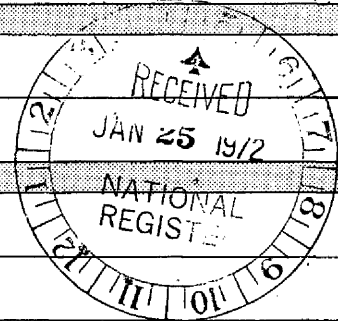


PH008 7297

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

| | |
|-----------------------|------------|
| STATE: Colorado | |
| COUNTY: Las Animas | |
| FOR NPS USE ONLY | |
| ENTRY NUMBER | DATE |
| | FEB 7 1972 |



1. NAME

COMMON:
Hausman Drug

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Jaffa Opera House *

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
100 through 116 West Main Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Trinidad

| | | | |
|-------------------|------------|-----------------------|-------------|
| STATE Colorado | CODE 08 | COUNTY: Las Animas | CODE 071 |
|-------------------|------------|-----------------------|-------------|

3. CLASSIFICATION

| CATEGORY (Check One) | OWNERSHIP | STATUS | ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC |
|---|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object | <input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both | Public Acquisition: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> In Process <i>completed</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered Facade easement | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress |
| PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate) | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment | <input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum | <input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Hausman Drug Co., Inc.

STREET AND NUMBER:
100 West Main Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Trinidad

| | |
|--------------------|------------|
| STATE: Colorado | CODE 08 |
|--------------------|------------|

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Las Animas County Court House (Assessor and Records Office)

STREET AND NUMBER:
Trinidad

| | |
|--------------------|------------|
| STATE: Colorado | CODE 08 |
|--------------------|------------|

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
"TRINIDAD--A Historic Building Survey"

DATE OF SURVEY: August 1970

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Colorado State Archives

STREET AND NUMBER:
1530 Sherman

CITY OR TOWN:
Denver

| | |
|--------------------|------------|
| STATE: Colorado | CODE 08 |
|--------------------|------------|

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Colorado

COUNTY: Las Animas

ENTRY NUMBER: FEB 7 1972

DATE: FEB 7 1972

FOR NPS USE ONLY

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

7 DESCRIPTION

| | | | | | | |
|-----------|---|------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|---|------------------------------------|
| CONDITION | (Check One) | | | | | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Excellent | <input type="checkbox"/> Good | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fair | <input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated | <input type="checkbox"/> Ruins | <input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed |
| | (Check One) | | | (Check One) | | |
| | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered | <input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered | | <input type="checkbox"/> Moved | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site | |

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Jaffa Opera House is a two-story brick and sandstone building constructed on a rectangular plan. It most closely follows the High Victorian Italianate style of architecture. The side and rear facades are faced with brick and are plain, while the front (northwest) facade is faced with cut sandstone. (The Opera House was one of the first buildings in the area to make use of the high quality sandstone from the nearby quarries of D.A. Chappell.)

The ground floor was constructed to house four separate business establishments. Originally, the four units were similar in design. The large entranceway and stairway that, at one time, led to the second floor opera house, is centered and dissimilar from the other units. Single, two-story engaged columns mark the divisions between the units and flank the central recessed stairway.

There is a bracketed crowning cornice rising to carved pediments, four of them, one centered in each of the four units. The pediments are unrelated to facade below. Segmental arches are used in the central unit. The words "Trinidad Opera House" are centered in the crowning pediment, with the date "1882" below. The central arched entrance has radiating voussoirs.

There are 13 double hung windows with plain molding on the second floor, three to each unit and one above the central entrance. Between and above the windows is a symmetrical repetition of carved, linear design motifs that work with the ornamental cornice and pediments to display a rather busy front.

The ground floor has seen many alterations over the years. Today the Hausman "Rexall" Drug Store occupies both units left of the center entranceway as you face it. There is one large centered entryway to the drug store, recessed and with pillars. It has a two-leaf door with transom and full story fixed windows with trabeated window openings.

The unit immediately to the right of the center staircase is the only unit that is still similar to the original, with central, recessed, two-leaf door and full story fixed windows. The windows have been removed in the other unit and it has been arcaded as an entrance to a movie house, now abandoned.

The second floor opera house, when it existed, had a seating capacity of 710. The stage was 45 feet wide and 20 feet from the footlights to the back wall. The proscenium opening was 22 feet wide and 16 feet high. There were two traps near the center of the stage and the depth under the stage was three and one-half feet. The Opera House had eight sets of



SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian | 16th Century | 18th Century | 20th-Century
 15th Century | 17th Century | 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) **1883 (construction) to present**

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Sol and Henry Jaffa came to the rapidly growing town of Trinidad, Colorado, around 1870. They were joined in 1872 by another brother, Samuel. The brothers, as partners, did well in the mercantile business. (They were also instrumental in establishing the first Jewish congregation in Trinidad.)

In 1881, they purchased an entire block near the heart of the community. Two years later construction was completed on the major building of the block, the Jaffa Opera House. The street floor was a commercial center and the entire second floor was the opera house.

For the next twenty years this would be the cultural heart of Trinidad. The top stage, opera and vaudeville troupes touring the West performed here. Most of the bookings were made by Pete McCall who booked touring companies for theaters in Denver, so most of the acts he booked for Denver performed in Trinidad as well. A program found in recent years told of famed Margaret Mather playing Juliet here in 1887. Activity at the Opera House hit its peak in the 1890s.

The Jaffa brothers sold their interest in the Opera House in 1895.

In 1908, when the more modern West Theater opened nearby, the Jaffa Opera House closed its doors. The building has seen many uses since that time, and has been altered considerably internally, particularly the second floor "opera House."

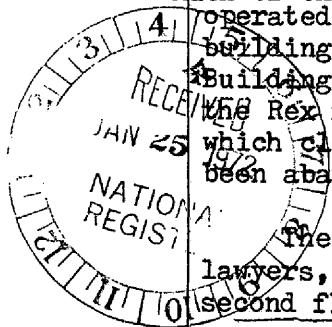
Much of the ground floor has been the Hausman Drug Store over the years, operated by the same family. There was a liquor store in the center of the building. A movie theater was located at the opposite corner from Hausman Building for many years. It was called the Maze Theater from 1910-1913, the Rex from 1915 to 1918, the Palace from 1926-7, and finally the Isis, which closed in the 1960s. Since that time this section of the building has been abandoned, the seats have been torn out, and the area has deteriorated.

The second floor has been used primarily for offices (doctors, dentists, lawyers, a loan office, and apartments). Since the late 1940s, the entire second floor is composed entirely of apartments and furnished rooms.

Today it is a key building in a local Model Cities program. The plan calls for restoring the opera house, much like the original, to make it once again a cultural center for Trinidad and a key to the city's historic past.

Restoration is completed. per call 5/20/75

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

TRINIDAD--A Historic Building Survey, 1970
 Trinidad City Directories 1883 through 1900
 C.W.A. Interviews, Las Animas County, Interview with Sol Jaffa, Vol. I, pp. 135-41, State Historical Society of Colorado
 Draper, Ben, Colorado Theatres 1859-1969, unpublished thesis, 5 vols., Western History Department, Denver Public Library
 Works Progress Administration, Trinidad City Guide, unpublished, State Historical Society of Colorado
 Trinidad Business Directories

H13
 NO
 UTM

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

| LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY | | | O R | LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES | | |
|--|-------------------------|-------------------------|--------|---|-------------------------|--|
| CORNER | LATITUDE | LONGITUDE | | LATITUDE | LONGITUDE | |
| | Degrees Minutes Seconds | Degrees Minutes Seconds | | Degrees Minutes Seconds | Degrees Minutes Seconds | |
| NW | 0 0 0 | 0 0 0 | | 37° 10' 5" | 104° 30' 19" | |
| NE | 0 0 0 | 0 0 0 | | | | |
| SE | 0 0 0 | 0 0 0 | | | | |
| SW | 0 0 0 | 0 0 0 | | | | |

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 1/4 acre

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

| STATE: | CODE | COUNTY | CODE |
|--------|------|--------|------|
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Willard C. Loudon, Director, Trinidad Historical Preservation

ORGANIZATION: Trinidad Historical Society DATE: May 12, 1971

STREET AND NUMBER: _____

CITY OR TOWN: Branson STATE: Colorado CODE: -08

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

12 STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name: Stephen H. Hart

Title: Colorado State Liaison Officer

Date: January 18, 1972

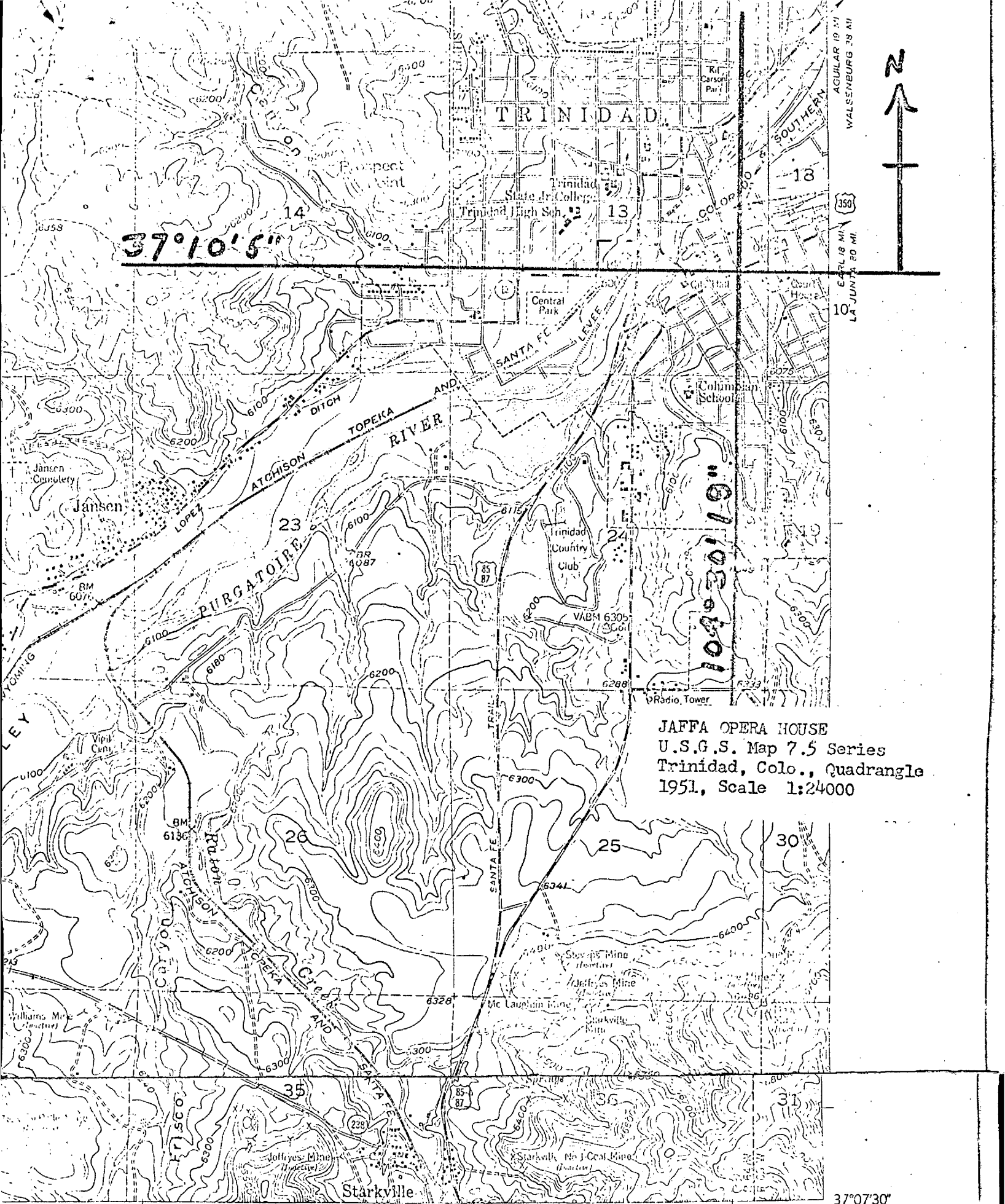
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Timothy A. Connelly
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: FEB 7 1972

ATTEST:
William J. Huntley
 Keeper of The National Register

Date: FEB 7 1972



37°10'5"



JAFFA OPERA HOUSE
 U.S.G.S. Map 7.5 Series
 Trinidad, Colo., Quadrangle
 1951, Scale 1:24000

32°30'

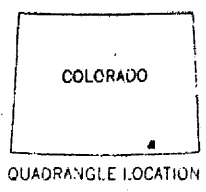
MORLEY 7 MI
 RATON, N. MEX. 18 MI.

INTERIOR—GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON, U. C.—1953

37°07'30"
 104°30'

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

- Heavy-duty ——— 4 LANE 16 LANE Light-duty ———
- Medium-duty ——— 4 LANE 16 LANE Unimproved dirt ———
- U. S. Route (shield symbol) State Route (circle symbol)



TRINIDAD, COLO.
 N3707.5—W10430/7.5

(CLMORO 1:25,000)

dip slightly in such a way that the cars will carry themselves to the dump of their own weight. If Trinidad was dependent alone on her coal interests her future would be assured. They alone would in time make her the leading rail road, manufacturing and smelting city of the west.



JAFFA'S OPERA HOUSE BLOCK.

RAILROADS.

Inclusiveness of a considerable size cannot be attained without railroad facilities. The day was when a location on a good harbor or river was essential. To-day the river and its navigation is important of itself, and when you have both means of transportation combined on a large scale, we find a metropolis such as Chicago, or New York. Trinidad is to-day a railroad center of no mean pretensions. The A. & S. P. R. R., with its main line from Chicago to Los Angeles, has been operating in Trinidad for a decade. Its facilities and ability to do business in the west are surpassed by none and equalled by few. This road is progressive, constantly enlarging its equipment and adding to its extensions. Trinidad is certainly fortunate in having the main line of such a system. The Denver & Rio Grande, one of the best known systems in the west, and the best

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

| | |
|----------------------|------------|
| STATE Colorado | |
| COUNTY Las Animas | |
| FOR NPS USE ONLY | |
| ENTRY NUMBER | DATE |
| | FEB 7 1972 |

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

| | | | |
|--|------|-----------------------|------|
| 1. NAME | | | |
| COMMON: Hausman Drug or Opera House | | | |
| AND/OR HISTORIC: Opera House | | | |
| 2. LOCATION | | | |
| STREET AND NUMBER: 100 through 116 West Main Street | | | |
| CITY OR TOWN: Trinidad | | | |
| STATE: Colorado | CODE | COUNTY: Las Animas | CODE |
| 3. PHOTO REFERENCE | | | |
| PHOTO CREDIT: unknown (line drawing---not a photograph) | | | |
| DATE OF PHOTO: prior to 1888 | | | |
| NEGATIVE FILED AT: none but directory containg print at Carnegie public Library in Trinidad. | | | |
| 4. IDENTIFICATION | | | |
| DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. The view was from across Main Street at the corner of Main and Commercial Streets. The artist looking almost straight south thus shows the facade of the building which faces northwest and also shows the northeast side of the building along South Commercial. | | | |

