



ARCHITECTURAL/HISTORICAL COMPONENT FORM

IMPORTANT: USE IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE GREEN INVENTORY RECORD FORM FOR RECORDING HISTORIC STRUCTURES AND DISTRICTS. USE SEPARATELY FOR RECORDING STRUCTURES LOCATED WITHIN DISTRICT BOUNDARIES.

1) Resource No. 5CF231 2) Temp No. 20 3) Name Wenz Bldg. (Wear Haus/Radio Shack)

4) Address 212-216 F St. 5) District Name Salida Commercial District

I. INTEGRITY: 6) Condition: Good Fair Deteriorated

7) Original Use commercial property 8) Present Use commercial property

9) Original Site Moved Date(s) of Move: _____

10) Unaltered Altered Explain: Minor modifications - the kickplates (panels beneath the display windows) have been covered with brick

II. DESCRIPTION: 11) Building Materials brick/cut stone/ wood & metal cornice

12) Construction Date 1890 (on bldg.) 13) Architect/Builder unknown

14) Architectural Style(s) n/a

15) Special Features/Surroundings: A prominent structure in the commercial district, the Wenz Building continues the district's pattern of cornice, window, and storefront alignment

16) Archaeological Potential: Yes No Unknown Explain: _____

III. CULTURAL ACTIVITIES: Key the resource type (ie: house, barn, shed, school, church, etc) to the cultural activity theme and sub-theme category associated with it.

17) THEME	Commerce		
18) SUB-THEME	Retail/ Wholesale		
19) TYPES	commercial structure		

(Attach Photographs)

Frame Number 2
 Roll Number CF2
 Facade Orientation E

IV. SIGNIFICANCE: Assess whether or not the resource has any historical or architectural merit by checking appropriate categories and justifying below. Include any relevant historical data.

20) Architectural Significance:

- Represents work of a master
- Possesses high artistic values
- Represents a type, period, or method of construction

21) Historical Significance:

- Associated with significant persons
- Associated with significant events or patterns
- Contributes to the significance of an historic district

The two story Wenz Building, one of the most intact commercial structures in Salida's business district (The Fibark Building, resource #5CF213 and a commercial structure on Sackett St., resource #5CF274 are additional intact structures) is constructed of brick and characterized by a fine wood and metal cornice. The cornice is distinguished by a center portion which rises above the roofline and forms a triangular shaped feature containing the building's name and date of construction. At either end of the cornice are turret-like elements. On the second floor six round headed bays form an arcade highlighted by brickwork patterns above and below the openings.

The storefront is separated from the upperstory by a lintel stretching the width of the building. Below the lintel is a transom window, two commercial areas, each with a recessed entrance flanked by display windows and a center entrance framed by iron posts.

Historically, the Wenz Building is associated with Louis Wenz, a native of Mundenheim, Germany, who arrived in Salida in 1882. Initially associated with the Denver & Rio Grande Railroad, Wenz, in 1889, became involved in the furniture and undertaking business, which was located in this structure. Wenz was also involved in Salida's politics, being elected mayor in 1906 and serving

22) List Any Associated Cultural Group: n/a

V. REFERENCES:

1. Stone, Wilbur ed. 1918. History of Colorado. (Vol. 4)

for many years on the school board.

note: The structure originally standing north of the Wenz Building (The First National Bank currently occupies the location) was similar in design. A photo is available in the Salida Centennial Committee Photo Collection at the Salida Public Library.



1898

1898

Radio Shack

FIRST NATIONAL BANK