

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. **Place additional certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).**

1. Name of Property

historic name Gillette City Hall (1936)

other names/site number Gillette City Hall Mall/48CA6111

2. Location

street & number 400 South Gillette Avenue

N/A

not for publication

city or town Gillette

x

Vicinity

state Wyoming Code 56 county Campbell code 05 zip code 82716

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this x nomination 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 the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

 national statewide x local

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official

Date

Title

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

 entered in the National Register

 determined eligible for the National Register

 determined not eligible for the National Register

 removed from the National Register

 other (explain:)

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

Gillette City Hall (1936)
Name of Property

Campbell County, WY
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Private
<input type="checkbox"/>	public – Local
<input type="checkbox"/>	public – State
<input type="checkbox"/>	public – Federal

Category of Property

(Check only **one** box.)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	building(s)
<input type="checkbox"/>	District
<input type="checkbox"/>	Site
<input type="checkbox"/>	structure
<input type="checkbox"/>	object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	0	buildings
		Sites
0	0	structures
		objects
1	0	Total

Name of related multiple property listing

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

GOVERNMENT

Sub: city hall, fire station, correctional facility

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

COMMERCE/TRADE

Sub: business, specialty store, professional

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

MODERN MOVEMENT

Sub: Art Deco

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: Concrete

walls: Brick

Roof: Wood, PVC membrane

Other: _____

Gillette City Hall (1936)

Name of Property

Campbell County, WY

County and State

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance of the property. Explain contributing and noncontributing resources if necessary. Begin with **a summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, setting, size, and significant features.)

Summary Paragraph

Gillette City Hall (1936) is located in the City of Gillette in the northcentral portion of the Powder River Basin in northeastern Wyoming. The building is located in the downtown commercial district at 400 South Gillette Avenue. It occupies the southwest corner of the intersection of South Gillette Avenue and West Fourth Street. The corner lot on which it is located is 140' E-W x 75' N-S. The original City Hall is a tall one-story building (90' E-W x 50' N-S) with a later two-story west addition (33' E-W x 60' N-S). This brick building is a modest example of Art Deco architecture, exhibiting such features as a symmetrical façade, a stepped brick pavilion (main entrance) and a variety of decorative brickwork. Windows feature rowlock brick sills and soldier brick lintels. An early twentieth-century residential neighborhood is situated directly west of the building; in all other directions is a variety of commercial and civic buildings, many of which were also constructed with brick. The building has modest landscaping, with a small lawn and shrubbery on the east and part of the north sides. Gillette Main Street has installed a four-sided clock nearby that lends a historic ambiance to the immediate area, along with street signs and lampposts of a similar nature. A new city hall was built in 1984; however, the term City Hall or Gillette City Hall refers to the 1936 building in this nomination.

Gillette City Hall (1936)
Name of Property

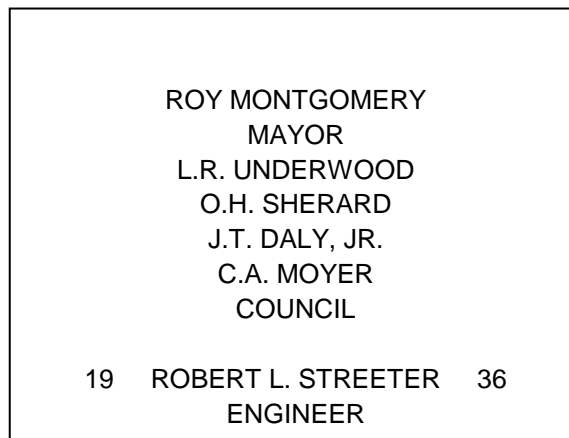
Campbell County, WY
County and State

Physical Description

Gillette City Hall (contributing building).

Site. Gillette City Hall is located at 400 South Gillette Avenue, the main commercial street in downtown Gillette, at the intersection with West Fourth Street. This intersection is one of the busiest in the city limits and defines the southern boundary of the downtown retail district. Gillette City Hall is a corner building and is bordered by streets on its east and north sides, an alley on its west side, and an adjacent commercial building on its south side. It occupies Lots 1-3, Block 14, Third Addition. Gillette's commercial district generally lies to the north and east of Gillette City Hall and consists of a mixture of historic and modern buildings; a historic residential district is located to the west. The façade (east side) and the east portion of the north side have small lawns with planted shrubs and small trees between the building and sidewalks. City landscaping between the sidewalk and street curb includes a low rock wall that is capped with concrete and serves as a bench. An attached wrought iron planter contains decorative grasses, a bird sculpture, and a tall four-sided antique-appearing city clock. Street signs and street lamps in the vicinity also project a historic ambiance. The building is set back about thirty-three feet from the street on its east side and about twenty-two feet on its north side. There is inset parking along most of the north side. Topography slopes gently downward from south to north.

Exterior. Gillette City Hall is a modest example of Art Deco architecture, a part of the modernistic style popular in America from about 1920 to 1940. The Art Deco style was common in public and commercial buildings in the 1920s and 1930s and rare in domestic architecture.¹ It is a tall one-story, flat-roofed brick masonry building (50' N-S x 90' E-W) constructed in 1936 with a higher two-story, flat-roofed brick west addition (60' N-S x 33' E-W) constructed in 1967. The building rests on a concrete foundation with a partial basement. The flat roof is surrounded by a brick parapet, and the wooden roof is covered with a PVC membrane. The exterior walls consist of brick in a common stretcher pattern. The building has a symmetrical, five-bay façade on its east side fronting on South Gillette Avenue. The water table consists of a brick soldier course. Because the ground level slopes downward from south to north, the painted concrete foundation is exposed only on the north half of the façade. A cornerstone is located at the northeast corner of the building. The portion of the cornerstone facing east bears the following incised text:



Gillette City Hall (1936)
Name of Property

Campbell County, WY
County and State

The portion of the cornerstone that faces north bears the following inscription:

FRED J. MASON
CONTRACTOR

The main entry is centered in the façade and consists of an advanced stepped brick pavilion that projects above the brick parapet, giving the building a vertical emphasis characteristic of the Art Deco style. The advanced pavilion consists of four stepped brick pilasters, two on either side of the main entry. The taller set of projecting brick pilasters bear a decorative electric metal and glass lantern mounted on either side of the entrance. The lanterns are set in a vertical recessed rectangle brick box. The inside of the recessed box consists of one row of vertically stacked. The recessed box pattern is repeated near the top of the pilasters. The central panel of the advanced pavilion is the widest and tallest, and it is slightly recessed between the inner pilasters. A contrasting stone plaque is centered in this panel mounted flush with the wall and bears the incised text "CITY HALL" and is topped by a row of soldier brick. The main entry consists of a single wood panel door with side lights and an eight-light transom, all of which appear to be original. The main entrance is currently protected by an arched canvas awning mounted on a metal pipe frame. This canopy extends to the bottom of the transom but does not cover it. The windows in the façade are original and consist of eight over eight-light double-hung units with wooden frames and muntins and rowlock brick sills and brick soldier course lintels. The façade has a secondary cornice consisting of a brick soldier course. The cornice area contains horizontally centered, recessed, rectangular brick details. These recesses correspond to the width of the windows below. The parapet is defined by a soldier course of brick capped with rowlock brick.

The north side of the building fronts on West Fourth Street and features the same brick elements found on the façade. The concrete foundation and water table are fully exposed on the north side due to the downward ground slope from south to north. The water table is delineated by a brick soldier course. The exposed concrete foundation is painted a dark red and is about three feet high. The windows generally consists of eight over eight-light double-hung units with wooden frames and sash and soldier course brick lintels and rowlock brick sills. The secondary cornice continues on the north side and is comprised of a brick soldier course. The recessed brick decorative rectangles are spaced in the cornice area and are aligned with window and door bays below. The elongated central rectangles indicate the alteration of this side after the large west addition was built for the new fire department in 1967. It appears that two garage bays were bricked in and altered. The former openings are indicated by the presence of three brick pilasters that rise as high as the secondary cornice. The former east garage door bay was filled in with a slightly lighter colored brick. A window bay was added, consisting of glass blocks surrounding a small one-light window in the center. A coal chute cast iron cover is located in the foundation just east of the eastern-most pilaster. The cover is imprinted with the words "Majestic Break Proof Coal Window, 1926 Style M-203 Pat'd, The Majestic Co., Huntington, Indiana." The west garage door was converted into an entrance consisting of a one-light wooden door with wide full-length sidelights and a large one-light transom, all with wooden frames. It is likely that these alterations occurred at the same time that the west addition was built in 1967. A covered brick entry with a gable roof (12' N-S x 6' E-W) extends northward from the east end of the north side to provide access to the

Gillette City Hall (1936)
Name of Property

Campbell County, WY
County and State

basement, where the jail cells and some of the police offices were located. The covered entry has a one-light wood panel door. The painted concrete foundation extends halfway up the walls of the entry, and the soldier course brick water table is also continued. The extended entry necessitated the alteration of one of the original window bays. The top half of the former eight over eight-light double hung window was filled in with glass blocks. The bottom half was partially covered by the roof of the extended entry. The exposed portion has a small wooden panel surrounded by brick infill. Another alteration on the north was a single pedestrian entrance that was filled in with concrete it is located to the west of the current entrance. The west end of the north side of the original one-story portion retains an original eight over eight light double-hung window with wooden frames and muntins. It is situated somewhat lower in the wall than the windows bays on the east half of the north side.

On the west end of the original building is the 1967 addition (60' N-S x 33' E-W). It is two stories in height and is about four feet higher than the original building. It has a flat roof, and the walls are constructed with slightly lighter red stretcher bond brick. The west addition is without notable architectural embellishments. When constructed in 1967, two large overhead door garage bays were located in the north side. However, after a new building was constructed for the fire department in 1974, the garage bays were altered into a single storefront. It is likely that this change occurred after 1984, after all city offices had been consolidated into a new city hall building. The police and city planning departments were the last city offices to occupy Gillette City Hall. The storefront consists of a one-light metal door located near the northwest building corner. An eight-light full-length sidelight is located east of the door. Three display windows complete the north side of the west addition and are one-light fixed windows with false muntins on the inside of the glass. The entry and windows are protected by a shed-roofed, wood frame awning (4' N-S x 33' E-W). A brick pilaster indicates that the former garage door bays were originally located on either side. The second story contains a pair of two-light windows with wooden frames and brick sills.

The west side of the west addition of the building fronts on an alley. The painted foundation is stepped to account for the rise in ground level from north to south. The first story has three large rectangular window bays with brick sills and each one filled with thirty-six glass blocks (those in the second window from the north end have been damaged). A large inset wooden door is located between the south two window bays. The inner walls of the recessed area are clad with vertical wood paneling. Three evenly-spaced window bays are located in the second story. They are vertically aligned with the first story windows and door. They have brick sills and consist of two-light horizontal windows with wooden frames and muntins. A single pedestrian entry is located directly above the first story window near the north end of this side. It is a recent wood panel door with a fanlight. This entrance is associated with a steel fire escape apparatus that can be lowered via a pulley system operated by the weight of the occupant on the platform. The brick parapet above is notched midway from the building corners to allow for a drainpipe.

The south side of the building is minimally visible from the street due to an adjacent building on the south, and a wooden fence with gate has been erected between the two on the east side. The architectural patterns of the façade are continued on the south side with a single soldier course of bricks marking the waterline, and a similar secondary cornice and capped parapet. The recessed rectangular brick boxes are also spaced across the cornice area to align vertically with window and door bays on this side. Because the south wall is on the high side of the lot, the concrete foundation is

Gillette City Hall (1936)

Name of Property

Campbell County, WY

County and State

shorter. There are seven windows on the south side consisting of eight over eight light double-hung units with wooden frames and muntins, soldier course brick lintels and rowlock brick sills. All of these windows appear to be original. The west end of the original portion of the building has two smaller window bays with steel bars covered with steel mesh where the jail cells were located. The west addition extends ten feet south beyond the wall of the original building and contains a wooden door on its east side. A sign above it identifies the door as the entrance to the fire department. The south wall of the addition is about two feet from the adjacent building to the south and contains two windows set high in the wall. A large flat-roofed brick structure (10' E-W x 5' N-S) at the east end of the south wall acts as a cover over the furnace room in the basement. The brick walls are about five feet high. It has a thick concrete roof and foundation.

Interior. The interior of the building has been remodeled several times since it was constructed. The interior of the major portion of the original building was remodeled by RJD Architects, Engineers, Planners, in 1992, when the building was owned by Raiser Construction, Inc. The interior was divided into a number of spaces, including a waiting room inside the main entrance, a reception area at the south end of the waiting room, and a file room west of the reception area. Four offices are located along the south side of the building, and three offices and a conference room along the north side. A lunch room is located in the northwest corner of the building. Restrooms are located west of the file room (see floor plan). The interior has dropped acoustic ceilings, and the walls are finished with painted drywall. The interior retains a walk-in safe that is original and is located near the restroom area. The partial basement (48'E-W x 50' N-S) is largely unfinished and in need of repair. A large coal storage room is located on the north side of the building below the exterior coal chute. The original furnace remains in place, under the brick and concrete cover on the south side of the building, but it is no longer in use. Two small jail cells remain in place in the southwest quarter of the basement and retain their steel bars and doors.

Additional renovation and repairs occurred in November 2009 by the current owner, Desk Holdings, LLC, and the west addition was converted to office space on the first and second floors. A set of stairs leads to the second floor. The offices are finished with painted drywall and plaster ceilings with wood trim and molding and wooden interior doors and carpeted floors.

At present the building is known as the City Hall Mall and is occupied by K2 Technologies; Cathey Consulting, LLC; Cutie Pies; Stulken Law Office, PC; Done Right Cleaning, LLC; South Douglas Highway Water and Sewer District; and Boy Scouts of America, Chocadewakoa District.

Integrity

Gillette City Hall was constructed in 1936, and the city government took up residence on September 30, 1936. The brick building represents a modest example of Art Deco architecture. The building retains integrity of location. Integrity of design, materials, and workmanship are rated as good. The west addition, constructed in 1967 for the fire department, is over fifty years of age and is sympathetic in design, scale, and materials. Minimal physical changes have necessarily occurred over time as the building was used for different purposes; for example, the fire department garage door bays on the north side were filled in or altered after the west addition was constructed in 1967 to house the fire

Gillette City Hall (1936)

Name of Property

Campbell County, WY

County and State

department. However, the essence of the original architectural design and detailing, scale and proportions, and exterior materials in the original building component have been retained. The integrity of setting is rated as fair. West of the City Hall is a 1920s-1930s-era residential area that is consistent with its original setting. To the north is a large one-story commercial building ("Village Square"). The view to the southeast consists of a variety of commercial properties located on the east side of South Gillette Avenue, including the three-story First National Bank on the corner. The former Mountain Bell Telephone Company building (1971) is directly east and across the street from City Hall and currently houses Century Link.

The view to the south along the west side of Gillette Avenue includes a one story, flat-roofed brick commercial building (First American Title) that is over fifty years of age; the next building to the south was the Campbell County Library constructed in 1941. A new library was built elsewhere in 1983, but this building was retained as the George Amos Memorial Library. It currently houses the University of Wyoming Cooperative Extension Service. The Campbell County Courthouse is a two-story, flat-roofed brick building that occupies most of the remainder of the block to the south. It was constructed in 1971 with additions in 2005. Some of these neighboring buildings, regardless of age, were constructed with brick, like the city hall. Integrity of feeling and association is rated as fair. A 1930s contemporary would readily recognize Gillette City Hall.

Gillette City Hall (1936)
Name of Property

Campbell County, WY
County and State

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- ☐ A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- ☐ B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- ☒ C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- ☐ D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1936

Significant Dates

1936 - building construction

Criteria Considerations N/A

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- ☐ A Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- ☐ B removed from its original location.
- ☐ C a birthplace or grave.
- ☐ D a cemetery.
- ☐ E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- ☐ F a commemorative property.
- ☐ G less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Fred J. Mason, Contractor

Robert L. Streeter, Engineer

Period of Significance (justification) 1936. Gillette City Hall was constructed in 1936. The period of significance represents the building's time of construction.

Gillette City Hall (1936)

Name of Property

Campbell County, WY

County and State

Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)

N/A

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance and applicable criteria.)

Gillette City Hall (1936) is eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places as a locally significant building under Criterion C. The period of historical significance dates to 1936, when the building was constructed. Notable dates in the history of the building include 1936, when the building was constructed and first occupied; 1967, when the two-story fire department west addition was constructed; 1974, when the fire department moved to a new building; 1978, when the city hall offices moved; and 1984, when the police department moved, and the building was put up for sale by the City of Gillette. Gillette City Hall served as the city hall, fire station, city jail, and community meeting place. This building was constructed during the Great Depression without the aid of any federal funding via New Deal programs. Construction was financed entirely by the City of Gillette, a fact that was touted in the local newspapers as a source of community pride and self-sufficiency.

Gillette City Hall (1936) is locally significant under Criterion C, as a property that embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction. The building represents a modest example of Art Deco architecture, a part of the modernistic style popular in America from about 1920 to 1940. The main entry is centered in the façade and consists of an advanced stepped brick pavilion that projects above the brick parapet giving the building a vertical emphasis characteristic of the Art Deco style. Its architecture is also reminiscent of the WPA Modern style used for Federal buildings, most notably post offices, across the country during the Great Depression era from 1933 to 1944. The style blended beaux-arts classical formalism and symmetry, Art Deco ornamentation, and modernist materials. This style is also referred to as "Starved Classicism," as facades remained symmetrical, but efforts were made to reduce costs and speed construction by eliminating or reducing ornamentation.² Although Gillette City Hall was not a federal building and did not receive New Deal funding, it appears that the size and scale were reduced when Campbell County declined to team with the city in building a larger city/county building due to lack of funding. Local newspapers stated that Jesse Spielman designed the building; however, he is not credited on the cornerstone. Instead, Robert L. Streeter, the county engineer is listed. Unfortunately, all of the original plans pertaining to Gillette City Hall have been lost.

Gillette City Hall (1936)
Name of Property

Campbell County, WY
County and State

Narrative Statement of Significance

Railroad expansion and early settlement

A treaty dated 1868 with the Sioux, Cheyenne, and Arapaho tribes had closed the vast grasslands of the Powder River Basin in northeast Wyoming to white settlement. However, when a new treaty was negotiated in 1876, the burgeoning western cattle industry quickly spread north to take advantage of the public domain's open range and free graze. Seed cattle were driven north from Texas via the Texas Trail, which passed through the Powder River Basin. Large cattle outfits were formed, often financed by eastern and English capitalists. The cattle industry boomed until the late 1880s, when it declined after the devastating Blizzard of 1886-1887. The fledgling sheep industry then gained a foothold in the Powder River Basin. The nearly unlimited public domain prompted sheepmen to spread northward from southeastern Wyoming. However, the lack of railroads held back the industry's full development.³

Geologically, the Powder River Basin is a broad asymmetric syncline bounded by the Bighorn Mountains on the west, the Black Hills on the east, and the Casper Arch, Laramie Mountains, and Hartville Uplift on the south. It includes portions of Sheridan, Johnson, Converse, and Weston counties, and the majority of Campbell County, where the greatest coal production is centered. The region is underlain by the coal-bearing Paleocene Fort Union Formation and the Eocene Wasatch Formation, which extends into northwestern South Dakota, the western half of North Dakota, and the east half of Montana. The Fort Union Formation contains the Wyodak-Anderson coal bed, the largest strippable reserve base for a single coal bed in Wyoming and perhaps in the United States.⁴

Lured by these vast coal reserves, the Burlington and Missouri River Railroad, a subsidiary of the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy (CB&Q) pushed westward, building northwest from Nebraska into Wyoming. In 1889, it built a standard gauge branch line directly into the Black Hills, reaching Deadwood in 1891. From Edgemont, south of Deadwood, the railroad built into Wyoming, reaching Newcastle in 1889; a seven-mile branch line was then built to the newly opened Cambria coal mines. Continuing northwest, the line reached Upton (Merino) by 1890, but work was temporarily suspended due to the high costs incurred in expansion. The next summer, work was resumed, with Edward Gillette in charge of locating the route. He selected a route through the site of present-day Gillette. A small track town called Donkey Town, a small assortment of tents on the Donkey Creek Divide, was located eight miles southwest of the Gillette site, but it was eventually abandoned along the railroad grade. Tracks reached Gillette in August 1891 and Sheridan in 1892. Plans were made to continue north and connect with the Northern Pacific Railroad at Billings, but the Financial Panic of 1893 caused the railroad to pause in its expansion once again. Finally in 1894, the Burlington extended its line to Billings, Montana. Thereafter, the network of lines was linked to the Pacific Northwest via the Northern Pacific.⁵

Birth of a boomtown

Gillette was created by the railroad. The first train arrived on August 15, 1891, and departed hauling a shipment of cattle to the east. The Lincoln Townsite Company, associated with the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy, bought up four homesteads on the townsite patented in 1891; the city was also platted in 1891 and named in honor of Edward Gillette. Gillette continued to grow during the early years of the twentieth century, with a population of 151 by 1900, 285 by 1905, and 448 in 1910. Gillette became the

Gillette City Hall (1936)

Name of Property

Campbell County, WY

County and State

county seat when Campbell County was created from the western halves of Crook and Weston counties in 1911.⁶ By the 1915 census, Gillette's population had grown to 505 people and Campbell County to 2316. Most of the residents engaged in farming and ranching, and no one was listed in mining. Only 7.4% of Campbell County residents were listed as foreign born. These statistics verify that the coal industry had not yet developed beyond small wagon and ranch mines.⁷

With the arrival of the railroad in 1891, the ranching industry of the Powder River Basin, by then dominated by sheep raising, finally had a rail connection to eastern markets. Such outfits as the 4J and the G Bar M ran up to 40,000 sheep in peak periods. John Allison herded sheep for R.R. Sellway on the Powder River in 1897-98; subsequently, Allison and Sellway became one of the large sheep companies in Campbell County. A.S. French ran sheep for the Blair Brothers west of Gillette near Felix and Wild Horse Creek in 1899. In 1900 Charles Lee and Ernest Spaeth bought the Preston Horse Ranch southeast of Gillette and went into the sheep business. William R. Wright ran sheep after 1902 in the southern part of the county; W.A. Appel ran sheep south of Gillette and sold to W.R. Wright in 1905. In 1906, the Keelines were running 33,000 head of sheep. Many ranchers raised both sheep and cattle to allow for fluctuations in either market.⁸

Sheep were initially grazed on the open range and required the constant surveillance of the shepherd with his dog, horse, and sheepwagon. Unlike the cattlemen, many of the sheep ranchers made their headquarters in town, thus contributing to its growth.⁹ As sheep ranching increased, conflicts arose between sheepmen and cattlemen. The latter believed that sheep cropped the range grasses too closely and contaminated the range, rendering it unfit for cattle. Conflicts followed -- cattlemen established arbitrary "deadlines" that the sheep operators were not permitted to cross. When these lines were violated, herders and their flocks were sometimes attacked. Confrontations continued well into the twentieth century; three shepherders were killed in the Ten Sleep area in 1909.¹⁰ However, this level of violence did not occur in the Powder River Basin. Hostilities gradually subsided as grazing restrictions on the public domain became more stringent and better regulated. In addition, many cattlemen also took part in sheep ranching, as noted above, thereby reducing friction.¹¹

In 1900, the CB&Q began converting their wood-burning locomotives to burn the large deposits of coal near Sheridan. In 1928, the Gillette Coal Field was named and described by the U.S. Geological Survey; it comprised a large portion of the known reserves in the Eastern Powder River Basin. Very little coal development had yet taken place except for the Wyodak Coal and Manufacturing Company. This operation began stripping coal in 1923 from a mine located along the CB&Q near Minturn. In 1925, it produced 33,579 tons of coal. Its production steadily increased, and the Wyodak Mine ultimately became the premier coal producer in the region; by the 1970s, one of the largest surface coal mines in the world.¹²

The growth of Gillette and Campbell County in the late 1910s and early 1920s coincided with the most intensive period of homesteading activity in the Powder River Basin. Promotional efforts by the State and the railroads, the prosperous war years for agriculture in 1917 and 1918, and the Stock Raising Act of 1916 (with its increased acreage of 640 acres but lack of mineral rights), all contributed to this boom period. Many land filings consisted of existing farms and ranches expanding their holdings in an optimistic economic climate. However, an equally large number of homesteaders were misled by promotional advertising and were not adequately prepared for the hardships of dry land farming in such an arid environment. A drought in 1919 was followed by a severe winter, and market prices fell for cattle and sheep. The farmers preceded the rest of the nation into the Great Depression by using their wartime

Gillette City Hall (1936)

Name of Property

Campbell County, WY

County and State

profits on expansion instead of paying off mortgages. Those who were not ruined by the turn of events became small livestock ranchers and limited their farming to the growing of forage crops and family garden plots. Some were able to obtain cheap land as it was foreclosed or sold for taxes. During the 1930s, the size of homesteads in Wyoming nearly doubled and the number of homesteads decreased, indicating the shift to livestock raising.¹³

Campbell County farmers/ranchers actually fared better than those in other parts of Wyoming during this time period. Between 1919 and 1929, the amount of cropland tripled, sheep numbers doubled, and cattle increased. Even so, the Bank of Gillette failed in 1923. However, those farmers and ranchers of Campbell County who were able to survive the early 1920s experienced good years in the late 1920s.¹⁴

This short reprieve was quickly followed by the Great Depression and a series of severe droughts. The small-scale farmers and ranchers who were not ruined outright persevered but, no longer able to making a living from the land, became dependent on relief. Tax delinquency was therefore commonplace, and county governments had difficulty maintaining roads and administering school systems.

In 1934, the Taylor Grazing Act and two subsequent Executive Orders withdrew the remaining public domain from entry, virtually ending the homesteading era.¹⁵ The federal government finally realized that the Powder River Basin and other large portions of Wyoming and the West were not suited to large-scale or even small subsistence farming. It was pastoral land, profitable if properly administered and regulated, and carrying a smaller number of larger livestock operations, better suited to the character of the land and climate.

The Resettlement Administration, created in 1935, began purchasing homesteads on marginal lands that were abandoned or operating at a loss and returning them to their original status as grazing lands. Some residents on purchased lands were resettled on better lands, increasing their chances to become self-sufficient. A portion of these purchased lands were consolidated and formed the Thunder Basin National Grasslands, which now cover large portions of Weston, Converse and Campbell counties. The Soil Conservation Service administered the Thunder Basin Project, reclaiming the land that had been overgrazed and over-cultivated during the dry land homesteading boom. Three grazing associations were established to administer grazing on the Grasslands, issue permits, and collect grazing fees. The Thunder Basin Grasslands were turned over to the Medicine Bow National Forest on January 1, 1954.¹⁶

Growth of Gillette

After the railroad continued to build westward, Gillette was no longer a rowdy "end-of-tracks" town, and it entered the twentieth century as a typical small western town supported by agriculture. With the support of the railroad, it soon became a major shipping point for cattle and sheep. Gillette's first business was a small general store established in 1891 by the Daly Brothers (they built a new store after a fire in 1895). Other businesses followed, including the Preston Brothers' General Store, August Kettleson's hardware store, Elmer Miller's drugstore, and two meat markets. The first post office was established on August 17, 1891, and Margaret Livingston was the first postmistress. The Gillette townsite had no permanent water sources, but the railroad drilled a well in 1892, and agreed to supply the town with water. The Burlington Ditch was completed in 1908 to transfer water from Donkey Creek south of Gillette to the Burlington Lake on the north side of town. It remained the main source of water for Gillette until 1948.

Gillette City Hall (1936)

Name of Property

Campbell County, WY

County and State

The first schoolhouse in Gillette was constructed in 1891, and a second two-room school followed in 1902. The Gillette High School had its first graduating class of two in 1912. The first bank, the Bank of Gillette, opened in 1902. The Stockmen's Bank was established in 1907 by Alexander B. and Joseph M. Maycock, William R. Wright, John A. Allison, and N.W. Chassell. Churches soon followed: the First Baptist Church began in 1902 and was Gillette's only church until 1907. The first Catholic Church was built in that same year, and the Presbyterian Church followed in 1913. Telephone service came to Gillette and Campbell County in 1905. In 1910, the Northern Wyoming Telephone Company started an exchange in Gillette. This company was bought out by the Mountain States Telegraph and Telephone Company in 1921. Gillette was supplied with electricity in 1915, and a sewer system was begun in 1916. The first motion picture theater opened in Gillette in 1915. Citizens also participated in roller skating and dances, and organized a semi-professional baseball team.¹⁷

In 1933 at the beginning of the New Deal, the Civilian Conservation Corps established a camp near Gillette. Camp Miller, located near the fairgrounds on the outskirts of town, was officially designated Camp GLO-1, as CCC workers were also used by the General Land Office (GLO) in the Department of the Interior. It was one of only a small number of GLO camps established in the country. GLO-2 was later built alongside Camp GLO-1. The two camps functioned only during the summer months until 1937, when the joint camps started to operate year-round. The enrollees were primarily engaged in fighting coal seam fires. The camp superintendent and twelve foremen had years of experience working in coal mines from around Wyoming, so that the camp was well qualified for its role.¹⁸

When the City Hall was built in 1936, Gillette was in a period of growth despite the Great Depression. Gillette's population was 1,340 in 1930 and had grown only modestly since 1920. By 1940, Gillette's population had risen to 2,177.¹⁹ Some of the growth was related to New Deal projects, including the construction of six livestock reservoirs, new sidewalks, curbs and surfacing of streets, a new community swimming pool, and a new airport. *The News Record*, Gillette's weekly newspaper, became a daily in 1935. Other improvements not directly related to the New Deal included a \$77,000 two-story brick post office constructed in 1935 at the corner of Third Street and Gillette Avenue; a hospital opened by Dr. McHenry in 1937; and a new library, commissioned in 1938 and completed in 1941 at 412 Gillette Avenue.

During this time period, the railroad represented the major market for northeastern Wyoming coal. Wyoming's annual production increased, especially during World War II, but began to fall when the railroads converted from steam to diesel power after the war. Power plants, sugar factories, cement plants, and domestic users then provided the local markets in the 1950s. By this late date, the Wyodak Mine was still the only major coal mine in the Gillette area. The huge reserves known to exist in the region had not yet been developed due to the low demand. Coal production in Wyoming fell to an all-time low in 1958.²⁰

Wyoming coal production rose again in the late 1960s when the demand for inexpensive low sulfur coal for power plants increased. Intensive coal leasing in northeastern Wyoming began in 1965 and was dominated by large petroleum companies. By 1979, many new strip mines in the Gillette area were in operation, including Amax Coal Company's Belle Ayr and Eagle Butte Mines, Wyodak Resources' South Pit, SUNEDCO's Cordero Mine, Carter's Caballo and Rawhide Mines, Kerr-McGee's Clovis Point and Jacobs Ranch Mines, Delzer Construction Company's Fort Union Mine, and ARCO's Black Thunder Mine.

Gillette City Hall (1936)

Name of Property

Campbell County, WY

County and State

All were active on the Wyodak-Anderson coal bed. The Belle Ayr Mine was by far the largest strip mine in Wyoming, with 412 employees producing 14,996,875 tons of coal in 1980.²¹

The opening of these coal mines in the late 1960s and 1970s resulted in tremendous growth for Gillette, which became the commercial center. This growth is reflected in the steady rise in population from 2,191 in 1950 to 7,194 in 1970. In the next decade, Gillette's population swelled to 17,635. City and county government expanded accordingly, with a new City Hall constructed in 1984 and a renovation of the county courthouse facilities finished in 2005. By 2010, the population of Gillette had risen to 29,087. Although the population temporarily declined somewhat due to the downturn in the energy markets, as of 2017, the population was 31,783.²²

Gillette City Hall: "The new must ever replace the old"

When Gillette was platted and incorporated, the city rented offices from pioneer businessman William Underwood. The first city hall was built in 1898 in the 200 block of Gillette Avenue. A jail was built behind it in 1911. (The bars over the jailhouse windows can still be seen on the back of the Magpie Designs building at that location.) By the 1930s, newer and larger facilities were required.

In August 1935, the site for a new city hall was chosen by the City Council, which negotiated a trade with John T. Daly, Sr. for his lot at the corner of West Fourth Street and South Gillette Avenue. In return, Mr. Daly was to receive the existing city hall building, the lot on which it was located, and a sum of \$1000. In addition to opening the first store in town, John T. Daly had bought much of the land in the central retail and government district. The building site was located on a lot 140' x 75', giving it a frontage on Gillette Avenue three times as wide as the existing city hall. Tentative plans called for a brick building to include the city hall offices, a jail, and space for the fire department equipment. The main entrance for the building would front on Gillette Avenue, and the entrance to the fire department would be on West Fourth Street. The Gillette City Council intended to apply for PWA funding, which would cover forty-five percent of the cost of the site and the building.²³

The Gillette City Council and the Board of County Commissioners met on August 20, 1935, to discuss the new building. At this time, it was described as a city-county building to house the county library, county and city offices, federal offices, a fire department, and a modern escape-proof jail. Leon Goodrich and T.H. Krusmark, Casper architects, were invited to the meeting, along with E.F. Cummings, the government engineer for the post office that was under construction at that time. Plans called for a two-story brick and tile building 50' x 120'. The projected cost was estimated to be \$50,000. As opposed to the structure that was actually built, these plans described a larger building that would serve the county as well as the city.²⁴

The City Council and Board of County Commissioners met again on August 23, 1935, to discuss the proposed city-county building. The Commissioners stated that the county did not have sufficient funding to invest in the building's construction. Leon Goodrich, architect, submitted plans for the building that were generally approved by those in attendance, but since funding was not available, the plans could not be used. Therefore, the City Council decided to go forward with the construction of just a city hall. New and more modest plans were to be drawn up for its construction.²⁵

Gillette City Hall (1936)

Name of Property

Campbell County, WY

County and State

In an effort to secure WPA funding, a delegation consisting of Mayor E.O. Hibler, Councilman L.R. Underwood, and Jesse Spielman, listed as the designer of the building, traveled to Cheyenne to meet with the State WPA Board, headed by State Engineer W.C. Williams. The proposed building was to be 60' x 90' and would house the office of the city clerk, council chamber, water department, fire department, light department, work rooms, heating plant, and two large community rooms to hold entertainments and meetings.²⁶ Unfortunately, the project did not receive the WPA funding. However, other Gillette projects were approved, including a \$50,000 grant for curbs, gutters and sidewalks and for improving the city park and swimming pool. At that time, officials remained hopeful that funding for the city hall would be approved in the future.²⁷

Finally, though, the City of Gillette finally decided to build the new city hall at its own expense. Under Ordinance No. 263, Section 2, dated May 4, 1936, a sum of \$22,000 was appropriated for the General Fund for construction. Upon completion of the city hall, the local paper stated:

The new City Hall was made possible by the sound financial condition of the city of Gillette, and by the co-operation of the citizens in taking care of their obligations to the city. No federal funds were borrowed to put up the structure, all city funds being used. No bonds were necessary. Money on hand was sufficient as construction work progressed. Gillette feel(s) proud that their community's financial affairs are in such good condition to make possible such expenditures without the necessity of bonds or additional tax levies.²⁸

How the city was able to finance this construction during the Great Depression remains unclear, especially since the county declined to participate due to lack of available funds. The coal boom had not yet occurred. The nearby Wyodak Mine remained a steady producer, but there is little evidence that Campbell County or Gillette was weathering the Great Depression any better than the rest of the state. The various New Deal programs did create jobs and funneled hundreds of thousands of dollars into the county and the City of Gillette. In addition, the Agricultural Adjustment Administration distributed \$679,650 to Campbell County farmers and ranchers in 1934, most of which came from the purchase of cattle, sheep and hogs by the federal government.²⁹ The Resettlement Administration paid landowners for their failed farms in order to relocate them on more profitable lands where they could become self-sufficient. This land was then reclaimed by various conservation measures including moving all fences to section lines, cleaning and relining all wells and springs, building dams and reservoirs and seeding cultivated land to grass. These conservation measures required a large work force over an extended period of time.³⁰ The Gillette newspaper concluded that "Government-created jobs are causing a decided upward swing in business, according to a number of local merchants."³¹ When the city's petition for WPA funding was declined, it is also likely that the cost of construction of the new city hall was lowered by drawing up new plans and reducing the size of the building, and the design may have been simplified to save on material costs. Since none of the original plans remain, valid comparisons cannot be drawn.

Construction began on May 15, 1936, and was completed by late September of the same year. Fred J. Mason was the contractor; others directly involved in the construction were Saunders Lumber Company, A.W. Ostlund, plumber, and Roy Rice, electrician. The cornerstone for the building bears the name of "Robert L. Streeter, Engineer." Although Jesse Spielman was named as the designer of the building in 1935 when the city was seeking WPA funding, his name is not listed on the cornerstone. The city government moved into the new building on September 29, 1936. On October 1, the local paper

Gillette City Hall (1936)
Name of Property

Campbell County, WY
County and State

announced that "City Government transfers affairs to modern structure." It was pronounced "...a beautiful but plain brick building." The article continued:

The new must ever replace the old, and Gillette is no different from other progressive cities in that respect. The city government moved into its new quarters yesterday and is all set to greet its patrons and citizens in the most modern of city halls...

Stepping inside the corridors, the observer will see gleaming white walls, varnished floors and woodwork. The clerk's office is the first door to the left. In this room are the regular office fixtures and a fire proof vault. On the opposite side of the hall is the council chambers and a ladies room. Down from the Clerk's office is another room to be used for other offices as needed.

Going through the ground floor corridor, one sees the fire truck and city service truck space. Off from the truck room is the equipment room of the city electrician and firemen.

Further back is the city bastille equipped with steel cages. Communication from this room may be had with the clerk's office by private telephone.

Returning to the fireman's room one may go into the basement where a modern, automatically stoked furnace keeps the city hall at a constant temperature with a minimum of attention.³²

In 1964, the interior of the Gillette City Hall was remodeled to provide larger quarters for the city council chambers, city clerk's office, and the police department. The city council chambers were enlarged by using the room formerly occupied by the county agent. The city clerk's office was expanded into the room formerly occupied by the city council chamber. The entire basement was occupied by the police department. The cell area was expanded so that juveniles and women could be provided with separate cells. In addition, the chief of police was provided with a separate office as was the captain and sergeant. An interrogation room was also included.³³

In 1967, a two-story fire house was added to the west side of the existing building. Construction began in October 1966 and was completed by July 1967. The addition cost \$39,300; Coulter Construction Company was the building contractor with subcontracts to Gillette Plumbing, Ostlund, Inc., and Gene's Furniture. An open house for the general public was held on July 20. This substantial two-story brick addition provided nearly 2,000 square feet of equipment space for fire trucks, rescue equipment and facilities. The second story provided a meeting room, kitchen, rest rooms and a fire office.³⁴

In September 1974, the Fire Department moved to its own building at Second Street and Rohan. The space that had been occupied by the Fire Department was remodeled for the Gillette Police Department. In January 1978, the city hall offices were moved into the old post office building, which had been vacated when the new Gillette post office was constructed. This nearby building provided more spacious quarters, and the interior had been recently remodeled. Meanwhile, the Gillette police department expanded its facilities into the vacated rooms in the city hall.³⁵

Gillette City Hall (1936)

Name of Property

Campbell County, WY

County and State

In 1984, the City of Gillette advertised the sale of the city hall building as well as the old post office, because a new city hall building was being completed at Fourth Street and Kendricks Avenue. "Prospective buyers will have three options: Bids can be on a cash basis; on a five-year financed plan; or for a vacant lot of 14,076 square feet, with the city willing to tear down the building."³⁶

The new City Hall was completed by August 1984, and for the first time all of the city offices were in one place. Formerly the police and planning departments were in the old city hall; the city administrators' and city clerk's offices were in the old post office; the public works offices were in trailers on the grounds where the new building was erected.³⁷

Historical Significance Summary

Gillette City Hall (1936) is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C. The building is of local significance in the area of Architecture. The period of significance is from 1936, when it was constructed and opened for use. Gillette City Hall was occupied by the city offices, the fire department, and the police department and jail. Gradually, these entities moved to other facilities. The police department was the last agency to move out in 1984.

Criterion C. Although Gillette City Hall represents an example of Art Deco architecture, a part of the modernistic style popular in America from about 1920 to 1940. Its architecture is also reminiscent of the WPA Modern style used for federal buildings, most notably post offices, across the country during the Great Depression era from 1933 to 1944. The style blended beaux-arts classical formalism and symmetry, Art Deco ornamentation, and modernistic materials. This style is also referred to as "Starved Classicism," as the façade of such buildings remained symmetrical, but an effort was made to reduce costs and speed construction by eliminating or reducing ornamentation to a minimum.³⁸ Although Gillette City Hall was not a federal building and did not receive New Deal funding, it appears that the size and scale of the building were reduced when Campbell County declined to team with the city in constructing a larger city/county building due to lack of funding. One local newspaper stated that Jesse Spielman designed the building; however, he is not credited on the cornerstone. Instead, Robert L. Streeter, the county engineer, is listed. All of the original plans pertaining to Gillette City Hall appear to have been lost.

The Gillette City Hall is the only example of Art Deco architecture in downtown Gillette. The decorative vertical elements in the entry bay give is the building's primary Art Deco characteristic. The vertically oriented entry bay projects slightly from the plane of the building and rises well above the roofline. No other building in downtown Gillette shares this kind of Art Deco styling. Other public buildings in the area that were built in the same time period, such as the 1935 Post Office, were constructed in the Colonial Revival style.

Much of the commercial core of Gillette has been redeveloped over time. During the boom years of the 1970s and 80s when the coal industry dramatically reshaped the economy of Gillette, several buildings in downtown were replaced or covered over with modern facades. The Gillette City Hall is one of a few buildings that survive in the downtown from the first half of the twentieth century and the only one that has any significant Art Deco characteristics.

Gillette City Hall (1936)

Name of Property

Campbell County, WY

County and State

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31. No author, "County Projects Gaining Headway," *The News-Record*, Gillette, Wyoming, 22 November 1935, p. 1.

32. No author, "New City Hall Opens to Public Today," *The News-Record*, Gillette, Wyoming, 1 October 1936, p. 1.

33. No author, "Remodeling at City Hall to Enlarge Two Departments," *The News-Record*, Gillette, Wyoming, 23 January 1964, p. 1.

34. No author, "Fire Hall Foundation," *The News-Record*, Gillette, Wyoming, 23 January 1964, p. 11; "Open House Scheduled For Fire Hall Tonight," *The News-Record*, Gillette, Wyoming, 20 July 1967, p. 1.

35. News clipping files, Rockpile Museum, Gillette, Wyoming.

36. Kathy Brown, "For Sale: Used City Hall, Good Condition," *The News-Record*, Gillette, Wyoming, May 1984, pp. 1, 14.

37. No Author, "All Together Again, New City Hall Gets Rave Reviews," *The News-Record*, Gillette, Wyoming, 12 August 1984, p. 8.

38. Beth M. Boland, *National Register Bulletin 13, How to Apply the National Register Criteria to Post Offices* Washington, D.C. U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 1994), pp. 3-4; H.J. Kolva, *Historic U.S. Post Offices in Wyoming (Thematic Resources) 1900-1941* (Spokane, Washington, Institute for Urban and Local Studies, 1986), Section 7, p. 10; Section 8, pp. 11-14.

Gillette City Hall (1936)

Name of Property

Campbell County, WY

County and State

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 # _____
☐ recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____
☐

Primary location of additional data:

☐ State Historic Preservation Office
☐ Other State agency
☐ Federal agency
☐ Local government
☐ University
☐ Other

Name of
repository:

Historic Resources Survey Number (if
assigned):

48CA6111

Gillette City Hall (1936)

Name of Property

Campbell County, WY

County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of

Property

0.24 acre

(Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

13	459744	4904333			
Zone	Easting	Northing			
13	459786	4904333			
Zone	Easting	Northing			
13	459786	4904310			
Zone	Easting	Northing			
13	459744	4904310			
Zone	Easting	Northing			

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The boundaries consist of a 0.24-acre rectangle (140' E-W x 75' N-S) that defines the property lines of the lot that the building occupies. These boundaries consist of street curb lines on the north and east sides of the building, the east side of the alley on the west side of the building, and the building line on the south side.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundary is defined by the property lines. The property lines generally coincide with street curb lines on the north and east, the east side of the alley on the west side, and the building lines on the south side. Gillette City Hall is flanked on the south side by an adjacent building. There is a narrow stretch of land between the two buildings, but the west building addition extends farther west, so that the two buildings are only about three feet apart. Therefore, the west building line of that addition has been extended east to the curb line on South Gillette Avenue.

Gillette City Hall (1936)

Name of Property

Campbell County, WY

County and State

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Robert G. and Elizabeth L. Rosenberg, Historians, contributions by Mary Kelley

Organization Rosenberg Historical Consultants

date May 2019

street & number 739 Crow Creek Road

Telephone (307) 632-1144

e-mail

rosenberghc@gmail.com

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.

- **Continuation Sheets**
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

Gillette City Hall (1936)

Name of Property

Campbell County, WY

County and State

Photographs:

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map.

Name of Property: Gillette City Hall (1936)

City or vicinity: Gillette

County: Campbell

State: Wyoming

Photographer: Elizabeth Rosenberg

Date photographed: October 29, 2018

Description of photograph and number: setting, Gillette City Hall with South Gillette Avenue in foreground, view to west, NR 1

1 of 24

Name of Property: Gillette City Hall (1936)

City or vicinity: Gillette

County: Campbell

State: Wyoming

Photographer: Elizabeth Rosenberg

Date photographed: October 29, 2018

Description of photograph and number: exterior, east side, view to west-southwest, NR 2

2 of 24

Name of Property: Gillette City Hall (1936)

City or vicinity: Gillette

County: Campbell

State: Wyoming

Photographer: Elizabeth Rosenberg

Date photographed: October 29, 2018

Description of photograph and number: exterior, east side, view to west-northwest, NR 3

3 of 24

Name of Property: Gillette City Hall (1936)

City or vicinity: Gillette

County: Campbell

State: Wyoming

Photographer: Elizabeth Rosenberg

Date photographed: October 29, 2018

Description of photograph and number: exterior, main entrance, east side, view to west, NR 4

4 of 24

Name of Property: Gillette City Hall (1936)

City or vicinity: Gillette

County: Campbell

State: Wyoming

Photographer: Elizabeth Rosenberg

Date photographed: October 29, 2018

Description of photograph and number: exterior, main entrance, door, sidelights, and transom, NR 5

5 of 24

Gillette City Hall (1936)

Name of Property

Campbell County, WY

County and State

Name of Property: Gillette City Hall (1936)

City or vicinity: Gillette

County: Campbell

State: Wyoming

Photographer: Elizabeth Rosenberg

Date photographed: October 29, 2018

Description of photograph and number: exterior, cornerstone at northeast corner, view to southwest, NR 6
6 of 24

Name of Property: Gillette City Hall (1936)

City or vicinity: Gillette

County: Campbell

State: Wyoming

Photographer: Elizabeth Rosenberg

Date photographed: October 29, 2018

Description of photograph and number: exterior, east side (at left) and north side, 1967 addition at far right, view to south-southwest, NR 7
7 of 24

Name of Property: Gillette City Hall (1936)

City or vicinity: Gillette

County: Campbell

State: Wyoming

Photographer: Mary Kelley

Date photographed: November 11, 2018

Description of photograph and number: exterior, north side of original portion of building, view to south-southeast, NR 8
8 of 24

Name of Property: Gillette City Hall (1936)

City or vicinity: Gillette

County: Campbell

State: Wyoming

Photographer: Mary Kelley

Date photographed: November 11, 2018

Description of photograph and number: exterior, north side of original 1936 building at left and 1967 addition at right, view to south-southeast, NR 9
9 of 24

Name of Property: Gillette City Hall (1936)

City or vicinity: Gillette

County: Campbell

State: Wyoming

Photographer: Mary Kelley

Date photographed: November 11, 2018

Description of photograph and number: exterior, north side of west addition, alley at right, view to south-southeast, NR 10
10 of 24

Name of Property: Gillette City Hall (1936)

City or vicinity: Gillette

County: Campbell

Gillette City Hall (1936)

Name of Property

Campbell County, WY

County and State

State: Wyoming

Photographer: Elizabeth Rosenberg

Date photographed: October 29, 2018

Description of photograph and number: exterior, north portion of west side 1967 addition, view to east-northeast, NR 11

11 of 24

Name of Property: Gillette City Hall (1936)

City or vicinity: Gillette

County: Campbell

State: Wyoming

Photographer: Elizabeth Rosenberg

Date photographed: October 29, 2018

Description of photograph and number: exterior, south portion of west side of 1967 addition, view to east, NR 12

12 of 24

Name of Property: Gillette City Hall (1936)

City or vicinity: Gillette

County: Campbell

State: Wyoming

Photographer: Elizabeth Rosenberg

Date photographed: October 29, 2018

Description of photograph and number: exterior, furnace structure on south side of building; south wall at right, north wall of adjacent building at left, view to west, NR 13

13 of 24

Name of Property: Gillette City Hall (1936)

City or vicinity: Gillette

County: Campbell

State: Wyoming

Photographer: Elizabeth Rosenberg

Date photographed: October 29, 2018

Description of photograph and number: exterior, south wall of original building, view to northeast, NR 14

14 of 24

Name of Property: Gillette City Hall (1936)

City or vicinity: Gillette

County: Campbell

State: Wyoming

Photographer: Elizabeth Rosenberg

Date photographed: October 29, 2018

Description of photograph and number: setting, South Gillette Avenue, edge of City Hall at far right, view to southwest, NR 15

15 of 24

Name of Property: Gillette City Hall (1936)

City or vicinity: Gillette

County: Campbell

State: Wyoming

Photographer: Elizabeth Rosenberg

Date photographed: October 29, 2018

Gillette City Hall (1936)

Name of Property

Campbell County, WY

County and State

Description of photograph and number: setting, intersection of South Gillette Avenue at left, West 4th Street in foreground, City Hall at right, view to south, NR 16
16 of 24

Name of Property: Gillette City Hall (1936)

City or vicinity: Gillette

County: Campbell

State: Wyoming

Photographer: Elizabeth Rosenberg

Date photographed: October 29, 2018

Description of photograph and number: setting, residential neighborhood west of City Hall, NR 17
17 of 24

Name of Property: Gillette City Hall (1936)

City or vicinity: Gillette

County: Campbell

State: Wyoming

Photographer: Elizabeth Rosenberg

Date photographed: October 29, 2018

Description of photograph and number: interior, reception desk facing main entrance, NR 18
18 of 24

Name of Property: Gillette City Hall (1936)

City or vicinity: Gillette

County: Campbell

State: Wyoming

Photographer: Elizabeth Rosenberg

Date photographed: October 29, 2018

Description of photograph and number: interior, main entrance and transom, NR 19
19 of 24

Name of Property: Gillette City Hall (1936)

City or vicinity: Gillette

County: Campbell

State: Wyoming

Photographer: Elizabeth Rosenberg

Date photographed: October 29, 2018

Description of photograph and number: interior, original walk-in vault, NR 20
20 of 24

Name of Property: Gillette City Hall (1936)

City or vicinity: Gillette

County: Campbell

State: Wyoming

Photographer: Elizabeth Rosenberg

Date photographed: October 29, 2018

Description of photograph and number: interior, retail entrances inside store front, NR 21
21 of 24

Name of Property: Gillette City Hall (1936)

City or vicinity: Gillette

County: Campbell

Gillette City Hall (1936)

Name of Property

Campbell County, WY

County and State

State: Wyoming

Photographer: Elizabeth Rosenberg

Date photographed: October 29, 2018

Description of photograph and number: interior, second-story office space in 1967 addition, NR 22
22 of 24

Name of Property: Gillette City Hall (1936)

City or vicinity: Gillette

County: Campbell

State: Wyoming

Photographer: Elizabeth Rosenberg

Date photographed: October 29, 2018

Description of photograph and number: interior, basement jail cell, NR 23
23 of 24

Name of Property: Gillette City Hall (1936)

City or vicinity: Gillette

County: Campbell

State: Wyoming

Photographer: Elizabeth Rosenberg

Date photographed: October 29, 2018

Description of photograph and number: interior, basement coal room, coal chute at center, NR 24
24 of 24

Gillette City Hall (1936)

Name of Property

Campbell County, WY

County and State

Property Owner:

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

(1) Name Desk Holdings, LLC

street & number 400 South Gillette Avenue

Telephone (307) 689-4577

city or town Gillette state Wyoming zip code 82716

(2) Name _____

street & number _____

Telephone _____

city or town _____

state _____

zip code _____

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

Gillette City Hall (1936)
Name of Property

Campbell County, WY
County and State

Additional Documentation (Maps and Figures)

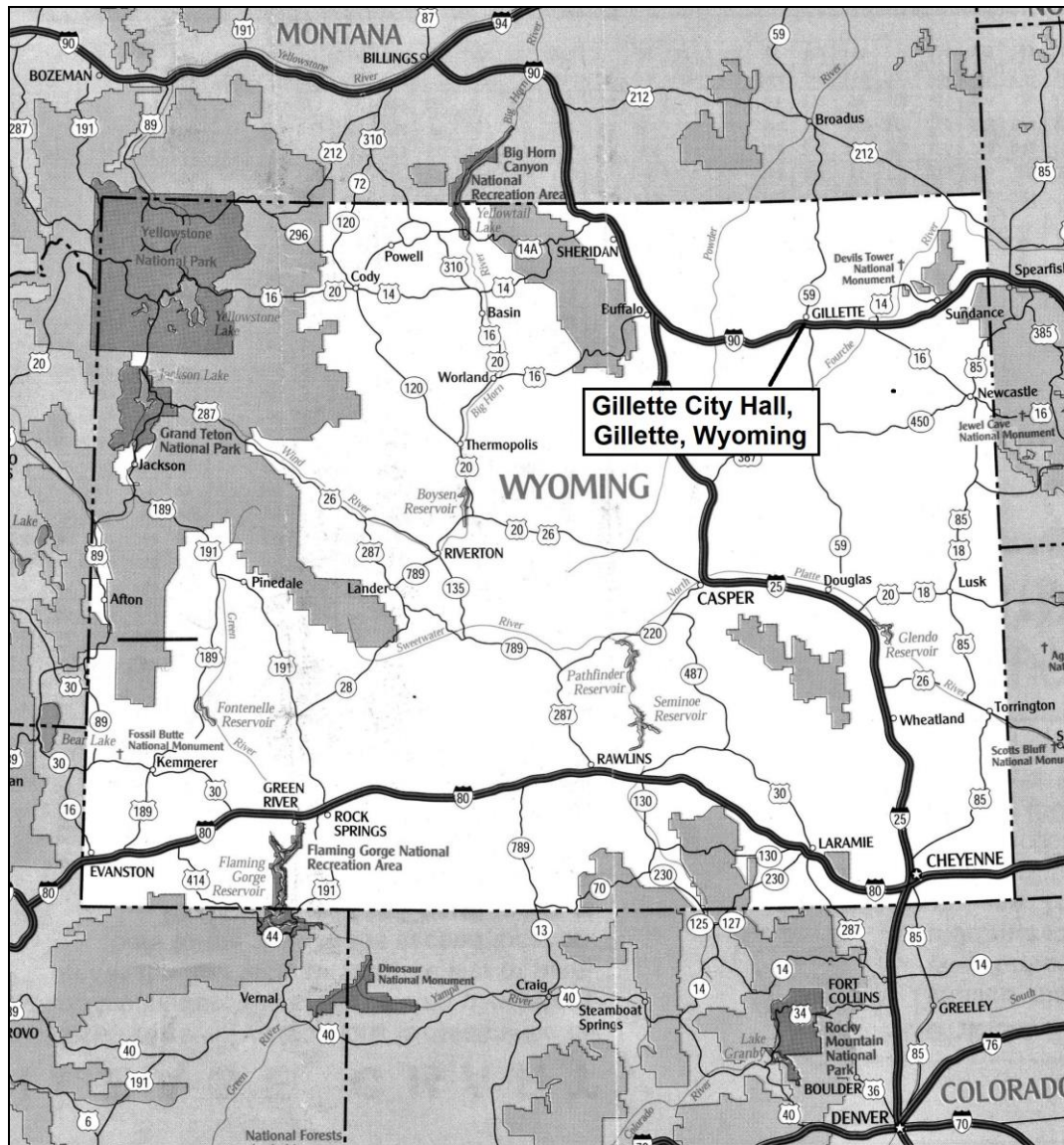


Figure 1. Location map

Gillette City Hall (1936)
Name of Property

Campbell County, WY
County and State

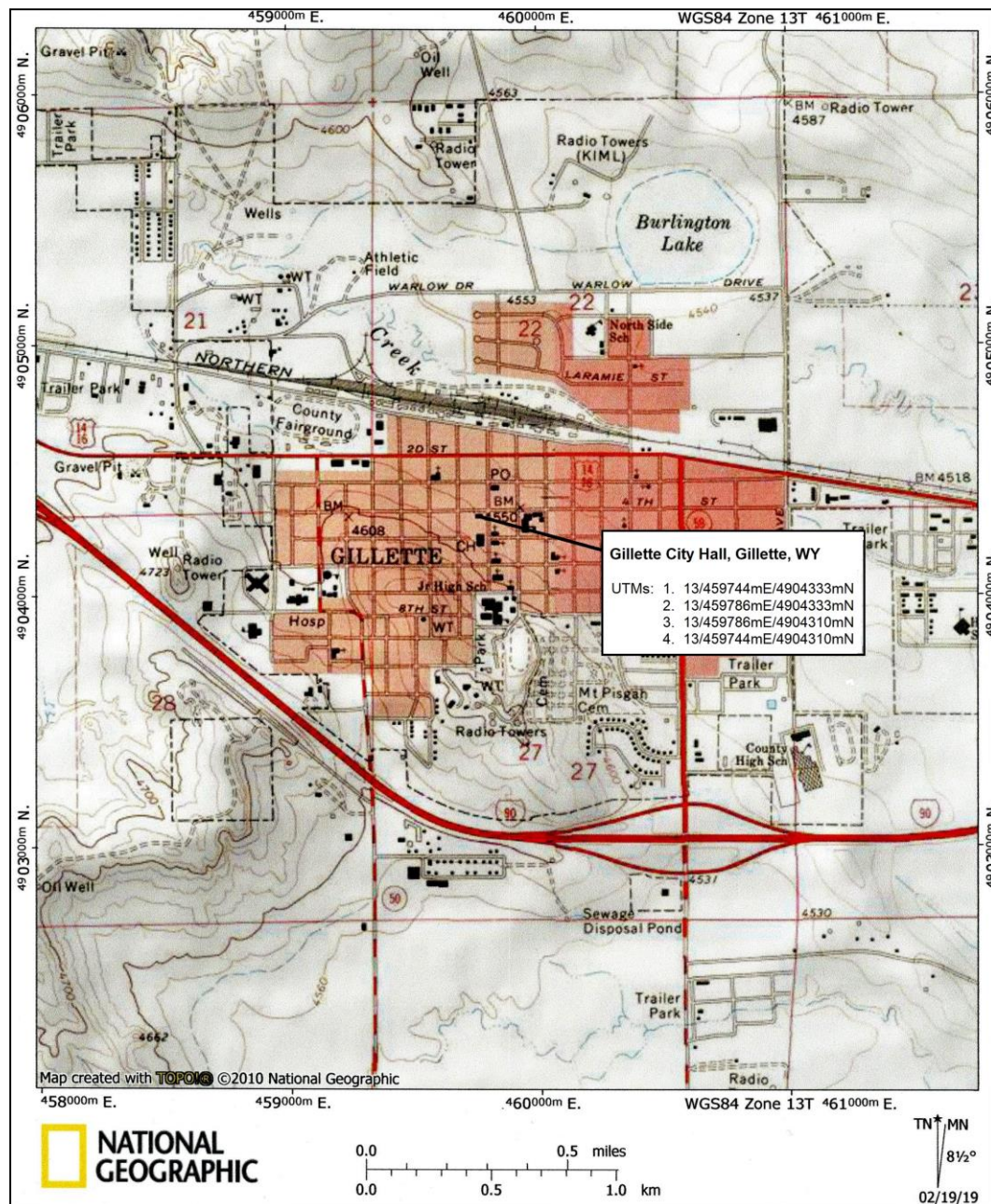


Figure 2. Portions of Gillette West and Gillette East WY 7.5' USGS quads (1971), showing location of Gillette City Hall (1936) with UTM's.

Gillette City Hall (1936)
Name of Property

Campbell County, WY
County and State

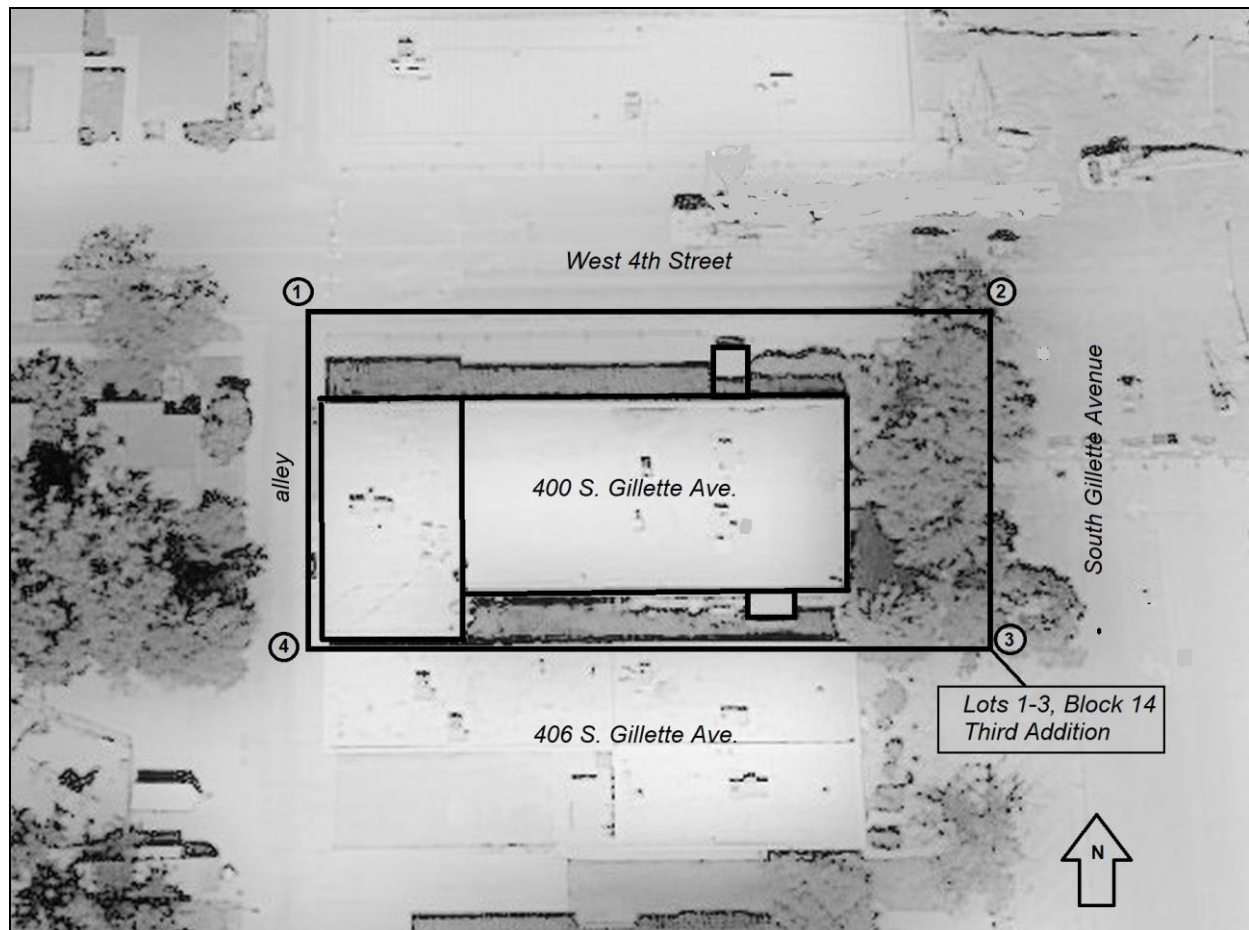


Figure 3. Site map with property boundary and UTM points.
(adapted from Google Earth Imagery 2014)

Gillette City Hall (1936)
Name of Property

Campbell County, WY
County and State

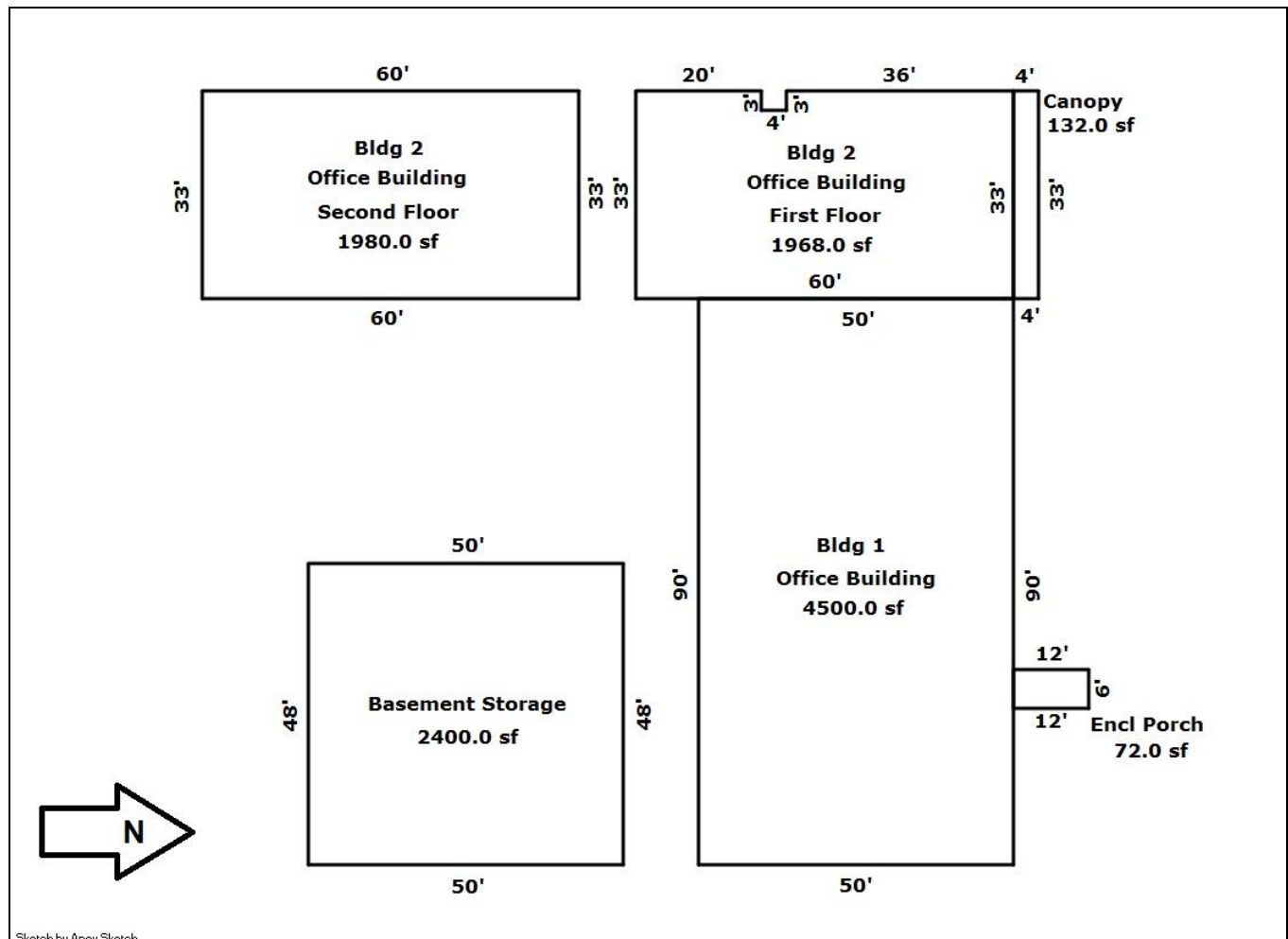


Figure 4. Property sketch, north arrow added
(Campbell County Tax Assessor)

Gillette City Hall (1936)
Name of Property

Campbell County, WY
County and State

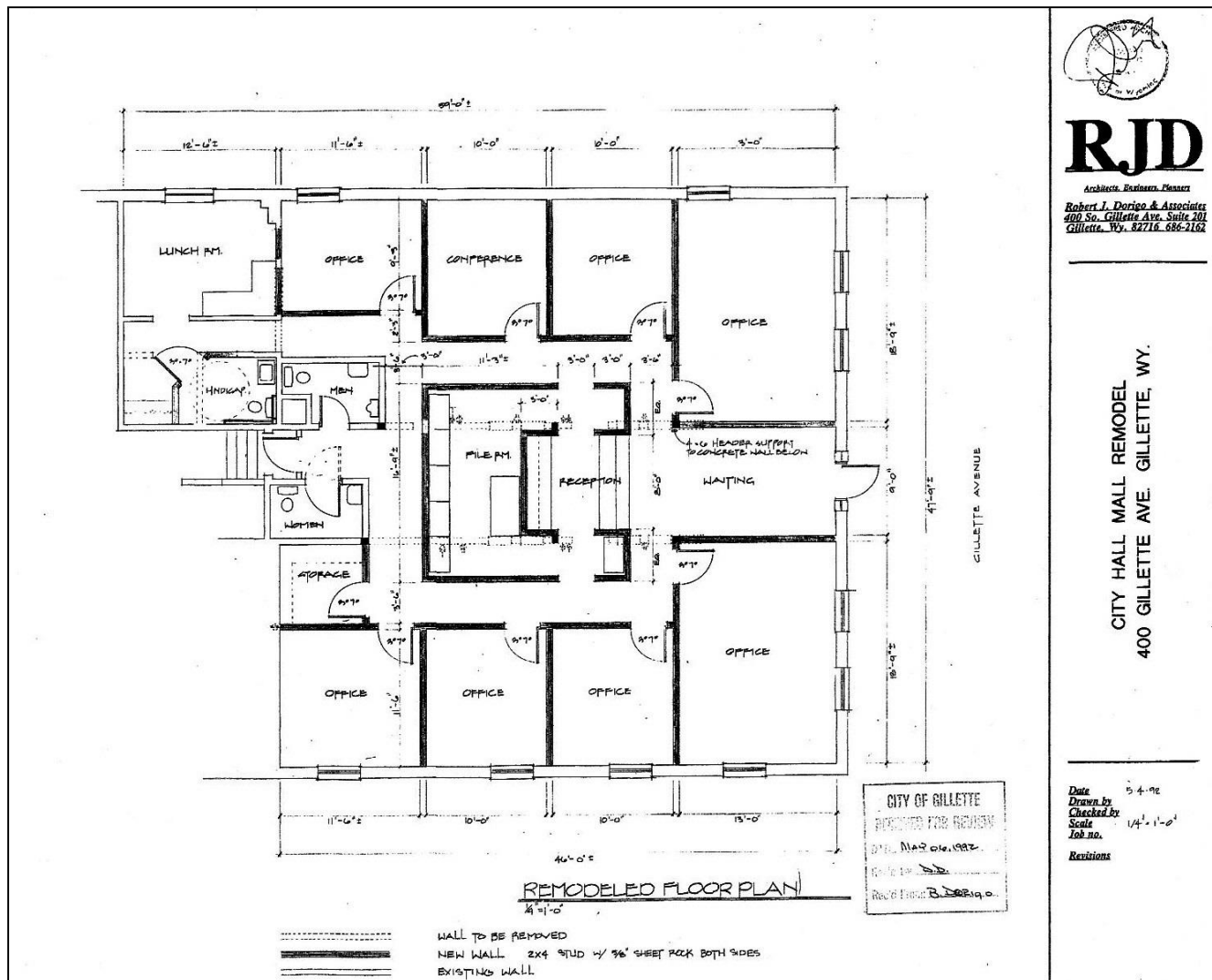


Figure 5. "Remodeled floor plan" (east end of the 1936 portion of the building) from 1992 remodeling (Robert J. Dorigo & Associates)

Gillette City Hall (1936)

Name of Property

Campbell County, WY

County and State

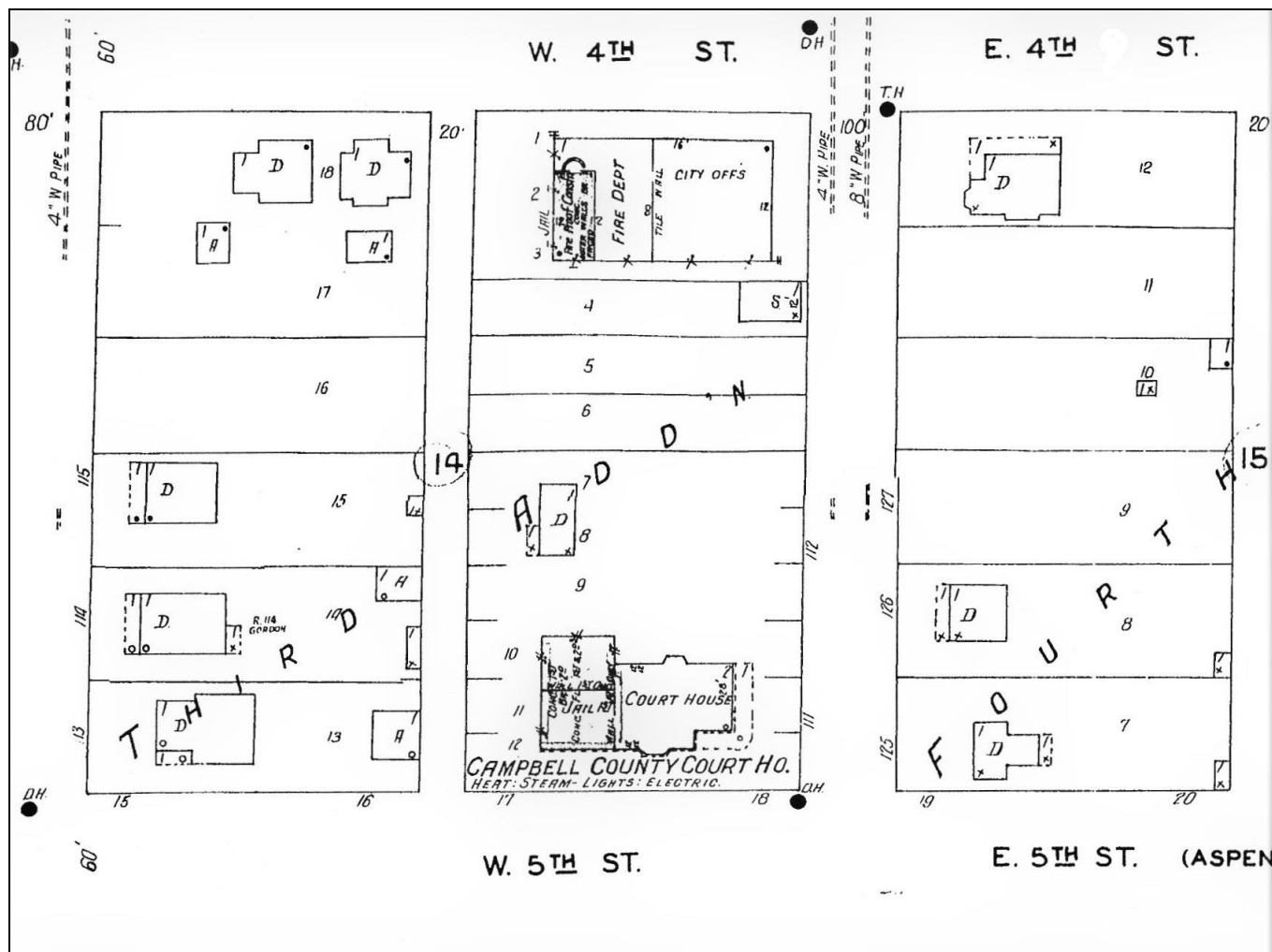


Figure 6. A portion of the 1939 Sanborn Map, showing the recently built City Hall (at top center). At this time, there was a small store adjacent to the south. (Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps)

Gillette City Hall (1936)
Name of Property

Campbell County, WY
County and State



Figure 7. Gillette City Hall, ca. 1936. (*Campbell County Rockpile Museum*)

Gillette City Hall (1936)
Name of Property

Campbell County, WY
County and State



Figure 8. "Firefighters pose with engine No. 1 of the Gillette Fire Department"

This photo was taken on May 12, 1964, when the fire department operated out of the original 1936 portion of City Hall. The overhead garage doors in the photograph were located on the north side of the building. One of the doors has now been bricked over and has a small glass brick window, and the one to the far right has been remodeled into a storefront with glass doors and large glass transom. The fire department was moved in 1967 to the two-story addition that was built onto the west end of the original building. (*Images of America: Gillette*, by Mary Kelley, p.69)

Gillette City Hall (1936)
Name of Property

Campbell County, WY
County and State



Figure 9. Gillette City Hall, ca. 1984. Note the eight-light glass transom, which remains in place; it is visually but not physically covered by an arched awning. When the new City Hall was built in 1984, the 1936 building, above, was put up for sale. It is now privately owned and houses several small businesses. (*Gillette News-Record*)