

PH008 7297

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

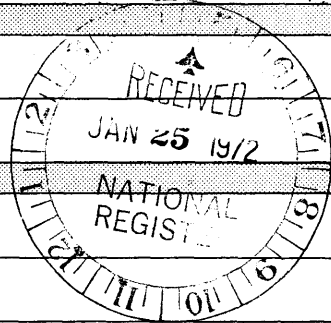
(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

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 type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PUBLIC ACQUISITION: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered Facade easement			
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) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Comments _____

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:

CITY OR TOWN: Trinidad STATE: Colorado CODE: 08

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

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

DATE OF SURVEY: August 1970 Federal State County Local

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

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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.

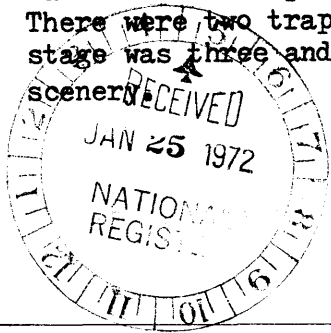
There is a bracketed crowning cornice rising to carved pediments, four of them, one centered in each of the four units. The pediments are unrelated to facade below. Segmental arches are used in the central unit. The words "Trinidad Opera House" are centered in the crowning pediment, with the date "1882"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



S E E I N S T R U C T I O N S

6. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 20th Century
<input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 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."

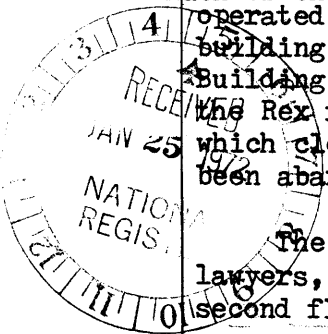
Much of the ground floor has been the Hausman Drug Store over the years, operated by the same family. There was a liquor store in the center of the building. A movie theater was located at the opposite corner from Hausman Building for many years. It was called the Maze Theater from 1910-1913, the Rex 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 9/20/80

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
 20
 WFM

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	°	'	"	°	'	"	37°	10'	5"	104°	30'	19"
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"						
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"						
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"						

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 1/4 acre

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

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

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

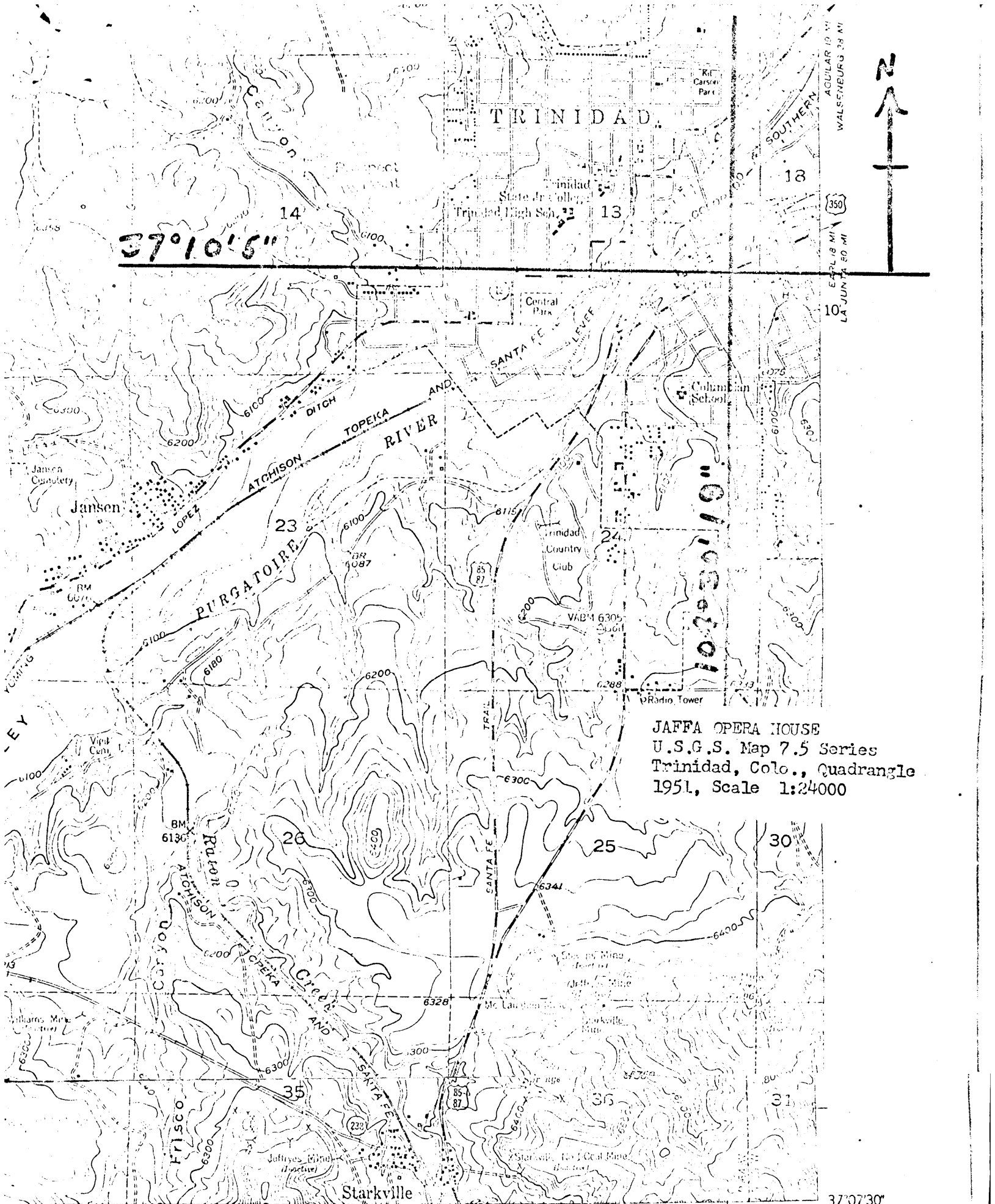
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Ernest A. Connolly
 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.

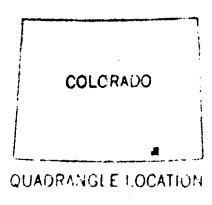
INTERIOR GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON, D. C. 20549

37°07'30"
 104°30'

1 MILE

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

- Heavy-duty 4 LANE 16 LANE Light-duty
- Medium-duty 4 LANE 16 LANE Unimproved dirt
- U.S. Route State Route



TRINIDAD, COLO.
 N3707.5—W10130/7.5

(CLMORO 1:25,000)