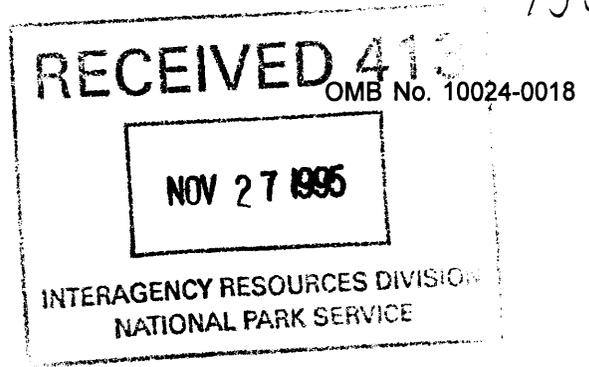


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NPS Form 10-900
(Oct. 1990)

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 determination for individual properties and districts. See instruction in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an 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 entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Jackson, George, House

other names/site number Poor Farm House; 5OR70.6

2. Location

street & number 129 Citadel Drive [N/A] not for publication

city or town Ridgway [X] vicinity

state Colorado code CO county Ouray code 091 zip code 81432

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 nationally statewide locally.
(See continuation sheet for additional comments [].)

James Edward Hartman
Signature of certifying official/Title

State Historic Preservation Officer November 20, 1995
Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

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

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

- entered in the National Register
See continuation sheet [].
- determined eligible for the National Register
See continuation sheet [].
- determined not eligible for the National Register.
- removed from the National Register
- other, explain
See continuation sheet [].

Signature of the Keeper Date

 National Register 1.11.90

Jackson, George, House
Name of Property

Ouray, CO
County/State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

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

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not count previously listed resources.)

Contributing		Noncontributing	
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>		<u>0</u> buildings
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>		<u>0</u> sites
<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>		<u>1</u> structures
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>		<u>0</u> objects
<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>		<u>2</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing.

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

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register.

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Function
(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling
DOMESTIC/institutional housing

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

VACANT
DOMESTIC/single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

LATE VICTORIAN/Queen Anne
LATE VICTORIAN/Italianate

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation STONE/sandstone
walls BRICK

roof METAL/steel
other _____

Narrative Description

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

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National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

RECEIVED

NOV 27 1995

INTERAGENCY RESOURCES DIVISION

Jackson, George House

Ouray County, CO

DESCRIPTION

The Jackson House retains its traditional setting, fronted by the old apple orchard and surrounded by shade and ornamental trees dating back to the time of construction. The house sits about 200 feet east of U.S. Highway 550 approximately six miles south of Ridgway and five miles north of Ouray. It is a prominent visual landmark to travelers on the highway. Adjacent to the 1.3 acre Jackson House grounds are irrigated pastures where a large herd of elk winters.

The Jackson House is a 2½ story Queen Anne style building, constructed for George A. Jackson as an impressive single family dwelling and said to be one of the finest homes in Ouray County. The house is cross-gabled design with a sandstone foundation, solid masonry walls faced with red bricks, and a steeply pitched roof, recently covered with dark brown metal roofing. The soffits are all tongue-and-groove. The cross-shaped plan is oriented to match the compass points with its north arm shorter than the other three. A 2½ story rectangular tower rises at the junction of the west and south gables and terminates in an enclosed porch. A large, patterned brick chimney straddles the ridge of the west gable and a smaller, plain brick chimney occupies the east end of the east gable ridge. The house is trimmed with light tan sandstone used in the watertable, lintels, sills and quoins.

Porches fill the intersections of all the gables with the exception of the northeast corner. All the porches have wood decks of tongue-and-groove pine with squared wood columns, topped with decorative brackets and a wood frieze. The shed roofs have modern standing seam metal covers. The southwest porch wraps around the entry tower. The wood is in good condition except for one area on the northwest porch where poor drainage resulted in some rotting. First-story bay windows project on the south and west gable ends. The west bay, facing the orchard and highway, probably had a railing around the flat bay roof to form a small second-story porch. An exterior door, now covered on the interior with a plywood panel, opens to the roof of the bay from a second-story bedroom. Some settlement has occurred at the south bay resulting in cracks in the masonry. The settlement is said to have resulted from saturated soil due to flooding from the nearby irrigation ditches.

The windows throughout the house are original and most are covered with aluminum storm sashes. All the first and second-story windows are wood frame, one-over-one, double hung sash. The windows in the upper ends of each gable are one-over-one, round arched windows with sandstone hoods. Several of the windows are boarded over to cover the broken glass panes. Four original wood doors with transoms provide access: one on the west elevation of the tower; one on the north elevation of both the west and east gables; and one on the south elevation of the east gable. All the doors are protected by modern aluminum storm doors. The door on the northwest porch is of solid, five panel design while the other three are half-lights. The north and east gable ends are identical with symmetrical pairs of first and second-story windows topped by an arched window centered in the upper gable. The south gable matches the east and north gables except for the three window bay on the first-story. The west gable matches the south except for the centered second-story porch door and transom with flanking side windows.

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**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Jackson, George, House
Ouray County, CO

Section number 7 Page 2

The two-story entry tower contains the main door and flanking window on the first-story, a single window on the second-floor, is topped by a small enclosed porch with squared wood columns, single light windows and decorative wood dentils beneath the eave of the hip roof.

Like the exterior, the interior of the Jackson House retains almost all of its historic integrity. The original lath and plaster walls and ceilings, pine flooring and woodwork remain largely unchanged. The first floor door casings have a complex profile. The original five panel wood doors remain throughout the house, and some doors and casings still retain the original faux paintings simulating an exotic wood. The interior transoms remain although most have had their glass covered with wood panels. A magnificent curved stair rises from the entry hall. It retains its original railing and turned and fluted balusters which spring from a large, decoratively carved newel-post. The original parlor fireplace mantel is missing, the fireplace front is now covered with concrete. Wood floors downstairs and up are all original approximately 6" side tongue-and-groove pine. All existing interior door hardware is original, mortise locks with plain brass knobs, although some knobs have been removed. Original, or earliest, electrical service consisted only of ceiling fixtures without additional outlets. The few electrical outlets currently existing appeared to have been wired around fifty years ago via surface mounted conduit. No electrical outlets have been cut into the walls or floors.

There is no central heat. Warmth is provided by two floor furnaces, one in the dining room and one in the entrance hall. Some dropped ceilings were added upstairs. Ceiling panel boards and nailing strips could easily be removed to expose the original plaster ceilings. A toilet enclosure with low partition walls was added, apparently during use as the poor farm, in the upstairs central hall.

In 1976 a fire started in the wall cavity behind the fireplace. The wall and the ceiling above were damaged and a pocket door in the wall was burned and blistered. The fire damage was left unrepaired.

A modern, single-wide mobile home occupies a position about 75 feet northeast of the Jackson House and is occupied by a caretaker. The structure has no historic association with the property and is considered to be noncontributing.

Today, the Jackson House still has the feel and look that it had when completed 107 years ago. The rural setting, the orchard, and the grounds, and the lack of modern changes to the exterior and interior of the house all contribute to the overall historic integrity of the property.

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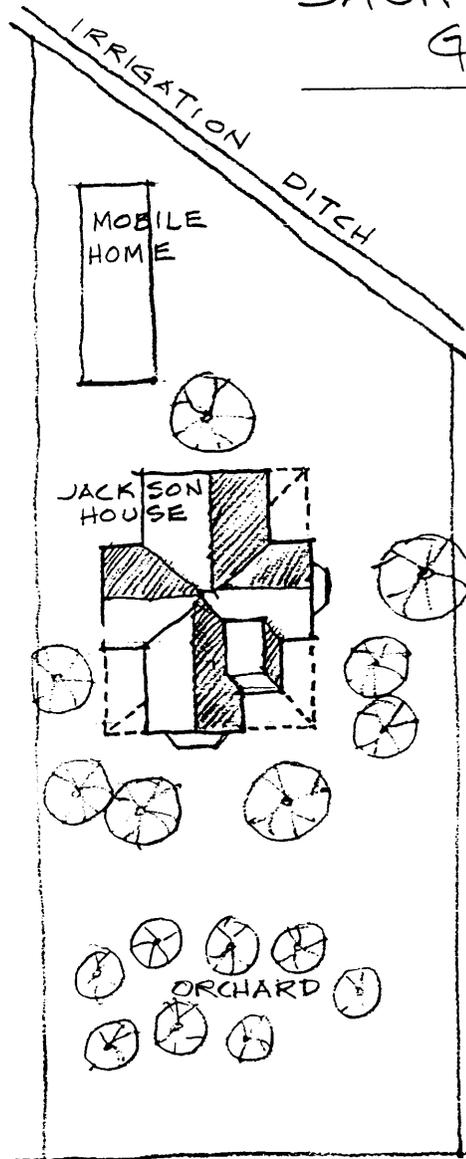
National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Jackson, George, House
Ouray County, CO

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SKETCH MAP
of the
JACKSON HOUSE
GROUNDS

NO SCALE



HIGHWAY 550

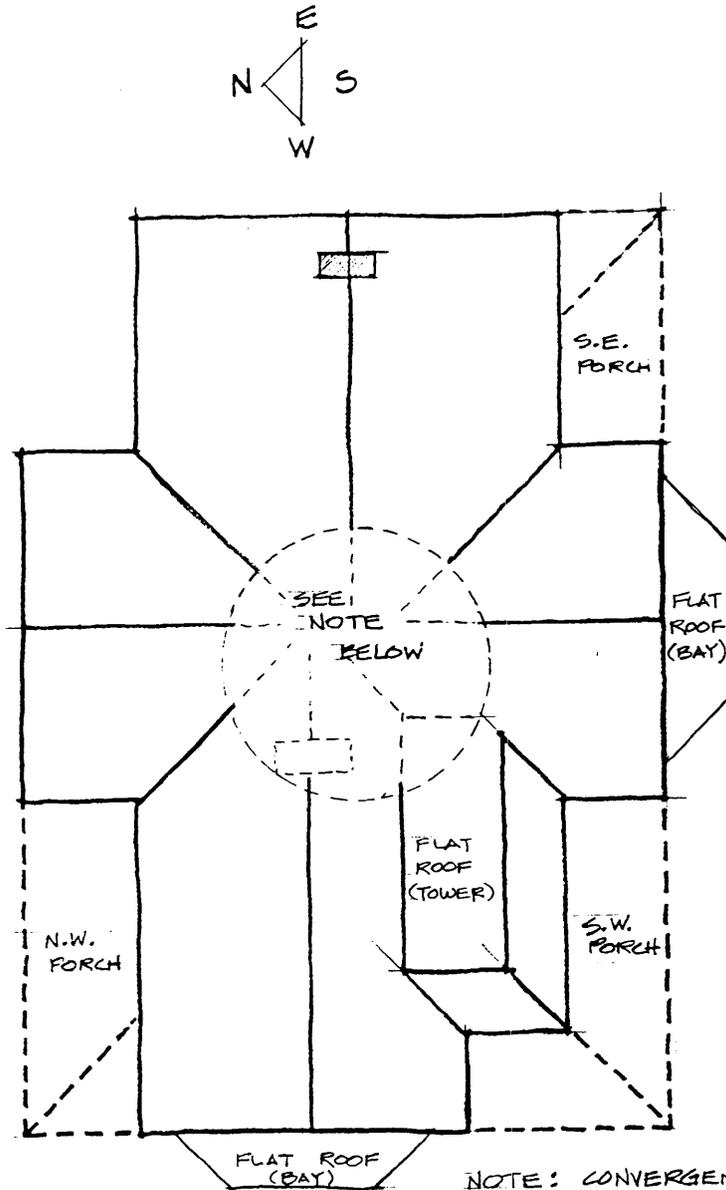
TO OURAY →

United States Department of the Interior
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National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Jackson, George, House
Ouray County, CO

Section number 7 Page 4



NOTE: CONVERGENCE OF
ROOF PLANES UNDETERMINED
FROM GROUND LEVEL SURVEY

JACKSON HOUSE
APPROXIMATE ROOF PLAN NO SCALE

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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Continuation Sheet

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Jackson, George, House
Ouray County, CO



JACKSON HOUSE
SOUTH ELEVATION

NO SCALE



JACKSON HOUSE
NORTH ELEVATION

NO SCALE

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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Continuation Sheet

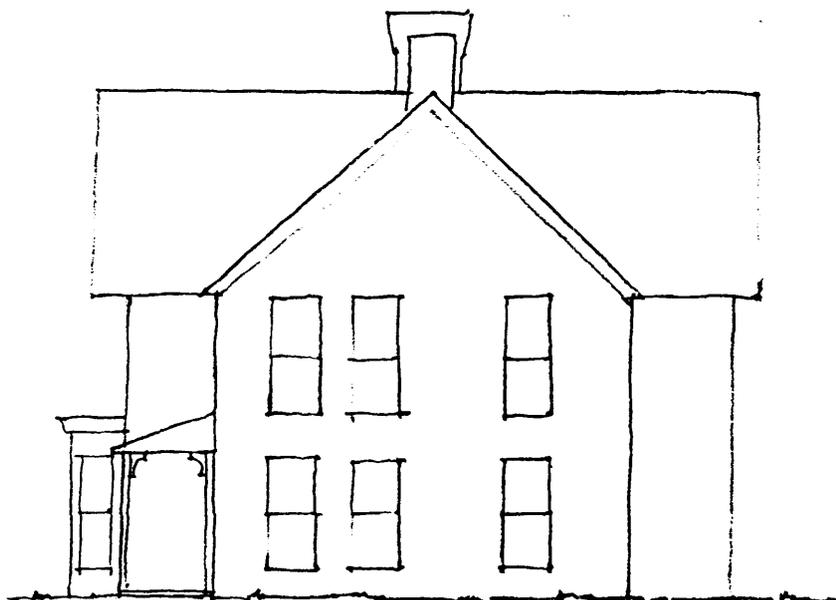
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Jackson, George, House
Ouray County, CO



JACKSON HOUSE
WEST ELEVATION

NO SCALE



JACKSON HOUSE
EAST ELEVATION

NO SCALE

Jackson, George, House
Name of Property

Ouray, CO
County/State

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.)

A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history

B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.

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.

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:

A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.

B removed from its original location.

C a birthplace or grave.

D a cemetery.

E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.

F a commemorative property.

G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

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

9. Major Bibliographic References

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

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

Areas of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions)
COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT
ARCHITECTURE
SOCIAL HISTORY

Periods of Significance
1887 - 1888
1914 - 1937

Significant Dates
N/A

Significant Person(s)
(Complete if Criterion B is marked above).
N/A

Cultural Affiliation
N/A

Architect/Builder
McDonald

Primary location of additional data:

State Historic Preservation Office

Other State Agency

Federal Agency

Local Government

University

Other:

Name of repository:
Ouray County Historical Museum

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National Park Service

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Jackson, George, House
Ouray County, CO

Section number 8 Page 7

SIGNIFICANCE

The George A. Jackson House is eligible for the National Register under criterion A for its association with community planning and development in the Ridgway/Ouray area. Jackson and others attempted to establish the new town of Ramona ahead of the advancing Denver and Rio Grande Railroad, forcing the railroad to use the new town as its end of the line station for its branch from Montrose. This would allow the Ramona property owners to capitalize on the economic prosperity that Ouray hoped to experience when the railroad arrived. Ultimately, the scheme failed when the railroad built its route around the infant Ramona and on to the original planned termination point at Ouray. The Jackson House is the only building constructed at the new town site and is therefore the only resource capable of conveying the significance of the area's early history.

The Jackson House is also significant for its association with the social history of Ouray County during the period 1914-1937 when the property served as the county poor farm. Poor farms represented one way for individuals and families with no means of supporting themselves to obtain food, clothing, shelter and medical attention. The county required all able-bodied residents of the Poor Farm to work for their room and board by growing much of the produce they consumed, raising livestock, and maintaining the property.

The Jackson House is also eligible under criterion C as a good, intact, local example of a combination of the popular, late 19th century Queen Anne and Italianate styles. No other building in the Ridgway/Ouray area so successfully combines the distinctive features of the two styles to form such a striking masonry structure.

Community Planning and Development

George A. Jackson played a key role in a series of dramatic events that shaped the future of community development in Ouray County and the Jackson House is closely associated with those events. George Jackson's house was more than a significant architectural achievement. It was the cornerstone of a scheme by land developers to cut off the growing city of Ouray from the railroad in order to promote a new town. The house stands today, just as it was built in 1888, alone in a pasture that was to have been the town of Ramona.

The City of Ouray, approximately five miles south of the Jackson House, was incorporated in 1876 and by the end of that year had 400 residents. As the mining district flourished and Ouray grew, the Denver and Rio Grande Railroad surveyed a route on the east side of the Uncompahgre River to bring rail service to Ouray from Montrose. Some of the most influential men in Ouray came together to create a land development scheme which would greatly enrich the promoters at the expense of Ouray. On December 15, 1886, the articles of incorporation for the Ramona Town Company were filed, creating the new town of Ramona in a location that would block the extension of the railroad right-of-way beyond Ramona. Thus, Ouray would be cut off and Ramona would become the terminus of the new railroad line. Two of the investors with the largest holdings were George Jackson and David Day, editor of the *Solid Muldoon* newspaper of Ouray. To demonstrate his confidence in the long term viability of Ramona, and perhaps to convince others as well, Jackson built Ramona's first building for

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Jackson, George, House
Ouray County, CO

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his personal residence. That house, now known as the Jackson House, was one of the finest homes in Ouray County.

According to the *Solid Muldoon* of June 3, 1887, plans and specifications for the Jackson House were completed and one McDonald was chosen as the builder. On July 19, 1887, Ramona townsite lots went on sale and many were sold within a few days. On July 26, 1887, the D&RG announced an agreement with the City of Ouray to bypass Ramona by creating a right-of-way on the west side of the Uncompahgre River. With Ouray selected as the terminus of the new railroad line, Ramona was doomed. While the development scheme failed, Jackson went on to finish his residence and occupied it as Ramona's only residence. The *Solid Muldoon* reported a house warming for Jackson on July 20, 1888.

According to William Rathmell, in an unpublished manuscript, George A. Jackson (also known as Captain Jackson) served in the U.S. Army under Quantrell. He made a gold discovery in Colorado near Idaho Springs on January 7, 1859. He was found dead on a trail near San Miguel River of unexplained causes. The exact date of his death is not known.

Social History

In May 1913, the Ouray County Commissioners visited the Jackson place as part of a search to locate a suitable property for the establishment of a county poor farm. The commissioners hoped to purchase land so that indigent county residents could partially support themselves by farming and livestock production. The Jackson property seemed desirable because of its large ten room house and its 32 acres of prime farmland.¹ On May 13, 1913, the *Ouray Herald* announced that the negotiations for the old Jackson estate were underway. The current owner of the property, John J. Mayers, originally asked \$6,000 for the property, but the commissioners felt the price was too high.²

By January of 1914, the negotiations were resolved. The price paid for the property was \$5,000 and included the associated water rights. The *Ouray Herald*, in its January 16, 1914 edition announced, "In our estimation, the county has never made a wiser purchase."

The paradox that one of the grandest homes in the county would become a home for paupers was noted by a local Ouray historian. In his unpublished manuscript, (Judge) William Rathmell wrote:

Jackson built, by far, the finest residence in Ouray County on a tract of land just north of the old Town of Portland; a fine two and one-half story brick structure that has since housed the poor of Ouray County and owned by the County and used as a Poor Farm, and thus the irony of fate decreed that the finest building

¹ *Ouray Herald*, May 9, 1913.

² *Ouray Herald*, May 30, 1913.

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Continuation Sheet

Jackson, George, House
Ouray County, CO

Section number 8 Page 9

in the County would shelter those who found that life's battles were too severe to allow them to care for themselves.³

The county commissioners appointed Charles H. Pierson to be the first superintendent of the poor farm. The commissioners agreed to pay him a salary of \$100 per month and gave him the authority to hire a cook. He was chosen because of his previous experience in this line of work. Furthermore, his wife could assist him. Preparatory work had to be completed on the farm before the Piersons could move in. Top priority was the installation of a new water system.⁴ The March 20, 1914 county commissioners meeting included the following report:

The Board spent the greater portion on the day at the Poor Farm, inspecting same and making plans for improvements with the view to moving the County patients to the Farm as soon as practicable. Superintendent Chas. Pierson was instructed by the Board to make arrangements to move to the Farm in the near future.⁵

The Piersons remained caretakers of the Poor Farm until December of 1915 when they resigned their position.

The position of superintendent of the Poor Farm was filled by county appointment. The commissioners met every January to review candidates. Those interested in receiving the job submitted letters of application. The commissioners appointed the superintendent of the Poor Farm at the same meeting that they filled the positions of county attorney, county physician, general road overseer, and purchasing agent.⁶

On January 1, 1916, Sam K. Eldridge assumed the superintendent's job. He and his wife, Minnie, moved into the Poor Farm that winter. The Eldridges served as the Poor Farm caretakers on and off until it was abandoned by the county in 1937. They served from 1916 to 1922, from 1925 to 1928, again in 1935, and received the final appointment in 1937. The commissioners appointed Earl

³ (Judge) William Rathmell, A Brief History of Ouray County, unpublished and undated manuscript, Ouray Public Library, p.23.

⁴ *The Plainsdealer*, January 16, 1914.

⁵ County of Ouray, Ouray, Colorado, Ouray County Courthouse, County Commissioners Proceeding, book 5, p. 595, March 20, 1915.

⁶ Ibid. Book 6, p. 44, January 12, 1915; book 6, p. 146, January 29, 1916; book 6, p. 237, January 9, 1917; book 6, p. 352, January 15, 1918; book 7, p. 13, January 15, 1919; book 7, p. 141, January 14, 1920; book 7, p. 236, January 11, 1921; book 7, p. 324, January 10, 1922; book 7, p. 387, January 11, 1921; book 7, p. 324, January 10, 1922; book 7, p. p. 387, January 11, 1923; book 7, p. 454, January 11, 1924; book 7, p. 544, January 13, 1925; book 8, p.44, January 6, 1926; book 8, p. 148, January 8, 1929; book 8, p. 187, January 8, 1930; book 8, p. 220, February 4, 1931; book 8, p. 241, February 1, 1932; book 8, p. 254, January 10, 1933; book 8, p. 279, January 2, 1934; book 8, p. 334, January 4, 1935; book 8, p. 399, January 8, 1936.

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Jackson, George, House
Ouray County, CO

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Hoskins and his wife in 1923 and 1924. John Merling and his wife were appointed as superintendent and cook for the period 1929 through 1931. Each received a salary of \$60 a month. Mr. and Mrs. Riley Sanders moved in as superintendent and cook during the years 1931-1933. Earl Sturgill served a one year term in 1936.⁷

The Poor Farm was administered through a financial account called the "Poor Fund." Each month the commissioners reviewed the farm bills. When a resident became ill, the county picked up the drug bill from the San Juan Drug Co. or Ridgway Drug Co. or they paid for a stay at the Woodcroft Hospital. When a poor farm resident died, monies went to undertaker James Duran.⁸ The commissioners authorized expenditures for pigs, horses and a milk cow. They paid for butter and milk, and they bought groceries from the Cascade Grocery Store. They paid for clothing and general supplies. Each month they reimbursed bills for coal, lights and telephone. They paid for "floating horse's teeth," for blacksmithing, purchased strawberry plants, and in February of 1921 allowed bills for, "bran for the cows, oats for the horses, and one chicken."⁹

In all probability, the county physician had the duty of overseeing the Poor Farm. In 1922, County Physician W.W. Rowan was instructed to, "visit the Farm once a month or whenever necessary."¹⁰ In January of 1923, Dr. L.C. Stadler wrote the following letter of application to the county commissioners for the position of county physician:

I herewith make application for the appointment of County Physician for the year 1923 for the sum of Two Hundred (200) Dollars, Plus transportation or conveyance when called.

I agree to furnish all necessary medicines, also one trip to the County Poor Farm once a month at my expense, and to make a report to the County Board at each regular monthly meeting.¹¹

After receiving the county physician appointment, Dr. Stadler wrote his first report on the Poor Farm:

Visited the County Poor Farm on Jan'y 13th-19-27th-and Feb'y 3rd, 1923 and find [sic] all the inmates contented and satisfied, no complaints to make or offer. Fred Basinger who is in the last stages of Senile Dementia is very low and it is only a question of time.

⁷ Ibid.

⁸ *The Plainsdealer*, August 11, 1914.

⁹ *The Plainsdealer*, December 14, 1915; September 15, 1914. *County Commissioners Proceedings*, Ouray County Courthouse, book 7, p. 240, February 2, 1921.

¹⁰ Ibid, book 7, p. 324, January 10, 1922.

¹¹ Ibid, book 7, p. 387, January 11, 1923.

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Jackson, George, House
Ouray County, CO

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The building is being thoroughly cleaned, floors oiled, worn woodwork painted and furniture varnished. In a few days this will be all finished and ready for any kind of inspection.

The electric washer is worn out. The electrician who inspected and tested the same says it is beyond repair the only part left is the motor. I would suggest the purchase of a new washer.

The heavy blankets on the beds of the inmates having been in use all winter should be sent to the Steam Laundry...I would further suggest and recommend that the County Board of Commissioners appoint a Visiting Committee consisting of 3 or 5 citizens of the county for the purpose of visiting every three months all of the public institutions within the county especially the County farm and make a report of their findings to the County Commissioners.¹²

Running a clean, efficient operation was important to Sam and Minnie Eldridges. Verena Jacobson, a longtime Ouray resident, remembers visiting both the Eldridge and Hoskins daughters. She recalls that some of the residents did take some care. Mrs. Eldridge cooked three meals a day, and the old folks would gather in the large dining room for their meals. The room had a large bay window with an expansive view of the mountains. The large kitchen sat in the rear of the house in the southeast corner. The front parlor contained a fireplace and another bay window. Here the men occupied the long evenings by playing cards. Reading was another popular pastime. The Poor Farm house contained a large library at the top of the staircase.¹³

The caretakers had their quarters in the downstairs rooms of the back of the house. The residents lived in the four large upstairs bedrooms. There was a shared bathroom on the second floor. The bedrooms were large enough for two or more beds plus personal possessions. Each bedroom had its own closet and a large window. Someone may have occupied the attic space as well.¹⁴

It is not known for certain how many residents the Poor Farm held. The number was probably between five and ten at any one time. In 1928, Dr. C.V. Bates reported:

Admitted during year.....6
Died.....5
Left farm.....3
Patients remaining.....5 (men)¹⁵

¹² Ibid, book 7, p. 394, February 7, 1923.

¹³ Verena Jackson, interview by Gail Zanett Saunders, Ouray, Colorado, July 14, 1995.

¹⁴ Rose McKean (Devincentis), interview by Gail Zanett Saunders, Montrose, Colorado, July 15, 1995.

¹⁵ *County Commissioners Proceedings*, Ouray County Courthouse, book 8, p. 149, January 8, 1929.

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Jackson, George, House
Ouray County, CO

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Verena Jackson remembers about eight men in their sixties staying at the farm. The men were paupers, lonely types without families and without relatives willing to share in the burden of their care. Most of their names have long since been forgotten.¹⁶ Over the years, Ouray's newspapers referred to these residents as occupants, patients, and even inmates.

Superintendent Eldridge encouraged the old folks to get outside for fresh air. One old man by the name of George who had a "peg leg" was often spotted outside by neighbors during the last years of the Poor Farm's operation. He probably liked the garden which was planted with cauliflower, lettuce and other vegetables. Crabapple and apple trees shaded the front of the house and provided fruit in the fall. The majority of the fields were planted in hay. Eldridge and Hoskins did many of the farm chores while they were superintendents. A large barn and brick coal shed located on the property were later destroyed.¹⁷

The Poor Farm did not have twenty-three years of smooth operation. In January of 1929, Dr. Bates, serving as county physician, brought a matter of concern before the commissioners:

It happened this year that some of the patients made a habit of coming to Ouray and getting drunk, so we made a new rule that all patients had to stay on the farm all the time or else leave and could not be admitted again unless they applied for admittance same as any patient outside.¹⁸

Evidently this proposition did not solve the problem at the farm. At the May 7, 1930 county commissioners meeting, Dr. Bates more firmly addresses the issue of patient discipline. He introduced the following:

RULES FOR INMATES OF COUNTY FARM EFFECTIVE MAY 1ST., 1930

- No. 1 The Supt. J.D. Merling is in charge of all patients and is responsible for each one.
- No. 2 Patients are requested each morning to put their quarters in clean, sanitary condition and there will be no exceptions only in case of sickness.
- No. 3 Work will be assigned to each patient in and about the farm, when they are able and the weather permits.
- No. 4 Patients cannot leave the grounds of the COUNTY FARM but will be allowed to go to town or elsewhere with the SUPT. of the farm as he sees fit or necessary.
- No. 5 Patients will be allowed tobacco, provided cuspidors, beds and rooms are kept clean and sanitary.

¹⁶ Fred Zanett, interview by Gail Zanett Saunders, Grand Junction, July 13, 1995.

¹⁷ Jacobson, July 14, 1995.

¹⁸ *County Commissioners Proceedings*, Ouray County Courthouse, book 8, p. 149, January 8, 1929.

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Jackson, George, House
Ouray County, CO

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-
- No. 6 Refuse, ashes, magazines, papers and junk will not be allowed to collect inside or outside of the building (fire is always a hazard).
- No. 7 The SUPT. is required at all times to treat all patients the same, all beds, meals, entertainment, clothes, supplies shall be equal and uniform, unless otherwise ordered.
- No. 8 Any grievance of any patient will be welcome by the BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS.¹⁹

Evidently Dr. Bates rules worked as this was the last report on the inmates behavior.

In the 1930s, methods of caring for the poor were changing. Social security and old age pensions were being introduced along with state and federal relief programs. The Poor Farm was becoming an out dated system for taking care of the county's indigent.

The construction of a modern highway between Ouray and Ridgway also affected the continued use of the farm. The road was completed north of Ouray and south of Ridgway, but a strategic piece in the middle was missing. Carl J. Sigfrid, a prominent Ouray attorney, held the middle piece. His property was located to the north of the Poor Farm. He strongly objected to the highway, "cutting a slice out of the center of his farm." He pointed out, "that his farm property contains some of the best soil to be found in this section."²⁰

An agreement was finally reached. For the last section of ground needed to connect the highway, the commissioners resolved to trade the Poor Farm, both the house and the acreage to Sigfrid. The five remaining residents were transferred to Bates Hospital, and in December of 1937, the Eldridges left the Poor Farm for the last time. After twenty-three years of county operation, the Poor Farm became a piece of Ouray County history.²¹

Architecture

The Jackson House successfully combines stylistic elements from two popular, late 19th century architectural styles -- Queen Anne and Italianate. The house displays most of the defining characteristics of the Queen Anne style including: steeply pitched, cross-gabled roof; bay windows; both partial width and wrap-around porches; and a variety of materials to avoid a smooth-walled appearance. The McAlester's classify this type of brick variation of the style as patterned masonry. This type is characterized by its masonry walls with patterned brickwork or stonework and relatively little wood detailing. The Jackson House exhibits the extensive use of sandstone detailing to complement the red brick walls. Sandstone is used for the foundation and watertable, quoins, and the sills and lintels. The patterned chimney on the west gable is also typical of the type.

¹⁹ Ibid, book 8, p. 194, May 6, 1937.

²⁰ *Ouray Herald*, November 1, 1937.

²¹ *Ouray Herald*, December 10, 1937.

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Jackson, George, House
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Certain design elements of the Jackson House may also be found in the Italianate style. These include the tall, narrow windows; the round arched windows with sandstone hoods in the upper gables; the hood-like lintel and upper window surrounds on the first and second-story windows; the squared porch columns with beveled corners; and quoins. The house lacks the low-pitched roof with large overhanging eaves and decorative brackets typical of the style. The use of both Italianate and Queen Anne design elements may in part be explained by the late 1880s construction date, a period when both styles were popular in Colorado. Builders often copied popular stylistic elements from a variety of sources to produce distinctive structures for their clients.

The Jackson House compares favorably in integrity and stylistic significance to other Queen Anne and Italianate houses in the Ridgway/Ouray area. Other good examples of the Queen Anne style in the area are almost all wood-framed. These include the simple design of the Miller Place, west of Ridgway along Colo. Hwy. 62, and four buildings which contribute to the National Register Ouray Historic District: the one-story ca. 1888 Hurlburt House, 445 Fourth Street, with its elaborate wrap-around front porch; the two-story 1896 house at 422 Oak Street, with its intricate second-story window surrounds; the shingle sided, 1895 McCoy House, 510 5th Street; and the ca. 1890 high style Ashley House, at 505 4th Street. Only two examples of Queen Anne residences employing masonry may be found in the Ridgway/Ouray area besides the Jackson House. These are the one-story, 1914 Stanwood-Carmichael House, 706 Clinton in Ridgway, and the ca. 1888 house at 109 S. Laura Street house, also in Ridgway. The Stanwood-Carmichael House is an extremely late example of the style in a rectangular plan with a corner porch, front bay window, and front and side gables on a hipped roof. The Jackson House compares favorably with the Stanwood-Carmichael House and stands apart in its more vertical orientation and cross-shaped plan. The ca. 1888 Ridgway house at 109 S. Laura is a two-story brick building with cross-gabled roof. Two-story bay windows fill the gable ends. The historic front porch has been enclosed, decreasing the historic integrity. The house does not contain the stylistic elements employed in the Jackson House with its use of sandstone. None of these buildings include the Italianate elements found in the Jackson House.

The Queen Anne character of the Jackson House is evident when the building is compared to Italianate style structures in the Ridgway/Ouray area. Three contributing Italianate style buildings within the Ouray Historic District are the ca. 1895 Baker's Manor, 317 Second Street; the Kahn House, 645 Second Street; and St. Joseph's Hospital, 420 Sixth Ave.. The two wood-framed houses exhibit the characteristic low pitched roofs with bracketed eaves, paired windows, and porches with squared posts which denote the Italianate style. The stone and brick hospital building also exhibits the low-pitched roof, bracketed eaves, and tall narrow windows, and includes quoins and a pedimented entry. The design elements of these buildings place them firmly within the Italianate classification and they do not include, to any significant degree, the design elements of the Queen Anne style. Of all the houses in the Ridgway/Ouray area, none so successfully combines the stylistic features of the popular Queen Anne and Italianate styles in such a memorable masonry structure. The combination of style, quality, grand dimensions and detailing found in the Jackson House are unique in the Ridgway/Ouray area.

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Rathmell, William, *A Brief History of Ouray County*, unpublished manuscript, Ouray Public Library, undated.

Solid Muldoon (Ouray newspaper)

June 3, 1887

July 20, 1888

August 10, 1888

Sullenberger, Martha and Steven G. Baker, *A Historic Resources Survey of Ouray County, Colorado*, (Montrose, CO: Centuries Research, Inc., 1981).

Zanett, Fred, interview by Gail Zanett Saunders on July 13, 1995 in Grand Junction, Colorado.

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Verbal Boundary Description

A tract of land located in the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 2, Township 44 North, Range 8 West, N.M. P.M., Ouray County, Colorado, described as follows:

Beginning at a point of intersection of the South boundary of Section 2 and the East boundary line of U.S. Highway 550; thence 142 feet more or less along said right-of-way line to a point or intersection with an existing steel pipe fence; thence easterly along said pipe fence to a point of intersection with the Hosner-Brownyard Ditch to a point of intersection with the South line of Section 2; thence West along the South line of Section 2 to the East right-of-way of U.S. Highway 550, the point of beginning.

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes the Jackson House and its related historic landscape features, including the apple orchard, shade trees, and rear area formerly occupied by outbuildings. Additional land formerly associated with the house has lost its integrity due to the intersection of U.S. Highway 550.

Jackson, George, House
Name of Property

Ouray, CO
County/State

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property 1.3

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1. 13 262910 4218700
Zone Easting Northing

3. Zone Easting Northing

2. Zone Easting Northing

4. Zone Easting Northing

[] See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

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

Boundary Justification

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

11. Form Prepared By

name/title A. James Viets, Associate, American Institute of Architects
Gail Zanett Saunders

organization _____ date May 8, 1995

street & number 300 4th Street, POB 127 telephone 970-325-4894

city or town Ouray state CO zip code 81427

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

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

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

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional Items

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

Property Owner

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

name Doubletree/Warren Gibbs

street & number PO Box 0 telephone 970-325-4422

city or town Ouray state CO zip code 81427

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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PHOTOGRAPH LOG

The following information pertains to photographs numbers 1-20 except as indicated:

Name of Property: Jackson, George, House
Location: Ouray County, Colo.
Photographer: A. James Viets
Date of Photographs: May 1, 1995
Negatives: Warren Gibbs, Box O, Ouray, CO 81427

<u>Photo No.</u>	<u>Information</u>
1	Detail of porch, southwest corner of house; view to the northeast.
2	Detail of interior stairs at upper landing.
3	West and north elevations, noncontributing structure (mobile home) beyond; view to the southeast.
4	South elevation, upper story only; view to the north.
5	West elevation, southwest corner porch; view to the east.
6	North elevation, north porch; view to the southeast.
7	North and east elevation, west bay window; view to the southwest.
8	Detail of interior woodwork, west bay window.
9	First floor door and woodwork, looking toward west bay window.
10	First floor, fire damage.
11	First floor, entry foyer and stairs.
12	Date of Photograph: July, 1995 West elevation; view to the east.
13	Date of Photograph: July, 1995 West elevation detail; view to the east.

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<u>Photo No.</u>	<u>Information</u>
14	Date of Photograph: July, 1995 West elevation entry porch; view to the northeast.
15	Date of Photograph: July, 1995 West elevation porch detail; view to the east.
16	Date of Photograph: July, 1995 West elevation; view to the east.
17	Date of Photograph: July, 1995 South elevation bay detail; view to the northeast.
18	Date of Photograph: July, 1995 North elevation detail; view to the south.
19	Date of Photograph: July, 1995 Second floor stair landing.
20	Date of Photograph: July, 1995 South entry door.

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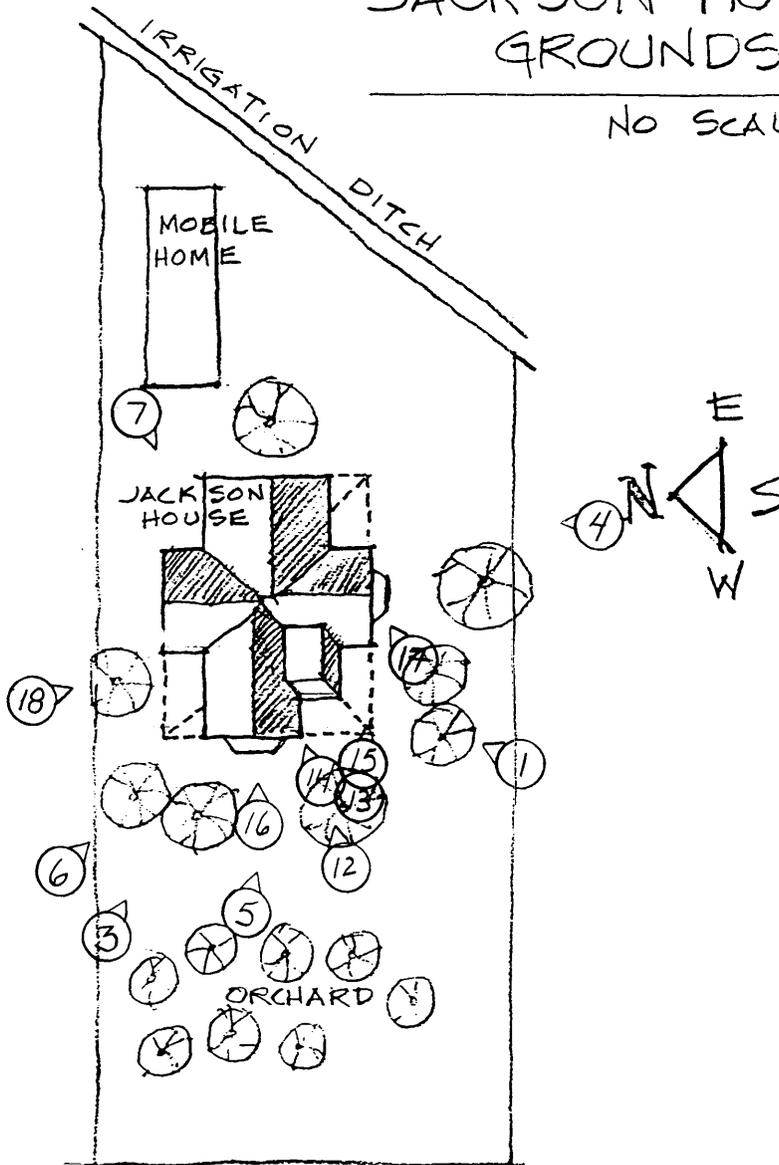
Jackson, George, House
Ouray County, CO

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PHOTOGRAPHS

SKETCH MAP
of the
JACKSON HOUSE
GROUNDS

NO SCALE



HIGHWAY 550

TO OURAY →

 Photograph location, view, and number

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Ouray County, CO

USGS TOPOGRAPHIC MAP
Ouray, Colo.
7.5 Minute Quad
1955, Photorevised 1983

