

COLORADO CULTURAL RESOURCE SURVEY

Architectural Inventory Form

Page 1 of 4

- Date _____ Initials _____
- _____ Determined Eligible-NR
- _____ Determined Not Eligible-NR
- _____ Determined Eligible-SR
- _____ Determined Not Eligible-SR
- _____ Need Data
- _____ Contributes to Eligible NR District
- _____ Noncontributing to Eligible NR District

I. IDENTIFICATION

1. Resource Number: 5CF406.78
2. Temporary Resource Number: 63
3. County: Chaffee
4. City: Salida
5. Historic Building Name: The Mail Building
6. Current Building Name:
7. Building Address: 127 E. 1st St.
8. Owner Name and Address: Taylor, Ralph H., P.O. Box 391, Salida, CO 81201

Parcel Number: 368132422241
SHF Grant Number: 2001-02-004

II. GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

9. P.M. N.M. Township 50N Range 9E
1/4 1/4 SE 1/4 SE 1/4 of Section 32

10. UTM Reference

Zone 13 Easting 413626 Northing 4265517

11. USGS Quad Name: Salida East, Colo.

Year: 1994 Map Scale: 7.5' Attach photo copy of appropriate map section.

12. Lot (s): 7

Block(s): 22

Addition: Salida Original Townsite

Year of Addition: 1880

13. Boundary Description and Justification:

Boundary includes the building and the urban parcel on which it is situated.

III. ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

14. Building Plan (footprint, shape): Rectangular

15. Dimensions in Feet: Length 102 X Width 27

16. Stories: 2

17. Primary External Wall Material(s) (enter no more than two):

Brick Stucco

18. Roof Configuration (enter no more than one):

Flat

19. Primary External Roof Material (enter no more than one): Asphalt

20. Special Features (enter all that apply):

Decorative Cornice

21. General Architectural Description:

Two-story rectangular red brick commercial building with flat roof with central parapet flanked by short piers with small statue (gargoyle) on top of one pier. Stone plaque reading "Salida Mail Estab. 1880." Corbelled cornice with band of molded brick below, concrete coping above, and brick end brackets. Three round arched panels with arches of bands of brick and panels filled with stucco below cornice. Upper story has three sets of paired 1/1-light double-hung sash windows with rock-faced stone lintels and continuous stone sill course. Corners of upper story have piers of rock-faced brick, while pilasters flanking windows have stuccoed panels. Band of molded brick below

sill course.

First story has wide stuccoed band above storefront. Façade is divided into two bays. At west end of façade is entrance to stairs to upper story, which is slightly inset and has a door with rectangular light, transom, and clerestory window. The storefront has an inset central entrance flanked by angled walls, metal frame plate glass windows with dark brown brick below windows, and a door with rectangular light and transom. There is a band of clerestory windows above the storefront.

Large, open, metal frame addition with gabled roof at rear.

22. **Architectural Style/Building Type:** Late 19th and Early 20th Century American Movements/Commercial Style

23. **Landscaping or Special Setting Features:**

N/A

24. **Associated Buildings, Features, or Objects:**

None

IV. ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY

25. **Date of Construction:** Estimate 1893-1898 **Actual**

Source of Information: Sanborn maps, 1893 and 1898

26. **Architect:** Unknown

Source of Information:

27. **Builder/Contractor:** Unknown

Source of Information:

28. **Original Owner:** Unknown

Source of Information:

29. **Construction History (include description and dates of major additions, alterations, or demolitions):**

The 1898 Sanborn map shows the building as one story. A second story was added in 1902. A 1909 photograph of the building shows that there was a triangular pediment at the top of the central parapet, the upper story windows were large 1/1-light double-hung sash (one in each bay), and the storefront had two large display windows with paneled kickplates flanked by round columns and an off-center entrances at the west end. The upper story windows were changed after 1981. The metal structure at the rear was added after 1945. The current owner, Ralph Taylor, added the gargoyles.

30. **Original Location:** Yes **Date of Moves**

V. HISTORICAL ASSOCIATIONS

31. **Original Use(s):** Commerce and Trade

32. **Intermediate Use(s)** Commerce and Trade/Professional

33. **Current Use(s):** Social/Civic

34. **Site Type(s):** Commercial Building

35. **Historical Background:**

The 1890 Sanborn map shows a two-story frame restaurant on this site, while the 1893 map is labeled "ruin of fire." The 1898 map shows a one-story rectangular building indicated as a vacant store. The 1 January 1903 Salida Mail records that the Salida Mail added a second story to its business building at a cost of \$2,650 in 1902. The upstairs offices housed professionals according to the city directory of 1903-04, such as William N. Keller and John F. Roe, both physicians.

A history of the newspaper was published in the 17 October 1955 edition of the Mountain Mail. The Mountain Mail, founded by M.R. Moore and H.C. Olney, began publication in South Arkansas on 5 June 1880, just a month after the D&RG had reached the settlement. Governor Hunt, representing the Salida Town Company, offered Moore and Olney a lot in town to establish a newspaper. They rented type and presses previously used by the Cleora Journal.

The paper changed from weekly to daily and its name became the Salida Mail on 20 January 1882. The masthead slogan was "Colorado produces millions of silver and silver is King." In 1883 W.W. Wallace (formerly of Coal Creek) purchased the newspaper. H.C. Crawford and J.F. Erdlen acquired the paper in 1884; Erdlen stayed with the paper for 20 years, but Crawford's interest was sold to A.J. Truesdell (from Minnesota) less than a year later. In March 1888, the publication was a semi-weekly and cost \$2.50 per year. The publishers had created a semi-weekly in 1885. C.F. Brown purchased Truesdell's interest in July 1888, and Brown sold his part of the business to Erdlen in 1890. In 1903 Erdlen sold the Mail to L.A. Hollenbeck and T. "Ed" Jarrett. Jarrett, due to poor health, transferred his interest to his mother, Sarah E. Jarrett, in March 1904. In June 1904 Hollenbeck sold his interest to Mrs. Jarrett and M.M. Smith, who had been a railroad employee for 20 years. In 1904 the Mail Publishing Co., with Smith as president, became owner of the paper. John Erdlen became publisher again in 1905 after S.J. England and Sarah Jarrett acquired the paper. Jarrett sold her interest to Mrs. Frances Fuller in the same year, with the operating firm known as England and Fuller. In 1906 E.A. Newton, formerly of the Alamosa Courier, became publisher and A.M. Hubert of the Mail served as editor. Newton sold his interest to John M. O'Connell of Denver, who became editor, in 1915. The Mail became a daily again in 1936. In 1948 O'Connell retired, selling to Leigh M. Abbey, of Kansas, who had also purchased the Salida Record and consolidated the two newspapers. Abbey sold the newspaper to George E. Oyler in 1951. George Oyler subsequently changed the name back to The Mountain Mail.

The Mail was listed at this address in the 1909 city directory, but the 1911-12 city directory listed the newspaper (Issued on Tuesdays and Fridays) at 211 F Street. The 1914 Sanborn map showed a book and stationery store in the front two-story part of the building and a printer's shop at the rear. In 1922 Coe Branch, a furniture dealer, was operating here. The Coe Furniture Company was also listed here in the 1927 and 1930-31 city directories. Braswell Auto Parts (Frank Braswell, owner) was located at this address in 1951.

36. Sources of Information:

Chaffee County Assessor records; Salida City Directories; Sanborn Insurance Maps; Salida Walking Tours; Survey Form, 127 E. 1st, 1981; Denver Public Library, Western History Department, Clipping Files, Salida; Mountain Mail, 17 October 1955, 1.

V. SIGNIFICANCE

Local Landmark Designation: No

Date of Designation:

Designating Authority:

38. Applicable National Register Criteria:

- A. Associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad pattern of our history;
- B. Associated with the lives of persons significant in our past;
- C. Embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or represents the work of a master, or that possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or
- D. Has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important to history or prehistory.

Qualifies under Criteria Considerations A through G (See Manual).

X Does not meet any of the above National Register criteria.

39. Area(s) of Significance:

40. Period of Significance:

41. Level of Significance:

42. Statement of Significance:

This building is associated with Salida's oldest and longest-running newspaper, the Mountain Mail, which enlarged the building to two stories and occupied it during the early twentieth century. The building, although altered on the first story, retains its decorative cornice with parapet, arched panels, and stone trim on the upper story.

43. Assessment of Historic Physical Integrity Related to Significance:

The first story of the building has been extensively altered and the upper story windows are replacements for the original large 1/1-light double-hung sash windows. However, the building retains many original details on the second story.

VI. NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT

44. National Register Field Eligibility Assessment: Not eligible

45. Is there National Register district potential? Discuss. N/A

This building is located within an existing National Register district, the Salida Downtown Historic District.

If there is NRHP district potential, indicate contributing status: N/A

b. If the building is in an existing NRHP district, indicate contributing status: Contributing

VIII. RECORDING INFORMATION

47. Photographic Reference(s): 10: 36A; 11: 28.

Negatives Filed At: City of Salida

Photographer: Roger Whitacre

48. Report Title: Downtown Salida Historic Buildings Survey, 2001-02

49. Date(s): September 2002

50. Recorder(s): R.L. Simmons/T.H. Simmons

51. Organization: Front Range Research Associates, Inc.

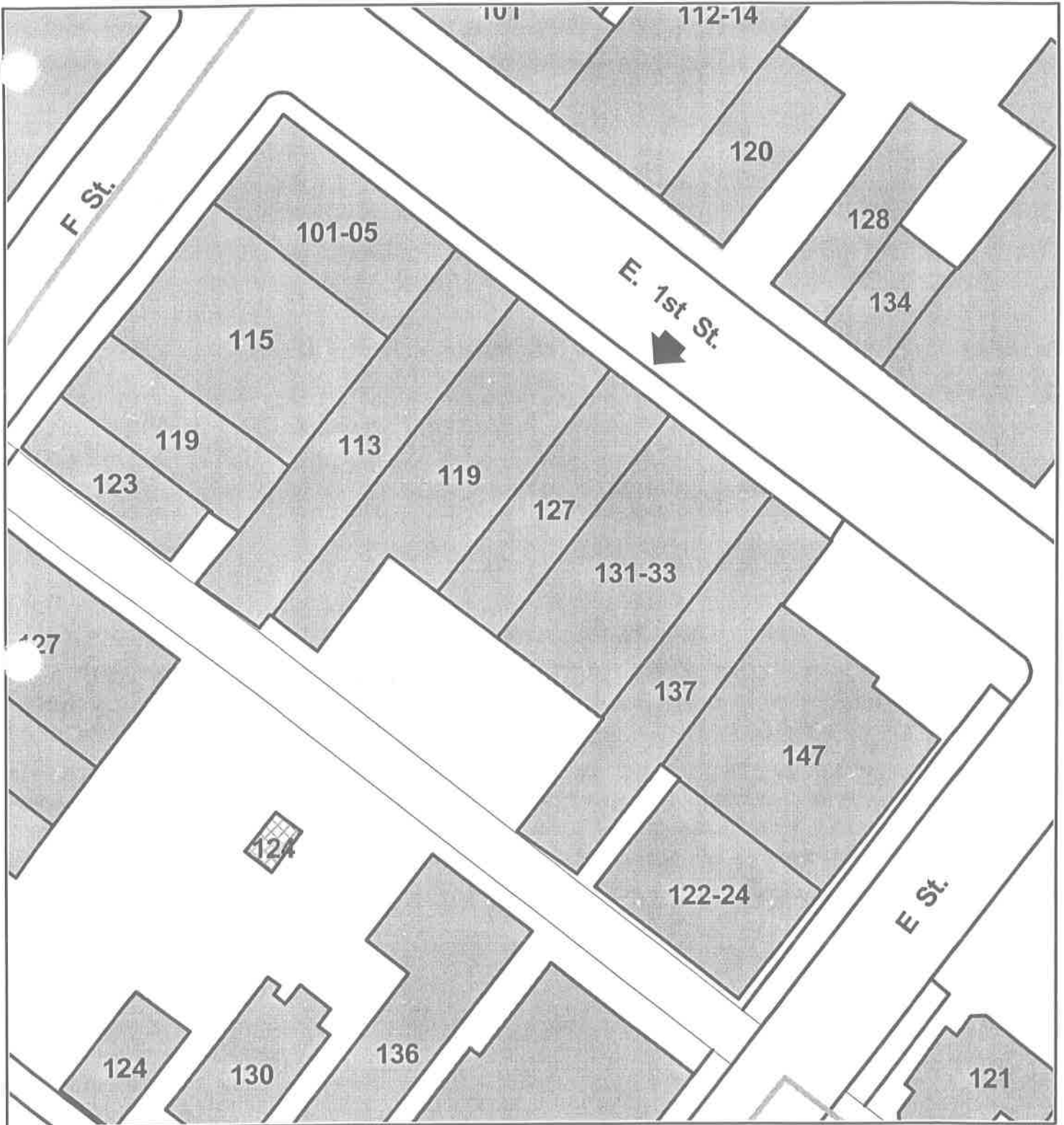
52. Address: 3635 W. 46th Ave.

53. Phone Number(s): (303) 477-7597

NOTE: Please attach a sketch map, a photocopy of the USGS quad map indicating the resource's location, and photographs.

Colorado Historical Society-Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation
1300 Broadway, Denver, Colorado 80203 (303) 866-3395

Downtown Salida Historic Buildings Survey, 2001-02
Sketch Map

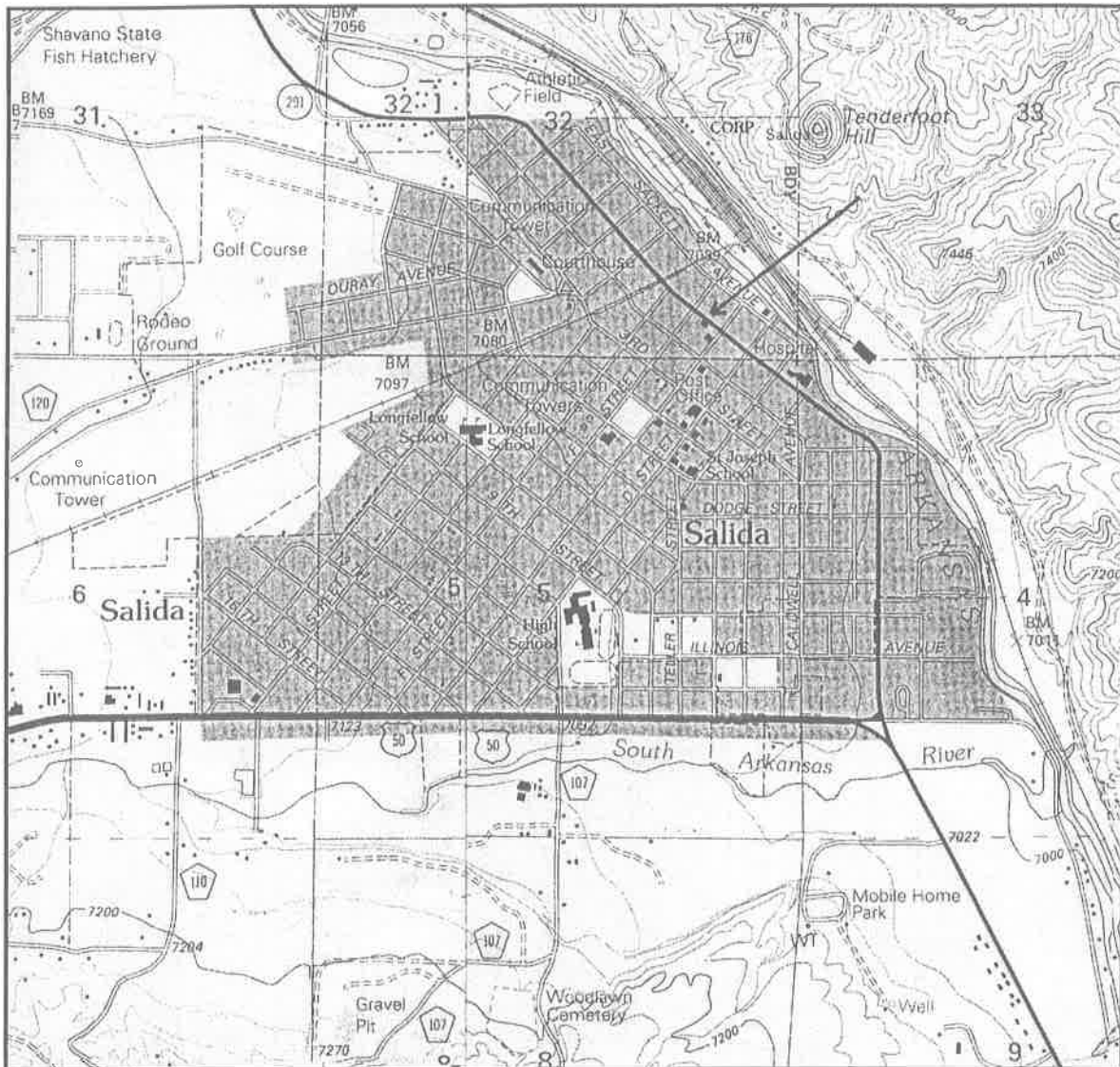


127 E. 1st Street, 5CF406.78



Downtown Salida Historic Buildings Survey, 2001-02
USGS Location Map

127 E 1st St, 5CF406.78



Mosaic of extracts from U.S. Geological Survey, "Salida East, Colo.," and "Salida West, Colo.," (Denver, Colo.: U.S. Geological Survey, 1994).

