

Casper Downtown Historic District
Name of Property

Natrona County, Wyoming
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply.)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	private
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	public - Local
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	public - State
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	public - Federal

Category of Property
(Check only **one** box.)

<input type="checkbox"/>	building(s)
<input checked="" 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	
71	23	buildings
		district
1		site
1		structure
		object
73	23	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

8

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

COMMERCE/specialty store

COMMERCE/business

SOCIAL/meeting hall

GOVERNMENT/government office

EDUCATION/library

RECREATION/theater

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

COMMERCE/specialty store

COMMERCE/business

COMMERCE/restaurant

GOVERNMENT/government office

EDUCATION/library

RECREATION/theater

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions.)

MODERN MOVEMENT/Moderne

MODERN MOVEMENT/Art Deco

LATE 19TH & 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS/Classical
LATE 19TH & 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS/Gothic
Revival

LATE 19TH & EARLY 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN
MOVEMENTS /Chicago
LATE 19TH & EARLY 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN
MOVEMENTS /Craftsman

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: CONCRETE

walls: BRICK

TERRA COTTA

roof: OTHER

other:

Casper Downtown Historic District
Name of Property

Natrona County, Wyoming
County and State

7. Architectural Classification (cont.)

LATE 19TH & EARLY 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS /Sullivan-esque

MODERN MOVEMENT/Brutalism

MODERN MOVEMENT/Neo-Expressionism

MODERN MOVEMENT/International Style

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

The Casper Downtown Historic District is located within the boundaries of the City of Casper, Natrona County, Wyoming (see Figure #1). The approximately 46-acre district is in a commercial and civic area between the two original railroad alignments of the Wyoming Central and the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy lines, which travel along the north and south edges of downtown. The District boundaries form an irregular polygonal area generally bounded on the north by East B Street, on the south by Midwest Avenue, on the east by Beech Street, and on the west by David Street. The District is comprised of 102 properties constructed between circa 1896 and circa 1980, consisting of seventy-one (71) contributing buildings, one (1) contributing structure, one (1) contributing site, twenty-three (23) non-contributing buildings, and eight (8) buildings already listed individually in the National Register.¹ With only twenty-three (23) non-contributing resources, over 75 percent of the resources contribute to the significance of the District.² The non-contributing buildings are the same scale as the contributing buildings and do not significantly impact the overall visual and functional cohesiveness of the District. Several vacant lots are scattered throughout the District, however despite these gaps, the District continues to clearly communicate its historic commercial setting and landscape.

The District's setting and its historic resources represent a cohesive sense of place and reflect Casper's late nineteenth century establishment and nearly a century of commercial and community development. Over 72 percent of the extant resources served a commercial function, several of which had mixed uses and included second-story meeting halls, professional space, and/or residential units. Interspersed among the commercial properties are buildings of various functional types, including domestic, educational, religious, social, including industrial (communications), recreational, and governmental resources. The seventy-three (73) contributing resources include buildings, a structure, and a site constructed between circa 1896 and 1970. Of the twenty-three (23) non-contributing resources, nineteen (19) date to the period of significance but suffer from a loss of integrity³ and four (4) are currently less than fifty years of age and will become potentially eligible within the next eleven to fourteen years.

¹ The Townsend Hotel at 115 N Center (48NA1286) is individually listed but has lost integrity and is no longer eligible for listing in the National Register individually nor as a contributing resource to the Casper Downtown Historic District.

² This includes NRHP-Listed properties.

³ Several of these nineteen resources likely retain their historic fabric intact beneath non-historic claddings and secondary applications. In the future, if the non-historic materials and/or infill are removed, these properties should be reevaluated to determine if they would be contributing elements to the historic district.

Casper Downtown Historic District
Name of Property

Natrona County, Wyoming
County and State

The District encompasses the largest intact grouping of the commercial, civic, industrial, and social resources of Casper's historic central business district. Most of the contributing resources reflect an identifiable architectural style, with Modern Movement styles most thoroughly represented, with forty-two examples throughout the District. Only about one-third of the buildings do not exhibit a defined architectural style from the period of their construction and are simple vernacular commercial buildings referencing restrained architectural treatments on basic One-Part Commercial Block and Two-Part Commercial Block building forms.

As a contiguous grouping of late-nineteenth through mid-to-late twentieth century commercial, institutional, industrial, and social resources, the Casper Downtown Historic District retains its historic integrity and continues to communicate important information about its commercial development.

Narrative Description

LOCATION AND SETTING

The District's setting and its historic resources reflect its late-nineteenth century establishment and its commercial and community development through the mid-to-late-twentieth century. The downtown commercial area's arrangement illustrates a common commercial alignment along the cardinal axes, intersecting off to the north of the original angled Wyoming Central Railroad alignment running northeast-southwest at the south edge of the District. Center Street, the primary commercial street, leads due north from these tracks. East Second intersects perpendicularly with Center Street, forming the intersection that is the heart of Downtown Casper and anchoring the adjacent streets of Casper's central business district. All subsequent Downtown plats followed the traditional north-south, east-west grid. The network of streets is a circulation feature defining the spatial organization and development patterns of downtown Casper. (See Figures 2, 3.)

All lots in the District are on a grid system platted between 1888 and 1916, the majority of which belong to the Original Town Plat filed in October 1888. Lot sizes vary depending on use (e.g. commercial, institutional, or industrial) and reflect a number of twentieth century parcel boundary alterations as a result of subdivision or merging adjacent parcels/lots. Paved streets, concrete curbs, and concrete sidewalks characterize the commercial streetscapes. The District's streets are 60 feet wide with paved alleys. A nonhistoric traffic-calming curvilinear path characterizes 2nd Street between David and Durbin streets.

The vast majority of extant buildings served commercial functions, many of which had mixed uses and included first-floor retail and service spaces with storefronts and second-story spaces to accommodate meeting halls, offices for professional services, and residential apartments. Interspersed among the commercial properties are buildings of various uses, including governmental, domestic, social, industrial, recreational, and educational resources.

ARCHITECTURAL STYLES AND PROPERTY TYPES

Dating from the late 1890s through the mid-to-late-twentieth century, most of the buildings found in the Casper Downtown Historic District are masonry commercial buildings of one to two stories. However, taller buildings are well represented, with twenty-seven (27) resources rising at least three, and as many as nine, stories in height. The majority of the contributing resources are One-Part and Two-Part Commercial Block buildings representing a formal architectural style, or at least the restrained and/or subtle influence or an identifiable stylistic category. In particular, they reflect the influences of the popular Late 19th and 20th Century Revivals, Late 19th & Early 20th Century American Movements, and the Modern Movement styles of the pre- and post-World War II period. Commercial building designs lacking a definable architectural style comprise the balance of the District. The District also includes one site – the historic Pioneer Park (200 N Center), former site of the original Natrona County courthouse.

Casper Downtown Historic District
Name of Property

Natrona County, Wyoming
County and State

INTEGRITY DISCUSSION

The District's setting and its historic buildings reflect its development as the commercial and civic hub of Natrona County and as a significant regional railroad market and oil industry center during the late nineteenth century and through the mid- to late-twentieth century. Many of the buildings in the District reflect changes and alterations that occurred during the District's period of significance and some of these historic alterations have achieved significance in their own right. The majority of these historic changes reflect the modernization of first-story storefronts. The replacement of display windows and covering of transoms above the storefronts are the most conspicuous modifications. It is notable that many of these alterations left the original openings and spatial relationships of the storefront intact. As a rule, the upper portions of the primary facades of contributing buildings retain their original integrity and are often the principal means by which to identify a building's original style.

During the post-World War II period, prosperity in Casper stimulated a building boom and the central business district retains the remarkably high number (thirty-seven (37)) of high-style, Modern Movement buildings. In addition, enhancements to existing nineteenth- and early twentieth-century façades and storefronts took place in an effort to modernize. During this time, the influence of Modern Movement architectural styles prompted the installation of aluminum-framed display windows and façade re-facing with pale colors of brick and/or terra cotta. Buildings that exhibit alterations made before 1970 reflect the local evolution of commercial and institutional architecture in downtown Casper during the District's period of significance. Because many of these changes have gained historical significance in their own right, these buildings are included in the District as contributing resources for their illustration of these trends.

Changes made after the period of significance do not inherently render a building ineligible. If nonhistoric alterations do not compromise essential physical features characterizing a building's identity for which it is significant, the resource is counted as contributing. When nonhistoric alterations result in essential physical features no longer being present or visible enough for the building to communicate its historic identity, the building is counted as noncontributing.

PROPERTY INVENTORY

The following list provides information specific to each resource located within the District. Arranged in order by street name and then by address, the list includes the following information for each building: current street address, historic property name (if known), architectural style (if applicable), building form, construction date, significant alteration dates (if known), and the building's eligibility status, as well as a description of the resource. Style categorizations and building form categorizations are based on Richard Longstreth's *The Buildings of Main Street*, National Register Bulletin 16 *Guidelines for Completing National Register of Historic Places Forms Part A: How to Complete the National Register Registration Form*, and Virginia and Lee McAlester's *A Field Guide To American Houses*. Unless otherwise stated, all buildings' roofs are flat and their primary exterior materials are brick.

Casper Downtown Historic District
Name of Property

Natrona County, Wyoming
County and State

EAST 1ST STREET

1. 234 E 1ST ST *Eligibility:* Contributing

Historic Property Name(s): WYOMING NATIONAL BANK
Style: MODERN MOVEMENT: EXPRESSIONISM
Building Form: TWO-PART
Date of Construction: 1964
Smithsonian #: 48NA5300
Description:

This property features three separate features – the main bank building, a drive-through building (234a), and a free-standing sculptural concrete sign tower (234b). The main bank building at the southeast corner of the lot is comprised of two distinct sections – a rectangular section with flat roof and almost Mansard-style appearance, and a highly sculptural rotunda with 17 concrete “leaves” forming a shell that supports the roof and creates an 85’ clear span 21’ high. The sign tower to the north of the main bank building is also highly sculptural, standing on three legs that come together into a single mass with three fins and spread outward again at the top in an ovoid form that originally held a digital time/temperature sign. The one-story drive-through building at the northwest corner of the parcel features an enclosed section at the north end, the roof of which extends south over the drive-through lanes to form a canopy supported by stylized concrete posts with a sweeping, tapered aesthetic.

This property not only reflects the continuum of commercial and architectural development in Casper, but is significant architecturally at the statewide level. Not only is it significant for its associations with Wyoming National Bank, but for its unique design executed by a nationally renowned architect. The main building and sign tower both retain excellent integrity, clearly communicate their historic associations, and continue to convey important information. Though the drive-through building is not yet fifty years of age, its direct commercial and architectural associations with the continued trend of development of this landmark property justify its contributing status. This property not only contributes to a district comprised of its neighboring buildings, it is individually eligible for listing in the National Register.

WEST 1ST STREET

2. 120 W 1ST ST *Eligibility:* Contributing

Historic Property Name(s): VIRGINIA HOTEL; PARKER BROS WHOLESALE TOBACCO
Building Form: TWO-PART
Date of Construction: C. 1915
Smithsonian #: 48NA5142
Description:

This brick two-part commercial block is twelve bays long and five bays deep. Upper-story fenestration defines the bays and is comprised of single and loosely paired openings containing nonhistoric fixed aluminum sash windows, some of which have a lower hopper. Entrances occur at the southeast corner, centered in the south elevation, and centered in the west elevation. Historic storefront openings on the east end have nonhistoric but compatible display windows. Historic character-defining features present include: the header, soldier, and dentil courses at cornice level and along the parapet wall; the header brick belt course above the uppermost story windows and under the second level windows; the soldier brick window lintels over the second level window openings; the original segmental arches over the secondary elevation upper-level windows; and the poured concrete foundation, largely visible at the west end where the grade descends and reveals the original foundation wall.

Though changes from various remodeling efforts over the years have hindered the building's integrity and it is not individually eligible, it retains sufficient integrity to communicate important information about the historic core of Casper and contributes to the significance of the Downtown Historic District.

Casper Downtown Historic District
Name of Property

Natrona County, Wyoming
County and State

EAST 2ND STREET

3. 101-105 E 2ND ST Eligibility: Contributing

Historic Property Name(s): ZALE'S JEWELRY
Style: MODERN MOVEMENT
Building Form: ONE-PART
Date of Construction: C. 1956
Smithsonian #: 48NA5318
Description:

This one-part commercial block is three bays wide. Distinct storefronts define the bays, each of which has a recessed entrance. The east and center storefronts have a center recessed entrance flanked on each side by aluminum-framed display windows resting on low tiled bulkheads. The corner storefront entrance and its adjacent display window to the west are both recessed and a tiled column supports the roof corner above. Historic character-defining features present include: the division of the building into three separate retail spaces; the employment of varying sizes and colors of glazed tile as decorative treatment; the aluminum-framed storefronts and low bulkheads; the aluminum visor awning over a second storefront entrance in the west elevation; and the overall lack of applied ornament.

This building reflects the continuum of commercial development in Casper. The building retains sufficient integrity to clearly communicate its historic associations and continues to convey important information. It contributes to the significance of a district comprised of its neighboring buildings.

4. 102 E 2ND ST Eligibility: NRHP-Listed

Historic Property Name(s): RIALTO THEATER
Style: LATE 19TH & 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS
Building Form: TWO-PART
Date of Construction: 1921
Smithsonian #: 48NA2189
Description:

This movie theater building is a two-part commercial block. Located on a corner lot it has two primary elevations, facing south and west. The movie theater entrance is off-center in the south elevation, flanked on each side by two small separate stores. Key character-defining historic features present include: the vertical neon sign on the southwest corner with letters that read, "RIALTO;" the metal cornice spanning both primary elevations; the decorative tapestry brickwork; the visor awning sheltering the first story across the primary elevations; and the post-WWII storefront featuring elongated sandstone and aluminum framed display windows.

This building reflects the continuum of commercial development in Casper and is listed individually in the NRHP. The building retains sufficient integrity to clearly communicate its historic associations and continues to convey important information.

5. 109 E 2ND ST Eligibility: Contributing

Historic Property Name(s): KARLS SHOES
Style: MODERN MOVEMENT
Building Form: TWO-PART
Date of Construction: 1956
Smithsonian #: 48NA5319
Description:

This brick two-part commercial block is four bays wide. Upper-story fenestration, comprised of paired steel hopper sash windows, defines the bays. The first-story façade is dominated by a distinctive c1965 round arched off-center recessed entrance. The entrance to the upper floor is at the east end of the first story. Other features include: the original bands of vertical seamed metal cladding across the top of the façade wall and over the storefront level; the original cementitious cladding of spandrel panels above and below each upper-story window pair; the buff brick street-level façade cladding; the projecting soldier brick courses defining the perimeter of each round arch; the round arch at the west end of the first story that denotes a display window with projecting planter; the display window with brick bulkhead, arched glass, and recessed can lights adjacent the entrance door; and the double-leaf

Casper Downtown Historic District
Name of Property

Natrona County, Wyoming
County and State

full-light aluminum-framed entrance doors.

This building reflects the continuum of commercial and architectural development in Casper. The building retains sufficient integrity to clearly communicate its historic associations and continues to convey important information. It contributes to the significance of a district comprised of its neighboring buildings.

6. 112 E 2ND ST *Eligibility:* Contributing

Historic Property Name(s): STARR BUILDING; BLACKMORE BUILDING

Style: MODERN MOVEMENT

Building Form: TWO-PART

Date of Construction: C. 1905

Smithsonian #: 48NA5241

Description:

This two-part commercial block is a single bay wide, defined by the street-level storefront. The upper façade wall features a solid panel of mosaic tile with an aluminum frame dating to a post-WWII remodel. The storefront has a center, recessed entrance through a set of double-leaf full-light aluminum-framed doors. A nonhistoric pent roof spans the storefront.

This building reflects the continuum of commercial development in Casper. The post-WWII façade remodel communicates information about the nationwide and local trend of modernization and commercial remodeling that took place in the 1950s and 1960s. The building retains sufficient integrity to clearly communicate its historic associations and continues to convey important information. It contributes to the significance of a district comprised of its neighboring buildings.

7. 114 E 2ND ST *Eligibility:* Noncontributing

Historic Property Name(s): LYNCH BUILDING; RATCLIFF BUILDING

Building Form: TWO-PART

Date of Construction: C. 1915

Smithsonian #: 48NA5320

Description:

This two-part commercial block is a single bay wide, defined by the street-level storefront. The upper façade wall has a nonhistoric metal covering with a vertical accordion profile. A wood shingle-clad pent roof spans the top of the storefront. The full width of the aluminum-framed storefront is recessed. The main entrance is off-center through a pair of double-leaf wood doors with central vertical lights. A second entrance door is at the west end of the storefront. The secondary cladding of the upper façade wall, shingled awning, and storefront all appear to date to the late 1960s or early 1970s. As such, these alterations are not yet fifty years of age and currently conceal the building's historic integrity. If these secondary materials were removed and the original materials found intact below, the building could be reevaluated for potential eligibility.

8. 117 E 2ND ST *Eligibility:* Contributing

Historic Property Name(s): KEMP BUILDING; WOODS SHOES

Style: MODERN MOVEMENT

Building Form: TWO-PART

Date of Construction: C. 1945

Smithsonian #: 48NA5255

Description:

This two-part commercial block is four bays wide. Upper-story fenestration, comprised of nine-light steel windows, defines the symmetrically arranged bays. Key character-defining historic features present include: the salmon-colored face brick laid in a common bond contrasted with the red-brown brick laid in a stacked bond on each side of the 1st- and 2nd-story openings; the header brick window sills; the aluminum-framed storefront with its deeply recessed center entrance and low brick bulkheads; the single entrance at the east end of the 1st story that leads to the upper floor; and the overall lack of applied ornament.

This building reflects the continuum of commercial and architectural development in downtown Casper. The building retains integrity to clearly communicate its historic associations and continues to convey important information. It contributes to the significance of a district comprised of its neighboring buildings.

Casper Downtown Historic District
Name of Property

Natrona County, Wyoming
County and State

9. 118 E 2ND ST **Eligibility:** Contributing
Historic Property Name(s): CASPER DRUGS; AYRE'S JEWELRY
Style: LATE 19TH & EARLY 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS
Building Form: TWO-PART
Date of Construction: C. 1915
Smithsonian #: 48NA5242
Description:

This two-part brick commercial block is two bays wide. Upper-story fenestration is comprised of broad Chicago-style windows. Character-defining historic features present include: the beige face brick across the upper-façade wall; the blonde accent brick in courses of header brick, soldier brick, and herringbone patterns; the shaped parapet with terra cotta coping tiles; and the post-WWII storefront featuring corrugated metal transom covering, visor awning, aluminum-framed display windows, recessed full-light entrance, and brick bulkheads, one of which is a taller, jewelry display bulkhead.

This building reflects the continuum of commercial development in Casper. The building retains sufficient integrity to clearly communicate its historic associations and continues to convey important information. It contributes to the significance of a district comprised of its neighboring buildings.

10. 120 E 2ND ST **Eligibility:** Contributing
Historic Property Name(s): WIGGINS SHOE/LEATHER SHOP
Building Form: ONE-PART
Date of Construction: C. 1917
Smithsonian #: 48NA5243
Description:

This one-part brick commercial block is two bays wide, defined by two small storefronts. The upper façade wall features five horizontal window openings. A nonhistoric door occupies the center street-level bay and leads to the interior upper floor. Character-defining historic features present include: the blonde face brick on the upper-façade wall; the brownish accent brick in courses of header brick, soldier brick, and dentils; and the post-WWII storefronts sheltered by an aluminum visor awning. Of particular note is the west storefront, which features a distinctly deeply recessed entrance with display windows and bulkheads tapering inward in a zig-zag profile, as well as a complimentary decorative mosaic tile patterned floor.

This building reflects the continuum of commercial development in Casper. The building retains sufficient integrity to clearly communicate its historic associations and continues to convey important information. It contributes to the significance of a district comprised of its neighboring buildings.

11. 124-128 E 2ND ST **Eligibility:** Contributing
Historic Property Name(s): O&S BUILDING; WOOLWORTH'S
Style: LATE 19TH & 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS
Building Form: TWO-PART VERTICAL
Date of Construction: 1917
Smithsonian #: 48NA5244, 48NA5321
Description:

This four-story, brick, two-part commercial block is three bays wide. Upper-story fenestration defines the bays. Each window opening contains a band of three one-over-one historic wood sash windows. Blonde brick clads the primary (south) elevation. Historic character-defining features present include: the shaped parapet with blonde terra cotta coping tiles; the terra cotta cornice, windowsills and storefront transom framing; the three post-WWII storefronts, two of which retain their original aluminum visor awning and aluminum-framed display windows on high bulkheads. The four-story O&S building was historically and is still internally connected with the one-story building adjacent to the east, which features: a nonhistoric shaped parapet, a visor awning continuing over the east end bay of the original O&S building, and a post-WWII aluminum-framed storefront system.

This building reflects the continuum of commercial development in Casper. The building retains excellent integrity, both exterior and interior. It clearly communicates its historic associations, and continues to convey important information. It not only contributes to the significance of a district comprised of its neighboring buildings, but appears to be individually eligible for listing in the National Register.

Casper Downtown Historic District
Name of Property

Natrona County, Wyoming
County and State

12. 125 E 2ND ST Eligibility: Contributing

Historic Property Name(s): THE GOLDEN RULE STORE; JC PENNEYS
Style: MODERN MOVEMENT
Building Form: TWO-PART
Date of Construction: C. 1905
Smithsonian #: 48NA5254
Description:

This four-story, two-part commercial block is four bays wide. Upper-story fenestration defines the bays and is comprised of large, square fixed window units. Cream-colored terra cotta panels clad the upper façade wall, with grey terra cotta accents enfaming the horizontal window groupings of each floor and the full façade wall as a whole. A key feature is the distinctive storefront with its deeply recessed, off-center entrance featuring a full-height, free-standing display case within the recess. Additional historic character-defining features present include: the three-story vertical neon sign with letters that read, "LOU TAUBERT RANCH OUTFITTERS;" the shallow visor awning over the storefront; the original recess can lights in the ceiling of the recessed entrance passage; the decorative terrazzo floor within the recess entrance with letters that read, "GORDON'S" and that continues to form the low, scalloped bulkheads to the aluminum-framed display windows; and the overall lack of applied ornament to the façade, the appearance of which dates to a post-WWII remodel.

This building reflects the continuum of commercial development in Casper. The building retains sufficient integrity to clearly communicate its historic associations and continues to convey important information. It contributes to the significance of a district comprised of its neighboring buildings.

13. 129-137 E 2ND ST Eligibility: Contributing

Historic Property Name(s): FORSHAY BUILDING; KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS HALL; KASSIS BLOCK; SMITH BLOCK; SMITH BUILDING; KASSIS DRY GOODS
Style: LATE 19TH & 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS
Building Form: TWO-PART
Date of Construction: C. 1914; C. 1960
Smithsonian #: 48NA5322, 48NA5253
Description:

This building is comprised of two separate buildings historically connected internally. Both are Two-Part commercial blocks rising two stories in-height and both feature buff-colored face brick. While the upper façade walls still clearly communicate the buildings' original separateness, the first-story façade unifies them into a single unit. The west building is four-bays wide and the east building is two bays wide. Upper-story fenestration defines the bays. Original window openings contain the historic wood-framed windows – with three-part units occupying the west building's openings and one-over-one units occupying the east building's openings. The street-level façade dates to a post-WWII remodel, spans the primary elevation of both buildings, and features: pale green terra cotta cladding with projecting vertical grooves on the east two-thirds of the façade; the projecting vertical grooves in the terra cotta cladding; the pebble-board panels cladding the west one-third of the façade with vertical fixed display windows with blind transoms; and aluminum-framed storefronts with deeply recessed retail entrances within the green terra cotta section. Additional historic character-defining features of the east building include: the two groupings of four corbelled courses of brick at cornice level; the slightly projecting brick window surrounds that feature a drip-molding motif; the stone windowsills; and the bands of header brick between and flanking each windowsill. Additional historic character-defining features of the west building include: the terra cotta accents across the upper façade wall, found in the form of parapet coping tile, a projecting cornice with modillions, a continuous window lintel with drip mold motif, and a continuous windowsill.

This building reflects the continuum of commercial development in Casper. The building retains integrity, clearly communicates its historic associations, and continues to convey important information. The internal connection and the street-level façade design date to the documented nationwide trend of façade updating that occurred during the post-WWII period and has gained significance in its own right. This building contributes to a district comprised of its neighboring buildings.

Casper Downtown Historic District
Name of Property

Natrona County, Wyoming
County and State

14. 136 E 2ND ST

Eligibility: Contributing

Historic Property Name(s): IOOF BLDG
Style: LATE 19TH & EARLY 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS
Building Form: TWO-PART
Date of Construction: C. 1896
Smithsonian #: 48NA5245
Description:

This brick two-part commercial block occupies a corner lot and thus has two primary elevations – south and east. The south elevation is three bays wide and the east elevation is four bays wide. The historic decorative brickwork in the IOOF chain links motif define the bays. The upper façade wall of the south elevation has three large window openings. The upper façade wall of the east elevation has seven smaller single window openings. Each window opening contains a nonhistoric unit within the historic opening. The upper story reflects a c1915 remodel while the first story reflects a more recent c2005 remodel. Historic character-defining features present include: the decorative brickwork at cornice level, found in courses of header brick laid in a variety of patterns and conveying dentil and bracket motifs; the dark brown terra cotta window surrounds; and the brick walls of the secondary elevations that clearly reflect the original c1896 building's roof line.

This building reflects the continuum of commercial development in Casper. Despite the incompatible alterations to the storefronts, the building retains sufficient integrity to communicate its historic associations and continues to convey important information. It contributes to a district comprised of its neighboring buildings.

15. 147 E 2ND ST

Eligibility: Noncontributing

Historic Property Name(s): WYOMING DRUG; KLINES
Building Form: ONE-PART
Date of Construction: C. 1917
Smithsonian #: 48NA5252
Description:

This one-part commercial block occupies a corner lot and thus has two primary elevations – north and east. The north elevation and two north end bays of the east elevation reflect a non-original brick facing remodel. The north elevation is four bays wide, defined by display windows. The east elevation is seven bays across and largely retains the building's original c1917 appearance. Historic character-defining features present, all of which are on the east elevation, include: the white face brick; the soldier brick window lintels and header brick windowsills; the shaped parapet; the courses of header brick forming a subtle cornice, as well as upper-wall decorative enframements; and the subtle 'bracket'/tab motif brickwork atop each brick pier dividing the display windows.

The nonhistoric refacing of the north elevation prevents this building from clearly conveying its historic architectural integrity and it is not NRHP-eligible.

16. 200-204 E 2ND ST

Eligibility: Contributing

Historic Property Name(s): MIDWEST REFINING COMPANY BUILDING; WYOMING NATIONAL BANK
Style: LATE 19TH & EARLY 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS
Building Form: TWO-PART VERTICAL
Date of Construction: 1920
Smithsonian #: 48NA2709
Description:

This Two-Part Vertical Block building is six stories in-height and occupies a corner lot. The primary elevations face south and west and are each eight bays wide. Upper-story fenestration defines the bays and is comprised of pairs of one-over-one windows symmetrically arranged in groups of two and four. Ashlar stone cladding defines the base and courses of stone cornice delineate the shaft and capital of the overall Two-Part Vertical Block building form. Nonhistoric storefronts occupy the historic openings at street level. Historic character-defining features present include: the dentilated cornice above the top story; the header brick windowsills; and the original stone fascia atop the street-level with letters in relief that read, "WYOMING NATIONAL BANK."

The altered entrance, nonhistoric storefronts, and loss of the cornice hinder the building's integrity and it is not individually eligible. However, this landmark building contributes to a district comprised of its neighboring buildings.

Casper Downtown Historic District
Name of Property

Natrona County, Wyoming
County and State

17. 201 E 2ND ST

Eligibility: Noncontributing

Historic Property Name(s): JC PENNEY & CO.
Style: MODERN MOVEMENT
Building Form: ONE-PART
Date of Construction: C. 1941
Smithsonian #: 48NA5323
Description:

This brick one-part commercial block has a large footprint and occupies a corner lot, with primary elevations facing west and north. A continuous band of nonhistoric aluminum-framed display windows spans the length of the north elevation and around the canted corner to the first bay of the west elevation. A recessed entrance bay is off-center in the north elevation above which a nonhistoric full-height skylight/pent roof element projects. Nonhistoric paneling of an undetermined material (metal or fiberglass) covers the original band of windows over the north elevation storefront. Historic features present include: the blonde brick facing; the polished stone water table tiles; and the courses of recessed red brick at the southwest corner of the building at the alley, evocative of the streamlined aesthetic.

The cumulative alterations to this building prevent it from clearly conveying its historic associations. If the nonhistoric pent roof, projecting skylight feature, and covering over original windows were all removed, the building could be reevaluated for potential eligibility.

18. 216 E 2ND ST

Eligibility: NRHP-Listed

Historic Property Name(s): TRIBUNE BLDG
Style: LATE 19TH & 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS: RENAISSANCE REVIVAL
Building Form: TWO-PART
Date of Construction: 1920
Smithsonian #: 48NA2305
Description:

This two-part commercial block is three stories in-height and five bays across. Street-level openings define the bays. Nonhistoric windows occupy each of the original window openings. The main retain entrance is recessed in the center bay. Historic single, full-light wood doors occupy the two outermost bays of the first story. Additional historic character-defining features present include: the historic pent roof cornice across the top of the façade wall, which features wood brackets and exposed rafter tails; the band of white terra cotta circles and diamonds under the cornice; the tapestry brickwork in the spandrels between each window opening; the soldier brick lintels and header brick windowsills; the blind round arch over the outermost bays of the second story window openings; the rusticated brickwork of the two columns flanking the main street-level entrance; the stone cornice and fascia spanning the width of the building over the first story; and the classical stone pediments over each of the outermost bay entrances of the first story with letters in relief that read, "J.E. HANWAY" (west entrance) and "APARTMENTS" (east entrance).

This building reflects the continuum of commercial development in Casper and is listed individually in the NRHP. The building retains sufficient integrity to clearly communicate its historic associations and continues to convey important information.

19. 224 E 2ND ST

Eligibility: Contributing

Historic Property Name(s): ZUTTERMEISTER BLDG; SECURITY BUILDING
Style: LATE 19TH & EARLY 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS
Building Form: TWO-PART
Date of Construction: 1921
Smithsonian #: 48NA5247
Description:

This two-part commercial block is four bays wide. Upper-story fenestration defines the bays and is comprised of broad window openings containing nonhistoric Chicago-style windows. Two nonhistoric storefronts occupy the first-story bays, with the entrance to the upper floor centered in the street-level façade. The upper façade wall retains the original white terracotta cladding and decorative elements including projecting cornice, a band of egg-and-dart molding, window surrounds with geometric patterns, a continuous windowsill, and starburst accent tiles, all of which feature a blue/lavender accent glazing.

Casper Downtown Historic District
Name of Property

Natrona County, Wyoming
County and State

The loss of the original windows and storefront alterations prevent the building from being individually eligible. However, it retains sufficient integrity to communicate its historic associations with the continuum of commercial development in Casper. It contributes to a NRHP district comprised of its neighboring buildings.

20. 229 E 2ND ST **Eligibility:** Contributing
Historic Property Name(s): MOUNTAIN STATES TELEPHONE & TELEGRAPH CO.
Style: LATE 19TH & 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS
Building Form: INDUSTRIAL
Date of Construction: 1918
Smithsonian #: 48NA5251

Description:
This brick building is two stories in-height and three bays across. A decorative brick grid across the façade defines the bays. The main entrance is through a single door in the east end bay. A nonhistoric brick ramp spans the façade and nonhistoric one-over-one windows occupy the original window openings. Historic character-defining features present include: the cast stone parapet coping; the pressed metal dentillated cornice across the upper-façade wall; the cast stone windowsills; the soldier and header brick entrance surround; and the header brick enframements across the façade and on the parapet wall.

The nonhistoric windows and the prominent entrance ramp hinder this building's integrity and it is not individually eligible. However, it retains sufficient integrity to communicate its historic associations with the continuum of commercial and architectural development in Casper. It contributes to a district comprised of its neighboring buildings.

21. 232 E 2ND ST **Eligibility:** Contributing
Historic Property Name(s): BECKLINGER BLDG; MONTGOMERY WARD & CO
Style: LATE 19TH & 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS: CLASSICAL REVIVAL
Building Form: TWO-PART
Date of Construction: 1922
Smithsonian #: 48NA5248

Description:
This two-part commercial block stands two-stories in height and is six bays across. Upper-story fenestration defines the bays and is comprised of nonhistoric two-part fixed units in the original openings. The tall first-story contains a nonhistoric storefront display window and entrance system that includes bands of fixed display windows at street- and mezzanine levels and a recessed center entrance. Historic character-defining features present include: the stone and terra cotta cladding and decorative detailing across the façade with elements/motifs including an engaged balustrade with paired urns at cornice level, projecting cornices over each of the first- and second- story windows, engaged pilasters between each upper-story window opening, and the full width enframement around the tall and broad first story storefront opening.

This building reflects the continuum of commercial development in Casper. The building retains sufficient integrity to clearly communicate its historic associations. It contributes to a district comprised of its neighboring buildings.

22. 233 E 2ND ST **Eligibility:** Contributing
Historic Property Name(s): STONE GROCERY STORE; WESTERN AUTO SUPPLY
Style: ART DECO
Building Form: TWO-PART
Date of Construction: C. 1917
Smithsonian #: 48NA5250

Description:
This two-part commercial block is two bays wide. Upper-story fenestration defines the bays and is comprised of two, near-square six-part steel units. The façade reflects a historic remodel suggesting the influence of the Art Deco and Moderne styles by means of its smooth wall treatment with vertical groove patterns. Additional features present include: the modest bands of patterned brick work at the top of the upper façade wall; the soldier brick window lintels; the header brick windowsills; the historic full-light wood door with three-light transom at the east end of the first story; and the post-WWII aluminum-framed display windows.

This building reflects the continuum of commercial development in Casper. The building retains integrity, clearly

Casper Downtown Historic District
Name of Property

Natrona County, Wyoming
County and State

communicates its historic associations, and continues to convey important information. It contributes to a district comprised of its neighboring buildings.

23. 242 E 2ND ST **Eligibility:** Contributing
Historic Property Name(s): SMITH-TARTAR BUILDING; NATRONA MARKET
Building Form: TWO-PART
Date of Construction: C. 1915
Smithsonian #: 48NA5324
Description:

This brick two-part commercial block occupies a corner lot and thus has two primary elevations – south and east. The south elevation is one bay wide and the east elevation is four bays wide. Decorative brick enframements on the upper façade wall define the bays. Upper-story fenestration is comprised of the historic openings that each contain a nonhistoric fixed window unit. Historic character-defining features present include: the brown face brick with dark brown and white brick accents; the header brick windowsills; and the white diamond patterns across the wall of each elevation.

This building reflects the continuum of commercial development in Casper. The building retains sufficient integrity to clearly communicate its historic associations and continues to convey important information. It contributes to the significance of a district comprised of its neighboring buildings.

24. 302-328 E 2ND ST **Eligibility:** Contributing
Historic Property Name(s): FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Style: LATE 19TH & 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS: GOTHIC REVIVAL
Building Form: INSTITUTIONAL: CHURCH
Date of Construction: 1935
Smithsonian #: 48NA5249
Description:

This church building is comprised of multiple construction efforts dating from the 1920s through the 1990s. The sanctuary and upper part of the bell tower date to 1951, the education wing to 1927-1935, and the additions at the east end date to the 1990s. The historic, visible sections of the building date to the 1951 construction period and are characterized by flat roofs on the main building and bell tower, semi-polychromatic buff brick cladding, pointed arch window openings, and ashlar stone accents.

The historic building occupies a corner lot and thus has two primary elevations – south and west. The south elevation is asymmetrically arranged and from west to east features a large pointed arch window illuminating the sanctuary, the bell tower, and four bays of single and paired window openings. The west elevation is symmetrically arranged and is six bays wide. Window and door openings define the bays and are comprised of four tall, narrow, pointed arch windows in the center bays and recessed single entrance doors in the two outer bays. Additional historic character defining features include: the shaped parapet including a castellated motif; the leaded glass windows within each pointed arch; stone accents throughout the two primary elevations found in the form of parapet coping, tabbed window surrounds, full-height vertical pointed arch enframements on the south elevation of the bell tower, and a very tall water table course; and the solid wood entrance doors.

This building reflects the continuum of institutional development in Casper and anchors the east end of downtown. The building retains sufficient integrity to clearly communicate its historic associations and continues to convey important information. It contributes to the significance of a district comprised of its neighboring buildings.

25. 307 E 2ND ST **Eligibility:** Contributing
Historic Property Name(s): NATRONA COUNTY LIBRARY
Style: MODERN MOVEMENT
Building Form: INSTITUTIONAL: LIBRARY
Date of Construction: 1952; 1972
Smithsonian #: 48NA5325
Description:

This building is comprised of portions of a 1952 building at the east end and a 1972 expansion to the west and southwest of the earlier block. The 1952 section is characterized by full-height engaged brick piers, blonde and salmon brick facing, and terra cotta accents. The 1972 section is characterized by a large concave wall at the

Casper Downtown Historic District
Name of Property

Natrona County, Wyoming
County and State

curved northwest corner and four 'hovering' blonde-brick-clad cantilevered wall projections containing fixed windows in the recessed side walls. Other features present include: the band of projecting curtain wall across the first story of the curved corner with precast concrete panels above; the classical aesthetic evoked by the full-height piers of the 1952 section; and the decorative terra cotta entrance surround located off-center in the north elevation featuring a decorative panel with books depicted in relief.

This building reflects the continuum of community and architectural development in Casper during the mid-to-late-20th century. In particular, it reflects the extensive amount of 1960s and 1970s construction across Casper, which included the Cheney Building, the City Hall, the Fire Station, the Hall of Justice, and Urban Renewal-related redevelopment. As an anchor to the east end of Downtown, it is counted as contributing.

WEST 2ND STREET

26. 111 W 2ND ST **Eligibility:** Contributing
Historic Property Name(s): PETROLEUM BLDG
Style: MODERN MOVEMENT: INTERNATIONAL STYLE
Building Form: TWO-PART VERTICAL
Date of Construction: 1957
Smithsonian #: 48NA5017
Description:

This six-story building is a good example of the implementation of Miesian curtain-wall modernism to a tall building. Standing on a corner lot, it thus has two primary elevations – north and east. The north elevation is almost entirely comprised of a vast curtain wall divided into six bays by full-height aluminum piers. The east elevation is almost entirely comprised of precast concrete square panels, offset by a narrow, full-height, vertical band of curtain wall two windows wide. Additional character-defining features include: the original cut-out aluminum letters near the top of the east elevation that read, "PETROLEUM BUILDING;" the brick walls of the secondary elevations; and the overall lack of applied ornament. The street-level facades reflect 1980s remodeling.

This building reflects the continuum of commercial and architectural development in Casper. While the nonhistoric alterations to the first story prevent it from being individually eligible, the building retains sufficient integrity to clearly communicate its historic associations and continues to convey important information. It contributes to the significance of a district comprised of its neighboring buildings.

27. 114 W 2ND ST **Eligibility:** Noncontributing
Historic Property Name(s): YESNESS BLDG; YESNESS:
Building Form: TWO-PART
Date of Construction: C. 1922
Smithsonian #: 48NA5228
Description:

This two-part commercial block is four bays wide, defined by upper-story fenestration. A storefront occupies the first story, with the entrance to the upper floor at the east end of the street-level façade. The aluminum-framed storefront appears to date to the 1950s or 1960s. Nonhistoric wood clads the façade.

The incompatible secondary siding prevents this building from communicating its historic associations. As such it is not eligible for listing in the NRHP. If the siding was removed and the historic materials found intact below, the building could be reevaluated for potential eligibility.

28. 116 W 2ND ST **Eligibility:** Noncontributing
Historic Property Name(s): CY CAFÉ; BLUE LINE TAXI
Building Form: ONE-PART
Date of Construction: C. 1928
Smithsonian #: 48NA5326
Description:

This one-part commercial block is a single bay wide, defined by its storefront. The storefront is nonhistoric and has the entrance at the east end and two high-set horizontal fixed windows across the balance of the street-level. Dryvit clads the façade throughout and no historic materials are visible.

Casper Downtown Historic District
Name of Property

Natrona County, Wyoming
County and State

This building no longer reflects the continuum of commercial or architectural development in Casper due to the complete sheathing of the façade in Dryvit. If the Dryvit were removed and the original brick found intact below, the building could be reevaluated for potential eligibility.

29. 120-128 W 2ND ST *Eligibility:* NRHP-Listed
Historic Property Name(s): COTTMAN BLDG; TURNER-COTTMAN BLDG
Style: LATE 19TH & 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS
Building Form: TWO-PART
Date of Construction: 1924
Smithsonian #: 48NA5227
Description:

This two-part commercial block stands two stories and is three bays wide. First-story openings define the bays and consist of a central entrance bay flanked on each side by the historic retail storefronts. Nonhistoric windows occupy the eight original openings in the second story, which are symmetrically arranged and include four broad openings and four narrower single window openings. Historic character-defining features present include: the beige brick cladding of the upper façade wall that lacks applied ornament; the decorative, pale rose colored terra cotta enframing the first-story openings, with elements/motifs including a projecting cornice, egg-and-dart molding, and dogwood and geometric patterns; the historic anchored entrance canopy; and the historic storefront elements including recessed center entrances each containing a pair of single full-light entrance doors with transoms above, the wood paneled recess ceiling, the canted recessed side wall display windows within each recess, and the low terra cotta clad bulkheads.

This building reflects the continuum of commercial development in Casper and is listed individually in the NRHP. The building retains integrity, clearly communicates its historic associations, and continues to convey important information. It contributes to the significance of a district comprised of its neighboring buildings.

30. 125 W 2ND ST *Eligibility:* Noncontributing
Historic Property Name(s): CASPER TIMES BLDG; KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS HALL
Building Form: TWO-PART
Date of Construction: C. 1920
Smithsonian #: 48NA5224
Description:

This two-story brick building is two bays wide, defined by the two three-part bay windows in the upper story. The single door entrance is recessed, off-center, and flanked by paired casement windows with soldier brick lintels and sills. Decorative bands of header brick span the upper façade wall at cornice level, window lintel level, and sill level.

This building no longer retains sufficient integrity to communicate its historic associations and is not eligible for listing in the National Register.

31. 129-133 W 2ND ST *Eligibility:* Contributing
Historic Property Name(s): TRAIL BAR; HOME HOTEL; BRANDING IRON INN
Building Form: TWO-PART
Date of Construction: C. 1915; C. 1966
Smithsonian #: 48NA5225, 48NA5327
Description:

This building is comprised of a three-story, Two-Part commercial block with a one-story addition to its east elevation. The original, three-story building is two bays wide. Upper-story fenestration defines the bays and is comprised of a single and a paired window opening. All upper-story windows are the historic one-over-one wood-framed units. A nonhistoric storefront occupies the street-level façade and includes three single display windows and a single nonhistoric door. The one-story addition features a brick upper-façade wall with faux half-timbering, a projecting triangular sign awning, and an angled recessed entrance flanked by bands of single windows. Historic character-defining features present on the original building include: the blonde face brick; the decorative continuous bands of alternating soldier-header bricks with a subtle polychromatic finish, the bands of which asymmetrically enframe the façade, the windows and each story; the decorative arrow medallion atop the section of raised parapet at the west end; and the segmental arch window openings in the east side wall with header brick lintels and sills.

Casper Downtown Historic District
Name of Property

Natrona County, Wyoming
County and State

Though not individually eligible due to incompatible changes to the storefront and the addition, this building reflects the continuum of commercial development in Casper. The building retains sufficient integrity to clearly communicate its historic associations and continues to convey important information. It contributes to the significance of a district comprised of its neighboring buildings.

EAST A STREET

32. 318-320 E A ST *Eligibility:* Noncontributing
Historic Property Name(s): SEVERENCE ROOMING HOUSE
Building Form: SINGLE-FAMILY: BUNGALOID
Date of Construction: C. 1914
Smithsonian #: 48NA5329
Description:

Originally a bungalow dwelling, this one-story building exhibits a drastic remodeling that included the loss of its front porch. The primary (south) elevation is three, asymmetrically arranged bays wide. A center entrance flanked by a picture window and a one-over-one window define the bays. Defining features include the hipped roof, the smooth stucco walls, the single one-over-one windows, and the full-light wood entrance door.

Though the porch enclosures date to more than fifty years ago, and are associated with the residential development patterns of Casper, additional nonhistoric alterations compromise the integrity of this dwelling and it does not contribute to the District.

33. 328 E A ST *Eligibility:* Contributing
Historic Property Name(s): MEDLEY HOTEL
Building Form: TWO-PART
Date of Construction: C. 1953
Smithsonian #: 48NA5330
Description:

This two-part commercial block is two bays wide. Upper-story fenestration defines the bays and is comprised of single openings containing multi-light steel windows. The entrance door to the upper floor is at the west end of the first story. A flush storefront occupies the remainder of the street-level and is comprised of a center full-light entrance flanked by display window openings containing CMU and glass block. Historic character-defining features present include: the brick facing on the primary façade and CMU secondary walls; the lack of applied ornament; and the only decorative feature being header brick windowsills.

This building reflects the continuum of commercial development in Casper. The building retains sufficient integrity to communicate its historic associations and continues to convey important information. Though not individually eligible, it contributes to a NRHP district comprised of its neighboring buildings.

34. 328 A E A ST *Eligibility:* Contributing
Historic Property Name(s): PARRISH APARTMENTS
Building Form: MULTI-FAMILY FLAT: ALLEY DWELLING
Date of Construction: C. 1924
Smithsonian #: 48NA5331
Description:

This two-story, multi-family flat contains eight apartment units, four on each floor. Located on the alley, its primary elevation faces south toward the rear of the buildings facing onto East A Street. The primary elevation is four bays wide, defined by pairings of a single entrance and an accompanying single window. The non-original porch allowing access to the upper-story units appears to be the only major alteration. Historic character-defining features present include: the tapestry brickwork found in the form of contrasting darker header bricks embellishing the first story wall; the header brick segmental arches over each entrance and window; the historic 1/1 wood window sashes with header brick windowsills; the historic quarter-light wood paneled unit entrance doors; and the alley location.

This building reflects the continuum of residential development in Casper. The building retains excellent integrity, clearly communicates its historic associations, and continues to convey important information. It not only contributes to a district comprised of its neighboring buildings, but it appears to be individually eligible for listing in the National

Casper Downtown Historic District
Name of Property

Natrona County, Wyoming
County and State

Register as a rare example of multi-unit alley dwelling in Casper.

35. 332 E A ST **Eligibility:** Contributing

Historic Property Name(s): PEOPLE'S GROCERY; STAN'S CAFÉ

Building Form: ONE-PART

Date of Construction: C. 1922

Smithsonian #: 48NA5332

Description:

This brick one-part commercial block is four bays wide. An off-center recessed entrance and three display windows define the bays. Historic character-defining features present include: the polychromatic brick facing on the primary façade; the lack of applied ornament; and the only decorative feature being header brick windowsills.

This building reflects the continuum of commercial development in Casper. The building retains sufficient integrity to communicate its historic associations and continues to convey important information. Though not individually eligible, it contributes to a NRHP district comprised of its neighboring buildings.

36. 333 E A ST **Eligibility:** Contributing

Historic Property Name(s): MORNING STAR BUILDING

Style: MODERN MOVEMENT

Building Form: TWO-PART

Date of Construction: C. 1950

Smithsonian #: 48NA5333

Description:

This large building occupies a corner lot and thus features two primary elevations – east and north. The north elevation is seven bays wide and the east elevation has six bays. Full-height engaged piers define the bays, each of which contain a storefront at street level and three or four single windows on the upper stories. The main entrance to the upper-level units (originally offices and later apartments) is centrally located in the east elevation. Historic character-defining features present include: the blonde brick facing on the primary elevations with contrasting salmon-colored brick accents in the form of full-height piers, parallel full-width header brick courses, and header brick windowsills; the historic steel windows with casement sashes throughout the upper stories; the aluminum-framed storefront systems with flush, full-light aluminum-framed entrances; and the overall lack of applied ornament.

This building reflects the continuum of commercial development in Casper. The building retains excellent integrity, clearly communicates its historic associations, and continues to convey important information. It not only contributes to a district comprised of its neighboring buildings, but it appears to be individually eligible for listing in the National Register.

37. 334 E A ST **Eligibility:** Contributing

Historic Property Name(s): VARIETY ICE CREAM SHOP; STANDARD BRANDS BLDG

Building Form: ONE-PART

Date of Construction: C. 1922

Smithsonian #: 48NA5334

Description:

This brick one-part commercial block occupies a corner lot. The south and east elevations are both seven bays wide; a series of historic display windows and recessed storefront entrances define the bays. Historic character-defining features present include: the canted southeast corner; the red brick walls with contrasting darker plum-colored brick accents; the dark header brick courses found throughout in the form of parapet coping, windowsills, and rectangular enframements on the upper-façade walls and on the piers defining the bays; the historic wood-framed display windows; the historic full-light wood doors with transoms above; the diamond motif accents between enframements on the upper-façade wall; the soldier brick window lintels; and the historic north additions to the east elevation.

This building reflects the continuum of commercial development in Casper. The building retains integrity, clearly communicates its historic associations, and continues to convey important information. It appears to be individually eligible for listing in the NRHP and also contributes to a historic district comprised of its neighboring and nearby buildings.

Casper Downtown Historic District
Name of Property

Natrona County, Wyoming
County and State

EAST B STREET

38. 100-150 E B ST **Eligibility** Contributing
Historic Property Name(s): DICK CHENEY FEDERAL BUILDING
Style: MODERN MOVEMENT: BRUTALISM & NEW FORMALISM
Building Form: INSTITUTIONAL: FEDERAL BUILDING & POST OFFICE
Date of Construction: 1970
Smithsonian #: 48NA5342
Description:

This federal building is comprised of two distinct sections that are internally connected – a four-story office building at the west end and a one-story post office section at the east end. The building occupies half of its block. The office section is 16 bays wide and 34 bays deep. Upper story fenestration, in the form of tall narrow fixed windows, defines the bays. Full-height pre-cast concrete ribs flank each vertical window grouping. The main entrance is recessed and centered in the primary (south) elevation. The post office section is characterized by blind pre-cast concrete panels across the upper façade wall with tall narrow single fixed windows, separated by concrete ribs, below. A projecting enclosed entrance cell is off-center in the primary (south) elevation and is comprised of grooved brown pre-cast concrete panels. The marble dedication plaque in the lobby has letters in relief that read, "UNITED STATES OF AMERICA/RICHARD NIXON/PRESIDENT/GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION/ROBERT L KUNZIG/ADMINISTRATOR/1970." This building reflects the continuum of governmental and architectural development in Casper.

This building retains excellent integrity from its original period of construction and clearly communicates its historic associations, and continues to convey important information. It anchors the north end of Downtown and contributes to the District for its associations with the mid-to-late 20th century expansion of commercial and governmental resources in the commercial and civic core of Casper.

WEST B STREET

39. 100 W B ST **Eligibility:** Contributing
Historic Property Name(s): CITY CENTER BUILDING
Style: MODERN MOVEMENT
Building Form: OFFICE BUILDING
Date of Construction: 1956
Smithsonian #: 48NA5343
Description:

This small brick office building has two full height stories and a lower level that is partially below grade. The primary (south) elevation is five bays wide, defined by tripartite windows set in a sawtooth profile. Nonhistoric Dryvit clads the west side elevation and the spandrels between windows on the primary elevation. Historic character-defining features present include: the salmon-colored brick facing; the visor awnings over each of the two upper-level windows; the recess of the southeast corner to accommodate a two-story curtain wall section containing the main entrance; the green terra cotta continuous windowsills; and the overall aesthetic emphasis on horizontality.

This building reflects the continuum of commercial and architectural development in Casper. The building retains integrity, communicates its historic associations, and continues to convey important information. Though not individually eligible due to the application of Dryvit on the façade, it contributes to a NRHP district comprised of its neighboring buildings.

Casper Downtown Historic District
Name of Property

Natrona County, Wyoming
County and State

NORTH BEECH STREET

40. 218 N BEECH ST *Eligibility:* Contributing

Historic Property Name(s): CLIFT HOUSE
Building Form: SINGLE-FAMILY: BUNGALOID
Date of Construction: C. 1915
Smithsonian #: 48NA5346
Description:

This one-story dwelling is three bays wide, defined by a center entrance and two large windows flanking it on each side. A full-width hipped roof porch spans the façade, the north half of which has non-original concrete steps and the south half is enclosed with what appears to be potentially historic multi-light wood-framed glass. Historic character-defining features present include: the narrow profile wood clapboards; the boxed eaves; the historic wood sash windows with historic wood casing trim and cornice molding; and the full-light entrance door with transom above. A historic auto garage is at the rear of the house and the interior retains original trim.

This building reflects the continuum of residential development in Casper. The building retains integrity, clearly communicates its historic associations, and continues to convey important information. Though not individually eligible, it contributes to a NRHP district comprised of its neighboring buildings.

41. 218 A N BEECH *Eligibility:* Contributing

Historic Property Name(s): CLIFT HOUSE GARAGE
Building Form: ANCILLARY STRUCTURE
Date of Construction: 1915
Smithsonian #: 48NA5346
Description:

This garage has an intersecting gable roof with a vehicular bay in each of the east and south gabled elevations. Additional features include: the shallow eaves, the single window opening in the north gabled elevation, and the wide reveal siding.

NORTH CENTER STREET

42. 100 N CENTER ST *Eligibility:* Contributing

Historic Property Name(s): SKY ROOM; GLADSTONE HOTEL SKY ROOM ADDITION
Style: MODERN MOVEMENT
Building Form: THREE-PART VERTICAL
Date of Construction: 1954
Smithsonian #: 48NA5348
Description:

This three-part vertical block stands nine stories in-height and its primary (east) elevation is three bays wide. Broad window openings in the central seven stories define the bays, and each contains six-part aluminum-framed windows with outer casement sashes. The building sections are comprised of a one-story base containing retail space, a seven-story shaft that originally held hotel rooms, and a one-story cap characterized by a curtain wall system wrapping all of the east and north elevations and parts of the west and south elevations. A full-height elevator/stair core projects from the south elevation. Historic character-defining features include: The louvered aluminum visor awning projecting over the top floor curtain wall sections; the blonde brick cladding the north and east elevations; the smooth pre-cast concrete cladding the south elevation; the visor awning over the Center Street retail section; the square glass block windows in the west half of the south elevation; the continuous header brick windowsills; the deeply raked mortar joints of the brick spandrels between window openings on the east and north elevation, providing a subtle aesthetic difference and accentuating the horizontal 'layers' of the building; and the overall smooth wall faces and lack of applied ornament.

This building reflects the continuum of commercial development and mid-century modern architecture in Casper. Though not originally constructed as a free-standing building, it has been such for more than 40 years. As a unique building in Casper for its high style Modern Movement design, and as applied to a tall building, the building

Casper Downtown Historic District
Name of Property

Natrona County, Wyoming
County and State

communicates important information about the post-WWII oil boom period of rapid expansion and modernization in Downtown Casper.

43. 105 (103) N CENTER ST Eligibility: NRHP-Listed

Historic Property Name(s): MASONIC TEMPLE
Style: LATE 19TH & 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS
Building Form: INSTITUTIONAL: SOCIAL HALL
Date of Construction: 1914
Smithsonian #: 48NA4216
Description:

This four-story building occupies a corner lot and thus has two primary elevations – west and south. The west elevation is three bays wide and the south elevation is seven bays wide. Vertical groupings of windows, delineated by buff brick, define the bays. Each historic window opening contains a nonhistoric vinyl window. The main entrance is centered in the west elevation and features double-leaf half-light doors, a fan light, and stone surround. Additional character-defining features include: the shaped parapet in a castellated motif and with stone coping; the courses of projecting brick at cornice level and above each vertical window group; the stone window lintels and sills; the two shades of blonde brick; the stone sign panel centered in the parapet wall with letters in relief that read, "MASONIC TEMPLE;" and the high stone water table with daylight windows for the basement level.

This building reflects the continuum of commercial development in Casper and is listed individually in the NRHP. The building retains integrity, clearly communicates its historic associations, and continues to convey important information. It contributes to the significance of a district comprised of its neighboring buildings.

44. 115 N CENTER ST Eligibility: Noncontributing

Historic Property Name(s): TOWNSEND HOTEL
Style: LATE 19TH & 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS
Building Form: TWO-PART VERTICAL
Date of Construction: 1923
Smithsonian #: 48NA1286
Description:

This two-part vertical block stands five stories in-height. The façade is characterized by an ashlar stone-clad two-story base and brick clad three-story shaft. The façade is five bays wide. Upper-story fenestration defines the bays and is comprised of nonhistoric fixed sash windows within the original openings. The three original storefronts in the first story have been replaced with nonhistoric five-part display windows set within each opening. Historic character defining features include: the decorative brickwork at cornice level that includes courses of header and soldier brick and tapestry brick in a cross-hatched pattern across the full width of the upper-façade wall; the engaged blind arcade of stone and brick that projects at cornice level; the blind round arches over the fifth-story windows with stucco infill and diamond motif elements; the splayed lintels with stone keystones over each of the third- and fourth-story windows; the stone windowsills; the alternating projecting header bricks forming vertical enframements between the upper-story bays of the third-, fourth-, and fifth-stories; and the ashlar stone cladding the first- and second-story façade wall; and the decorative stone elements on the two lower stories, found in the form of a projecting cornice over each story with medallion and vine motifs, decorative spandrels below the second-story windows, and paired engaged pilasters on each of the four piers dividing the first-story bays.

While the size, scale, massing, and façade materials communicate information about the continuum of commercial development in downtown Casper, this building does not retain sufficient integrity to contribute to the significance of a district comprised of its neighboring buildings. The loss of the building's character-defining entrance and storefronts, the installation of incompatible single-light fixed windows, large addition effectively doubling the building's footprint, and loss of key interior spaces, all combine to prevent this building from being able to clearly communicate its historic associations.

Casper Downtown Historic District
Name of Property

Natrona County, Wyoming
County and State

45. 120 N CENTER ST **Eligibility:** Noncontributing

Historic Property Name(s): FIRST AMERICAN TITLE
Style: MODERN MOVEMENT: BRUTALISM
Building Form: OFFICE BUILDING
Date of Construction: C. 1980
Smithsonian #: 48NA5349
Description:

The asymmetrically arranged façade of this two story building is characterized by broad horizontal bands of vertically grooved concrete between which are long horizontal bands of aluminum-framed windows. The main entrance is off-center toward the north end of the first story, reached by ascending ten concrete steps from street level. Additional features include: the projection of the first story at the south end of the façade, the roof of which serves as an open patio for the upper story; the open patio in front of the main entrance; and the full-height canted projection at the north end of the building, recessed at its base to shelter a service entrance. This building is not of sufficient age or significance to be eligible for listing in the National Register.

46. 128 N CENTER ST **Eligibility:** Contributing

Historic Property Name(s): COURT HOTEL; NEW COURT HOTEL; KIDD BUILDING
Building Form: TWO-PART
Date of Construction: C. 1917
Smithsonian #: 48NA5233
Description:

This three-story, two-part commercial block is two bays wide. Upper-story fenestration defines the bays and is comprised of paired nonhistoric one-over-one vinyl windows within the original openings. The storefront dates to a post-WWII remodel and features a three-part aluminum-framed display with low bulkhead and a single, full-light entrance door. A single door at the north end of the storefront leads to the upper stories. Historic character-defining features present include: the decorative buff face brick and brickwork across the façade in the form of header brick dentilation at cornice level, diamond motif emblems at cornice level and on window spandrels, header and soldier brick window enframements, and header brick windowsills, as well as other accents throughout the façade. This building retains sufficient integrity and significance to contribute to the Downtown Casper district.

47. 138 N CENTER ST **Eligibility:** Noncontributing

Historic Property Name(s): WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH CO. BLDG
Building Form: ONE-PART
Date of Construction: C. 1920
Smithsonian #: 48NA5350
Description:

This brick one-part commercial block is three bays wide. Dryvit-clad engaged piers define the bays, which reflect the original façade arrangement. The main entrance is off-center in the north end bay under an applied entrance gable. A secondary entrance is recessed in the south end bay. Eleven single-light fixed windows illuminate the interior. No historic materials are visible on the primary façade; however, the original brick is visible on the rear elevation.

This building no longer retains integrity and cannot clearly communicate its historic associations. If the nonhistoric façade cladding materials were removed and the original materials found intact below, the building could be reevaluated for potential eligibility.

48. 200 N CENTER ST **Eligibility:** Contributing

Historic Property Name(s): NATRONA COUNTY COURTHOUSE AND JAIL
Style: PWA MODERNE
Building Form: INSTITUTIONAL: COURTHOUSE
Date of Construction: 1940
Smithsonian #: 48NA5235
Description:

This courthouse building is comprised of three distinct sections – the central three-story section and two, two-story projecting wings on each end. The central section is eleven bays wide and each wing is three bays wide. Tall, narrow, vertical window openings spanning all stories define the bays, where nonhistoric fixed units occupy the openings. The primary elevation faces east where the main entrance is through single doors in the three center

Casper Downtown Historic District
Name of Property

Natrona County, Wyoming
County and State

bays. Additional historic, character-defining features present include: the ashlar sandstone cladding; classical wave motif in relief along the full perimeter of the primary and side elevations at cornice level and under each window; the relief panels at cornice level of each projecting wing conveying images of settlement, industry, and ranching; the other relief panels with images of Native Americans, U.S. soldiers, and western motifs; the three original full-light bronze entrance doors; and the original entrance steps with cheek walls featuring classical wave motifs in relief.

This building is an excellent example of Art Deco style, and is additionally significant for its associations with the public works projects completed during the Depression. The building retains excellent integrity and is individually eligible for listing in the National Register.

49. **201 N CENTER ST** **Eligibility:** Contributing
Historic Property Name(s): PIONEER PARK; PIONEER PLAZA
Building Form: LANDSCAPE: PARK
Date of Construction: C. 1940
Smithsonian #: 48NA5351
Description:

This small park occupies a rectangular parcel aligned lengthwise north-south and bordered by a perimeter concrete sidewalk and surface streets on all sides. An X-shaped pattern of narrow concrete paths divide the grassy lawn into four triangular quadrants. Monuments and sculpture in the park include the original central obelisk with letters in relief that read, "PIONEER MONUMENT," four bronze sheep, and a stone with bronze plaques. Several evergreen and deciduous trees are scattered about the site. This site retains sufficient integrity and significance to contribute to a NRHP historic district comprised of surrounding buildings.

50. **234 N CENTER ST** **Eligibility:** Noncontributing
Historic Property Name(s): A-1 SUPER SERVICE GAS STATION
Style: NEOECLECTIC: MANSARD
Building Form: ONE-PART
Date of Construction: C. 1950
Smithsonian #: 48NA5352
Description:

This brick one-part commercial block reflects a late 20th century remodeling and is comprised of a square section at the north end and a narrower, curved section at the south end that features a curved, five-part aluminum-framed display window system that includes a flush, full-light entrance door. Two, single-light fixed windows are in the east elevation of the north section and feature wood paneling spandrels and a coach lamp above. A wood shingled pent roof spans the upper façade walls along the full perimeter of the building. A wood paneled trapezoidal section occupies the space between the fixed windows and polychromatic brick faces the remaining wall sections.

This building no longer retains integrity and cannot clearly communicate its historic associations. If the nonhistoric façade cladding materials were removed and the original materials found intact below, the building could be reevaluated for potential eligibility.

51. **254 N CENTER ST** **Eligibility:** Contributing
Historic Property Name(s): CBC BUILDING
Style: MODERN MOVEMENT
Building Form: OFFICE BUILDING
Date of Construction: C. 1955
Smithsonian #: 48NA5353
Description:

This brick two-part commercial block is three bays wide. A center entrance with two bands of three windows on each side defines the bays. The main entrance is through a full-light wood door flanked by full sidelights and below a small transom window. Historic character-defining features present include: the blonde brick facing; the header brick courses at the top of the façade wall and as windowsills; and the soldier brick window surrounds and continuous lintels unifying the windows into horizontal groupings; the overall lack of applied ornament.

This building reflects the continuum of commercial development and Modern Movement architecture in Casper. The building retains sufficient integrity to communicate its historic associations and continues to convey important information. It contributes to the historic district comprised of the buildings in the vicinity.

Casper Downtown Historic District
Name of Property

Natrona County, Wyoming
County and State

52. 300-304 N CENTER ST *Eligibility:* Contributing

Historic Property Name(s): WESTERN BUILDING
Style: MODERN MOVEMENT
Building Form: OFFICE BUILDING
Date of Construction: C. 1954
Smithsonian #: 48NA5354

Description:

This brick two-part commercial block is four bays wide. Upper-story fenestration defines the bays and is comprised of multi-light steel windows with lower hoppers. The main entrance is centered in the first story and is through a nonhistoric door with a single full sidelight and below a transom window. Historic character-defining features present include: the salmon-colored brick facing; and the glazed smooth terra cotta found in the form of parapet coping, windowsills, and window surrounds; the continuous perimeter band of terra cotta unifying the upper-story windows into a horizontal grouping; the overall lack of applied ornament.

This building reflects the continuum of commercial development and Modern Movement architecture in Casper. The building retains sufficient integrity to communicate its historic associations and continues to convey important information. It contributes to the historic district comprised of the buildings in the vicinity.

SOUTH CENTER STREET

53. 119 S CENTER ST *Eligibility:* Contributing

Historic Property Name(s): AMERICAN THEATRE
Style: MODERN MOVEMENT
Building Form: RECREATIONAL: THEATER
Date of Construction: C. 1920
Smithsonian #: 48NA5238

Description:

This two-story movie theater building is five bays wide. Five symmetrically arranged windows within a unifying horizontal enframement, defines the bays. Key features include: the vertical neon blade sign with letters reading, "AMERICA;" the triangular marquee spanning the full width of the first story; the two-tone façade reflected by the white cream-colored terra cotta facing of the upper façade wall and the grey tile facing of the street-level façade; the center entrance with two sets of double-leaf full-light doors and embedded ticket counter; the salmon-colored brick spandrels between the upper-story windows; and the wall painted sign on the south elevation with letters reading, "AMERICA THEATRE."

This building reflects the continuum of downtown development in Casper. The building retains integrity, clearly communicates its historic associations, and continues to convey important information. It contributes to a district comprised of its neighboring buildings.

54. 128 S CENTER ST *Eligibility:* Noncontributing

Historic Property Name(s): CASPER HERALD BLDG; STEVE'S BILLIARDS; PARIS SHOE SHOP
Building Form: ONE-PART
Date of Construction: C. 1915
Smithsonian #: 48NA5358

Description:

This brick one-part commercial block is two bays wide. A storefront and a single recessed entrance door define the bays. The façade has nonhistoric wood plank siding in a herringbone pattern over the upper façade wall. The mid-century aluminum-framed storefront is intact and has an off-center recessed entrance. The rear elevation retains the segmental arches over the now brick-filled alley windows.

This building is part of the continuum of commercial development in Casper. However, the façade alterations currently compromise its integrity. If the nonhistoric façade cladding was removed and the historic materials found intact below, the building could be reevaluated for potential eligibility.

Casper Downtown Historic District
Name of Property

Natrona County, Wyoming
County and State

55. 133 S CENTER ST **Eligibility:** Noncontributing

Historic Property Name(s): WEST HOTEL; SPRECHER'S DRUGS

Building Form: TWO-PART

Date of Construction: 1918

Smithsonian #: 48NA5239

Description:

This two-part commercial block has a nonhistoric metal screen cladding the two uppermost stories of the three-story building. The screen conceals that the historic building is intact behind and is two bays wide, with the historic windows defining the bays. The street-level storefront has a center, recessed, double-leaf entrance through full-light aluminum-framed doors. The door to the upper floors is at the north end of the first story. A visor awning spans the width of the first story.

The nonhistoric secondary screen applied over the primary elevation prevents this building from clearly communicating its historic associations. It is currently not eligible for NRHP listing. The historic windows and cornice appear to be intact behind the screen, and if it were removed, the building could be reconsidered for potential eligibility.

56. 134 (128) S CENTER ST **Eligibility:** Contributing

Historic Property Name(s): CASPER FIRE STATION; HENNING HOTEL ANNEX; STEVENS HOTEL

Style: LATE 19TH & EARLY 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS

Building Form: TWO-PART

Date of Construction: C. 1917

Smithsonian #: 48NA5232

Description:

This brick two-part commercial block is two bays wide. Upper-story fenestration defines the bay and is comprised of the two original window openings, each containing a pair of one-over-one windows. The two storefronts occupying the first story date to post-WWII updates and feature aluminum-framed display windows and full-light entrances and elongated brick/stone cladding. Additional historic character-defining features present include: the terra cotta parapet coping tile and projecting decorative cornice; the buff brick cladding with dark brown brick accents in the form courses of header brick, soldier brick, and diamond motifs; and the terra cotta windowsills.

This building reflects the continuum of commercial development in Casper. The building retains integrity, clearly communicates its historic associations, and continues to convey important information. It contributes to a district comprised of its neighboring buildings.

57. 137-141- S CENTER ST **Eligibility:** NRHP-Listed

Historic Property Name(s): CONROY BLDG

Style: CHICAGO SCHOOL

Building Form: TWO-PART VERTICAL

Date of Construction: 1918

Smithsonian #: 48NA2251

Description:

This two-part vertical block rises five stories and is five bays wide. It clearly exhibits the base, shaft, and capital that define the three parts characterizing the Chicago Style. Upper-story fenestration defines the bays, and is comprised of single and bands of three windows. Nonhistoric, single-light, fixed units occupy the original window openings. A post-WWII storefront system occupies the street-level façade and includes two retail storefronts and an entrance to the upper floors through double-leaf doors at the south end. Historic, character-defining features present include: the projecting terra-cotta cornice featuring medallions, egg-and-dart motif, and dentils; the soldier brick window lintels; the header brick windowsills; the slightly recessed rectangular wall sections on the upper façade wall above and below each window opening; and the belt course of terra cotta spanning the width of the façade over the first story.

This building reflects the continuum of commercial development in Casper and is listed individually in the NRHP. The building retains integrity, clearly communicate its historic associations, and continues to convey important information. It contributes to the significance of a district comprised of its neighboring buildings.

Casper Downtown Historic District
Name of Property

Natrona County, Wyoming
County and State

58. 142 S CENTER ST **Eligibility:** Contributing

Historic Property Name(s): BLAKEY & CO. BLDG

Building Form: ONE-PART

Date of Construction: C. 1915

Smithsonian #: 48NA5231

Description:

This one-part commercial block is two bays wide. Two different-sized storefronts define the bays. The north storefront occupies approximately one third of the façade and features a single door and display window. The south storefront occupies the remaining two-thirds of the façade and is comprised of a single door and a two-part display window. Both storefronts feature a slight, angled recess to the entrance. Glass block fills the transom openings. Additional features include: the post-WWII aluminum-framed storefronts with blond elongated brick cladding and full-light entrance doors; the original brick of the upper-façade wall, which features decorative bands of header and soldier brick and modest dentilation.

This building reflects the continuum of commercial development in Casper. The building retains sufficient integrity to communicate its historic associations and contributes to a district comprised of its neighboring buildings.

59. 144 S CENTER ST **Eligibility:** Noncontributing

Historic Property Name(s): RILEY'S CAFÉ; KEEFE'S FLORAL

Building Form: ONE-PART

Date of Construction: C. 1922

Smithsonian #: 48NA5230

Description:

This one-part commercial block is three bays across, defined by two display windows and a single entrance at the south end of the primary (east) elevation. Nonhistoric Dryvit clads all the exterior walls. Nonhistoric cornice elements span the top of the primary elevation wall and atop the storefront. Arched applied features on the upper façade wall suggest blind windows.

The nonhistoric and insensitive application of the secondary cladding to all exterior elevations prevents this building from clearly communicating its historic associations. It is not currently eligible for listing in the NRHP. If the secondary cladding was removed and the original materials found intact below, the building could be reevaluated for potential eligibility.

60. 147 S CENTER ST **Eligibility:** Contributing

Historic Property Name(s): CAMPBELL HARDWARE; CAMPBELL BLDG; MOKLER BLDG

Building Form: TWO-PART

Date of Construction: C. 1914

Smithsonian #: 48NA5240

Description:

This two-story, two-part commercial block is two bays wide. Upper-story fenestration defines the bays and is comprised of two pairs of nonhistoric windows within the original openings. The storefront dates to a post-WWII remodel and features a slight inward angle to the retail entrance. The storefront features a four-part display window, low bulkhead and a full-light aluminum-framed door. The entrance to the upper story is at the north end at street level. Historic character-defining features present include: the many courses of corbeled brick at cornice level; the engaged piers at each end of the upper-façade wall and flanking each window opening; ashlar stone accents found in the form of parapet coping, pier capitals, and continuous window lintels and sills; the aluminum visor awning over the storefront; the beige terra cotta tiles surrounding the first story façade; and the series of segmental arch window openings on the upper story of the secondary (south) alley elevation. An additional feature of note is the rear gabled utilitarian portion of the building that features a cross gabled hoist shelter and central hipped furnace chimney.

This building reflects the continuum of commercial development in Casper. The building retains integrity, clearly communicates its historic associations, and continues to convey important information. It contributes to a district comprised of its neighboring buildings.

Casper Downtown Historic District
Name of Property

Natrona County, Wyoming
County and State

61. 162 S CENTER ST **Eligibility:** Contributing

Historic Property Name(s): TOWNSEND BLDG
Style: ART DECO
Building Form: TWO-PART
Date of Construction: 1903; 1934
Smithsonian #: 48NA5229
Description:

This two-part commercial block rises two stories and occupies a corner lot. It thus has two primary elevations – south and east. Excluding the canted corner bay, the east elevation is seven bays wide and the south elevation is six bays across. Upper-story fenestration defines the bays and is comprised of single window openings containing nonhistoric window units. The main entrance is recessed in the canted corner through a round arch. Post-WWII aluminum-framed storefront elements occupy the first-story bays. Additional historic features present include: the cast stone wall cladding, with decorative accents in relief including geometric vertical motifs over each window, a band of vertical grooves at cornice level and over the first story, and the egg-and-dart projecting cornice of the first-story; the shaped parapet suggesting castellations; the letters in relief on the canted corner at cornice level that read, “1903” and “1934,” and the letters in relief over the canted corner entrance that read, “TOWNSEND BUILDING.”

This building reflects the continuum of commercial development in Casper. The building retains integrity, clearly communicates its historic associations, and continues to convey important information. It contributes to a district comprised of its neighboring buildings.

62. 208-214 S CENTER ST **Eligibility:** Noncontributing

Historic Property Name(s): SADDLE ROCK CAFÉ; KENMARK KEEPSAKE
Style: MODERN MOVEMENT
Building Form: ONE-PART
Date of Construction: C. 1920
Smithsonian #: 48NA5359
Description:

This brick one-part commercial block is five bays wide. Recessed entrance bays at each end and three asymmetrically arranged windows of all different sizes define the bays. The façade is clad with mid-century long narrow brick units. The once oval window toward the north end now contains a 1x1 sliding vinyl window. A course of buff header brick spans the primary (east) elevation and includes an approximately 2.5' vertical jog in its course toward the center. Projecting exaggerated lintels and sills of Dryvit are over the three south end bays. The original brick walls with segmental arches over brick-filled window openings are visible on the south side elevation.

Though this building is part of the continuum of commercial development in downtown Casper, cumulative alterations over time prevent it from clearly communicating its historic associations. It has lost integrity and would not contribute to a potential NRHP district comprised of its neighboring buildings.

63. 236 S CENTER ST **Eligibility:** Contributing

Historic Property Name(s): WYOMING WHOLESALERS SPORTING GOODS; NORMAN & GENE'S BARBER SHOP
Style: MODERN MOVEMENT
Building Form: ONE-PART
Date of Construction: C. 1952
Smithsonian #: 48NA5360
Description:

This brick one-part commercial block is a single bay wide, defined by its storefront opening. The side walls are CMU while the primary (east) elevation is clad with mid-century long narrow brick units. The historic aluminum-framed storefront is intact and is asymmetrically angled inward to an off-center pair of full-light entrances. The transom retains its horizontally grooved translucent glass. A shallow nonhistoric pent roof spans the façade over the transom. An additional transom space may be in the upper façade wall behind a wood plank sign. The short bulkheads have header brick sills. A small trapezoidal brick wing wall provides separation between the two retail entrances.

This building reflects the continuum of commercial development in Casper. The building retains integrity, clearly communicates its historic associations, and continues to convey important information. It contributes to a NRHP

Casper Downtown Historic District
Name of Property

Natrona County, Wyoming
County and State

district comprised of its neighboring buildings.

64. 240 S CENTER ST **Eligibility:** Contributing
Historic Property Name(s): ELKHORN SALOON; SCOTT CLOTHING
Style: LATE 19TH & EARLY 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS:
SULLIVANESQUE
Building Form: TWO-PART
Date of Construction: C. 1900
Smithsonian #: 48NA5223

Description:

This two-part commercial block rises two stories, is three bays wide, and is characterized by the white terra cotta cladding the facade. Upper-story fenestration defines the bays, where nonhistoric window units occupy the original openings, which are comprised of a large three-part center window opening flanked by two single window openings in the outer bays. The post-WWII storefront angles inward toward the south end, where the retail and upper-floor entrances are located. The storefront features aluminum-framed display windows, a low bulkhead, and a full-light aluminum-framed entrance door. Other historic character-defining features present include: the shaped parapet with central medallion; the highly detailed Sullivanesque accents, found in the form of elongated tab elements, medallions, and window surrounds; and the blue and yellow details accenting the white glazed terra cotta.

This building reflects the continuum of commercial development in Casper. Though the nonhistoric storefront and windows prevent the building from being individually eligible, the building retains sufficient integrity to clearly communicate its historic associations and it continues to convey important information. It contributes to a district comprised of its neighboring buildings.

65. 241 S CENTER ST **Eligibility:** Contributing
Historic Property Name(s): TRIPENY BLDG
Style: LATE 19TH & 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS & MODERN MOVEMENT
Building Form: TWO-PART
Date of Construction: 1921
Smithsonian #: 48NA4818

Description:

This two-part commercial block rises two stories, is two bays wide, and is characterized by two distinct building sections – the original 1921 first story and the post-WWII upper story. Upper-story fenestration defines the bays, where aluminum-framed window units with lower hopper sashes occupy the original openings. The historic storefront features a six-part display window flanked on each side by a recessed entrance at each end. Other historic character-defining features present include: the Modern Movement aesthetic of the upper story, which features salmon-colored brick over the windows and white brick engaged piers between each window; the original, early 20th century decorative terra cotta surrounding the storefront; and the original multi-light wood storefront transom.

This building reflects the continuum of commercial development in Casper. The building retains excellent integrity, clearly communicates its historic associations, and continues to convey important information. It contributes to a district comprised of its neighboring buildings. It may also be individually eligible for listing under the Multiple Property Documentation cover document for buildings designed by Garbutt, Weidner & Sweeney.

66. 245 S CENTER ST **Eligibility:** Contributing
Historic Property Name(s): KISTLER BLDG
Building Form: TWO-PART
Date of Construction: C. 1913
Smithsonian #: 48NA4619

Description:

This two-part commercial block rises two stories, is two bays wide, and is characterized by the buff-colored brick facade. Upper-story fenestration defines the bays, where non-original window units occupy the original openings. The post-WWII storefront features aluminum-framed display windows resting on low stone-clad bulkheads in the outer bays that angle inward to the center recessed entrance. Other historic character-defining features present include: the decorative brickwork at cornice level with diamond motif; the segmental arches over the double-width upper-story window openings formed from alternating soldier and header brick; the header brick windowsills; and

Casper Downtown Historic District
Name of Property

Natrona County, Wyoming
County and State

the post-WWII back-lit signs with letters that read, "WESTERNER NEWS," and "GIFTS BOOKS MAGAZINES CARDS."

This building reflects the continuum of commercial development in Casper. Though not individually eligible, the building retains good integrity, clearly communicates its historic associations, and continues to convey important information. It contributes to a district comprised of its neighboring buildings.

67. **246 S CENTER ST** **Eligibility:** Contributing
Historic Property Name(s): AMERICAN HOTEL
Style: LATE 19TH & EARLY 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS
Building Form: TWO-PART
Date of Construction: C. 1913
Smithsonian #: 48NA5222
Description:

This two-part commercial block rises two stories and is six bays wide. Upper-story fenestration defines the bays, where nonhistoric window units occupy the original openings. The non-original storefront features a recessed off-center entrance flanked on each side by nonhistoric aluminum-framed display windows. Historic character-defining features present include: the shaped parapet with central pediment; the white terra cotta accents throughout the façade, found in the form of parapet coping tile, geometric decorative medallions at cornice level, a continuous windowsill for the upper-story windows, and a full-width projecting cornice over the first story; the courses of header brick delineating the parapet, the cornice level, and above the first story; the soldier brick window surrounds; and the original cast iron storefront piers defining the three street-level bays.

This building reflects the continuum of commercial development in Casper. The building retains integrity, clearly communicates its historic associations, and continues to convey important information. Storefront and window alterations prevent it from being individually eligible, however it contributes to a district comprised of its neighboring buildings.

68. **256 S CENTER ST** **Eligibility:** Contributing
Historic Property Name(s): WONDER BAR; HERMAN'S FLOPPERY
Style: LATE 19TH & 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS
Building Form: TWO-PART
Date of Construction: C. 1915
Smithsonian #: 48NA2409
Description:

This two-part commercial block rises two stories and is four bays wide. Upper-story fenestration defines the bays, where nonhistoric window units occupy the original window openings. The first floor has two storefronts, each with a recessed center entrance. Historic character-defining features present include: the decorative brickwork at cornice level forming a horizontal band terminating on each end with a decorative scone enframement; the courses of stretcher brick over the upper-story windows suggesting drip mold lintels; the soldier and header brick courses forming a continuous windowsill on the second story; and the rectangular sections of header brick between each window.

This building reflects the continuum of commercial development in Casper. The building retains integrity, clearly communicates its historic associations, and continues to convey important information. Though not individually eligible for listing in the National Register, it contributes to a district comprised of its neighboring buildings.

69. **260 S CENTER ST** **Eligibility:** Noncontributing
Historic Property Name(s): CASPER ARMY STORE; DEAN'S SPORTING GOODS
Building Form: ONE-PART
Date of Construction: C. 1957
Smithsonian #: 48NA5361
Description:

This brick one-part commercial block is a single bay wide, defined by its storefront. The storefront is recessed slightly, with a center entrance and each flanking two-part display window angling inward. Narrow sections of original brick are visible at the building edges and as bulkhead. The upper-façade corrugated metal siding has been replaced with smooth painted metal panels.

Casper Downtown Historic District
Name of Property

Natrona County, Wyoming
County and State

While the size, scale, massing, and storefront profile communicate information about the continuum of commercial development in downtown Casper, it does not appear to retain sufficient integrity to contribute to the significance of a district comprised of its neighboring buildings. The corrugated metal and the storefront itself, the key feature of a one-part commercial block, have been replaced and the only historic material remaining is the narrow sections of visible brick, which has been painted.

70. **261 S CENTER ST** **Eligibility:** Contributing
Historic Property Name(s): NICOLAYSEN BUILDING
Style: MODERN MOVEMENT
Building Form: TWO-PART
Date of Construction: 1947
Smithsonian #: 48NA5362
Description:

This brick two-part commercial block is three stories in-height and has an angled footprint responding to the diagonal alignment of Midwest Avenue and the nearby railroad grade. Occupying a corner lot, the building has two primary elevations – west and south. The west elevation is six bays across, defined by near-full-height engaged brick piers. The south elevation is ten bays across; lacking the same piers as found on the west elevation, and are defined by upper-story fenestration, which is comprised of paired and single window openings. The canted southwest corner forms a bay all its own. Historic character-defining features present include: the blonde brick facing; the flared projection of the second story from the third story wall face; the c1965 visor awning spanning the first-story on each elevation; the soldier brick courses atop the parapet wall and each engaged pier; the tapestry brickwork throughout the two upper-story walls; the historic 1/1 aluminum windows; the header brick windowsills; and the historic, midcentury aluminum-framed storefronts and large aggregate cementitious cladding between storefront systems.

This building reflects the continuum of commercial and architectural development in downtown Casper. The building retains integrity to clearly communicate its historic associations and continues to convey important information. It contributes to the significance of a district comprised of its neighboring buildings, and if interior integrity is intact, may be individually eligible.

71. **320 S CENTER ST** **Eligibility:** Contributing
Historic Property Name(s): SEARS ROEBUCK & CO
Style: MODERN MOVEMENT
Building Form: TWO-PART
Date of Construction: 1953
Smithsonian #: 48NA4938
Description:

This two-part commercial block has a large trapezoidal footprint. Located on a corner lot, the building thus has two primary elevations – east and north. The overall design is driven by form and contrasting sections of blank masonry walls and long bands of windows. The main entrance is into the northeast canted corner, through a pair of full-light aluminum-framed doors. The north elevation has a near-solid brick wall along the first story, interrupted by sections of curtain wall at irregular intervals, and a long band of windows along the top of the second-story's cast concrete clad wall. The east elevation is comprised of a solid cast concrete second-story wall that overhangs the slightly recessed first story that contains a long band of display windows and a small section of blank brick wall at the south end. Additional features include: the round 'bubble' forms atop the one-story canted entrance that appear to likely be skylights; and the large louvered wall section toward the north end of the roof, likely concealing rooftop mechanical units.

This building reflects the continuum of commercial and architectural development in Casper. The building retains excellent integrity, clearly communicates its historic associations, and continues to convey important information. It not only contributes to a district comprised of its neighboring buildings, but it appears to be individually eligible for listing in the National Register.

Casper Downtown Historic District
Name of Property

Natrona County, Wyoming
County and State

72. 330 S CENTER ST **Eligibility:** Contributing

Historic Property Name(s): GOODSTEIN BUILDING
Style: MODERN MOVEMENT: BRUTALISM
Building Form: OFFICE BUILDING
Date of Construction: 1961
Smithsonian #: 48NA5364
Description:

This four-story building is characterized by its largely blank asymmetrically angled east elevation, the sawtooth roof over the northeast corner raised section, and the long bands of windows along the south elevation. The main entrance is recessed at the north end of the primary elevation. The only other penetration in the east elevation is a three-part display window at the south end of the first story. Historic character-defining features include: the ashlar limestone panels that clad the exterior; the bands of original aluminum-framed windows in the south elevation with lower hopper sashes; and the overall lack of applied ornament and aesthetic focus on smooth wall faces and form.

This building reflects the continuum of commercial and architectural development in Casper. The building retains excellent integrity, clearly communicates its historic associations, and continues to convey important information. It not only contributes to a district comprised of its neighboring buildings, but it appears to be individually eligible for listing in the National Register.

SOUTH DAVID STREET

73. 235 S DAVID ST **Eligibility:** Contributing

Historic Property Name(s): MASEK'S AUTO SUPPLY
Style: MODERN MOVEMENT
Building Form: ONE-PART
Date of Construction: C. 1946
Smithsonian #: 48NA5372
Description:

This one-part commercial block is three bays wide. Storefront display windows, within nonhistoric aluminum framing systems, and decorative tile define the bays. The entrance is recessed within the storefront system in the center bay. Historic character-defining features present include: the white glazed tile façade facing with contrasting smooth and grooved beige tile geometric accents; and the lack of any other applied ornament.

This building reflects the continuum of commercial development in Casper. The building retains sufficient integrity to communicate its historic associations and continues to convey important information. Though not individually eligible, it contributes to a NRHP district comprised of its neighboring buildings.

74. 241 S DAVID ST **Eligibility:** Contributing

Historic Property Name(s): SCHULTE HARDWARE SHOWROOM
Style: MODERN MOVEMENT: MODERNE
Building Form: ONE-PART
Date of Construction: C. 1947
Smithsonian #: 48NA5373
Description:

This one-part commercial block is a single bay wide. The aluminum-framed storefront defines the bay. The center entrance is recessed within the storefront. There is no transom space above the storefront. Historic character-defining features present include: the cream-colored glazed tile façade facing with contrasting grooved aquamarine tile geometric accents; the lack of any other applied ornament; the aluminum visor awning over the storefront; the rectangular sign panel across the upper-façade wall; and the simple shallow buttresses along the secondary brick side wall.

This building reflects the continuum of commercial development in Casper. The building retains sufficient integrity to communicate its historic associations and continues to convey important information. Though not individually eligible, it contributes to a NRHP district comprised of its neighboring buildings.

Casper Downtown Historic District
Name of Property

Natrona County, Wyoming
County and State

75. 323 S DAVID ST **Eligibility:** Contributing

Historic Property Name(s): DAVIDSON-DORIUS RESIDENCE

Style: CRAFTSMAN

Building Form: SINGLE-FAMILY: GABLE FRONT

Date of Construction: C. 1914

Smithsonian #: 48NA5375

Description:

This one-story gable-front bungalow has a full-width front porch and a center entrance. The north half of the porch is enclosed, a feature that is historic, if not original. The walls are the original poured concrete, as is indicated on the available Sanborn maps. Historic character-defining features include: the heavy porch post supports; the faux half-timbering treatment on the front gable; the shallow segmental arch over the two porch sections; the historic double-hung wood windows; the entrance stair wing walls; the decorative exposed rafter tails under deep eaves; the decorative knee brackets under the eaves; the segmental arched window centered in the front gable; and the cross gable on the south elevation over a shallow boxed bay. The historic outbuilding at the rear of the lot, also of poured concrete and with similar design features, has been internally connected with the main house by means of a small, reversible porch.

This building reflects the continuum of residential development in Casper. It is a rare example of a Craftsman dwelling executed in poured concrete and is one of the few remaining single-family dwellings in this part of Casper. Additionally, it has strong associations with one of Casper's most prominent bootleggers during Prohibition. The building retains excellent integrity, clearly communicates its historic associations, and continues to convey important information. It not only contributes to a district comprised of its neighboring buildings, but it appears to be individually eligible for listing in the National Register.

76. 335 S DAVID ST **Eligibility:** Contributing

Historic Property Name(s): MARSHALL APARTMENTS

Style: LATE 19TH & EARLY 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS:
PRAIRIE INFLUENCE

Building Form: LOW-RISE WALK-UP APARTMENT

Date of Construction: C. 1923

Smithsonian #: 48NA5376

Description:

This multi-unit walk-up apartment building appears to be comprised of two, six-unit sections enveloped into a single building and with an internal shared party wall between. The building occupies a corner lot. There are three residential levels, the lowest of which is partially below-grade. Two entrances, centrally located in their respective sections, feature a projecting brick surround with pediment, which is echoed by the pedimented parapet sections above. Historic character-defining features present include: the shaped parapet; the tapestry brickwork between windows on the upper façade walls; the brick corbelling creating a slightly projecting cornice; the soldier brick window lintels and belt courses; the header brick windowsills; the four-course projection of the lowermost level creating a water table; the original 8/1 and 3/3 wood sash windows, arranged singly and in pairs; and the small brick outbuilding adjacent to the east behind the building.

This building reflects the continuum of residential development in Casper. The building retains excellent integrity, clearly communicates its historic associations, and continues to convey important information. It not only contributes to a district comprised of its neighboring buildings, but it appears to be individually eligible for listing in the National Register.

77. 335 A S DAVID **Eligibility:** Contributing

Historic Property Name(s): MARSHALL APARTMENTS OUTBUILDING

Building Form: ANCILLARY STRUCTURE

Date of Construction: 1923

Smithsonian #: 48NA5376

Description:

This brick ancillary building has a flat roof and near-square footprint. A wood-framed set of straight steps access the single pedestrian entrance in the south elevation. A single window is in the west elevation. Additional features include the brick furnace chimney and the header brick parapet coping.

Casper Downtown Historic District
Name of Property

Natrona County, Wyoming
County and State

NORTH DURBIN STREET

78. 103 N DURBIN ST *Eligibility:* Contributing
Historic Property Name(s): MOUNTAIN STATES TELEPHONE & TELEGRAPH BLDG
Style: MODERN MOVEMENT
Building Form: INDUSTRIAL
Date of Construction: C. 1952
Smithsonian #: 48NA5377
Description:

This two-story building occupies a corner lot and thus has two primary elevations – south and west. It includes a c1952 Modern Movement original block and a large 1975 Brutalist addition to the east.

West Block: The south elevation is nine bays wide and the west elevation is eight bays wide. Upper-story fenestration defines the bays and is comprised of single and paired openings containing the original steel sashes with central casements. Each elevation's outer bay contains a two-story high terra cotta enframingent with openings on each level and a terra cotta spandrel between. On the south elevation, these openings contain windows (glass block in one and aluminum-framed system in the other), while on the west elevation, the first-story openings contain recessed entrances and the upper a steel window. Additional historic character-defining features present include: the salmon-colored brick facing; the cream terra cotta accents found in the form of parapet coping, entrance surroundings, window lintels, spandrels and sills, and water table; the decorative terra cotta molding over each window and entrance; and the overall generally smooth wall treatment and lack of applied ornament.

East Block: The footprint of this two-story block is slightly larger than the original block. Standing on a corner lot, it has two primary elevations – east and south. Both elevations are eight bays across, defined by white marble-clad piers. Polished black granite occupies most of the street-level bays, except where three aluminum-framed entrance systems are present in the east elevation in the two north end bays and near the south end bay. Precast rough, vertically grooved concrete panels clad most of the upper walls, interrupted asymmetrically by tall, narrow 3-part, recessed fixed windows, and where aluminum-framed curtain walls occur over entrances below.

This building reflects the continuum of commercial, technological, and architectural development in Casper. The building retains integrity, clearly communicates its historic associations, and continues to convey important information. It is counted as a contributing resource to the District.

79. 143 N DURBIN ST *Eligibility:* Noncontributing
Historic Property Name(s): BAUSCH & LOMB BLDG; SHELL OIL AUTO DEPT
Building Form: TWO-PART
Date of Construction: C. 1947
Smithsonian #: 48NA5378
Description:

This brick two-part commercial block is five bays wide. Upper-story fenestration defines the bays, with each opening containing a nonhistoric single fixed window. Dryvit covers the first-story walls. The main entrance is recessed at the south end. Historic features present include: the soldier brick lintels; the header brick sills; the corner storefront wrapping the southwest corner; the exterior stair leading to a separate upper-story office space; and the secondary recessed entrance central in the south elevation.

This building is no longer able to clearly communicate its historic associations. If the first-story Dryvit cladding were removed and the historic materials found intact below, it could be reevaluated for potential eligibility as a contributing resource to potential NRHP district comprised of its neighboring buildings.

Casper Downtown Historic District
Name of Property

Natrona County, Wyoming
County and State

80. 152 N DURBIN ST **Eligibility:** Contributing
Historic Property Name(s): STANDARD OIL BUILDING; STANOLIND BLDG; PAN AM PETROLEUM BLDG
Style: MODERN MOVEMENT
Building Form: OFFICE BUILDING
Date of Construction: 1954
Smithsonian #: 48NA5379
Description:

This four-story brick building occupies a corner lot and thus has two primary elevations – north and east. The east elevation is 18 bays across, while the north elevation has 15 bays. Window openings containing aired 2/2, historic metal windows with horizontal muntins, define the bays. The main entrance is off-center toward the north end of the east elevation and features a nonhistoric faux entrance portico added in 2003. Historic character-defining features present include: the salmon-colored brick walls; the terra cotta window sills that are continuous across each primary elevation; and the overall lack of applied ornament from the original design.

Despite the incompatible faux full-height entrance portico, this building retains integrity of location, materials, workmanship, setting, and associations. Despite the partial loss of integrity of design on the east elevation, the size, scale, massing, setback, height, location, and so forth, all combine to continue to clearly communicate important information about the extensive post-WWII commercial expansion of downtown Casper. The building is counted as a contributing resource to a district comprised of its neighboring buildings.

81. 223 N DURBIN ST **Eligibility:** Contributing
Historic Property Name(s): MACK TRUCK BLDG; DURBIN ST AUTO SERVICE
Style: LATE 19TH & EARLY 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS:
PRAIRIE INFLUENCE
Building Form: TWO-PART
Date of Construction: C. 1922
Smithsonian #: 48NA5380
Description:

This brick two-part commercial block is eight bays wide. Upper-story fenestration, comprised of single and paired openings containing the original 4/1 wood sash windows, defines the bays. The first story features single pedestrian doors at each end, a four-part display window toward the north end, and two original vehicular bays containing nonhistoric overhead doors. Additional historic character-defining features present include: the shaped parapet; the brown brick details that contrast with the buff brick walls; the header brick window sills; the soldier brick window lintels; the original 4/1 wood sash windows; the header and soldier brick belt courses over both the first and second stories; the modest corbel courses at cornice level; the three-brick diamond decorative motif in the shaped parapet; and the original transoms over each street-level entrance.

This building reflects the continuum of commercial development in Casper. The building retains excellent integrity, clearly communicates its historic associations, and continues to convey important information. It not only contributes to a district comprised of its neighboring buildings, it appears to be individually eligible for listing in the National Register.

82. 306 N DURBIN ST **Eligibility:** Contributing
Historic Property Name(s): FRATERNAL ORDER OF EAGLES
Style: MODERN MOVEMENT: MODERNE
Building Form: INSTITUTIONAL: SOCIAL HALL/BOWLING ALLEY
Date of Construction: 1950
Smithsonian #: 48NA5385
Description:

This one-story building has a large footprint and the primary elevation faces east onto North Durbin Street. The façade has two distinct façade sections, both of which have off-center recessed entrances. Historic character-defining features present include: the header brick enframements across the façade wall that are taller/heavier at the north end and jog vertically to become much narrower toward their respective south ends; the four high-set small window openings just south of the north entrance; the barrel roof over the rear portion of the building; and the historic multi-light steel windows intact on the secondary elevations.

This building reflects the continuum of social, recreational, and architectural development in Casper. The building

Casper Downtown Historic District
Name of Property

Natrona County, Wyoming
County and State

retains excellent integrity, clearly communicates its historic associations, and continues to convey important information. If the key interior spaces are intact, it would be individually eligible for listing in the National Register. Either way, it contributes to the District.

SOUTH DURBIN STREET

83. **204 S DURBIN ST** *Eligibility:* Noncontributing

Historic Property Name(s): VISIONS PLUS

Building Form: ONE-PART

Date of Construction: C. 1979

Smithsonian #: 48NA5391

Description:

This one-part commercial block is four bays wide, defined by a four-part display window occupying the full width of the primary (north) elevation. Display windows wrap the forward (north) half of each side (east, west) elevation. An entrance projection is off-center in the west elevation and a drive-up window projection is off-center in the east elevation. This building is not yet 50 years of age and is currently not eligible for listing in the National Register.

EAST MIDWEST AVENUE

84. **236 E MIDWEST AVE** *Eligibility:* Contributing

Historic Property Name(s): ENGINEERS UNION HALL

Style: LATE 19TH & 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS

Building Form: TWO-PART

Date of Construction: C. 1915

Smithsonian #: 48NA5400

Description:

This brick two-part commercial block has a distinctive narrow triangular footprint. The primary (southeast) elevation is three bays wide. Upper-story fenestration, comprised of broad segmental arched window openings containing nonhistoric 2-part windows, defines the bays. The entrance to the upper floor is at the west end of the first story. The remainder of the first story is occupied by a flush single entrance flanked by display windows. Historic character-defining features present include: the blonde brick facing and contrasting rust-colored brick accents; the decorative rust-colored brick found in the form of faux cornice brackets, header brick segmental arched lintels, and header brick windowsills; the midcentury aluminum visor awning spanning the full width of the first story; and the very narrow east elevation containing single window opening and continuation of the primary elevation decorative brickwork.

This building reflects the continuum of commercial development in Casper. The building retains sufficient integrity to communicate its historic associations and continues to convey important information. It contributes to a NRHP district comprised of its neighboring buildings

Casper Downtown Historic District
Name of Property

Natrona County, Wyoming
County and State

WEST MIDWEST AVENUE

85. 100 W MIDWEST AVE

Eligibility: Contributing

Historic Property Name(s): WYOMING EMPLOYMENT SECURITY COMMISSION BUILDING

Style: MODERN MOVEMENT: INTERNATIONAL STYLE

Building Form: OFFICE BUILDING

Date of Construction: 1961

Smithsonian #: 48NA5401

Description:

This three-story building is characterized by the white, precast concrete gridded exoskeleton that wraps each visible elevation. Located on a corner lot, the building thus has two primary elevations – east and southeast. The southeast elevation is twenty-three bays across and the east elevation is seven bays across. Full-height vertical members of the gridded exoskeleton define the bays. Behind the exoskeleton aluminum-framed curtain walls span each elevation. Main entrances are recessed at the north end of the east elevation and off-center in the southeast elevation. The southeast elevation entrance features robin's egg blue mosaic tile-clad walls and a dedication plaque. Additional historic character-defining features include: the projecting flagpole structures over each entrance recess; full-width solid spandrels between each floor, which are one cell high between the 1st and 2nd stories and two cells high between the 2nd and 3rd stories; the partial vertical gridded members that extend down between the full-height posts; and the wrapping of the gridded exterior motif onto the ceilings of each recessed entrance.

This building reflects the continuum of commercial and architectural development in Casper. The building retains excellent integrity, clearly communicates its historic associations, and continues to convey important information. It not only contributes to a district comprised of its neighboring buildings, but appears to be individually eligible for listing in the National Register.

86. 128-140 W MIDWEST AVE

Eligibility: Noncontributing

Historic Property Name(s): MCCLURE BUILDING

Building Form: TWO-PART

Date of Construction: C. 1914

Smithsonian #: 48NA5376

Description:

This brick two-part commercial block is five bays wide. Engaged full-height brick piers define the bays. The entrance to the second story is in the east end bay. All other first-story bays contain a single door and high-set fixed display window. Historic character-defining features include: the blonde brick facing; the terra cotta parapet coping tiles; and the curved-corner concrete steps leading up to each entrance door. Nonhistoric alterations include the loss of the original doors and storefronts, the incompatible single-light fixed-unit replacement windows, and the inappropriate application of continuous bands of irreversible Dryvit over both the first and second stories.

This building reflects the continuum of mixed residential and commercial development in Casper. However, the cumulative alterations to the building have comprised its ability to clearly convey its historic associations. Though original openings remain, replacement window, door, and storefront units are incompatible with the historic character of the building. Furthermore, the building's original full-height vertical bays are interrupted by the nonhistoric continuous horizontal bands across the primary and secondary elevations. If the bands of Dryvit across the façade were removed and the original brickwork was found intact below, the building could be reevaluated for potential eligibility.

Casper Downtown Historic District
Name of Property

Natrona County, Wyoming
County and State

87. 128-140 A W MIDWEST AVE **Eligibility** Contributing

Historic Property Name(s): MCCLURE BUILDING OUTBUILDING

Building Form: ANCILLARY STRUCTURE

Date of Construction: C. 1940

Smithsonian #: 48NA5376

Description:

This outbuilding has concrete block walls, a rectangular footprint, and tall parapet walls on three sides. The primary elevation faces west where a single pedestrian entrance and a single window form the two bays. The door is not historic. Metal bars obscure the large window.

NORTH WOLCOTT STREET

88. 104 N WOLCOTT ST **Eligibility:** Noncontributing

Historic Property Name(s): FIRST INTERSTATE BANK DRIVE-THRU

Style: MODERN MOVEMENT

Building Form: ONE-PART

Date of Construction: C. 1977

Smithsonian #: 48NA5420

Description:

This one-story building has an L-shaped plan and is characterized by vehicular drive-through bays on its primary (south) elevation. A small interior office space is at the northeast corner of the building with an entrance from N Wolcott, where the aluminum-framed curtain wall is angled inward away from the entrance door at the north end.

This building is not yet fifty years of age and currently lacks the significance to be considered for NRHP eligibility. If it retains the current integrity for the next 10 years, it could be reevaluated for potential eligibility at that time.

89. 159 N WOLCOTT ST **Eligibility** NRHP-Listed

Historic Property Name(s): OHIO OIL CO BLDG

Style: ART DECO

Building Form: TWO-PART VERTICAL

Date of Construction: 1949

Smithsonian #: 48NA3337

Description:

This four-story office building occupies a corner lot and thus has two primary elevations – north and west. The west elevation is ten bays wide and the north elevation is eight bays across. A late example of the Art Deco style, full-height engaged piers define the bays, each of which contain a pair of single windows. Two main entrances are symmetrically placed in the west elevation, in the 3rd and 8th bays. Additional historic character-defining features present include: the historic multi-light steel windows; the decorative cast stone found in the form of pier capitals, spandrels above and below each window, windowsills, and embedded geometric panels over the first-story windows; the vertical, geometric motifs in relief on the cast stone elements; the ashlar stone entrance surrounds; the historic, double-leaf, full-light aluminum-framed entrance doors with transoms above; and the high stone water table rising to the sills of the first-story windows.

This building reflects the continuum of commercial development in Casper and is listed individually in the NRHP. The building retains integrity, clearly communicates its historic associations, and continues to convey important information. It contributes to the significance of a district comprised of its neighboring buildings.

Casper Downtown Historic District
Name of Property

Natrona County, Wyoming
County and State

90. 200 N WOLCOTT ST **Eligibility:** Contributing
Historic Property Name(s): MOOSE WINTER GARDEN; PRODUCERS & REFINERS CORP. BLDG
Style: MODERN MOVEMENT
Building Form: OFFICE BUILDING
Date of Construction: 1919
Smithsonian #: 48NA5421
Description:

This office building is six stories in height, occupies a corner lot, and thus has two primary elevations – south and east. The narrower east elevation is three bays wide and the long south elevation is seven bays across. Loose window groupings on each story define the bays. The primary entrance is centered in the east elevation. Historic character-defining features present include: the visible difference between the different periods of construction, legible in the slightly different colored buff brick, their bonds, and mortar color/depths; the polished black and mauve stone entrance surround that enframes the entrance and the window group above, and features a perimeter sawtooth pattern; the terra cotta water table cladding; the decorative brickwork found in the form of soldier brick lintels, header brick sills, and header brick square spandrel enframements; and the six belt courses of terra cotta spanning the two uppermost stories and forming continuous window lintels and sills.

This building reflects the continuum of commercial and architectural development in Casper. The building retains excellent integrity, clearly communicates its historic associations, and continues to convey important information. It not only contributes to a district comprised of its neighboring buildings, but may be individually eligible for listing in the National Register.

91. 201 N WOLCOTT ST **Eligibility:** Contributing
Historic Property Name(s): SUPERIOR OIL COMPANY
Style: MODERN MOVEMENT
Building Form: OFFICE BUILDING
Date of Construction: 1953
Smithsonian #: 48NA5422
Description:

This building is comprised of a two-story block at the northwest and an intersecting one-story section at the southeast. Both sections have ashlar limestone cladding and polished black stone at the wall base. The main entrance is in a contrastingly curved projection in the recess where the two building sections meet. This entrance cell has polished black stone tile cladding. Historic character-defining features present include: the slight recess of the wall face on each side of all windows, creating horizontal groupings of all windows on each story and thus emphasizing horizontality; and the lack of any applied ornament. It is unclear whether the windows are original or good replacements.

This building reflects the continuum of commercial and architectural development in Casper. The building retains integrity, clearly communicates its historic associations, and continues to convey important information. It not only contributes to a district comprised of its neighboring buildings, but it appears to be individually eligible for listing in the National Register.

92. 212-218 N WOLCOTT ST **Eligibility:** Contributing
Historic Property Name(s): WOLCOTT CAFÉ; CASPER SEWING MACHINE EXCHANGE
Style: LATE 19TH & EARLY 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS:
PRAIRIE INFLUENCE
Building Form: TWO-PART
Date of Construction: C. 1922
Smithsonian #: 48NA5423
Description:

This brick two-part commercial block is eight bays wide. Upper-story fenestration defines the bays, which consist of the original 6/1 wood sash windows. The first-story storefronts reflect a mid-century remodeling and retain excellent integrity from that period. Each storefront has single, full-light entrances – one flush and one recessed. The entrance to the upper floor is recessed off-center. Historic character-defining features present include: the tapestry brickwork on the upper façade wall, including diamond and herringbone motifs; and the streamlined decorative aluminum band spanning the full width of the façade over the first story.

Casper Downtown Historic District
Name of Property

Natrona County, Wyoming
County and State

This building reflects the continuum of commercial development in Casper. The building retains excellent integrity, clearly communicates its historic associations, and continues to convey important information. It contributes to a district comprised of its neighboring buildings.

93. 225 N WOLCOTT ST *Eligibility:* Contributing
Historic Property Name(s): CARPENTERS HALL; MOOSE LODGE
Style: MODERN MOVEMENT; MODERNE
Building Form: ONE-PART
Date of Construction: C. 1922
Smithsonian #: 48NA5424
Description:

This one-part commercial block is three bays wide. A center recessed entrance and two flanking display windows define the bays. Historic character-defining features include: the blonde brick facing with horizontal courses of projecting stretchers accentuating horizontality; the curved walls of the entrance recess featuring curved glass block windows; the shallow aluminum visor awning over the entrance bay; the header brick windowsills; the terra cotta parapet coping tiles; and the historic double-leaf, full-light wood entrance doors.

This building reflects the continuum of commercial and architectural development in Casper. The building retains integrity, clearly communicates its historic associations, and continues to convey important information. It contributes to a NRHP district comprised of its neighboring buildings.

SOUTH WOLCOTT STREET

94. 104 S WOLCOTT ST *Eligibility:* Noncontributing
Historic Property Name(s): FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF CASPER
Style: MODERN MOVEMENT
Building Form: TWO-PART VERTICAL
Date of Construction: 1958
Smithsonian #: 48NA5429
Description:

This eight-story building is comprised of a broad two-story base and a much narrower six-story tower. Bands of nonhistoric replacement aluminum-framed fixed windows define each floor in the tower. The base is five bays across both the north and east elevations, where the bays are defined by Dryvit-clad piers between large nonhistoric aluminum-framed display windows. The historic underground parking is intact and accessed from the alley to the west.

The recent remodeling of this building compromised its integrity. The application of Dryvit on historic brick walls and replacement of historic windows prevents it from clearly communicating its historic associations. It does not contribute to the historic district.

95. 111 S WOLCOTT ST *Eligibility:* NRHP-Listed
Historic Property Name(s): KERR FEDERAL COURTHOUSE
Style: LATE 19TH & 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS: CLASSICAL REVIVAL
Building Form: INSTITUTIONAL: COURTHOUSE
Date of Construction: 1929
Smithsonian #: 48NA2691
Description:

This three-story courthouse building's primary elevation faces west, where thirteen symmetrical bays span the façade. Fenestration defines the bays. Upper-story windows are comprised of eight-over-eight units, while the first-story windows are ten-over-ten units with fanlights above. Additional historic character-defining features include: the brick walls laid in a common bond of five stretcher courses per header course; the shallow-pitched hipped roof with center cross gable; the classical temple motif centered in the façade and comprised of engaged ashlar stone pilasters and a full pediment; the dentillated cornice; the splayed window lintels of the upper-story windows; the stone keystones over all first- and second-story windows; the ashlar stone corner quoining; the ashlar stone belt course over the first-story; and the three-part main entrance centered in the primary (west) elevation consisting of three individual, recessed, round-arch entrances within an ashlar stone surround.

Casper Downtown Historic District
Name of Property

Natrona County, Wyoming
County and State

This building reflects the continuum of commercial development in Casper and is listed individually in the NRHP. The building retains integrity, clearly communicates its historic associations, and continues to convey important information. It contributes to the significance of a district comprised of its neighboring buildings.

96. 130 S WOLCOTT ST **Eligibility:** Noncontributing

Historic Property Name(s): WYOMING STATIONARY

Building Form: ONE-PART

Date of Construction: C. 1929

Smithsonian #: 48NA5430

Description:

This brick one-part commercial block is three bays wide. The recessed center entrance and flanking multi-light aluminum-framed display windows define the bays. The upper façade wall has nonhistoric Dryvit cladding. The visible brick reflects a recent refacing. No historic materials are visible. This building no longer retains integrity and cannot communicate its historic associations. It is not eligible for listing in the National Register.

97. 136 S WOLCOTT ST **Eligibility:** NRHP-Listed

Historic Property Name(s): ODD FELLOWS BLDG

Style: MODERN MOVEMENT

Building Form: TWO-PART

Date of Construction: 1952

Smithsonian #: 48NA4781

Description:

This three-story building is an excellent example of Modern Movement design and is characterized by balanced asymmetry, smooth wall surfaces, and an overall horizontality. The primary elevation faces east and is eight bays wide. Upper-story fenestration defines the bays and consists of the historic multi-light steel window units with central operable hoppers. Additional historic character-defining features include: the horizontal blonde brick facing on the six south bays, contrasting with the vertical ashlar stone cladding of the two north end bays; the cast stone spandrels between windows and featuring a corrugated profile; the original aluminum-framed storefronts with low bulkheads and full-light entrance doors; and the anchored, flat aluminum awning over the six south bays.

This building reflects the continuum of commercial development in Casper and is listed individually in the NRHP. The building retains integrity, clearly communicates its historic associations, and continues to convey important information. It contributes to the significance of a district comprised of its neighboring buildings.

98. 143 S WOLCOTT ST **Eligibility:** Contributing

Historic Property Name(s): BARNARD BUILDING; SWEETBRIAR SHOP

Building Form: ONE-PART

Date of Construction: C. 1930

Smithsonian #: 48NA5431

Description:

This brick one-part commercial block is two bays wide, defined by the two storefronts, one of which is twice the width of the other. The upper-façade wall is clad with stucco, and stacked blonde brick clads the walls at street level. Each storefront has a recessed entrance and is flanked on each side by display windows resting on brick bulkheads.

Despite alterations to the upper façade wall, this building retains sufficient integrity to be counted as a contributing resource to a NRHP district comprised of its neighboring buildings.

Casper Downtown Historic District
Name of Property

Natrona County, Wyoming
County and State

99. 225 S WOLCOTT ST *Eligibility:* Contributing
Historic Property Name(s): TRIANGLE MOTORS; TRIANGLE SERVICE STATION
Style: MODERN MOVEMENT: MODERNE
Building Form: TWO-PART
Date of Construction: C. 1940
Smithsonian #: 48NA4935
Description:

This building is comprised of a two-part commercial block section at the west end and a one-story auto service section at the east end. The two-story section is characterized by glazed tile cladding and a canted southwest corner, as well as a full length of continuous storefronts along both west and south elevations. Dryvit-clad infill and nonhistoric windows and doors occupy the historic vehicular service bays to the east of the main block. Historic character-defining features present include: the cream colored glazed tile with green belt courses above and below the upper-story windows; the historic three-part aluminum windows with end casements; and the utilitarian nature of the east end service block.

Alterations to this building's historic vehicular openings prevent it from being individually eligible. However, it retains sufficient integrity to contribute to a NRHP district comprised of its neighboring buildings.

100. 230 S WOLCOTT ST *Eligibility:* Noncontributing
Historic Property Name(s): PARKING GARAGE
Building Form: TRANSPORTATION: PARKING STRUCTURE
Date of Construction: C. 1980
Smithsonian #: 48NA5432
Description:

This four-story parking garage occupies the full width of its block, spanning from S Wolcott to S Center, and thus has two primary elevations – east and west. The walls feature a smooth pebble finish on all visible exterior concrete walls. Key features present include: the full-height elevator-stair towers at each of the north corners; the four levels of covered parking and the rooftop uncovered parking level; and the projecting blade panels flanking the vehicular entrance on each primary elevation, two of which have a triangular cut out pointing inward toward the building.

This parking structure is not yet fifty years of age. It has strong associations with the urban renewal period in Casper during the late 20th century and retains good integrity from its period of construction. If integrity is maintained for the next 15 years, the structure could be reevaluated for potential eligibility.

101. 240 S WOLCOTT ST *Eligibility:* Contributing
Historic Property Name(s): MIDWEST BUILDING; SMITH APARTMENTS
Style: MODERN MOVEMENT: MODERNE
Building Form: TWO-PART
Date of Construction: C. 1915; C. 1920; C. 1950
Smithsonian #: 48NA5433
Description:

This brick two-part commercial block occupies a corner lot and thus has two primary elevations – east and south – both of which are clad with white glazed terra cotta. The trapezoidal footprint responds to the diagonal angle of Midwest Avenue and the nearby railroad grade. The south elevation is thirteen bays wide and the east elevation has three bays. Upper-story fenestration defines the bays and is comprised of the original multi-light metal windows with end casements. An entrance to the upper floor is off-center in the east elevation. Additional historic character-defining features include: the vertical terra cotta fins at the southeast corner reminiscent of a movie theater marquee; the continuous aluminum louvered visor awnings spanning both primary elevations; the terrazzo entrance floor finish; and the terrazzo compass star inlaid into the sidewalk near the building's southeast corner.

This building reflects the continuum of commercial and architectural development in Casper. The building retains excellent integrity, clearly communicates its historic associations, and continues to convey important information. It not only contributes to a district comprised of its neighboring buildings, but it appears to be individually eligible for listing in the National Register.

Casper Downtown Historic District

Name of Property

Natrona County, Wyoming

County and State

102. 301 S WOLCOTT ST

Eligibility: Contributing

Historic Property Name(s): SECURITY BANK & TRUST CO.

Style: MODERN MOVEMENT

Building Form: ONE-PART

Date of Construction: 1963

Smithsonian #:

Description:

This one-story building occupies a corner lot and has three primary elevations – northwest, northeast, and southwest. Main entrances are off-center in the southwest and northeast elevations. The key character-defining feature of this building is the brick colonnade along the northwest elevation, each column of which has a scalloped cross profile/footprint. Other character-defining features include: the flat roof; the aluminum-framed curtain wall behind the colonnaded sections; the exposed horizontal roof beams atop each column; the extension of the flat roof on the northeast and southwest elevations forming an open porch over each entrance; the lack of applied ornamentation; and the overall low, horizontal profile of the building as a whole.

This building retains integrity from its period of construction and continues to communicate important information about Casper during its post-WWII era of prosperity and boom in construction Downtown. It is counted as a contributing resource to the District.

Casper Downtown Historic District
Name of Property

Natrona County, Wyoming
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.

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.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

COMMERCE

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

c1896-1970

Significant Dates

N/A

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Garbutt, Weidner and Sweeney, Architects

Rognstad-Olsen Construction Co., Contractors

Goodrich & Wilking, Architects

Period of Significance (justification)

The period of significance begins in c1896 and ends in 1970, the construction dates of the oldest and youngest contributing resources in the District. The period of significance also acknowledges historic alterations made to buildings as specific functional needs and commercial styles evolved and accepts the buildings that experienced such alterations within the period of significance as contributing elements to the District.

Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)

N/A

Casper Downtown Historic District
Name of Property

Natrona County, Wyoming
County and State

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

The Casper Downtown Historic District comprises the historic business and civic center of the City of Casper, Natrona County, Wyoming. It is eligible for listing in the National Register for its local significance under Criterion A in the area of commerce and Criterion C in the area of architecture. The District includes the contiguous commercial, industrial, social, and governmental resources that retain architectural integrity and continue to reflect the evolution of Casper's economic center from the late nineteenth century through the post-World War II period. The District encompasses 102 properties constructed between circa 1896 and circa 1980, including seventy-one (71) contributing buildings, one (1) contributing structure, one (1) contributing site, and twenty-three (23) non-contributing buildings. The District is locally significant in the area of commerce for its associations with the growth of Casper as a county seat, railroad market center, oil industry hub, and regional economic anchor. As county seat and later with the arrival of the railroad, Casper grew to become the railroad agricultural market center of Natrona County and major hub in central Wyoming. The physical and architectural development of the downtown commercial center reflects the importance of the railroad, as well as the Yellowstone Highway, in the community's commercial history. The District's resources communicate historic trends in downtown development, physically representing the spectrum of building technology, design, stylistic features, form, and function that define the history of Casper. The District's period of significance begins in circa 1896 with the construction of the earliest building and ends at the construction of the latest contributing building in 1970. The period of significance acknowledges historic alterations in response to specific functional and marketing needs and counts buildings that experienced such alterations within the period of significance as contributing elements to the District.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

THE EVOLUTION OF THE CITY OF CASPER AS A REGIONAL COMMERCIAL HUB: 1867-1970

TERRITORIAL AND EARLY SETTLEMENT PERIOD: UP TO 1887

Euro-American explorers and fur trappers traveling through what is now central Wyoming during the early to mid-nineteenth century encountered native inhabitants including tribes of the Cheyenne, Arapahoe, and Sioux nations. Their traditional lands – those on which they trapped, traded, planted, and ranged – included what is now Natrona County.

After the 1803 Louisiana Purchase, the onset of various westward migrations – including Mormon resettlement beginning in 1846, the 1849 California gold rush, drought and cholera epidemics in the Ohio River Valley during the mid-1850s, and later the 1859 Colorado gold rushes and the 1862 Homestead Act – all drew people west to lands newly organized by the United States government. The increased use of overland emigrant trails, several of which crossed through present-day Natrona County and Casper, prompted the first major encroachment by non-Indians into the area.

To serve the influx, ferries, bridges, and trading posts sprang up along these trade routes. In what became Natrona County, the first documented Euro-American settlement dates to the 1850s establishment of bridges crossing the North Platte River in the vicinity of present-day Casper. While the Mormons had operated a seasonal ferry across the river for several years, John Richard's 1852 construction of a bridge over the North Platte a few miles down from the Mormon ferry and Louis Guinard's subsequent establishment of a bridge and trading post near the Mormon ferry in 1859 facilitated the travels of increasing numbers of emigrants.

Casper Downtown Historic District

Name of Property

Natrona County, Wyoming

County and State

Pressures created by these events resulted in increased incursion onto native lands with the establishment of a U.S. military installation (1859), Pony Express Station (1860), and transcontinental telegraph line (1861) at the Platte River Bridge,⁴ as well as treaty violations and resultant conflict. Treaties ceding the lands of Wyoming's indigenous tribes to the United States Government finally forced their relocation to reservations, among them the Wind River reservation established in 1868 for the Shoshone, and less than ten years later, the Northern Arapahoe as well.⁵ Once Indian removal was complete, land was surveyed and sold to newly arrived settlers.

From 1854 to 1868, the organization and reorganization of territorial and state boundaries in the West shifted numerous times and present-day Wyoming was variously part of the Nebraska Territory, Dakota Territory, and Idaho Territory. Migration across Wyoming and the rapid growth of railroads across the West encouraged speculators' development and new towns sprang up along railroad lines. Though Wyoming had only 8,104 non-Indian residents, sufficient nonnative settlement had occurred to support the establishment of the Wyoming Territory in 1868. The pending completion of the Union Pacific Railroad in turn stimulated an immediate influx of immigrants pushing increasingly further west across the state. Upon completion of the Union Pacific line in 1869, the population of the Wyoming Territory doubled – from 14,750 residents in 1870, to 28,500 in 1877.⁶

Though statewide population grew rapidly during the first decade of territorial status, settlement and economic activity were sluggish in the North Platte River basin due to lack of transportation and continued sporadic conflicts with native tribes.⁷ Initially settlement remained largely in the southeastern part of the territory, but with better connections and new lands opening up, it spread throughout the territory during the 1880s.⁸

Most of these earliest settlers established ranches and farmsteads in the vast rural areas. Homesteaders and ranchers began sparse settlement in central Wyoming by the 1870s, among them the Goose Egg Ranch (later known as the CY Ranch), which ran 15,000 cattle across the vast range in what became Natrona County about ten miles from present-day Casper. The only settlement notations on the 1881 Government Land Office survey map for the township (T33N R79W) are "Old Fort Caspar" and "Carey's Ranch" both in Section 7.

THE RAILROAD, FOUNDING OF CASPER, AND FORMATION OF NATRONA COUNTY: 1887-1890

In the years leading up to and after the Civil War, "railroad mania" swept the nation. Widespread projecting, promoting, and speculating took place with towns fiercely competing for the favor of railroad companies and convenient access to new rail lines. Connection to the railroad was a matter of economic life or death for many growing rural communities. While the Union Pacific Railroad had been completed along the southern edge of Wyoming by 1869, central Wyoming and the area of present-day Natrona County did not enjoy interstate commercial connections via rail until 1888 with the completion of the Wyoming Central Railroad's⁹ line heading westward from Nebraska.

⁴ Later named Fort Caspar for a young soldier who died during conflict there. "Fort Caspar," National Park Service Website <http://www.nps.gov/poex/planyourvisit/site6.htm> (accessed May 15, 2014).

⁵ Mark Junge, *A View from Center Street: Tom Carrigan's Casper* (Denver: Sprint Denver, 2003), 46. Reportedly Wind River Reservation was the only reservation chosen by the tribe obligated to live there.

⁶ Alfred James Mokler, *History of Natrona County Wyoming 1888-1922* (Chicago: R.R. Donnelley and Sons, 1923), 4.

⁷ Wyoming State Historical Society, "North Platte River Basin: A Natural History" <http://www.wyohistory.org/encyclopedia/north-platte-river-basin?page=2> (accessed May 20, 2014).

⁸ Wyoming State Historical Society, "North Platte River Basin: A Natural History" <http://www.wyohistory.org/encyclopedia/north-platte-river-basin?page=2> (accessed May 20, 2014).

⁹ A subsidiary formed by Fremont, Elkhorn & Missouri Valley Railroad of Nebraska to extend railroad line into Wyoming. The Chicago & Northwestern Railroad absorbed the Fremont, Elkhorn & Missouri Valley Company in 1903.

Casper Downtown Historic District

Name of Property

Natrona County, Wyoming

County and State

Though the railroad town site company had not yet designated an exact location for the new town, pioneers squatted on the sagebrush flat in anticipation of the arrival of the railroad, resulting in construction of a temporary town.¹⁰ The small collection of about a dozen wood structures and tents served as an active hamlet from June 1888 until the railroad town site company could survey and officially plat the Town of Casper later that year, which they located at the railroad's terminus about one mile west of the temporary town. The approximately 100 residents moved their business buildings and tents to the vicinity of the terminus and such was the beginning of Casper.¹¹

¹⁰ First to arrive were John Merritt and C.W. Eads, who situated the first town at present-day McKinley and A Streets.

¹¹ *Casper Chronicles* (Casper, Wyoming: Casper Zonta Club, 1964), 7-8.

Casper Downtown Historic District

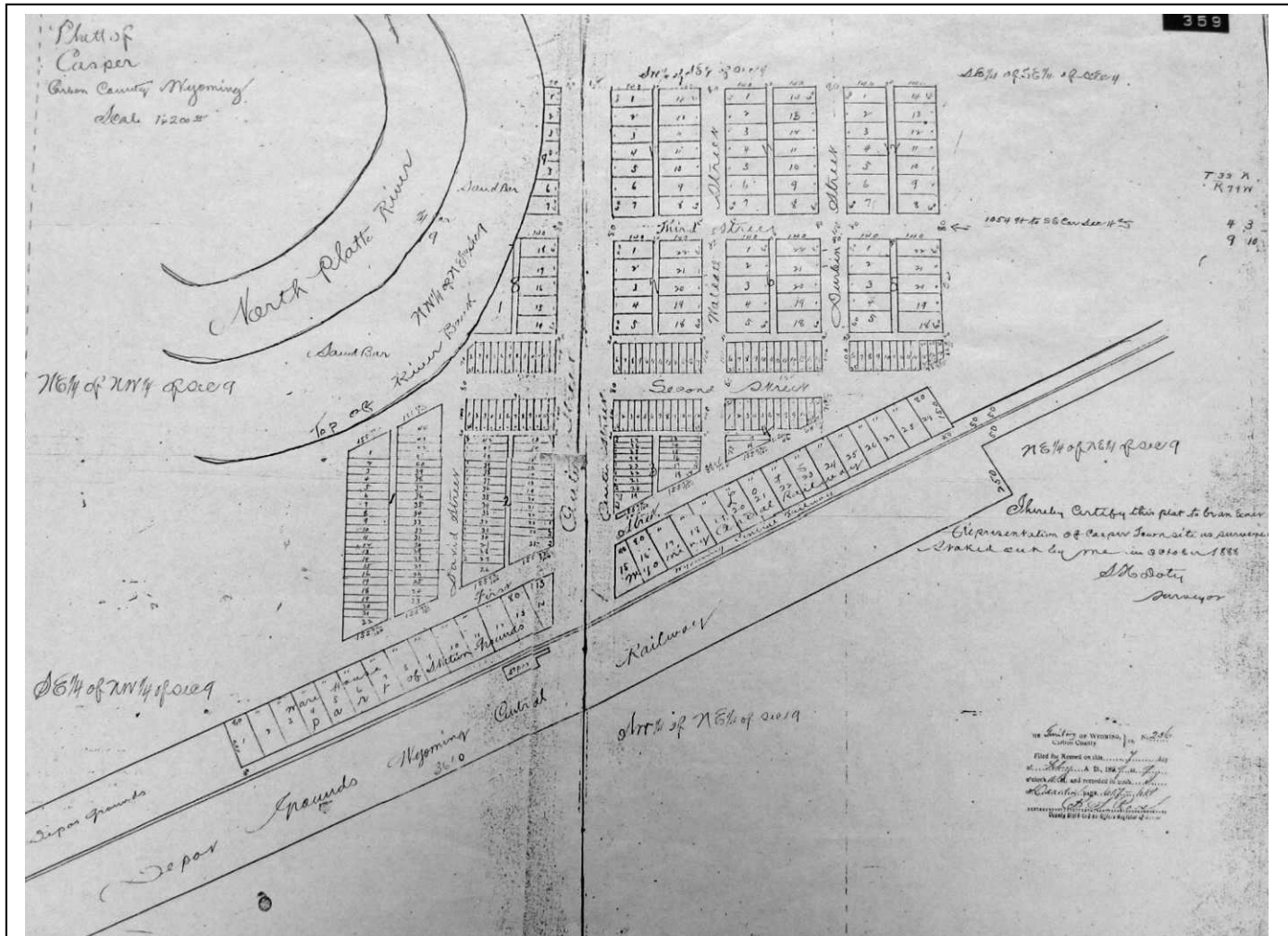
Name of Property

Natrona County, Wyoming

County and State

Original Town Plat

The original plat shows the surveyor's signature from October 1888, as well as the previous military misspelling of Caspar



1888 Original Town of Casper

Courtesy Natrona County Assessor

Casper Downtown Historic District

Name of Property

Natrona County, Wyoming

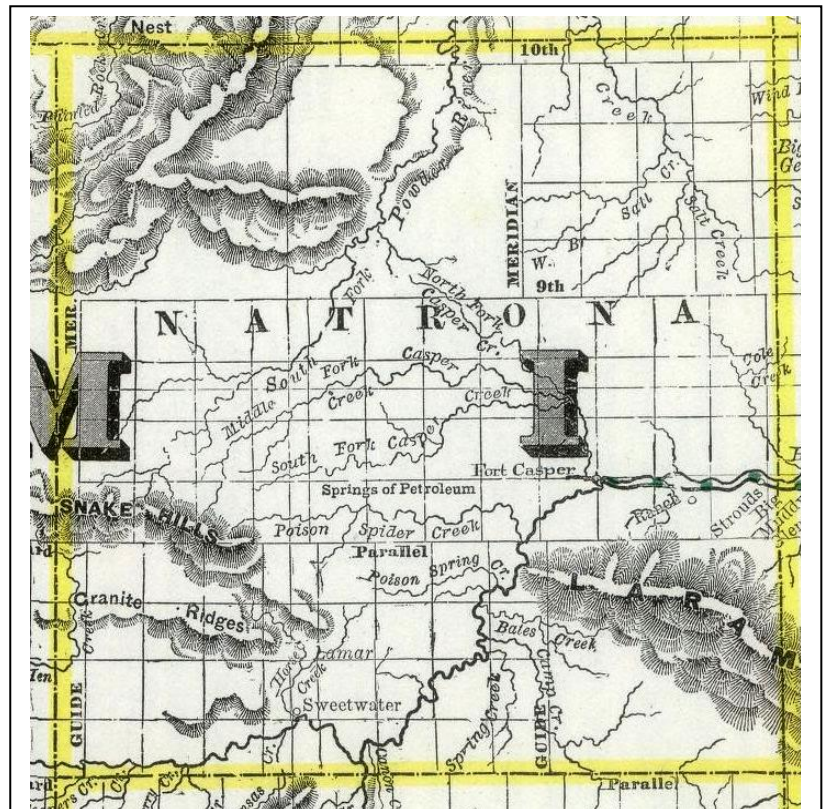
County and State

that has stuck ever since. The town plat comprised twelve blocks and eight streets laid in a grid extending north from the Wyoming Central Railroad tracks. Bounded by a prominent bend in the North Platte River and David Street to the west, Durbin Street to the east, and Fourth Street (East A Street) to the north, the town plan's grid system of streets was oriented with the cardinal points (N-S) and bounded diagonally to the south by the railroad grade traveling northeast-southwest. All streets were 80 feet wide.

Blocks varied in size based on their location, whether they abutted railroad or river elements, and/or designation as prime real estate near the main intersection of Center and 2nd streets. Most blocks were about 430-by-300 feet with a 20-foot-wide alley bisecting the block north-south and fourteen evenly spaced lots measuring 60-by-140 feet. The exception were those blocks fronting onto the designated commercial corridors, which included clusters of as many as twelve long, narrow 25-by-100 feet lots facing onto Center and 2nd streets. These blocks had 20-foot-wide alleys forming a T-shape. Other exceptions were those parcels abutting the river or diagonal railroad grade, resulting in a wide range of sizes and irregularly shaped triangular and trapezoidal lots. Those along the railroad grade were significantly larger to accommodate industrial and railroad-related endeavors at 80-by-150 feet.

As with many railroad towns, particularly a terminus in an area otherwise not served by rail connections, Casper experienced an immediate spurt of growth as a shipping point for cattle, sheep, and wool. Within a year of filing the town plat, the town was incorporated and held elections for mayor and city council.

With the arrival of the railroad to the area in 1888, sufficient settlement occurred that residents of the area petitioned the legislature for the organization of Natrona County as a separate government entity from Carbon County, one of the original five counties of Wyoming. With settlement continuing to push across the state, in 1890 the Wyoming Legislature authorized the separation of Natrona County and a few months later Wyoming became a U.S. state. The county's boundaries outlined approximately 5,400 square miles and was named for the Spanish word for its large native deposits of sodium carbonate, *natron*. Elections took place shortly thereafter establishing the various county officials and designating the recently platted town of Casper – already with a population of more than 540 individuals – as the county seat.



1889 Rand McNally Map of Wyoming

Courtesy Wyoming State Library's

wiki.wyomingplaces.org

(Note "Springs of Petroleum" notation)

Casper Downtown Historic District
Name of Property

Natrona County, Wyoming
County and State

FROM COW TOWN TO REGIONAL COMMERCIAL HUB: 1890-1900

What had been just a sagebrush flat amidst a bend in the river and convenient place for holding cattle for round up and branding, was now a county seat town poised for growth.¹² Casper's role as county seat was critical for the nascent community. In rural regions such as Wyoming, from the mid-nineteenth century through the twentieth century the county administered state and local governmental programs, as well as later federal programs. The status of county seat secured Casper's role as an important economic, social, and governmental hub in the region.

As laid out in the Original Town plat, Center and 2nd streets became the heart of the new town. Among the earliest businesses downtown was Richards, Cunningham & Co., which soon built a building at the intersection of Casper's two main streets. Green lumber from the Casper Mountains formed Casper's first buildings, most of which reflected the false-front form. (see photo page 25) The first brick building was reportedly the town hall constructed on Center Street.

Just a few years after its founding, the earliest available Sanborn Fire Insurance Company map, published in 1894, showed Casper with about sixty buildings (commercial and residential) clustered at and around the intersection of Center and 2nd streets. The town hall, a county/city jail and a planned water system indicate early municipal activity. While none of the original town plat's twelve blocks were fully developed, all but one (at the river's unstable bank) had at least a few buildings. The new town boasted a depot handling passengers and freight. At least five warehouses, one of which was a wool warehouse, sidled up against the railroad tracks, along with a lumberyard ready to supply construction endeavors. The presence of more than fifty-four dwellings across the town plat, a public school, two churches, and four millineries indicated a settled place with families. However, the presence of six lodging houses/hotels, five saloons, and a beer bottling plant suggested a different and more transient side.¹³



1894 View of Casper, south from present-day 1st Street between Wolcott and Durbin

Courtesy History of Natrona County Wyoming 1888-1922

¹² Yellowstone Highway Association, "Official Route Book of the Yellowstone Highway Association in Wyoming and Colorado," (Chicago: Wallace Press, 1916), 67. Available from <https://archive.org/details/officialrouteboo00yell> (accessed April 7, 2014).

¹³ None of these buildings are extant.

Casper Downtown Historic District

Name of Property

Natrona County, Wyoming

County and State

Casper's development during its first few years of existence was notable, particularly considering the nationwide effects of the Panic of 1893, a serious nationwide economic depression that drove unemployment rates up to between 12 and 18 percent nationwide. Despite the strained economic conditions, Casper prospered with its railroad line providing direct connections to Omaha and indirect links to Kansas City, Chicago, and beyond. The town quickly became a shipping point for beef, wool, and later, crude oil and its byproducts.¹⁴ The railroad brought new investors to Casper who filed new plats and started businesses to serve the incoming immigrants to the new town. Both the Capitol Hill and Park Additions were filed in 1896, adding fifteen blocks to the east and southwest of downtown.

Only fifteen years a town, Casper showed remarkable growth by 1903. Population had increased by about 65 percent and the town's limits had expanded three blocks to the southwest, nineteen blocks to the northeast, and south across the railroad tracks another fourteen blocks. Municipal improvements since 1894 included a new courthouse on David Street next to the jail, a gravity-fed water system (supplied by mountain streams), a fire department with twenty-eight volunteers, and a city hospital, as well as a telephone exchange and post office building. More than fifty new buildings appear in the central area on what were vacant lots just a few years earlier, and many older buildings had been replaced altogether or significantly expanded. New institutions included a Catholic church, a brick IOOF hall (District Property #14), and a public reading room. At the same time, four "female boarding" houses and five saloons offered alternate goings-on.

Along the railroad, recent new developments included a freight house across the tracks from the passenger station, livestock corrals, at least six warehouse buildings associated with Lander Transportation Freighting Company, and a much expanded lumber yard. Other major new private investments included Casper Electric Light Company and the Pennsylvania Oil and Gas Company refinery – both abutting the south side of the railroad grade. The Sanborn Fire Insurance Map of 1903 included the notation that the oil refinery was "run day & night most of time."

While the nation's oil industry had been based in the Appalachian Mountains of the east during the 1880s, it was Pennsylvania oilman, Philip Shannon, who initiated the Wyoming oil industry when he first acted on a claim in central Wyoming in 1889. His 1,000-foot well about forty miles north of Casper started the boom of the Salt Creek fields that would change the course of Wyoming history. By 1895, the Pennsylvania Oil and Gas Company constructed the first refinery in the state at Casper and oil was hauled the nearly fifty miles by draft horse or mule teams, taking five days in good weather.¹⁵ While access to rail trade spurred general economic growth, it was these beginnings of the oil industry infrastructure that anchored Casper as it entered the 20th century.

OIL CITY: 1900-1929

Following the strained market conditions of the 1890s, the United States entered a period of prosperity. International demand for agricultural products provided farmers with expendable income to purchase tractors and automobiles, thus improving both production and market access. In central Wyoming, the 1905-1911 construction of the Pathfinder Dam on the North Platte River southwest of Casper promised irrigation of thousands of acres of previously un-farmable land and drew increased homesteading to the region.¹⁶ By 1915, many ranches had shifted to sheep as a speedier return on investment and Casper became one of the largest sheep and wool markets in the country. Around this time, Natrona County ranchers owned more than 2 million sheep, which produced more than 6 to 8 million pounds of wool annually during the 1910s. By contrast – only 1,500 head of cattle were marketed during the same period.¹⁷

¹⁴ Wyoming State Historical Society, "North Platte River Basin: A Natural History" <http://www.wyohistory.org/encyclopedia/north-platte-river-basin?page=2> (accessed May 20, 2014).

¹⁵ Works Projects Administration, Writers' Program, *Wyoming: A Guide to Its History, Highways and People* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1966), 177.

¹⁶ "North Platte River Basin: A Natural History," and "Official Route Book of the Yellowstone Highway Association, 85.

¹⁷ R.L. Polk & Co.'s *Casper City and Natrona County Directory 1917-1918* (Salt Lake City, Utah: R.L. Polk & Co., 1917).

Casper Downtown Historic District

Name of Property

Natrona County, Wyoming

County and State



c1915 View of Casper, view north-northwest from near present-day Collins Dr. & Durbin St.
Note Carnegie Library dome at right and IOOF Building at far left
Courtesy Casper College Western History Center P140871

While the area's ranching conditions and railroad connections were promising and major engines for the area economy, the most significant economic stimulus to Natrona County and the young town of Casper was the increasingly efficient exploitation of oil in the area.

Casper-area activity in oil extraction and refining had been initially slow to boom due to limitations of transporting the crude oil. However, with the advent and widespread popularity of the automobile, the gasoline byproduct of oil became the main product of interest and greater investments in transportation of crude took place.

Extraction at the Salt Creek oil fields became more significant by 1908 as out-of-state entities took notice. By 1910 Midwest Oil Company of Colorado began construction of a pipeline between Salt Creek and their new refinery just west of Casper. Standard Oil Company of Indiana came to Casper shortly thereafter and by 1912 had built a twenty-still refinery at a cost of \$4.5 million. By 1916, the two companies had invested millions in infrastructure development in and around Casper to process and refine thousands of barrels a day for shipment nationwide, with refineries covering about 200 acres and employing more than 1,000 men between them.¹⁸ The Salt Creek Field produced nearly half the state's entire production in 1918, and by 1923 was producing 35 million barrels annually – nearly 5 percent of nationwide production. Casper rightfully became known as "Oil City."

With oil and a second railroad on its way, meteoric growth in Casper commenced. By 1912, Casper boasted about 3,300 residents – nearly four times its population just twelve years earlier. By this time, Casper's citizens enjoyed electric lights, sewers, and water works, as well as a Carnegie Library and a new high school. Churches of four denominations and twelve lodge halls served the community, as did the more than thirty fire boxes throughout town available to alarm the fire department. A state hospital and railroad roundhouse and repair shops offered employment. In the District, five buildings were in place by this time – the IOOF Building (c.1896, District Property #14), Elkhorn Saloon (c. 1900, District Property #64), Townsend Building (1903, District Property #61), the Starr Building (c.1905, District Property #6), and the Golden Rule Store (c.1905, District Property #12).

¹⁸ "Official Route Book of the Yellowstone Highway Association," 72.

Casper Downtown Historic District

Name of Property

Natrona County, Wyoming

County and State

The diversified extraction industry included not only the nearly one hundred area wells producing as many as 1,200 barrels of crude oil each day, but also mining of asbestos, coal, sodium sulfate, and clay.¹⁹ Within a few years, the natural gas byproduct had been captured and piped into Casper for town use. The “almost inexhaustible quantities [of raw materials] in the mountains [just] six miles [from the] rail” attracted industry and Casper became “one of the cheapest fuel towns in the world.”²⁰

Continued demands for agricultural products and mineral resources created by the United States’ entry into World War I, spurred continued immigration. The approximately 8,474 residents in 1917 nearly doubled to about 15,400 residents in just two years.²¹ The population boom during the early 20th century is made clear by a review of the statistics from 1890 to 1925, with notable spikes related directly to oil industry and railroad development.

CASPER POPULATION ²²							
1890	1894	1900	1903	1910	1912	1920	1925
544	850	883	1,400	2,639	~3,300	11,447	25,000

In 1913, Casper sealed its status as one of the major railroad hubs of the state when it welcomed its second rail connection, the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railroad. This connected Casper directly to the major markets and export hubs of Chicago, Denver and Omaha, as well as connections to Seattle and Portland via Billings.²³

World War I demand, new oil discoveries, and two pipelines from Salt Creek to Casper further spurred production and resulted in the formation of new oil industry-related companies and increased stock trading. The new Chicago, Burlington and Quincy depot was finished in 1916 at the north end of Wolcott (48NA5258) and reportedly was soon shipping a trainload of gasoline every hour for the war effort.²⁴

With the oil boom came a boom in construction including hotels, industrial and wholesale warehouses full of extraction supplies, office buildings for oil company staff and other professionals such as geologists, surveyors, and land attorneys. In 1915-1916 “more than 300 dwellings houses [went up...with] some forty or fifty in the course of construction” and another 250 houses were under construction in 1917.²⁵ By 1916, a large artificial ice plant and two natural ice companies, a creamery, cheese factory and ice cream factory operated in Casper, and “with the wave of prohibition sweeping the country there has been built in Casper within the past two years a first-class brewery that is manufacturing and shipping what is said to be a very fine article of beer and is doing a large and profitable business.”²⁶ No less than twenty-six (26) buildings in the District date to the brief period between c.1905 and c.1917.

Photos and maps show the transformation of Casper from its initial, ‘boom town’ character dominated by wood-framed, false-front commercial buildings, to a mature central business district comprised primarily of masonry buildings. Brisk construction activity supported five architects by 1920 and the 1921 Sanborn map shows at least four blocks occupied by lumber yards along the Chicago and Northwestern Railroad tracks.

¹⁹ *Casper City Directory 1912* (Casper, Wyoming: The Casper Press, 1912), 1-3.

²⁰ “*Official Route Book of the Yellowstone Highway Association*,” 72.

²¹ *R.L. Polk & Co.’s Casper City and Natrona County Directory 1920-1921* (Salt Lake City, Utah: R.L. Polk & Co., 1920).

²² Mokler, 72, city directories, and Sanborn maps.

²³ “*Official Route Book of the Yellowstone Highway Association*,” 72.

²⁴ Casper Walking Tour, 23.

²⁵ “*Official Route Book of the Yellowstone Highway Association*,” 78 and 1917 city directory.

²⁶ “*Official Route Book of the Yellowstone Highway Association*,” 81-85.

Casper Downtown Historic District

Name of Property

Natrona County, Wyoming

County and State



1917 View of Casper, view southwest from 2nd and Wolcott
Courtesy Mokler Collection, Casper College Western History Center

By 1921, from the main commercial intersection at Center and 2nd streets, a solid streetscape of commercial buildings extended a block to the west and south, as well as more than a block to the north and east. Solid street walls also extended in each direction on Midwest from Center Street. Retail endeavors and service businesses made up the majority of occupants in the heart of downtown, with liverys, blacksmiths, and automobile-related support businesses located on the edge of the central business district. The occupants of these buildings reflected a diverse economy. Within one block in each direction from Center and 2nd occupants included the following: 14 clothing stores, 13 restaurants, 8 confectionaries, 8 jewelry stores, 8 boot & shoe stores, 8 grocers, 4 dry goods stores, 4 motion picture houses, 4 banks, 3 cigar shops, 3 cobblers, 3 barbers, 3 pool halls, 3 hardware stores, 2 ladies furnishings shops, 2 furniture stores, 2 secondhand stores/pawn shops, 2 drug stores, a bowling alley, a shoe shine shop, a harness shop, a department store, a bookstore, a fur shop, a shooting gallery, and a gas appliances store.²⁷ In the District, thirteen new buildings went up between 1918 and 1921, among them new buildings dedicated to telegraph, newspaper, and telephone communications.

Public and private infrastructure improvements accompanied Casper's meteoric growth during the early 1900s and by 1916 Casper boasted a second electric light company, two additional grade schools, and "more miles of first-class cement sidewalk than any place of its size in the United States."²⁸ In 1917 Mountain States Telephone constructed a handsome telephone exchange and office building (District Property #20) on 2nd Street with 634 customers; by 1923 subscribers had more than septupled to 4,606. The post office status jumped from fourth class to second class in just two years and had a new federal building by 1919. In 1921, Casper invested \$85,000 in new firefighting equipment and construction of a new fire station (48NA2252). Evidence of all this development is further substantiated by the pattern of new plats filed during this period. While only two additions took place between 1888 and 1909, between 1910 and 1929 twenty-nine new plats were filed, adding 376 lots to Casper.

Within just a few decades, Casper had grown from a temporary town waiting for the railroad tracks to a mature city and major western trading hub. The central business district had taken on the shape it would retain for much of the rest of the century.

²⁷ *Sanborn Fire Insurance map of Casper, Wyoming* (New York: Sanborn Map & Publishing Company, 1921).
<http://proxy.mcpl.lib.mo.us/login?url=http://sanborn.umi.com> (accessed December 2013).

²⁸ "Official Route Book of the Yellowstone Highway Association," 78.

Casper Downtown Historic District

Name of Property

Natrona County, Wyoming

County and State

CASPER PLATS & SUBDIVISIONS, 1888 TO 1945			
Year Filed	Plat Name	Number of Blocks	General Location In/From Downtown
1888	Original Town	12	-
1896	Capitol Hill	7	E
	Park Addition	8	S-SW
1910	Butler	22	E
1912	Kenwood	16	SE
	Sheridan Heights	10	E
1913	Nelson Addition	16	N
	Burlington Addition	18	N-NE
1914	South Addition	12	SE
	East Burlington	8	E
	Morningside	2	E-NE
1915	Midwest Addition	8	W
	North Burlington	12	N
1916	West Central	4	N-NW
c1916	North Casper	30	N-NE
	Whites	7	E
1917	Casper View	9	SE
1920	Glendale	8	SE
	Thomdale	4	S
	Sunnyside Acres	4	SE
	Park Hill	15	S
1921	Highland Park	32	SE
	North Casper #2	8	NE
	Call-Hart Tracts	16	SE
	Country Club	20	SE
	Allendale	24	SE
1922	Standard Addition (273 acres)	8	SW
	Community Park	16	SW
	Fairview	8	SE
	Call-Griffith	16	SE
	Johnson	16	SE
	University	10	E
1923	Carey's Subdivision	4	S
1935	Liberty	2	N
c1945	Codings Subdivision	1	E

Casper Downtown Historic District

Name of Property

Natrona County, Wyoming

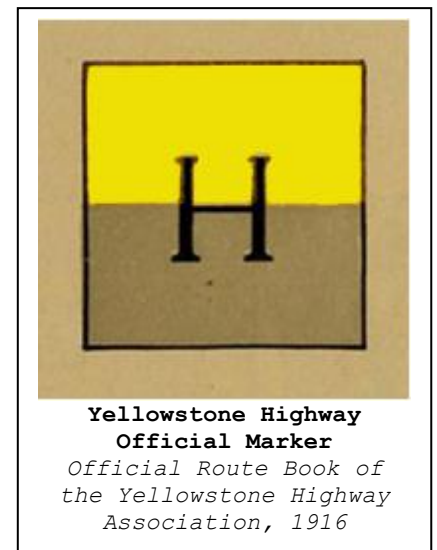
County and State

The Auto Arrives in Casper

During the first years of the twentieth century, car ownership in Wyoming grew at a rapid pace as a result of the increasing affordability of vehicles and increasingly improved roads. In 1918, Wyoming residents owned ten times the automobiles they did just five years earlier. By 1920, though the state had a population less than 195,000, residents owned 24,000 cars – 1 for every 8 Wyomingites. Ten years later, population had increased by only about 16 percent, but the number of automobiles statewide increased by more than 158 percent to 62,000 cars statewide – 1 for every 3.5.

Paved, “all weather” roads appeared across Natrona County and, though initially planned for horse-drawn traffic, they further stimulated automobile use. A 1916 account reported “the county roads leading out of Casper in all directions are well kept and in first-class condition” and Casper’s “streets are well graded and...are usually in excellent condition...perhaps one reason why the number of automobiles owned by its citizens is far in excess of the average.”²⁹ Casperites owned over 600 automobiles at the time, and 1,000 by 1920. Accompanying Casper’s ongoing physical road improvements, the city adopted new naming and numbering systems for its city street network between 1907 and 1912 and again between 1918 and 1921.

During this era auto tourism was becoming important and the identification of regional and transcontinental auto routes became vital. To provide tourists with a document of the growing network of roads and identified roadside necessities along the way, town boosters and national automobile clubs planned touring routes and published guidebooks directing “autoists” from state to state.³⁰ Among the early long distance highways in Wyoming was the Yellowstone Highway, which traveled through Casper on its way between Denver/Rocky Mountain National Park and Yellowstone National Park.³¹ A 1913 scouting trip by Good Roads promoter, M.R. Collins of Douglas, Wyoming, identified the route. Two years later, upon Yellowstone National Park’s 1915 allowance of automobiles in the park and establishment of Rocky Mountain National Park the same year, the Yellowstone Highway became the first section completed of the much longer National Park-to-Park Highway. Established in 1920, this highway linked twelve national parks in the western states.³² Along the route, drivers followed yellow-painted rocks with a large black “H” or telephone poles featured the black “H” over a yellow and brown background.³³



The 1916 auto touring pamphlet, “*Official Route Book of the Yellowstone Highway Association in Wyoming and Colorado*,” promoted the auto trail and provided information on tourist camps and conveniences along the way, including a map that showed Casper with “a large and active Automobile Club” and advertisements from forty-two different Casper businesses. Among those that advertised were hotels, drugstores, theaters, and automobile associated businesses, as well as the Golden Rule Department Store (District Property #12), Townsends Merchandise (Townsend Bldg., District Property #61), and Wigwam Bakery/Confectionary (48NA4933, outside District).

Casper benefitted greatly from the increased traffic traveling through town on this auto trail, which drew new automobile related businesses and commercial development along its route through town. Horse-powered transportation gave way to automobiles during this period, with the replacement of livery stables and blacksmith shops with auto garages. The route

²⁹ “*Official Route Book of the Yellowstone Highway Association*,” 78-86.

³⁰ Elizabeth Rosin and Dale Nimz, National Register of Historic Places Multiple Property Documentation Form, “Roadside Kansas,” (Kansas City, Missouri; Rosin Preservation, 2009), E-7.

³¹ Not to be confused with the Yellowstone Trail, established in 1912 and traveling between Boston and Seattle, with a spur down to Yellowstone National Park.

³² Lee Whiteley, “The Yellowstone Highway,” <http://www.yellowstonetrail.org/id69.htm> (accessed April 6, 2014).

³³ “*Official Route Book of the Yellowstone Highway Association*,” 1.

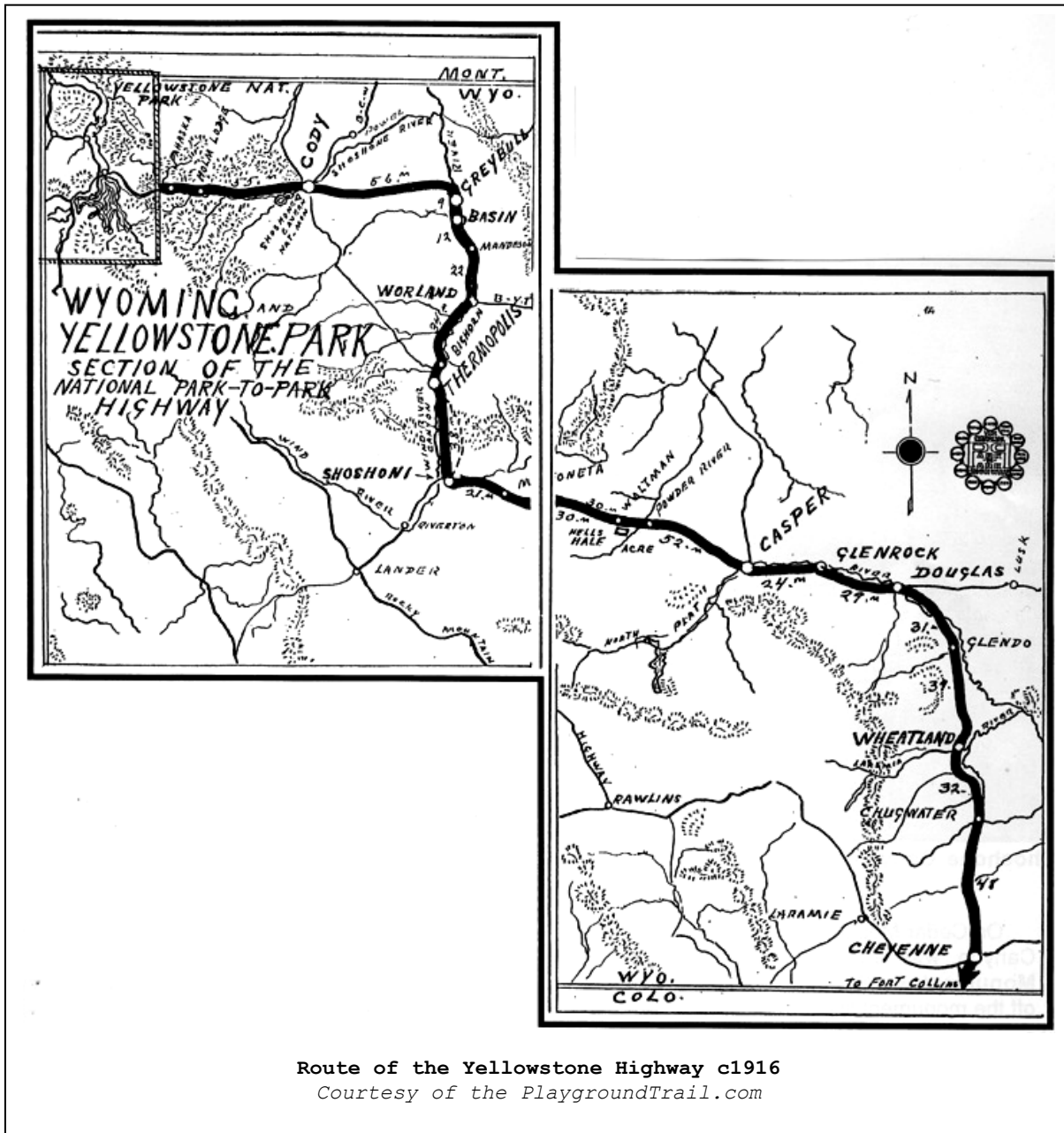
Casper Downtown Historic District

Name of Property

Natrona County, Wyoming

County and State

of the Yellowstone Highway, particularly as the highway left Casper to the west, supported roadside commercial businesses directed at the transient traveler, as well as industrial and service entities associated with the refineries at the west edge of town.



An analysis of the city directories from this period reflects this nationwide trend as it happened in Casper. The 1912 city directory listed two liverys, three harness and saddle businesses, and three horseshoe/blacksmiths, as well as the first listings for automobile-related businesses of just three auto livery/garages. By 1917, the city directory still listed four blacksmiths operating, but now also included listings for seven auto garages, seven separate auto liverys, and numerous automobile-related businesses including filling stations, auto painters, upholsters, repairer, tires, tops, and so forth.³⁴

³⁴ Casper city directories 1912 and 1917.

Casper Downtown Historic District

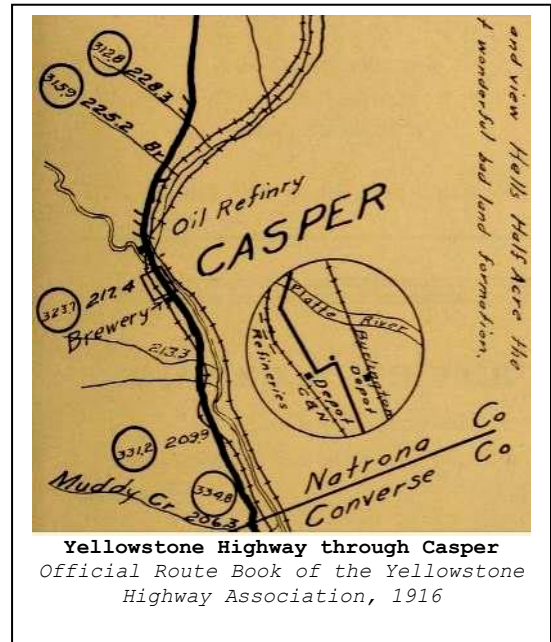
Name of Property

Natrona County, Wyoming

County and State

Filling and service stations, as well as various automobile associated businesses sprang up to serve both the tourists and the increasing numbers of local automobile owners. By 1925, along the four blocks of West Yellowstone Highway shown on the Sanborn Fire Insurance map were three commercial auto garages with a total capacity of more than 260 cars, seven repair/service stations, three auto dealers, a vulcanizing shop, a filling station, and an auto painting shop.³⁵

By the mid-1920s, state and federal highway systems started renaming/organizing the named auto trails into numbered routes. A 1925 road map shows state highways 71 and 11 passing through Casper, as well as five named auto trails crossing the West and Midwest – Buffalo Highway, Yellowstone Highway, Glacier-to-Gulf Highway, Grant Highway, and National Park-to-Park Highway. It is worth noting the only paved portion of this road network passing through Casper was that heading north toward the Salt Creek oil fields (solid line below). Later, the Yellowstone Highway through central Wyoming became part of U.S. 20 between Yellowstone National Park and Boston, Massachusetts.



At a veritable crossroads of local roads, as well as state and federal highways, Casper benefitted from its location as a hub in a system of "all weather" paved roads facilitating travelers, goods transport, and industrial shipping via truck. This locational advantage would prove to help Casper withstand the strained years to come.



c1930 View of Casper, view southeast from the Yellowstone Highway coming in from west of town
Courtesy David Historical Collection, Casper College Western History

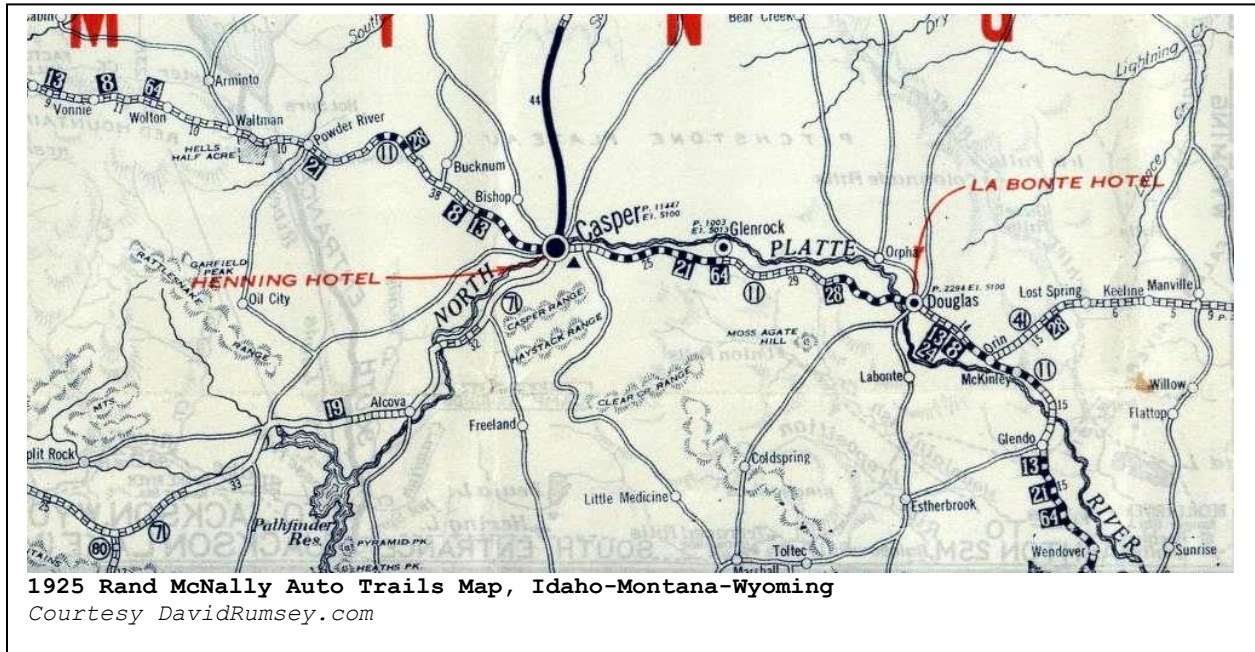
³⁵ *Sanborn Fire Insurance map of Casper, Wyoming* (New York: Sanborn Map & Publishing Company, 1925).
<http://proxy.mcpl.lib.mo.us/login?url=http://sanborn.umi.com> (accessed December 2013).

Casper Downtown Historic District

Name of Property

Natrona County, Wyoming

County and State



THE GREAT DEPRESSION AND WORLD WAR II: 1930-1945

Though the onset of the Great Depression is typically defined as the October 1929 collapse of the stock market, a major agricultural recession was already underway throughout Wyoming by the early 1920s. While the 'Roaring Twenties' took place in the general economy, Wyoming farmers and ranchers did not experience this. Federal price supports during WWI caused farmers and ranchers nationwide to expand their production, however these supports were withdrawn and prices for farm products plummeted and many farmers were forced into bankruptcy. On the other hand, the low cost of agricultural products supported the general economy, leaving more money in the general consumers' pockets for purchase of other goods, such as automobiles, radios, furniture, and so forth.

The 1929 stock market crash forced nearly half of the nation's banks to insolvency and the resulting drastic reductions in spending and production led to a sharp rise in unemployment nationwide. By 1933, the value of stock on the New York Stock Exchange was less than a fifth of its peak in 1929 and approximately one fourth of Americans were unemployed. Businesses shut down, factories closed their doors, and farm income dropped by half. Little private commercial development occurred during the Great Depression and the only significant construction nationwide took place through public building projects.

In particular, the programs of the Works Progress Administration (WPA; renamed *Work Projects Administration* in 1939), the Public Works Administration (PWA), and the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) significantly impacted not only the state's economic conditions, but also the Wyoming landscape. These programs provided funding to state and local governments for the construction of public improvements, such as buildings, roads, bridges, and dams in order to provide jobs and to stimulate the local economy. Thousands of Wyoming citizens found work through the WPA and the CCC. In Wyoming, federal and state relief monies enabled cities and counties to build courthouses, city halls, libraries, ball fields, auditoriums, memorials, post offices, and park areas, as well as improve public facilities, upgrade municipal infrastructure, and establish soil conservation projects.

Casper Downtown Historic District

Name of Property

Natrona County, Wyoming

County and State

These federal and state programs spurred significant improvements in Natrona County and Casper, in particular. Among the public works projects in Casper included reconstruction of Fort Caspar, construction of the Natrona County Courthouse (District Property #48), and road improvements countywide. The North Center Street underpass below the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy (Burlington Northern) railroad tracks dates to this era (1941; 48NA5357). Federal expenditures during this period also strengthened the regional transportation network, as paved roads were relatively rare in Wyoming at the beginning of the Depression.³⁶

Like Wyoming counties statewide, Natrona County experienced job scarcity and severe financial strain during the Great Depression. Private commercial activities slowed considerably or stopped altogether. Casper's transportation connections and oil industry infrastructure were vital to the hobbled economy. Among the few private construction endeavors were agricultural-related and/or roadside commercial related, such as the Natrona County Co-op Association Gas Station (c1938, 48NA5449), the Wood Growers' Warehouse (c1939, 48NA5419), and Mertz Service Station (c1938, 48NA5450).

World War II

The general disruption of private construction resulting from the Great Depression continued after the United States entered World War II. As the nation refitted for wartime production, public works efforts also ceased. However, while many rural cities experienced a complete halt in public and private endeavors during the war years, upgrades and expansions continued in Casper, if at a restricted pace. Between 1941 and 1945, private commercial activities were restricted primarily to large chains, including the Safeway Grocery Store (c1942, 48NA5347) and J.C. Penney store (c1941, District Property #17).

POST WORLD WAR II RECOVERY & AND THE MODERN ERA: 1945-1970S

By the end of World War II, Casper's nineteenth and early twentieth-century commercial areas and residential neighborhoods reflected the combined effects of the Great Depression and rationed resources of the wartime period. As in many American cities during the late 1940s through the 1960s, poorly maintained older commercial buildings in Casper received storefront "updates" and an immense wave of new construction significantly altered the appearance of the city's streetscapes. The amount of postwar remodeling and new construction is not surprising, as almost twenty years had passed during which the Depression and wartime restrictions had severely constrained construction, maintenance, and commercial development. Thus, there was a real and psychological need for new, clear symbols of progress and a return to normalcy.

Casper Population ³⁷				
1930	1940	1950	1960	1970
16,619	17,964	23,557	38,930	39,361

In Casper, the pent-up need for new construction created a true building boom, as well as widespread remodeling downtown. In the years following the war, Casper's central business district and commercial corridors underwent significant changes as more than sixty-six new buildings went up by 1970, reflecting a boom in private investment throughout Casper associated with another period of oil industry expansion.

³⁶ Michael Cassity, *Building Up Wyoming* (Cheyenne, Wyoming: Wyoming State Historic Preservation Office, 2013), 30.

³⁷ Census, city directories, and Sanborn maps.

Casper Downtown Historic District

Natrona County, Wyoming

Name of Property

County and State

Date of Construction	New Building
c1945	Hagen's Corner Station (355 W Yellowstone)
c1945	Kemp Building; Woods Shoes (117 E 2 nd ; District Property #8)
c1945	Natrona Agricultural Supply (377 S Ash)
c1945	Sanders Bowling Alley (235 N Wolcott)
c1945	Peebles Fay Trailer Sales (501 W Yellowstone)
c1946	Masek's Auto Supply (235 S David; District Property #73)
c1946	Telephone Company Garage & Warehouse (417 S Elm)
c1946	Great Northern Tool Supply Company (353 W Midwest)
c1946	Western Truck Service (320 S Spruce)
c1946	Culligan Water Service (255 N Wolcott)
c1946	536 W Yellowstone Highway
1947	Nicolaysen Building (261 S Center; District Property #70)
c1947	Schulte Hardware Showroom (241 S David; District Property #74)
c1947	Bausch & Lomb Bldg. (143 N Durbin; District Property #79)
c1947	Mid-Continent Oil Well Supply (403 W Midwest)
c1947	Tim Force Tin Shop (413 S Walnut)
c1947	Casper Pipe & Supply (800 W Yellowstone)
c1948	Cody Signs; American Electric (252-254 W 1 st)
c1948	Power Service Engines (355 S Ash)
c1948	Stalkup Trailer Service Dept. (418 S Oak)
c1949	McGrew Plumbing Supply (343 N Center)
c1949	Salt Creek Freightways (408 Industrial)
1949	Ohio Oil Company Building (159 N Wolcott; District Property #89)
c1950	Orbit Valve Co. (247 W 1 st)
c1950	Morning Star Building (333 East A; District Property #36)
c1950	Star Texaco (400 E A)
c1950	A-1 Super Gas Station (234 N Center; District Property #50)
c1950	Uptown Motel (310 N Center)
1950	Fraternal Order of Eagles Hall & Bowling Alley (306 N Durbin; District Property #82)
c1950	Waukesha Engine & Equipment Co. (824 W Yellowstone)
1952	Natrona County Library Addition (307 E 2 nd ; District Property #25)
1952	Wyoming Wholesalers Sporting Goods (236 S Center; District Property #63)
1952	Mountain States Telephone & Telegraph (103 N Durbin; District Property #78)
1952	Odd Fellows Building (136 S Wolcott; District Property #97)
c1953	Medley Hotel (328 East A; District Property #33)
1953	Sears Roebuck & Co. (320 S Center; District Property #71)
c1953	Wyoming Automotive Company (330 S Spruce)
1953	Superior Oil Company (201 N Wolcott; District Property #91)
c1953	Deluxe Texaco (255 W Yellowstone)
c1954	B&D Upholstery (235 W 1 st)

Casper Downtown Historic District

Name of Property

Natrona County, Wyoming

County and State

Date of Construction	New Building
1954	Sky Room Building; Gladstone Hotel Sky Room Addn. (100 N Center; District Property #42)
c1954	Western Building (300-304 N Center; District Property #52)
c1954	Metcalf Hardware (323 S Center)
1954	Standard Oil Building (152 N Durbin; District Property #80)
c1954	Phil's Radiator Service (444 S Oak)
c1954	701 W Yellowstone
c1955	Knapp's Restaurant Supply (305-315 W 1 st)
c1955	Mountain States Telephone & Telegraph Company (335 W 1 st)
c1955	CBC Building (254 N Center; District Property #51)
c1955	BLM Building (249 N Wolcott)
c1956	Zale's Jewelry (101-105 E 2 nd ; District Property #3)
c1956	Karl's Shoes (109 E 2 nd ; District Property #5)
1956	City Center Building (100 W B; District Property #39)
c1957	Mountain States Plumbing & Heating (249-251 W 1 st)
1957	Petroleum Building (111 W 2 nd ; District Property #26)
c1957	Casper Army Store (260 S Center; District Property #69)
1958	1 st National Bank of Casper (104 S Wolcott; District Property #94)
c1959	444 W Yellowstone
c1960	Empire Carburetor (358 S Ash)
c1960	Guaranty Federal Savings & Loan (123 S Durbin)
c1960	Kistler Tent & Awning (424 S Oak)
1961	Goodstein Building (330 S Center; District Property #72)
1961	Wyoming Employment Security Commission Building (100 W Midwest; District Property #85)
c1962	Provident Federal Savings and Loan (400 E 1 st)
1963	Security Bank & Trust Co. (301 S Wolcott; District Property #102)
1964	Wyoming National Bank (234 E 1 st ; District Property #1)
1969-70	Dick Cheney Federal Building (100-150 E B St.; District Property #38)

In addition to new construction, numerous existing buildings underwent major improvements and/or storefront updates during this period. While post-World War II remodeling of commercial buildings was common nationwide, a notably high number occurred in downtown Casper, some of which were so thorough that the building's original style and/or form is unrecognizable. The majority of these buildings' redesigned façades suggest a concerted response to the Modern Movement's affinity for smooth wall faces achieved through stone, stucco, or buff brick, as well as for new materials such as metal sheathing and Perma-Stone, a wall treatment developed in the late 1920s that became popular in the post-World War II modernizing movement.³⁸

Examples of post-WWII remodeling abound in downtown Casper. Among them are: the storefronts of the 1921 Rialto Theater (District Property #4, the c1915 building at 118 E 2nd (District Property #9), the 1917 O&S Building (District Property #11), the 1917 building at 129-135 E 2nd (District Property #13), and the c1914 building at 137 E 2nd (District

³⁸ Holly Hope, Arkansas Historic Preservation Program, National Register of Historic Places, "The Thrill of a New Home Without the Cost," http://www.arkansaspreservation.com/historic-properties/national-register/siding_materials.asp (accessed August 30, 2010).

Casper Downtown Historic District

Name of Property

Natrona County, Wyoming

County and State

Property #13); and the fully 'modernized' façade treatments of the c1905 building at 112 E 2nd (District Property #6) and the c1905 Lou Taubert's building at 125 E 2nd (District Property #12).

During the postwar surge in oil production, Natrona County's population grew from about 23,900 residents before WWII to 39,361 in 1970, over 75 percent of whom lived in Casper. At the same time, the county's assessed valuation grew by over 360 percent to over \$144.3 million, and property tax revenues increased by 4.48 percent. Natrona County boasted the highest property values in Wyoming.

In 1960, Casper enjoyed the highest median family income in the state. Over the next decade, per capita income went up another 25 percent.³⁹ Mobil Oil and Continental Oil both expanded exploration and production offices in Casper in 1966 and 1967, respectively. In 1969, Control Data built a 40-acre computer systems plant providing an additional 260 jobs. As a result of such commercial expansions, employment went up over 6.5 percent countywide, while in Casper it increased by over 22 percent. Unemployment decreased during the same period – going down from 5.46 percent to 3.93 percent. Concurrently, retail sales also increased about 20 percent, up to \$76.8 million, and individual salaries went up about \$500 per year. Casper's wealth grew, as 21 percent of the state's total deposits for 1968 were with the city's five banks.

In this period of growth in the late 1940s through the end of the 1960s, county residents approved bonds totaling over \$5 million for expansion of the county hospital, a new airport terminal and new jet concourse, two major expansions of the library downtown (District Resource #25), and extensive expansions at Casper College. The economic upswing of the period led to a tax rate hitting an all-time high in 1968 "the result of increased schools' demands, and the city's new post office and federal building [that] were under construction."⁴⁰

This federal building, the Dick Cheney Federal Building and Post Office (District Property #38), represents a nationwide trend of extensive Federal government growth, when the General Services Administration (GSA) undertook more than 700 building projects nationwide between 1960 and 1976.⁴¹ Among them, the Cheney Building was the last major construction downtown prior to the extensive land clearance and redevelopment of Casper's Urban Renewal period.

In 1970, several older landmark buildings came down, including both the Gladstone and Henning hotels on Center Street downtown. That same year, the Natrona County Planning and Zoning Commission and Casper Community Planning Commission published a Comprehensive Plan Survey and Analysis Report. The report indicated that during the 1960s, "employment statistics [indicated] an increase in the minerals sector." The report continued: "the general economic outlook for Casper and Natrona County is good but future reductions in mineral production are predicted." The report noted that the "development of other economic sectors" would be required to replace the pending decline in the oil industry, as projected by the Wyoming Department of Economic Planning and Development. At the time, Casper was home to 133 mineral industry firms (mining, petroleum, natural gas, etc.); the mineral extraction industry comprised about 18.5 percent of Casper's total employment.



³⁹ Taking into cost of living increase during the same period, the net income increase was about 5 percent.

⁴⁰ Jean Henry-Mead, *Casper Country* (Evansville, Wyoming: Medallion Books, 2004), 155.

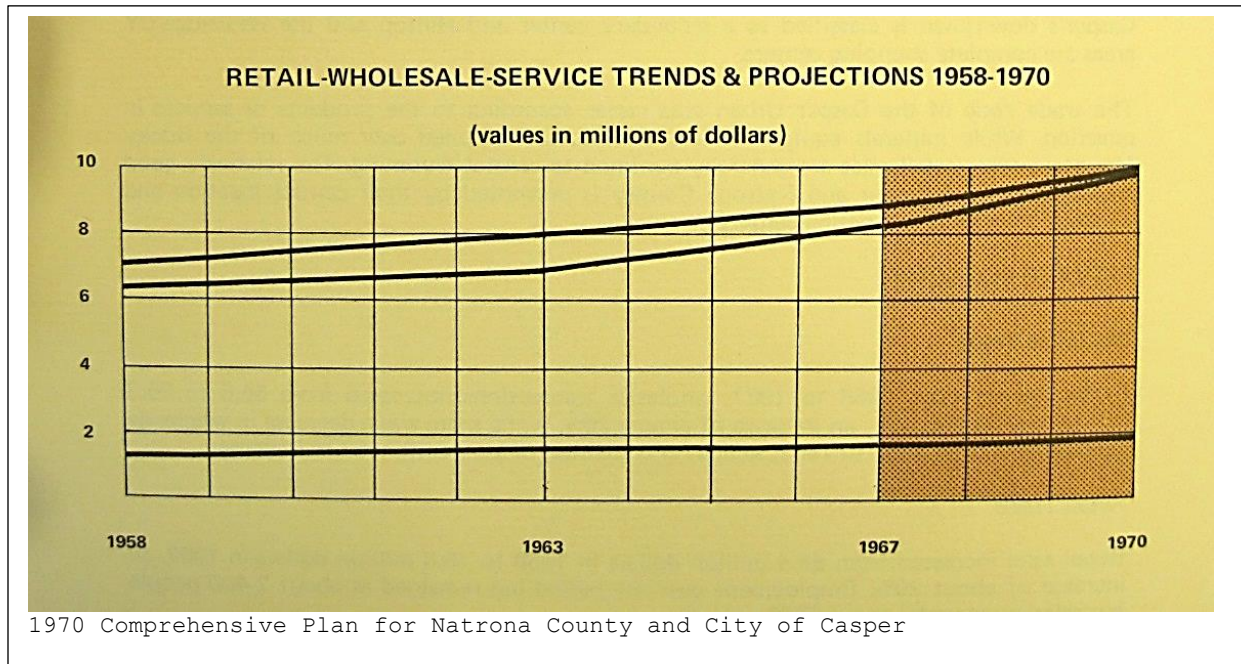
⁴¹ U.S. General Services Administration, *Growth, Efficiency, and Modernism: GSA Buildings of the 1950s, 60s, and 70s* (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 2005), 6.

Casper Downtown Historic District

Name of Property

Natrona County, Wyoming

County and State



As predicted, with the 1970s came the start of a steady decline in mineral exploration and production in the area, inflation, and ultimately a crash in the local economy by the early 1980s, when the banks failed in Casper for the first time since the Depression. Six Casper banks declared insolvency by 1988.

At the same time, the suburban east edge of Casper grew rapidly as schools and hundreds of new houses went up, and businesses moved from downtown to the Hilltop and Woolco shopping centers. The development of Interstate 25 drew commercial and hotel investment away from downtown, as did the Eastridge Mall; opened in 1982 three miles east of downtown effectively shifted Casper's retail core out of the traditional central business district.

Concurrently, trends in Casper's development changed drastically as federal land clearance and redevelopment funds in the amount of \$1.5 million arrived in June 1969 and allowed for the establishment of a local Urban Renewal Agency. Urban renewal funding targeted 'blighted' area and projects in the 1970s led to the razing and redevelopment of large swaths of the historic core of Casper. By 1972 demolition across the Sand Bar, abutting downtown to the west, was underway.

Among the various Urban Renewal period construction projects in Casper from this period are the 1972 Wyoming Community Development Authority Building (48NA5345), the 1976 Casper Fire Station No. 1 (48NA5303), the 1977 Casper City Hall (48NA5365), the 1977 Hall of Justice (48NA5366), and the 1980 parking garage spanning a full half-block at 230 S Wolcott (District Property #100). The impact of these economic and governmental forces is readily apparent and the resources constructed as a result communicate important information about past transitions in community planning and development.

Casper Downtown Historic District
Name of Property

Natrona County, Wyoming
County and State

THE ARCHITECTURAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE CITY OF CASPER: 1867-1970

The evolution of Casper's commercial center mirrored that of other communities throughout the West, where the arrangement of the railroad grade dictated the location and arrangement of industrial, commercial, and institutional buildings, as well as residential neighborhoods. The Wyoming Central Railroad alignment north of downtown and the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy along the south edge, visually defined the built environment of Casper's historic core and still do to this day.

Commercial buildings erected in the United States during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries generally fall into two distinct design categories — those that reflect popular, identifiable styles and those featuring simple utilitarian designs. Popular architectural styles define many of the buildings erected in Casper beginning at the turn of the twentieth century. In particular, they reflect the influences of the popular Late 19th and 20th Century Revivals, Late 19th & Early 20th Century American Movements, and the Modern Movement styles of the pre- and post-World War II period. Within the District, most of the contributing resources reflect an identifiable architectural style. Modern Movement styles are the most thoroughly represented, with forty-two examples throughout the District. Only about one-third of the buildings do not exhibit a defined architectural style.

In addition, to stylistic categorizations, commercial buildings can further be categorized by building form, such as One-part Commercial Block, Two-part Commercial Block, Two-part Vertical Block, and so on, as defined by Richard Longstreth in his *Buildings of Main Street*. Whether executed in a popular style or a simple generic design, downtown commercial buildings found in communities like Casper commonly took these forms and Casper's downtown includes representations of each of these various building form categorizations.

Architects and builders in the early nineteenth through the mid-twentieth centuries designed most commercial buildings to be seen from the front rather than as freestanding structures. As a result, the façade provided commercial architecture with its distinctive qualities. Side walls were often party walls and alley-facing walls had a simple, utilitarian appearance. Lot dimensions were typically rectangular, deeper than they were wide, and thus determined a building's form as commercial buildings filled most, if not all, of their respective lots. In contrast, institutional buildings such as courthouses and churches occupied lots with open space on all sides, such as the Natrona County Courthouse (District Resource #48).

During the late nineteenth century and early twentieth century, the amount of ornament and the variety of elements and materials employed on buildings increased due to advances in technology that allowed for the mass production of architectural ornaments. Builders could easily order standard products from catalogs or purchase stock items at the local lumberyard or metal work, such as applied cornices with brackets, dentils, and moldings carved from wood or made from pressed metal. The mass manufacture of building products and the creation of new materials allowed buildings in even the smallest hamlet to attain a distinctive appearance previously reserved for only the costliest edifices.

The history of public, institutional, and commercial buildings in Wyoming during the mid- to late- nineteenth century, as in other states, also reflects the systematic adaptation of the latest in structural systems and the quest for fireproof buildings. At the same time, the nation's increased capacity to supply structural steel led to the advent of steel skeleton buildings. Combined with the expanded manufacture of Portland cement these technological advances allowed for the use of broad expanses of brick and stone masonry for the walls of large buildings, such as the Midwest Refining Company Building (District Resource #16) in the heart of downtown Casper. By the 1930s, poured concrete construction and cast concrete ornament came into common usage.

Casper Downtown Historic District
Name of Property

Natrona County, Wyoming
County and State

Late 19th and 20th Century Revivals

Beginning in the 1890s and becoming well established by the first decade of the twentieth century, a subtle shift in American architecture took place as the growing progressive reform movement eschewed the sentimentality and ornamental excesses of the Victorian era. Chicago's Columbian Exposition in 1893 played a major role in popularizing these changes, as it introduced classical architectural forms, as well as mass-produced building materials to the businesses owners and builders from rural and urban commercial centers nationwide. The 1904 Louisiana Purchase Exposition in St. Louis, and later the 1915 Panama-Pacific International Exposition in San Francisco and the 1915 Panama-California Exposition in San Diego, influenced the popular acceptance of classical and Mediterranean revival styles, as well as the Arts and Crafts movement. As a result, the important styles that influenced commercial architecture in the West at the beginning of the twentieth century included Colonial Revival; Romanesque Revival; Classical Revival; Renaissance Revival; and Mission/Spanish Colonial Revival. In downtown Casper, this trend is represented by the **Classical Revival** features of the Kerr Federal Courthouse (District Resource #95) and the Becklinger Building (District Resource #21), as well as the **Renaissance Revival** elements of the Tribune Building (District Resource #18).

Beginning of the Modern Movement

The prosperity enjoyed in the 1920s brought a general acceptance of designs inspired by the Modern Movement's **Art Deco** style. Originating in Europe, the style gained popularity in America in the late 1920s. The style took its name from the 1925 *Exposition Internationale des Arts Decoratifs et Industriels Modernes*, held in Paris and repudiated classical and revival styles, instead embracing artistic expression inspired by the modern machine age. By the end of the decade, both high style and restrained versions of Art Deco style quickly appeared in commercial buildings on the main streets of America's towns and cities, including those in Wyoming. By the early 1930s, almost every main street in the country had at least one Art Deco style building. In Casper, the Townsend Building's (District Resource #61) 1934 remodel is a good example of this nationwide architectural movement.

By the mid-1930s, the **Streamlined Moderne** style surpassed the Art Deco in popularity.⁴² Characterized by smooth wall surfaces, curved wall corners, and an overall horizontal emphasis, the Moderne style occurs in downtown Casper at the Midwest Building (District Resource #101). Classic Moderne elements of the Midwest Building include: the long, horizontal bands of windows linked by intervening fluted terra cotta spandrels; the use of smooth terra cotta wall cladding; the continuous horizontal bands of fluted, contrasting color, terra cotta parapet coping tile; and the overall low, horizontal profile angled with the street and suggesting an aesthetic of movement.

Despite the decline in construction during the Great Depression, new public architecture constructed as part of state and federal relief programs played an important role in introducing to the country a simplified form of design and ornament. In particular, the programs of the Works Progress Administration (WPA; renamed *Work Projects Administration* in 1939), the Public Works Administration (PWA), and the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) stimulated the spread of modern architectural forms throughout the country. During this period, architects worked almost exclusively on government-funded projects such as dams, bridges, parks, schools, stadiums, post offices, city halls, courthouses, and fire and police stations. The public works programs' use of simple and cost-efficient designs combined new Modern Movement and traditional classical motifs, a style now commonly referred to as **PWA Moderne** and found in small towns, as well as urban centers, nationwide. Casper's Natrona County Courthouse (District Resource #48) is an excellent representative example.

Mid- to Late Twentieth Century Architecture

Following the barren years in private construction during the Great Depression and World War II, the dormant ideals of the austere designs inspired by the plain, cubist European **International Style** resurfaced and exerted a powerful influence

⁴² McAlester, 465.

Casper Downtown Historic District

Name of Property

Natrona County, Wyoming

County and State

on architects, major corporations, and institutions. As interpreted in America, the style rejected the use of historic references and featured cubic forms with a horizontal emphasis, smooth surfaces, and a minimum of ornamentation. Buildings executed in this style often employed large expanses of glass, glass brick, chrome, and stainless steel. These elements are clearly seen in Casper's landmark Petroleum Building (District Resource #26).

Instead of nostalgia for the past or a retreat into romanticism the sleek style was not only employed in new construction, but was applied to existing 'old fashioned' commercial buildings of the late nineteenth and early twentieth century. In Wyoming, as in other states, post-war commercial redevelopment included demolition and redevelopment or the wholesale remodeling of pre-war building facades with sleek, up-to-date modern designs. This nationwide trend can be seen in downtown Casper at the Forshay Building/Kassis Block (District Resource #13) – a 1914 building remodeled during the postwar period in an aesthetic reflecting the influence of the International Style.

Beginning in the late 1960s, a series of Modernistic styles surfaced in direct response to earlier styles, each seeking the dramatization of building elements in a different way. Beginning the mid-to-late 1950s, the **Brutalist** style – from the French term *béton brut*, which translates as "raw concrete," – opposed the formulaic designs of the International Style. Primarily executed for banks or institutional buildings, most examples date to the 1960s and 1970s and commonly feature: minimal fenestration that is recessed where it occurred; obscured entrances; an emphasis on mass and solidity; and extensive use of unfinished concrete textured by wooden molds.

Another rejection of some of the tenets of Modernism came with **New Formalism**, which drew on the traditional elements of Classicism but using new materials and construction technologies. The style is easily recognizable for its highly structured symmetry that is usually expressed in tall, slender columnar supports that form a round arch or stylized arcade across the primary elevations. The Dick Cheney Federal Building and Post Office (District Resource #38) shows the influences of both New Formalism, with its center entrance and full-height precast concrete ribs suggesting an aesthetic of Classicism, and Brutalism, with its extensive use of concrete and the recessed fixed windows that are obscured when the building is viewed from an angle.

Expressionism departed from Modernism by seeking to convey emotional meaning directly through architectural form. Beginning in the mid-to-late 1950s, the style is typically employed in public or religious buildings, which makes Casper's one-of-a-kind Wyoming National Bank (District Resource #1) a rare and significant example of this style that treats architecture as sculpture. Characteristic of the style, the Wyoming National Bank building avoids rectangles and right angles, and instead focusses on curved lines and dramatic, organic shapes.

Casper Downtown Historic District
Name of Property

Natrona County, Wyoming
County and State

Developmental history/additional historic context information (if appropriate)

PROPERTY HISTORIES

The following list of properties offers a brief description of their individual histories and documents the diversity and continuum of commercial, civic, and institutional buildings and structures within the District:

EAST 1ST STREET

1. 234 E 1ST ST **Eligibility:** Contributing
Historic Property Name(s): WYOMING NATIONAL BANK
Date of Construction: 1964
Property History:

Originally opening in the Grand Central building in 1914, Wyoming National Bank was located in the Midwest Building at East 2nd and Wolcott streets beginning in 1921. After surviving the Great Depression, the bank flourished in the post-WWII period and became the biggest bank in the state by 1964. It celebrated its 50th anniversary with the opening of this building. Located on the former site of the Casper's Old Central School, the existing building was designed by Charles Deaton, a Denver architect known nationally for his sculptural works. This building has been noted as his most important bank design, where "early in his career (1961), he had his first chance to use new security mechanisms, security doors and vaults, office furniture and a "squiggle" lighting system." The tower (234b), known locally as the 'Egg Beater,' was added in 1968 from a design by Harold Engstrom and once supported a digital time and temperature sign panel. The drive-through building (234a) at the northwest corner of the parcel dates to 1974.

WEST 1ST STREET

2. 120 W 1ST ST **Eligibility:** Contributing
Historic Property Name(s): VIRGINIA HOTEL; PARKER BROS WHOLESALE TOBACCO
Date of Construction: C. 1915
Property History:

The county assessor dates this building to 1909, however the 1912 Sanborn map still shows this area not yet platted and the North Platte River embankment at this location. The existing building first appears on the 1918 Sanborn map, where it is shown containing a wholesale grocery business on the first floor and a rooming house on the two uppermost floors. The 1920 and 1922 city directories list the Virginia Hotel operating here under the management of J.W. Tucker. By 1924, J.A. Likely was the proprietor of the Virginia Hotel in this building, which boasted "fifty first class rooms." By 1925, a wholesale cigar and tobacco business occupied the lower floors of the building. The 1948 Sanborn shows a hotel occupying the two uppermost floors. Occupants over time included: J.S. Brown Mercantile Co. (c1921); Parker Brothers Wholesale Tobacco (c1929-c1934); Virginia Bar Liquors (c1943-c1963); Virginia Hotel (c1920-c1963); McFarland Specialty oil field supplies (c1963).

EAST 2ND STREET

3. 101-105 E 2ND ST **Eligibility:** Contributing
Historic Property Name(s): ZALE'S JEWELRY
Date of Construction: C. 1956
Property History:

The county assessor dates this building to 1934. However, the 1948 Sanborn map shows two different, nonextant buildings of varying heights at this location. The 1954 city directory still lists the previous buildings. This was the site of the Casper National Bank, which burned in 1955. According to the First National Bank's 70th anniversary

Casper Downtown Historic District
Name of Property

Natrona County, Wyoming
County and State

pamphlet published in 1959, "Fire swept through the old bank on Friday night, January 21, 1955." With the loss of the old bank building, the bank moved to new quarters constructed at 104 S Wolcott (extant), and the current Zale's Jewelers building constructed on this site shortly after the devastating fire.

4. 102 E 2ND ST Eligibility: NRHP-Listed

Historic Property Name(s): RIALTO THEATER

Date of Construction: 1921

Property History:

Originally constructed as the New Lyric Theater, this building underwent a remodel only a year later when it sold to new owners. At the time, Casper boasted six other moving picture theaters. According to the NRHP nomination, the Rialto soon became the premier movie house. As the price and demand for oil fell by the late 1920s, there were only three movie theaters left in Casper. It has operated as a theater since. This building was listed in the NRHP in February 1993.

5. 109 E 2ND ST Eligibility: Contributing

Historic Property Name(s): KARLS SHOES

Date of Construction: C. 1956

Property History:

The county assessor dates this building to 1956. The 1955 destruction of the neighboring First Interstate Bank (101-105 E 2nd), resulted in extensive damage to the previous building at this location and spurred construction of the existing building. Karl's Shoes was here by 1960 and through at least 1963.

6. 112 E 2ND ST Eligibility: Contributing

Historic Property Name(s): STARR BUILDING; BLACKMORE BUILDING

Date of Construction: C. 1905

Property History:

The county assessor dates this building to 1911 and previous survey dates the building to 1918. However, a building matching the dimensions of the forward portion first appears on the 1907 Sanborn map. The expansion of the building to fill its lot to the alley between 1921 and 1925 suggests this is likely the building Garbutt, Weidner, and Sweeney designed an addition for Carl L. Starr in 1923. Occupants over time included: meat market (1907-1912); grocery (1918-1921); The Frantz Shop (1925); Leader women's furnishings (1934); beauty shop (1934); professional offices upstairs (1954); Leeds Shoe Store (1943-63).

7. 114 E 2ND ST Eligibility: Noncontributing

Historic Property Name(s): LYNCH BUILDING; RATCLIFF BUILDING

Date of Construction: C 1915

Property History:

The county assessor dates this building to 1912. However, the 1912 Sanborn map shows this parcel vacant. The existing building first appears on the 1918 Sanborn map. Occupants over time included: a grocery (1918-1921); Whites Meat Market & Grocery (1925); Casper Pharmacy (1934-43); Ben Franklin (1954); professional offices upstairs, including dentists, beauty shops, chiropractor, etc. (1934-54); and Woods Clothing (1963).

8. 117 E 2ND ST Eligibility: Contributing

Historic Property Name(s): KEMP BUILDING; WOODS SHOES

Date of Construction: C. 1945

Property History:

The county assessor dates this building to 1917 and previous survey dated this building to 1903. However, historic photos and Sanborn maps indicate a much later date. The 1925 Sanborn map shows a shorter building at this location with space between it and its adjacent neighbors, while the 1948 Sanborn shows a taller building filling the parcel and with two one-story airshafts along the west party wall. Furthermore, historic photos from 1917 and c1950 show two different buildings at this location. The historic record suggests the building was constructed to its current form after 1925 and by 1948. The alley elevation suggests a pre-WWII construction date. However, due to nationwide limitations/restrictions of building materials during the Depression and the early 1940s, as well as the style of the façade in the c1950 photo, it is likely this building was constructed around 1945. The 1955 fire that destroyed the bank building to the west, caused considerable damage to this building and it was subsequently

Casper Downtown Historic District
Name of Property

Natrona County, Wyoming
County and State

remodeled to its current appearance. Occupants over time included: various professional offices upstairs (1943-63); Woods Shoes (1943); and Wolford's Shoes (1954-63).

9. 118 E 2ND ST Eligibility: Contributing

Historic Property Name(s): CASPER DRUGS; AYRE'S JEWELRY

Date of Construction: C. 1915

Property History:

Previous survey dated this building to 1912. However, a different nonextant building appears at this location on the 1912 Sanborn map. It is possible that the first story of this building dates to circa 1915, as a 22' tall building appears on the 1918 Sanborn map at this location with the same footprint as the building there today. If so, the building gained an additional 8' in height via a second story between 1921 and 1925. Occupants over time included: a moving picture house (1918-1921); Casper Drugs (1925); Ayres Jewelry (1925); apartments and offices upstairs (1925-43); a beauty shop (1943); Seavey's Photo (1934-43); a photography studio (1948); McCann Jewelers (1954); The Bootery (1943-54); tailor (1954); dentist (1954-63).

10. 120 E 2ND ST Eligibility: Contributing

Historic Property Name(s): WIGGINS SHOE/LEATHER SHOP

Date of Construction: C. 1917

Property History:

The county assessor dates this building to 1917. A different, nonextant building appears at this location on the 1912 Sanborn map. The existing building first appears on the 1918 Sanborn map. Occupants over time included: a restaurant (1918-25); a tailor/clothier (1918-21); a boot & shoe store (1921); Casper Dry Goods (1925); Ideal Barber (1934); Rosana Women's Shop (1943-54); City Public Restroom (1954); Sears Jewelry (1963); and Wiggins Shoes/Leather/Luggage (1925-63).

11. 124-128 E 2ND ST Eligibility: Contributing

Historic Property Name(s): O&S BUILDING; WOOLWORTH'S

Date of Construction: 1917

Property History:

The county assessor dates the one-part building to 1917. However, review of the Sanborn maps suggests it may date to circa 1910, as a near identical building appears at this location on the 1912 Sanborn map. A dry goods store is at this location in 1912, with a notions shop in the building from at least 1918 through at least 1921. The building contained Woolworth's from at least 1925 through at least 1963. It appears internally connected with the adjacent O&S Building to the west in a 1930 photograph.

The county assessor dates the four-story O&S building to 1920. However, the building first appears on the 1918 Sanborn with the notation that it was built in 1917. Known occupants over time included: The Bootery (1925-34); O-S Luncheonette (1934); Ayres Jewelry (1934-63); dentists, attorneys, interior decorators, music teachers, oil industry entities, and other professional offices (1925-1963); and O-S Barber Shop (1943-63).

12. 125 E 2ND ST Eligibility: Contributing

Historic Property Name(s): THE GOLDEN RULE STORE; JC PENNEYS

Date of Construction: C. 1905

Property History:

Previous survey and the county assessor and previous survey date this building to 1910. However, the building first appears on the 1907 Sanborn map as a two-story structure. The two upper floors were added between 1921 and 1925. Occupants over time included: furniture and undertaking (1907-1918); dry goods & clothing (1921); Golden Rule Department Store (1925); JC Penney (1934); Gordon's Jewelers (mid-20th century); S&L Dept. Store (1954-1963). Historic photos show the façade was remodeled to its current appearance by 1954. Local sources suggest Lou Taubert Ranch Outfitters moved into the building around 1964 and expanded in October 1984. The NRHP MPDF for buildings by Garbutt, Weidner & Sweeney indicate they designed a commercial building for a Mr. W.J. Lindsay in 1921. The MPDF document suggests it that may be the building at 125 E 2nd.

Casper Downtown Historic District

Name of Property

Natrona County, Wyoming

County and State

13. 129-137 E 2ND ST **Eligibility:** Contributing
Historic Property Name(s): FORSHAY BUILDING; KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS HALL; KASSIS BLOCK; SMITH BLOCK; SMITH BUILDING; KASSIS DRY GOODS
Date of Construction: C. 1914; C. 1960
Property History:
Originally constructed as separate buildings, this building – the Forshay Building – and its neighbor to the east – the Smith Block – were remodeled inside and out and internally connected possibly as early as c1926. This building, dates to circa 1914. Its parcel contained a single-family dwelling in 1912. This building first appears on the 1918 Sanborn map. A historic photo from 1917 shows this building under construction. This building first appears on the 1918 Sanborn map. Occupants over time included: a meat market (1918-21); a furniture store (1918-21); Callaway's (1925); Grant Eddie men's clothing (1934-43); Oil City printers (1934-43); Smith Block professional offices (1925-43); a printing shop (1948); S&L Department Store (1954-1963; may have been next door to the west); and Kassis Block professional offices (1954-63).
14. 136 E 2ND ST **Eligibility:** Contributing
Historic Property Name(s): IOOF BLDG
Date of Construction: C. 1896
Property History:
The county assessor dates this building to 1904. However, a review of the available Sanborn maps suggests this building was originally constructed between 1894 and 1903, and extensively remodeled and expanded in the early 20th century. The parcel is vacant on the 1894 Sanborn map. Previous survey dated the building to 1896. The south 2/3 of the building first appears on the 1903 Sanborn map. Between 1912 and 1918, the rear (north) 1/3 of the building was added; it is likely at/around this time the building was remodeled to its current appearance and the mansard roof was removed. The building contained the IOOF hall from its original construction through at least 1948. The building was again remodeled in about the 1950s for Woolworth's. The most recent remodeling was done by the Taubert family in the 2000s.
15. 147 E 2ND ST **Eligibility:** Noncontributing
Historic Property Name(s): WYOMING DRUG; KLINES
Date of Construction: C. 1917
Property History:
The county assessor dates this building to 1917. The parcel contained a single-family dwelling in 1912. A historic photo from 1917 shows this building under construction. The existing building first appears on the 1918 Sanborn map containing five separate retail shops - two facing east and three facing north. Occupants over time included: book store (1918); notions shop (1918); confectionary (1918-25); office supply store (1918); fruit dealer (1918-21); jewelry store (1921); clothing store (1921); Wyoming Drug (1925); Elizabeth Shop (1925); Specialty Boot Shop (1934-43); Casper Typewriter (1934); Klines women's clothing (1943-63).
16. 200-204 E 2ND ST **Eligibility:** Contributing
Historic Property Name(s): MIDWEST REFINING COMPANY BUILDING
Date of Construction: 1920
Property History:
The 1918 Sanborn map shows the St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Salvation Army, and a dwelling at this location. The existing building first appears on the 1921 Sanborn map as the Midwest Refining Company Building and containing a bank, a florist, and a drug store. By 1934, it was listed as the Wyoming National Bank Building, and still contained other commercial endeavors, including: Anne's Hat Shop (1925); Casper Beauty Parlor (1925); the Leader (1925); Wells Music Co. (1943-54); Kimball Drug Store (1934-63). During the late 20th century, a secondary metal screen sheathed the building, which was still in place at the time of previous survey in 1988.
17. 201 E 2ND ST **Eligibility:** Noncontributing
Historic Property Name(s): JC PENNEY & CO.
Date of Construction: C. 1941
Property History:
The 1925 Sanborn shows the nonextant post office that once stood on this site. The county assessor dates this building to 1942. The existing building first appears on the 1948 Sanborn map. A narrow extension of the building

Casper Downtown Historic District

Natrona County, Wyoming

Name of Property

County and State

was added the full length of the east elevation at some point after 1948. J.C. Penney & Co. occupied the building from at least 1943 until at least 1963. The building was remodeled in the 1980s to its current appearance as a mini shopping center.

18. 216 E 2ND ST Eligibility: NRHP-Listed

Historic Property Name(s): TRIBUNE BLDG

Date of Construction: 1920

Property History:

Constructed by newspaperman, J.E. Hanway, for the *Casper Tribune*, this building houses Casper's major newspaper until 1963. According to the NRHP nomination, during excavation for the building, the presence of good sand resulted in the setting up of brick-making plant on N Beech Street, where "bricks were molded from sand and cement rather than clay." In 1925, the *Tribune* owners bought out the *Casper Herald* and merged the two papers into the *Tribune-Herald*. In 1954, the owners again bought out the competition with their takeover of the *Casper Morning Star*. The paper vacated the building in September 1963 for new headquarters at 1st and Jefferson streets. This building was listed in the NRHP in February 1994. Since that time the windows have been replaced with incompatible vinyl units.

19. 224 E 2ND ST Eligibility: Contributing

Historic Property Name(s): ZUTTERMEISTER BLDG; SECURITY BUILDING

Date of Construction: 1921

Property History:

Previous survey and the county assessor date this building to 1917. However, this parcel contained a different, nonextant building at this location on the 1918 Sanborn map. The existing building first appears on the 1921 Sanborn map with the notation 'From Plans,' indicating it was still under construction. Occupants over time included: Grand Grocery (1925); Natrona Meat Mkt (1925); Pigeon Tea & Coffee (1925); The Fair Dept. Store (1934); Reeds Millinery (1943); Coast to Coast Hardware (1943); Mode O' Day Frock Shop (1954-63); Singer Sewing Machines (1963).

20. 229 E 2ND ST Eligibility: Contributing

Historic Property Name(s): MOUNTAIN STATES TELEPHONE & TELEGRAPH CO.

Date of Construction: 1918

Property History:

This building first appears on the 1918 Sanborn map, where it is shown as the Mountain States Telephone and Telegraph Company office repair terminal exchange. It remains as such through the 1948 Sanborn map, the latest to cover Casper. A draft survey form completed by the Casper Historic Preservation Commission stated the following: "The telephone company used the building for executive offices on the first floor and the operators were located on the second floor. The front of the building remains as originally built except for the front ramp and entrance door; the old entrance location is still marked by light fixtures on each side of the original entrance. Occupants over time included the Gulf Oil Company, J.C. Penney Company (for storage), Kirkwood Properties (for storage), and Ladd's Clothing. John Johnson purchased the building around 2003 (contract for deed from Dr. Madden [sic Mattern]) and converted it into Eggingtons Restaurant on the ground floor and offices on the second."

21. 232 E 2ND ST Eligibility: Contributing

Historic Property Name(s): BECKLINGER BLDG; MONTGOMERY WARD & CO

Date of Construction: 1922

Property History:

The county assessor dates this building to 1918. However, the building's date stone reads "1922" and the building does not appear on the 1921 Sanborn map. The existing building first appears on the 1925 Sanborn map. Previous survey indicated it received a third floor around 1940, however the building's three-story, 40' height appears on both the 1925 and 1948 Sanborn maps. Occupants over time included: Wells Music Co. (1925); Harper's (1925); Hoffhine Stationary Co (1925); Montgomery Ward (1934-63). Previous survey indicated, "In 1977 the building was remodeled as a mini-mall. In 1977 it was purchased and remodeled as part of Market Square."

Casper Downtown Historic District

Name of Property

Natrona County, Wyoming

County and State

- 22. 233 E 2ND ST** *Eligibility:* Contributing
Historic Property Name(s): STONE GROCERY STORE; WESTERN AUTO SUPPLY
Date of Construction: C. 1917
Property History:

This building first appears on the 1918 Sanborn map. Occupants over time include: a furniture store (1918); a grocery (1921); Stone Grocery Store (1925); Western Auto Supply (1934-1954); apartments upstairs (1934); Wyoming State Employment Service (1954); Pendleton's Appliance (1963); and Sweet Tooth ice cream parlor (1976) The façade appears to date to a historic 1930s or 1940s remodel.

- 23. 242 E 2ND ST** *Eligibility:* Contributing
Historic Property Name(s): SMITH-TARTAR BUILDING; NATRONA MARKET
Date of Construction: C. 1915
Property History:

A nonextant dwelling was at this location on the 1912 Sanborn map. The existing building first appears on 1918 Sanborn map. Occupants over time included: a grocery and milk depot (1918-1921); Natrona Butter Shop/Market (1925-34); physician's office upstairs (1934); Wyoming Business College upstairs (1943); Gambles auto accessories (1943); professional offices upstairs (1954); Firestone Auto (1954); and Dixie Shop women's clothes (1963).

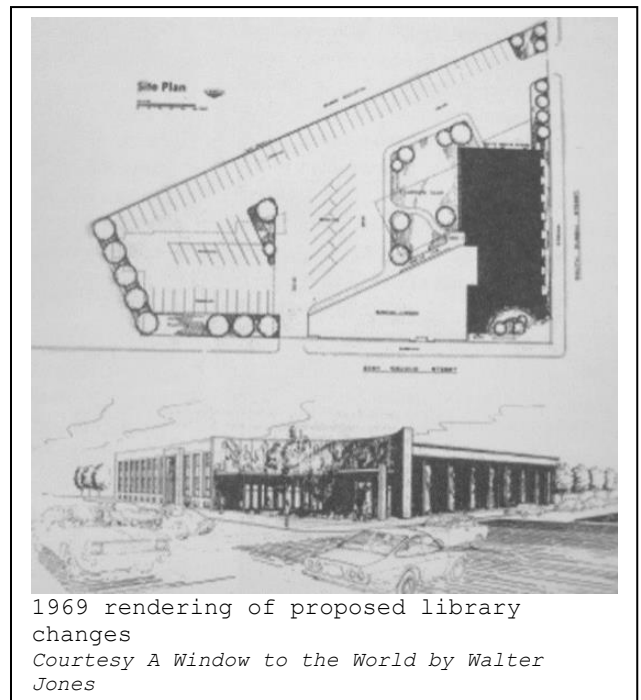
- 24. 302-328 E 2ND ST** *Eligibility:* Contributing
Historic Property Name(s): FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Date of Construction: 1935
Property History:

Though located on this site since the late 19th century, the existing church complex reflects construction efforts from the 1920s through the 1990s. The sanctuary and upper part of the bell tower date to 1951, the education wing to 1927-1935, and the additions at the east end date to the 1990s.

- 25. 307 E 2ND ST** *Eligibility:* Contributing
Historic Property Name(s): NATRONA COUNTY LIBRARY
Date of Construction: 1952; 1972
Property History:

The 1948 Sanborn map still shows the earlier Carnegie Library, which was added onto in 1925 and again in 1952. The earliest portions were removed and the 1952 library section was extensively remodeled and expanded to its current appearance in 1972. Land has been purchased and plans are underway to relocate the library to a new structure in the Old Yellowstone Historic District.

The following taken from CHPC draft inventory form for this building: "In 1903 the Natrona County Commissioners created the Natrona County Public Library Association made up of three trustees, appropriated money for books, and requested funds to build a Carnegie library. A grant for \$10,000 was secured, the formal opening of the free Carnegie Public Library was May 20, 1910, and 300 people attended the event. By 1921 the Midwest traveling library was in operation, by 1928 the library's outreach program had reached all of the rural schools and some of the outlying city schools. The need for expanding the library building was apparent and in 1925, Casper architect Leon Goodrich designed an addition perfectly fitted to the original Carnegie-style library building. [During the post-WWII period] a new addition was planned for the existing building. Rognstad & Olsen began excavating for the new [addition] in August 1952 [and] was completed in 1953.



Casper Downtown Historic District

Name of Property

Natrona County, Wyoming
County and State

Casper Downtown Historic District

Name of Property

Natrona County, Wyoming

County and State

Finally, the increasingly active use of the public library and deterioration of the original 1925 Carnegie Library led to the passing a bond issue in 1969. Henry Therkildsen was hired as the architect for the new library construction project. The old Carnegie building and the 1925 addition were razed in 1970 and a new two-story wing with basement was completed in September of 1972. A building-wide renovation and redesign of the children's department was completed in 1998.

WEST 2ND STREET

26. 111 W 2ND ST **Eligibility:** Contributing
Historic Property Name(s): PETROLEUM BLDG
Date of Construction: 1957
Property History:
A development project of Fred Goodstein, this building replaced the earlier Grand Central Hotel. Begun in early 1956, the building was unveiled in May 1957 and occupied by 1958. The 1963 city directory lists numerous office tenants comprised of oil industry offices, as well as a few attorneys, investment, and real estate firms. The arched entrance at the northeast corner was introduced after 1981.
27. 114 W 2ND ST **Eligibility:** Noncontributing
Historic Property Name(s): YESNESS BLDG; YESNESS APARTMENTS
Date of Construction: 1922
Property History:
The county assessor dates this building to 1922. It first appears on the 1925 Sanborn map. Occupants over time included: NeoClassic Club (1934); Yesness Apartments (1934); 114 Club Liquors (1943-54); and residential apartments upstairs (1954).
28. 116 W 2ND ST **Eligibility:** Noncontributing
Historic Property Name(s): CY CAFÉ; BLUE LINE TAXI
Date of Construction: C. 1928
Property History:
The county assessor dates this building to 1917. However, the 1925 Sanborn shows an earlier, nonextant building at this location. A c1930 photograph shows a portion of this building's original brick façade. The existing building first appears on the 1948 Sanborn map, where it is shown containing a restaurant. Known occupants of this address over time included: Chase Café (c1925); CY Café (c1934-43); Blue Line Taxi (c1943); Arrow Cab (c1943); Green Derby Restaurant (c1954-c1963).
29. 120-128 W 2ND ST **Eligibility:** NRHP-Listed
Historic Property Name(s): COTTMAN BLDG; TURNER-COTTMAN BLDG
Date of Construction: 1924
Property History:
Built in 1924, occupants over time included: Brody Rubber Co. (1925); Labbe Products (1934); Casper Floral (1934); a barber shop (1934-63); professional offices upstairs (1934, 1954-63); Two For One Sporting Goods (1934-54); Irick Saddlery (1934-43); Hall's Beauty School (1943-54); Parker Bros Cigar shop (1943); Cottman Hotel (1943); Wildman-Baird Printing (1954-63); Goedickes Arts & Crafts (1963); and Stockman's Sporting Goods (1963).
30. 125 W 2ND ST **Eligibility:** Noncontributing
Historic Property Name(s): CASPER TIMES BLDG; KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS HALL
Date of Construction: C. 1920
Property History:
The county assessor and previous survey date this building to 1899. However, a review of the Sanborn maps shows a different 1-1/2-story building with a slate or tin roof (suggesting a gabled roof and thus possibly a frame building) at this location as late as 1918 and with a different footprint. This building more likely dates to between 1918 and 1921 when a brick building of the same wall width and footprint first appears on the Sanborn maps. Between 1921 and 1925, the building height increased to 26', its current 2-story height. The building was refaced

Casper Downtown Historic District
Name of Property

Natrona County, Wyoming
County and State

and extensively remodeled at some point in the late 20th century, likely in the 1980s. Occupants over time included: a grocery (1921); Casper Times Publishing (1934); Masek Auto Supply (1943); Knights of Columbus Hall (1943); Home Appliance Co. (1954); Culinary Workers Hall (1954); and Bankers Investment Co. (1963).

31. 129-133 W 2ND ST **Eligibility:** Contributing
Historic Property Name(s): TRAIL BAR; HOME HOTEL; BRANDING IRON INN
Date of Construction: C. 1915
Property History:

The 1912 Sanborn map shows this parcel largely vacant. The county assessor dates this building to 1917. The existing building first appears on the 1918 Sanborn map. Local sources indicate this building was built in 1915 for the Trail Bar, a saloon catering to ranch hands and sheepherders. Occupants over time include: a pool hall (1918-1921); Theophilus & Velous (1925); Home Hotel (1925-63); a barber shop (1934); Union Café (1934); and Trail Bar liquor (1963). Previous survey dated the addition to before 1912. However, review of Sanborn maps and the building's materials suggest a much later date. The county assessor dates this building to 1966 and states it was originally an entrance addition to the hotel next-door to the west. A fire in 1976 spurred repair and remodeling to its current appearance.

EAST A STREET

32. 318-320 E A ST **Eligibility:** Noncontributing
Historic Property Name(s): SEVERENCE ROOMING HOUSE
Date of Construction: C. 1914
Property History:

The county assessor dates this building to 1914. It first appears on the 1918 Sanborn map as a concrete dwelling with both a front and rear porch. By 1924, Mr. Fayette Severence rented furnished rooms here. In 1925, J.T. Patterson rented the rear unit from Severence. In 1929, Severence rented two units, one to Peter Heagney and one to W.S. Stronach. Severence was still renting rooms in 1934-35, with his widow, Frances, taking over the duties as landlord by 1943. Between 1925 and 1948, the porches were enclosed under the main roof of the house to create the existing footprint. The historic record suggests this was done to create two separate units in the original, previously single-family dwelling.

33. 328 E A ST **Eligibility:** Contributing
Historic Property Name(s): MEDLEY HOTEL
Date of Construction: C. 1953
Property History:

The county assessor dates this building to 1953. The lot is vacant on the 1948 Sanborn map. Mrs. Carrie Medley operated the Medley Hotel here from at least 1954 until at least 1963.

34. 328 A E A ST **Eligibility:** Contributing
Historic Property Name(s): PARRISH APARTMENTS
Date of Construction: C. 1924
Property History:

This building first appears on the 1925 Sanborn map as a two-story alley apartment building. The 1925 and 1929 city directories list it as the Parrish Apartments. The 1930 census lists at least seven individuals renting in this building, all but one of which were from other states – Maine, Colorado, Idaho, Nebraska, Iowa, Kentucky – and with occupations including railroad brakeman, a 72-year old divorced bachelor ranchman, and an auto supply clerk.

35. 332 E A ST **Eligibility:** Contributing
Historic Property Name(s): PEOPLE'S GROCERY; STAN'S CAFÉ
Date of Construction: 1922
Property History:

The county assessor dates this building to 1916. However, a different, nonextant building appears at this location on the 1921 Sanborn map. The existing building first appears on the 1925 Sanborn map, where it is shown containing a combined dwelling and retail store. Occupants over time included: Peoples General/Grocery Store (1934-43);

Casper Downtown Historic District
Name of Property

Natrona County, Wyoming
County and State

Fleming Restaurant Supply (1943); Bell's Dairy (1954); Stan's Café (1954); Fleming Radio Supplies (1963).

36. 333 E A ST **Eligibility:** Contributing

Historic Property Name(s): MORNING STAR BUILDING

Date of Construction: C. 1950

Property History:

The 1948 Sanborn shows this parcel vacant. The county assessor dates this building to 1950. The building was in place by 1954, when it is listed as the Morning Star Building with a number of professional offices and street-level commercial entities. Known occupants over time included: Reserve Life Ins. (c1954); Core Laboratories (c1954); Scotty's Liquor & Lounge (c1963); Pagoda Tavern (c1963); Mr. George's Continental Salon (c1963). By 1970, the building was known as the Star Apartments and contained 65 units.

37. 334 E A ST **Eligibility:** Contributing

Historic Property Name(s): VARIETY ICE CREAM SHOP; STANDARD BRANDS BLDG

Date of Construction: C. 1922

Property History:

The county assessor dates this building to 1928. However, the building first appears on the 1925 Sanborn map where it is shown containing five separate, small retail shops. Between 1925 and 1948, a large north addition doubled the footprint and included a bottling works. Occupants over time included: Redwine Paint shop (1934); LaVogue Beauty Shop (1934); Donovan Beauty Shop (1943); Standard Brands yeast mfrs (1934-1943); Knapp Restaurant Supply (1954); Variety Ice Cream Shop (1943-1963); Seven-Up Bottling (1963); barber shop (1934-1963); B&B Rubber Stamp Shop (1963).

EAST B STREET

38. 100-150 E B ST **Eligibility:** Contributing

Historic Property Name(s): DICK CHENEY FEDERAL BUILDING

Date of Construction: 1970

Property History:

This building was constructed in 1970 from a design by Engstrom & Deines/J.T. Banner & Associates. Composed of pre-cast concrete panels, the building is typical of the modernistic designs of government buildings from the period, exhibiting the influences of both New Formalism and Brutalism styles popular for public buildings at the time. Named for Casper native, Wyoming State Representative, and 46th Vice President of the United States, Richard Bruce "Dick" Cheney. The Dick Cheney Federal Center provides space for an estimated 151 employees of the various more than 20 area federal agencies in the west tower and the U.S. Postal Service occupies the east wing.

The building represents a nationwide trend of extensive Federal government growth during the 1960s and was the last major construction downtown prior to the extensive land clearance and redevelopment of Casper's Urban Renewal period.

WEST B STREET

39. 100 W B ST **Eligibility:** Contributing

Historic Property Name(s): CITY CENTER BUILDING

Date of Construction: 1956

Property History:

A nonexistant single-family dwelling is at this location on the 1948 Sanborn map. The 1954 city directory has a residential listing at this location. Local sources indicate it was nearing completion in July 1956. The county assessor dates this building to 1956. The 1963 city directory lists this as the City Center Building containing ten professional offices, including Texaco, geologists, and attorneys.

Casper Downtown Historic District
Name of Property

Natrona County, Wyoming
County and State

NORTH BEECH STREET

40. 218 N BEECH ST **Eligibility:** Contributing
Historic Property Name(s): CLIFT HOUSE
Date of Construction: C. 1915
Property History:
This house first appears on the 1918 Sanborn map with the same footprint it has today. William E Clift, an oil refinery machinist, resided here in 1925. Lora Redwine resided here in 1951.
41. 218 A N BEECH **Eligibility:** Contributing
Historic Property Name(s): CLIFT HOUSE GARAGE
Date of Construction: C. 1915
Property History:
According to Sanborn maps, city directories, and the building itself, this garage likely dates to around 1915.

NORTH CENTER STREET

42. 100 N CENTER ST **Eligibility:** Contributing
Historic Property Name(s): SKY ROOM; GLADSTONE HOTEL SKY ROOM ADDITION
Date of Construction: 1954
Property History:
The county assessor dates this building to 1920. However, the one-story buildings that once occupied this location were still shown on the 1948 Sanborn map. This building was constructed as the Sky Room addition to the earlier, 1924 Gladstone Hotel, which is no longer extant. The existing building appears today much as it did in a circa 1960 photo and the 1989 county history. It became a free-standing building when the original Gladstone Hotel was demolished in July, 1970.
43. 105 (103) N CENTER ST **Eligibility:** NRHP-Listed
Historic Property Name(s): MASONIC TEMPLE
Date of Construction: 1914
Property History:
Contractor, Gus A. Ukensky, built this building from a design by Homer F. Shaffer. Completed in 1914, the building went up during Casper's first oil boom. Originally formed in 1893, Casper's Masons expanded parallel to Casper's growth. Once they outgrew their previous location at 136 E 2nd Street (District Property #14), the construction of this building came to fruition. The cornerstone was laid in August 1914 and the Masons moved into this building in December the same year. This building was listed in the NRHP in 2005.
44. 115 N CENTER ST **Eligibility:** Noncontributing
Historic Property Name(s): TOWNSEND HOTEL
Date of Construction: 1923
Property History:
Built in 1923, the Townsend Hotel was a landmark hotel in Downtown Casper until 1982. Charles H. Townsend, an original Casper pioneer, banker, and business man, hired Barbutt, Weidner and Sweeney architects to design the hotel building. Of the three 'grand' hotels in Casper during the early 20th century – the Townsend, the Gladstone, and the Henning – the Townsend is the only one remaining. This building was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1983. It was extensively remodeled in 2008-2009 to its current appearance. Local sources indicate local resident/historian Charlotte Babcock worked hard to save the "Townsend Hotel" "ghost sign" that appears on the east side of the building.

Casper Downtown Historic District

Natrona County, Wyoming

Name of Property

County and State

45. 120 N CENTER ST **Eligibility:** Noncontributing

Historic Property Name(s): FIRST AMERICAN TITLE

Date of Construction: C. 1980

Property History:

The assessor dates this building to 1980. It does not appear on the 1948 Sanborn map.

46. 128 N CENTER ST **Eligibility:** Contributing

Historic Property Name(s): COURT HOTEL; NEW COURT HOTEL; KIDD BUILDING

Date of Construction: C. 1917

Property History:

The 1912 Sanborn map shows this parcel vacant. The county assessor dates this building to 1917. The current building first appears on the 1918 Sanborn map. Occupants over time included: a penny arcade (1918); American Railway Express Office (1921); Auto Equipment Co. (1925); Court Hotel (1925-1934); a beauty shop (1943); New Court Hotel (1943); hotel (1948); Berlett's Auto Accessories (1954); Kidd Building professional office tenants (1954); Berco Building apartments (1963); and Cook's Paint and Varnish (1963). The 1930 census lists Marian Jennings, a native of Washington, as the hotel operator with nine (9) lodgers comprised of natives of Greece and seven different U.S. states with occupations ranging from store clerk to teacher and oil truck driver to salesman.

47. 138 N CENTER ST **Eligibility:** Noncontributing

Historic Property Name(s): WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH CO. BLDG

Date of Construction: C. 1920

Property History:

The county assessor dates this building to 1917. However, the 1918 Sanborn map shows this parcel vacant. The existing building first appears on the 1921 Sanborn map. The original storefronts were replaced with asymmetrically recessed entrances at some time in the 1950s or 1960s. Occupants over time included: restaurant (c1921); Western Union Telegraph Co. (c1925-c1948); Casper Skating Rink (c1925); Freeman chiropractor (c1934-c1943); Kintzel Blue Print (c1954); Casper Printing (c1963); Petroleum Information Corp (c1963). The current façade sheathing dates to circa 1995, at which time it lost its integrity.

48. 200 N CENTER ST **Eligibility:** Contributing

Historic Property Name(s): NATRONA COUNTY COURTHOUSE AND JAIL

Date of Construction: 1940

Property History:

This is the third courthouse in Casper, with the first one completed in 1895 and located on David between W Midwest and W 2nd. The second courthouse was across the street at present-day Pioneer Park from c1907 until the late 1930s. General contractors Rognstad & Olsen and John W. Howard built this building between 1938 and 1940 from a design by Goodrich & Krusmark, architects. The building continues to function as the Natrona County Courthouse today.

49. 201 N CENTER ST **Eligibility:** Contributing

Historic Property Name(s): PIONEER PARK; PIONEER PLAZA

Date of Construction: C. 1940

Property History:

This was originally the site of the second Natrona County Courthouse (nonextant) from c1907 until the 1930s. The previous 1895 courthouse had been located on the west side of David between W Midwest and W 2nd. When the old c1907 courthouse on this site was razed to make way for the new City-County Building constructed across Center Street to the west (200 N Center), the vacant lot was converted to a park. The original Pioneer Memorial obelisk dates to c1911 and once stood in Railroad Park at the SW corner of Midwest and S Center. When the Sears retail store went up at that location in 1952-53, the memorial obelisk was moved to its current location.

Casper Downtown Historic District

Name of Property

Natrona County, Wyoming

County and State

50.234 N CENTER ST

Eligibility: Noncontributing

Historic Property Name(s): A-1 SUPER SERVICE GAS STATION

Date of Construction: C. 1950

Property History:

The county assessor dates this building to 1927. However, it does not appear on the 1948 Sanborn map. While the 1943 city directory has only a residential listing at this location, the 1954 and 1963 city directories list it as the A-1 Super Service gas station.

51. 254 N CENTER ST

Eligibility: Contributing

Historic Property Name(s): CBC BUILDING

Date of Construction: C. 1955

Property History:

The 1948 Sanborn shows this location vacant. The 1954 city directory has no listing for this address. The county assessor dates this building to 1955. The 1963 city directory lists this as the CBC Building containing professional offices occupied by various oil industry and real estate/investment tenants, as well as US Department of Labor and Department of Interior offices.

52. 300-304 N CENTER ST

Eligibility: Contributing

Historic Property Name(s): WESTERN BUILDING

Date of Construction: C. 1954

Property History:

The 1948 Sanborn shows a different, nonextant building at this location. The county assessor dates this building to c1955. The 1954 and 1963 city directories list this as the Western Building containing twelve professional tenants, including various oil industry companies, geologists, and real estate/land sales firms.

SOUTH CENTER STREET

53. 119 S CENTER ST

Eligibility: Contributing

Historic Property Name(s): AMERICAN THEATRE

Date of Construction: C 1920

Property History:

The county assessor dates this building to 1917. However, the 1918 Sanborn map shows this parcel largely vacant. The existing building first appears on the 1921 Sanborn map and appears in a 1922 photo. It has been a movie theater since its construction and continues to function as such today. In addition to the movie theater, the building also included other tenants over time, including physicians (1934-1943) and oil broker and geologist offices (1954). Historic photographs indicate it was remodeled to its current appearance by the early 1960s. Seating capacity in 1984 accommodated 808 individuals.

54. 128 S CENTER ST

Eligibility: Noncontributing

Historic Property Name(s): CASPER HERALD BLDG; STEVE'S BILLIARDS; PARIS SHOE SHOP

Date of Construction: C. 1915

Property History:

The 1912 Sanborn map shows an earlier, nonextant dwelling at this location. The existing building first appears on the 1918 Sanborn map. By 1921, it appears the building had expanded slightly to the south to meet the north wall of the adjacent building. Known occupants over time included: Casper Herald and Casper Stationary (c1925); Steve's Billiards (c1934); Paris Shoe Shop (c1934-c1954); Joe's Billiards (c1954-63); Hann's Rodeo & Ranch Supply (c1963).

55. 133 S CENTER ST

Eligibility: Noncontributing

Historic Property Name(s): WEST HOTEL; SPRECHER'S DRUGS

Date of Construction: 1918

Property History:

The county assessor dates this building to 1920. However, the 1918 Sanborn map shows the building footprint with

Casper Downtown Historic District
Name of Property

Natrona County, Wyoming
County and State

the notation 'from plans' and the 1921 Sanborn map indicated it was completed in 1918. Occupants over time included: Ayres Jewelry (1925); Pope Jewelry (1934); West Hotel (1925-1954); Sprecher's Drugs (1925-1954); Yesness men's (1963). The assessor dates the façade remodel to 1958-1959, however photographic evidence suggests the nonoriginal screen dates to the late 1960s or early 1970s.

56. 134 (128)S CENTER ST *Eligibility:* Contributing
Historic Property Name(s): CASPER FIRE STATION; HENNING HOTEL ANNEX; STEVENS HOTEL
Date of Construction: C. 1917
Property History:

Local sources provide conflicting accounts of this building's history, with some suggesting it dates to 1890 and that it was the original fire station. However, review of maps and other primary sources indicates this building dates to a circa 1917 reconstruction after a 1912 fire in the previous building. Occupants over time included: fire department (1918); separate unidentified jewelry and clothing stores (1921); Casper Food Shop restaurant (1934-43); Henning Hotel Annex (1925-34); Blakey & Co. (1925); Swansons' Clothing (1934-54); Steven's Hotel (1943-54); the Spinning Wheel (1963); Ken's Photo Shop (1954-63).

57. 137-141 S CENTER ST *Eligibility:* NRHP-Listed
Historic Property Name(s): CONROY BLDG; OIL EXCHANGE BUILDING
Date of Construction: 1918
Property History:

Constructed in 1917, this building has direct associations with Casper's first oil boom, as it contained numerous offices related to the variety of oil industry businesses. In 1920, Consolidated Royalty Oil Company purchased the building and occupied it as their headquarters. This building was listed in the NRHP in November 1993.

58. 142 S CENTER ST *Eligibility:* Contributing
Historic Property Name(s): BLAKEY & CO. BLDG
Date of Construction: C. 1915
Property History:

A different, nonextant building appears at this location on the 1912 Sanborn map. The existing building first appears on the 1918 Sanborn map. The storefront materials likely date to a post-WWII remodel. Occupants over time included: plumber supplies (1918); jeweler (1918); cigar shop (1921); bank (1921); Blakey & Co. women's wear (1925-63).

59. 144 S CENTER ST *Eligibility:* Noncontributing
Historic Property Name(s): RILEY'S CAFÉ; KEEFE'S FLORAL
Date of Construction: C. 1922
Property History:

The county assessor dates this building to 1917. However, the 1921 Sanborn map shows an earlier, nonextant building at this location. The existing building first appears on the 1925 Sanborn map.

60. 147 S CENTER ST *Eligibility:* Contributing
Historic Property Name(s): CAMPBELL HARDWARE; CAMPBELL BLDG; MOKLER BLDG
Date of Construction: C. 1914
Property History:

While the rear portion of this building may date to before 1912, the current building configuration took shape around 1915 and first appears on the 1918 Sanborn map. The first-story façade remodel dates to the post-WWII period. Occupants over time included: unidentified gentlemen's fine goods shop (1918); a grocery warehouse (1918-21); a hardware store (1921); Campbell Hardware Co. (1925); Pep's Drug Store (1934-43); dentists, insurance, and realty offices (1934-43); oil broker and consulting geologists' offices (1954); Bi-Rite Drug (1954-63); and Casper Veterinary Supply (1963).

61. 162 S CENTER ST *Eligibility:* Contributing
Historic Property Name(s): TOWNSEND BLDG
Date of Construction: 1903; 1934
Property History:

Casper Downtown Historic District

Name of Property

Natrona County, Wyoming

County and State

The 1903 Sanborn shows earlier, nonextant buildings at this location. The south half of this building first appears on the 1907 Sanborn map. The building was expanded to its current footprint by 1912 and remodeled to its current appearance in the mid-1930s. Occupants over time included: physicians, attorneys, and the Girl Scouts, which all maintained upper-floor offices, while various retail tenants occupied the first floor (1934); various oil industry professional offices on the upper floor with retail shops on the first floor (1963). A fire in 1985 did considerable interior damage and resulted in interior remodeling at that time.

62. 208-214 S CENTER ST *Eligibility:* Noncontributing

Historic Property Name(s): SADDLE ROCK CAFÉ; KENMARK KEEPSAKE

Date of Construction: C. 1920

Property History:

The county assessor dates this building to 1917. However, the 1948 Sanborn map shows a three-story building at this location. Based on review of the building itself and the city directories, it appears the building is the one-story remnant of the earlier three-story building, which was reduced to a single floor between 1955 and 1962. The 3-story Saddle Rock Apartments was still at this location in 1954 and is not listed in the 1963 city directory. Saddle Rock Café and Arcade Bar Liquors occupied this address in 1963.

63. 236 S CENTER ST *Eligibility:* Contributing

Historic Property Name(s): WYOMING WHOLESALERS SPORTING GOODS; NORMAN & GENE'S BARBER SHOP

Date of Construction: C. 1952

Property History:

A different, nonextant building appears at this location on the 1948 Sanborn map. The county assessor dates this building to 1952. Wyoming Wholesalers sporting goods was at this address in 1953. The 1963 city directory lists Norman & Gene's Barber Shop in the south storefront and Mrs. Steve, phrenologist, in the north storefront.

64. 240 S CENTER ST *Eligibility:* Contributing

Historic Property Name(s): ELKHORN SALOON; SCOTT CLOTHING

Date of Construction: C. 1900

Property History:

The county assessor and previous survey date this building to circa 1907. However, the building first appears on the 1903 Sanborn map. (A different, nonextant building appears at this location on the 1894 Sanborn map.) Occupants over time included: saloon (1903-1918); The Elkhorn Saloon (1917); boot & shoe & clothing shop (1921); Scott Clothing (1925); Gantt Hardware (1943); and Bowen's Hardware (1954-1963).

65. 241 S CENTER ST *Eligibility:* Contributing

Historic Property Name(s): TRIPENY BLDG

Date of Construction: 1921

Property History:

The county assessor and previous survey date this building to 1921. The 1918 Sanborn map shows earlier, nonextant buildings at this location. The existing building first appears on the 1921 Sanborn map. Occupants over time included: confectionary (1921); Tripeny Drugs & Jewelry (1925-63); and various professional offices in the basement and on the 2nd floor (1954-1963).

66. 245 S CENTER ST *Eligibility:* Contributing

Historic Property Name(s): KISTLER BLDG

Date of Construction: C. 1913

Property History:

Constructed around 1913, this building went up during early 20th century expansion in Casper's oil and sheep industry. The building first appears on the 1918 Sanborn Fire Insurance map and directories from the period indicate it was occupied by the Senate Café and Pool Hall at the time. Other occupants over time included the Senate Cigar Store and Senate Barber Shop. According to the NHRP nomination, Kistler's Ten & Awning Company moved into the building by 1931 and bought the building in 1932. The building was nominated for individual listing in the NRHP in 2008 and was determined to not retain sufficient significance to be listed individually, but would contribute to a historic district.

Casper Downtown Historic District
Name of Property

Natrona County, Wyoming
County and State

- 67.246 S CENTER ST **Eligibility:** Contributing
Historic Property Name(s): AMERICAN HOTEL
Date of Construction: C. 1913
Property History:
This building does not appear in a 1900 view of this part of Center Street. The county assessor dates this building to 1913. The 1912 Sanborn map shows earlier, nonextant frame buildings at this location. The existing building first appears on the 1918 Sanborn map. The building appears in a 1922 photograph of this location. Occupants over time included: a restaurant (1918-21), a saloon (1918), a cigar shop (1918-21), a hotel (1918-21); a pool hall (1918-1925); Wyoming Garment Store (1925); The Smoke House (1925); American Hotel (1934-54); American Bar/restaurant (1934-54); Midwest Jewelry (1934); Hufsmith meat market (1943); a barber shop (1934-43); New York Shoe Shop (1954-63); and Buck's Saddlery (1963).
68. 256 S CENTER ST **Eligibility:** Contributing
Historic Property Name(s): WONDER BAR; HERMAN'S FLOPPERY
Date of Construction: C. 1915
Property History:
This building does not appear in a 1900 view of this part of Center Street. Previous survey dates this building to 1903. The county assessor records give dates of 1903 and 1914. However, the 1912 Sanborn map shows single family dwellings at this location. The existing building first appears on the 1918 Sanborn map. The building appears in a 1922 photograph of this location. Occupants over time included: two saloons (1918); lady's furnishings (1921); confectionary (1921); paint & glass supply store (1925); American Club (1925); Herman's Floppery rented rooms (1934); The Mint card room (1934); Willard cigar shop (1934); Eagles lodge hall (1943); oil industry offices (1954); Pittsburgh Paint & Glass (1934-63); Arthur Murray Dance Studio (1963); New Wonder Bar liquors (1941-63).
69. 260 S CENTER ST **Eligibility:** Noncontributing
Historic Property Name(s): CASPER ARMY STORE; DEAN'S SPORTING GOODS
Date of Construction: C. 1957
Property History:
The 1948 Sanborn map shows a different, nonextant building at this location. The county assessor dates this building to 1957. The 1963 city directory lists the Casper Army Store at this address. By 1973 it was Dean's Sporting Goods.
70. 261 S CENTER ST **Eligibility:** Contributing
Historic Property Name(s): NICOLAYSEN BUILDING
Date of Construction: 1947
Property History:
The no-longer-extant Natrona Hotel appears at this location on the 1925 Sanborn map. The county assessor dates this building to 1947. A historic photograph from 1947 shows the building under construction. The existing building first appears on the 1948 Sanborn map containing seven separate retail storefronts. The 1954 and 1963 city directories list the building as the Nicolaysen Building. Known occupants over time included: professional offices on the upper floors (c1947-c1963); Lou Taubert Ranch Outfitters (c1954-c1961); Center Street News Stand (c1954-c1963).
71. 320 S CENTER ST **Eligibility:** Contributing
Historic Property Name(s): SEARS ROEBUCK & CO
Date of Construction: 1953
Property History:
There is no listing for this building in the 1943 city directory. This parcel is largely vacant and shown as 'Railroad Park' on the 1948 Sanborn map. The county assessor dates this building to 1953. According to local sources, Casper welcomed its first Sears, Roebuck and Company retail store on October 8, 1953. The 1954 and 1963 city directories list Sears Roebuck & Co. Department Store at this location.

Casper Downtown Historic District

Name of Property

Natrona County, Wyoming

County and State

Casper Downtown Historic District
Name of Property

Natrona County, Wyoming
County and State

72. 330 S CENTER ST Eligibility: Contributing

Historic Property Name(s): GOODSTEIN BUILDING

Date of Construction: 1961

Property History:

This parcel is largely vacant and shown as 'Railroad Park' on the 1948 Sanborn map. There is no listing for this building in the 1954 city directory. The county assessor dates this building to 1960. A newspaper article from November 29, 1961, referenced the building's grand opening. The 1963 city directory lists the Goodstein Building at this location, at which time its occupants were comprised of Mobil Oil, Dow Chemical, and various other oil and mineral extraction businesses.

SOUTH DAVID STREET

73. 235 S DAVID ST Eligibility: Contributing

Historic Property Name(s): MASEK'S AUTO SUPPLY

Date of Construction: C. 1946

Property History:

The 1925 Sanborn shows an earlier nonextant boarding house at this location. The 1943 city directory has no listing for this address. The county assessor dates this building to 1946. The existing building first appears on the 1948 Sanborn. Masek's Auto Supply was here from at least 1954 until at least 1963.

74. 241 S DAVID ST Eligibility: Contributing

Historic Property Name(s): SCHULTE HARDWARE SHOWROOM

Date of Construction: C. 1947

Property History:

The 1925 Sanborn shows an earlier nonextant boarding house at this location. The 1943 city directory has no listing for this address. The county assessor dates this building to 1947. The existing building first appears on the 1948 Sanborn. Schulte Hardware was here in 1954 and by 1963, Natrona County Public Welfare occupied the building.

75. 323 S DAVID ST Eligibility: Contributing

Historic Property Name(s): DAVIDSON-DORIUS RESIDENCE

Date of Construction: C. 1914

Property History:

The county assessor dates this building to 1914. Review of the Sanborn maps corroborates this, as the 1912 Sanborn map shows this location vacant and the building appears on the 1918 map edition. The two-story auto garage/apartment at the rear of the lot appears in 1918, as well. The rear addition to the house dates to sometime between 1925 and 1948. The 1920 census lists Nellie Davidson as the owner and "landlady" with a maid and three lodgers comprised of a garage man, a laborer, and rancher, David Davidson. Known occupants over time included: David Davidson, wool grower (c1925-43); Vivian Dorius (c1954-c1963), Etta's Beauty Parlor (c1954-c1963), and a variety of tenants in the basement and garage units through the years. Local sources indicate Dave Davidson was one of the most prolific bootleggers in the region during Prohibition.

76. 335 S DAVID ST Eligibility: Contributing

Historic Property Name(s): MARSHALL APARTMENTS

Date of Construction: C. 1923

Property History:

The county assessor dates this building to 1920. However, the 1921 Sanborn map still shows a large single-family dwelling at this location. The existing building first appears on the 1925 Sanborn map containing flats as it does today. The 1925 city directory has no listing for this address, suggesting it may have still been under construction. The 1930 census shows 5 families living here comprised of 16 individuals hailing from six US states and Austria; occupations included salesman, truck driver, laborer, bookkeeper, and nurse. The 1934 through 1963 city directories list it as the Marshall Apartments and containing 12 units.

Casper Downtown Historic District
Name of Property

Natrona County, Wyoming
County and State

77. 335 A S DAVID

Eligibility: Contributing

Historic Property Name(s): MARSHALL APARTMENTS GARAGE

Date of Construction: C. 1923

Property History:

According to Sanborn maps, city directories, and the building itself, this outbuilding likely dates to around 1923.

NORTH DURBIN STREET

78. 103 N DURBIN ST

Eligibility: Contributing

Historic Property Name(s): MOUNTAIN STATES TELEPHONE & TELEGRAPH BLDG

Date of Construction: C. 1952

Property History:

The 1948 Sanborn shows different, nonextant buildings at this location. The county assessor dates this building to 1952. Casper: A Pictorial History states, "Mountain States Telephone and Telegraph added a million-dollar circuitry building when dial phones were installed in 1952." City directories list Mountain States Telephone and Telegraph Co. here from at least 1954 through at least 1963. The east addition was in place by October 1976 and is likely associated with the oil boom and expansion of many industries and infrastructure in Casper during the period.

79. 143 N DURBIN ST

Eligibility: Noncontributing

Historic Property Name(s): BAUSCH & LOMB BLDG; SHELL OIL AUTO DEPT

Date of Construction: C. 1947

Property History:

While the 1925 Sanborn map shows an earlier, nonextant dwelling at this location, the current building appears on the 1948 Sanborn containing a gas engine and electric sales and service business. The county assessor dates this building to 1948. Around 1965, the building was remodeled, which included cladding the façade with a combination of unfinished wood and stucco. The wood was recently removed to reveal the original brick of the upper façade wall. Known occupants over time included: Bausch & Lomb Optical (c1954); Shell Oil automotive dept. and exploratory lab (c1954); Answering Service of Casper (c1963); and Allied Printing (c1963).

80. 152 N DURBIN ST

Eligibility: Contributing

Historic Property Name(s): STANDARD OIL BUILDING; STANOLIND BLDG; PAN AM PETROLEUM BLDG

Date of Construction: 1954

Property History:

The 1948 Sanborn map shows dwellings at this location. The county assessor dates this building to 1953. Standard Oil occupied the building in January 1954. Pan Am Petroleum Corporation occupied the building in 1963. The loss of the original mid-century Modern entrance treatment and application of the current faux entrance portico dates to 2003.

81. 223 N DURBIN ST

Eligibility: Contributing

Historic Property Name(s): MACK TRUCK BLDG; DURBIN ST AUTO SERVICE

Date of Construction: C. 1922

Property History:

The county assessor dates this building to 1922. The parcel is vacant on the 1921 Sanborn map. This building first appears on the 1925 Sanborn map, where it is shown containing an auto service business. Occupants over time included: residential apartments upstairs (c1922-1963); Mack Int. Motor Truck Co. (1925); Durbin Street Auto Service (1934); Seasons Motor Co. (1943); Mountain Motors (1954); Fischer Body Shop (1963).

82. 306 N DURBIN ST

Eligibility: Contributing

Historic Property Name(s): FRATERNAL ORDER OF EAGLES

Date of Construction: 1950

Property History:

The 1948 Sanborn map shows this parcel vacant. A February 1951 article indicated the building was new at that time. The 1954 city directory lists the Eagles Hall here. The county assessor dates this building to 1955. According

Casper Downtown Historic District

Name of Property

Natrona County, Wyoming

County and State

to the county assessor, the north half, containing the meeting hall, lounge, restrooms, and so forth, was added in 1960. The Eagles Hall and bowling alley have been here since the building's construction and remain here today. The bowling alley closed in 2014.

SOUTH DURBIN STREET

83. 204 S DURBIN ST *Eligibility:* Noncontributing

Historic Property Name(s): VISIONS PLUS

Date of Construction: C. 1979

Property History:

The county assessor dates this building to 1979.

EAST MIDWEST AVENUE

84. 236 E MIDWEST AVE *Eligibility:* Contributing

Historic Property Name(s): ENGINEERS UNION HALL

Date of Construction: C. 1915

Property History:

The county assessor dates this building to 1922. However, it first appears on the 1918 Sanborn map. Known occupants over time included: various offices (c1918-c1925); Matthews Battery Station (c1934); Gem Tire Co. (c1925); residential apartments (c1925-c1934); Engineers Union Hall (c1948); Ray Geophysical offices (c1963).

WEST MIDWEST AVENUE

85. 100 W MIDWEST AVE *Eligibility:* Contributing

Historic Property Name(s): WYOMING EMPLOYMENT SECURITY COMMISSION BUILDING

Date of Construction: 1961

Property History:

Originally considered in 1959 for a location in the Sand Bar, this building ended up at this location at the urging and gift of land by Fred Goodstein who stated his desire to "see a new building placed in the heart of downtown Casper." Built in 1961 from a design by Robert Wehrli, this building initially served as the home of the Wyoming State Employment Security Commission. The 1963 city directory also indicates the Wyoming Oil & Gas Conservation Commission occupied space here.

86. 128-140 W MIDWEST AVE *Eligibility:* Noncontributing

Historic Property Name(s): MCCLURE BUILDING

Date of Construction: C. 1914

Property

The county assessor dates this building to 1914. Review of the Sanborn maps corroborates this, as the 1912 map shows the site largely vacant and the building in place by the 1918 map edition. At this time, the building is shown containing five separate commercial spaces occupied by a barber, a tailor, a jeweler, an office, and storage. An undated early 20th century photo shows this building under construction and nearly complete. Though one unit appears to have transitioned to a dwelling by 1921, the remainder of the building became largely residential sometime between 1925 and 1948. The 1930 census lists 13 occupants in this building, most of which were lodgers hailing from 11 different states and England, and with occupations ranging from sheep herder to iron worker and machinist to salesman. The one-story section at the west end dates to circa 1920 and was incorporated into the 2-story original section at some point after 1948. Known occupants over time included: McClure Rooms (c1925); B&M Café (c1925); Kefser Transportation Co. (c1925); Haymond Tire Service (c1925); Signal Drilling Co. (c1954); US Dept. of Agricultural Stabilization Service county office (c1963).

Casper Downtown Historic District

Name of Property

Natrona County, Wyoming

County and State

Casper Downtown Historic District
Name of Property

Natrona County, Wyoming
County and State

87. 128-140A W MIDWEST AVE **Eligibility:** Contributing
Historic Property Name(s): MCCLURE BUILDING OUTBUILDING
Date of Construction: C. 1940
Property History:
According to Sanborn maps, city directories, and the building itself, this outbuilding likely dates to around 1940.

NORTH WOLCOTT STREET

88. 104 N WOLCOTT ST **Eligibility:** Noncontributing
Historic Property Name(s): FIRST INTERSTATE BANK DRIVE-THRU
Date of Construction: C. 1977
Property History:
The county assessor dates this building to 1977, with a 1981 expansion.
89. 159 N WOLCOTT ST **Eligibility:** NRHP-Listed
Historic Property Name(s): OHIO OIL CO BLDG
Date of Construction: 1949
Property History:
Designed by Arthur G. Hall of the firm Wilburn Watson Associates of Cleveland Ohio, this building dates to two large construction phases – 1948-1949 and a 1955-1956 extensive expansion. The firm also designed the Ohio Oil Company headquarters in Findley, Ohio, which has a very similar design. The building is directly associated with Casper's oil industry prosperity of the post-WWII period. This building was listed in the NRHP in 2001.
90. 200 N WOLCOTT ST **Eligibility:** Contributing
Historic Property Name(s): MOOSE WINTER GARDEN; PRODUCERS & REFINERS CORP. BLDG
Date of Construction: 1919
Property History:
The county assessor dates this building to 1952. However, most of the first floor of this building likely dates to as early as 1919. The 1921 Sanborn map shows a one-story building with a very similar footprint as the current building, the foundation of which appears on the previous 1918 Sanborn map. By 1925, an east wing and two additional stories had been added. A newspaper article reported the Moose Lodge had completed a 'new building' in 1951, which likely refers to their addition of two uppermost stories and complete refacing of the earlier building resulting in its existing appearance. Originally the Moose Winter Garden, it was later known as the P & R Building, then by 1963 it was known as the Intermountain Building, and always containing numerous professional offices, as well as the Moose Lodge. Known occupants over time included: Moose Winter Garden (c1921); Producers & Refiners Corp. (c1925-c1948); Wyoming Petroleum Industries Commission (c1934); Mapleway Bowling Alley (c1934-c1943); Loyal Order of Moose (c1943); US and State employment offices (c1943); Shell Oil offices (c1954-c1963); Continental Oil offices (c1963).
91. 201 N WOLCOTT ST **Eligibility:** Contributing
Historic Property Name(s): SUPERIOR OIL COMPANY
Date of Construction: 1953
Property History:
The 1948 Sanborn map shows this parcel vacant. The county assessor dates this building to 1954. Superior Oil Company maintained offices in this building from at least 1954 until at least 1963.
92. 212-218 N WOLCOTT ST **Eligibility:** Contributing
Historic Property Name(s): WOLCOTT CAFÉ; CASPER SEWING MACHINE EXCHANGE
Date of Construction: C. 1922
Property History:
The county assessor dates this building to 1922. The Sanborn maps corroborate this, as the 1921 Sanborn shows different, nonextant buildings at this location and the building appears much as it does today on the 1925 Sanborn map. Known occupants over time included: residential apartments upstairs (c1922-c1963); Wolcott Café (c1925);

Casper Downtown Historic District
Name of Property

Natrona County, Wyoming
County and State

barber (c1934); Casper Sewing Machine Exchange (c1934); Big 4 Café (c1934); Jensik Beauty Shop (c1943); Merchant Calculators (c1954); Universal Petroleum Co. offices (c1954); Byron's Office Machines (c1963); and State Soil Conservation Service (c1963).

93. 225 N WOLCOTT ST *Eligibility:* Contributing
Historic Property Name(s): CARPENTERS HALL; MOOSE LODGE
Date of Construction: C. 1922
Property History:

The county assessor dates this building to 1910. However, the 1921 Sanborn map shows this parcel vacant. The rear 1/3 of this building may be what appears on the 1925 and 1948 Sanborn maps. Known occupants over time included: Carpenters Hall (c1934-c1943); lodge hall (c1948); Moose Lodge (c1954-c1963).

SOUTH WOLCOTT STREET

94. 104 S WOLCOTT ST *Eligibility:* Noncontributing
Historic Property Name(s): FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF CASPER
Date of Construction: 1958
Property History:

This building opened in June 1958. A pamphlet published by the First National Bank of Casper around 1959 stated: "The dream of the directors began to take shape in 1953, when Architect Robert Wehrli presented preliminary plans for the bank and tower building that was to rise at First and Wolcott..." At the time of its completion it was the tallest building in the state and featured the state's first escalator. Drive-through windows and two levels of underground parking were introduced in the early 1960s.

95. 111 S WOLCOTT ST *Eligibility:* NRHP-Listed
Historic Property Name(s): KERR FEDERAL COURTHOUSE
Date of Construction: 1929
Property History:

Built in 1932 from a design by Treasury Dept. architect, James A. Wetmore, this building reflects the expansion of federal buildings during the early 20th century, and particularly during the Great Depression. Casper outgrew its previous federal building during the 1920s oil boom and the existing building relieved the need for expanded space. The corner stone was laid in July 1931 and the building dedicated at a grand opening in October 1932. This building was listed in the NRHP in 1998.

96. 130 S WOLCOTT ST *Eligibility:* Noncontributing
Historic Property Name(s): WYOMING STATIONARY
Date of Construction: C. 1929
Property History:

The county assessor dates this building to 1924, however the 1925 Sanborn map shows a single-family dwelling at this location. The 1925 city directory has no listing for this address. However, Wyoming Stationary is listed here by 1934 and remained until at least 1963.

97. 136 S WOLCOTT ST *Eligibility:* NRHP-Listed
Historic Property Name(s): ODD FELLOWS BLDG
Date of Construction: 1952
Property History:

An excellent example of Modern Movement design in the post-WWII period, this building is additionally significant for its associations with a Downtown building boom, as well as for its associations with the growth and expansion of fraternal organizations locally. With the expansion of the oil industry in the 1940s and 1950s, oil company employees swelled the population of Casper, and with it, new members of institutions such as schools, churches, and fraternal organizations. It remained in its original use until 2007 when the Casper Odd Fellows Lodge disbanded. This building was listed in the NRHP in 2009.

Casper Downtown Historic District

Name of Property

Natrona County, Wyoming

County and State

98. 143 S WOLCOTT ST *Eligibility:* Contributing
Historic Property Name(s): BARNARD BUILDING; SWEETBRIAR SHOP
Date of Construction: C. 1930
Property History:
The 1925 Sanborn shows this parcel largely vacant. The county assessor dates this building to 1935. The building first appears on the 1948 Sanborn map. Occupants over time included: Casper Veterinary (c1943-c1954); Barnard Realty (c1943-c1963); Sweetbriar Women's Clothing (c1943-c1963). The building was remodeled around 1960, at which time the original curved front was altered to its current appearance.
99. 225 S WOLCOTT ST *Eligibility:* Contributing
Historic Property Name(s): TRIANGLE MOTORS; TRIANGLE SERVICE STATION
Date of Construction: C. 1940
Property History:
The 1925 Sanborn map shows this parcel largely vacant. The county assessor dates this building to 1926. The 1925 and 1934 city directories have no listing for this address. The 1943 city directory lists Triangle Wholesale gas and Triangle Service Station at this location. The 1948 Sanborn map shows the east portion of the existing building. The earlier corner filling station was demolished and the two-story portion at the west end was added at some point after 1948. The 1954 city directory lists Triangle Motors here, as well as two oil industry offices, suggesting the 2-story section was in place by this time. The 1963 city directory lists four professional offices at this location.
100. 230 S WOLCOTT ST *Eligibility:* Noncontributing
Historic Property Name(s): PARKING GARAGE
Date of Construction: C. 1980
Property History:
The assessor dates this parking structure to 1980. It does not appear on the 1948 Sanborn map.
101. 240 S WOLCOTT ST *Eligibility:* Contributing
Historic Property Name(s): MIDWEST BUILDING; SMITH APARTMENTS
Date of Construction: C. 1915; C. 1920; C. 1950
Property History:
The county assessor dates this building to 1920. However, significant portions of this building - the east and west ends - date to between 1912 and 1918. The building was expanded, linking the two separate sections and adding a story to the west end, around 1920. The north portion, spanning the full east-west length of the building, was added after 1948. Known occupants over time included: private garage (c1918-c1948); cobbler (c1918-c1921); electric supplies shop (c1921); paint store (c1921-c1925); auto tire shop (c1921); dental lab (c1925); Electric Shoe Shop (c1925); Duncan & Wiley (c1925); Smith Apartments (c1925-34); neon sign factory (c1948); saddle repair shop (c1948); bicycle repair shop (c1943-48); Wyoming Natural Foods (c1963); numerous professional (primarily oil industry related) offices upstairs (c1954-63).

Casper Downtown Historic District

Name of Property

Natrona County, Wyoming

County and State

102. 301 S WOLCOTT ST

Historic Property Name(s):

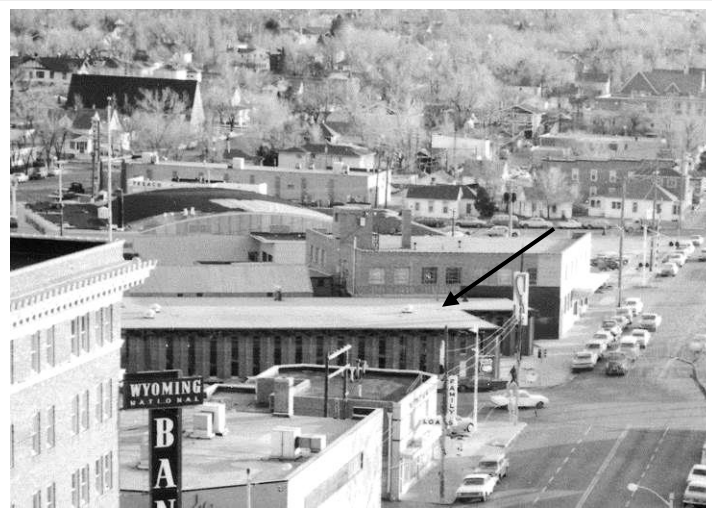
Eligibility: Contributing
SECURITY BANK BUILDING; SECURITY BANK & TRUST CO.

Date of Construction:

1963

Property History:

This building opened in 1963 as the Security Bank Building. At the time of opening a downtown office for the Pacific Power and Light Company occupied a portion of the building, as well. A newspaper article reporting on the opening of the building stated it featured "a snow removal cable buried in the concrete" which was installed by PP&L and designed to melt snow and ice as it formed. The article noted the building and its features "lend a new look to banking facilities in Casper." The interior originally featured a scalloped teller counter, reflecting the scalloped profile of the exterior piers.



C1963, Security Bank Building
Frances Seely Webb Collection, Casper College
Western History Center.

SUMMARY STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Composed primarily of commercial business buildings, as well as civic, mixed-use, domestic, and light industrial buildings, the Casper Downtown Historic District represents the historic patterns of economic development of Casper. As a grouping, this collection of buildings reflects the evolution of commercial, civic, and light-industrial functions present in Casper's primary mercantile district from the late nineteenth century through the mid-to-late twentieth century. The buildings that comprise Casper's downtown convey a sense of cohesiveness and physically represent the spectrum of building types and forms associated with local commercial development. Of the 102 resources in the District, about 70 percent contribute to the District's significance.

Casper Downtown Historic District

Name of Property

Natrona County, Wyoming

County and State

ARCHITECTS AND BUILDERS

Casper has benefitted from the several designs of architects and master builders. Among the notable figures that shaped downtown Casper were the following:

Baker, B. H., Contractor

100 W. Midwest

Bence, J. Robert and George Stein, Architects

111 W 2nd

Cottrell, George W., Contractor

215 E 2nd

Deaton, Charles, Architect

234 E 1st

Dubois & Goodrich, Architects

102 E 2nd

Engstrom & Deines, Architects and J.T. Banner & Associates

100-150 East B

Gagnon & Co. (Omaha), Contractors

141 (137-141) S Center

Garbutt, Weidner and Sweeney, Architects

125 E 2nd

112 E 2nd

200-204 E 2nd

216 E 2nd

115 N Center

141 (137-141) S Center

241 S Center

Goodrich & Krusmark, Architects

200 N Center

Goodrich & Wilking, Architects

136 S Wolcott

306 N Durbin

Howard, John W., Contractor

200 N Center

Murch Bros., Contractors

111 S Wolcott

Rognstad-Olsen Construction Co., Contractors

111 W 2nd

159 N Wolcott

307 E 2nd – (1972 addn. to library (Rognstad Const.)

Shaffer, Homer F., Architect

105 (103) N Center

Casper Downtown Historic District

Name of Property

Natrona County, Wyoming

County and State

Therkildsen, Henry, Architect

307 E 2nd (1972 add)

Ukensky, Gus A., Contractor

105 (103) N Center

Wehrli, Robert, Architect

100 W Midwest

104 S Wolcott

Wetmore, James A., Architect

111 S Wolcott

Wilbur Watson Assoc., Architects

159 N Wolcott

Casper Downtown Historic District
Name of Property

Natrona County, Wyoming
County and State

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

Casper City Directory 1912. Casper, Wyoming: Casper Press, 1912.

Casper Chronicles. Casper, Wyoming: Casper Zonta Club, 1964.

Casper Diamond Jubilee Souvenir Program. 1964.

Cronin, Vaughn Stephen. *Casper*. 2009.

Fitch, James Marston. *American Building: The Historic Forces That Shaped It*. New York: Schocken Books, 1978.

Garbutt, Irving and Chuck Morrison. *Casper Centennial 1889-1989*. Dallas, Texas: Curtis Media Corporation, 1990.

Garbutt, Irving. *I Was There*. Casper, Wyoming: Casper Journal, 2003.

Henry-Mead, Jean. *Casper Country*. Evansville, Wyoming: Medallion Books, 2004.

Jones, Walter R. *History of the Sand Bar: 188-1977*. Casper, Wyoming: BASO, Inc., 1981.

Jones, Walter R. *A Window to the World: The First 100 Years of the Natrona County Public Library*. Casper, Wyoming: Natrona County Public Library, 2010.

Judge, Bill. *Old Fort Caspar*. Casper, Wyoming: Fort Caspar Commission, nd.

Junge, Mark. *A View from Center Street: Tom Carrigen's Casper*. Denver: Sprint Denver, 2003.

Kukura, Edna and Susan True. *Casper: A Pictorial History*. Norfolk, Virginia: Donning Company Publishers, 1986.

Longstreth, Richard. *The Buildings of Main Street: A Guide to American Commercial Architecture*. Washington, DC: The Preservation Press, 1987.

McAlester, Virginia and Lee. *A Field Guide to American Houses*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, Inc., 1984.

Mokler, Alfred James. *History of Natrona County Wyoming 1888-1922*. Chicago: R.R. Donnelley and Sons, 1923.

Natrona County Planning and Zoning Commission/Casper Community Planning Commission. "City of Casper Natrona County Comprehensive Plan Survey and Analysis Report." Casper, Wyoming: Midwest Planning and Research, Inc., June 1970.

Polk's Casper City Directory 1934-1935. Kansas City, Missouri: R.L. Polk & Company, 1934.

Polk's Casper City Directory 1943. Kansas City, Missouri: R.L. Polk & Company, 1943.

Polk's Casper City Directory 1954. Kansas City, Missouri: R.L. Polk & Company, 1954.

Polk's Casper City Directory 1963. Kansas City, Missouri: R.L. Polk & Company, 1963.

Rifkind, Carole. *A Field Guide to American Architecture*. New York: Times Mirror New American Library, 1980.

R.L. Polk and Company's Casper City and Natrona County Directory 1917-1918. Kansas City, Missouri: R.L. Polk & Company, 1917.

Casper Downtown Historic District

Name of Property

Natrona County, Wyoming

County and State

- R.L. Polk and Company's Casper City and Natrona County Directory 1920-1921*. Kansas City, Missouri: R.L. Polk & Company, 1920.
- R.L. Polk and Company's Casper City and Natrona County Directory 1925*. Kansas City, Missouri: R.L. Polk & Company, 1925.
- P.J. Rose, "100 Years of Solitude," in *The Casper Century*, Casper, Wyoming: Casper Star-Tribune, July 1989, 104-113.
- Sanborn Fire Insurance Map of Casper, Wyoming*. New York: Sanborn-Perris Map Company, 1894.
<http://proxy.mcpl.lib.mo.us/login?url=http://sanborn.umi.com> (accessed December 2, 2013).
- Sanborn Fire Insurance Map of Casper, Wyoming*. New York: Sanborn Map & Publishing Company, 1903.
<http://proxy.mcpl.lib.mo.us/login?url=http://sanborn.umi.com> (accessed December 2, 2013).
- Sanborn Fire Insurance Map of Casper, Wyoming*. New York: Sanborn Map & Publishing Company, 1907.
<http://proxy.mcpl.lib.mo.us/login?url=http://sanborn.umi.com> (accessed December 2, 2013).
- Sanborn Fire Insurance Map of Casper, Wyoming*. New York: Sanborn Map & Publishing Company, 1912.
<http://proxy.mcpl.lib.mo.us/login?url=http://sanborn.umi.com> (accessed December 2, 2013).
- Sanborn Fire Insurance Map of Casper, Wyoming*. New York: Sanborn Map & Publishing Company, 1918.
<http://proxy.mcpl.lib.mo.us/login?url=http://sanborn.umi.com> (accessed December 2, 2013).
- Sanborn Fire Insurance Map of Casper, Wyoming*. New York: Sanborn Map & Publishing Company, 1921.
<http://proxy.mcpl.lib.mo.us/login?url=http://sanborn.umi.com> (accessed December 2, 2013).
- Sanborn Fire Insurance Map of Casper, Wyoming*. New York: Sanborn Map & Publishing Company, 1925.
<http://proxy.mcpl.lib.mo.us/login?url=http://sanborn.umi.com> (accessed December 2, 2013).
- Sanborn Fire Insurance Map of Casper, Wyoming*. New York: Sanborn Map & Publishing Company, 1948.
<http://proxy.mcpl.lib.mo.us/login?url=http://sanborn.umi.com> (accessed December 2, 2013).
- Trumbull, Con and Kem Nicolaysen. *Images of America: Casper*. Charleston, South Carolina: Arcadia Publishing, 2013.
- Works Projects Administration, Writers' Program. *Wyoming: A Guide to Its History, Highways and People*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1966.
- Yellowstone Highway Association. "Official Route Book of the Yellowstone Highway Association in Wyoming and Colorado." Chicago: Wallace Press, 1916. Available from <https://archive.org/details/officialrouteboo00yell> (accessed April 7, 2014).

Casper Downtown Historic District

Name of Property

Natrona County, Wyoming

County and State

Previous documentation on file (NPS): N/A

☐ 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):

N/A

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Approximately 46 acres

(Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	<u>13</u> Zone	<u>391667</u> Easting	<u>4745312</u> Northing	3	<u>13</u> Zone	<u>392030</u> Easting	<u>4744816</u> Northing
2	<u>13</u> Zone	<u>392061</u> Easting	<u>4745221</u> Northing	4	<u>13</u> Zone	<u>391612</u> Easting	<u>4744583</u> Northing

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

The boundary is shown as the bold line on the accompanying map entitled "Figure 3: District Map."

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundary of the Casper Downtown Historic District encompasses, without exceeding, the concentration of historic resources that retain architectural integrity and are significantly associated with the commercial development of the community during the period of significance. The District's boundary corresponds to the parcel lines of the included properties, all of which lie within the original limits of the town's original plat and early additions.

The contributing resources define the historic setting and sense of place of downtown Casper, which is underscored and strengthened by the intact historic street network. The historic Modern Movement commercial and institutional buildings at the north, east, and south edges of the District are key elements to understanding the historic development of the Casper's downtown well into the post-WWII period.

Nonhistoric buildings and vacant lots form much of the boundary in each direction. The commercial properties adjacent to and beyond the boundaries were considered for inclusion, but were determined ineligible for reasons of integrity or age.

Casper Downtown Historic District
Name of Property

Natrona County, Wyoming
County and State

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Kerry Davis

organization Preservation Solutions LLC (PSLLC)

Date August 2016

street & number 1007 E Jefferson St.

telephone 816-225-5605

city or town Boise

state ID

zip code 83712

e-mail kdavis@preservation-solutions.net

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.)

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: Casper Downtown Historic District

City or Vicinity: Casper

County: Natrona County

State: Wyoming

Photographer: Richard Collier

Date Photographed: May 2-3, 2016

Description of Photograph(s) and number:

254-300 North Center Street, Photographer facing northwest.

1 of 35

Dick Cheney Federal Building, 100 East B Street, Photographer facing north.

2 of 35

Dick Cheney Federal Building and Post Office, 100-150 East B Street. Photographer facing west-northwest.

3 of 35

Natrona County Courthouse, 200 North Center Street. Photographer facing west.

4 of 35

200 North Wolcott Street. Photographer facing west.

5 of 35

201 North Wolcott Street. Photographer facing east.

6 of 35

Casper Downtown Historic District

Name of Property

Natrona County, Wyoming

County and State

223 North Durbin Street. Photographer facing east.

7 of 35

152 North Durbin Street. Photographer facing southwest.

8 of 35

328-334 East A Street. Photographer facing northwest.

9 of 35

333 East A Street. Photographer facing southwest.

10 of 35

103 North Durbin Street. Photographer facing northeast.

11 of 35

234 East 1st Street. Photographer facing northwest.

12 of 35

234A East 1st Street. Photographer facing northeast.

13 of 35

100-138 North Center Street. Photographer facing southwest.

14 of 35

120 Market Street. Photographer facing northwest.

15 of 35

119 South Center Street. Photographer facing southeast.

16 of 35

141-147 South Center Street. Photographer facing northeast.

17 of 35

128-144 South Center Street. Photographer facing northwest.

18 of 35

162 South Center Street. Photographer facing northwest.

19 of 35

111 West 2nd Street. Photographer facing west southwest.

20 of 35

North side of East 2nd Street between Center Street and Wolcott Street. Photographer facing northeast.

21 of 35

Casper Downtown Historic District

Natrona County, Wyoming
County and State

Name of Property

South side of East 2nd Street between Center Street and Wolcott Street. Photographer facing southeast.
22 of 35

124-136 East 2nd Street. Photographer facing northeast.
23 of 35

Northwest corner of East 2nd Street and South Wolcott Street. Photographer facing northwest.
24 of 35

Northeast corner of East 2nd Street and South Wolcott Street. Photographer facing northeast.
25 of 35

229-233 East 2nd Street. Photographer facing southwest.
26 of 35

North side of East 2nd Street between Wolcott Street and Durbin Street. Photographer facing northwest.
27 of 35

West side of South Center Street between alley and Midwest Avenue. Photographer facing southwest.
28 of 35

East side of South Center Street between alley and Midwest Avenue. Photographer facing southeast.
29 of 35

235-241 South David Street. Photographer facing east.
30 of 35

335 South David Street. Photographer facing east.
31 of 35

100 West Midwest Avenue. Photographer facing northwest.
32 of 35

Southwest corner of South Center Street and Midwest Avenue. Photographer facing southwest.
33 of 35

240 South Wolcott Street. Photographer facing northwest.
34 of 35

301 East Midwest Avenue. Photographer facing southeast.
35 of 35

Property Owner:

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

Casper Downtown Historic District
Name of Property

Natrona County, Wyoming
County and State

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 of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

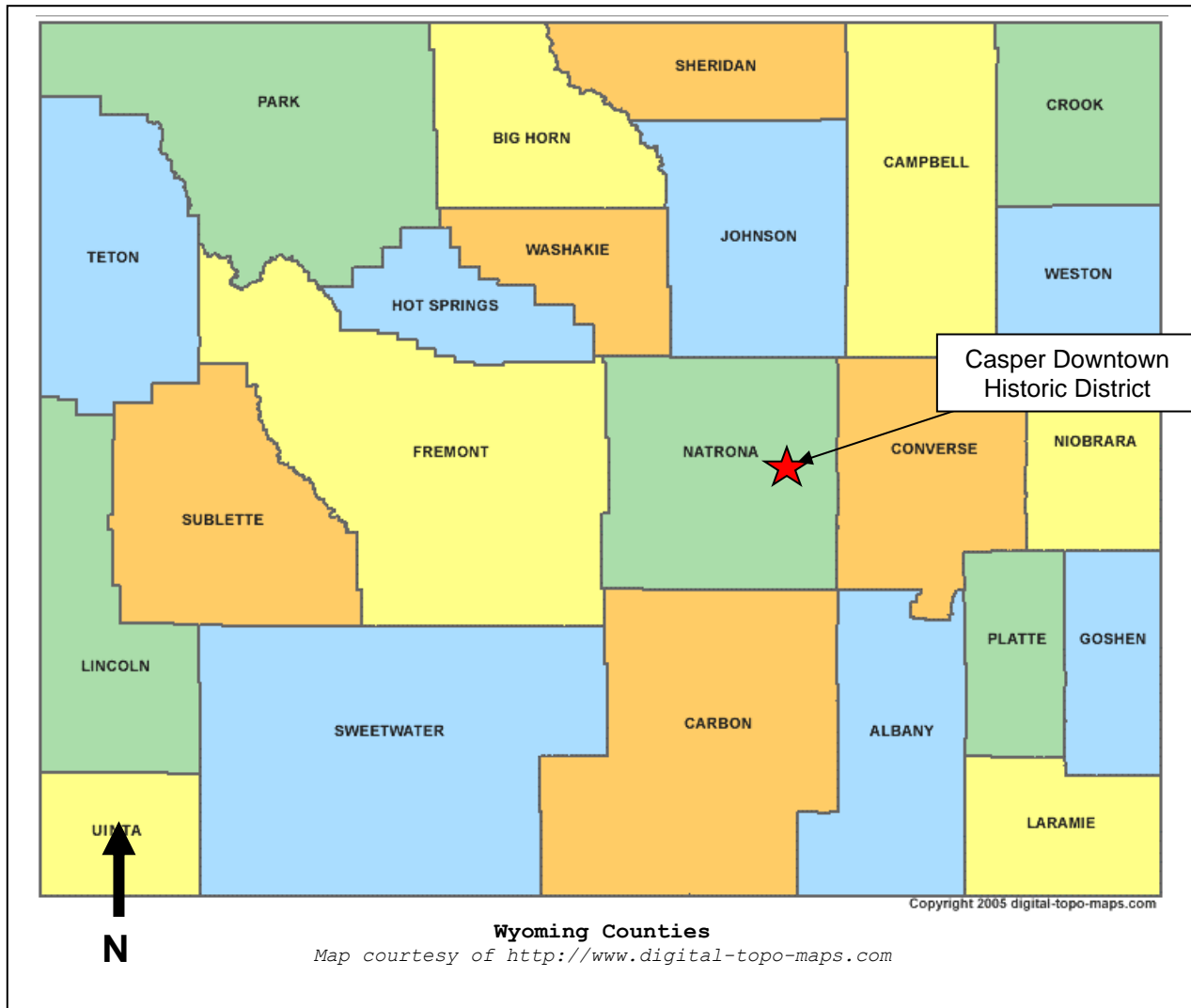
Casper Downtown Historic District

Name of Property

Natrona County, Wyoming

County and State

Figure 1: Location Map



Casper Downtown Historic District

Name of Property

Natrona County, Wyoming

County and State

Figure 2: USGS Quadrangle Map



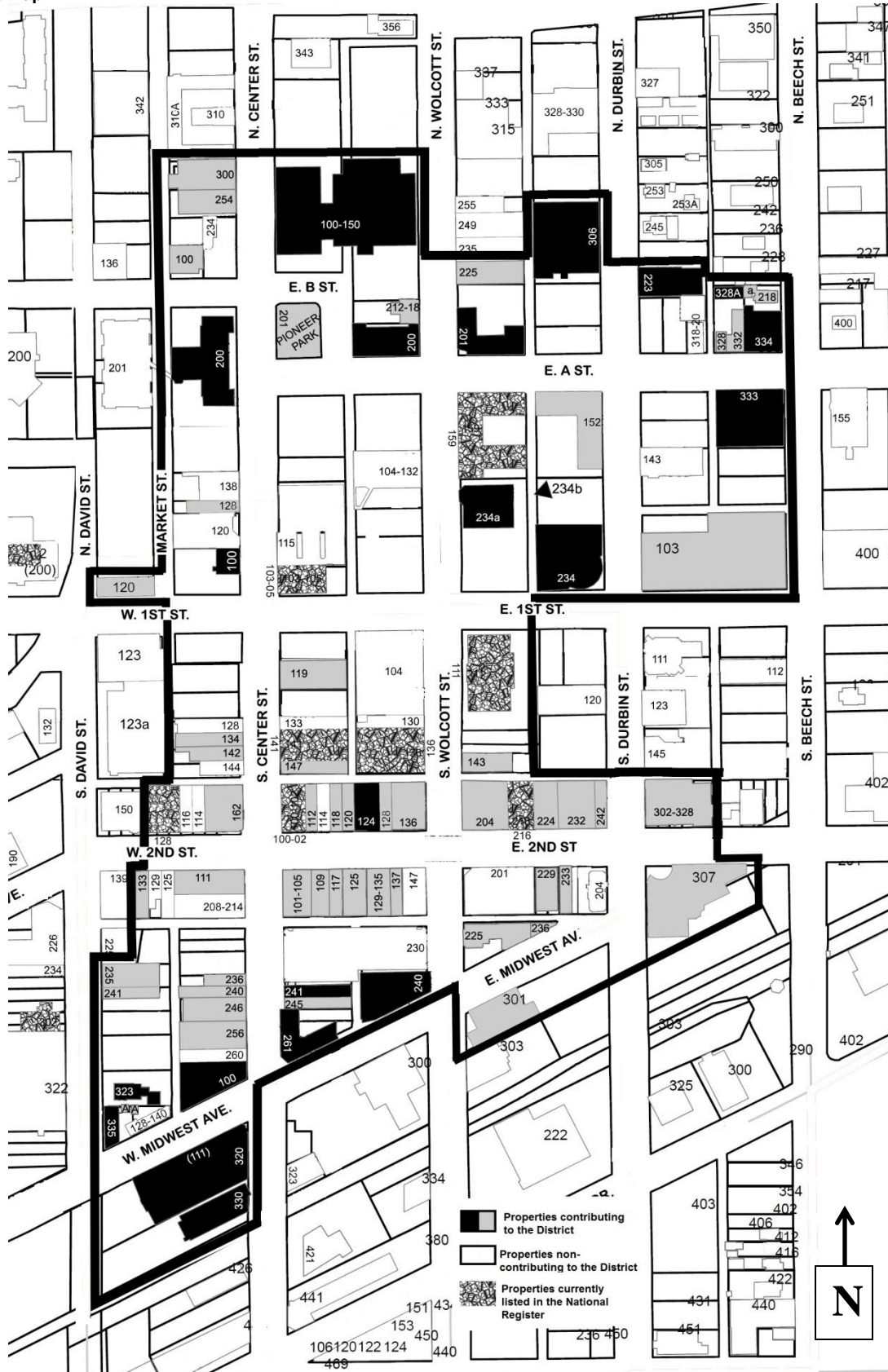
Casper Downtown Historic District

Name of Property

Natrona County, Wyoming

County and State

Figure 3: District Map



Casper Downtown Historic District

Name of Property

Natrona County, Wyoming

County and State

Figure 4: Photograph Location Map

