

985

NPS Form 10-900
(Rev. 8/86)
NPS/CHS Word Processor Format
(Approved 03/88)

OMB No. 1024-0018

JUN 28 1989

NATIONAL
REGISTER

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 of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable". For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries. Use letter quality printers in 12 pitch. Use only 25% or greater cotton content bond paper.

1. Name of Property

historic name: Jamestown Mercantile Building
other names/site number: 5BL.503, 5BL.846.4

2. Location

street & number: Main Street (NA) not for publication
city, town: Jamestown (NA) vicinity
state: Colorado code: CO county: Boulder code: 013 zip code: 80455

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	No. of Resources within Property	
(x) private	(x) building(s)	contributing	noncontributing
() public-local	() district	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> buildings
() public-State	() site	_____	_____ sites
() public-Federal	() structure	_____	_____ structures
	() object	_____	_____ objects
		<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing: _____
Metal Mining and Tourist Era Resources
of Boulder County

No. of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this (x) 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 (x) meets () does not meet the National Register criteria.
() See continuation sheet.

Barbara Sudler 6-15-89
Signature of certifying official Date

State Historic Preservation Officer, Colorado Historical Society
State or Federal agency and bureau

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

Signature of Commenting or Other Official Date

State or Federal Agency and Bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

Entered in
National Register

- (x) entered in the National Register.
() See continuation sheet
- () determined eligible for the National Register. () See continuation sheet
- () determined not eligible for the National Register.
- () removed from the National Register.
- () other, (explain:) _____

Arlene Byrum 8/2/89

Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

6. Functions or Use

Historic Functions

(enter categories from instructions)

Commerce / Department Store

Social / Meeting Hall

Current Functions

(enter categories from instructions)

Commerce / Department Store

Government / Post Office

Domestic / Multiple Dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Late 19th and Early 20th Century

Movements

Other: Vernacular Wood

Materials

(enter categories from instructions)

foundations Stone

walls Wood

roof Other: Roofing Paper

other _____

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The Jamestown Mercantile Building is a frame commercial building located on the main thoroughfare of the small mountain community of Jamestown, Boulder County. Jamestown is located 13 miles northwest of Boulder in a mountain park with an elevation of 6,500 feet. The store is nestled between the roadway and a steeply sloped hillside directly behind it. To the west of the store is the 1935 Town Hall of Jamestown. In the general vicinity there is vacant land and modern development that is primarily residential. The store building is all that remains from Jamestown's historic commercial development associated with precious metal mining in the county. Consequently, it is the community's only link with this important early period and economic influence.

The Jamestown Mercantile Building is a two and one half store structure, relatively larger in size than most early commercial buildings of the mountain region of Boulder County. The building has a simple rectangular floor plan. Typical of the vernacular building tradition which it represents, a small one story shed roof addition has been constructed on the building's west side. The roofs of the main building and addition are gabled. The exterior walls of the building and shed roof addition are clapboard.

(x) See continuation sheet

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Jamestown Mercantile Building

The most notable feature of the structure is the frame false front that characterizes the building's facade. The clapboard front does not extend the full height of the building however, so the apex of the gable remains visible. The result is a distinctive open pediment roof with shouldered parapet that is further delineated with a classically molded cornice. Another smaller false front is attached to the one story addition of the building. This frame front is more traditional however, as it obscures the roof line behind it.

A decorative round arched window provides a simple embellishment for the building's gable. This window consists of a fan over three vertical lights. The other windows of the structure are typical. Most are rectangular, double-hung sash windows with a molded lintel. Two pairs of these windows are located on the second story of the facade. The remaining window, which include some smaller square windows, are scattered along the building's side elevations according to interior lighting needs. Modern aluminum storm windows have been installed over the windows of the second floor, but have little effect on the overall appearance of the building.

A traditional storefront occupies the ground floor facade of the Jamestown Mercantile Building. A central indented double door entrance provides access to the commercial concern and post office housed in the building. On each side of the entrance doors are large display windows. The storefront's clerestory remains intact, as are its kickplates. A simple band of horizontal molding demarcates the upper limits of the storefront and also visually unites the west addition with the main building.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties: () nationally () statewide (x) locally

Applicable National Register Criteria (x) A () B (x) C () D
Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) () A () B () C () D () E () F () G

Areas of Significance

(enter categories from instructions)

Period of Significance

Significant Dates

Architecture

1896 - 1930

1896

Exploration / Settlement

1896 - 1930

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

Architect/Builder

N/A

Unknown

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

The Jamestown Mercantile Building meets Criterion A for its association with Jamestown, a 19th century settlement associated with metal mining in Boulder County. It is also important for its representation of historic commercial development and its association with the evolution of the early day communities of the County. Architecturally, the building meets Criterion C as an excellent example of the Vernacular Commercial Building Type, associated with precious metal mining in Boulder County in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

Jamestown was one of the late 19th century areas of exploration and settlement associated with precious metal mining in Boulder County. Its first boom occurred in the mid 1860s. Initially, the mining activity in the area consisted primarily of gold placer diggings along James Creek. Claim disputes led to the organization of the Central Mining District in 1866. This district was the tenth and last mining district to be organized in Boulder County.

Although mining activity in its vicinity began in the 1860s, Jamestown did not develop into a recognizable settlement until the next decade. In 1875 two important strikes at the Buena (later Wano) and Golden Age mines brought miners and settlers to the area. After a third boom in 1882, Jamestown boasted 3,000 residents. Indicative of its population at the time, the settlement consisted primarily of saloons, dance halls, parlor houses, and gambling establishments.

(x) See continuation sheet

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Jamestown Mercantile Building

As the 1800s progressed, Jamestown experience brief periods of prosperity as several small strikes sustained support for the settlement and general interest in the area. In 1884 a flood washed away most of the town's buildings and few were rebuilt. The Jamestown Mercantile building was constructed sometime after 1896. Like commercial buildings of its period, the ground floor housed a general store. Its second story was the meeting hall for a local chapter of the Odd Fellows, the Silver Queen Lodge #112.

After the turn-of-the-century, the economy of Jamestown, like that of so many other mining communities of the state, languished. By 1930 its population had dwindled to 106 residents and ends the mercantile's period of significance. Today, the Jamestown Mercantile Building is the most visible symbol of the colorful past of this early day community. As an intact example of the Vernacular Commercial Building Type associated with mining in Boulder County it has architectural significance. Because the mercantile was built during the period of exploration for precious metals and settlement of mining communities, the Jamestown Mercantile has historic significance as part of that period.

The mercantile building is being nominated as part of the Multiple Property nomination, Metal Mining and Tourist Era Resources of Boulder County. This building meets the registration requirements for the Vernacular Commercial Building Associated Property Type. The history of this building is part of the Multiple Property's associated historic context, Early Settlement and Community Development in the Mountain Region of west Boulder County, 1858 - 1910.

The Jamestown Mercantile Building is an excellent example of the frame Vernacular Commercial Building type associated with metal mining communities in Boulder County because of its unaltered design, materials and workmanship. Additionally, the building provides a good illustration of the false front, a distinctive feature of western commercial architecture. The intact storefront and its main street location support the integrity of feeling and association engendered by the historic commercial building. Consequently, the Jamestown Mercantile is an important vestige of the early development of the mining communities of the county.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bailey, Delores. God's Country USA: Wallstreet, Colorado. Fort Collins, Colorado: Robinson Press, Inc., 1982.

(x) See continuation sheet

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>() preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested</p> <p>() previously listed in the National Register</p> <p>() previously determined eligible by the National Register</p> <p>() designated a National Historic Landmark</p> <p>() recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____</p> <p>() recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____</p> | <p>Primary location of additional data:</p> <p>(x) State Historic Preservation Office</p> <p>() Other State agency</p> <p>() Federal agency</p> <p>(x) Local government</p> <p>() University</p> <p>() Other</p> <p>Specify Repository:
<u>Boulder County Planning Department</u></p> |
|--|---|

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property: Less than 1 acre.

UTM References

<p>A <u>13</u> <u>216161910101</u> <u>41414101419101</u> Zone Easting Northing</p>	<p>B <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> Zone Easting Northing</p>
<p>C <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> Zone Easting Northing</p>	<p>D <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> Zone Easting Northing</p>

() See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

Lots 25 and 26: Block 10, Jamestown; Boulder County

() See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

This boundary includes the land historically associated with the property.

() See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

<p>Name/Title: <u>Deborah Edge Abele, Consultant (edited by Barbara Norgren July 1988)</u></p> <p>Organization: <u>N/A</u></p> <p>Street & Number: <u>P. O. Box 6367</u></p> <p>City or Town: <u>Colorado Springs</u></p>	<p>Date: <u>June 1987</u></p> <p>Telephone: <u>(719) 635-2065</u></p> <p>State: <u>CO</u> Zip Code: <u>80934</u></p>
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Jamestown Mercantile Building

- McAlester, Virginia & Lee. A Field Guide to American Houses. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, Inc., 1984
- Pettem, Sylvia. Red Rocks to Riches. Boulder, Colorado: Westtype Publishing Services, Inc., 1980
- Smith, Duane. Colorado Mining: A Photographic History. Albuquerque, New Mexico: University of New Mexico Press, 1977.
- Weiss, Manual. Boulder County Historical Site Survey. Denver, Colorado: Colorado Historical Site Survey. Denver, Colorado: Colorado Historical Society, 1981.