

COLORADO CULTURAL RESOURCE SURVEY  
**Architectural Inventory Form**

Official Eligibility Determination  
(OAHP Use Only)

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: 5CF2030
2. Temporary Resource Number: 1
3. County: Chaffee
4. City: Salida
5. Historic Building Name: Myers/Wilson/Shewalter House
6. Current Building Name: N/A
7. Building Address: 316 E St.
8. Owner Name and Address: SULZENFUSS ALAN L, PO BOX 222, SALIDA, CO 81201

Parcel Number: 380705150114  
SHF/CLG Grant Number: CO-05-018

**II. GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION**

9. P.M. N.M. Township 49N Range 9E  
SE 1/4 NE 1/4 NW 1/4 NE 1/4 of Section 5
10. UTM Reference Zone 13 Easting 413503 Northing 4265298
11. USGS Quad Name: Salida East, Colo. Year: 1983 Map Scale: 7.5'
12. Lot (s): 4 (SW 15'), 5 Block(s): 50  
Addition: Haskell's Addition Year of Addition: 1881
13. Boundary Description and Justification:  
Boundary includes the building and the parcel on which it is located.

**III. ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION**

14. Building Plan (footprint, shape): Irregular
15. Dimensions in Feet: Length 61 X Width 35
16. Stories: 1
17. Primary External Wall Material(s) (enter no more than two):  
Brick
18. Roof Configuration (enter no more than one):  
Gabled/Cross Gabled
19. Primary External Roof Material (enter no more than one): Metal
20. Special Features (enter all that apply):  
Porch, Segmental Arch Window, Chimney, Decorative Cornice, Fence
21. General Architectural Description:

One-story painted brick dwelling with original gabled L section and rear addition. House has metal roofing, overhanging eaves, and a metal-clad chimney. Steeply-pitched gables with gable ornaments. Front gable end has paired double-hung sash windows in an arched opening, with incised pilaster between the segmental arch windows; shared painted stone sill. At the angle of intersection of the gables is a projecting hipped roof porch with plain frieze, short classical columns atop paneled brick balustrade and a side entrance with curved concrete steps. South end of the porch is enclosed with glazing. Two doors with segmental arch transoms face the porch (one facing east and one north) and have paneled and glazed doors. One tall, narrow, segmental arch, double-hung sash window faces the porch north of the entrance and has a painted stone sill. There is a porch swing.

North. The north gable end has paired windows in an arched opening divided by a pilaster, as on the facade. The foundation is visible on the north as painted blocks of stone. There is a shed roof section further west, which has three short windows with replacement sliding windows. Projecting to the north at the rear is a flat roof painted brick bay with cornice with block dentils. The bay has a triple window on the east wall with sash and transom windows. The projecting bay has a painted brick chimney with metal pipe top. The north wall has three short sliding windows, and there is a shed roof projection on the rear.

South. There is a tall metal chimney pipe attached to the upper wall at the east end of the south wall. Toward the east end of the south wall is a single segmental arch double-hung sash window with an arched transom and stone sill, followed by a flat arch double-hung sash window with stone sill. Further west is a slightly inset flat roof bay with a short segmental arch window with stone sill. This is followed by a flat roof projection with a beveled wall facing southeast that has a tall segmental arch window and a tall brick chimney.

22. **Architectural Style/Building Type:** Late Victorian

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

Level site with grass; two maple trees in front and an evergreen tree next to house. Chain link fence on north.

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

Garage with side gable roof with carport on south, drop siding, and two overhead garage doors on alley.

#### IV. ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY

25. **Date of Construction:** Estimate 1885-1890 Actual

**Source of Information:** Sanborn Map, 1890 and panoramic photograph, 1885

26. **Architect:** Unknown

**Source of Information:**

27. **Builder/Contractor:** Unknown

**Source of Information:**

28. **Original Owner:** Marion Myers

**Source of Information:** Salida Mail, 29 September 1931, 1

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

Sanborn maps and a historic photograph indicate this house was built during the late 1880s. The house is not shown on the 1882 bird's-eye-view map nor on an 1885 panoramic photograph of Salida. The 1888 Sanborn map indicates only "detached dwellings" for this block, but does not show footprints. The house appears on the 1890 Sanborn map as an L-shaped footprint, with a porch on the north end of the facade. The same basic footprint is shown on the 1893, 1898, 1904, 1909, and 1914 Sanborn maps. No garage is shown in those years. However, the porch was extended fully across the front of the house between 1893 and 1898. Between 1914 and 1929 the house received a rear addition which projected slightly to the north and had a small open porch at the rear on the north end. Also during that time, a garage was erected at the rear of the lot. The Sanborn maps show that the porch was shortened between 1914 and 1929 to its present length.

30. **Original Location:** Yes **Date of Moves:** N/A

#### V. HISTORICAL ASSOCIATIONS

31. **Original Use(s):** Domestic/Single Dwelling

32. **Intermediate Use(s):** Domestic/Single Dwelling

33. **Current Use(s):** Domestic/Single Dwelling

34. **Site Type(s):** House, Single Family Dwelling

35. **Historical Background:**

This house was erected during the late 1880s by Marion Myers, a pioneer of Chaffee County. The 1900 and 1910 U.S. Censuses and city directories of 1903-04, 1905-06, 1910-11, and 1911-12 indicate that this was the residence of Marion and Mary G. Myers and their daughter, Edna B. Myers. Marion Myers was a 45-year employee of the

Denver & Rio Grande Railroad, working as a fireman. He was born in Tynesta, Pennsylvania, on 17 August 1857. In 1878 he came to Colorado and settled at Poncha Springs. On 13 April 1881 he married Mary G. Albright. She was born in Prescott, Wisconsin, on 5 September 1860 and moved to Missouri in 1868. She came to Colorado in 1879 and lived in Chaffee County after her marriage. Mr. and Mrs. Myers had one daughter, Edna B. Myers Allan (b. 1882) of Salida, the wife of Walter J. Allan. The 1910-12 city directories indicate that Marion Myers was a partner in a book and stationery store on F Street with W.J. Allan (W.J. Allan & Co.) The Allan's children were born in this house. Mary G. Myers died on 14 June 1918 after an illness of several months. Mr. Myers then lived with his daughter on F Street and retired on 17 August 1927. After undergoing an operation at the Rio Grande Hospital he died in September 1931.

The 1920 U.S. Census found that this was the residence of Blanche P. Wilson (widow of Harmon Wilson) and her son, Earl C. Wilson, a brakeman for the Denver & Rio Grande Railroad. Also living here was Mrs. Wilson's mother, Laura Proctor, age 80 and also a widow. Blanche Wilson was described as "one of the most well known and loved pioneer residents of Salida." She was born 23 January 1861 near Shamrock, Missouri, where she was educated. She married Harmon Wilson in 1889, and in 1896 they moved to Salida. Harmon Wilson worked in the Salida Mine and died in 1901.

The 1922-23 city directory showed Blanche and Earl Wilson at this address, and the 1930 U.S. Census showed Mrs. Wilson living with her son and his wife and child. Earl Wilson was born in Missouri in 1890 and worked for the D&RG as a brakeman and later as a conductor on the Second Division, running between Salida and Grand Junction. He and his wife, Ellen, had two daughters. In 1932 the Wilson family moved to Grand Junction, where Earl Wilson died of pneumonia in May 1932 after an illness of only two days. Blanche Wilson then lived in Salida alone. In 1935 she fell out of bed and broke her hip on Christmas Eve. The Salida Mail reported she "lay there unable to make her cries heard until 11:00 o'clock on Christmas morning when she was found by her neighbors...." She died in the Rio Grande Hospital on 4 February 1936, and the Salida Mail noted, "She made friends with both young and old and there is not a person in Salida who is not her friend and who is not grieved to hear of her death."

A 1935-36 directory of Salida indicates that this was the residence of Mary A. Songster, a pioneer of Leadville. Mrs. Songster, widow of Joseph Songster, had been living with her daughter and son-in-law, Bessie M. and John B. "Bert" Shewalter, at 218 E Street at the time of the 1920 Census. By the 1950s, the Shewalters were living here. Bessie Shewalter served as Chaffee County Superintendent of Schools for 37 years. She was born and educated in Leadville and attended college at Greeley and Gunnison. Her first year of teaching was at Wray, Colorado, in 1912. She met Bert Shewalter, who worked for the Denver & Rio Grande, and they married in 1915 and moved to Salida. Bessie Shewalter taught in rural schools of Chaffee County for 15 years. In 1930 she was elected as County Superintendent, a job she held until the post was abolished in 1967. Her office was in Buena Vista until 1932. At one time she was in charge of 25 rural schools, which she tried to visit once a month in her Model A. She later recalled often being stuck in snow or mud on such trips. John B. Shewalter was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles B. Shewalter, who were pioneers of Chaffee and Saguache counties. For many years he worked as an engineer on the Third and Fourth divisions of the Denver & Rio Grande Railroad. He later became an engineer for the Koppers Treating Plant in Salida. John B. Shewalter passed away in 1960. Bessie M. Shewalter continued to live in this house and died in Salida Hospital in 1971.

### 36. Sources of Information:

Salida Mail, 14 June 1918, 1, 29 September 1931, 1; (Salida) Mountain Mail, 19 February 1960, 1, 5 October 1965, 9 November 1965, 1-2, 16 June 1971, 3; Chaffee County Assessor; Salida City Directories; Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps; Jean Shaputis, Fairview Cemetery Index, <http://www.rootsweb.com/~usgenweb/co/chaffee.htm>, retrieved 26 September 2005; U.S. Census, 1900, 1910, 1920, 1930; Bird's-Eye-View Map, 1882; Panoramic photograph of Salida, William Henry Jackson photographer, 1885, Russ Collman, ed., Trails Among the Columbine (Denver: Sundance Publications, Ltd., 1992), 40.

## VI. SIGNIFICANCE

37. Local Landmark Designation: No

Date of Designation: N/A

Designating Authority: N/A

Local Landmark Eligibility: Yes

Local Landmark Criteria: 1 - Exemplary Property X 3 - Architectural Signif. 5 - Archeological Imp.  
X 2 - Historic Signif. 4 - Noted Designer: 6 - Contributing Bldg.

**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:** N/A

**40. Period of Significance:** N/A

**41. Level of Significance:** N/A

**42. Statement of Significance:**

This house is representative of the one-story brick dwellings erected along the 300 block of E Street in Salida in the 1880s. Late Victorian architectural features exhibited in the house are the brick walls atop a stone foundation, tall narrow double-hung sash windows (segmental arch and set into wide arches) with stone sills; wood gable ornaments; two paneled and glazed doors facing the porch. Several historic occupants of the house were workers for the Denver & Rio Grande Railroad, which was a major employer in Salida. Marion Myers, who built the house, was a pioneer of Chaffee County and a 45-year employee of the railroad. Longtime resident Bessie M. Shewalter served as Chaffee County Superintendent of Schools for 37 years. The building is not considered eligible to the National or State Registers.

**43. Assessment of Historic Physical Integrity Related to Significance:**

The house underwent alterations between 1914 and 1929, including changes to the front porch and the creation of a rear addition with porch. Other alterations include some sliding windows on the north toward the rear, painted brick and stone, metal roofing, and metal chimneys.

**VII. NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT**

**44. National Register Field Eligibility Assessment:** Not eligible

**45. Is there National Register district potential? Discuss.** Yes

This resource was documented as part of survey of scattered resources in Salida. A previous reconnaissance of this neighborhood found that this area has high potential for containing a historic district. The boundaries of such a district have not yet been identified since only a small number of resources have been surveyed. A preliminary evaluation of whether this property would be a contributing resource, if found to be within the boundaries of a district, has been made to assist future studies.

If there is NRHP district potential, indicate contributing status: Contributing

**46. If the building is in an existing NRHP district, indicate contributing status:** N/A

**VIII. RECORDING INFORMATION**

**47. Photographic Reference(s):** 1: 28, 30, 32

Negatives Filed At: City of Salida

Photographer: Roger Whitacre

**48. Report Title:** Salida, Colorado, Historic Buildings Survey, 2005-06

**49. Date(s):** July 2005

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

**51. Organization:** Front Range Research Associates, Inc.

**52. Address:** 3635 W. 46th Ave., Denver, CO 80211

**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.

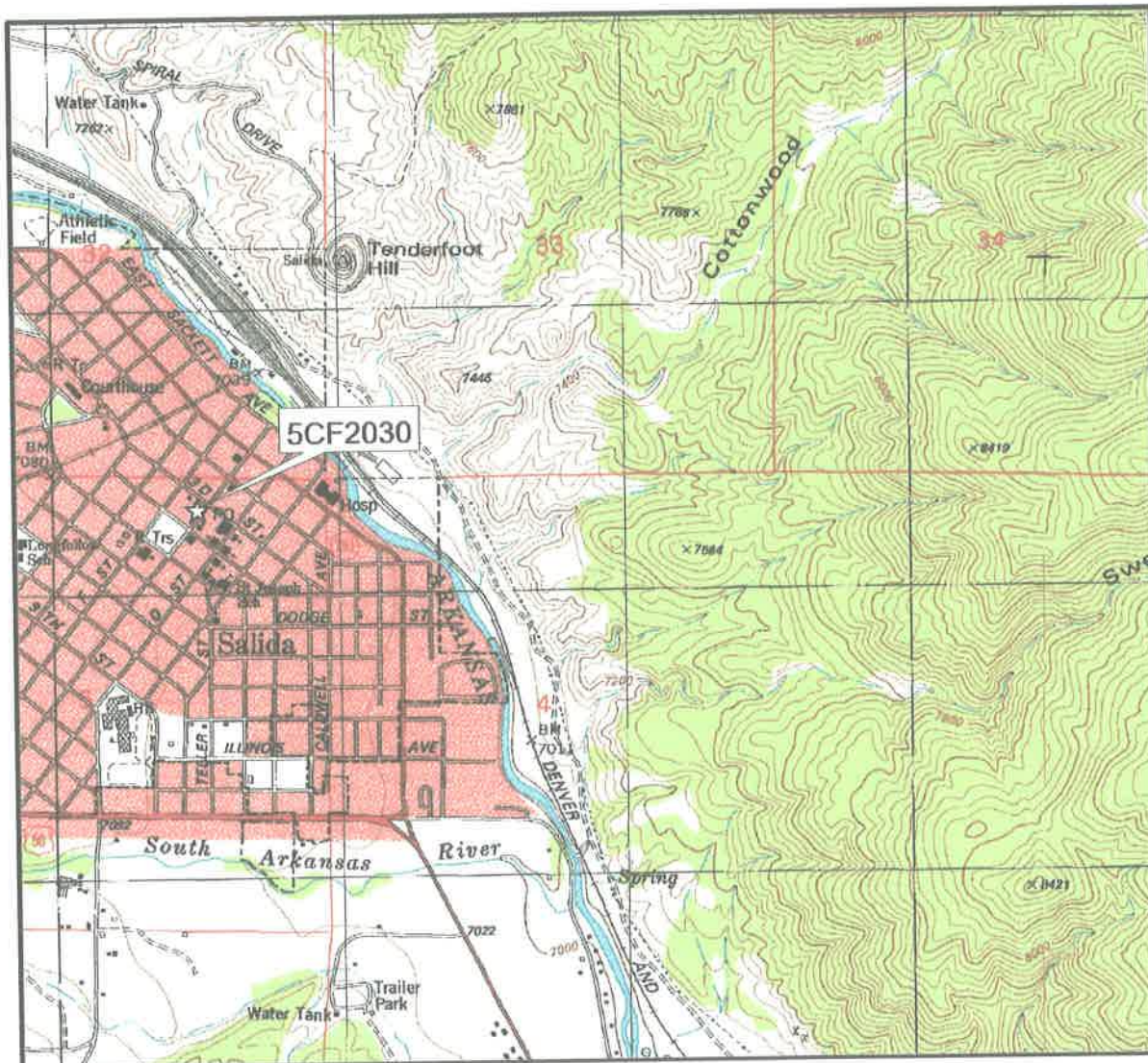
Colorado Historical Society-Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation  
1300 Broadway, Denver, Colorado 80203 (303) 866-3395



316 E Street



SOURCE/NOTE: Based on CAD file supplied by the Town of Salida. The darker-shaded resource is described by this survey form. Other resources surveyed in this project are shaded gray. Associated outbuildings (if any) are crosshatched. Resources not included in this project are not shaded. Dashed line is boundary of Salida Downtown Historic District.



316 E Street



SOURCES/NOTES: Extract of U.S. Geological Survey 7.5 minute quadrangle map, "Salida East, Colo." (1983). A star with a label indicates the location of the surveyed resource.

