

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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RECEIVED APR 8 1980
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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

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

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Hotel Meeker

AND/OR COMMON

Hotel Meeker

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

560 Main Street

__NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Meeker

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

4

__ VICINITY OF

STATE

Colorado

CODE

08

COUNTY

Rio Blanco

CODE

103

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

__DISTRICT

BUILDING(S)

__STRUCTURE

__SITE

__OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

__PUBLIC

PRIVATE

__BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

__IN PROCESS

__BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

OCCUPIED

__UNOCCUPIED

__WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

__YES: RESTRICTED

YES: UNRESTRICTED

__NO

PRESENT USE

__AGRICULTURE

COMMERCIAL

__EDUCATIONAL

__ENTERTAINMENT

__GOVERNMENT

__INDUSTRIAL

__MILITARY

__MUSEUM

__PARK

__PRIVATE RESIDENCE

__RELIGIOUS

__SCIENTIFIC

__TRANSPORTATION

__OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Stewart and Sons Drig. Inc.

STREET & NUMBER

3910 So. Clarkson

CITY, TOWN

Englewood

__ VICINITY OF

STATE

Colorado 80210

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Rio Blanco County Court House

STREET & NUMBER

Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Meeker

STATE

Colorado 81641

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Colorado Inventory of Historic Sites

(52/03/0005)

DATE

Ongoing

__FEDERAL STATE __COUNTY __LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR

SURVEY RECORDS

Colorado Historical Society, 1300 Broadway

CITY, TOWN

Denver

STATE

Colorado 80203

7 DESCRIPTION

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Located at 560 Main Street in Meeker, Colorado, the Meeker Hotel is a single attached structure two stories in height and built of brick laid in courses of stretcher bond. The central portion of the hotel was constructed in 1896, but eight years later in 1904, the building was altered and the two wings added. The main or north facade consists of a central core which is recessed about five feet to provide for a balcony that extends between the two flanking wings. The inside corners of the wings are curved, and the building features an elaborate corbeled brick cornice. The roof is flat.

The first floor of the central core is distinguished by five round-arched openings with fan-type lights, a central doorway, and two windows on each side. Above the simple bracketed iron balcony is a tall, narrow, round-arched door with two double hung, one over one sashed windows on each side, and a simple lettered sign on the decorative arched centerpiece of the brick cornice. The first floors of the two wings consist of unaltered post and lintel storefronts with large expanses of glass. The second floors have double hung windows with one over one sash, and all are decoratively tied together with a brick stringcourse which forms a segmental arch over each window as well as a round archivolt over the central door. These bricks are said to have been made in Salt Lake City and transported to Meeker.

The main floor of the hotel consists of five shops and the hotel lobby. The second floor has thirty guest rooms. The exterior retains its original decorative wood mouldings, tongue and groove beaded wainscotting, hardware, stained glass, and fixtures.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

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

SPECIFIC DATES 1894 - present BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Meeker Hotel is significant for its role in the commerce of Meeker and for its architectural features.

Meeker, Colorado, developed in the late 1870s and early 1880s on the site of a military post established to guard the Ute Indian Reservation. Eventually, the community became the transportation and government center for Rio Blanco County, whose economy was based primarily on ranching. The first Meeker Hotel was a long adobe building used to house troops, but in the 1890s it gave way to the present structure which has been the main hotel in Meeker since that time.

The founder of the present Meeker Hotel was Reuben S. Ball. A southerner by origin, he arrived in town in 1890, but stayed only a short time at first, preferring to head south to the new boom town of Creede where he opened a saloon with a partner. When a fire burned much of Creede, including his business, Ball returned to Meeker and in 1894 built what is today the central section of the Meeker Hotel. As Ball prospered, he expanded his business and in 1904 added both the east and west wings which were built by I. C. Mitchell, a local contractor. When completed, the wings housed a drug store, the local offices of the Colorado Telephone Company, a doctor's office, and a saloon. The second stories had rooms, conference rooms, and suites. Since that time the Hotel has housed many commercial firms and provided night lodging for those on business in town.

From an architectural perspective the Meeker Hotel reflects the major characteristics of such commercial structures built in small western towns during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. It is one of the larger more elaborate structures in the community and enjoys a dominant position on Main Street.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Bury, Susan and John, This is What I Remember (Meeker: Rio Blanco County Historical Society, n.d.)

Meeker Herald, July 6, 1889; January 12, 1901

Rocky Mountain News, May 18, 1971

UTM NOT VERIFIED

ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1

QUADRANGLE NAME Meeker

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24000

UTM REFERENCES

A 13 251510 4435750
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C

D

E

F

G

H

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION West 40 feet of Lot 3; Lot A; Lot 4; the East 25 ft. of Lot 5, in Block one of the Town of Meeker.

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

STATE CODE COUNTY CODE

STATE CODE COUNTY CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

David D. Stewart

ORGANIZATION

DATE

August 20, 1979

STREET & NUMBER

1130 Cleveland

TELEPHONE

(303) 878-5061

CITY OR TOWN

Meeker

STATE

Colorado 81641

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

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

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

Arthur Commond

3/10/80

TITLE

State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DATE

5/7/80

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST:

William A. Graham
CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

DATE

5.7.80