

1410

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: Hotel St. Regis

other names/site number: The Grand Hotel; The New Grand Hotel; St. Regis Hotel
5ME 4142

2. Location

street & number: 359 Colorado Avenue

(N/A) not for publication

city, town: Grand Junction

(N/A) vicinity

state: Colorado code: CO county: Mesa

code:077 zip code: 81501

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:		No. of contributing resources	
<u>N/A</u>		previously listed in the	
		National Register <u>0</u>	

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.

William Hartman September 21, 1992
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

Entered in the
National Register

I, hereby, certify that this 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:) _____

Alouise Byer 10/22/92

Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

6. Functions or Use

Historic Functions
(enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/Hotel
COMMERCE/Restaurant

Current Functions
(enter categories from instructions)

COMMERCE/Restaurant

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(enter categories from instructions)

Late 19th & 20th Century American
Movements - Commercial Style w/
Italianate influences

Materials
(enter categories from instructions)

foundations Brick

walls Brick

roof Asphalt

other

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

Situated in the main business district of the city of Grand Junction, the Hotel St. Regis is a three story brick veneer building built in three phases, beginning in 1892. Upon completion of the third phase in 1924 it exhibited a 19th Century Commercial style with some influences from an earlier Italianate style (photo #1). The building has a U-shaped plan which reflects three major additions to the original two story structure. (See site plan.) Three stories exist along the two street fronts and the west rear wing has two stories. The brick veneer walls are capped on the street sides with a wood and sheet metal cornice forming a parapet above the flat roof. A cupola sits above the northeast corner of the building, and is one of its most distinctive features. The hotel facade is a very simple design with windows evenly spaced and lined up above each other. The pattern of window placement was determined by the various additions to the original structure. The building angles across the corner at Colorado Avenue and Fourth Street to form the main entrance. There are secondary entrances on the east and north sides of the building. The historic exterior of the building has remained intact since its last major remodeling after a fire in 1924. The interior of the hotel has been changed several times since then.

The original structure, called the Grand Hotel, completed in 1894, stands on pilings and a brick foundation, with the center of the building supported by concrete piers. The building is of wood frame construction, with bricks and mortar placed between the studs and held in place by nails driven through studs. Brick and mortar was an accepted form of insulation at the time. A pressed metal facing covered the exterior of the building. Part of this metal facing still exists in an interior courtyard formed by the original building and the two story west wing, added in 1906 (photo #2).

(x) See continuation sheet

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St. Regis Hotel

In 1904, under new ownership, the metal facade on the street sides was removed and a white brick veneer added. Later that year a third story was added to the existing hotel, supported on steel "I" beams (still visible on the west side of the east wing) placed twelve feet apart over the old hotel portion (photo #3). The lobby once stood on the east side of the first floor just inside the current east entrance. Little remains of this part of the interior of the hotel except for the fireplace and the check-in boxes. The main staircase, reported to be rather elegant at the time, was destroyed in 1990 to provide additional space for a newly remodeled bar.

The hotel restaurant was located to the west of lobby. A ladies parlor and the sample rooms used by traveling salesmen were also located off the lobby on the ground floor. These rooms were remodeled in the 1950's to enlarge the bar at that time.

A two story west wing was built in 1906, which added rooms upstairs and a larger dining room space, a storeroom, a kitchen and pantry (photo #4). Simple wooden stair railings lead to the upper floors. The twenty new guest rooms upstairs on the third floor were equipped with lavatories; four of those had connecting baths. These changes gave the building its present U-shaped configuration.

The original character of the downstairs portion of the lobby and the restaurant have not been preserved. The lobby was once described as "Mission Style" in an old advertising brochure but the bar and restaurant do not particularly exhibit characteristics of this style. At the current time the first floor is open and operating as a bar and restaurant. The remaining downstairs rooms have been gutted in anticipation of future renovation. The second and third story hotel rooms are in a deteriorated state but are much as they must have existed at the turn of the century.

The Colorado Street elevation was realigned to have the same roof line as the three story Fourth Street elevation and the brick facade finished in a 1908 remodeling. The main indication on the street fronts that the hotel was built in several stages are the slightly different alignment of the windows where the first two story addition was added to the rear of the building and the window alignment and brick pattern on the west end of the Colorado Street face of the building (photo #5 & #6).

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St. Regis Hotel

A wood and metal cornice with florets stamped into the metal caps the street sides of the building (photo #7). This and the brick facade serve to give a unified appearance to the building.

The windows are tall and narrow with 1 x 1 double hung sash. The upper portions of the third story windows on the entrance corner and Colorado Avenue elevation have multiple lights. Though framed in wood and unarched to the inside of the building, all the windows exhibit segmental arches in the brick veneer at the top of the windows (photo #8). This, along with the small square panes in the upper part of the windows and the regular placement of the windows in the facade provide the simple design interest of the Commercial style building.

Even the main entrance to the hotel is somewhat plain and utilitarian appearing. Located at the angled corner on Colorado and Fourth Streets, it has a single door and a building plaque bearing the St. Regis name above the corner window (photo #9). The cupola above the entrance corner, added sometime between the 1904 addition of the third floor and the 1924 fire adds an architecturally interesting focal point. It is an octagonal shaped wood structure with fairly steep pitched roof, open to the air and the low walls and columns are sheathed with the same sheet metal as the cornice. It served as summer sleeping quarters for the family that owned the hotel (photo #10).

Scheduled for demolition before the current owner bought it and began a renovation process, it has recently been remodeled and once again serves as a bar and restaurant. The light colored brick veneer on the street fronts is deteriorating slightly but as a result of the remodeling, window frames on the first floor, the cornice and the cupola have been newly painted.

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
Commerce	1892 - 1942	1892
Architecture	1892	1892, 1904-08, 1924

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.

Criterion A - Commercial Significance

The St. Regis Hotel building has significance as representative of patterns of the commercial development of this area of Colorado and meets Criterion A. It is Grand Junction's last remaining example of a type of hotel that was prevalent during the first part of the century in the west, when the most important form of transportation was the railroad. The hotel meets Criterion C for its architectural significance as a Type, Period and Method of Construction in Grand Junction. The St. Regis is important architecturally as a type of building that characterized the development of small towns in the west. It is representative of the 19th Century Commercial Style and except for the cupola above northeast corner of the roof, it is a simple version of that style.

For many years this hotel served as headquarters for salesmen who brought new goods into the area. Special "Sample Rooms" were provided for them to show their wares. It was also a stopping place for railroad tourists, Grand Junction being the main stop-over point between the two larger cities of Denver and Salt Lake City. It was recognized as a leading hotel of western Colorado, situated on the corner of two major streets in the main business district of the community, within a short distance from the Rio Grande Railroad Depot. This area was alive with saloons and businesses frequented by miners, ranchers, farmers and railroad workers of western Colorado as well as tourists visiting the area on the railroad. The hotel was advertised as having "every essential feature of the first-class modern, metropolitan hotels..." Much of the early social life of the community was centered in the hotel. It housed a large bar and the ballroom for nightly dances. The hotel's restaurant, the "Flemish Dining Room", opened directly from the lobby, was known for its excellent cuisine and attracted numerous diners.

(x) See continuation sheet

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St. Regis Hotel

At different points in the history of the hotel, a shuttle was provided for rail passengers to get from the train station to the hotel; at first, horse-drawn and later a trolley car. Though the St. Regis has been deteriorating, it is still reminiscent of its former position in the community as one of the major hotels.

During the ownership of Harry Burnett Jr. in the "20's and 30's", the hotel was considered a very respectable hostelry, "one of the most prosperous hotels in Western Colorado." As a good businessman and politician (the only candidate from Western Colorado, he ran for the office of Secretary of State as a Republican in 1934, but lost), Burnett was a member of almost every service and social organization in town. Most of these organizations used the hotel as their meeting place. At that time, the new radio station broadcast live music from the St. Regis featuring a local dance band.

The hotel, from the turn of the century through the 40's, was a solid money maker, servicing the people who traveled by train. In later years, the bar was largely responsible for supporting the business. During World War II, flyers shuttling aircraft from the east coast to the west coast would stop over at the hotel while their planes were being serviced at the airport. During the 1950's "Uranium Boom", the bar business was so good that the Sample Rooms on the first floor were remodeled to make room for the crowds. During the 1960-1980 period, under new management, a lively country western style bar business overshadowed the hotel business.

Most people today know the hotel from the rather scandalous reputation it gained over its later years and not for its elegant early period. A change in methods of transportation, such as travel by automobile rather than rail, soon took travelers away from the center of town. The lack of off street parking, modernized bathroom facilities, a television in every room and other conveniences found in the newer motels, contributed to the decline of the hotel.

Despite the decline in its use as a hotel, the building still continued to operate as a restaurant and bar. The period of significance ends in 1942 to comply with the 50 year rule of the National Register.

The hotel has architectural significance because it exhibits several characteristic features of the Commercial Style. These include: the corner entry; the wood balloon frame construction with brick veneer; tall, narrow segmental arched windows placed in a regular pattern; and the sheet metal cornice forming a parapet above a flat roof on the street sides of the building. The fact that the hotel grew in size by various additions is indicative of the practical nature of this turn-of-the-century western hotel. It grew as the western part of Colorado grew, with availability of railroad service providing a great impetus.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Juanita M. Moston, A Twentieth Century Stopping Place: The St. Regis Hotel 1893-1990, Journal of the Western Slope, Volume 5, No. 4, Autumn 1990, Mesa State College, Grand Junction, CO.

Dallas, Sandra, No more Than Five to a Bed, Colorado Hotels in the Old Days, University of Oklahoma Press, Norman, 1967.

(x) See continuation sheet

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 # _____

- Primary location of additional data:
- State Historic Preservation Office
 - Other State agency
 - Federal agency
 - Local government
 - University
 - Other

Specify Repository:

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property: Less than one acre

UTM References

A	<u>1 2</u>	<u>7 1 0 6 2 0 </u>	<u>4 3 2 6 7 3 0 </u>	B	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
C	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	D	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing

() See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

E 21 ft of Lot 14 and Lots 15 & 16, Blk 124 Grand Junction

() See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

Boundaries include the property historically associated with the St. Regis Hotel

() See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

Name/Title: Juanita Moston, Historian & Angeline Barrett, Planning Technician

Organization: City of Grand Junction

Date: May 1992

Street & Number: 250 N. Fifth Street

Telephone: 244-1437

City or Town: Grand Junction

State: CO Zip Code: 81501

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St. Regis Hotel

Frederick E. Shearer, ed., The Pacific Tourist (New York: Adams & Bishop Publisher,
1884. Introduction.

Denver Times, December 1, 1896, p. 159.

Daily Sentinel, July 4, 1976.

Grand Junction News, April 22, 1893.

The Colorado State Business Directory, with Colorado Mining Directory Department,
Denver, CO, 1895 through 1905.

Sumner & Horn, The Booster Book, 1905.

Richard E. Tope, Objective History: Grand Junction, Colorado, (Grand Junction:
Museum of Western Colorado, 1984).

Correspondence with Mrs. Hazel Strasser, sister of Harry E. Burnett, November 1989.

Interview with Mrs. Catherine Blackshear, Hotel and Bar Manager, St. Regis Hotel,
1960 to 1980, January 1990.

Interview with Harry L. Burnett, son of last Burnett to own the business, October,
1989.

Harry E. Burnett's will, September 4, 1959, information in depositions and various
letters contained therein.

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Section number Photos Page _____

St. Regis Hotel

Photographs for St. Regis Hotel

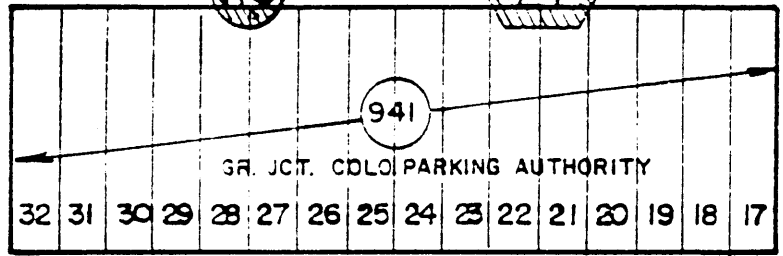
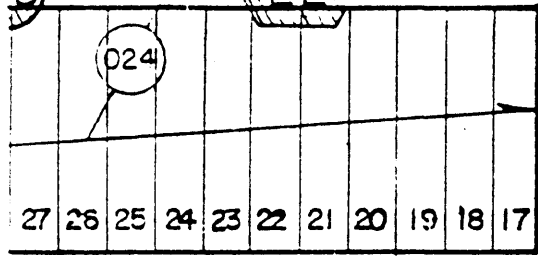
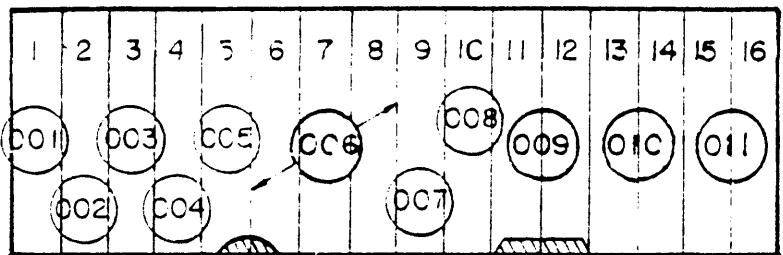
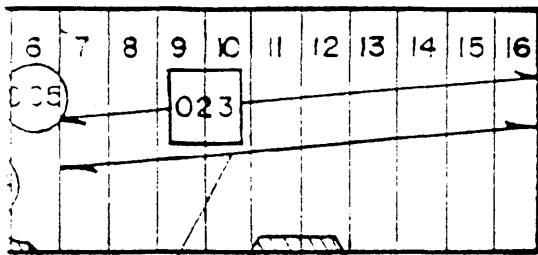
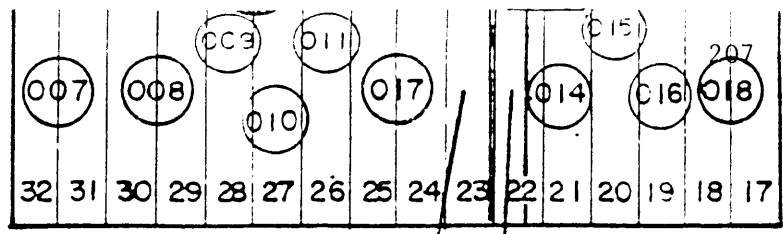
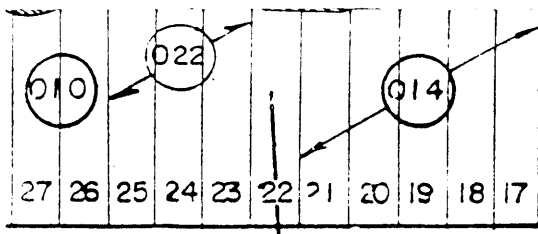
Mesa County, Colorado

Photographer - Angeline Barrett

Date of Photographs - April 25, 1992

Location of original negatives - Community Development Department,
City of Grand Junction

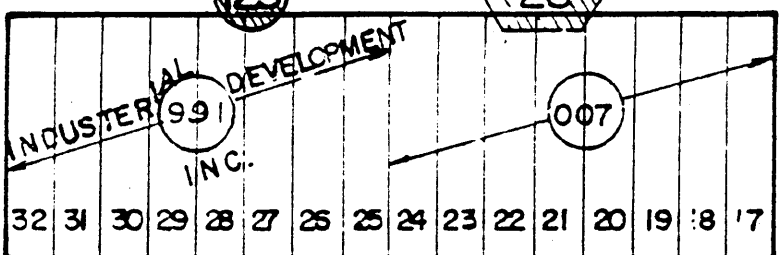
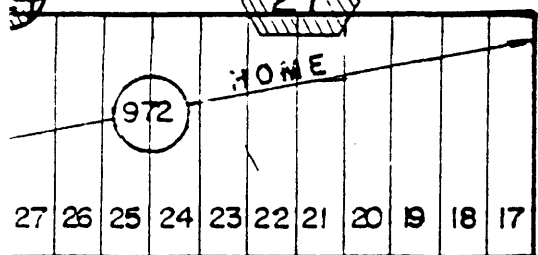
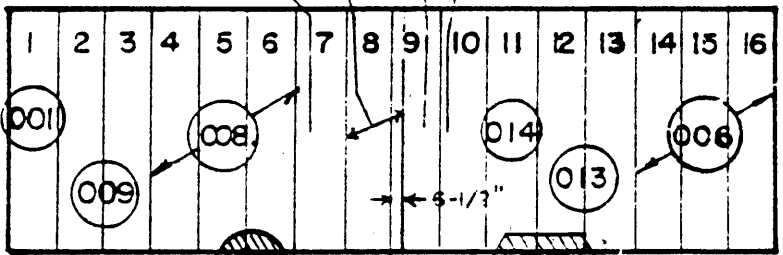
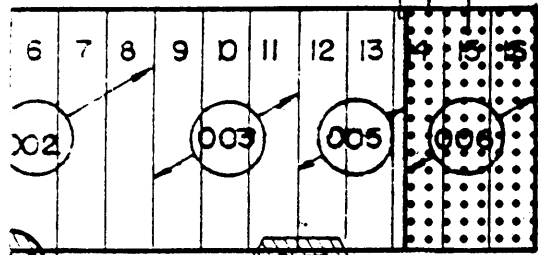
- Photo #1 View from the corner of Colorado Ave & 4th Street, camera direction southwest
- Photo #2 View from rear courtyard to west wall of courtyard; showing original pressed tin siding; camera direction--west
- Photo #3 View from rear courtyard to west wall of courtyard showing steel I beams that support third story addition; camera direction--southwest
- Photo #4 View from west parking lot looking toward west wall of 1906 west wing addition; camera direction--northeast
- Photo #5 View of north facing wall from across Colorado Avenue showing different window configuration with west wing addition; camera direction--south
- Photo #6 View of east facing wall from across 4th Street, showing window configuration changing at rear (southernmost) with third story addition; camera direction--southwest
- Photo #7 Metal cornice that caps the street sides of St. Regis building; camera direction west
- Photo #8 Typical St. Regis window with segmental arch; camera direction west
- Photo #9 View of corner at Colorado & 4th with St. Regis plaque; camera direction west
- Photo #10 Cupola on roof at corner above entrance; camera direction west



COLORADO

St. Regis Hotel

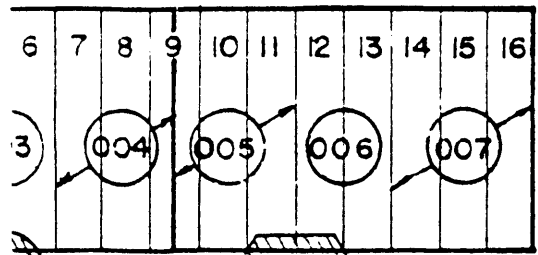
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Mesa County Assessors
Map No: 2945143

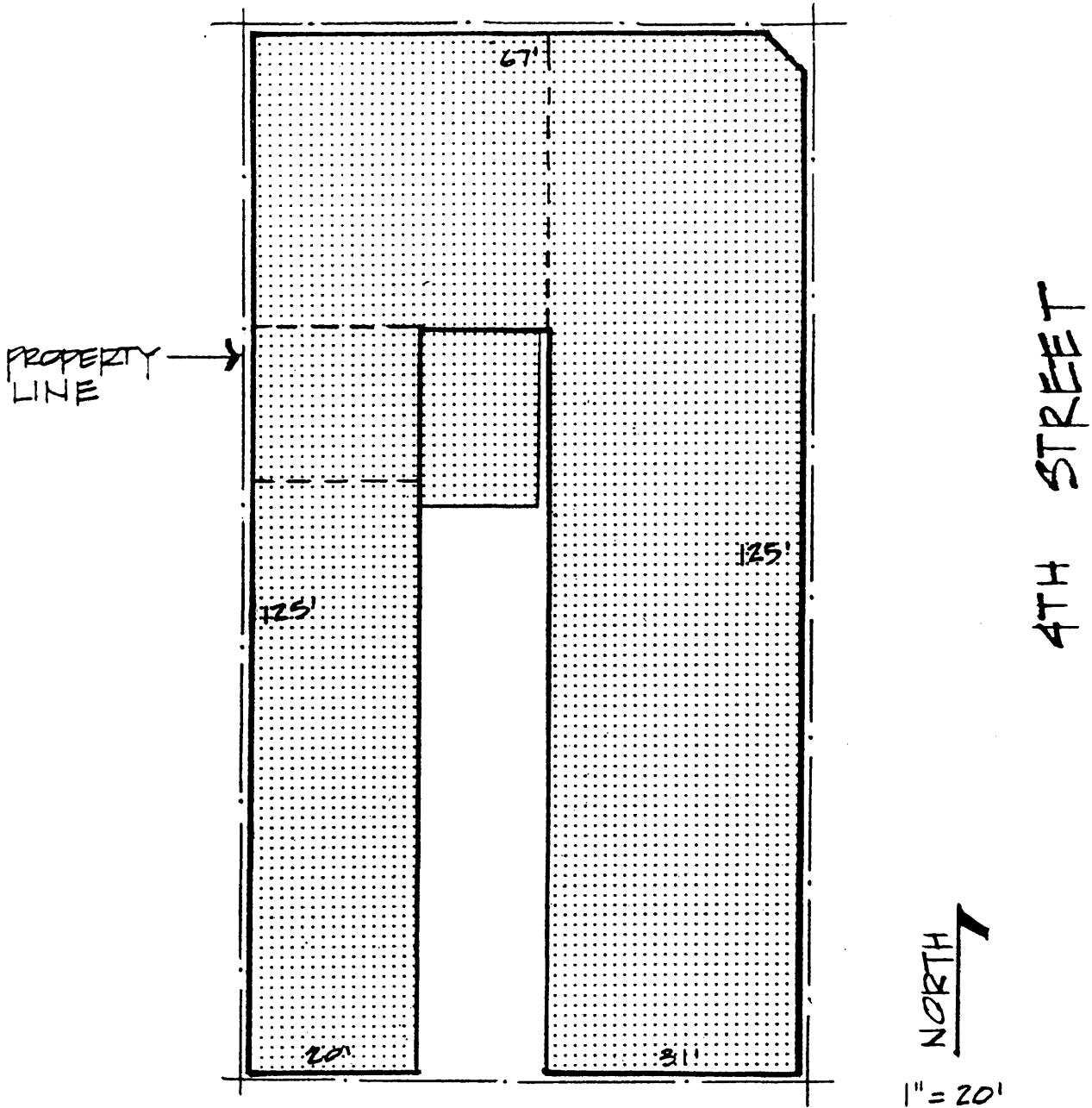
1" = 100'

AVE.

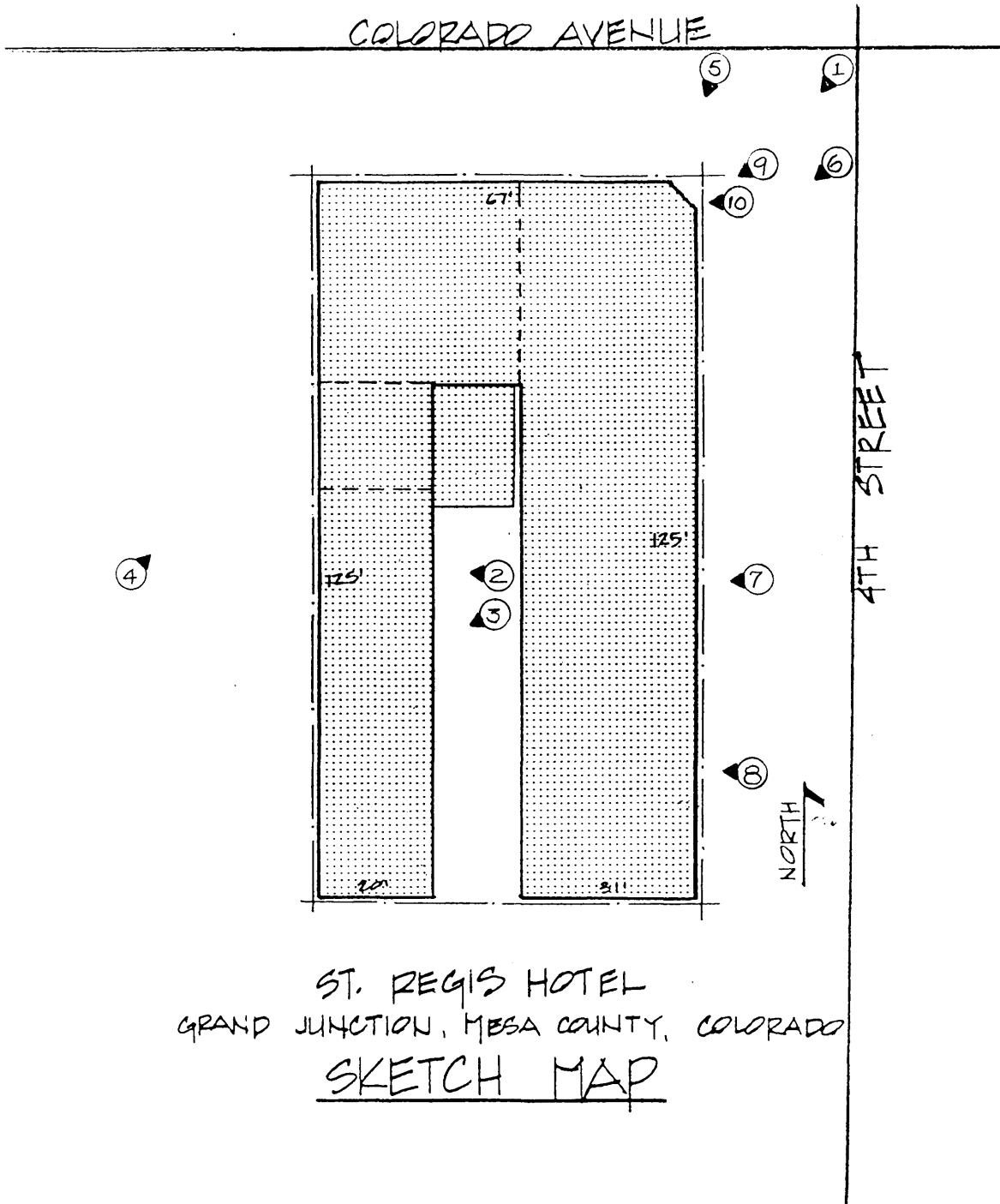


WHITMAN

COLORADO AVENUE



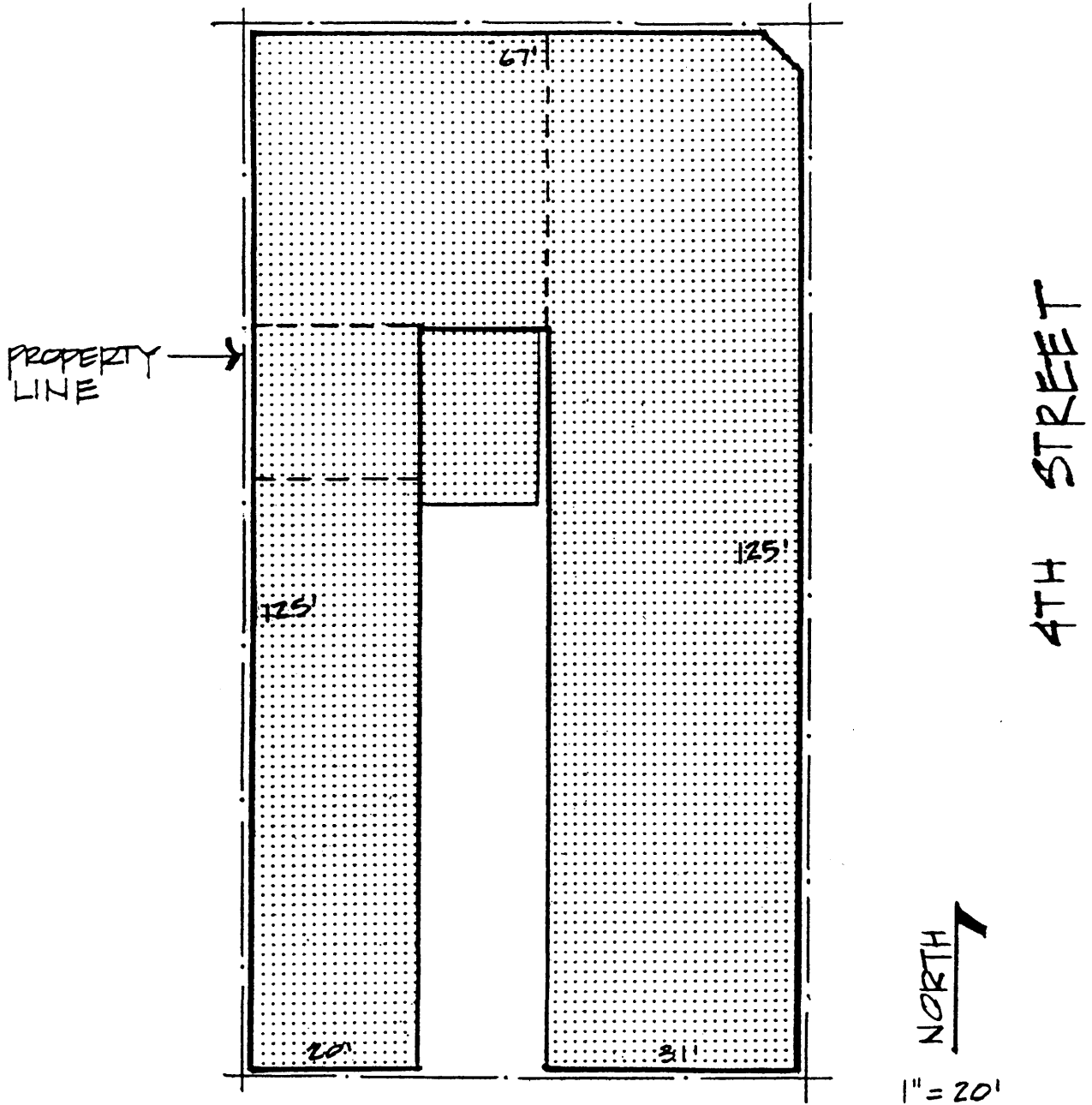
ST. REGIS HOTEL
GRAND JUNCTION, MESA COUNTY, COLORADO
SKETCH MAP



ST. REGIS HOTEL
GRAND JUNCTION, MESA COUNTY, COLORADO
SKETCH MAP

○ = photograph

COLORADO AVENUE



ST. REGIS HOTEL
GRAND JUNCTION, MESA COUNTY, COLORADO
SKETCH MAP