-light frosted glass window with a red brick rowlock sill. A band of six two-light windows, with metal frames and red brick rowlock sills, are located in the north wall. The west (rear) wall contains a set of paired twelve-light horizontally-oriented windows, and three other twelve-light horizontally-oriented windows, with painted white wood frames and red brick rowlock sills. A set of paired painted red and green metal doors enter the rear of the building from a delivery dock covered by a flat extended roof overhang.

There are no additions or notable exterior alterations to this building's original construction.

**395 6<sup>th</sup> Street** 5RB.8717 (sketch map no. 49, photo no(s). 20, 69)  
**Historic Name:** Unknown  
**Current Name:** Sunday LLC House  
**Construction Date:** Circa 1938  
**Architectural Style:** Minimal Traditional

This 1½-story wood frame dwelling measures 30' N-S (across) x 56' E-W (deep). It rests on a painted brown poured concrete foundation, and its exterior walls are clad with pale white color asbestos shingle siding. The house is covered by a moderately-pitched side-gabled roof, with a swept side-gable extension to the west (rear). The roof is covered with brown asphalt-composition shingles, and the eaves are closed with painted brown wood trim. Two gabled dormers, each with a nine-over-nine sash window, are on the east-facing roof slope overlooking the façade. A large shed-roofed dormer, with two one-over-one double-hung sash windows, is on the west-facing roof slope. A tall red brick chimney is on the roof ridge.

The house features a symmetrical façade that faces 6<sup>th</sup> Street to the east. A stained brown wood-paneled front door, with a small upper sash light, and covered by a white metal storm door, enters the center of the façade from an open front porch. This porch measures 8' x 3', has a concrete floor, and a segmental-arched porch roof supported by two painted brown 4" x 4" wood posts. A stained brown wood-paneled door, with one upper sash light, and covered by a black metal storm door, enters the north end of the west-facing wall from a small uncovered three-step concrete porch. The front porch is flanked on each side by an eight-over-eight sash window. Windows elsewhere are one-over-one, six-over-six, and eight-over-eight, sash, predominantly with painted brown wood frames and surrounds.

The only notable exterior alteration to the original dwelling is an older, large, shed-roofed dormer on the west-facing roof slope.

**389 7<sup>th</sup> Street** 5RB.8719 (sketch map no. 51, photo no(s). 22, 68)  
**Historic Name:** Unknown  
**Current Name:** Schram House  
**Construction Date:** Circa 1923  
**Architectural Style:** Late 19<sup>th</sup> and Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century American Movements / Commercial Style  
**Architectural Style:** Hipped Roof Dwelling

This one-story wood-frame dwelling features an irregular-shaped plan that overall measures 28' N-S x 47' E-W. It rests on a poured concrete foundation, and it is covered by a moderately-pitched hipped roof with red metal roofing material, and with exposed rafter ends beneath the eaves. A red brick chimney is on the ridge. A brick fireplace chimney is on the north-facing wall. The lower portion of this chimney below the roof eave is clad with white stucco, while the chimney's pale red color bricks are exposed in the upper portion above the roof eave. The house's exterior walls are covered with white horizontal vinyl siding.

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The façade faces toward 7<sup>th</sup> Street to the east. A painted white wood-paneled door, with a fanlight, and covered by a white metal storm door, enters the façade from a small uncovered concrete porch. A white paneled door, covered by a white metal storm door, enters the east end of the south-facing wall from a 5' x 8' uncovered porch with a wood railing. The home's windows are primarily one-over-one sash and single-light fixed-panes.

A two-stall garage is south of the dwelling. The garage measures 24' N-S x 30' E-W, has a poured concrete foundation and floor, and white horizontal vinyl exterior siding over wood frame construction. The garage roof is a low-pitched front gable, with grey asphalt composition shingles and boxed eaves. A white paneled roll-away garage door in the south-facing wall opens onto a gravel driveway. Vehicular access is from the alley to the south or from 7<sup>th</sup> Street to the east.

There are no additions to this dwelling's original construction. The application of vinyl siding and the alteration of some window openings are the only notable exterior alterations.

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**NONCONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS**

Descriptions of noncontributing buildings on are presented under a single heading, beginning with Main Street, followed by Park Avenue, 5<sup>th</sup> Street, 6<sup>th</sup> Street, 7<sup>th</sup> Street, and 8<sup>th</sup> Street. Six of the noncontributing buildings postdate the period of significance (1880-1967). The remaining nine noncontributing buildings date from the period of significance, but have been altered to such an extent that they no longer convey a sense of their historic significance.

**455 Main Street** 5RB.2244 (sketch map no. 2, photo no(s). 1)  
**Historic Name:** Meeker Elementary School  
**Current Name:** Rio Blanco County Justice Center  
**Construction Date:** 1938-1939  
**Architectural Style:** Late 19<sup>th</sup> and Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century American Movements / WPA Rustic

The former Meeker Elementary School building is centered in the block historically bordered by 4<sup>th</sup> Street on the east, Main Street on the south, 5<sup>th</sup> Street on the west, and Park Avenue on the north. This land comprised the east half of the parade grounds of the U. S. Army's Camp on White River between 1880 and 1883, and it later became the Meeker Town Park. The Rio Blanco County Courthouse is in the block to the west, which historically was the west half of the parade grounds. There are no other buildings in these two blocks. 5<sup>th</sup> Street has been vacated between the courthouse and the former elementary school so that the grounds around the two buildings feature a uniform landscape design. The former school building was built as a WPA project in 1938-1939 and served its original purpose until the school's closure in 2010. A large modern addition was subsequently built onto the school's original north-facing wall, and an entryway addition was built onto the south-facing (façade) wall. The entire building now houses the Rio Blanco County Justice Center and Sheriff's Office.

The original 1938-1939 school measures 100' N-S x 152' E-W. Built in the WPA Rustic style of architecture, and featuring a symmetrical plan, the former school is a one-story building with a poured concrete foundation, locally quarried coursed sandstone walls, and a flat roof. A sandstone belt course is approximately 3½' below the roofline. The façade faces toward Main Street to the south. The façade was historically divided into three bays and three projecting elements, two of which contained entry doors. The façade now also includes the modern entryway addition that has replaced the original main entry. Door and window openings in the façade wall include (from west to east): a large non-historic twelve-light fixed-pane window (historically an entry door); five, four-over-one, fixed-pane windows; a set of paired, four-over-one, fixed-pane windows; ten four-over-one fixed-pane windows; the modern entryway addition; five four-over-one, fixed-pane windows. The west-facing wall contains one entry with a glass-in-metal-frame door, with side lights and a transom. The west-facing wall also contains seven, four-over-one, fixed-pane windows. The east-facing wall contains twelve, four-over-one, fixed-pane windows. The school's original north-facing wall is entirely covered by the large modern justice center addition.

The modern entry on the façade contains a set of paired south-facing glass-in-metal-frame doors with a large sixteen-light transom, and two other glass-in-metal-frame doors that respectively face east and west. These doors are flanked by tall four-over-one fixed-pane windows. The lower exterior walls of the entryway addition are made of coursed sandstone blocks, while the upper walls are made of brown brick laid in running bond. The front, south-facing, wall of the entryway addition features a symmetrical parapet that extends above the roofline of the original school building. The large rear addition to the school's original north-facing wall features a poured concrete foundation, buff color concrete block exterior walls, and a flat roof. Windows in the addition are four-over-one fixed-panes.

The school building served its original purpose until 2010. In 2016, the building was retrofitted to serve as the new Rio Blanco County Justice Center. As part of that effort, a large modern addition was constructed onto the school's original north wall, a new modern entry was placed facing Main Street on the façade, and the windows were altered. Due to the alterations, it is considered noncontributing. There are no other additions or exterior alterations to the historic building.

**490 Main Street** 5RB.8693 (sketch map no. 3, photo no(s). 3, 53, 54)  
**Historic Name:** White River Lumber Company Building, Independent Lumber Company Building  
**Current Name:** Meeker Public Library  
**Construction Date:** Circa 1950  
**Architectural Style:** Modern Movement



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Located at the southeast corner of Main and 5<sup>th</sup> streets, the Meeker Public Library building consists of a circa 1950 rectangular-shaped building (that originally housed a lumber company), and a 2014 addition built onto the north end of the west side of the original building. Together, the original circa 1950 building and its 2014 addition form an L-shaped edifice. The original building measures 100' N-S (deep) x 58' E-W (across). The addition measures 36' N-S x 41' E-W.

The building is supported by a poured concrete foundation, and it is covered by a flat roof hidden behind a flat parapet on the north side and behind stepped parapets on the east and west sides. The original north, east and south exterior walls, are of mottled brick construction. The west wall (facing 5<sup>th</sup> Street) is made of pale orange color clay tile blocks, with five pale orange color brick buttresses with concrete bases and metal caps.

Two entry doors are on the library's south side. One of these – a horizontal-sliding glass bypass door – is the main entry into the library. The other entry door on the south side is a glass-in-dark brown-metal-frame door with flanking side lights. Both of these doors enter the building from a concrete sidewalk and porch covered by a flat roof supported by round steel posts and a steel I-beam. Two glass-in-dark-brown-metal-frame doors respectively enter the building at the center of the north side and near the south end of the west side. The north wall (facing Main Street) contains seven large single-light fixed-pane windows with dark brown stuccoed surrounds. The west wall (facing 5<sup>th</sup> Street) contains three large single-light fixed-pane windows with dark brown stuccoed surrounds (at the north end) and four smaller single-light fixed-pane windows with brick rowlock sills.

The 2014 addition features a concrete foundation, red brick walls laid in running bond, and a flat roof. The north wall contains a band of four large, floor-to-ceiling, fixed-pane windows with dark brown metal frames, as well as a glass-in-dark-brown-metal-frame door, with side lights and a transom. The word "LIBRARY" in large block letters is fastened to the north wall centered above the windows. A courtyard, that measures 17' N-S x 30' E-W, is adjacent to the south end of the addition, and is enclosed by a red brick wall.

This building has not been altered from 2014 to the present.

**504 Main Street** 5RB.2238 (sketch map no. 4, photo no(s). 4, 55, 57)  
**Historic Name:** First National Bank of Meeker  
**Current Name:** Bank of the San Juans  
**Construction Date:** Circa 1904  
**Architectural Style:** Late 19<sup>th</sup> and Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century American Movements / Commercial Style

This commercial building rests on a coursed sandstone foundation, and consists of a two-story section at the southwest corner of Main and 5<sup>th</sup> streets (originally housing the First National Bank of Meeker), that measures 78' N-S (deep) x 51' E-W (across), and two single-story sections to the west, that historically comprised a double storefront. The entire ground floor space is currently occupied by the Bank of the San Juans. The two-story section and the single-story sections are covered by flat roofs. Tall parapets, topped by painted white cornices, extend along the top of the north and east walls of the two-story section. A lower parapet, topped by a painted white bracketed cornice, extends along the top of the south wall of the two-story section. A red brick chimney is at the south end of the two-story section.

The first story of the façade wall (facing Main Street to the north) of the two-story section is finished with a veneer of pale red brick laid in running bond, topped by a projecting belt course of two soldier courses and two rowlock courses. This first story façade wall finish also wraps around to the north end of the east-facing wall (facing 5<sup>th</sup> Street). The façade's second story wall is made of darker red brick laid in running bond, with decorative brickwork surrounding the second story windows and below the cornice. The first story of the east-facing wall is clad with a veneer of alternating stone and concrete blocks, below and between the first story windows. The east wall's second story is made of darker red brick laid in running bond, with decorative brickwork below the cornice. The south (rear) wall is made of red brick laid in common bond.

The façade (north) walls of the two single-story sections are finished with a veneer of pale red brick laid in running bond, topped by projecting belt courses of two soldier courses and two rowlock courses. The façade wall of the eastern one-story section has a taller parapet than the western one-story section. A clock face with Roman numerals, and advertising for "BANK OF THE SAN JUANS" appears in the upper wall surface of the western single-story section. The south (rear)

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walls of the two single-story sections are made of red brick laid in running bond. A sign band with white lettering on a black background is fastened to the upper south wall of the western single-story section. This sign advertises: "BANK OF THE SAN JUANS."

The main entrance into the building is through the north wall of the eastern single-story section. Here, a set of paired doors, with slender vertically-oriented lights and flanking side lights, enter the building from within a deeply-recessed rounded brick archway. A glass-in-metal-frame door, with a side light and transom, enters the south end of the east-facing wall below a molded green metal hood. A set of paired glass-in-metal-frame doors enter the west end of the south-facing wall beneath a triangular-shaped flat awning.

The first story façade wall of the two-story section contains eight, floor-to-ceiling, single-light fixed-pane windows with projecting brick surrounds. The second story façade wall of the two-story section contains eight one-over-one double-hung sash windows with brick surrounds and a continuous concrete sill. The east side's first-story wall contains four sets of four single-light fixed-pane windows with dark brown metal frames. The east side's second story wall contains twelve one-over-one double-hung sash windows with brick surrounds and a continuous concrete sill. The second story south wall of the two-story section contains six one-over-one double-hung sash windows with sandstone lugsills and segmental brick arches. The north (façade) wall of the western one-story section contains four vertically-oriented single-light fixed-pane windows. The south wall of the western one-story section contains a single-light fixed-pane window. A drive-through bank teller facility has been built onto the south side of the two-story section.

The two-story section was built originally as the First National Bank of Meeker. Founded in Meeker, this banking concern branched out to Grand Junction, Steamboat Springs, Oak Creek, and Rangely, and eventually merged with the Bank of the San Juans. The two single-story sections originally comprised a double storefront, with separate businesses throughout much of their history. Retail establishments over the years include Strehlke Drug, followed by Sides Rexall Drug, the Meeker Commercial Club, a variety shop, and a Western Auto Parts store. The bank expanded into the adjacent double storefront in the early 1980s. The storefront's façade and a drive-through bank teller facility on the south (back) side of the building date from that time.

No other alterations are known to exist.

**530 Main Street** 5RB.2239 (sketch map no.5, photo no(s). 5, 55, 57)  
**Historic Name:** Meeker Drugs Building  
**Current Name:** Meeker Drugs Building  
**Construction Date:** Circa 1914  
**Architectural Style:** Late 19<sup>th</sup> and Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century American Movements / Commercial Style

This one-story commercial building features a rectangular-shaped plan that measures 24' N-S (deep) x 95' E-W (across). It is covered by a flat roof, with a flat parapet on the façade and a stepped parapet on the west side. The facade wall, facing Main Street to the north, is presently covered with concrete parging over red brick construction. (Carrara glass which had covered the façade wall was recently removed.) A projecting concrete or stone cornice is slightly below the top of the parapet on the façade, while above the cornice, the original red brick wall is exposed at the top of the parapet. The south (rear) wall is made of painted beige color brick laid in common bond. The exposed portion of the west (side) wall is made of red brick laid in common bond.

The façade contains a symmetrical single storefront. A glass-in-metal-frame door, with a side light and a transom, enters the center of the façade from within an angled recessed entryway. Fixed-pane storefront display windows flank the angled recessed entryway, while the entryway and display windows all topped by a band of clerestory windows. A black metal utility door enters the building through the south (rear) wall below a segmental brick arch. The south wall also contains a plywood-filled window with a sandstone lugsill and a segmental brick arch.

There are no additions to the historic building. The recent removal of the Carrara glass on the façade is the only known exterior alteration.

**640 Main Street** 5RB.8694 (sketch map no. 13, photo no(s). 11, 58, 59)  
**Historic Name:** Smokehouse, Northwest Credit Bureau, Montgomery Ward

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**Current Name:** Kindler Building, Identity Graphics, Mountain Hair Benders  
**Construction Date:** Circa 1946  
**Architectural Style:** Late 19<sup>th</sup> and Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century American Movements / Commercial Style

This single-story commercial building features a rectangular-shaped plan that measures 50' N-S (deep) x 32½' E-W (across). It is supported by a poured concrete foundation. The roof is flat, behind a symmetrical stepped parapet on the façade. A red brick chimney is on the building's west side. Facing Main Street to the north, the façade wall is clad with painted dark grey stucco. The south-facing (rear) wall is made of painted white concrete blocks.

The façade contains a single symmetrical storefront. A painted black glass-in-wood-frame door, with one upper sash light, and with side lights and a transom, enters the center of the façade from within a canted recessed entryway. The entryway is flanked on either side by a set of paired single-light fixed-pane windows with painted black wood frames. A black canvas awning with a metal frame extends over the storefront. The south-facing wall contains a painted beige color utility door and two one-over-one double-hung sash windows with concrete lintels.

There are no additions to this building's original construction. The façade wall was stuccoed at an unknown date, and the storefront has been periodically modified to accommodate new retail uses.

**646 Main Street** 5RB.8695 (sketch map no. 15, photo no(s). 12, 58, 59)  
**Historic Name:** Premier Cleaners  
**Current Name:** Joy Surveying Building  
**Construction Date:** Circa 1945  
**Architectural Style:** Late 19<sup>th</sup> and Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century American Movements / Commercial Style

This one-story commercial building features a rectangular-shaped plan that measures 73' N-S (deep) x 25' E-W (across). It is supported by a poured concrete foundation. The roof is flat, covered with metal roofing material, and has a short shed-roofed section to the rear. The roof is hidden behind a flat parapet on the façade, and there are stepped parapets on the east and west sides. The façade wall, facing Main Street to the north, is clad with painted pale beige color stucco. The west half of the south-facing (rear) wall is covered with painted white vertical wood siding. The east half of the south-facing wall is made of unpainted concrete. The exposed south end of the east (side) wall is covered with unpainted vertical wood siding. A white metal door, with one upper sash light, and with side lights and a transom, enters the center of the symmetrical façade from within a recessed entryway. Flanking the door, the walls of the entryway are finished with stained natural brown vertical wood siding. The entryway is flanked by single-light fixed-pane windows with painted brown wood frames. A sign band advertising "JOY SURVEYING CO." in white letters on a brown background is fastened to the upper façade wall above the entry.

The building was home to Meeker Hardware, owned by Charles Conrado between circa 1952 and 1967, and was later home to Premier Cleaners. The façade wall was stuccoed at an unknown date, and the storefront was periodically modified to accommodate new retail uses.

**675 Main Street** 5RB.8899 (sketch map no. 17, photo no(s). 30)  
**Historic Name:** Dodge Dealership Building  
**Current Name:** Zagarbrown LLC Building  
**Construction Date:** Circa 1909  
**Architectural Style:** Late 19<sup>th</sup> and Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century American Movements / Commercial Style

This free-standing one-story commercial building features a rectangular-shaped plan that measures 150' N-S (deep) x 38' E-W (across). It is supported by a poured concrete foundation. The building is covered by a truncated gambrel roof, with red metal roofing material on the front (south) section, and with red asphalt composition shingles on the rear (north) section. Painted white exposed rafter ends appear beneath the eaves. The façade wall, facing Main Street to the south, is made of wire-cut red brick laid in common bond. The upper gambrel end on the façade is clad with white horizontal metal siding. The south section of the west-facing wall is made of red brick laid in common bond; the north section of the west-facing wall is covered with red corrugated metal. The south section of the east-facing wall is made of painted red concrete blocks; the north section of the east-facing wall is covered with red corrugated metal. The north-facing (rear) wall is covered with red corrugated metal with rolled asphalt in the upper gable end. The façade contains a grey metal rollaway



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garage door, a narrow single-entry door, a two-light industrial sash window with a brick rowlock sill, and a large window arrangement also with a brick rowlock sill, currently covered by a sheet of red metal. The south section of the west-facing wall contains a single-entry door, two segmental-arched windows, and one flat-arched window currently covered with plywood. The north section of the west-facing wall contains a plywood-filled window, two one-over-one double-hung sash windows, and a set of paired six-light windows with painted white wood frames. The south section of the east-facing wall contains a white metal rollaway garage door, a single white utility door, and a two-light window with a metal frame and concrete sill. The north section of the east-facing wall contains a horizontal-sliding plywood door, a white metal-paneled door, and three sets of paired windows with painted white wood frames. The north-facing wall contains a six-over-six sash window, and two one-over-six double-hung sash windows with painted white wood frames.

There are no additions to the historic building. Evidence of its historic use as an automobile dealership and garage remains reasonably intact.

**685 Main Street** 5RB.8700 (sketch map no. 18, photo no(s). 31)  
**Historic Name:** N/A  
**Current Name:** The Main Street Building  
**Construction Date:** 1974  
**Architectural Style:** Modern Movement

This free-standing, one-story, commercial building measures 126' N-S x 70' E-W. It is supported by a poured concrete foundation, and its exterior walls are made of pale buff color brick. The building is covered by a low-pitched intersecting gable roof forms, finished with red clay tiles. Stained brown exposed rafter ends, with a fascia board, appear beneath the eaves. Decorative stained brown purlins and ridge poles appear in the upper gable ends.

Door and window openings in the south and west-facing walls are symmetrically arranged. A set of paired glass-in-wood-frame doors below a segmental arch, enter the center of the south-facing wall from within a rounded arch stuccoed entryway. On either side of the entryway there is a single-light fixed-pane window, flanked by two casement windows in brown metal frames. On the building's west-facing side there is a centered recessed uncovered porch with Trex type flooring material and with a black metal railing. A series of rounded arch door and window openings, including some with canvas awnings, overlook the recessed porch. The north-facing wall contains three single-light fixed-pane windows, flanked by two casement windows in brown metal frames. The east-facing wall contains two service doors and three single-light fixed-pane windows, flanked by two casement windows in brown metal frames.

This building has not been altered subsequent to its construction in 1974.

**465 Park Avenue** RB.8702 (sketch map no 24, photo no(s). 37, 60)  
**Historic Name:** N/A  
**Current Name:** Oldland / Uphoff Building  
**Construction Date:** 1978  
**Architectural Style:** Modern Movement

This triplex residential building features an irregular-shaped plan that measures 46' N-S x 58' E-W. The building is two-stories in height, rests on a poured concrete foundation, and is covered by a low-pitched side gable roof with metal roofing material and boxed eaves. The exterior walls are finished with alternating sections of beige color horizontal vinyl siding and mottled brown brick. Boxed chimneys are at the east and west ends of the building.

Three entry doors enter the building's three residential units on the façade (facing Park Avenue to the south). These are stained brown solid wood doors, covered with brown metal storm doors, each of which enter the building from a small concrete porch. The porches are partially covered by the roof eave. Window patterns include one-by-one horizontal sliders and single-light fixed-panes set over single-light awning type windows.

A gable-roofed wood frame car port is in a gravel parking lot at the rear of the property.

This building has not been altered subsequent to its construction in 1978.

**517 Park Avenue** 5RB.8703 (sketch map no. 26, photo no(s). 39)

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**Historic Name:** Meeker Mortuary  
**Current Name:** Rio Blanco County Heritage Culture Center  
**Construction Date:** 1975  
**Architectural Style:** Modern Movement

This free-standing, one-story, building features a rectangular-shaped plan that measures 50' N-S (deep) x 70' E-W (across). It rests on a poured concrete foundation, and its exterior walls are clad with white horizontal metal siding over wood frame construction. The building is covered by a low-pitched side-gabled roof, with green corrugated metal roofing material. The eaves are boxed with painted white and green wood trim.

The façade faces Park Avenue to the south. Door and window openings in the façade, from west to east, include: a three-light horizontal sliding window; a single-light fixed-pane window; a white metal entry door, with an oval-shaped leaded-glass light, beneath a small intersecting gable; a single-light fixed-pane window; a single-light fixed-pane window flanked on each side by a narrow one-over-one sash window; and two one-over-one double-hung sash windows within a former garage bay door opening now filled with painted white plywood. The north (rear) wall contains a painted green wood-paneled rollaway garage door, and two painted green metal service entry doors. The east wall (facing 5<sup>th</sup> Street) contains a white paneled door. The upper west wall contains one shuttered window opening.

Originally home to the Meeker Mortuary, this building was recently retrofitted to serve as the Rio Blanco County Heritage Culture Center.

**631 Park Avenue** 5RB.8704 (sketch map no. 31, photo no(s). 44, 63, 64)  
**Historic Name:** Unknown  
**Current Name:** Lupoli House  
**Construction Date:** Circa 1929  
**Architectural Style:** Late 19<sup>th</sup> and Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century American Movements / Bungalow / Craftsman

This 1½-story residence features a rectangular-shaped plan that measures 68' N-S x 29' E-W. It is supported by a concrete foundation, faced with a stone veneer. The foundation walls above grade are penetrated by single-light and two-light hopper basement windows. The exterior walls are finished with beige color horizontal siding. The roof is a moderately-pitched front gable, covered with silver metal roofing material. A large upper half-story addition rises above the original roofline and extends the original building to the rear. A 13' x 8' gabled addition at the front southeast corner is covered by a gable roof. A tall red brick chimney is on the east-facing roof slope.

The house's asymmetrical façade faces toward Park Avenue to the south. A white paneled door, covered by a white metal or synthetic storm door, enters the west end of the façade from a six-step concrete and stone porch. A secondary entry door, covered by a white metal or synthetic storm door, enters the east-facing wall beneath a shed-roofed porch. The façade wall contains a single-light fixed-pane window and a band of three single-light fixed-pane windows. Single-light fixed-pane windows, with flanking casement windows, are at the south end of the east-facing and west-facing walls. Windows elsewhere are primarily one-by-one horizontal sliders.

An oversized two-stall garage is at the rear of the property. The garage features a poured concrete foundation and floor, beige color horizontal vinyl siding over wood frame construction, and a low-pitched gabled roof. The roof is covered with metal roofing material and the eaves are boxed. A white metal rollaway garage door and a smaller door are located on the south side. Vehicular access is from Park Avenue via a concrete driveway along the west side of the house.

Modern alterations to this historic dwelling include the application of vinyl siding, a large upper half story addition, and new door and window treatments, along with a large oversized garage.

**732/738 Park Avenue** 5RB.8706 (sketch map no. 34, photo no(s). 50, 67, 68)  
**Historic Name:** Unknown  
**Current Name:** Pearce House  
**Construction Date:** Circa 1898  
**Architectural Style:** Modern Movement

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This 1½-story residence measures 38' N-S (deep) x 37' E-W (across), not including an attached garage on the east side, that measures 23' N-S x 12' E-W, and a small 7' x 4' shed-roofed projection on the west side. The house rests on a poured concrete foundation covered with beige color stucco, and the exterior walls are finished with painted beige color stucco over wood frame construction. The roof is a moderately-pitched side-gable, with a lower intersecting gable to the rear (south) above a one-story shed-roofed extension. The roof is covered with red metal roofing material and the eaves are boxed. A shed-roofed dormer, with a small, one-by-one, horizontal sliding window, overlooks the façade on the north-facing roof slope.

The house's asymmetrical façade faces toward Park Avenue to the north. A narrow 3' N-S x 32' E-W concrete porch is covered by a shed roof and extends across the façade. Immediately west of the porch, a white metal or synthetic storm door enters into a small enclosed porch that measures 5' N-W x 5' E-W. This is the primary front entry into the dwelling. To the west of the enclosed porch, a white metal-paneled rollaway garage door allows for vehicular access into the attached garage. A painted white solid wood door, with three stepped upper sash lights, enters the south wall of the attached garage from a shed-roofed covered stoop. A back door enters through the south wall of the dwelling from a gable-roofed patio that measures 10' N-S x 18' E-W. A non-historic canted bay window overlooks the front porch on the façade. Windows elsewhere are primarily non-original, one-by-one, horizontal sliders. Two windows in the west-facing wall are covered by aluminum awnings.

Addressed as 738 Park Avenue, a secondary residence is in the backyard behind the primary dwelling. This building rests on a low unpainted poured concrete foundation, and its exterior walls are clad with wide painted white horizontal wood siding. The building is covered by gabled and shed roof forms, with a lower gabled addition to the east. The roof is covered with red metal roofing material, with painted white rafter ends exposed beneath the eaves. A painted white wood-paneled door, with one upper sash light, enters through the east-facing wall. This wall also contains a set of paired six-light windows. Other windows are predominantly one-by-one horizontal sliders.

A wood-frame garage, that measures approximately 20' N-S x 18' E-W, is adjacent to the alley at the rear southwest corner of the property. The garage rests on a poured concrete foundation, and its exterior walls are clad with white horizontal metal siding. The garage roof is a moderately-pitched front gable, with silver corrugated metal roofing material, and with painted white rafter ends exposed beneath the eaves. A set of paired painted white plywood doors, side-hinged with metal strap hinges, in the east wall open onto a gravel driveway. Vehicular access is via the asphalt-paved alley between Park Avenue and Main Street. A one-by-one horizontal sliding window in the south wall overlooks the alley. The west wall contains a small two-light window.

Modern alterations to the historic dwelling include a rear addition, newer windows, stuccoed walls, and an attached garage addition.

**745 Park Avenue** 5RB.8705 (sketch map no. 35, photo no(s). 47, 66)  
**Historic Name:** Unknown  
**Current Name:** Rienau House  
**Construction Date:** Circa 1954  
**Architectural Style:** Ranch Type

This single-story residence features a rectangular-shaped plan that measures 50' N-S x 41' E-W. It rests on a poured concrete foundation, and it is covered by a low-pitched side-gabled roof, with brown metal roofing material. The exterior walls are clad with brown metal panels over wood frame construction. The upper gable ends are finished with painted white horizontal wood siding.

The façade faces toward Park Avenue to the south. A stained brown solid wood door, with three angled upper sash lights, enters the façade from a two-step concrete porch. The porch measures 4' N-S x 16' E-W, and is covered by a shed roof supported by painted white 4" x 4" wood posts. A wood-paneled door, covered by a painted white wood storm door, enters the west-facing wall from a small porch. An attached garage is incorporated into the building's northeast corner. Vehicular access is via a garage door at the north end of the east-facing wall. The façade wall contains a large nine-light fixed-pane window, a large six-light fixed-pane window, and a single-light window. The east-facing wall contains three single-light windows. The west-facing wall contains a four-light window and a single-light window. The north (rear) wall contains two eight-light windows.



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Modern alterations to this dwelling include a large fixed-pane window on the façade and an attached garage. The metal panel wall cladding also may not be original.

**443 5<sup>th</sup> Street** 5RB.8708 (sketch map no. 40, photo no(s). 24)  
**Historic Name:** Unknown  
**Current Name:** Moodie / Burke House  
**Construction Date:** Circa 1962  
**Architectural Style:** Ranch Type

This single-story dwelling features a rectangular-shaped plan that measures 54' N-S (across) x 30' E-W (deep). It is supported by a poured concrete foundation, and it is covered by a low-pitched side-gabled roof with grey metal roofing material and boxed eaves. The lower walls are faced with a stone veneer, while the upper walls are covered with grey color stucco with some areas faced with a stone veneer.

The house's asymmetrical façade faces 5<sup>th</sup> Street to the east. A stained brown wood-paneled door, with an oval-shaped light, and covered by a white metal storm door, enters the south end of the façade. Another stained brown wood-paneled door, with an oval-shaped light, and covered by a white metal storm door, enters the north half of the façade. Both of these doors enter the façade from small concrete porches recessed under the extended roof eave. A painted white wood-paneled door, with one upper sash light and covered by a white metal storm door, enters the house at the south end of the west-facing wall from a three-step wood porch beneath a shed roof. Windows are primarily one-by-one horizontal sliders and single-light casements, with white vinyl or metal frames, and painted dark grey wood surrounds.

A garage / workshop that measures approximately 29' N-S x 28' E-W is west of the dwelling. Built in 1995-1996, this building rests on a foundation of poured concrete perimeter walls, and has a poured concrete floor. The lower exterior walls are covered with white horizontal Masonite type siding, while the upper exterior walls are covered with white vertical wood siding. The building is covered by a shed roof with corrugated metal roofing material and boxed eaves. A rollaway garage door in the north wall faces the alley. A painted white wood-paneled door, with nine upper sash lights, is at the south end of the east-facing wall.

Modern alterations to this dwelling include its stone and stucco wall veneer and the alteration of some window openings, along with the construction of the large garage / workshop.

**265 6<sup>th</sup> Street** 5RB.8709 (sketch map no. 41, photo no(s). 25, 71)  
**Historic Name:** Unknown  
**Current Name:** Flora Bellas, Ellis Building  
**Construction Date:** Circa 1902  
**Architectural Style:** Late 19<sup>th</sup> and Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century American Movements / Commercial Style

This one-story commercial building features a rectangular-shaped plan that measures 26' N-S (across) x 135' E-W (deep). The building is composed of an original section to the front (east), and an early shed-roofed concrete block addition to the west. It is supported by a stone foundation covered with concrete parging, and it is covered by a flat roof, with a flat parapet on the façade and a stepped parapet on the south.

Facing 6<sup>th</sup> Street to the east, the façade contains a single storefront consisting of a set of paired glass-in-metal-frame doors within an angled recessed entryway flanked by storefront display windows. The lower façade wall, to either side of the entryway and below the storefront display windows, is covered with a stone veneer. The upper façade wall is clad with a blue metal veneer to the top of the parapet. Flanking the storefront display windows, the north and south ends of the façade are clad with blue vertical wood siding. A fixed wood awning with processed wood shake shingles is over the storefront. The south wall, facing the alley, is made of painted white brick laid in common bond. The walls of the older rear addition are of concrete block construction. A stained brown wood-paneled door, within a small recessed entryway, enters the south-facing wall from the alley. A wood-paneled door enters the (rear) west-facing wall of the concrete block addition. The addition's north-facing wall contains two, two-light, windows partially covered with plywood.

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There are no modern additions to this building; however, its façade has been altered, most notably by the application of a fixed wood awning.

**267 6<sup>th</sup> Street** 5RB.8710 (sketch map no. 42, photo no(s). 26, 71)  
**Historic Name:** Unknown  
**Current Name:** Mind Springs Health  
**Construction Date:** Circa 1900  
**Architectural Style:** Late 19<sup>th</sup> and Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century American Movements / Commercial Style

This single-story commercial building features a rectangular-shaped plan that measures 25' N-S (across) x 60' E-W (deep). It is supported by a stone or poured concrete foundation, and it is covered by a flat roof behind a parapet that extends above the roofline on the façade. Facing 6<sup>th</sup> Street to the east, the façade contains a symmetrical single storefront. The lower façade wall, below the storefront display windows, is faced with a stone veneer. Above the storefront, the upper façade wall is finished with painted white vertical wood siding to the top of the parapet. A fixed wood awning with processed wood shake shingles is over the storefront. A white metal-paneled door, with one upper sash light, enters the façade from within an angled recessed entryway. A small one-by-one horizontal sliding window is above the entry door. The entryway is flanked on either side by storefront display windows with painted cream white and green wood frames. The west-facing (rear) wall is made of red brick laid in common bond. A white paneled door, with a plywood-filled transom, and with a segmental brick arch, is in the west-facing wall.

There are no additions to this building's original construction. The storefront has been periodically modified to accommodate new retail uses. The most notable façade alteration is a fixed wood awning.

**275 6<sup>th</sup> Street** 5RB.8711 (sketch map no. 43, photo no(s). 27, 71)  
**Historic Name:** Unknown  
**Current Name:** Country Raised  
**Construction Date:** Circa 1905  
**Architectural Style:** Late 19<sup>th</sup> and Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century American Movements / Commercial Style

This one-story commercial building features a rectangular-shaped plan that measures 21' N-S (across) x 104' E-W (deep). It rests on a coursed sandstone foundation, and it is covered by a flat roof behind a parapet that extends above the roofline on the façade.

Facing 6<sup>th</sup> Street to the east, the façade contains an asymmetrical single storefront. A painted black glass-in-wood-frame door enters the south end of the façade from within a recessed entryway. North of the entryway, the façade wall contains four single-light fixed-pane storefront display windows with metal frames and painted brown wood surrounds. Surrounding the storefront, the façade wall is finished with painted black vertical wood siding. A fixed wood awning extends over the storefront visually separating the storefront from the upper façade wall and parapet. A metal sign fastened perpendicular to the upper façade displays a rooster weathervane motif and advertises the building's retail business "country raised." The exposed rear sections of the north and south-facing walls are made of red brick laid in running bond.

A small addition, which appears to date from the early decades of the twentieth century, to the west end of the original building measures approximately 21' N-S x 8' E-W. It is covered by a shed roof, and its exterior walls are clad with cream color vertical metal siding. A metal-clad door enters through the addition's west wall. The addition's date of construction is unknown. No other exterior alterations are known to exist.

**285 6<sup>th</sup> Street** 5RB.8712 (sketch map no. 44, photo no(s). 28, 58, 71)  
**Historic Name:** VFW Hall  
**Current Name:** Chippers  
**Construction Date:** Circa 1902  
**Architectural Style:** Late 19<sup>th</sup> and Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century American Movements / Commercial Style

This one-story commercial building features a rectangular-shaped plan that measures 28' N-S (across) x 62' E-W (deep). It is supported by a coursed sandstone foundation, and it is covered by a flat roof behind a parapet which extends above the roofline on the façade.

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The façade is symmetrical, and faces 6<sup>th</sup> Street to the east. The lower façade wall is faced with a veneer of yellow brick laid in running bond. The upper façade wall, to the top of the parapet, is covered with a veneer of beige color particle board panels. A fixed wood awning, covered with green metal roofing material visually separates the upper and lower façade. A painted red solid wood door, with one upper sash light and a transom, enters the center of the façade from within a recessed entryway. The walls within the entryway are clad with a veneer of stained or painted dark brown vertical wood siding. North and south of the entryway, the façade wall contains four small rectangular-shaped windows with painted brown wood frames. The west wall is made of red brick laid in common bond. A painted green wood-paneled door enters through the west wall from a 28' x 9' rear patio. The patio features a concrete floor, square posts with knee braces, and a shed roof.

There are no additions to this building's original construction. The storefront has been periodically modified to accommodate new retail uses.

**375 6<sup>th</sup> Street** 5RB.8716 (sketch map no. 48, photo no(s). 19, 69)  
**Historic Name:** N/A  
**Current Name:** Stewart House  
**Construction Date:** 2011  
**Architectural Style:** No Defined Style

This small one-story dwelling features a rectangular-shaped plan that measures 20' N-S x 40' E-W. It rests on a poured concrete foundation, and its exterior walls are clad with pale grey color wide horizontal Masonite type siding. The house is covered by a low-pitched side-gable roof, with an intersecting gable to the rear (west). The roof is finished with black asphalt composition shingles and the eaves are boxed.

The façade is symmetrical and faces toward 6<sup>th</sup> Street to the east. A painted grey glass-in-wood-frame door enters the center of the façade from an open front porch. Measuring 20' x 6', the porch is covered by an extension of the roof eave, and features a floor made of recycled Trex type material, a black wrought iron railing, and painted brown square wood posts supporting the extended roof eave. A grey paneled door enters through the west-facing wall from a wood and metal handicapped-accessible ramp. Two nine-over-nine double-hung sash windows, with decorative turquoise color exterior shutters, flank the front entry door. The west wall contains two nine-over-nine double-hung sash windows with decorative turquoise color exterior shutters. The north wall also contains two nine-over-nine double-hung sash windows with decorative turquoise color exterior shutters.

This dwelling has not been altered subsequent to its construction in 2011.

**364 7<sup>th</sup> Street** 5RB.8718 (sketch map no. 50, photo no(s). 21)  
**Historic Name:** Bernie's Super 8 Grocery  
**Current Name:** Masonic Temple Building  
**Construction Date:** Circa 1947  
**Architectural Style:** Modern Movement

This single-story building features a rectangular-shaped plan that overall measures 54' N-S (across) x 75' E-W (deep). Historically a grocery store, the building consists of the following elements: a large main shed-roofed section that measures 44' N-S x 75' E-W, including a small lower shed-roofed section at the rear southeast corner, a long narrow shed-roofed section along the north side, that measures 10' N-S x 50' E-W, and an open shed-roofed porch on the west side (façade) that also wraps around to the west ends of the north and south sides. The building rests on a poured concrete foundation, and the roof is covered with silver metal roofing material. The roof eaves are closed.

The façade wall (facing 7<sup>th</sup> Street to the west) and the north wall are covered with pale yellow color stucco with chocolate brown color accents. The south and east walls are made of painted yellow brick laid in running bond. A tall stepped parapet, displaying the Masonic insignia, extends above the roofline on the façade. The words "RIO BLANCO MASONIC TEMPLE" appear across the front eave of the front porch roof. Cornerstones at the north end of the façade, dating from when the building was converted for use as a Masonic Temple, contain the following text:



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RIO BLANCO MASONIC TEMPLE LAID BY THE M.W. GRAND LODGE A.F. & A.M. OF COLORADO  
MAY 22 A.D. 1999 MAY 22 A.L. 5999 KENT R. GOULD GRAND MASTER

RIO BLANCO LODGE NO. 80 MEEKER CHAPTER NO. 100 O.E.S. MEEKER COMMANDRY K.T. NO.  
33 N.W. COLORADO COUNCIL NO. 22 MEEKER CHAPTER 12.A.M. NO. 37

A set of paired painted cream yellow color doors, with a transom, enters near the north end of the façade from the open shed-roofed front porch. The porch roof is supported by a series of seven stuccoed columns. A set of paired painted cream yellow doors enter the narrow shed-roofed section at the north end of the façade. Two entry doors are near the east end of the north-facing wall. Two entry doors, including one below a gabled hood, are in the south-facing wall. A door in the east-facing wall opens onto a small patio enclosed by a wood privacy fence. A band of three, twenty-four-light, glass block windows are at the rounded front southwest corner. Three, one-by-one, horizontal sliding windows are near the east end of the north-facing wall. The south-facing wall contains four window openings.

Historically a grocery store, this building was substantially altered in 1999 when it was converted for use as a Masonic Temple.

**336 8<sup>th</sup> Street** 5RB.8720 (sketch map no. 52, photo no(s). 23)  
**Historic Name:** N/A  
**Current Name:** Ruckman Building  
**Construction Date:** 1981  
**Architectural Style:** No Defined Style

This single-story building features a rectangular-shaped plan that measures 32' N-S x 81' E-W. It rests on a poured concrete foundation, and its exterior walls are finished with pebble dash stucco over wood frame construction. Stained brown diagonal wood siding appears in the upper gable ends. The building is covered by a low-pitched side-gabled roof, with brown asphalt composition shingles and widely-overhanging boxed eaves.

Two brown metal doors, and a brown metal roll-away garage door, are in the south-facing wall. The south-facing wall also contains three, one-by-one, horizontal sliding windows. The north-facing wall contains two, one-by-one, horizontal sliding windows.

This building has not been altered subsequent to its construction in 1981.

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## **INTEGRITY**

The Meeker Historic District displays an overall high degree of integrity, relative to the seven aspects of integrity as defined by the National Park Service, location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

**Location:** The district's buildings are all on the original lots where they were constructed, and, thus, retain their integrity of location.

**Design:** The district's commercial buildings are one-story and two-story, rectangular-shaped, buildings, each with a unique façade, typically containing one or two storefronts. A number of these façades were periodically altered during the period of significance, to accommodate new commercial uses. These alterations tell the story of the district's commercial history as they show the pattern of façade changes through the decades. The district's residences display readily-identifiable attributes of several architectural styles and types that were in vogue from the late 1800s through the latter decades of the 1900s. The Rio Blanco County Courthouse and the former Meeker Elementary School represent the district's most noteworthy governmental / institutional buildings, and are excellent examples of the Great Depression era WPA Rustic style of architecture. Considered as a whole, the district's buildings display a strong sense of integrity of design.

**Setting:** The district's integrity of setting remains intact. The courthouse and former elementary school building continue to occupy the two blocks in the center of town, as they have since the 1930s. Main Street and 6<sup>th</sup> Street, south and west of the courthouse, still form the core of the downtown business district. The three former log buildings from the Camp on White River continue to exist along Park Avenue north of the courthouse, with two of these buildings having been adaptively reused as the Rio Blanco County Museum for the past several decades. Residences, especially along Park Avenue, are little changed in recent decades, with minimal modern infill. Many residential secondary buildings including garages and sheds are also still in place. The widths of the streets and avenues remain unchanged, as do the widths of the alleys and sidewalks. The buildings' spatial relationships, relative to each other, and relative to the streets, alleys, and sidewalks, are also minimally changed subsequent to the period of significance.

**Materials:** Evidence of the buildings' original and historic construction materials remain strongly evident throughout the district. These include stone and poured concrete foundations, log, horizontal wood siding, brick, and stone wall finishes, glass-in-wood-frame and glass-in-metal-frame commercial entry doors, and storefront display windows in metal frames. The district, thus, maintains a strong sense of integrity of materials.

**Workmanship:** The skill of the architects and contractors who designed and constructed the district's buildings remains evident. It is on display in such building elements as solid foundations, level horizontal surfaces, plumb vertical surfaces, uniform mortar joints, and in the buildings' aesthetic appearances and overall functionality. Quality of workmanship is also evident in decorative elements, and in door and window details on the buildings' facades and secondary walls.

**Feeling:** The historic district continues to evoke an aesthetic or historic sense of life in Meeker during the period of significance, and for this reason, it maintains its integrity of feeling.

**Association:** The district continues to maintain a direct link to Meeker's settlement and commercial and residential growth upon which its significance is based. As a result, the district retains its integrity of association.

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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.)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	A	Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
<input type="checkbox"/>	B	Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
<input type="checkbox"/>	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.
<input type="checkbox"/>	D	Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

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

Property is:

<input type="checkbox"/>	A	Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
<input type="checkbox"/>	B	removed from its original location.
<input type="checkbox"/>	C	a birthplace or grave.
<input type="checkbox"/>	D	a cemetery.
<input type="checkbox"/>	E	a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
<input type="checkbox"/>	F	a commemorative property.
<input type="checkbox"/>	G	less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

COMMERCE

EXPLORATION / SETTLEMENT

**Period of Significance**

1885-1967

1880-1923

**Significant Dates**

1880, 1885

**Significant Person**

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

**Architects/Builders**

William N. Bowman

W. E. Coombs

Walter DeMordaunt

Tom Ekrem

William E. Fisher and Arthur A. Fisher (Fisher and Fisher)

George Glasgow

J. D. Miller

I. C. Mitchell

N. G. Petry

Herman Pfeiffer

Charles Francis Pillsbury

Harry Pollard

F. F. Seeley

W. A. Thomas



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**Period of Significance (justification)**

The period of significance for Exploration and Settlement begins in 1880, the year the Camp on White River was established and the district's earliest buildings were constructed. The period of significance for Exploration and Settlement concludes in 1923, marking the end of Meeker's initial settlement and building phase. Following that year, no commercial buildings, and almost no residences, were constructed within the district until after World War II. The period of significance for Commerce begins in 1885, the year Meeker was founded and its earliest commercial establishments opened for business. The period of significance for Commerce ends in 1967, fifty years before the present in keeping with National Register guidelines.

**Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary) N/A****Narrative Statement of Significance** (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

The Meeker Historic District is locally significant under Criterion A in the areas of Exploration / Settlement and Commerce. The district is significant under Exploration / Settlement because it contains the remaining buildings from the Camp on White River as well as the core of commercial and residential buildings constructed by the town's original settlers during Meeker's settlement phase which began with the town's founding in 1885. The district is significant under Commerce because it encompasses Meeker's downtown commercial core.

Although the Camp on White River Army Officer Quarters at 545, 565, and 587 Park Avenue (site numbers 5RB.2247, 5RB.2248, and 5RB.2249 respectively) were moved from within the immediate vicinity to their current locations ca. 1885 as the town was platted, according to National Register Bulletin 15, "How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation:"

Examples of Properties that DO NOT Need to Meet Criterion Consideration B:

Moved Properties: A district in which only a small percentage of typical buildings in a district are moved.<sup>2</sup>

Therefore, these three buildings are contributing resources and the nomination does not need to meet Criteria Consideration B for moved buildings.

**Criterion A: Exploration / Settlement**

The town of Meeker was founded in 1885 on the site of a U. S. Army post named the Camp on White River that existed from 1880 to 1883. The military post was established following the "Meeker Massacre," in which Nathan Meeker and ten other men were killed at the White River Indian Agency, and the Battle of Milk Creek between members of the White River Utes and U.S. Army soldiers. Located in Powell Park (three miles west of the Camp on White River and the Meeker townsite), the White River Agency had been established in 1868 as part of a treaty between the U. S. government and the Ute tribes. The "Meeker Massacre" took place on September 29, 1879. The Battle of Milk Creek began on that date and continued for a period of several days.

Meeker's founders and first residents were the region's earliest settlers of European descent. In the aftermath of the Battle of Milk Creek, the U. S. government systematically relegated members of the Northern Ute tribe to the Uintah Reservation in Utah, and the White River Valley was opened for settlement by European Americans. Meeker was the first permanent town in northwestern Colorado, and it remained the region's only incorporated town until Steamboat Springs (sixty-five miles northeast of Meeker) was incorporated in 1900. Three existing log buildings within the Meeker Historic District were built as part of the Camp on White River, and several of its existing residences were built by the town's original pioneer settlers beginning in the mid-to-late 1880s. These buildings represent the establishment and earliest development of Meeker and of northwestern Colorado.

<sup>2</sup> National Register Bulletin 15, "How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation," Washington, D.C., pp. 29-30.

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**Criterion A: Commerce**

From its beginnings in the 1880s, Meeker's economy developed as a regional agricultural service center and as the center of government for Rio Blanco County. With Rio Blanco County consistently among the state leaders for both beef cattle and sheep, almost everyone's livelihood was directly or indirectly dependent on ranching. The town's commercial establishments provided nearly all of their various supplies. Within a few years of its founding in 1885, Meeker's downtown included two mercantiles, a lumberyard, two blacksmith and wagon shops, a saddlery and harness shop, a cobbler, a carpenter shop, a book and stationery supplier, a bank, a post office, a barbershop, two livery stables, an express office, and the *Meeker Herald* newspaper office.

From the very early 1900s, Meeker's economy has also been based on its status as a tourist destination for hunters, anglers, and others recreating in the nearby White River National Forest and Flat Tops Wilderness Area. Vice-President-elect Theodore Roosevelt famously stayed in Meeker while on a mountain lion hunt in January 1901, and he returned to the area on other hunting expeditions while serving as President between September 1901 and March 1909. The surrounding region subsequently became known as a paradise for outdoor sports enthusiasts, and Meeker's retailers capitalized by furnishing their supplies alongside those for area ranchers.

Meeker's earliest commercial buildings were located in surplus log and adobe buildings left over from the U.S. Army's Camp on White River, and in other hastily-built wood frame buildings with false-front facades. These early buildings were gradually replaced with more substantial brick and stone commercial buildings between the early 1890s and the early 1920s. No commercial buildings were constructed in downtown Meeker from the mid-1920s to the mid-1940s, during the years of the Great Depression and World War II. A relatively small number of primarily one-story commercial buildings were then erected during the post-war years, after which time few buildable commercial lots remained. The Meeker Historic District accordingly reflects the progression of the town's commercial growth from the late nineteenth century to the late 1960s.

**HISTORIC CONTEXT***European-American Exploration of Western Colorado and Settlement of the White River Valley*

The White River Valley is within lands that are the ancestral home of the Ute people. Traditionally composed of many affiliated nomadic bands, the Utes have resided in what is now western Colorado, eastern Utah, and portions of New Mexico and Wyoming for several hundred years. Contact between Utes and persons of European descent occurred in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. The Utes obtained horses and trade goods from the Spanish in the mid-1700s, expanding their geographic range while at the same time transforming and disrupting their traditional way of life.<sup>3</sup> Unbeknown to native people, under the treaty of Fontainebleau in 1762, France ceded to Spain all of Louisiana Territory west of the Mississippi River, and the lands the Territory comprised then remained under Spain's control for the next forty years.<sup>4</sup> The Spanish explored lands northwest of Santa Fe, and in the ensuing decades the region's rivers, mountains, and other natural features were identified with Spanish names. In the early 1760s, Don Juan Maria del Rivera conducted expeditions from Santa Fe through the rugged San Juan Mountains and north to the Gunnison River, in search of precious metals.<sup>5</sup> In 1776, two Spanish priests, Francisco Dominguez and Silvestre Escalante led a small expedition exploring the San Juan Mountains to the Dolores River, before moving north to the Gunnison, Grand (Colorado) and White Rivers. The Dominguez-Escalante expedition then traveled west, near the Great Salt Lake, before returning to Santa Fe by way of present-day southeastern Utah and northeastern Arizona.<sup>6</sup>

<sup>3</sup> Michael B. Husband. "Colorado Plateau Country Historic Context," State Historical Society of Colorado, Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, 1984, p. 2.1.

<sup>4</sup> Carl Ubbelohde, Maxine Benson, and Duane Smith, eds. *A Colorado History*, (Boulder: Pruett Publishing Company, 1972), p. 15.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid.

<sup>6</sup> Ubbelohde, et. al., p. 16.

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Interest in the White River region by Spanish and other Europeans, remained limited for the next several decades, however, as the land's political ownership was ultimately determined by the United States and European powers. Much of what would become Colorado was once part of Louisiana Territory, transferred from Spain to France, and then to the United States in the famed Louisiana Purchase of 1803. The White River Valley, however, remained under Spanish control until Mexico gained its independence from Spain in 1821. It was then part of Mexican territory until 1848 when it was included in lands ceded to the United States under the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo at the end of the Mexican-American War.<sup>7</sup> All of the future state of Colorado was held by the United States after that date, although the western portion was initially part of Utah Territory.

For the Utes, future contact with European-Americans therefore came primarily from the east rather than from the south. Early nineteenth century exploring expeditions, including those led by Meriwether Lewis and William Clark (1804-1806), Zebulon Pike (1806-1807), and Stephen H. Long (1819-1820), fostered wide-spread interest, opening the western United States initially to forays by fur trappers and traders, and later to gold seekers and settlers. Interest in what would become the western regions of Colorado was further inspired by U. S. Geological Surveys in the 1860s and 1870s, led by John Wesley Powell, Ferdinand Hayden, Clarence King, and George Wheeler.

Nonetheless, settlement of far western Colorado developed somewhat gradually following the Pike's Peak gold rush of the late 1850s. As Colorado became a Territory in 1861, settlement concentrated along the eastern Front Range of the Rocky Mountains, and in mining camps such as Central City, Black Hawk, Georgetown, and Breckenridge. In the 1870s and early 1880s, however, miners and other pioneering settlers began to disperse westward, establishing such communities as Leadville, Telluride, Aspen, and Glenwood Springs. Many settlers also began to turn to other economic interests other than mining, most notably agriculture.

To facilitate the settlement of western Colorado, and in response to public pressure, the U. S. government negotiated a series of treaties with the Ute Indians under which the Utes were pushed westward and ultimately exiled to the Uintah Reservation in Utah. The first of these was the 1849 "Calhoun Treaty" (also known as the "Abiquiu Treaty") under which the Ute tribes agreed to "recognize American sovereignty and to remain within their traditional hunting ranges."<sup>8</sup> The 1863 "Evans Treaty," followed five years later by the "Hunt Treaty," resulted from increased mining and settlement pressures in the new Colorado Territory. Under these treaties, the U.S. government recognized the affiliated Ute bands as a single entity. Under the Hunt Treaty, the Utes relinquished their lands in the San Luis Valley and in South, Middle and North Parks, with the eastern edge of the Ute's domain recognized as being close to the 107th meridian, west of an imaginary line between present-day Steamboat Springs and Pagosa Springs, comprising approximately one-third of the total area of Colorado.<sup>9</sup> In return, the federal government agreed to provide the Utes with clothing, food and supplies, and to establish two agencies on the reservation. The Los Pinos Agency, for the Southern and Tabeguache Utes was initially located on Cochetopa Creek west of present-day Saguache, but was later moved to Uncompahgre River Valley south of present-day Montrose. The other agency, for the Northern or White River Utes, was located on the White River near present-day Meeker. In 1873, yet another treaty resulted directly from increased mining interest in the San Juan region of southwestern Colorado. Known as the "Brunot Agreement" or the "Brunot Treaty," it forced the Utes to cede a large quadrangular-shaped area of land comprising the entire San Juan mining region, including the future sites of Silverton and Telluride.<sup>10</sup>

*Nathan Meeker, The Battle of Milk Creek and the "Meeker Massacre"*

In the 1868 Hunt Treaty the Utes were represented by Chief Ouray who had traveled to Washington D.C., and who the U. S. government recognized as chief of all Ute people. The White River Utes, however, were led by sub-chiefs - known as "Colorow," "Quinkent" (Douglass), "Canalla" or "Cavanish" (Johnson), and "Nicaagat" (Jack) - who generally viewed Ouray

<sup>7</sup> Ibid., p. 49.

<sup>8</sup> Husband, p. 2.1. The Calhoun Treaty was named for James S. Calhoun, Superintendent of Indian Affairs in New Mexico.

<sup>9</sup> Jill Seyfarth and Ruth Lambert, Ph.D. "Pioneers, Prospectors and Trout: A Historic Context for La Plata County, Colorado," January 2010, p. 7. See also, Paul M. O'Rourke, "Frontiers in Transition: A History of Southwestern Colorado," Bureau of Land Management, 1982, p. 46. The Hunt Treaty was named for Colorado Territorial Governor Alexander C. Hunt.

<sup>10</sup> Ibid. The Brunot Agreement was named for Felix Brunot, Chairman of the Board of Indian Commissioners.



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as too compromising and favored a more militant response to the ever-increasing encroachment of Ute lands. During the same time period, as Colorado achieved statehood in 1876, the new state's political leaders, newspaper editors, and other influential individuals increasingly agitated to further subjugate the Utes by removing them from any land that could be mined, farmed, or ranched. It was against this potentially volatile backdrop that Nathan Meeker was appointed Indian Agent at the White River Agency in May of 1878. Working under the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Meeker was in part tasked with converting the White River Utes from nomadic hunters and gatherers into sedentary farmers in settled communities.

The son of Enoch and Sorana (Hulbert) Meeker, Nathan Cook Meeker was born in Cuyahoga County, Ohio on July 12, 1817. He graduated from Oberlin College in 1840 where he became deeply influenced by the writings and ideas of the French socialist reformer Francois Marie Charles Fournier. On April 8, 1844, Nathan Meeker married Arvilla Delight Smith. That same year, Nathan and Arvilla joined the North American Phalanx in Trumbull, Ohio, an agricultural cooperative community based on Fournier's concepts. In 1865, Mr. and Mrs. Meeker moved to New York where Nathan became the agricultural editor of the *New York Tribune*, owned and published by Horace Greeley. In *Tribune* newspaper columns, Meeker promoted the concept of establishing agricultural colonies in the west, and in 1869, with Greeley's support and financial backing, Meeker founded the Union Colony at present-day Greeley, Colorado.<sup>11</sup>

Meeker arrived at the White River Agency on May 15, 1878, accompanied by his wife, Arvilla, and their daughter, Josephine. Also accompanying Meeker were a farmer named Shadrach Price, with his wife, Flora Ellen, and their two children, along with a handful of other men from Greeley's Union Colony. Philosophically, Meeker perhaps accepted the post as Indian Agent to further realize his ideals of creating utopian agrarian communities. From a practical standpoint, however, Meeker also reportedly accepted the position because he was indebted to the heirs of Horace Greeley who had died in 1872.<sup>12</sup>

With little understanding of Ute culture, Meeker zealously bent to the task of converting the White River Utes into sedentary agriculturalists. He viewed the Utes love for horses as a key obstacle and unsuccessfully tried to persuade the men to farm rather than go on extended hunts. For the Ute men, though, horses represented wealth and status. They provided the means to range great distances for hunting and were also used for sport. Conversely, to operate a plow was considered demeaning. Growing increasingly frustrated, Meeker moved the agency to Powell Park (three miles west of present-day Meeker), where the Utes held pony races at a race track. In September 1879 Meeker ordered his men from Union Colony to plow up the race track, an action that precipitated an immediate angry and potentially violent response, which, in turn, prompted Meeker to wire for military assistance.<sup>13</sup>

After receiving orders, on September 21, 1879, Major Thomas T. Thornburgh departed Fort Fred Steele (east of Rawlins, Wyoming), with some 180 soldiers, a supply train of 25 wagons, and rations for thirty days, enroute to the White River Agency. On September 29, 1879, Thornburgh and his troops reached Milk Creek, some fifteen miles north of the agency, where they engaged in battle with the Utes. From the perspective of the soldiers, they were endeavoring to provide protection for Meeker and the others at the agency. From the perspective of the Utes, they were protecting their people and sovereign land from an invading army. While the battle raged at Milk Creek, enraged Utes attacked the agency killing Nathan Meeker, Shadrach Price, and nine other men. Arvilla and Josephine Meeker, Flora Ellen Price, and her two children, were taken captive and held for twenty-three days.<sup>14</sup>

With Major Thornburgh having been killed early on, the Battle of Milk Creek continued for a period of several days. During this time, army scout Joe Rankin rode 150 miles back to Rawlins in 28 hours to report news of the battle and request reinforcements. On October 5, 1879, a contingent of over 200 soldiers and 20 officers led by Colonel Wesley Merritt of Fort D. A. Russell (at Cheyenne, Wyoming), arrived at Milk River, by which time the Utes who had engaged in combat had dispersed into the surrounding region. Assistance had also come from the south, three days earlier, in the form of a contingent of (African American) "Buffalo Soldiers" led by Captain Francis Dodge. Headquartered at Fort Garland in

<sup>11</sup> Betsy Kellums, "Greeley Downtown," National Register of Historic Places Registration Form, November 9, 2007. See also: Peggy Ford, "A Historic Background, Greeley, Colorado: Agricultural Mecca of the West," May 1996.

<sup>12</sup> Ibid.

<sup>13</sup> Elmer R. Burkey, "The Thornburgh Battle with the Utes on Milk Creek," Colorado Magazine, vol. xiii, no. 3, May 1936.

<sup>14</sup> Ibid. See also, Marshall D. Moody, "The Meeker Massacre," Colorado Magazine, vol. xxx, no. 2, April 1953.

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southern Colorado, Dodge and his troops (Company D of the 9<sup>th</sup> Cavalry) were in Middle Park near present-day Kremmling, Colorado when they received word of the ongoing battle at Milk Creek.<sup>15</sup>

In the immediate aftermath of the hostilities, Charles Adams, the former White River Indian agent, Chief Ouray, and Ouray's wife, Chipeta, negotiated the peaceful release of the women and children hostages. Arvilla Meeker and her daughter Josephine returned to Greeley where they lived for the remainder of their lives. The bodies of Nathan Meeker, and other men formerly from the Union Colony who were killed, were returned to Greeley where they were buried in Linn Grove Cemetery.

In the months that followed, Euro-American public demand that the Utes be removed from western Colorado reached a fevered pitch. Following the death of Chief Ouray on August 24, 1880, the U. S. government relegated the White River Utes to the Uintah Reservation in eastern Utah. To facilitate removal of the Utes from the White River Valley, and to guard against further hostilities, the U. S. Army established a military post, some three miles east of the destroyed White River Agency. Known as the "Camp on White River," the military post existed only until 1883 by which time the Utes had been effectively removed, and the region opened for settlement by Euro-Americans.

### *The Camp on White River*

Located at the current site of Meeker, the Camp on White River consisted of a series of military buildings constructed around and facing onto a central parade ground. Rectangular in shape, the parade ground measured approximately 475' N-S x 800' E-W. A series of nine soldiers' barracks, with adobe walls and gable roofs, were along the southern perimeter of the parade ground, while on the northern perimeter there were five log buildings used as quarters for the officers and their families. A large hospital building, also of log construction, was east of the parade ground, while several other buildings were south and southwest of the soldiers' barracks. These included a sutler's store, an officers' club, a soldiers' club known as the "Bounce House," and other infrastructure such as corrals and stables. A flagpole was in the center of the parade ground. All land within a four-mile radius of the flagpole was designated as a military reservation, with all persons in the area subject to military rule.<sup>16</sup> During its relatively brief existence, the Camp on White River was a busy military post, home to hundreds of officers and soldiers who drilled in the parade ground and went on maneuvers, and with mule and ox drawn supply trains coming and going.<sup>17</sup> In the summer of 1883, the post was decommissioned, with all but a handful of soldiers withdrawn. On August 13, 1883, the post's buildings were sold at auction, many of which became the town of Meeker's original buildings.<sup>18</sup> Three of the former log officers' quarters buildings remain in existence, located adjacent to each other at 545 Park Avenue (5RB.2247), 565 Park Avenue (5RB.2248) and 587 Park Avenue (5RB.2249). Two of these buildings are currently part of the White River Museum, while the third, at the northeast corner of Park Avenue and 6<sup>th</sup> Street, is a private residence.

### *Commercial Development*

Founded by the Meeker Townsite Corporation, the town of Meeker was platted in September of 1885 (see Figure 16). The lots and blocks were laid out around the former parade ground which became the town park. The southernmost of the east-west trending streets (closest to the White River) was named Water Street. The other east-west running streets were respectively named Market, Main, Park (Avenue), Garfield, Hill, Cedar, and Pine. The north-south trending streets, meanwhile, were numbered from 1<sup>st</sup> Street on the east to 13<sup>th</sup> Street on the west.<sup>19</sup> Charter members of the Townsite Corporation who formed the nucleus of the nascent community included Newton Major, Susan Wright, Charles Dunbar, George Allsebrook, Samuel Fairfield, J. L. McHatton, A. J. Gregory, F. E. Sheridan, Ed Wilber, W. H. Clark, G. D. Thayer,

<sup>15</sup> Ibid.

<sup>16</sup> W. D. Simms, "The Founding and Founders of Meeker." *The Colorado Magazine*, vol. xxiii, no. 3, July 1949, p. 271. See also: *This is What I Remember*, vol. I, (Meeker: Rio Blanco County Historical Society, 1972), pp. 6-7.

<sup>17</sup> Ibid, p. 272.

<sup>18</sup> *This is What I Remember*, vol. I, (Meeker: Rio Blanco County Historical Society, 1972), p. 6.

<sup>19</sup> "Town of Meeker Original Town Plot," [sic.] <https://www.facebook.com/thisoldphoto.rioblancocounty/photos/>. Interestingly the original town plat also labeled 1<sup>st</sup> Street through 9<sup>th</sup> Street respectively as Hickory, Ash, Oak, Maple, Willow, Cedar, Pine, Walnut and Plum streets.

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J. J. Miner, and Charles Attix.<sup>20</sup> Meeker's first election was held on November 25, 1885, with W. H. Clark elected mayor, and James L. McHatton, Charles Attix, T. J. Lyttle, George Allsebrook, and James Lyttle elected as the first board of trustees.<sup>21</sup>

In the ensuing decades, Meeker developed first and foremost as a regional agricultural service center, with Rio Blanco County among the state leaders for both cattle and sheep ranching, a legacy that continues to the present day. Early on in its history, Meeker was the only town between the Denver and Rio Grande Railroad which passed through Grand Junction to the south, and the Union Pacific main line in Wyoming to the north. Meeker, in fact, remained the only incorporated town in northwestern Colorado until Steamboat Springs was incorporated at the turn of the twentieth century.

The town's businesses were initially located in former military buildings and in new wood frame buildings, including many constructed with false front facades. As the town subsequently prospered in the 1890s and early 1900s, the wood frame buildings were gradually replaced with more substantial brick buildings. This was especially true on the south side of the 500 block of Main Street, across from the town park, which became known as Meeker's "brick block."

Three prominent brick buildings constructed originally in the 1890s were the International Order of Oddfellows building, the Meeker Hotel and the J. W. Hugus & Company block.

The two-story IOOF building at 400 Main Street (5RB.2245) was designed by Herman Pfeiffer and constructed in 1896-1897. IOOF Valentine Lodge No. 47 used the second floor as meeting space, and was associated with the building until December of 1993 when its charter was relinquished due to low membership. Rio Blanco County Courthouse offices and the county jail occupied space in the ground floor between 1897 and 1906. Otherwise, the building's first story was home to numerous businesses through the years, while also at times serving as classroom space, and as a community center for various organizations and activities. Rio Blanco School District No. 1 held classes in the building from 1907-1911, from 1918-1920, and again from 1937-1940, during times when old school buildings had been condemned and new schools were under construction. The local Mountain States Telephone and Telegraph Company exchange office was in the building between circa 1911 and 1920. (In earlier years the telephone exchange was in the Meeker Hotel, and in later years it was in a small brick building at 645 Main Street (5RB.8698), built specifically for the exchange).

Retail establishments through the years in the IOOF building include a Maytag appliances dealership, a Kwal paints store, a photo shop, an amusement arcade, picture frame, pottery, and yarn shops, a silk screen T-shirt shop, a construction and plumbing business owned by the Ruckman family, and a carpet store. Organizations other than the Oddfellows also used the building as meeting space. These included the Modern Woodmen of America, the Rio Blanco County Woolgrowers, the Rio Blanco County Cattlemen, and the Meeker Commercial Club, an organization founded in 1913 as a men's social club and to promote the town's businesses.<sup>22</sup> The IOOF building also served as an opera house in the 1890s, as a theater showing silent movies in the 1910s, as a roller skating rink in the 1950s and 1960s, and throughout its history as a popular venue for community dances.<sup>23</sup>

The long and colorful history of the Meeker Hotel traces to August of 1883 when the U.S. Army decommissioned the Camp on White River and auctioned off its buildings. Susan C. "Annie" Wright acquired one of the former barracks buildings, arranged for the construction of a false front façade, and in association with Charles Duncan, opened the building as the Meeker Hotel. Originally from South Carolina, Susan Wright was the lone female member of the Meeker Townsite Corporation and was affectionately known as the "Mother of Meeker." When she passed away in 1893, ownership of the hotel business passed to her stepbrother Reuben S. Ball. In 1896, Mr. Ball arranged for the construction of a new brick hotel building at 560 Main Street (5RB.985), and eight years later he contracted with I. C. Mitchell, a local

<sup>20</sup> *This is What I Remember*, vol. III, (Meeker: Rio Blanco County Historical Society, 1996), p. 297.

<sup>21</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>22</sup> "Commercial Club Organized." *Meeker Herald*, January 18, 1913, p. 1.

<sup>23</sup> Tawny Halandras, "I.O.O.F. Lodge – Valentine Lodge No. 47," National Register of Historic Places Registration Form, January 24, 2014.



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contractor, to build east and west wings onto the hotel's original central core. The building has functioned as a hotel throughout its history and is still in operation as of 2017. Theodore Roosevelt, who stayed at the hotel in January 1901 while on a mountain lion hunt is regarded as its most famous lodger. Roosevelt was vice-president elect at that time and he became president in September of that year following the assassination of President McKinley. Roosevelt returned to northwestern Colorado on other hunting expeditions during his presidency, including an extended visit in 1905 when he stayed at the Hotel Colorado in Glenwood Springs.

In 1904, a one-story building with sandstone walls and three rounded-arch openings on its façade was erected just east of the Meeker Hotel. This building (550 Main Street, 5RB.2240) originally housed the Meeker Post Office, but early on in its history became the Meeker Café. The café became affiliated with the hotel, and at some point in their history the two buildings came under common ownership. Owners and operators of the café over the years include Jessie Adams, Helen Jean Miller and Betty Wilson, B. V. Stephenson, and the Knox and Wallace families. The Meeker Hotel and Meeker Café remain in business as of 2017.

The J. W. Hugus & Company mercantile business in Meeker similarly had its start in one of the former barracks buildings. Newton Major, the store's early manager, also acquired and lived in a former officers' quarters residence at the northeast corner of Park Avenue and 6<sup>th</sup> Street (5RB.2249). J. W. Hugus & Company was founded by John William Hugus in partnership with John C. Davis. The former post trader at Fort Steele, Hugus opened the company's first mercantile at Rawlins, Wyoming in 1880, followed by the store in Meeker in 1883. Hugus & Company soon opened other mercantiles at Dixon, Wyoming, and at Hayden, DeBeque, and Steamboat Springs in Colorado. Other Hugus stores were later located in Delta, Montrose, Wolcott, and Parshall. A full-service mercantile, J. W. Hugus & Co. was perhaps Colorado's earliest chain retailer, reportedly "[selling] everything from needles to threshing machines, groceries, dry goods, stock supplies - in fact everything needed for existence by the early day ranchers and homesteaders."<sup>24</sup>

Meeker's Hugus & Company store was located in the former military barracks until 1891 when the company erected a two-story brick commercial building at the southeast corner of Main and 6<sup>th</sup> streets. The building's ground floor space was also occupied by the First National Bank of Meeker, which in 1896 was the scene of an infamous bank robbery and shootout. On the afternoon of October 13, 1896, three armed men, later tentatively identified as "George Bain" (aliases George Low or George Law and George Harvies), "Jim Shirley," and "Kid Pierce," walked into the building and announced a holdup. People in the building at the time included A. C. Moulton, manager of the Hugus & Company store, Dave Smith, the bank cashier, and customers C. A. Booth, Ed Hall, Joe Rooney and Victor A. Dykeman.

Two of the outlaws held the employees and customers at gunpoint while the third pointed his gun and demanded money from the cashier. One of the robbers then made a fatal mistake by firing a gunshot through the cashier's window. The shot alerted nearby citizens who quickly armed themselves and approached the bank. Realizing they could not make a clean getaway, the robbers further armed themselves taking three rifles from the store's sales rack, along with ammunition. They then attempted to use the employees and customers as shields or hostages as they exited the bank. The outlaws' horses were tied to a freight wagon behind the bank along 6<sup>th</sup> Street. When they reached that point and stepped out of line from their hostages, the robbers were shot down by local citizens Horace "Simp" Harp, Frank JoHantgen and Ben Nichols. All three robbers died from their wounds and were buried in Meeker's Highland Cemetery, in a small section apart from other graves. Victor Dykeman and C. A. Booth were also shot in the exchange of gunfire but later recovered from their wounds.<sup>25</sup>

A Late 19<sup>th</sup> Century Commercial Style building, the 1891 Hugus & Company building anchored the west end of Meeker's "Brick Block" until the night of March 10, 1911 when it burned to the ground in what the *Meeker Herald* termed the "Most Disastrous Fire in Meeker's History."<sup>26</sup> After the fire, Hugus & Company contracted with the Denver architectural firm of Fisher and Fisher to design a new two-story brick commercial building on the same site (5RB.2242). The new building

<sup>24</sup> "J. W. Hugus & Co., One of First Chain Store Groups in Nation." *Steamboat Pilot*, July 30, 1959, p. 7B.

<sup>25</sup> "Meeker Bank Robbery," *This is What I Remember Volume 1*, p. 194. See also, "Robbers Meet Death." *Craig Courier*, October 17, 1896. P. 1.

<sup>26</sup> "Most Disastrous Fire in Meeker's History." *The Meeker Herald*, March 11, 1911, p. 1.

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was completed in November of 1911, and was occupied by the Hugus & Company store until 1919 when the company sold out to A. Oldland & Company mercantile.

Owned and operated by Ambrose Oldland and his descendants, the A. Oldland & Company store was then a fixture in downtown Meeker until its closure in the late 1980s. Ambrose and his older brother Reuben were two of Rio Blanco County's earliest and most influential pioneers. Ambrose Oldland was born in Gloucestershire, England in August 1864. He immigrated to America in 1881, joining Reuben who had immigrated in 1873. Reuben had moved west to Leadville, Colorado in the late 1870s, and from there to the Piceance Creek basin southwest of Meeker where he established the Oldland Spur Ranch.

Ambrose joined his older brother at Piceance Creek, and circa 1887 established a general store at White River City - a small settlement some thirty miles west of Meeker. Circa 1890, Reuben and Ambrose both moved their families to Meeker. Reuben and his family purchased from Thomas Watson the house at 487 Park Avenue (5RB.4379), where they lived for many years. Ambrose Oldland also acquired Watson's mercantile business - then located in a wood frame false-front building at Main and 5<sup>th</sup> streets - renaming it "A. Oldland & Company." The business existed at that location until 1919 when Ambrose Oldland bought out the Hugus & Company store one block to the west at the corner of Main and 6<sup>th</sup> streets.

Other notable Main Street commercial buildings include the First National Bank of Meeker, the Meeker Drugs building, the Baer Block / Tagert Hardware building, the Neal Block, and the Mountain States Telephone and Telegraph Company building.

The two-story building at 504 Main Street (5RB.2283), at the southwest corner of Main and 5<sup>th</sup> streets, was built circa 1904 as the First National Bank of Meeker. Founded circa 1890, this banking concern later branched out to Grand Junction, Steamboat Springs, Oak Creek, and Rangely. It eventually merged with the Bank of the San Juans, which as of 2017 continues in business in the building at 504 Main Street. The bank was remodeled in the 1980s to also incorporate two one-story retail spaces adjacent to the west.

The one-story commercial building at 530 Main Street (5RB.2239) was erected in 1914, and served as a drugstore throughout most of its history. It was known as Robertson's Pharmacy in the 1930s, and in the 1940s it was owned and operated by Walter "Doc" Taylor and his wife Marguerite. The business was renamed "Meeker Drugs" after it was acquired by Guy B. and Thelma Russell circa 1950. Meeker Drugs then occupied the building until 2013 when it moved into the nearby Neal Block at 617/627 Main Street (5RB.2250).

The original Baer Block at the southwest corner of Main and 6<sup>th</sup> streets was erected circa 1891, and was originally home to the Gates Kersburg saloon. Rio Blanco County Courthouse offices were also in a portion of the building between 1892 and 1898. The building was named for and originally owned by Isaac "Ike" Baer, a prominent western Colorado businessman and cattleman. A German immigrant, Baer settled in Leadville in the 1880s where he went into the liquor business before developing cattle and other business interests in Rio Blanco County. Isaac Baer and his wife Hattie died prematurely on November 16, 1920 when their car was struck by a passenger train near Santa Fe, New Mexico.

The 1891 Baer Block was substantially rebuilt in 1923 (5RB.2251). The building was subsequently occupied by Tagert's Hardware store between 1923 and 1952, followed by Strehlke's Drugstore and Sides Rexall Drugs. More recently, the building has served as a Radio Shack outlet, as an auto parts store, and as Shepherd's Office Outfitter store.

Located at the northwest corner of Main and 6<sup>th</sup> streets, the Neal Block (617/627 Main Street / 315 6<sup>th</sup> Street, 5RB.2250) was designed by Denver architect William N. Bowman in 1919, and opened the following year as the First State Bank of Meeker. Joseph N. Neal and Edmund Pauls were the bank's principal owners. Joseph Newton Neal was born in Newton County, Missouri in 1875. The Neal family moved to northwestern Colorado circa 1896 where they established a ranch in the Piceance Creek area southwest of Meeker. In 1901, Joseph married Emeline (Emma) Aves, who was born in Marion County, Iowa 1876. On February 4, 1910, a daughter, Virginia, was born to the couple.

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Capitalizing on his success in the cattle business, in 1917 Neal moved his family to Meeker, and partnered with Edmund Pauls to found the First State Bank of Meeker. In April 1919, Neal and Pauls contracted with Denver architect William N. Bowman to design a bank building at the northwest corner of Main and 6<sup>th</sup> streets, and also to design Craftsman-style homes for their families, respectively at 613 Park Avenue (5RB.4397) and at 683 Park Avenue (5RB.6524). Bowman had recently designed the Moffatt County Courthouse in Craig, during which time he made business contacts in Meeker. Bowman and the Rio Blanco County Commissioners, in fact, discussed plans for a new courthouse building in Meeker; however, those plans never came to fruition. Bowman though did obtain the commission to design the Neal Block and the two Craftsman-style residences. In addition to the First State Bank, the Neal Block has housed numerous retail establishments over the decades, including Sentry Hardware, Sherwin Williams Paints, and Meeker Drugs for the past several years.

In 1930, Neal contracted with local builder George Glasgow to construct a small one-story commercial building adjacent to the Neal Block to the west (645 Main Street 5RB.8698), which he then leased long term to the Mountain States Telephone and Telegraph Company.

*Residential Development*

Notable residences within the historic district include the aforementioned William N. Bowman designed houses at 613 and 683 Park Avenue, along with the Wildhack House at 425 Park Avenue (5RB.4381), the Salmon House at 449 Park Avenue (5RB.4380), the Reuben Oldland House at 487 Park Avenue (5RB.4379), and the Lyttle House at 715 Park Avenue.

Virginia Neal was ten years old when she and her parents, Joseph and Emma Neal, moved into the new William Bowman-designed house at 613 Park Avenue. She spent her formative years in the home, and the property remained with the Neal family until circa 1946 when Joseph and Emma retired to Mesa, Arizona. Virginia graduated from the University of Colorado with a degree in economics in 1931, and on January 28, 1934, she married James Elliot Blue. The couple made their home in Meeker for the next several years where two sons were born to the couple, James N., in 1935, and Linden E., in 1936.

The Blue family moved to Denver circa 1950 where James and Virginia founded the real estate firm of Blue and Blue, and where Virginia became highly-prominent in Colorado state politics and in Denver business circles. She served on the University Colorado Board of Regents from 1952 to 1958, and in the early 1960s became the first female president of the University of Colorado Associated Alumni. In 1962, she was named Denver realtor of the year, the first woman to be so honored in what was then a male-dominated profession. In 1966, she was elected Colorado State Treasurer, becoming the first woman to hold one of Colorado's four highest elected offices (Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Treasurer, and Secretary of State). Prior to becoming State Treasurer, between 1964 and 1966, Virginia served as chairperson for the Colorado Commission on the Status of Women, an entity established by the administration of Governor John Love. By the early 1970s, the Commission on the Status of Women resulted in the creation of resource centers for women at community colleges throughout Colorado designed to help women adjust to college life and ultimately to succeed in the work place. They were named the Virginia Neal Blue Foundation of Women's Centers, with the first such resource center established in 1972 at the El Paso Community College (Pikes Peak Community College), in Colorado Springs. Virginia (Neal) Blue died at age 66 on December 16, 1970 while still serving as Colorado State Treasurer. A portrait in her honor hangs within a stained-glass window in the Senate Gallery on the second floor of the Colorado State Capitol.<sup>27</sup>

Soon after it was constructed in 1920, the William Bowman designed house at 683 Park Avenue was acquired by Ambrose and Mary (Delaney) Oldland. After emigrating from England and joining his brother Reuben in the Piceance Creek basin, circa 1887 Ambrose established a mercantile store at the small settlement of White River City. The Oldlands moved to Meeker, circa 1890, where Ambrose took over a mercantile business previously operated by Thomas Watson. In 1919, Ambrose bought the Hugus & Company store at 594 Main Street (5RB.2242) where the A. Oldland & Company

<sup>27</sup> "Virginia Melba Neal Blue." <https://www.findagrave.com/cgi-bin/fg.cgi?page=gr&GRid=14045415>; "Report of the Governor's Commission on the Status of Women 1965." [file:///C:/Users/User/Downloads/gov\\_102015-gov362r311965internet%20\(1\).pdf](file:///C:/Users/User/Downloads/gov_102015-gov362r311965internet%20(1).pdf).; "Virginia Neal Blue, State Treasurer, Dies in Denver," *Greeley Tribune*, September 17, 1970.



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store then remained in business for the next seven decades.

Ambrose and Mary owned and lived in the home at 683 Park Avenue until their respective deaths in 1960 and 1961. They were the parents of five children, two of whom died tragically during childhood after contracting scarlet fever - Hartley Ernest (born December 3, 1892 and died May 27, 1902) and Mary Louise (born February 24, 1900 and died June 1, 1902). Another daughter, Katherine (born July 15, 1894), also died tragically at age nineteen in Rio Blanco County's first fatal automobile accident on September 7, 1913. Enroute to the railroad depot in Rifle, the car in which she was riding overturned as it approached the Rio Blanco Hill about seventeen miles south of Meeker during a heavy rainstorm. The car skidded on a rain-soaked narrow wood plank bridge and overturned into a flooded ditch. The car's other occupants all survived with minor injuries. Ambrose and Mary's two surviving children were Margaret Oldland (born April 14, 1904 and died December 16, 1996), and Henry John Oldland (born February 28, 1908 and died August 30, 1990). In 2017, the home at 683 Park Avenue is owned and occupied by Ambrose and Mary's granddaughter, Mary (Oldland) Washburn and her husband Michael Washburn.

Located at the northwest corner of Park Avenue and 4<sup>th</sup> Street, the dwelling at 425 Park Avenue was erected in 1903 as a residence for Henry and Anna Wildhack. A native of Illinois, Wildhack moved to Leadville in the 1870s and from there to Meeker in the early 1890s. In June 1892, he married Anna Kuneman who was born in Canada in 1868. Following their marriage, Henry and Anna lived in Meeker for the remainder of their lives. Three daughters were born to the couple, May, born in 1893, Leona, born in 1896, and Katherine, born in 1901. Henry Wildhack served as the U. S. Land Commissioner for the Government Land Office (G.L.O.), initially for Garfield County, and then for Rio Blanco County after it was founded in 1889. In this capacity he was responsible for the surveying, platting, and sale of public lands. Wildhack later opened an abstract office in Meeker completing title and abstract work for property transactions throughout the region. In deference to his profession, he was popularly referred to as "Judge Wildhack" although he was not truly a judge in the legal sense. Wildhack chronicled much of Meeker's early history and is also credited with having taken several early town photos. Henry and Anna Wildhack owned and lived in this Park Avenue home from the time it was built until their respective deaths in December 1936 and November 1953.

The original portion of the house at 449 Park Avenue was built circa 1886, and is of log and sod construction beneath the modern exterior siding. Elijah Salmon was the house's earliest known owner, and he was sufficiently prominent as a cattle rancher that in 1905 his biography was chronicled in *Progressive Men of Western Colorado*, published by A. W. Bowen and Company. A native of England, Salmon immigrated to America in 1863. He settled initially in Mercer County, Pennsylvania before coming west to Colorado Territory in 1874. He worked as a coal miner in Fremont County, before relocating to Routt County in the early 1880s. Entering into the cattle business, Salmon established successful ranches in the Bear (Yampa) and White River valleys. In July 1884, Salmon married Annie Edwards. A native of Wales, Annie, had immigrated to America with her parents in 1868. When Elijah Salmon died in March 1912, several western Colorado newspapers noted his passing, referring to him as "...one of the Meeker Valley's earliest and best-known pioneers and a cattleman of prominence..."<sup>28</sup>

Located at the northeast corner of Park Avenue and 5<sup>th</sup> Street, the residence at 487 Park Avenue was constructed in 1887. Thomas Watson, its original owner, operated an early mercantile business in Meeker located at the southeast corner of Main and 5<sup>th</sup> streets. Circa 1890, Watson sold his residence to Reuben and Sarah Oldland. The property was subsequently owned and occupied by members of the Oldland family until the 1960s. The building was then converted into a restaurant named Inge's Kitchen, before later becoming an attorney's office. Janice Oldland (the great-granddaughter of Reuben and Sarah) purchased the property in 1991, bringing it once again under Oldland family name.

A native of Gloucestershire, England, Reuben Oldland immigrated to America circa 1873. He came west to Leadville in the late 1870s, and from there to the Piceance Creek basin. Entering into the cattle business, Reuben traveled to Dodge City, Kansas where he purchased a thousand cows, thirty bulls, a mess wagon, and the rights to the Spur brand. He trailed the cattle from Kansas to Colorado Springs, and ultimately to Piceance Creek where he established the Oldland Spur Ranch.

<sup>28</sup> *The Salida Record*, March 29, 1912, p. 4; *Del Norte San Juan Prospector*, March 30, 1912, p. 1.

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Reuben married Sarah Jones in 1883. A native of Pennsylvania, and of Welsh heritage, Sarah was born in April 1867. Reuben and Sarah raised a family of three sons and one daughter -initially on their ranch, and later in Meeker. Their oldest son, John Ernest Oldland, was born in July 1887, followed by Caroline "Carrie," in August 1888, Gerald, in July 1890, and Walter in March 1892. Capitalizing on his success in the cattle business, Reuben Oldland founded the First National Bank of Meeker as well as other business interests. Politically, he served as Garfield County's first Clerk and Recorder (prior to the establishment of Rio Blanco County), as Rio Blanco County Treasurer, as Mayor of Meeker, and as a member of the Colorado State Legislature. Reuben Oldland passed away in July 1933 at the age of 77. In his obituary, the *Meeker Herald* hailed him as "Rio Blanco County's most loved citizen."<sup>29</sup>

The residence at 715 Park Avenue was associated with the Lyttle family throughout much of its history. James Lyttle, the earliest known owner, was the founder and original publisher and owner of the *Meeker Herald* newspaper. Born in Tyrone County, Ireland in 1858, Lyttle immigrated to America with his parents in 1869. The Lyttle family settled in Pittsburgh, where at age 12 James was apprenticed in the printer's trade in the office of the *Pittsburgh Gazette*. In 1880, Lyttle came west to Denver securing employment with the *Denver Tribune*. In 1883, he moved to Leadville taking a position with the *Herald-Democrat* newspaper. Two years later, Lyttle moved to Meeker where he founded the *Meeker Herald*. First published on August 15, 1885, the *Meeker Herald* was northwest Colorado's second newspaper following the *Steamboat Pilot* that began publication just two weeks earlier.

Lyttle owned and published the newspaper until his death on May 24, 1925. He was also active in civic affairs and in local and state-wide politics. He was a member of Meeker's original town board, and later served as mayor, as Rio Blanco School District No. 1 school superintendent, and in the 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> General Assemblies of the Colorado State Legislature. Lyttle married Selena Doak in August 1895, to whom three sons were born, Hugh, George, and Richard. Born in March 1901, Richard Lyttle took over the operation of the *Meeker Herald* following his father's death. He passed away on March 22, 1988 at the age of 87, also having published the paper throughout his lifetime. Now known as the (Rio Blanco) *Herald-Times*, the newspaper remains in circulation as one of Colorado's oldest publications.

*The Rio Blanco County Courthouse and the Meeker Elementary School*

The Rio Blanco County Courthouse (565 Main Street, 5RB.2243) and the Meeker Elementary School (455 Main Street, 5RB.2244) were erected in the 1930s as Great Depression-era New Deal projects. The buildings were erected in the centers of the two blocks that had originally been the parade ground for the Camp on White River, and that later became the town park.

Rio Blanco County was formed in 1889, with Meeker designated as the county seat. Earlier, between 1861 and 1883, lands encompassing Rio Blanco County were within the boundaries of Summit County (one of Colorado's seventeen original counties), and within the boundaries of Garfield County, between 1883 and 1889.

Prior to the construction of the current courthouse in 1935, Rio Blanco County offices were first located (from 1889 to 1892) in a large log building that had previously been used as a hospital as part of the Camp on White River. This (no longer extant) building was also used as classroom space by the school district, and for various other community purposes. County offices were next located (between 1892 and 1898) in the Baer Block at the southwest corner of Main and 6<sup>th</sup> streets (5RB.2251). They were then moved to the International Order of Oddfellow building at the southwest corner of Main and 4<sup>th</sup> streets (5RB.2245) where they were located until 1906. The courthouse was then located in the (no longer extant) Antlers Hotel building, located on the south side of the 400 block of Main Street, until the current courthouse was completed in 1935.

The 1935 Rio Blanco County Courthouse was designed by Denver architect Charles Francis Pillsbury. Pillsbury, who had designed the Eagle County Courthouse in 1932, was commissioned to design a similar courthouse building for Rio Blanco County in the fall of 1934. The architectural drawings were completed in January 1935 and excavation work began the following month. The courthouse building was then constructed between May and July 1935, under the auspices of the Federal Emergency Relief Administration (FERA), predecessor of the Works Progress Administration (WPA). Bids for the

<sup>29</sup> *Meeker Herald*, July 27, 1933, p. 1.

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building's construction were advertised on April 1, 1935, separated into those for a general contractor, stonework, plumbing and heating, and jail equipment. N. G. Petry of Denver was awarded the contract to serve as general contractor with a low bid of \$35,157. The other contracts were awarded to: Tom Ekrem (stonework), George Wilson and George Unfred of Grand Junction (plumbing and heating), and the Southern Prison Company of San Antonio, Texas (jail equipment). In reporting the winning bids, the *Meeker Herald* took pains to justify awarding the jail equipment contract to an out of state company. The newspaper explained that only two bids were received, both from out of state, and that the steel for the jail equipment would be made in Pueblo (presumably by Colorado Fuel & Iron), which the newspaper explained "makes it really a Colorado job."<sup>30</sup>

The courthouse was completed in late July 1935. Led by the local Masonic Lodge, a gala cornerstone laying ceremony was held on July 23, 1935. A copper box measuring 3½ inches x 5½ inches x 11 inches was placed behind the cornerstone. Items placed in the box included: a copy of the first issue of the *Meeker Herald*, a current (July 18, 1935) copy of the *Meeker Herald*, copies of the first and last issues of the *White River Review* newspaper, a membership roll of the Masonic Lodge, a certificate of the County Commissioners proceedings relating to the courthouse's construction, a medal struck in the honor of the Mother of God, a souvenir trowel, and numerous photographs including one of a monument erected in memory of Nathan Meeker.<sup>31</sup>

The Rio Blanco County Courthouse is one of five known Colorado courthouses designed by Charles Francis Pillsbury between 1932 and 1964. The others are the Eagle County Courthouse in Eagle (5EA.1828) in 1932, the Montezuma County Courthouse in Cortez (5MT.12689) in 1937, the Kiowa County Courthouse in Eads (5KW.176) in 1956, and the La Plata County Courthouse in Durango (5LP.4924) in 1964.

The Meeker Elementary School was designed by Pueblo architect Walter DeMordaunt and erected under the auspices of the Works Progress Administration (WPA) in 1938-1939. Preliminary planning for the building's construction began in October 1937 when the previous grade school (built in 1919), was condemned as unsafe for school purposes. With no local funds available, Ray Hume, superintendent for Rio Blanco County School District No. 1, unsuccessfully requested emergency funds from the office of the state superintendent of schools. The school board then sought the assistance of Fritz A. Carstens, director of the Rio Blanco County Welfare Department. Carstens guided the board through the federal process of obtaining a WPA project, and also agreed to donate sandstone from the D. B. Cannafax Ranch on the upper White River.

In April 1938, the school board and Meeker Town Council agreed that the new elementary school should be located in the "Town Park" east of the recently-built Rio Blanco County Courthouse. Ground was broken on July 7, 1938, apparently with WPA funding not yet formally approved. A month later, the *Meeker Herald* reported: "On Monday of this week, Congressman Edward T. Taylor wired the *Herald* as follows: 'Am just advised that President Roosevelt approved WPA application for school building project at Meeker in amount of \$25,134. Kindly advise those interested.'"<sup>32</sup>

Utilizing DeMordaunt's design, the school building was constructed under the supervision of Harry Pollard, foreman and building superintendent for the WPA. On January 30, 1939, a cornerstone laying ceremony was held, organized by members of the Masonic Lodge, and attended by such dignitaries as Colorado state WPA director Paul Shriver and state welfare director Earl Kouns. A copper box containing the following items was placed within the cornerstone: a bible, a copy of the cornerstone laying program, a history of the organization of Rio Blanco County School District No. 1, a list of the WPA employees (project #3246), a picture of the groundbreaking ceremony, a list of the children attending the new elementary for the 1939 school year, photos of the students and their teachers for grades 1-8, a copy of "class responses," and copies of the *Meeker Herald* dated January 19 and January 26, 1939.<sup>33</sup>

<sup>30</sup> "Contract Let for New County Court House." *The Meeker Herald*, May 2, 1935, p. 1.

<sup>31</sup> "Corner Stone of New Court House Now in Place." *The Meeker Herald*, July 25, 1935, p. 1.

<sup>32</sup> "WPA Made Old Meeker Elementary School Possible." <http://www.theheraldtimes.com/wpa-made-old-meeker-elementary-school-possible/meeker>.

<sup>33</sup> "Corner Stone of New Court House Now in Place." *The Meeker Herald*, July 25, 1935, p. 1.



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*Meeker in the Late Twentieth and Early Twenty-First Centuries*

Meeker's economy has remained primarily agricultural-based in recent decades, as serving the retail needs of the area's sheep and cattle ranchers has continued as the mainstay of the local economy. As a result, a number of early downtown businesses have endured to the present day. These include the First National Bank of Meeker / Bank of the San Juans at 504 Main Street, the Meeker Café at 550 Main Street, the Meeker Hotel at 560 Main Street, and Meeker Drugs at 617 Main Street / 315 6<sup>th</sup> Street. Similarly, a number of historic residences remain associated with descendants of their original or early owners, including the Starbuck House at 767 Main Street, the Ruckman House at 787 Main Street, the Reuben Oldland House at 487 Park Avenue, and the Ambrose Oldland House at 683 Park Avenue.

In addition to agriculture, Meeker's economy is also based on tourism with a strong emphasis on outdoor recreation, the energy sector, including coal, oil and natural gas, and on local and federal government agencies. Popularized by visits from Theodore Roosevelt in the early 1900s, Meeker has served as a commercial hub for hunters, anglers, backpackers, and other outdoor enthusiasts in the nearby Flat Tops Wilderness and White River National Forest for more than one hundred years. Attracting large numbers of big game hunters each fall, this area is reputedly home to the largest elk herd in the nation. The Blanco Ranger District of the White River National Forest, and the White River Conservation District of the Bureau of Land Management, are both headquartered in Meeker in support of federal land management policies. Other government / public entities headquartered in Meeker include Rio Blanco County, the Town of Meeker, a satellite campus of the Rangely-based Northwestern Colorado Community College, a U.S Department of Agriculture Farm Service Agency office, and Meeker School District RE-1.

Apart from outdoor recreation, heritage tourism and agritourism have also become increasingly important in recent decades. The Rio Blanco County Historical Society and White River Museum are actively engaged in promoting and interpreting the region's colorful history, while planned celebrations and events are gaining national and even international followings. The most notable of these are the annual Meeker Classic Sheepdog Championship Trials, held each September since 1987, and the Fourth of July Range Call Celebration held annually since Meeker was founded in 1885.

Meeker Historic District

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

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

### Major Bibliographical References

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**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:**

- State Historic Preservation Office
  - Other State agency
  - Federal agency
  - Local government
  - University
  - Other
- Name of repository: History Colorado

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): 5RB.8837



Meeker Historic District

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**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreage of Property** 25

(Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

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 Management.

**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

<p>1 <u>13</u>      <u>251191</u>      <u>4436110</u>            Zone    Easting      Northing</p> <p>3 <u>13</u>      <u>251711</u>      <u>4435954</u>            Zone    Easting      Northing</p> <p>5 <u>13</u>      <u>251351</u>      <u>4435939</u>            Zone    Easting      Northing</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">(NAD 83)</p> <p>2 <u>13</u>      <u>251667</u>      <u>4436197</u>            Zone    Easting      Northing</p> <p>4 <u>13</u>      <u>251359</u>      <u>4435897</u>            Zone    Easting      Northing</p> <p>6 <u>13</u>      <u>251231</u>      <u>4435929</u>            Zone    Easting      Northing</p>
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**Verbal Boundary Description**

Beginning at the point where the curb line on the east side of 8<sup>th</sup> Street intersects the midline of the alley between Park Avenue and Garfield Street (Point 1). From point 1, proceed easterly along the midline of the alley between Park Avenue and Garfield Street, crossing 7<sup>th</sup> Street, crossing 6<sup>th</sup> Street, crossing 5<sup>th</sup> Street, and continuing to the point where the said midline intersects the curb line on the west side of 4<sup>th</sup> Street (Point 2). From point 2, proceed southerly along the curb line on the west side of 4<sup>th</sup> Street, crossing Park Avenue, crossing Main Street, and continuing to the point where the said curb line intersects the midline of the alley between Main Street and Market Street (Point 3). From point 3, proceed westerly along the midline of the alley between Main Street and Market Street, crossing 5<sup>th</sup> Street, crossing 6<sup>th</sup> Street, and continuing to the point where the said midline intersects the property line between Parcel no. 1409-233-007 (654 Main Street) and Parcel no. 1409-233-009 (664 Main Street) (Point 4). From point 4, proceed northerly along said property line, and continuing in a straight line across Main Street to the point where said line intersects the curb on the north side of Main Street (Point 5). From point 5, proceed westerly along the curb line on the north side of Main Street, crossing 7<sup>th</sup> Street, and continuing westerly along the curb line on the north side of Main Street to the point at the northeast corner of Main Street and 8<sup>th</sup> Street (Point 6). From point 6, proceed northerly along the curb line on the east side of 8<sup>th</sup> Street, crossing Park Avenue, and continuing to the point of beginning (Point 1).

**Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

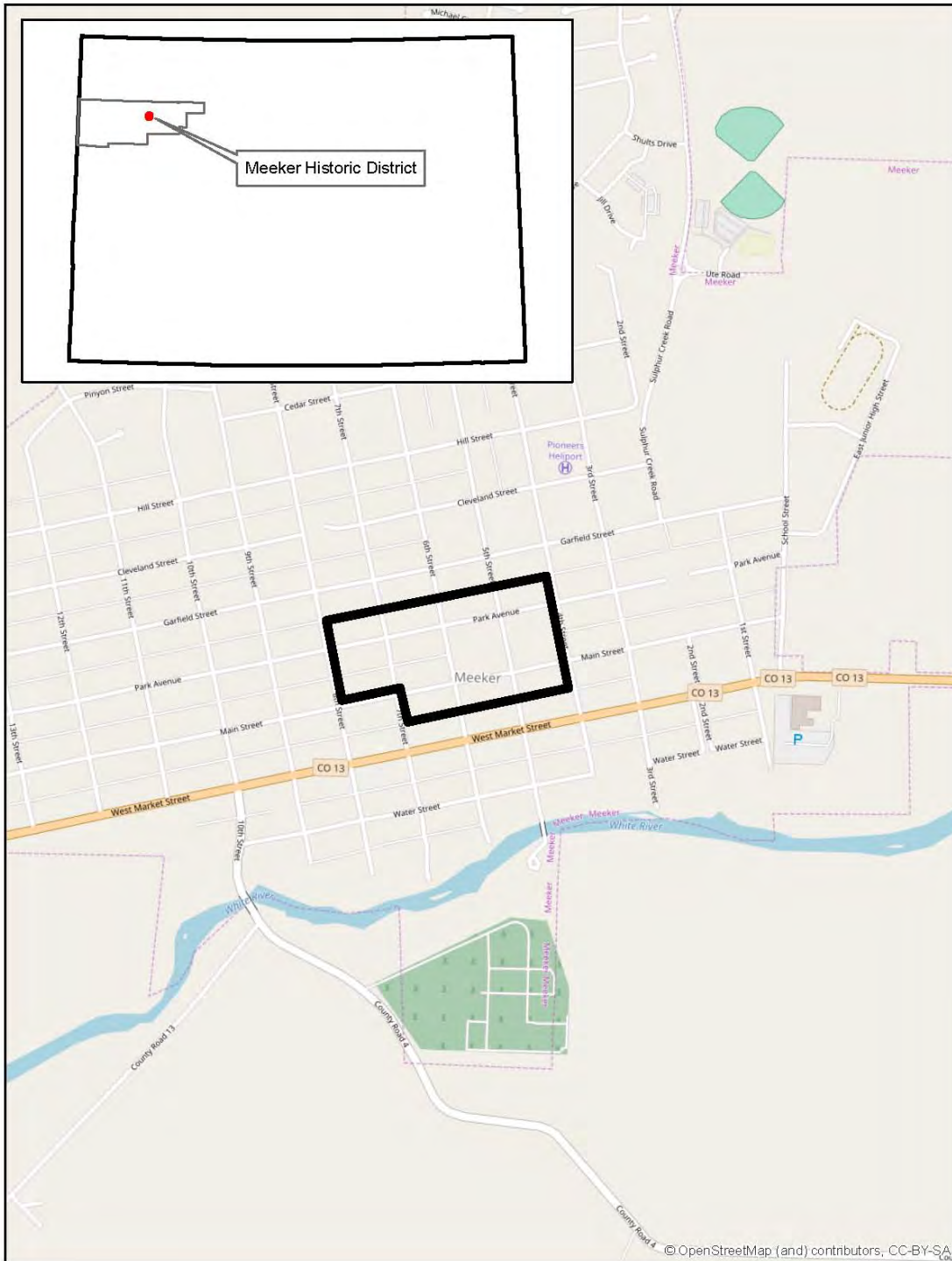
The district boundary encompasses the core of Meeker's historic commercial and residential buildings, including the three log buildings remaining from the Camp on White River established by the U. S. Army in 1880, the Rio Blanco County Courthouse, and the former Meeker Elementary School. Areas outside this historic core have a greater number of non-historic buildings and a higher concentration of altered historic buildings, and thus are excluded from the district boundaries.

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Map by Mike Dinwiddie at White River Electric Association for the Town of Meeker, December 2017

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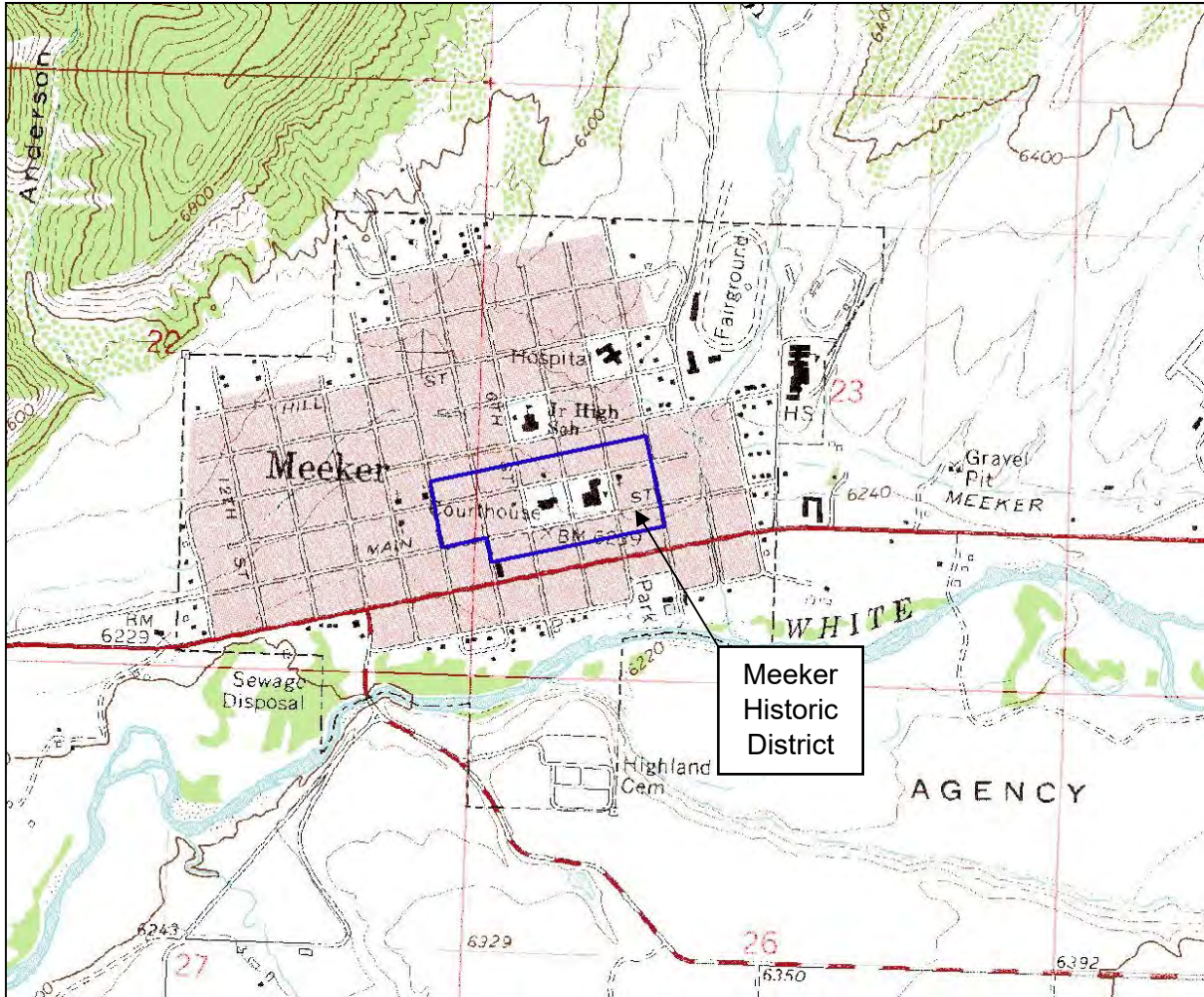
County and State

USGS TOPOGRAPHIC MAP- Regional Perspective

Meeker Quadrangle

Elevation: 6239'

7.5 Minute Series

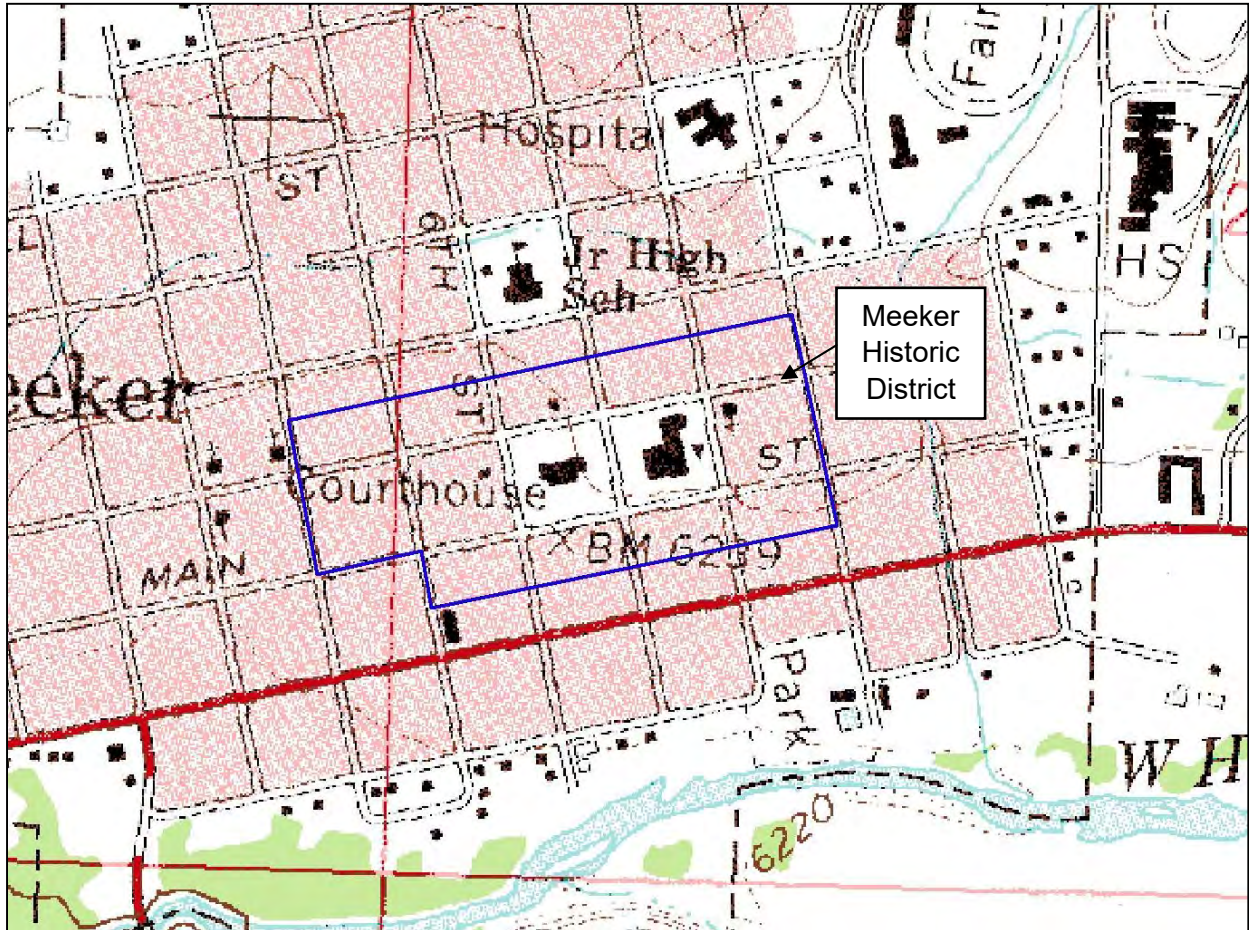




Name of Property

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USGS TOPOGRAPHIC MAP- Close-up Perspective

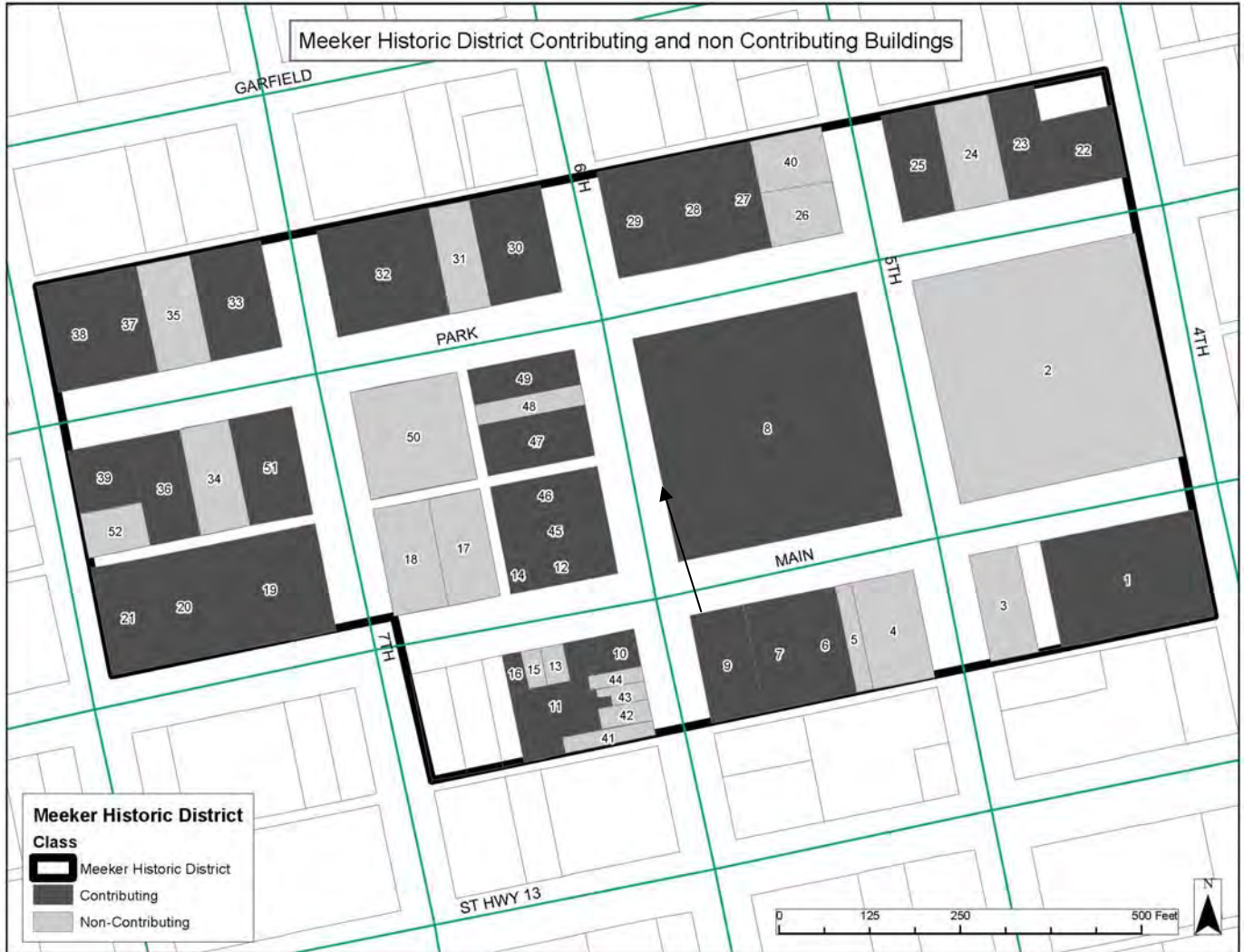


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Map by Mike Dinwiddie at White River Electric Association for the Town of Meeker, December 2017; modified by preparer



Meeker Historic District

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**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Carl McWilliams (for property owners)

organization Cultural Resource Historians LLC

date November 1, 2017

street & number 1607 Dogwood Court

telephone (970) 493-5270

city or town Fort Collins

state CO

zip code 80525

e-mail [historians@frii.com](mailto:historians@frii.com)

**Additional Documentation:**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.

**Photographs:**

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map.

**CURRENT PHOTOGRAPH LOG**

**Property Name:** Meeker Historic District  
**Location:** Meeker, Rio Blanco County, Colorado  
**Photographer:** Carl McWilliams  
**Dates of Photographs:** September 2017  
**Digital CDs stored at:** History Colorado, Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation and National Register in Washington, D.C.

Photo No.	Site No(s).	Address(es)	View to:
1	5RB.2245	455 Main Street	Northwest
2	5RB.2245	400 Main Street	South
3	5RB.8693	490 Main Street	Southeast
4	5RB.2238	504 Main Street	Southwest
5	5RB.2239	530 Main Street	Southwest
6	5RB.2240	550 Main Street	Southwest
7	5RB.985	560 Main Street	South
8	5RB.2242	594 Main Street	Southeast
9	5RB.2251	600 Main Street	Southwest
10	5RB.2252	610/628 Main Street	Southeast
11	5RB.8694	640 Main Street	South
12	5RB.8695	646 Main Street	Southeast
13	5RB.8696	654 Main Street	Southwest
14	5RB.2243	565 Main Street	North
15	5RB.2250	617 Main Street / 315 6 <sup>th</sup> Street	Northwest
16	5RB.8713	335 6 <sup>th</sup> Street	West
17	5RB.8714	345 6 <sup>th</sup> Street	Southwest

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18	5RB.8715	365 6 <sup>th</sup> Street	Northwest
19	5RB.8716	375 6 <sup>th</sup> Street	West
20	5RB.8717	395 6 <sup>th</sup> Street	Northwest
21	5RB.8718	364 7 <sup>th</sup> Street	Northeast
22	5RB.8719	389 7 <sup>th</sup> Street	West
23	5RB.8720	336 8 <sup>th</sup> Street	Northeast
24	5RB.8708	443 5 <sup>th</sup> Street	West
25	5RB.8709	265 6 <sup>th</sup> Street	West
26	5RB.8710	267 6 <sup>th</sup> Street	West
27	5RB.8711	275 6 <sup>th</sup> Street	Southwest
28	5RB.8712	285 6 <sup>th</sup> Street	West
29	5RB.8698	645 Main Street	North
30	5RB.8699	675 Main Street	North
31	5RB.8700	685 Main Street	Northeast
32	5RB.8701	733 Main Street	Southwest
33	5RB.6518	767 Main Street	Northwest
34	5RB.4393	787 Main Street	Northwest
35	5RB.4381	425 Park Avenue	Northwest
36	5RB.4380	449 Park Avenue	North
37	5RB.8702	465 Park Avenue	Northeast
38	5RB.4379	487 Park Avenue	North
39	5RB.8703	517 Park Avenue	Northwest
40	5RB.2247	545 Park Avenue	Northeast
41	5RB.2248	565 Park Avenue	North
42	5RB.2249	587 Park Avenue	North
43	5RB.4397	613 Park Avenue	Northeast
44	5RB.8704	631 Park Avenue	Northeast
45	5RB.6524	683 Park Avenue	Northwest
46	5RB.2666	715 Park Avenue	Northwest
47	5RB.8705	745 Park Avenue	North
48	5RB.4399	777 Park Avenue	North
49	5RB.4382	785 Park Avenue	North
50	5RB.8706	732/738 Park Avenue	South
51	5RB.8707	758 Park Avenue	South
52	5RB.6625	788 Park Avenue	South
53	5RB.2245 5RB.8693	400 Main Street 490 Main Street	Southwest
54	5RB.2245 5RB.8693	400 Main Street 490 Main Street	Southeast
55	5RB.2238 5RB.2239 5RB.2240 5RB.985 5RB.2242	504 Main Street 530 Main Street 550 Main Street 560 Main Street 594 Main Street	Southwest

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56	5RB.985 5RB.2242	560 Main Street 594 Main Street	South
57	5RB.2238 5RB.2239 5RB.2240 5RB.985 5RB.2242	504 Main Street 530 Main Street 550 Main Street 560 Main Street 594 Main Street	Southeast
58	5RB.2251 5RB.2252 5RB.8694 5RB.8695 5RB.8696 5RB.8712	600 Main Street 610/628 Main Street 640 Main Street 646 Main Street 654 Main Street 285 6 <sup>th</sup> Street	Southwest
59	5RB.2251 5RB.2252 5RB.8694 5RB.8695 5RB.8696	600 Main Street 610/628 Main Street 640 Main Street 646 Main Street 654 Main Street	Southeast
60	5RB.4380 5RB.8702 5RB.4379	449 Park Avenue 465 Park Avenue 487 Park Avenue	Northeast
61	5RB.2247 5RB.2248 5RB.2249	545 Park Avenue 565 Park Avenue 587 Park Avenue	Northwest
62	5RB.2247 5RB.2248 5RB.2249	545 Park Avenue 565 Park Avenue 587 Park Avenue	Northeast
63	5RB.4397 5RB.8704	613 Park Avenue 631 Park Avenue	Northwest
64	5RB.8704 5RB.6524	631 Park Avenue 683 Park Avenue	Northeast
65	5RB.2666 5RB.4382	715 Park Avenue 785 Park Avenue	Northwest
66	5RB.8705 5RB.4382	745 Park Avenue 785 Park Avenue	Northeast
67	5RB.8706 5RB.8707 5RB.6625	732 Park Avenue 758 Park Avenue 788 Park Avenue	Southeast
68	5RB.8719 5RB.8706 5RB.8707	389 7 <sup>th</sup> Street 732 Park Avenue 758 Park Avenue	Southwest
69	5RB.8714 5RB.8715 5RB.8716 5RB.8717	345 6 <sup>th</sup> Street 365 6 <sup>th</sup> Street 375 6 <sup>th</sup> Street 395 6 <sup>th</sup> Street	Southwest
70	5RB.2250 5RB.8713 5RB.8714 5RB.8715	617 Main Street / 315 6 <sup>th</sup> Street 335 6 <sup>th</sup> Street 345 6 <sup>th</sup> Street 365 6 <sup>th</sup> Street	Northwest
71	5RB.8709 5RB.8710 5RB.8711 5RB.8712	265 6 <sup>th</sup> Street 267 6 <sup>th</sup> Street 275 6 <sup>th</sup> Street 285 6 <sup>th</sup> Street	Northwest



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**HISTORIC IMAGES**



Figure 1: Log building erected in 1880 by the U. S. Army and used as a hospital as part of the Camp on White River. The building was later used as a school, as Rio Blanco County's first courthouse, and for other community purposes, circa 1890, courtesy of Rio Blanco County Historical Society and White River Museum.



Figure 2: James "Jim" Lyttle, founder and publisher of the *Meeker Herald*, standing in front of the newspaper's office at Main and 4<sup>th</sup> streets, circa 1888, courtesy of Rio Blanco County Historical Society and White River Museum.

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GATES KERSBURG SALOON S.W. CORNER 6<sup>th</sup> & MAIN  
J.W. HUGGS & CO. - S.E. CORNER 6<sup>th</sup> & MAIN  
*Fred Peaslee*

Figure 3: Baer Block / Gates Kersburg Saloon at the southwest corner of Main and 6<sup>th</sup> streets (right), and the Hugus & Company Block at the southeast corner, view to southwest, circa 1895, courtesy of Rio Blanco County Historical Society and White River Museum.



Figure 4: Buildings on the south side of the 500 block of Main Street, view to southwest, circa 1901, courtesy of Rio Blanco County Historical Society and White River Museum.



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Figure 5: Image of Vice President- Elect Theodore Roosevelt's hunting party outside the Meeker Hotel, view to southeast, 1901, courtesy of Library of Congress, <https://www.loc.gov/item/2013651451>. The following notations in ink appear on this photo's border: "Roosevelt, Theo Hunting Pres File Copyrighted 1901 by" and it is stamped "(C. A. Booth, Meeker, Colo.)."



Figure 6: Buildings on the south side of the 400 block of Main Street, view to southwest from near the corner of Main and 4<sup>th</sup> streets, circa late 1880s, courtesy of Rio Blanco County Historical Society and White River Museum.



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Figure 7: Original Hugus & Co. Block, constructed in 1891 and replaced by a new Hugus & Co. Block after it burned in 1911 (594 Main Street, 5RB.2242), 1896, view to south, courtesy of Denver Public Library, x-12397.



Figure 8: Hugus & Co. block, constructed in 1911 (594 Main Street, 5RB.2242), circa 1920s, view to southeast, courtesy of Rio Blanco County Historical Society and White River Museum.

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Figure 9: Original central wing of the Meeker Hotel (560 Main Street, 5RB.985), view to south, 1896, courtesy of Denver Public Library, x-12428.



Figure 10: Meeker Hotel (560 Main Street, 5RB.985), view to south, circa 1955, courtesy of Denver Public Library, z-11990.

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Figure 11: International Order of Oddfellows Building (400 Main Street, 5RB.2242), circa 1897, courtesy of Denver Public Library, x-12453.



Figure 12: Former Camp on White River buildings (545, 565 and 587 Park Avenue, 5RB.2247, 5RB.2248, 5RB.2249), view to northeast from corner of Park Avenue and 6<sup>th</sup> Street, circa 1947, courtesy Denver Public Library, x-12396.



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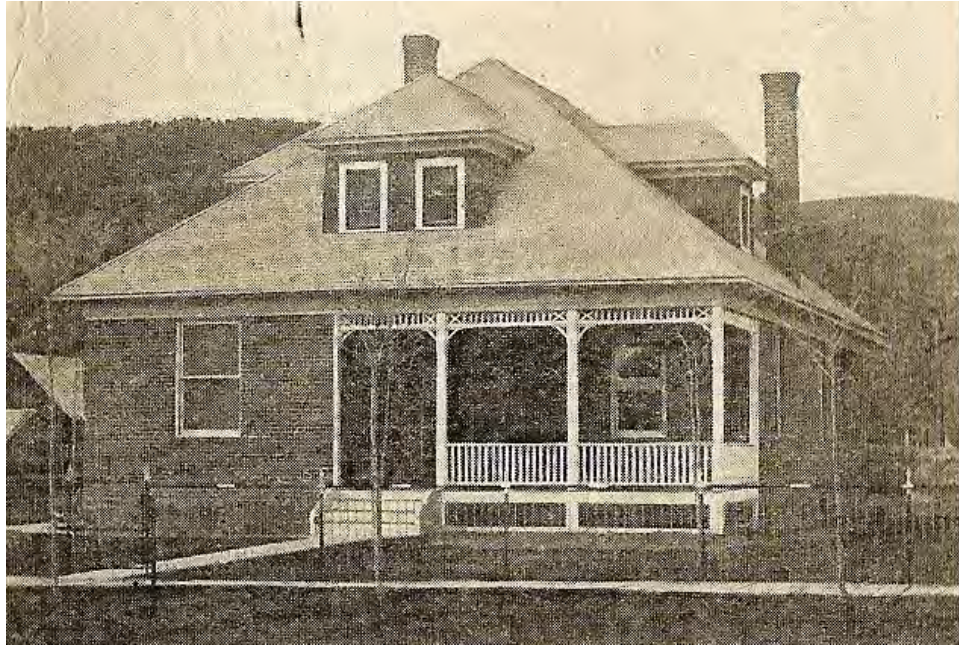


Figure 13: Wildhack House at the northwest corner of Park Avenue and 4<sup>th</sup> Street (425 Park Avenue, 5RB.4381), view to north, circa 1905, courtesy of Rio Blanco County Historical Society and White River Museum.



Figure 14: buildings on the south side of the 500 block of Main Street, view to southwest from near the corner of Main and 5<sup>th</sup> streets, circa 1960, courtesy of Rio Blanco County Historical Society and White River Museum.

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Figure 15: First National Bank Building, 504 Main Street (5RB.2238), view to southwest, circa 1920, courtesy of Rio Blanco County Historical Society and White River Museum.

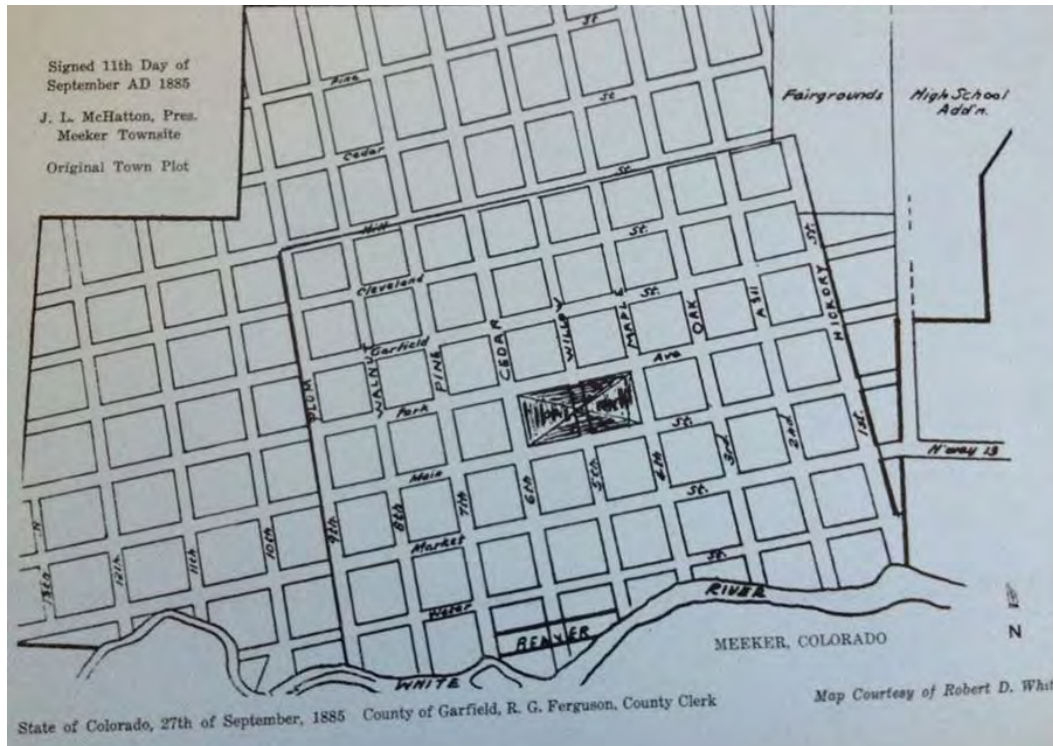


Figure 16: Meeker's original town plat, filed on November 5, 1885 in the Garfield County Clerk and Recorder's Office, Book TR 1, Page 252.





Wyatt, Barbara &lt;barbara\_wyatt@nps.gov&gt;

**[EXTERNAL] Meeker historic district revisions**

1 message

**Warzel - HC, Erika** <erika.warzel@state.co.us>  
To: Barbara Wyatt <barbara\_wyatt@nps.gov>  
Cc: "Unger - HC, Amy" <amy.unger@state.co.us>

Tue, May 29, 2018 at 5:56 PM

Dear Barbara,

I wanted to follow up with you regarding the approach for **correcting the Meeker Historic District nomination**. As I mentioned, our new NR historian Amy Unger (copied here) has corrected the district map to remove those parcels not actually within the boundary, revised the verbal boundary description to reflect the same, and has corrected the description of one parcel that mistakenly included mention of buildings on another parcel that is not within the boundary (resource counts remain the same).

Our question to you is whether we should supply you with a new PDF of the entire nomination that includes these corrections, or if you are issuing an SLR, whether we should just supply you with the three separate corrections.

Thank you as always for your help and support!

Best,  
Erika

**Erika Warzel**

State Preservation Planning Manager | National and State Register Coordinator  
History Colorado | Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation  
303-866-4683 (w) | [erika.warzel@state.co.us](mailto:erika.warzel@state.co.us)  
History Colorado Center, 1200 Broadway, Denver, CO 80203 | [historycolorado.org](http://historycolorado.org)

→ Note: at this time we thought there was simply a mapping error. Later, it was determined that an owner had not been notified.  
BW





Wyatt, Barbara &lt;barbara\_wyatt@nps.gov&gt;

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**[EXTERNAL] address for parcel in Meeker, Colorado**

1 message

**Erika Warzel - HC** <erika.warzel@state.co.us>

Tue, Aug 7, 2018 at 11:19 AM

To: Barbara Wyatt &lt;barbara\_wyatt@nps.gov&gt;

Hi Barbara,

The address for the parcel in Meeker that the owners were mistakenly not notified of the nomination is [425 4th Street, Meeker CO 81641](#).

Please let me know if you need any additional information.

Thank you,  
Erika

**Erika Warzel**

State Preservation Planning Manager | National and State Register Coordinator

History Colorado | Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation

303-866-4683 (w) | [erika.warzel@state.co.us](mailto:erika.warzel@state.co.us)History Colorado Center, [1200 Broadway, Denver, CO 80203](#) | [historycolorado.org](http://historycolorado.org)



## Removal of a Property for Procedural Error and Publication of DOE in Federal Register--TIME SENSITIVE

1 message

Ernstein, Julie <julie\_ernstein@nps.gov>

Wed, Aug 8, 2018 at 1:51 PM

To: Alexis Abernathy <alexis\_abernathy@nps.gov>, Kevin Moriarty <kevin\_moriarty@nps.gov>

Dear Alexis and Kevin,

I am writing you to request three things.

### Federal Register Notice--Kevin

Effective today's date, the Meeker Historic District, Meeker (Rio Blanco, Co.), CO - SG 100002306, is Determined Eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. Let me know if there is additional information needed, but we need to get this in ASAP.

*put on list  
Put on today*

### Weekly List of Actions Taken--Alexis

This will involve two entries:

1. A removal notice--effective today's date (8/8/18), the Meeker Historic District, Meeker (Rio Blanco, Co.), CO - SG 100002306, is removed from the National Register of Historic Places as a result of a procedural error.
2. A DOE--effective today's date (8/8/18), the Meeker Historic District, Meeker (Rio Blanco, Co.), CO - SG 100002306, is Determined Eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

### NRIS Update--Alexis

The NRIS needs to be updated to accurately reflect both the removal and the DOE, both of which are effective today (8/8/18). I am attaching a letter that can be added into the file. Please do not copy it into the comments, just pull the two relevant pieces of information.

Please holler (or type loudly) if you have any questions.

Best,

Julie

Julie H. Ernstein, Ph.D., RPA  
Acting Chief, National Register & National Historic Landmarks Program  
Deputy Keeper of the National Register  
DOI-National Park Service  
1849 C St., NW - Mail Stop 7228  
Washington, DC 20240

office.: 202.354.2217

cell: 202.440.2764

**FIND YOUR  
PARK**







# United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

1849 C Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20240

H32(2280)

Mr. Steve Turner  
State Historic Preservation Officer  
History Colorado  
1200 Broadway  
Denver, CO 80202

Dear Mr. Turner:

I am writing regarding a procedural error associated with the processing of the Meeker Historic District, Rio Blanco Co., Colorado, which was listed in the National Register of Historic Places on 4/13/18. Specifically, one property owner in the district was inadvertently overlooked, and consequently was not notified of the district's impending review by the state review board and did not have an opportunity to comment on the listing. This error did not come to light until after the district was listed in the National Register, and Erica Warzel of your staff and Barbara Wyatt on our staff have been in discussion regarding this matter.

The most appropriate way to address this error is to follow the process outlined in the National Register regulations at 36 CFR §60.15, which necessitates removing the property from the National Register and affording the nominating authority the opportunity to correct the procedural error. The recommended course of action, in sequential order, is as follows.

1. The Keeper will notify the nominating authority of the intent to remove the listed property from the National Register on the basis of a procedural error, as noted in 36 CFR §15(a)(4). This letter constitutes that notice and explanation.
2. The nominating authority will correct the error via renotification of all property owners in the district—being sure to include the owner of the omitted property at 425 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Meeker, CO 81641. This communication should explain the procedural oversight necessitating the renotification. As specified in regulation, owners will be afforded a 30-day comment period during which they may comment and/or submit notarized objections to listing, per 36 CFR §60.6(c). Because the purpose of this renotification is to satisfy the procedural error, it is not necessary that the nomination be reheard by the state review board—which has already approved it.
3. Once this process is complete, the nominating authority may resubmit the corrected documentation—including the previous comments and objections as well as any new comments or objections received—to the Keeper for reconsideration. The accompanying transmittal letter or memo should include the SHPO's recommendation regarding listing as well as identify the initial procedural error and the steps taken to correct it.
4. Once received, the Keeper will reconsider the nomination. This includes NPS notification and publication in the Federal Register, as outlined at 36 CFR §60.13.



In the interim, the district is considered eligible for inclusion in the National Register, and our office will publish to this effect in the Federal Register.

Should you have any questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me at 202.354.2217 or via email at [julie\\_ernstein@nps.gov](mailto:julie_ernstein@nps.gov).

Sincerely,



Julie H. Ernstein, Ph.D., RPA  
Acting Chief, National Register and National Historic Landmarks Program  
Deputy Keeper of the National Register

cc: Erica Warzel, National & State Register Coordinator – History Colorado  
Barbara Wyatt, ASLA, NR & NHL Historian – NPS



STATE OF  
COLORADO

Unger - HC, Amy <amy.unger@state.co.us>

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## Historic Registry

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**Michael Washburn** <michaelwashburn292@gmail.com>  
To: amy.unger@state.co.us

Wed, Sep 12, 2018 at 7:12 PM

Michael and Mary Washburn  
683 Park Avenue  
P.O. Box 254  
Meeker, Colorado

We just wanted to say we are looking forward to being part of the history of Meeker. Mary is a local girl, with history going back generations when her grand parents came from England to settle in the area. Thanks for your work on preserving the history of the area.

Regards,  
Mike Washburn  
Sent from my iPad

October 8 2018

Steve W. Turner AIA  
State Historic Preservation Officer  
History Colorado Center  
Denver Colorado 80203

Re: Sworn Statement - in support of Listing  
my residence in the National Register of Historic Places  
known as "613 Park Avenue - Meeker Co 81641

Mr Turner

I am the sole owner of the real property located  
at 613 Park Avenue Meeker Colorado. The house  
it was constructed in 1918 and is within  
the proposed district. It was well constructed.  
Please list this property in the National  
Register. I concur with this listing  
pursuant to your rules and regulations.  
I warrant this structure to such listing.  
The house and its location will enhance  
and promote the history of Meeker and  
its people. It is a privilege to live  
next to my historic neighbor in the  
center of Meeker. Respectfully submitted under seal

~~Joe Kennedy Jr~~ Oct 10 2018  
Joe Kennedy Jr

613 Park Ave  
Meeker CO 81641  
PO Box 1518  
joe@kennedyjr.com  
781 878 4783 Home  
781 220 2529 Cell

seal

~~public notary~~  
Not a public notary  
HJB



FROM:

10/5/2018

ROGER R. PATEL (AKA – RAJESH PATEL)

SUNDAY JJ, LLC, P. O. BOX – 7984, PORT ST. LUCIE, FL – 34985

(Property Owner of the - Subject Parcel at: 385 – 6<sup>th</sup> Street, Meeker, Co 81641)

RE: WWW. HISTORY COLORADO. ORG

Att: Mr. Steve Turner. AIA

State Historic Preservation Officer

History Colorado Center

1200 - Broadway

Denver, Colorado - 80203

YOUR REF : RECEIVED LETTER STATED ABOVE, DATED, SEPTEMBER 10, 2018, FOR – THE National Register of Historic Places nomination of the Meeker Historic District, - roughly bounded by Main, Park, 4<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> streets, Meeker (5RB,8837) (Parcel: 385 6<sup>th</sup> Str.)

Dear Mr. Steve Turner:

This letter is in reference to the above mentioned letter (copy attached) from the History Colorado Center, to state that I am the (sole) owner of the above referenced fee simple property, which at later I had titled in to my solely owned general partnership named the Sunday JJ, LLC. This letter is to also state that the subject property is within the proposed historic district.

With reference to the same, I further state & agreed to have list this property in the National Register and I hereby sending my full consent to nominate the subject property in the proposed listing. This property is the first house on the right side corner located across the Rio Blanco County Court House & County govt. offices and in the same block of next to the local post office. It is a privilege to have lived next to the Colorado historic district neighbors in the down town center in Meeker, Colorado. Thank you and I have my full support for the same.

*Roger R Patel*  
Roger R. Patel

Tel: (772) 879 – 7399, CELL - (772) 979 – 1765, EMAIL: KPRR@COMCAST.NET



# HISTORY *Colorado*

September 10, 2018

Sunday JJ LLC  
P. O. Box 7984  
Port St. Lucie, FL 34985

**Re: National Register of Historic Places nomination of the Meeker Historic District, roughly bounded by Main, Park, 4<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> streets, Meeker (5RB.8837) (Parcel: 385 6th Street)**

Dear Property Owner:

As you may know, the Meeker Historic District was considered by the Colorado Historic Preservation Review Board for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places and Colorado State Register of Historic Properties at a meeting on January 19, 2018. At this meeting, the Review Board approved forwarding the nomination to the Keeper of the National Register for official listing. However, our office subsequently discovered that not all property owners within the proposed district were notified of the nomination or their right to comment. In order to notify all owners of the nomination in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act and 36 CFR 60, we have reopened the comment period for all property owners through October 13, 2018. Please review the information below and enclosed with this letter.

The National Register of Historic Places is the Federal government's official list of historic properties worthy of preservation. The State Register is Colorado's official list of districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects significant in American history, architecture, archaeology, engineering and culture deserving preservation. These contribute to an understanding of the historical and cultural foundations of the nation. Properties listed in the National Register are automatically listed in the Colorado State Register of Historic Properties.

Listing of a property or district provides recognition of the community's historic importance and assures protective review of Federal and State projects that might adversely affect the character of the historic property/district. It is hoped that these properties will be given special consideration in any future planning activities. If the properties/districts are listed in the National and State Registers, certain Federal and State investment tax credits for rehabilitation and other provisions may apply. Listing also provides eligibility for State Historical Fund grants.

Listing in the National and State Registers does not mean that the State or Federal Government will place limitations on the property. Public visitation rights are not required of owners. The State or Federal government will not attach restrictive covenants to the properties or seek to acquire them.

Enclosed are notices that explain in greater detail the results of listing in the National and State Registers and that describe the rights and procedures by which an owner may comment on or object to listing in either of the Registers. If you choose to object to the listing of your property, the notarized objection must be submitted by October 13, 2018 to:

Steve W. Turner, AIA  
State Historic Preservation Officer  
History Colorado Center  
1200 Broadway  
Denver, Colorado 80203



[WWW.HISTORYCOLORADO.ORG](http://WWW.HISTORYCOLORADO.ORG)

HISTORY COLORADO CENTER 1200 BROADWAY DENVER CO 80203





November 2, 2018

Dr. Julie H. Ernstein  
Acting Chief, NR and NHL Programs  
National Register of Historic Places  
Mail Stop 7228  
1849 C St, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20240



Dear Dr. Ernstein:

As you may know, the Meeker Historic District (SG100002306) was considered by the Colorado Historic Preservation Review Board for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places and Colorado State Register of Historic Properties at a meeting on January 19, 2018. At this meeting, the board voted unanimously to recommend to the State Historic Preservation Officer that the property met the criteria for listing in the National Register. The nomination was forwarded to the Keeper of the National Register and the property was listed on April 13, 2018. However, our office subsequently discovered that not all property owners within the proposed district were notified of the nomination or their right to comment. As required by 36 CFR 15 (a)(4), the property was removed from the register on August 8, 2018, and determined officially eligible. Necessary revisions were made to the nomination, and, in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act and 36 CFR 60, all property owners within the district boundary were notified on September 10, 2018, and the comment period reopened for 30 days. A public notice explaining the procedural oversight necessitating renotification and owners' rights to comment or object was published in the local paper of record and all property owners were likewise notified individually by mail.

Having received no objections during this, or the prior, comment period, we are pleased to resubmit for your review the enclosed National Register of Historic Places nomination for the Meeker Historic District (5RB.8837) in Rio Blanco County, Colorado.

The enclosed disks contain the true and correct copy of the nomination for the Meeker Historic District to the National Register of Historic Places.

We look forward to the formal listing of this property. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me by phone at 303-866-4684 or by email at [amy.unger@state.co.us](mailto:amy.unger@state.co.us).

Sincerely,

Amy Unger  
National and State Register Historian  
(303) 866-4684  
[amy.unger@state.co.us](mailto:amy.unger@state.co.us)

Enclosures

CDs (3)  
Signature Page

[WWW.HISTORYCOLORADO.ORG](http://WWW.HISTORYCOLORADO.ORG)

HISTORY COLORADO CENTER 1200 BROADWAY DENVER CO 80203



Maybe - but give  
me a long  
time ago. Keep  
it if you want.

Barbara

Fran P. Lusignea

60.139

Re: Expedited Review

- 1) SHPO can just request "expedited review" in a cover letter. 15 day period will go in Fed Reg. notice, but we will try to sign on 16th day.
- 2) SHPO can request shortened (3-8 day) comment period. Letters from owners + officials not required but nice. Fed Reg notice w/ shortened period.
- 3) SHPO can request waiver of comment period. Must include owner + official approval. Fed Reg. notice of waived period.



HISTORY *Colorado*

December 11, 2018

Barbara Wyatt  
National Register of Historic Places  
Mail Stop 7228  
1849 C St, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20240



Hi Barbara:

Enclosed please find the signature page for the Meeker Historic District nomination. My apologies for any inconvenience caused, let me know if you have any questions or need more information.

Sincerely,

Amy Unger  
National and State Register Historian  
(303) 866-4684  
amy.unger@state.co.us

Enclosures  
Signature Page