

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

08001061

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
REGISTRATION FORM**



**1. Name of Property**

**NEWCASTLE COMMERCIAL DISTRICT**  
historic name:  
other names/site number: 48WE1320

**2. Location**

street & number:

various  
Newcastle, WY 82701

not for publication: N/A  
vicinity: N/A

city or town: Newcastle

state: Wyoming code: 56 county: Weston code: 045 zip code 82701

**3. State/Federal Agency Certification**

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this X nomination \_\_\_ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property X meets \_\_\_ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant \_\_\_ nationally \_\_\_ statewide X locally. ( \_\_\_ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Mary Hopkins 1/27/2009  
Signature of certifying official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property \_\_\_ meets \_\_\_ does not meet the National Register criteria.  
( \_\_\_ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

**4. National Park Service Certification**

I, hereby certify that this property is:

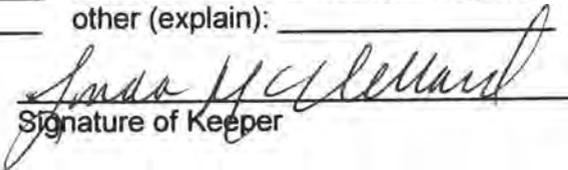
entered in the National Register  
 See continuation sheet.

determined eligible for the National Register  
 See continuation sheet.

determined not eligible for the National Register

removed from the National Register

other (explain): \_\_\_\_\_

  
Signature of Keeper

4-21-09  
Date of Action

**5. Classification**

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property (Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>23</u>	<u>0</u>	buildings
—	—	sites
—	—	structures
—	—	objects
<u>23</u>	<u>0</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: 2

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

N/A

## 6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat:

Sub:

DOMESTIC  
COMMERCE/TRADE  
COMMERCE/TRADE  
COMMERCE/TRADE  
COMMERCE/TRADE  
EDUCATION  
GOVERNMENT  
GOVERNMENT  
RECREATION AND CULTURE  
TRANSPORTATION

hotel  
specialty store  
restaurant  
business  
professional  
library  
courthouse  
post office  
theater  
rail-related

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat:

Sub:

DOMESTIC  
COMMERCE/TRADE  
COMMERCE/TRADE  
COMMERCE/TRADE  
COMMERCE/TRADE  
EDUCATION  
GOVERNMENT  
GOVERNMENT  
RECREATION AND CULTURE  
TRANSPORTATION

hotel  
specialty store  
restaurant  
business  
professional  
library  
courthouse  
post office  
theater  
rail-related

## 7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: LATE 19TH AND EARLY 20TH CENTURY MOVEMENTS

Sub: Classical Revival/Neo-Classical Revival

Cat: LATE VICTORIAN

Sub: Italianate

Cat: MODERN MOVEMENT

Sub: Moderne

Cat: OTHER

Sub: 20<sup>th</sup> Century Commercial

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation	<u>STONE: Sandstone, Granite</u> <u>CONCRETE</u> <u>BRICK</u>
roof	<u>WOOD: Shingle, Shake</u> <u>ASPHALT</u>
walls	<u>Wood</u> <u>METAL: Tin, Steel</u> <u>STONE: Sandstone</u> <u>BRICK</u>
other	_____

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

SEE CONTINUATION SHEETS

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**NEWCASTLE COMMERCIAL DISTRICT  
WESTON COUNTY, WYOMING**

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## **7. Description**

The Newcastle Commercial District consists of the central business district of Newcastle, Wyoming. Newcastle was a railroad town created by the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad (the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad), which built through the region in 1889, so that its focus was the rail yards and depot. Building construction was limited by the steep terrain of the foothills of the Black Hills to the northeast. The small commercial district is comprised of portions of six half-blocks fronting on West Main Street between Summit Avenue on the northeast and the Burlington Northern-Santa Fe Railroad tracks on the southwest and a parcel of land surrounding the Burlington Northern-Santa Fe Railroad Depot along the railroad tracks. Building construction dates range from 1890 to 1952, the last date representing a late-1940s to early 1950s building expansion period in the district resulting from an oil boom in Weston County. Therefore, 1952 was chosen as the closing date for the period of significance. The proposed district represents the best concentration of contiguous commercial buildings retaining integrity within the overall Newcastle historic commercial district.

### **Methodology**

The district contains twenty-three buildings, all of which are considered to be contributing elements to the District. Buildings include structures built for commercial, financial, social, recreational, and transportation purposes.

Construction dates for buildings are based on the documentation obtained during the 2006 Phase I inventory. The dates were obtained from a variety of sources, including (1) Weston County courthouse property records; (2) Sanborn Fire Insurance maps of Newcastle dating from 1891, 1896, 1903, 1907, 1912, 1920, and 1936. These maps are extremely accurate and are considered to be the most reliable source for date ranges; (3) extensive newspaper research; (4) knowledgeable local informants and the Anna Miller Museum historical files.

Buildings were inventoried and ranked for level of contribution. Table 1 is a listing of all properties included in the district and contains the building number (keyed to site map), address, Smithsonian site number, contributing/noncontributing status, and approximate date of construction. Table 2 contains an entry for each property in the district and includes building number (keyed to site map), address, brief architectural description, condition/alterations, estimated date of construction, and contributing status and rating (3, 2, 1, or 0).

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### **Ratings Criteria**

Physical integrity was determined by applying the following criteria to each building. Would the original owner recognize it? Have alterations made it impossible to understand the original appearance of the building? Each building was evaluated as contributing or noncontributing based on physical integrity and the resulting sense of time and place conveyed. A rating of 3 was given for strong integrity in that the building has not experienced major or insensitive exterior changes; 2 for buildings that have experienced some changes. The most common changes in this category have occurred to the street level of multiple-story commercial buildings, such as new display windows, the alteration of recessed entrances, covering of the clerestory area, the alteration, addition or removal of awnings, new signs and signboards, and changes in basic fabric. A rating of 1 would apply to buildings considered noncontributing/nonintrusive, usually because of a series of insensitive exterior alterations such as siding, changed windows and doors, additions, and roof alterations. A rating of 0 would apply to modern intrusions that do not contribute to the commercial character of the district in any way. The final two categories were excluded by boundary from the Newcastle Commercial District.

Twenty-three buildings are included in the district; most are commercial buildings, as well as political and educational facilities and one railroad depot. All of the buildings (100 percent) are considered contributing. Two are previously enrolled in the National Register of Historic Places: the Weston County Courthouse and the Newcastle Main Post Office.

There are two concentrated areas of modern infill within the district, both located on the south side of West Main Street. These areas have been removed by drawing exclusionary boundaries using lot lines, alleys and streets.

### **Architectural Styles**

Twentieth Century Commercial: The majority of the commercial buildings within the district represent this style, which consists of one and two-story buildings with flat or slightly pitched roofs, and displaying very little ornamentation other than decorative brickwork along the cornice or a parapet. They often retain many of the elements of nineteenth century commercial buildings to include single or multiple storefronts with recessed entrances with transoms flanked by display windows with kickplates, and clerestories. Good examples of this style are Building No. 7 (Sagebrush Realty, 121 West Main, constructed 1939), a single storefront featuring a glass block clerestory and black tile kickplates, and Building No. 19 (Crafter's Mall/A Stitch in Time, 210 West Main, constructed 1919), a double storefront that also exhibits a glass block clerestory.

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**Classical Revival:** The Weston County Courthouse (Building No. 1), constructed in 1910-11, is a notable building that combines elements of the Neo-Classical Revival, such as the pedimented portico, and the coupled columns that were a common feature of Beaux-Arts Classicism. These styles reached their zenith in America during the 1890-1915 time period and were common in many public buildings such as post offices, courthouses, and libraries. It is interesting to note that the courthouse was designed by Newcastle architect Charles A. Randall, and Swedish stone masons played a key role using locally quarried sandstone in its construction, including the columns. The Newcastle Main Post Office (Building No. 16) is a more simple example of the Neo-Classical style. It built was in 1932 and followed a standard federal government design by James A. Wetmore. As such, it represented the transition in philosophy from the Classical influence to the "Starved Classicism" of the later 1930s. Key architectural elements include the entry bay framed with flat-fluted wooden pilasters that support a triangular pedimented frontispiece, limestone lintels with angular ends and pronounced keystone, two window bays flanking either side of the entry bay consisting of semicircular arches that enclose a tympanum and surrounds of brick (blind arches), and a brick parapet over the central section of the facade that consists of alternating brick battlements and limestone balustrades.

Weston County Library (Building No. 2) was constructed in 1911 and was also designed by Charles A. Randall. The original component has a clean, well-balanced rectangular plan with its bellcast hipped roof and regularly-spaced window bays and central entry. It retains several ornate Neoclassical details, such as flat stone arches with keystones, brick pilasters at the principal corners and on either side of the entry that resemble Tuscan Order columns with unadorned capitals, and raised rusticated stone foundation.

**Moderne:** The Antlers Hotel (Building No. 10, 203 West Main Street), the oldest building in the Newcastle Commercial District (1890), received a major renovation in 1939, and as a result, the facade now reflects the Moderne style of architecture. The renovation reflects, in part, the mood of America at the time, as the Depression put an end to the age of affluence that was marked by the "ornamental extravagance" of Art Deco. This was also true of the nineteenth century Italianate commercial building facade that the renovation erased. A white stucco finish covered all previous brick ornamentation, and curved half walls lined the concrete steps leading to the main entry, which is protected by a chrome curved awning. Simple but large rectangular windows were installed during the renovation with liberal use of glass block panels. The Streamline Moderne style emphasized horizontality over vertical features, curved surfaces, and lack of ornamentation. Even the local newspaper emphasized the "streamlined" design of the new facade and interior spaces in the lobby when describing the renovation of the Antlers Hotel. The "before and after" appearance of the building is nowhere more apparent than on the northeast side of the building where the renovated stucco facade contrasts starkly with the original red brick walls.

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**Italianate:** The building at 129 West Main Street (1890) is the best remaining example of nineteenth century Italianate commercial architecture in the Newcastle Commercial District. The Italianate style emphasized vertical proportions and richly decorative detailing. Only minimal changes have occurred to the exterior of this corner building so that all of the architectural elements of the style are on display, including the ornate projecting bracketed metal cornice, and the rectangular stone crowns on the tall, thin double-hung windows.

The Grieves Building (Building No. 18, 110-114 West Main) was originally known as the A.M. Nichols Block. It is a two-story stone commercial building designed by Newcastle architect C.A. Randall, who also designed the Weston County Courthouse and Library. It is one of the best remaining examples of a locally quarried stone building utilizing Swedish stonemasons. Constructed in 1910, the building originally retained many of the design elements of a nineteenth-century commercial building with three recessed entrances and clerestories. However, only the central entry in the three-segmented facade currently retains these elements. The upper story of the facade retains the majority of its decorative stonework and the distinctive parapet with its central arch flanked by two triangles.

**Mission Style:** The Burlington Northern-Santa Fe Railroad Depot (Building No. 23), constructed in 1936, used plans drawn up by the railroad. This fine one-story gable-roofed building retains elements of Mission Style architecture with walls that are finished with stucco with dark red brick accents resembling quoins at the building corners, a gable roof with extended eaves with decorative timbers, a round arched door with brick tab surrounds, and round windows with brick-tabbed surrounds in the gable ends.

Table 1, below, is a list of the twenty-three buildings within the district, including their building number (keyed to site map), address, current business (as of time of survey), site number, contributing status, and approximate date of construction.

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**NEWCASTLE COMMERCIAL DISTRICT  
 WESTON COUNTY, WYOMING**

**Table 1. Newcastle Commercial District**

No.	Address	Current Business	Site No.	NR Status	approx. date of construction
1	1 West Main	Weston County Courthouse	48WE1320/ 48WE1160	enrolled on NR; contributing 3	1911
2	23 West Main	Weston County Library	48WE1320/ 48WE1321	contributing 3	1911
3	107 West Main	Modern Cleaners	48WE1320/ 48WE1322	contributing 2	1929
4	111 West Main	Dogie Theater	48WE1320/ 48WE1323	contributing 2	1951
5	115 West Main	Curves	48WE1320/ 48WE1324	contributing 2	1950
6	119 West Main	Something Healthy	48WE1320/ 48WE1325	contributing 2	1941
7	121 West Main	Sagebrush Realty	48WE1320/ 48WE1326	contributing 2	1939
8	123 West Main	R&R Photo	48WE1320/ 48WE1327	contributing 2	1900
9	129 West Main	Cashbox Ceramics	48WE1320/4 8WE1229	contributing 3	1890
10	203 West Main	Antlers Hotel	48WE1320/4 8WE1328	contributing 2	1890
11	207 West Main	Donna's Diner	48WE1320/ 48WE1329	contributing 2	1905
12	219 West Main	Hardware Hanks	48WE1320/ 48WE1330	contributing 2	1930
13	227 West Main	The Carter Company	48WE1320/ 48WE1331	contributing 2	1928
14	14 West Main	News Letter Journal	48WE1320/ 48WE1332	contributing 2	1949
15	18 West Main	Hansen & Peck	48WE1320/ 48WE1333	contributing 2	1938
16	West Main	U.S. Post Office	48WE1320/ 48WE353	enrolled on NR; contributing 3	1933

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17	12 South Sumner	Isabella's Restaurant	48WE1320/ 48WE1335	contributing 2	1912-1920
18	110-114 West Main	Grieves Building	48WE1320/ 48WE1336	contributing 3	1910
19	210 West Main	Crafter's Mall (A Stitch in Time)	48WE1320/ 48WE1337	contributing 2	1919
20	212-216 West Main	Masonic Building	48WE1320/ 48WE1338	contributing 2	1930/1951
21	218 West Main	TD Photo	48WE1320/ 48WE1339	contributing 2	1912-1920
22	222 West Main	Drunkin' Dog Saloon	48WE1320/ 48WE1340	contributing 2	1940
23	South Railway Avenue	Burlington-Santa Fe Depot	48WE1320/ 48WE1342	contributing 3	1936

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**Table 2. Newcastle Commercial Historic District: Architectural descriptions, physical integrity, dates of construction/renovation, and contributing status. ("Name" indicates commonly known name of building or the name of the occupying business as of April 2007)**

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1.

**Name:** Weston County Courthouse

**Address:** 1 West Main

**Physical description:** The Weston County Courthouse is a two-story red brick and sandstone flat-roofed building (main component, 75'6" E-W x 51'6" N-S) of Classical Revival style with Beaux Arts detailing, resting on a raised, rusticated sandstone foundation with a full garden-level basement. The sandstone continues through the first story where it is separated from the brick second story by a projecting flat stone belt course that surrounds the building on three sides. Sandstone quoins define the second story corners of the building.

The facade or south side fronts on West Main Street and features a two-story projecting pavilion with paired Ionic columns supporting a full entablature and dentilled pediment with molded detailing in the tympanum. Four galvanized metal globes accent the parapet on the facade and a statue of blindfolded Justice straddles the ridge of the gable-roofed pediment. Concrete steps with sandstone half walls and wrought iron railings lead to the main glass and aluminum twin-leaf entry surrounded by a two-story sandstone round arch with radiating voussoirs and keystone and a modern three-light window and aluminum panel inserts. The original twin-leaf door with sidelights and the one-story round arched window above were later replaced with modern aluminum-framed windows and doors. The secondary entrance on the east side is accessed via concrete steps with sandstone half walls and mimics the facade entry on a smaller scale with a round arch entry with sandstone radiating voussoirs and keystone. The entry has a single door surrounded by sidelights and a large fanlight. The door and windows have also been replaced with aluminum and glass doors and windows. The building is topped by an octagonal-shaped cupola covered with a patterned metal roof. Originally, four round-arched double hung windows alternated with flat-arched blind panels that may have once contained glass lights although an early photograph depicts them as they are today. The round windows were later covered with wood panels.

On the three prominent sides of the building (east, west and south), round-arched windows are used on the first story with flat sandstone-arched windows on the second. The north side or back of the building has rectangular-shaped windows with a simple arch of two rows of header brick and sandstone sills. All of the flat-arched windows on all sides have been replaced with glass block or aluminum framed windows with small hopper sash inserts. The smaller flat-arched basement windows have also been replaced or covered over with a wood panel.

A two-story war memorial wing with raised basement was added to the west side of the building in 1953. The addition is recessed from the main block and is compatible with its use of sandstone for the first two floors and brick for the third floor. The entry is located at the basement level on the east side. A flat metal canopy is attached to the facade of the addition above the windows and door; on its fascia reads the phrase "IN MEMORY OF THOSE WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES FOR HOME AND COUNTRY." Below the canopy are three large rectangular plaques, resembling window openings at a distance, that bear inscriptions of the names of the Weston County war dead.

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WESTON COUNTY, WYOMING**

A free-standing memorial water fountain to honor native son and Wyoming Congressman Keith Thompson is located on the courthouse grounds. The sandstone memorial was constructed of stone salvaged from the demolition of the city's Wyoming National Guard building that was located across from the courthouse.

Alterations have occurred to the building both inside and out including the aforementioned door and window replacements. In the 1970s, the interior was remodeled to include the courtroom, judges chambers, and law library at a cost of \$85,000. In order to accommodate the handicapped, a small sandstone addition was constructed in 1990 at the basement level of the facade, that covered up an original window and included a new door that provided access to a modern elevator. The elevator replaced one-half of the original double interior staircase.

**Physical integrity/alterations:** The building retains integrity of location. Integrity of setting is rated as good, as the building occupies an elevated position at the head of W. Main Street overlooking the commercial district. The courthouse, Carnegie library, and U.S. Post Office, the most dominant buildings in the commercial district, are in close proximity on both sides of West Main Street. Integrity of design, materials, and workmanship are rated as good as the building retains its essential Classical Revival and Beaux Arts architectural features such as the impressive twin stone columns, first story stonework, and arched windows and doors. The 1954 addition is small in proportion to the original building, and an attempt was made to duplicate materials. The glass block second story windows and aluminum and glass doors are the most visible exterior changes. Integrity of feeling and association is rated as good.

**Estimated date of construction/renovation:** 1911; 1953 addition  
**Status:** contributing/3 (enrolled in National Register of Historic Places)

**2.**

**Name:** Weston County Library

**Address:** 23 West Main

**Physical description:** This is a one and one-half-story brick masonry, hipped-roofed building (58' E-W x 37-1/2' N-S, original building) resting on a rusticated stone foundation laid in regular courses with a full basement (garden level). Two-light windows furnish light to the basement. The exterior walls consist of blonde or tan brick with brick pilasters at the principal corners and on either side of the main entrance that resemble Tuscan Order columns with unadorned capitals. The hipped roof has an extension on all sides that resembles a bellcast hipped roof and is covered with green ribbed metal. The extended eaves are boxed. The facade or south side fronts on West Main Street. The main entrance has been modified into a window bay and is no longer used. Access is now gained through a modern addition on the east side of the building. The entry formerly had twin-leaf doors. However, it retains a two-light transom with a flat stone arch with keystone. The flat stone arches are repeated above the regularly-spaced windows in the facade, and the windows have stone sills. Windows are two-light casement units with two-light transoms and metal frames. They appear to be replacements. The basement windows are vertically aligned with the upper units. The west side of the building repeats the pattern of the facade. However, there is also a single entrance with flat stone arch that no longer appears to be used. Most of the north side and all of the east side of the building is obscured by a large flat-roofed brick masonry one-story addition that was constructed in 1983 using matching blonde brick. The south side has an open flat-roofed porch supported by round concrete columns with steel pipe railings and a metal cornice that matches the original roof material and color. The slanted concrete deck provides handicapped access to the building. The name "Weston County Library" is embossed on the south face in large black metal letters. The east side of the addition has two recessed single entrances. This part of the addition extends eastward toward the adjacent courthouse, and there is a wide brick chimney

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located in the ell of the east addition. The east wall of the north portion of the addition contains two banks of four-light fixed windows with metal frames. The north side of the addition consists of three segments evenly divided by narrow brick pilasters that extend northward and a metal cornice that mimics the roof of the original building. A narrow band of fixed lights occupy the top of the north wall. Similar windows occupy the bottom of the wall in the two west segments. A raised concrete foundation matches in height the stone foundation of the original building.

**Physical integrity/alterations:** The building retains integrity of location. Integrity of setting is rated as good. Integrity of design, materials, and workmanship are rated as fair because the building received a substantial brick addition to the north and east sides in 1983. However, the sides that front on West Main Street and Sumner remain nearly original. Therefore, integrity of feeling and association is also rated as fair to good.

**Estimated date of construction/renovation:** 1911; additions 1983

**Status:** contributing/3

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3.

**Name:** Modern Cleaners

**Address:** 107 West Main

**Physical description:** This is a tall one-story flat-roofed commercial building (119 N-S x 25' E-W) resting on a 50% poured concrete and 50% cement block foundation with a partial basement (25' square). The exterior walls are 60% stone and 40% cement block covered with stucco with brown face brick on the facade (south side). The flat roof has a wood deck with a built-up tar covering and a parapet capped with cement. The facade or south side fronts on West Main Street. According to the 1936 Sanborn Fire Insurance map, the building once had two narrow storefronts. The first-story facade is slightly canted so that the east end is inset by three feet. The facade is protected by a 7' x 25' metal canopy. The entrance is at the east end and consists of a single aluminum and glass door. There is also a twin-leaf wood door at the rear or north end of the building. Display windows with aluminum frames occupy the remainder of the facade west of the door with a green tile kickplate area below. There is a narrow clerestory above the canopy, a secondary brick cornice, and three inset rectangular brick panels above. A neon and aluminum sign is affixed to the facade above the clerestory. The east side of the building is covered with stucco. The west side adjoins the Dogie Theater building. In 1956, the north end or rear of the building received a 25' x 25' addition.

**Physical integrity/alterations:** The building retains integrity of location. Integrity of setting is rated as fair to good with a vacant lot on the east and the Dogie Theater, which has been at that location since 1951, to the west. Integrity of design, materials, workmanship are rated as fair to good with minimal changes to the exterior since it was constructed. The 1956 addition is not readily visible from the street and is now 50 years of age. Therefore, integrity of feeling and association is rated as fair to good.

**Estimated date of construction/renovation:** 1929; rear addition 1956

**Status:** contributing/2

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4.

**Name:** Dogie Theater

**Address:** 111 West Main

**Physical description:** This is a two-story brick masonry flat-roofed commercial building (130' N-S x 50' E-W) resting on a poured concrete foundation with a partial basement (50' x 15'). The reinforced masonry building has exterior walls of common red brick with brown face brick on the facade or south side. The flat roof has

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a wood deck built-up with tar and gravel. The building has a brick parapet capped with cement. The facade or south side fronts on West Main Street. The building was originally designed and built in 1951 as a movie theater and has retained that function throughout its history. The facade has a large recessed main entrance with four glass and wooden doors. There is an enclosed ticket booth on the east side of the entrance, and there are movie posters displayed in enclosed glass cases on either side on the canted walls. The entrance is covered by a V-shaped metal marquee suspended from the face of the facade by chains and accented with neon tubing and a neon sign spelling out the name of the theater. The marquee also has a signboard on its east and west sides using changeable letters. In addition to the theater entrance, the street level also has two pedestrian entries with wood and glass doors on the west end of the facade. There is a small barber shop with a single wood and glass door and display window located at the east end of the facade. The barbershop displays a small revolving red, white and blue-striped barber pole. There are two metal pedestrian doors located in the rear or north end of the building. The second story of the facade has four window bays. The central two bays are identical and consist of a one-light fixed window flanked by elongated five-light casement windows with metal frames. The outer window on each end of the facade consists of similar ten-light casement windows (five on a side) without the fixed one-light central window unit. The top two lights are fixed panes. All of the windows have brick sills. The building is unadorned except for a protruding brick pilaster on the east side of the facade that extends above the parapet of the building. It does not appear to serve any function other than decorative.

The interior of the building contains a 34' x 50' mezzanine at the front or south end. The main floor has auditorium seating, a 50' x 15' stage area at the north end and a 13' square basement pit centered in front of the stage. The floors consist of reinforced concrete and the interior walls are plaster. The interior of the building is currently being renovated with new seating and painting.

**Physical integrity/alterations:** The building retains integrity of location. Integrity of setting is rated as fair to good with the building at 107 West Main (Modern Cleaners) on the east side which was constructed in 1929, and the building at 115 West Main (Curves) on the south side, which was constructed in 1950. Integrity of design, materials, workmanship are rated as good with minimal changes to the exterior of the theater since it was constructed. Therefore, integrity of feeling and association is rated as good.

**Estimated date of construction/renovation:** 1951

**Status:** contributing/3

**5.**

**Name:** Curves

**Address:** 115 West Main Street

**Physical description:** This is a one-story cement block flat-roofed commercial building (130' N-S x 25' E-W) resting on poured concrete foundation with a partial basement (59' x 25' rear or north portion of building). The exterior walls are composed of cement block covered with brick facing on the rear and glazed tile facing on the facade or south side. The flat roof has a wood deck with a built-up tar and gravel covering and a parapet capped with glazed tile. The facade or south side fronts on West Main Street. The building consists of a single storefront with recessed entry flanked by large aluminum-framed glass display windows. The main entrance has twin-leaf glass and aluminum doors. The low kickplate area is covered with glazed tile. The entrance is protected by a retractable canvas awning. The facade is devoid of ornamentation and has a smooth glazed tile cornice area. The rear or north side of the building has a wood panel door covered by a storm door and three large multi-light glass brick windows with stone sills. The interior of the building has wood floors covered with resilient tile, drywall/plaster walls, and an acoustic tile ceiling.

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**Physical integrity/alterations:** The building retains integrity of location. Integrity of setting is rated as fair to good with the Dogie Theater (111 West Main) to the east, which has been at that location since 1951, and Something Healthy (119 West Main) on the west, also a contemporary building. Integrity of design, materials, workmanship are rated as fair to good with minimal changes to the exterior since it was constructed. Therefore, integrity of feeling and association is rated as fair to good.

**Estimated date of construction/renovation:** 1950

**Status:** contributing/2

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**6.**

**Name:** Something Healthy

**Address:** 119 West Main Street

**Physical description:** This is a one-story, cement block flat-roofed commercial building (120' N-S x 50' E-W) resting on poured concrete foundation with a partial basement (50' x 30'). The building has a steel beam and post frame. The exterior walls are composed of cement block covered with tan brick facing on the facade or south side. The flat roof has a wood deck supported by wood joists covered with rolled roofing or a single membrane. The building has a stepped parapet on the north and south sides composed of concrete block. The facade or south side fronts on West Main Street. The building consists of a single storefront with recessed entry flanked by large aluminum-framed glass display windows. The entrance is located near the west end of the facade and has a single steel and glass door with transom. There is a full-length plate glass window to the west, which may have once been another door. The low kickplate area is covered with tan brick with a soldier course of red brick below the display windows. The facade has a full-length retractable canvas awning. The brick cornice area has been covered with a ribbed metal material that acts as a signboard. It appears that this fabric is removable. The rear of the building has a single one-light steel door at the west end. Four large rectangular eight and twelve-light windows with metal frames are spaced along the north wall. Two have been painted over. The interior of the building has wood floors covered with carpet, drywall/plaster walls, and an acoustic tile ceiling.

**Physical integrity/alterations:** The building retains integrity of location. Integrity of setting is rated as fair to good with Curves to the east (115 West Main), which has been at that location since 1950, and Sagebrush Realty to the west (121 W. Main), constructed in 1939. Integrity of design, materials, workmanship are rated as fair to good. The red ribbed metal cornice is the major visible exterior change to the facade, and it appears to be removable. Therefore, integrity of feeling and association is rated as fair to good.

**Estimated date of construction/renovation:** 1941

**Status:** contributing/2

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**7.**

**Name:** Sagebrush Realty

**Address:** 121 West Main

**Physical description:** This is a one-story brick masonry flat-roofed commercial building (105' N-S x 25' E-W) resting on poured concrete foundation with no basement. The exterior walls are composed of stretcher bond red brick on wood studs. The flat roof has a wood deck on wood joists with built-up tar and gravel and a parapet capped with stone. The facade or south side fronts on West Main Street. The building consists of a single storefront with recessed entry flanked by large aluminum-framed glass display windows. The main entrance has a single glass and aluminum door with sidelights and transom. The kickplate area is covered with glazed black tile. The entrance is protected by a retractable canvas awning. The clerestory area is

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composed of glass blocks. There are brick pilasters on either end of the facade with a stone cap and base to resemble columns and a decorative brick course with a stone rectangle at either end above the clerestory. The rear or north side of the building has a wood panel door. There is also a wooden carport (20' x 22') built onto the rear of the building. The interior of the building has wood floors covered with carpeting, a combination of plaster walls and drywall, and acoustic tile ceilings. It is divided into two large rooms by an east-west interior wall.

**Physical integrity/alterations:** The building retains integrity of location. Integrity of setting is rated as fair to good with the Something Healthy (119 West Main) to the east, also a contemporary building, and R & R Photo (123 West Main) to the west, which suffered fire damage in 1981. Integrity of design, materials, workmanship are rated as fair to good with minimal changes to the exterior since it was constructed. Therefore, integrity of feeling and association is rated as fair to good.

**Estimated date of construction/renovation:** 1939; interior remodeled 2003

**Status:** contributing/2

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8.

**Name:** R & R Photo

**Address:** 123 West Main

**Physical description:** This is a two-story brick masonry flat-roofed commercial building (64' N-S x 25' E-W) resting on stone foundation with no basement. The exterior walls are a combination of common brick on studs and joisted masonry. The flat roof has a wood deck on wood joists with a built-up tar and gravel covering and has a brick parapet. The facade or south side fronts on West Main Street and consists of a combination of light tan and red face brick. The building consists of a single storefront with an asymmetrical recessed entry flanked by large aluminum-framed glass display windows. The main entrance has a single glass and aluminum door and is located near the west end of the recessed area. The kickplate area is covered with brick. There is no clerestory and the area above the street level has a rectangular-shaped decorative brick signboard area. There is a red brick string course between the second-story windows and the parapet. Otherwise, the building is unadorned. On the second story facade, the westernmost window is large and has a one-light fixed window flanked by four-light casement windows on each side. The easterly window consists of a pair of four-light casement windows only. The west side of the building is exposed due to a fire and removal of the adjacent building in 1981. This wall retains some of the brick from the adjacent building. The interior of the building has wood floors covered with tile and/or carpeting, one-third plaster walls, and two-thirds prefinished panels, and a drywall partition. There is also a balcony area. The building may have received a new brick facade in 1957, and it was repaired and partially remodeled as a result of the 1981 fire that destroyed the adjacent building to the west. On the rear (north side) of the building, there are two wood panel doors, arched windows, and an exterior wood staircase with balcony. North of the main building, there is a 1-car wood frame gable-roofed garage with twin leaf doors and double-hung windows.

**Physical integrity/alterations:** The building retains integrity of location. Integrity of setting is rated as only fair due to the 1981 fire that destroyed the building directly west, leaving a vacant lot. Integrity of design, materials, and workmanship are rated as fair; the building received a new brick facade in ca. 1957, which is now nearly 50 years old. Therefore, integrity of feeling and association is rated as fair.

**Estimated date of construction/renovation:** ca. 1900; renovated 1957, 1981

**Status:** contributing/2

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**9.**

**Name/Number:** Cashbox Ceramics (Bank of Newcastle)

**Address:** 129 West Main

**Physical description:** This building is a two-story brick masonry, flat-roofed corner storefront commercial building (41' N-S x 25' E-W) resting on a stone foundation with a full basement. It is a classic example of the late nineteenth century commercial "Italianate" architectural style. The flat roof has a wood deck built-up with tar. Two of three original corbeled brick chimneys rise above the parapet on the west side. Originally, in addition to the corner entrance, the building had single storefronts on the west (fronting on Seneca) and on the east (fronting on Main Street), but the east storefront was destroyed by fire in 1980. The south and west walls that front on Main Street and North Seneca Street are the finished sides and consist of red brick laid in a common bond pattern. The exterior brick was painted a cream color at an early date. The east wall was originally an interior wall and retains portions of the plaster covering. The building has a corner entrance facing southeast that is reminiscent of late nineteenth-early twentieth century bank entrances. Originally an ornate signboard extended above the parapet inscribed with "The Bank of Newcastle 1890." The signboard was changed to "The Fendrick Block" sometime in the 1930s, but it has been removed.

The building has an ornate projecting bracketed metal cornice and a simple secondary cornice consisting of a wide stone band decorated with a diamond design at each brick pilaster. Originally, ornate secondary metal cornices were located over the single storefronts on the west and south sides, but only the western component remains intact. A second stone band runs horizontally below the first-story windows and also serves as the sill. The kickplate area around the building is set off with a stone band six inches above sidewalk level and decorated with regularly spaced inset square stones. First and second story windows are evenly-spaced and vertically aligned and have ornate rectangular stone crowns. The corner entrance originally had a wooden door with one light and narrow sidelights and transom. The sidelights and transom have been filled in with glass blocks, and the wood door has been replaced with a glass and aluminum door. Glass blocks were also used to fill in the two first-story windows nearest the corner entrance on the west side of the building. Otherwise, all of the windows appear to be original in the first and second stories and consist of one over one-light double-hung units with wood sash, except that two such windows on the south side were replaced with a display window with clerestory by the 1940s. There are two windows located in the kickplate area below the south display window (a four over one-light and a two over one-light double-hung) that extend below ground level and provide natural light to the basement and a stone vault area under the sidewalk. Associated narrow steel grates are set flush into the sidewalk. There is also a metal fire alarm set above the display window on the south side. The single storefront on the west side has a centered entrance and has a two-light transom and is flanked by two large one over one-light double-hung windows with wood sash. The clerestory area has been filled in. An entrance leading to a set of steps to the second floor is situated at the south end of the secondary cornice on the west side. Two subterranean sidewalk entrances with wooden steps descend into the vault area below the sidewalk on the west side and are protected by ornate metal railings (original), now covered. Three round iron coal chutes retain their original circular covers set flush into the sidewalk on the west side.

The subterranean stone vault on the south side of the building is approximately 33' long (E-W) x 15'6" wide (N-S) and about 6-1/2' high. The walls are constructed with mortared random ashlar. The south wall slants outward from bottom to top. The north wall consists of the building foundation constructed of quarried stone. The southwest corner of the vault is canted and is parallel to the canted building foundation below the corner entrance. The ceiling is composed of poured concrete reinforced with

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steel rails set at regular intervals. The vault continues around the west side of the building with similar dimensions and has two sets of sidewalk entrances with wooden stairs and the coal chutes. It does not appear that the vaults were ever installed with sidewalk freight elevators for loading merchandise into the basement. The sidewalk entrance on the south side (Main Street) was removed sometime in the 1910s, but the vault was retained and covered.

The first floor of the interior consists of one large room housing the current ceramics business. The space is divided up into long narrow aisles with shelves. The walls are plaster lathe with covered wood floors. The single storefront at the north end of the west side is connected to this room by a doorway and is currently used for storage. The second floor has been vacant since the 1970s and retains the original pressed tin ceiling and plaster walls. All entries retain the original bull's-eye wood molding, glass transoms (generally painted over) and door hardware. Windows have similar molding and retain original glass panes and sash. An original wood balustrade surrounds the stairwell. Portions of the second floor have been remodeled over the years to accommodate a variety of businesses and for apartments. A skylight in the roof lights the stairwell area.

**Physical integrity/alterations:** The building retains integrity of location. It also retains good integrity of design, materials, and workmanship with only minor exterior alterations since construction. The overall integrity of setting is rated as fair to good, as it is still surrounded by the downtown commercial district of Newcastle; however, most of the buildings from its era have been replaced, and its eastern component was razed in a fire in 1981. The building retains good integrity of feeling and association as a historical contemporary would readily recognize it.

**Estimated date of construction/renovation:** 1890

**Status:** contributing/3

**10.**

**Name:** Antlers Hotel

**Address:** 203 West Main

**Physical description:** This is a two-story brick masonry flat-roofed commercial building (100' N-S x 50' E-W) resting on a stone foundation with a full basement. There is a 3-story addition (30' x 35') on the rear with no basement. The exterior walls consist of red brick with a cream-colored stucco covering on the front (south) segment of the building. The flat roof has a wood deck on wood joists with a built-up tar and gravel covering and a stepped brick parapet. The facade (south side) fronts on West Main Street. It was renovated in 1939 in what resembles a Streamline Moderne style with smooth rounded surfaces and liberal use of glass blocks. The facade is divided into three even segments by brick pilasters that are tapered at the top. The main entrance is centered, elevated from street level, and recessed. It contains two single wood and glass doors. The entrance is protected by a rounded aluminum awning. There is an L-shaped neon sign above the awning with the letters "Hotel Antlers." There is also a large vertical sign mounted on the southeast corner of the building. A set of concrete steps descend to the sidewalk. The stairs have a cement or brick half wall on either side that curves and extends east and west along the street level. The entrance is flanked by a twenty-light fixed window with a glass block panel on each side. The central portion of the westerly window has been boarded over. There are also entrances to the basement level on either side of the concrete steps at garden level. The easterly entrance gives access to the former "Dining Room" that retains a sign above it. The westerly entrance led to a "Coffee Shop," also with a sign. The second-story windows in the stuccoed portion of the building consist of paired one over one-light double-hung units with wooden frames and aluminum storm windows. Most of the east side of the building is red brick with lighter accents along the cornice. The quarried

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stone foundation is also exposed and rises three feet above street level. Windows have brick arches, possible concrete headers, and brick sills. They consist of paired and single one over one-light double-hung units with wood frames. Although the rear addition is approximately the same height as the rest of the building, the ground slopes down toward the north and it contains three stories. The addition is also red brick with evenly spaced brick pilasters and two over two-light double-hung windows with wood sash. The windows have brick arches with headers filled with wood and brick sills. There is a partial steel fire escape mounted on the north side of the addition. A portion of the west side of the main building is also exposed and is red brick with one over one-light double-hung windows with wood sash. There are a total of twelve single wood panel doors on the east and west sides and rear of the building.

**Physical integrity/alterations:** The building retains integrity of location. Integrity of setting is rated as fair. Integrity of design, materials, and workmanship are rated as fair, because in 1939, the facade of the building was remodeled and the three-story rear addition was constructed. However, these changes are over fifty years of age. Therefore, integrity of feeling and association is rated as fair.

**Estimated date of construction/renovation:** 1890; renovated 1939

**Status:** contributing/2

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**11.**

**Name:** Donna's Diner

**Address:** 207 West Main

**Physical description:** This is a two-story flat-roofed commercial building (67' N-S x 20' E-W x 22' high) resting on stone foundation with no basement. The exterior walls are wood frame covered with stucco that matches the Antlers Hotel adjacent to the east. The flat roof has a wood deck on wood joists with a built-up tar and gravel covering and has a wood frame parapet. The facade or south side fronts on West Main Street and has a single glass and aluminum main entry door that is offset to the west. There are aluminum framed display windows to the east, but the most easterly window is boarded over. The entrance is protected by an aluminum canopy (19' x 8'). The clerestory area has been filled in. A sign is suspended from the front of the building that reads, "Donna's Main Street Diner." There are two second-story windows on the facade that consist of one by one-light casement units with wooden frames. The westerly window has been partially filled in with wood or wood shingles. The west side of the building has a steel fire escape leading to a second floor entry. There are three windows on the second story only, and the most northerly has been boarded over. The rear or north side of the building has a one-story wood frame shed-roofed addition (12' x 18') that is used for storage. There are two wood panel single doors on the rear of the building. The interior of the building has wood floors covered with carpeting and resilient tile, dry walls and ceiling. The upper story contains two apartments.

**Physical integrity/alterations:** The building retains integrity of location. Integrity of setting is rated as fair as several adjacent buildings to the west burned in 1921. There is now a vacant lot on the west side. Integrity of design, materials, and workmanship are rated as fair because the facade of the building was remodeled in ca. 1939 to match the Antlers Hotel. However, these changes are over fifty years of age. Therefore, integrity of feeling and association is rated as fair.

**Estimated date of construction/renovation:** 1905; renovated 1939

**Status:** contributing/2

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**12.**

**Name:** Hardware Hanks

**Address:** 219 West Main

**Physical description:** This is a one-story brick flat-roofed commercial building (50' E-W x 120' N-S) resting on a poured concrete foundation with a partial basement. Construction is steel beams and post with 100% solid brick. The flat roof has wood joists and deck and built up surface. The building contains two storefronts (each 25 feet wide) with recessed entrances separated by a free-standing brick pillar. Each entrance consists of a single large aluminum and glass door. The remainder of the facade at street level consists of large aluminum and glass display windows. The east and west windows are 9 feet wide and parallel the street; the slightly larger display windows are canted toward the entrance, and an 8-foot display window is located between the entrance doors. A large full-facade signboard covers the clerestory area and reads "SWANSON'S HARDWARE - HANK." The facade features a corbeled brick cornice, and above that is a decorative crenelated parapet capped with stone. The east wall consists of light red brick and contains four boarded-over windows and has a stepped parapet. The rear wall is slightly lower than the stepped sides. It contains a single wood door and small loading dock; the upper level contains six barred windows. The interior contains hardwood floors, plaster walls, and dry wall ceilings. This building is attached to an almost identical building to the west and is visually tied to it by the exterior design and materials.

**Physical integrity/alterations:** The building retains integrity of location. Integrity of setting is rated as good, with the adjacent brick building (on the west) constructed at about the same time. Integrity of design, materials, workmanship are rated as good with minimal changes to the exterior since it was constructed. Therefore, integrity of feeling and association is also rated as good.

**Estimated date of construction/renovation:** 1930

**Status:** contributing/2

**13.**

**Name:** The Carter Company

**Address:** 227 West Main

**Physical description:** This is a one-story brick and stone flat-roofed commercial building (100' E-W x 128' N-S) resting on a poured concrete foundation with a partial basement (50' x 128'). Exterior walls are stone and brick. The flat roof has wood and steel joists, a wood deck and built up surface. The building contains two storefronts with flush entrances. The east storefront contains a centered non-operational entrance, which may have been a former garage bay or vehicle entrance (a painted sign above appears to read "SERVICE"). It is currently filled in with two large display windows, each with a transom and filled-in kickplate. The entrance is flanked by identical 2-light display windows with filled-in transoms and brick water table capped with stone. The west storefront contains similar openings and materials; a centered entrance contains twin-leaf glass and aluminum doors with filled-in transom, flanked by 3-light display windows with filled-in transoms and brick water table capped with stone. The clerestory area remains intact on both storefronts. Shallow brick pilasters with stone bases flank the entrance and separate the east storefront from the west storefront and also accentuate the southwest corner. In general, the facade continues the design and materials of the adjoined building to the east (219 West Main); the corbeled brick cornice and decorative crenelated parapet capped with stone are repeated. Most of the west wall and all of the north (rear) wall are constructed with rock-faced ashlar laid in broken courses. The west wall has a stepped parapet; the ground level slopes downward toward the rear of the building. The west wall contains several window openings with concrete sills and lintels that are boarded over. There is one operational garage bay with an overhead door approximately centered in the west wall, and there is a second garage bay near the rear that contains a pedestrian door and a lintel painted

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with the words "BODY SHOP." The rear wall appears to be built in two sections; each is constructed of rock-faced ashlar laid in broken courses and has a stepped parapet and several window openings with concrete sills and lintels that have been filled in with large tiles or other materials. The ground slopes toward the west, and the west rear wall contains two levels of such openings. The east rear wall contains a small above-grade twin-leaf metal door that partially fills in a former window bay. The interior contains concrete floors covered with resilient tile, prefinished panels, and acoustic tile ceilings. This building is attached to an almost identical building to the east and is visually tied to it by the exterior design and materials.

**Physical integrity/alterations:** The building retains integrity of location. Integrity of setting is rated as good, with the adjacent brick building (on the east) constructed at about the same time. Integrity of design, materials, workmanship are rated as good with minimal changes to the exterior since it was constructed. Therefore, integrity of feeling and association is also rated as good.

**Estimated date of construction/renovation:** 1928; renovated ca. 1976

**Status:** contributing/2

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**14.**

**Name:** News Letter Journal

**Address:** 14 West Main

**Physical description:** This is a one-story, wood frame, flat-roofed commercial building (120' N-S x 25' E-W) resting on poured concrete foundation with no basement. The exterior walls are covered with stucco on the east, west, and south sides, and red brick facing on the facade or north side. The flat roof has a wood deck supported by wood joists covered with built up tar and gravel. The building has a stepped parapet on the east and west sides; the north portion of the west wall is obscured by the adjoining building on the west. The facade or north side fronts on West Main Street. The building consists of a single storefront with an off-center recessed entry; west of the entry are large aluminum-framed glass display windows with false muntins, creating the appearance of multi-light windows. East of the entrance are two signboard areas that were formerly display windows. The entrance has a single one-light wood door with false muntins and a transom. The low kick plate area is covered with red brick and is part of the overall brick facing. The cornice area is also brick and unadorned except for a soldier course of bricks on the parapet. There is a brick pilaster located at the northwest corner of the building. The rear of the building has twin-leaf one-light steel doors. There is a twelve-light window with steel sash to the east of the door, and a one-light fixed window to the west. There are two multi-light windows with steel sash on the west side of the building. There are three one-light fixed windows in the south half of the east side of the building. The interior of the building has hardwood floors some of which are covered with asphalt tile. Interior walls are drywall and the ceilings are plaster.

**Physical integrity/alterations:** The building retains integrity of location. Integrity of setting is rated as fair to good with Hansen & Peck Attorneys (18 W. Main Street) constructed in 1938 on the west side and a vacant lot to the east. Integrity of design, materials, workmanship are rated as fair to good. The exterior of the building remains similar to when it was constructed except that display windows to the east of the entrance have been filled in with signboards. Therefore, integrity of feeling and association is rated as fair to good.

**Estimated date of construction/renovation:** 1949

**Status:** contributing/2

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**15.**

**Name:** Hansen & Peck

**Address:** 18 West Main

**Physical description:** This is a one-story brick masonry flat-roofed commercial building (90' N-S x 25' E-W) resting on a rock-faced ashlar foundation with a partial unfinished basement (18' x 19'). The exterior walls are covered with dark red brick. The stone foundation walls are about two feet high on the north end and gradually decrease in height on the south end (front to back). The flat roof has a wood deck supported by wood joists covered with built up tar and gravel. The building has a stone-capped stepped brick parapet. The facade or north side fronts on West Main Street. The single entrance is accented with a pediment-shaped parapet. The single entrance is slightly recessed and has a one-light wood panel door. The transom area may have been filled in with wood. The lintel consists of a soldier course of brick above the transom. The facade also has a large one-light fixed window to the east of the entrance centered in the wall. Windows on the west and south sides of the building consist of four over one-light and three over one-light double-hung units with wood sash. All windows have brick sills, and the lintels are composed of a brick soldier courses. The rear or south side has a one-light wooden door covered by an aluminum storm door. A 40' x 16' brick garage was added to the south side of the building at an unknown date and was converted into a conference room and library in 1975. At that time, a small one-story wood frame flat-roofed addition (8' x 9') was built onto the east side of the brick addition; it adjoins 14 West Main on the east. It is clad with aluminum lap siding and has a single entrance on the south side with a one-light wood door covered by an aluminum storm door. The interior of the building has hardwood floors covered with carpeting, dry wall, and acoustic tile ceilings.

**Physical integrity/alterations:** The building retains integrity of location. Integrity of setting is rated as fair to good with the News Letter Journal (14 W. Main Street) constructed in 1949 located on the east side and the U.S. Post Office constructed in 1933 on the west side. Integrity of design, materials, workmanship are rated as fair to good. The exterior of the building remains similar to when it was constructed with the exception of the picture window in the facade. It is unknown when the rear addition was built. The renovations that took place in 1975 were mostly limited to interior changes and a small wood-frame addition that cannot be seen from the street. Therefore, integrity of feeling and association is rated as fair to good.

**Estimated date of construction/renovation:** 1938; rear addition 1975

**Status:** contributing/2

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**16.**

**Name:** Newcastle Main Post Office

**Address:** West Main

**Physical description:** This is a tall one-story red brick masonry flat-roofed building (overall dimensions, 78' N-S x 53' N-S) of Neo-Classical design, resting on a raised reinforced concrete basement. The flat roof is covered with built-up tar composition and is surrounded by a brick parapet capped with limestone. The facade or north side fronts on West Main Street and is divided by seven bays. It has a slightly projecting central portion flanked by wings on either side. The central section contains a centered entry bay. The entry is approached by five granite steps and granite landing. Wrought iron balustrades flank the stairs. A single wood frame ten-light wood panel door provides access to the lobby. A six-light transom window is located above the door. "Post Office", in inscribed letters, is located in the lintel above the transom. The entry bay is framed with flat-fluted wooden pilasters that support a triangular pedimented frontispiece. A series of triglyphs adorn the entablature frieze and dentils define the horizontal and raking cornices of the pediment. The entry bay is flanked by wrought iron lanterns attached to the brick wall. A handicapped ramp has been

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added to the facade east of the main entrance that consists of brick half walls and piers capped with limestone with wrought iron balustrade.

The two window bays flanking either side of the entry bay consist of semicircular arches that enclose a tympanum and surrounds of brick (blind arches). Limestone lintels with angular ends, pronounced keystone, and limestone sills complete the window framing. Windows consist of 12 over 12-light double-hung units with wood sash. The windows of the end wings are identical in size and configuration except that the brick arch is deleted and replaced with a flat limestone panel that is inset above the windows. The facade has a limestone frieze (embellished by molded fretwork) and projecting cornice with a brick parapet above. The portion of the parapet over the central section of the facade consists of alternating brick battlements and limestone balustrades. The parapet sections over the wings are solid brick.

The east and west sides of the building are identical to each other and are detailed similarly to the facade. Four equally spaced window bays divide the sides. The window bays and sash configurations are identical to those of the end wings of the facade. One of the bays of the east side is filled with brick. The frieze, cornice, and solid brick parapet are identical to the corresponding detailing of the front.

The south side or rear of the building is dominated by a one-story, flat-roofed brick masonry loading vestibule that was added in 1967. It appears that this addition has been altered/enclosed since the property was nominated to the National Register in 1986. The south side of the addition has three large garage bays with steel overhead doors. There are lantern fixtures attached to the walls above the doors and on the west side of the addition.

**Physical integrity/alterations:** The building retains integrity of location. Integrity of setting is rated as good. The post office occupies several lots and dominates the block. The courthouse and library are in close proximity on the north side of Main Street. Integrity of design, materials, and workmanship are rated as good as the exterior of the building, which is most visible from Main Street and Sumner Avenue, has changed little since construction. The building retains its key Neo-Classical architectural elements. The addition of a handicap ramp is in keeping with the overall design and materials. The 1967 south addition and later modifications are not generally visible from street sides. Therefore, integrity of feeling and association is also rated as good.

**Estimated date of construction/renovation:** 1933; rear addition 1967

**Status:** contributing/3 (enrolled in National Register of Historic Places)

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**17.**

**Name:** Isabella's Restaurant

**Address:** 12 South Sumner Avenue

**Physical description:** This is a one and one-half-story wood frame gambrel-roofed commercial building (49' N-S x 75' E-W) resting on a stone foundation with a partial basement (10' x 17'). The exterior walls are covered with stucco painted red. The gambrel roof has a wood deck supported by wood joists covered with asphalt shingles and has a staddle ridge brick chimney. The roof has extended boxed eaves and gable returns on the west and north sides. There is a one-story shed-roofed wood frame addition (19' x 45') that fills in the ell on the northwest side of the building, creating a rectangular footprint. However, according to the 1920 and 1936 Sanborn maps, this component is original. The facade or east side fronts on South Sumner Avenue. It has a recessed entrance with a single wood and glass door. The entry is protected by a gable overdoor. There is a large one-light fixed plate glass display window located north of the entry. There is a two-light

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display window of similar proportions south of the entrance. There is also a one-light fixed window south of that window. All windows on the facade are protected by canvas awnings. The north side has a secondary single entry with a three-light metal door with a concrete stoop and wood railing. Windows in this side consist of six over six-light double-hung units with wood sash and shutters on the first and second floors. A signboard for the current business ("Isabella's") is positioned between the two windows on the second floor. The south side of the building has two large glass block windows. The south roof slope also has a small gable-roofed dormer. The west side of the building has one over one-light double-hung windows with wood sash on the second floor. There is a multi-light fixed window on the south end of the first story, and a small two-light window on the north end of this side has been boarded over. The interior of the building has hardwood floors covered with vinyl tile or carpeting and drywall interior walls and ceilings. The shed-roofed addition is occupied by the kitchen. Most of the remainder of the first floor is occupied by the restaurant. The second story consists of a finished apartment.

**Physical integrity/alterations:** The building retains integrity of location. Integrity of setting is rated as fair to good with the U.S. Post Office, constructed in 1933, occupying the east side of South Sumner Avenue. A vacant lot (formerly a service station) is located directly north of the building. The impressive stone Grieves Building (1910) is located west of the vacant lot along Main Street. Integrity of design, materials, workmanship are rated as fair to good. The exterior of the building remains similar to when it was constructed except that some of the windows were altered in 2003. Therefore, integrity of feeling and association is rated as fair to good.

**Estimated date of construction/renovation:** ca. 1912-1920

**Status:** contributing/2

**18.**

**Name:** Grieves/Nichols Building

**Address:** 110-114 West Main

**Physical description:** This stone building is one of the most imposing early buildings remaining in the commercial district. The main 2-1/2-story building measures 75' EW x 62' NS and is three storefronts wide. It rests on a stone foundation and has a full basement. The roof is flat with wood joists and deck and is covered with built up stone. Exterior walls are constructed with 18" stone blocks. The sides and rear consist of rock-faced ashlar laid in broken courses; however, the facade exhibits a more geometric pattern of more uniform rock-faced ashlar laid in regular courses and separated by horizontal bands of narrow stone. The building features a three-segmented facade with a distinctive parapet of a central arch flanked by two triangles. Each segment contains a storefront (25' wide x 62' deep) with individual entrances. The second-story facade contains three evenly-spaced and slightly recessed banks of windows. Each of the three banks contains two sets of three 1/1-light double-hung windows with wood sash and surrounds; each set is separated by a narrow wood pilaster. A rectangular space between the windows and the flat stone arch above is filled in with horizontal wood paneling, indicating that the original windows were taller and occupied the entire recessed bays. Above the flat arch are a full-facade narrow horizontal band of stone and a course of stone blocks, above which are narrow horizontal window bays, vertically aligned with the second-story windows. These openings are paired, two in each of the three segments, and also have stone lintels and flat arches. However, the openings are filled in with what appears to be rippled fiberglass and may have once held glass windows. A narrow horizontal band of stone completes the cornice. The parapet features triangular pediments on the east and west filled in with rock-faced ashlar laid in broken courses; the center section has a gently curved pediment filled in with a grid of small uniform square stonework. The center section also contains a curved inscription area that reads "GRIEVES BLG" and is flanked by decorative stone

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squares with a geometric pattern. Three narrow bands of stone trim follow the angled and curved roofline, and each of the three sections is capped with a decorative stone embellishment on the parapet. Column-like stone embellishments are found in the cornice area at the end of and between each of the three sections.

The first story (street level) has been modified and contains three individual storefronts. The east storefront is offset and contains a recessed entrance with a 1-light wood door, two large fixed-light display windows, and a glass and aluminum second floor entry door surmounted with glass blocks. The central storefront contains large glass display windows and a recessed entrance, and the west storefront contains a recessed entrance flanked by small 1-light horizontal windows. The exterior walls and kick plate areas are faced with light-colored brick and the clerestory area on the east and west storefronts have also been filled in with brick.

The exterior walls of the east, west, and south sides consist of rock-faced ashlar laid in broken courses. The east and west sides have stepped parapets capped with stone. The east side contains one arched 1/1-light double-hung window in the second story. On the rear (south side), the second story contains five windows with stone arches and lintels. The easternmost is a 1/1-double-hung window; the remaining four consist of paired 1/1-light double-hung windows. There is also a slightly recessed pedestrian entrance with a 1-light door and fire escape generally centered in the second story. The first story contains several arched openings, including a pedestrian entrance and large non-functioning window and door bays.

The rear of the east section has a one-story flat-roofed stone block addition (25' EW x 40' NS), whose east wall abuts the west side of 12 South Sumner Avenue. The south side of the addition contains a pedestrian entrance with shed-roofed awning and two boarded over window openings; the west side also contains a boarded over window. The rear of the west section also has a small one-story addition consisting of a shed-roofed wood frame shack with an entrance. There is no basement under the additions.

**Physical integrity/alterations:** The building retains integrity of location. Integrity of setting is rated as good, and integrity of design, materials, workmanship are rated as fair to good. There are small additions on the rear that are not visible from the street, and the first-story facades have been altered due to various fires and general modernization; however, the building retains its essential architectural elements, overall historic appearance and scale, and is one of the best and most imposing stone structures in the commercial district. Therefore, integrity of feeling and association is rated as good.

**Estimated date of construction/renovation:** 1910

**Status:** contributing/3

**19.**

**Name:** Crafter's Mall (A Stitch in Time)

**Address:** 210 West Main

**Physical description:** This is a one-story brick double storefront commercial building (50' E-W x 100' N-S) resting on a poured concrete foundation with a full basement. The front height is 18 feet, and the rear height is 16 feet. The exterior walls are stone (rear) and face brick (facade) on steel beams and posts. The flat roof has wood joists and deck with built-up roofing. The facade (north side) of the building contains two storefronts (each 25 feet wide) with identical recessed entrances. Each entrance contains an outer glass and aluminum door with glass transom and sidelights; canted display windows flank a recessed inner glass and aluminum door. Each entrance is flanked by large twin glass and aluminum display windows on the facade. Below the display windows is a brick kickplate area with vents. Brick pilasters with stone accents and decorative brick patterns are located at both ends of the facade and in the middle, separating the storefronts. Each storefront

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contains a glass brick clerestory; each panel measures 4' x 22' and contains two square fixed-light windows. Above the clerestory is a horizontal band of decorative brick consisting of a bottom layer of stretcher brick, a soldier course in the middle, topped by a rowlock of bricks. Above that is a signboard area consisting of common bond brick topped with one soldier course and painted a sky blue to contrast with the predominantly red brick. Above the signboard area is a red brick cornice consisting of common bond brick with a vertical pattern of recessed brick. The parapet is capped with a horizontal layer of stone or concrete. The rear (south side) of the building consists of rock-faced ashlar laid in regular courses. This side contains several openings that appear to have been filled in with concrete block. There is a pedestrian wood door at the west end of the rear and a brick chimney at the east end. The interior contains hardwood floors with resilient tile, plaster walls and plaster ceiling. There is a mezzanine area used for office space in the front (north) part of the building.

**Physical integrity/alterations:** The building retains integrity of location. Integrity of setting is rated as only fair; fires have destroyed several of the older buildings in this block, and the building adjacent on the east is a modern intrusive bank building. However, integrity of design, materials, workmanship are rated as good; modifications to the exterior appear to be minimal. Therefore, integrity of feeling and association is also rated as good.

**Estimated date of construction/renovation:** 1919

**Status:** contributing/2

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**20.**

**Name:** Masonic Building

**Address:** 212-216 West Main

**Physical description:** This is a two-story double storefront commercial building (50' E-W x 130' N-S). It consists of an older component built in ca. 1930, a 1-story stone building on the east, and a later building (1951), consisting of the west component and the entire second story, built of concrete block. It rests on a poured concrete and stone foundation with a full basement (east half of which is unfinished and has a concrete floor; the newer west half is finished). Average story height is 11 feet. The central and east walls are stone; the west wall is concrete block. The flat roof has built-up roofing. The facade (north side) of the building contains two storefronts, each 25 feet wide. Centered in the facade is a recessed entrance (access to second story), consisting of a single 2-light wood panel door and twin-leaf 3-light wood doors, both with glass transoms. The east half of the building contains a centered recessed entrance with a glass and aluminum door and glass transom flanked by large fixed-light canted display windows, which are in turn flanked by flush fixed-light display windows. The west half of the building contains a deeply recessed entrance near the west end of the facade. It contains a single 3-light wood door with glass transom. Windows in the west side facade consist of a bank of nine fixed-light windows (3x3). All windows and doors have wood surrounds, and a vertical strip of white painted wood extends almost the full width of the facade above the windows and doors, unifying the varying elements but almost fully covering a soldier course of bricks. The kickplate and east and west end columns are covered with rough face brick. The second-story facade is faced with a lighter contrasting common bond brick and contains a horizontal bank of ten 4-light windows with wood frames and aluminum storm coverings, unified by a continuous brick sill. The cornice area contains an inscription across the facade reading "MASONIC BUILDING" with the Masonic emblem separating the words. There is a granite plaque on the first-story east end of the facade inscribed with the Masonic emblem and the words "NEWCASTLE LODGE NO. 13 A.F. & A.M. 1951." The parapet consists of a narrow white band of stone or concrete. The southeast corner of the building consists of the older 1-story stone portion and the newer concrete block second story; the west half consists of concrete block. The ground slopes down toward the rear (south side) and therefore appears taller than the front. This side contains several openings, including

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a pedestrian wood door near the southwest corner, and a raised double entrance near the southeast corner accessed by a concrete set of steps and stoop. Windows are generally 4 or 6-light fixed units, and there is a small glass brick window near the southeast corner in the second story. The portion of the east wall that is visible displays the stone work on the first story and the concrete block on the second story. There is a brick chimney protruding from the roofline near the southeast corner. The interior has wood floors with resilient tile and vinyl sheeting; dry wall, and acoustic tile ceilings.

**Physical integrity/alterations:** The building retains integrity of location. Integrity of setting is rated as good, as it is flanked by other buildings over fifty years of age. Integrity of design, materials, workmanship are rated as fair to good. The later portion of the building including the brick facade visible from Main Street is over fifty years old, and modifications to the exterior appear to be minimal. Therefore, integrity of feeling and association is also rated as fair to good. Overall the building represents the early 1950s time period, and the 1930 portion is basically hidden from view.

**Estimated date of construction/renovation:** 1930/1951

**Status:** contributing/2

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**21.**

**Name:** TD Photo, LLC

**Address:** 218 West Main

**Physical description:** This is a two-story wood frame flat-roofed commercial building (130' N-S x 24' E-W) resting on a stone foundation with a partial basement (60' x 24' at rear). The exterior walls are covered with pressed tin that simulates building stone. The flat roof has a wood deck supported by wood joists covered with built up tar. The roof has a stepped parapet and a corbeled brick chimney protrudes above the roofline. The facade or north side fronts on West Main Street. The recessed entrance has been remodeled and is set in the east end of the facade. It has a single glass door with aluminum frame with sidelights. Perpendicular to the entrance is a glass display window set in an aluminum frame. The remainder of the street level of the facade consists of a series of glass display windows set in aluminum frames. The original clerestory windows have been partially covered, and a painted signboard with the name of the current business has been attached near the center. The top half of the clerestory is exposed above the signboard across the width of the facade. A secondary cornice with dentil work stretches across the facade above the clerestory. The same detailing on a larger scale is used in the primary cornice at the top of the building. The lot to the west of the building is vacant so that the west side is exposed. It is covered with pressed tin sheeting resembling rusticated stone and has at least three narrow two-light windows with wood sash in the first and second stories. The rear or south side of the building has a concrete stoop and an altered single wooden door. The second story has a set of narrow side by side four-light windows with wood sash that are not original. The interior of the building has softwood floors covered with vinyl tile or carpeting and prefinished panels and wainscoting. The ceilings are a combination of drywall and acoustic tile.

**Physical integrity/alterations:** The building retains integrity of location. Integrity of setting is rated as fair. The Masonic Building adjacent to the east was not built until 1951. There is a vacant lot to the west. Integrity of design, materials, workmanship are rated as fair to good. The exterior of the building remains similar to when it was constructed, except that the entrance has been altered, display windows replaced, and a portion of the clerestory has been covered. However, the pressed tin siding remains in place on the facade and west side. Therefore, integrity of feeling and association is rated as fair to good.

**Estimated date of construction/renovation:** ca. 1912-1920

**Status:** contributing/2

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**22.**

**Name:** Drunkin' Dog Saloon

**Address:** 222 West Main

**Physical description:** This is a one-story flat-roofed commercial building (130' N-S x 25' E-W) resting on a stone and poured concrete foundation with a partial basement (85' x 25', front). The exterior walls consist of red hollow tile with a tan brick veneer on the facade or north side fronting West Main Street. The flat roof has a wood deck supported by wood joists covered with asphalt shingles. The roof has a stepped parapet visible from the vacant lot on the east side of the building. There is a wood frame awning covered with wood shingles (not original) that caps the parapet on the facade. A single entry is centered in the facade with a glass and aluminum door surrounded by wood paneling painted green. This entrance has been modified and was formerly recessed. Narrow horizontal display windows with aluminum frames flank the entry. A signboard is located in the clerestory area above the windows and doors. A red brick soldier course spans the facade above the clerestory. There are brick pilasters at the building corners on the facade. A perpendicular signboard with the name of the business is suspended from the facade in the cornice area. In 1950, the rear of the building received a one-story 45' x 25' red hollow tile addition with a concrete floor and no basement. There is a 10' x 10' wood door on the south side of this addition fronting on the alley. A 19' x 22' open wood frame shed-roofed patio is located on the east side of the building in the vacant lot. The patio was added sometime after 1974. There is a single wood pedestrian door providing access to the patio. The interior of the building has softwood floors covered with resilient tile and interior walls are finished with drywall and prefinished panels. The ceilings are finished with acoustic tile.

**Physical integrity/alterations:** The building retains integrity of location. Integrity of setting is rated as fair. There is a vacant lot to the east and a modern commercial building to the west occupied by a video store and bookstore. Integrity of design, materials, workmanship are rated as fair to good. The exterior of the building remains similar to when it was constructed except that the entrance has been altered (formerly recessed) and a portion of the clerestory may have been covered. The patio addition on the east side is recent. Therefore, integrity of feeling and association is rated as fair to good.

**Estimated date of construction/renovation:** ca. 1940; rear addition 1950

**Status:** contributing/2

**23.**

**Name:** Burlington Northern-Santa Fe Railroad Depot

**Address:** South Railway Avenue

**Physical description:** This is a one-story gable-roofed railroad depot (102' E-W x 25' N-S) resting on a poured concrete foundation without a basement. The exterior walls are finished in tan-colored stucco with red brick accents resembling quoins at all building corners. A red brick wall about three feet high encircles the lower portion of the building, and a concrete water table delineates the separation between the foundation and the stucco walls. The moderately pitched side-gabled roof has extended open eaves with decorative timbers. The roof is clad with wood shingles has a straddle-ridge brick chimney. The east and west sides of the building have similar shallow gabled extensions set opposite one another slightly north of center of the main building component. The roof ridge lines of the extensions are slightly lower than the main building. Both extensions feature a four-light round window set high in the gable end with brick tabbed surrounds. The track side or west extension differs from the east in that it has a band of three one over one-light double-hung windows; the east side has two separate two over one-light double-hung windows with wood sash. Both have brick lintels and surrounds. The concrete water table forms the sills. Windows in the remainder of the building are generally two over one-light double-hung units with wood sash. The west side of the building has

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a round arched door with brick tab door surrounds located to the north of the addition and flanked by two over one-light double-hung windows. There are two more single entries with wood doors in the east portion of the west side that appear to have been modified. The east side has a single steel door located north of the extension. The south end of the building has a large wood panel freight door and a wood plank loading dock with stairs. A signboard inscribed with "Newcastle" is affixed above the door. The north end of the building has a pair of two over one-light double-hung windows with wood sash. A similar sign is affixed above the windows. The west half of the interior of the building was originally the passenger station with waiting room and restrooms, and the east half housed the express or freight office.

**Physical integrity/alterations:** The building retains integrity of location. Integrity of setting is rated as good. The building is generally isolated in Railway Park along the Burlington Northern-Santa Fe Railroad mainline, and the setting is consistent with a railroad property. Integrity of design, materials, workmanship is rated as good because the depot was received few exterior modifications since construction. Therefore, integrity of feeling and association is also rated as good.

**Estimated date of construction/renovation:** 1936

**Status:** contributing/3

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### 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 (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

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

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

COMMERCE

POLITICS/GOVERNMENT

TRANSPORTATION

Period of Significance: 1890-1952

Significant Dates: N/A

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above): N/A

Cultural Affiliation \_\_\_\_\_

Architect/Builder \_\_\_\_\_

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.) SEE CONTINUATION SHEETS

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## 8. Significance

The Newcastle Commercial District is being nominated under Criterion A because the buildings that comprise the district are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to our history. They are related to the late nineteenth and early twentieth century growth and commercial development of the City of Newcastle, the county seat of Weston County. All of the historic periods and themes are represented among the twenty-three buildings that comprise the district. In the twentieth century the commercial district of Newcastle suffered from a number of devastating fires, which resulted in the loss of several buildings. However, these fires are also an important facet of the history of Newcastle, and succeeding eras of economic growth resulted in the construction of new commercial buildings to fill the voids. The last significant growth occurred during the oil boom period of the 1940s and early 1950s. These buildings are now over fifty years of age and qualify as significant historic properties. West Main Street (U.S. Route 16), around which the commercial district was built, became the original route of the Black and Yellow Trail, one of America's first transcontinental auto highways. This major transportation route that connected the Midwest to Yellowstone National Park brought tourist and commercial traffic to the county and city, all of which added significantly to Newcastle's economy.

The Newcastle Commercial District is also being nominated under Criterion C because the buildings in the district represent a wide array of architectural styles from Late Victorian Italianate commercial buildings to Streamline Moderne, Neo-Classical, Beaux-Arts and Mission influences. Many are well-preserved and retain good exterior physical integrity. The presence of a substantial Scandinavian population skilled as stone masons resulted in the use of locally quarried sandstone in the construction of several of the important buildings as well as stone retaining walls around some of the important buildings such as the library and along the hilly city streets outside the district. This stone construction represents a unique aspect of Newcastle. In conclusion, the Newcastle Commercial District retains the flavor of a small early-to-mid twentieth century American downtown with a concentration of diverse commercial and public buildings clustered along its main street. Large commercial chains, plazas, and strip malls have not encroached on the vital downtown, and modern infill has been eliminated by careful drawing of the district boundary.

### The Origins of Newcastle

The development of Newcastle is closely tied to the historic Cambria coal mines, located about six miles north of town in Cambria Canyon and its tributaries Camp and Coal Canyons. Coal was discovered in about 1886. In 1887, Frank Mondell and "Big Mike" Gladhough of the Burlington and Missouri Railroad brought a crew into the area and built a "tent" town at Cambria. During the following eighteen months, Mondell's crew trenched the hillsides and finally hit unburned coal in 1889. That year, Kilpatrick Bros. & Collins, of Beatrice, Nebraska, tested the field with diamond drills and began commercial development of the field.

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The discovery of commercial deposits of coal at Cambria determined the route the railroad followed through northeastern Wyoming. The Burlington & Missouri River Railroad, later known as the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy, was built west from Grand Island, Nebraska, to Newcastle in 1889, and a spur line was laid north to Cambria. In December 1889, 2700 tons of coal were shipped from Cambria.

Newcastle was founded on land secured by an oil title by the Lincoln Land Company, a subsidiary of the railroad. In July 1889, the Kilpatrick Brothers and Collins Construction Company built a large camp, preceding the arrival of the railroad. A town site and railroad yards were also laid out. The new town was located on hilly terrain on the west side of the Black Hills, necessitating extensive grading and filling of deep gullies and washes. J.H. Hemingway, the first superintendent of the Cambria Coal Company, was given the honor of naming the new town; he called it Newcastle after his birthplace in England. Town lots went on sale on September 10, 1889. The first city election was held on November 12, and Frank W. Mondell was elected mayor. A sawmill was established in Cambria Canyon where lumber was cut for the first buildings. The Kilpatrick Brothers built a large livery stable and commissary, one of the earliest buildings erected in Newcastle. The site of this building is now occupied by the Antlers Hotel. On November 15, 1889, the tracks reached Newcastle, and the first passenger train arrived three days later. Newcastle was established as a division headquarters for the railroad, and a roundhouse and extensive freight yards were soon constructed.

Early Newcastle lacked a formal water system, and at first water was hauled to town in barrels from Fuller Springs in Cambria. After two temporary pipelines, a permanent system was completed in 1890 and consisted of a pipeline laid from Mammoth Spring on Mount Pisgah twelve miles north of Newcastle. The pipeline supplied the water needs of Cambria, the mines, Newcastle, and the railroad. A fire department was established, consisting of the Mondell Hose Company and the Newcastle Hook and Ladder Company. The railroad actively supported the fire department until the division headquarters were moved to Edgemont, South Dakota; a local volunteer force was then formed. A city sewer system was begun in 1891, and Newcastle obtained an electric light system on June 1, 1889. The town also had telephone service after 1900. Around 1920, a wooden water line was laid to Newcastle from Parmalee Canyon and Bear Canyon, both tributaries of Stockade Beaver Creek. The line originated about twenty miles northeast of Newcastle, ran down Beaver Creek, and crossed over into Salt Creek and on to Newcastle.

Newcastle's population fluctuated in the early years. Soon after its founding, it boasted 1,715 people; by 1900, the figure had fallen to only 756. By 1905, it climbed to 1,0008, then fell to 975 by 1910 and only 651 by 1915. These fluctuations may have been due in part to Newcastle's reliance on the nearby Cambria coal mines, although the mines did provide a base of employment for about 400-450 miners until production began to fall in the 1920s.

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Toomey's Mills

One of the most important early Newcastle businesses was located just west of the commercial district. Toomey's Mills was originally known as the Newcastle Roller Mills; it was also known as the Newcastle Milling Company and Electric Light Plant. Although the local newspapers generally referred to the mill as the Newcastle Roller Mills, the Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps dated 1907 and 1912 labeled it "Newcastle Milling Company and Electric Light Plant," changing it to Newcastle Roller Mills in their 1920 edition.

The three-story wood frame portion of today's Old Mill Inn was constructed by George C. Getchell during the summer of 1905 and completed in time for the fall wheat harvest in Weston County. A quarry was opened in a canyon north of Newcastle to provide the stone for the foundation. In connection with the mill's construction, Getchell also provided winter wheat seed for planting to area farmers. The *News-Journal* reported that Weston County farmers had discovered over the past ten years that winter wheat produced nearly twice as many bushels of wheat per acre than spring wheat and allowed them to spread out their work throughout the growing season. The article also advised farmers to plant surplus acreage in winter wheat.

The mill had its own coal fueled generating plant, and on September 4, 1905, the Newcastle town council granted George Getchell an electric light franchise. At night, the plant produced enough electricity to provide additional power for streetlights in Newcastle. The *Newcastle News Journal* reported on October 13, 1905, that George C. Getchell, A.A. Nisely and W.E. Mouck had organized a corporation called the "Milling Company" capitalized at \$30,000 for the purpose of operating the Newcastle Roller Mills, the light plant and other businesses previously conducted by Getchell. In 1907, the mill had a capacity of sixty-five barrels in twenty-four hours and was also serviced by a railroad siding.

On April 12, 1907, A.C. Church leased the mill. In 1914, Church and F.O. Yeats became partners and operated the mill under the name of Church and Yeats. After they dissolved their partnership in 1917, Church purchased the mill. In 1919, D.J. Toomey, a pioneer Black Hills settler of Spearfish, South Dakota, bought the mill and operated it under the name of the D.J. Toomey Produce Company. The local newspaper reported that Toomey's Mill was the largest flour mill in Wyoming since the Denio Mill in Sheridan had recently burned to the ground. It further stated that bakeries within a two hundred-mile radius used the "White Satin" flour.

In the 1920s and 1930s, the mill was greatly expanded, adding a concrete and steel grain elevator south of the mill and a railroad siding to service the facility. A locally quarried stone warehouse was added in 1928. A set of scales was located on the northwest side of the mill. Two silos were constructed adjacent to the south of the concrete elevator, consisting of 2" x 6" lumber stacked flat, one on top of the other. The two-story gable-roofed brick component at the west end of the complex was added in 1947.

Toomey Mills continued to operate as a family business. When D.J. Toomey retired, his son, E.H. (Howard) Toomey, managed and later owned the Newcastle operation. He produced such items as Toomey's

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Flapjack Flour, Toomey's Ready Biscuit Flour, and Toomey's Cream Farina. Toomey's products were in demand over the Midwest and the West Coast. Eugene Howard Toomey died in 1964, and Toomey Mills closed in 1965. The mill sat vacant for ten years before Tom and Judy Mitich and Cable and Vera Jones purchased the property in 1974 and remodeled it as a restaurant. The Mitiches became sole owners of the business after the mid-1980s. In 1995, Doug and Larita Brown, the current owners, purchased the property and continued the restaurant business. This inventive example of adaptive use of a historic building has served to preserve a prominent Newcastle landmark that has stood at this location for over a century. This property is located west of Newcastle's Commercial District and is being individually nominated to the National Register of Historic Places.

Newcastle's Stone Building Tradition and Stone Retaining Walls

Although many of the early commercial buildings were brick, several notable buildings and stone retaining walls were constructed with locally quarried sandstone. This tradition developed in the early 1900s due to the availability of building stone as well as a Scandinavian population skilled as stonemasons. The main quarry was located two-to-three miles east of town along Salt Creek near the site of an old resort/swimming recreation area known as Hunyadi Beach. In 1905, the Salt Creek stone quarries were visited by a brick manufacturer and contractor, E.C. Williams of Sheridan. Mr. Williams stated that he had never seen the equal in quality and abundance of fine building stone. He described the product as "a fine, white sandstone, laying in ledges five to one hundred feet in height which overhang the narrow valley...there is no stone its equal for building purposes in the state." The stone was easily obtained, as one shot in the ledge would let down enough stone to build a whole block. These deposits lay just a mile from the railroad. One was commercially developed in 1910 by M.J. Williams, a building contractor from Nebraska, who served as building contractor for the Weston County Courthouse and the Nichols Block. Stonework from these quarries are evident throughout Newcastle, not just in commercial and residential buildings, but also in the many remaining stone retaining walls.

The hilly topography of Newcastle required extensive use of stone retaining walls, many of which were built by the Sundstrom family. John Leonard Sundstrom emigrated to this country from Sweden and helped build the Weston County Courthouse. He carried out stonework in Newcastle, as well as Custer and Hot Springs, South Dakota. Leonard's sons Conrad and Bob continued the family tradition, as did grandson Brent Sundstrom. The walls that once bordered the high school were built by John Sundstrom along the hill at the corner of South Seneca and West Winthrop Streets. The school was built in 1922, and historic photographs from 1923 clearly show the stone walls. Although the school was subsequently razed, the walls still partially border the property. These walls feature drains, reinforced footers, and sills. According to Brent Sundstrom, quarrying the stone is a meticulous and labor intensive task. After locating an area where the stone is hanging off the surrounding rimrock, massive pieces of stone, which have to split well both horizontally and vertically, are split into smaller blocks. "Holes are drilled and the rock is split with hammers, chisels, and wedges...manageable sized sandstone blocks (about one hundred pounds) are moved to the building site

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where they are again split into smaller blocks and set in place with mortar." An interview with Brent Sundstrom in the *News Letter Journal*, 4 February 1999) concludes: "The Sundstrom walls continue to endure the test of time. There is more than one place in town where modern walls, only a few decades old, lean and crumble while century-old sandstone walls stand strong."

Other Scandinavian and European stone masons were known to have resided in Newcastle and to have worked on several of the stone buildings in town during the same time period as the Sundstroms. In addition to the Salt Creek quarries, sandstone was also procured from Whoopup Canyon, Plum Creek, and Hot Springs. In addition to the stone walls bordering the former high school, remaining walls border portions of South Summitt Avenue, West Park Street, and East Wentworth Street.

Early brick and Stone Buildings in the Commercial District

Some of the earliest commercial buildings in Newcastle were constructed of brick and stone. The bricks were manufactured at a local kiln and brickyard by Kilpatrick Brothers & Collins, and the stone was obtained from quarries on Salt Creek, as discussed above. The first brick building was the Kilpatrick Bros. & Collins Commissary built in 1890 on the northwest corner of West Main (originally Warren) and Seneca (Building No. 10, 203 West Main); it was remodeled as the Antlers Hotel in 1895 and is shown on the 1896 Sanborn Fire Insurance maps. In 1904, it was purchased by Pete Kinney, who ran a telephone and electric power company from the building. The business also had a bar and lunch room. After Kinney died, his wife, Ethel, and her daughter Ruth Collins, ran the business as a hotel until the 1950s. In 1939, the owners completely renovated the building inside and out. Vince Thompson, a local contractor, was awarded the contract for the renovation. The building was expanded to forty rooms and six new completely furnished apartments. Twenty of the rooms included baths, and all included outside windows and a telephone. Each bedroom was furnished with a new bed, upholstered rocker and occasional chair, floor lamp, desk and chair, "costumar," dresser and new rug. The rooms were finished in a variety of different colors including ivory, orchid, blue, dusty pink, and cream. Air conditioning and steam heat were installed, and the lobby was rebuilt. The exterior facade was dismantled; the old wooden steps were replaced with concrete steps, and a new white stucco-covered front of "modernistic design" with elements of Streamline Moderne architecture covered the original brick facade. The local paper reported that the lobby had gone "streamlined" with large windows on the front and side to provide views of the main street activities. Big game heads were mounted on the walls, including a set of 52" elk antlers. The renovated building also contained a barbershop, beauty parlor, and Sly's Food Market. A lunch room was added to the front part of the basement with steps that accessed it from the front. Renovation was completed by mid-February 1940. Today, the building stands vacant. The small building adjacent to the west (Building No. 11, Donna's Diner) was added in 1905 and housed a cigar store. It subsequently housed a variety of businesses.

The two-story brick edifice at 129 West Main Street (Building No. 9, currently Cash Box Ceramics) was constructed in 1890 as the Bank of Newcastle by Meyer Frank, a cashier. The building was designed by

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Martin Alber and was constructed by C.F.W. Sasse, Tome Gaffney, and Story and Barlow. Construction cost \$15,000. On July 4, 1890, *The Newcastle Journal* reported: "The Bank of Newcastle moved into its fine new building yesterday morning and is one of the permanent, substantial institutions of the town." Other occupants included the police court and the office of the *Newcastle Democrat* office in the basement, E.M. Blackwell and Company in the east component, and C.H. Monroe's abstract office in the west component on Seneca Avenue. The second floor was occupied by the Masonic Hall, R.H. Vosburgh, attorney, and Doctor B.B. Kelley. The original signboard above the cornice on the corner on the canted corner read, "Bank of Newcastle 1890." The newspaper stated that "The Bank of Newcastle will incorporate as the First National Bank with a capital of \$50,000." Officers were president Leo Frank, vice-president Frank W. Mondell, cashier Meyer Frank, and assistant cashier F.A. Thole. The building is depicted on the 1891 Sanborn Fire Insurance map. The 1903 Sanborn depicts the Palace Saloon in the south component, and the 1907 map shows the print shop in use as a dwelling; otherwise, the original businesses remained the same during that time period.

By 1908, there were three banks listed in Newcastle: the Weston County Bank with O.A. Olsson as president, the First National Bank with T.A. Cosgriff as president, and the Stock Growers' and Merchants' Bank with B.J. Davis as president. It appears that the First National Bank was located at 129 West Main (Warren), while the Weston County Bank was then located at the southwest corner of West Main (Warren) and Seneca. J. Faehndrich was president of the Weston County Bank in 1908-1909 and was also the mayor of Newcastle. Faehndrich was engaged in the livestock industry in partnership with B.F. Davis and was also on the Board of Directors of the Stock Growers' and Merchants' Bank.

Building No. 9 (129 West Main) is shown as "vacant" on the 1912 Sanborn map. In November 1912, a "disastrous conflagration" consumed several buildings in the 200-block on the south side of the street. One of the casualties was the Weston County Bank. After the fire, it established headquarters in the "old First National Bank building on the opposite side of the street." Therefore, it appears that the Weston County Bank took up residence at 129 West Main. The original signboard reading "Bank of Newcastle 1890" was eventually changed to "Fendrick Block," presumably an Americanized spelling of Faehndrich's name. The sign has been removed.

In 1912-1913, John Sedgwick was president of the Weston County Bank, and I.P. Jeffries was vice president. The east storefront was occupied by a drug store and jewelry store. A long narrow warehouse addition was built onto the back of the eastern component sometime between 1907 and 1912. By 1920, the bank still occupied the building along with the drug store and jewelry store. The Weston County Bank failed in February 1924, along with the remaining banks in Newcastle, as the oil industry and agriculture became depressed in Weston County after the close of World War I.

However, on August 28, 1924, the First State Bank of Newcastle was incorporated with a capital of \$15,000. H.G. Weare, of Sioux Falls, South Dakota, was the president and principal stockholder; W.E. Dickey served as vice president; R. Hurtt was the cashier; other associates included W.E. Dickey, John H. Nason,

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and M.C. Roberts. The First State Bank took up headquarters in the Weston County Bank building and remained there until purchasing the Security State Bank in August 1930. It then moved south across Main Street into their new headquarters

By the mid-1930s, the bank portion of the Fendrick Block was occupied by Carlson's Drug Store, which had an ice cream and soda fountain, and the east storefront (now gone) was occupied by the Castle Café owned by Chris Vilos and Chris Panos. The Paris Cleaners occupied the west store front. The Castle Café was still in operation in the 1950s.

Eleven other brick buildings were also constructed in 1890 and formed the main business district of Newcastle. By April of that year, the business district had a full complement of wholesale and retail stores, one bank, two physicians, one hospital, six attorneys, and fifteen saloons; by 1908, there were three banks.

In 1909, the Twentieth Century Club, a women's literary club organized in 1894, formed a committee to pursue the building of a new library. Wyoming Representative Frank Mondell, Newcastle's first mayor, advised the committee to seek money from the Carnegie Library Fund. However, they were required to have an operating library with at least one hundred books. The Twentieth Century Club managed to establish such a library by January 2, 1910, with socials and fund raisers. As a result, Andrew Carnegie donated \$12,500 for the construction of the library. The Weston County Library, a brick and stone edifice, was constructed in 1911 at 23 West Main (Building No. 2). A plaque on the facade identifies C.A. Randall as the architect and H. Spellman as the builder. It was completed for occupancy by August 6, 1912, and contained 1,034 books. Anna C. Miller, the widow of Weston County Sheriff, Billy Miller, was the first librarian. The library is depicted on the 1912 Sanborn Fire Insurance map as occupying Lots 8-10. At that time the old courthouse building occupied Lot 7 to the west of the new library. By 1920 it had been razed, and the library grounds extended west to Sumner Avenue.

The Weston County Courthouse (Building No. 1) is the most distinctive of the early stone buildings still standing. It was constructed in 1910-1911. In 1908 citizens petitioned the county commissioners to build a county courthouse, and a \$25,000 bond issue was approved later that year by the voters. Newcastle architect Charles A. Randall was hired to draw up the plans, and on June 6, 1909, the county purchased Lot 18 in Block 8 from Zelinda Waltone for \$300 and Lots 9-17 in Block 8 from the Lincoln Land Company for \$700. On August 4, 1909, M.J. Williams of Crawford, Nebraska, won the bid to construct the courthouse for \$34,800. Construction began in September 1909, and on February 10, 1910, the cornerstone was laid. In proceedings dated August 3, 1910, the county commissioners fired Williams for poor performance and delays. The Commissioners took over completion of the project and hired C.A. Randall as building superintendent. A number of local Swedish stonemasons were hired to complete the impressive stonework using locally quarried sandstone. These included John L. Sundstrom, Robert Julian, Carl Sjostrum, and Oscar Linden. The courthouse was completed in February 1911. On October 20, 1911, President William Howard Taft toured

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Wyoming and spoke from the steps of the newly completed Weston County Courthouse. The courthouse is currently listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

The Nichols Block (Building No. 18) at 110-114 West Main Street was constructed in 1910 for Alvin M. Nichols and housed the Nichols Supply Company, which dealt in hardware and groceries. Nichols came to Wyoming in 1886 from Iowa and engaged in the newspaper business in Newcastle from 1892 to 1898. He then entered the ranching business and started his supply company in 1900. In 1908, he was elected to the Wyoming State legislature. The stone for the Nichols Block was procured from the Williams quarry on Salt Creek. C.A. Randall was the architect, and M.J. Williams was awarded the bid as contractor for \$21,500. The building was constructed of sandstone from the Williams quarry on Salt Creek. The local paper stated that Williams was working a crew of men on the hospital building at Fort Robinson in Chadron, Nebraska, but had already moved two-thirds of the sandstone onsite for the construction of the Nichols Block. Perhaps Williams' problem in completing the Weston County Courthouse stemmed from over-commitment; he was working on the Nichols Block and the military hospital at the same time. The architect's drawing of the Nichols Block was carried in the local paper and showed the three-segmented facade with its distinctive parapet of a central arch flanked by two triangles. The building was completed late that year. Local stonemason, John Sundstrom, also worked on this project. Other early occupants included the Weston County Supply Company and Land Offices. The building has also been known as the Updike Building, when it housed the Sheehan Law Office and Weston County Title, Home Decor, and Vik's Bar; at that time it was owned by the Sheehan family. Other former owners included Charles and Madeline Grieves, who acquired the building in 1948 and probably had the "Grieves Blg" inscribed on the facade.

Four of the earliest stone commercial buildings, dating from ca. 1890, occupied Lots 8-12 in Block 10 on the south side of West Main Street. Throughout the years they had housed a number of businesses, including the Weston County Bank and First State Bank, the Castle Theater, and the Newcastle Drug and Jewelry. Even though they were constructed of stone, these buildings were destroyed by fire in 1998.

The original two-story brick high school on the hill (outside the Commercial District) was constructed in 1891; in 1910, a stone annex was constructed with the help of John Sundstrom, stonemason. In 1937 the school was remodeled and the exterior stuccoed. After 1951, the old school served as the school district's administration offices until it burned down on Thanksgiving Day, 1975. In 1922, a new school was constructed southwest of the older school. Warren Dedrick of Billings was the architect, and Colby and Ragnstadt of Casper were awarded the building contract with a bid of \$75,144. It was a three-story stone and brick building that could accommodate four hundred students. The cornerstone was laid on July 20, 1922. As discussed above, the well-crafted stone retaining walls still partially border the site along West Winthrop Street and South Seneca Avenue.

Another notable stone masonry building was the National Guard Armory built in 1913 adjacent to the City Hall (since razed) on Main Street. Noted Cheyenne architect William Dubois designed the two-story

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building, and the stone was obtained from the quarry on Salt Creek. Unfortunately, the armory building was razed in 1962, but the cornerstone, keystone and insignia stone were removed and preserved. Some of the stones were used to build the Keith Thomson Memorial located on the courthouse lawn.

Other Early Twentieth-century Commercial Buildings

Probably the oldest remaining wood frame building within the commercial district is located at 218 W. Main Street and currently houses TD Photo (Building No. 21). According to Sanborn Fire Insurance maps, a one-story wood frame hardware building was located on this lot as early as 1891. This building served as a saloon and billiard parlor in 1903, a saloon in 1907, and a moving picture theater in 1912. However, by 1920 it had become a two-story wood frame building housing a hardware, paints and oils store. It is likely that it was reconstructed between 1912 and 1920. In 1912, there was a stone ice house located at the rear or south end of the lot. It is not known whether it was incorporated into the two-story wood frame building that extended to the alley on the south. Sedgwick Hardware occupied the building for many years. The building later housed Squire Men's Store.

The building at 12 South Sumner that currently houses Isabella's Restaurant (Building No. 17) was constructed between 1912 and 1920, when it first appears on Sanborn Fire Insurance maps. The building was probably constructed by Alvin Nichols as a warehouse for his store. It later became a John Deere machinery agency. Nichols also entered the mortuary business with his son Lloyd and housed it in a long wood frame building that formerly stood at the corner of Main Street and Seneca. In 1919, a Mr. Coles who owned the Coles Commercial Company decided to go into competition with Nichols and sent his employee Percy "Jack" Jackson to mortuary school. However, Coles died before he could enter the mortuary business. Lloyd Nichols decided to sell his mortuary business to a Mr. Fox, a mortician in Gillette. Mr. Fox hired Jack Jackson to run it for him. M.C. Roberts of Sundance bought out Mr. Fox in 1928, and he and Jackson became co-owners of the Newcastle Mortuary and a John Deere machinery agency already in the warehouse building. When the whole corner lot and both the old warehouse and the building they rented were put up for sale, they bought them and immediately sold the front lot with the old photographer's shop and mortuary to Standard Oil for a gas station. They converted the upstairs of the warehouse at 12 South Sumner into a mortuary and planned to sell furniture out of the first floor. It was at this time that the large display windows were cut into the front of the building. It was not until 1931 that they had enough money to stock the furniture store portion of the business. In 1938, Jackson bought out Mr. Roberts' interest and operated the business alone until 1947 when he sold the furniture store to Elmer Rogers. By that date, Newcastle had another mortuary which was sufficient for a town of this size. Rogers later sold it to Don Boyer, who operated it as a furniture store for about fifteen years. Boyer sold the store to George Butler, who conducted a photography studio there for several decades. Recently, the building was renovated for use as a restaurant.

The building at 227 West Main Street (Building No. 13, the Carter Company) was constructed between 1912-1920. The 1920 Sanborn Fire insurance map depicts it as a "Garage and Auto Supplies." The 1936

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map depicts the current building , labeled as "Auto Sales and Service" on Lots 15-18. Joseph and Leo Aimonetto operated it as an auto dealership known as the Craig Chevrolet Company. In 1930, a brick masonry building was constructed on the east side of the car dealership on Lots 13-14. The buildings were joined and given the same brick facade. This building at 219 West Main Street (Building No. 12) is currently occupied by Swanson's Hardware. In the 1930s, it was occupied by the Newcastle Mercantile Company, one of the oldest stores in Newcastle, established in 1894. It was first organized by W.J. McCrea and Robert S. Douglas and was known as the McCrea-Douglas Mercantile Company.

The Black and Yellow Trail

South Summit Avenue and Main Street (Warren Avenue) became part of the route of the Black and Yellow Trail (U.S. Route 16) in the early 1900s. The original concept for the Black and Yellow Trail evolved from the proliferation of the automobile and the vision of businessmen who recognized the potential of auto tourism. The main drawback was a lack of viable roads; therefore, communities across the country began encouraging the construction of "good roads." In 1912, a convention in Deadwood, South Dakota, promoted a national highway from Chicago, Illinois, to Yellowstone Park via the Black Hills. The proposed highway was given the name "Black and Yellow Trail" and was marked with posts painted with alternating black and yellow bands.

In Wyoming, the Black and Yellow Trail utilized a combination of existing county roads, and the quality of segments varied widely. The original route bypassed Newcastle; however, changes were later made to the projected route. In the early 1920s, a portion of the Black and Yellow Trail was laid from the South Dakota state line west through Newcastle, Osage, and Upton to the Crook County line. The route was upgraded with blading and corrugated iron pipe culverts and had a twenty-foot wide roadway with a fifteen-foot wide rock and shale surface. Newcastle's main street was paved with curb and gutter in 1923 as part of this highway construction. Thus, Newcastle was located on one of the nation's first transcontinental auto highways.

Fires in the Newcastle Commercial District

During the twentieth century, the Newcastle commercial district experienced several fires. The Thoeming Hardware fire on November 7, 1912, destroyed several businesses in the 200-block of the south side of West Main. The fire was first discovered in the rear of the Thoeming Mercantile Company's lumber yard and soon spread into the main building of the company. The volunteer fire department could not contain the fire due to low water pressure. The fire continued to spread and destroyed the adjoining J.P. Ost Hardware Store, the Edison Electric building, the Weston County Bank building, and the Wegher Brothers Saloon. Damage was estimated at \$175,000. In 1921, fire destroyed several buildings along the north side of West Main Street west of the Antlers Hotel to Railway Avenue. On November 1, 1933, five wood frame buildings were destroyed on the north side of West Main Street in the vicinity of today's Dogie Theater (111 W. Main) and Curves (115 W. Main). Ironically, one of the building destroyed was the notorious "House of Blazes." The night of the fire, the Newcastle Volunteer Fire Department held its first annual benefit ball. The

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brick building occupied by the City Meat Market and City Baker probably saved the frame buildings occupied by the City Cleaners and the Washburn Bettis Company. Other buildings destroyed were the Palm Pool Room, the Palace Café, buildings occupied by E.P. Coyle and the Black Hills Sheep Company office, Stoney's Barber Shop, and Cole's Shoe Shop in the "House of Blazes." High winds sent intense heat and burning embers across Main Street and cracked the display windows on businesses on the south side. Volunteers patrolled the roofs of these buildings with fire extinguishers to put out burning coals. As a result of this devastating fire, the City Council passed new building regulations for the commercial district banning any new wood frame construction. Permits were thereafter required for new building or repairs, and certain building codes using fire resistant materials had to be followed.

Two more recent fires destroyed the 1890s-era commercial buildings along West Main Street. On February 9, 1980, fire razed Crum's Department Store located directly east of the Building No. 9 on the north side of West Main Street. The two-story brick building was constructed in 1890 and had been a part of the Fendrick Block (Bank of Newcastle). In the early twentieth century it housed the Palace Bar and the IOOF Hall on the second floor. Crum's Department Store had occupied the building since 1949. Finally one of Newcastle's most devastating fires occurred on December 24, 1998, when four two-story stone commercial buildings were destroyed on Lots 8-12, Block 10, on the south side of West Main Street.

Newcastle in the Great Depression

As stated above, the Weston County Bank failed in February 1924, along with the remaining banks in Newcastle, as the oil industry and agriculture became depressed in Weston County after the close of World War I. Finally in 1928, the coal mines at nearby Cambria closed permanently, the final blow to a depressed local economy. In the 1930s, Weston County also experienced years of successive droughts and remained stagnated in the Great Depression until World War II. During the 1930s, however, many New Deal programs helped to improve and beautify Newcastle as well as Weston County. New streets, sidewalks, curbs, stone retaining walls, parks and recreational facilities, sewer projects, and a new water line were built.

The building at 227 West Main Street (Building No. 13, Carter Company) was one of the few buildings added to the commercial district during the 1920s. This building was constructed in 1928, and the date is generally verified by the Sanborn Fire Insurance maps. Other buildings including a livery had previously occupied these lots. In 1920 the site was occupied by "Garage and Auto Supplies." The 1936 Sanborn map depicts the current building, labeled as "auto Sales and Service" on Lots 15-18. An auto dealership was operated at this location by Joseph and Leo Aimonetto, and it was also formerly occupied by Craig Chevrolet. During the 1970s, the west two storefronts were renovated to house a Gibsons discount store, and the east storefronts were used for storage.

The Newcastle Main Post Office (Building No. 16) was one of the major Depression-era projects. Construction started in 1932, and the building was completed for use by March 1933. The building plan used

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a standard federal government design by James A. Wetmore. The Neo-classical public architecture was typical of buildings designed by the federal government in the late 1920s-early 1930s and represented the transition in philosophy from the Classical influence to the "Starved Classicism" of the later 1930s. Former Congressman Frank W. Mondell, practicing law in Washington, D.C., was given credit for assisting the Wyoming delegation in obtaining the appropriation. The site of the building had been purchased years before when Mondell still served as a Congressman. Mondell attempted to have the building constructed with locally quarried stone to harmonize with the stone courthouse and Wyoming National Guard Armory (since razed). The Newcastle Post Office appropriation of \$60,000 was passed by Congress as part of the Second Deficiency Bill, and on December 24, 1931, the *News Letter Journal* reported on "Uncle Sam's Christmas Present to the City of Newcastle." Bids would be accepted on December 30; however, the first round of bidding was too high. Finally, on April 7, 1932, Phelps-Drake of Minneapolis was awarded the construction contract with a bid of \$53,000; subsequently, the use of locally quarried stone was abandoned as too costly and time consuming. The Masons laid the cornerstone for the building on September 29, 1932. By March 30, 1933, the building was completed for occupancy. The Newcastle Main Post Office is currently enrolled in the National Register of Historic Places.

Although not a New Deal project, the railroad depot (Building No. 23, South Railway Avenue) was constructed by the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad in 1936. The 1889 wood frame depot was razed to make room for the new depot. Nels Pearson of Sheridan was awarded the building contract using plans drawn up by the railroad. Construction began in April 1936, and employees moved into the new depot on June 29, 1936. The brick and stucco depot was built at a cost of \$15,000 and had a large waiting room, rest rooms, office room, and a freight and express warehouse. The new depot is depicted on the 1936 Sanborn Fire Insurance maps.

The Wyoming Army National Guard Cavalry Stable was built between 1933 and 1936 under state authorization and federal Civil Works Administration (CWA) and Works Progress Administration (WPA) as a stable for the horses of the Newcastle Wyoming National Guard Unit. The stables later became the Anna Miller Museum, east of the Commercial District.

The building at 121 West Main Street (Building No. 7, Sagebrush Realty) was constructed in 1939-40. It is located where five businesses had burned during the fire of 1933. This brick and tile building was constructed for Roscoe Michaels by local contractor Warren Julien. When it was finished, it housed a Ben Franklin Store until 1973/74, when it became the Weston County (Michael's) Senior Citizens' Center.

### The Oil Boom in Newcastle

The Newcastle Commercial District began to show signs of improvement by 1939, and many businesses were remodeled. Regional oil activity increased during and after World War II and peaked in the mid-1950s. In 1953, Weston County became the location of the greatest oil activity in Wyoming. Ninety well

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locations were staked and forty drilling rigs were active in the Clareton, Black Thunder, and Cheyenne River areas. As a result, many oil industry related businesses moved into Weston County and Newcastle. The Yellowstone Drilling Company of Casper and the Sioux Oil Company of Denver both moved their offices to Newcastle. The Sioux Oil Company rebuilt and modernized the former Graco Oil & Refining Company Newcastle refinery, adding a new thermal cracking and catalytic polymerization unit. The Oil Industrial Information Committee was formed in Newcastle, a public relations and information branch of the American Petroleum Institute. In 1950, oilmen erected an 84-foot oil derrick on the hill above Main Street that was lighted at night and spelled out the name "Newcastle." Despite low-cost housing projects such as Frontier Homes, housing remained scarce and by 1954, there were 642 trailers in Newcastle. The population of Newcastle rose from 1,421 in 1940 to 3,384 in 1950, and an estimated 6,000 by 1954. In 1953-54, school enrollment in Weston County showed the greatest increase (thirty percent) of any other county in the state.

Several commercial buildings were added to the downtown during the oil boom, many on vacant lots created by devastating fires. The Dogie Theater (Building No. 4, 111 W. Main Street) was constructed in 1951. In the 1890s, the site of the theater was occupied by Johnny Owen's House of Blazes, although the owner called it the Castle. At that time the building housed a saloon and variety theater with gambling and dancing girls. By 1912, Lots 17 and 18 were occupied by a print shop and a tailor. By 1920, a bakery, a restaurant, and a barbershop occupied the lots. The 1936 Sanborn Fire Insurance maps show Lots 17 and 18 as vacant due to fire in 1933, and the Dogie Theater was built on this location. On March 9, 1950, the local newspapers reported that construction was to begin on the New Castle Theater. It was to be located between the Modern Cleaners (107 W. Main Street) and the Wallack Store (currently Curves at 115 W. Main Street). The owner of the Castle Theater, Mrs. Esther Cleveland, contracted with the Garland Construction Company, Rapid City, South Dakota, to build a "modernistic" tile and brick building 50 feet wide by 130 feet long with a seating capacity of 600. In addition to the theater, the building contained two office spaces on each side of the entrance, and the front portion of the second floor contained apartments. Construction continued through 1951. In August, Mrs. Cleveland sold the uncompleted building to the Black Hills Amusement Company, which operated a chain of thirteen other theaters in the Black Hills region. This company also purchased the Castle Theater business and its equipment and continued operating it until the new theater was completed. T.R. Cochran was the new theater manager and intended to operate his insurance agency in one of the new offices. In October, the Black Hills Amusement Company and the Newcastle Chamber of Commerce held a "You Name It" contest, and the winner was to receive a wristwatch. The winning name was the "Dogie" Theater, named after the local high school team. The new theater was equipped with the latest twin projectors, sound system, and a giant plastic, perforated screen. In addition, special seats were wired for the hard of hearing with adjustable volume controls and headphones. The theater was installed with "comfort plus" theater chairs with the new automatic self-raising seats. The theater floor was constructed in the shape of a saucer and seats were staggered to assure a perfect sight line for each patron. A soundproof "cry room" was provided for babies where parents could sit in comfortable chairs and still watch the movie. The theater also contained tiled lounge rooms, and a giant air conditioning system. Jack Smith of Rapid City provided the interior painting and mural design with indirect lighting. The lobby contained a neon "dogie" head suspended from the ceiling

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and a snack bar designed in a western style. The theater was provided with two box offices, one outside the doors and a second inside for inclement weather. The theater was completed in early 1952, and a grand opening was held on March 21. Wyoming Governor Frank A. Barrett and his wife as well as Newcastle Mayor F.B. Thomas attended the opening ceremony. The technicolor musical "Two Weeks with Love" was the first movie shown after the ceremony was completed. The Dogie Theater still functions as a movie theater.

The Masonic Building (Building No. 20, 212-216 W. Main Street) is located in the block where a series of brick buildings had been destroyed by fire in 1912. The building was constructed in 1951 and occupied the vacant lot between the Gamble Store and Culver Hardware Company. The new building was 25 feet by 130 feet with a full basement. The second story was built to include the top of the existing Gamble store, and a new front was put on the Gamble Store to resemble the new building. The Julien Construction Company acted as general contractors for the project. L.M. York provided a portion of the initial funds for the construction by renting part of the first floor for his business. The remainder of the first floor was occupied by the Gamble Store. Newcastle Lodge No. 13 of the Masons occupied the second floor. The cornerstone for the building was laid on September 15, 1951. Grand Master C.N. Bell of Cheyenne led the ceremony attended by over one hundred Masons from across Wyoming. Howard DeVol, Past Master of the Newcastle Lodge gave a history of the Newcastle Masonic Order, which was chartered in 1891. Five hundred people attended an open house for the completed Masonic Building on May 3, 1952. The one-story portion of the east half of the Masonic Building was constructed in 1930. Since its construction, the first story of the building has housed several businesses, including a Gamble store and the KASL radio station. The second floor is currently used by Newcastle Masonic Lodge No. 13 and law offices.

Other commercial buildings constructed during this time period include Curves (Building No. 5 at 115 W. Main Street, 1950); the News Letter Journal Building (Building No. 14 at 14 W. Main Street, 1949); and the Drunk'n Dog Saloon (Building No. 22 at 222 W. Main Street, 1940).

In conclusion, these mid-twentieth century buildings, combined with those from earlier time periods, represent not only a broad time frame, but also a rich variety of architectural styles and building materials. The character of the commercial district has been shaped by two unique phenomena – rebuilding in the wake of several disastrous fires, and the construction of several fine stone and brick buildings that survived these fires. Newcastle was fortunate due to the availability of superior building stone from the nearby quarries as well as brick from a local kiln and brickyard. The expertise of the local Swedish stonemasons has left a legacy not only of well-crafted buildings, but also of stone retaining walls, making Newcastle unique among Wyoming towns. Like many small towns in the West, Newcastle has weathered economic booms and busts, and its relatively small size has helped protect it from the modern intrusions that have overwhelmed many other western towns. Anchored on the east end by the Weston County Courthouse, a National Register property, and on the west end by the 1930s-era railroad depot, the commercial district is modest but cohesive. Furthermore, most of the buildings within the proposed district consist of locally owned businesses, contributing to the character of downtown Newcastle.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS)

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.  
 previously listed in the National Register  
 previously determined eligible by the National Register  
 designated a National Historic Landmark  
 recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey  
 recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Location of Additional Data

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

Name of repository: Anna Miller Museum, Newcastle; Wyoming State Archives, Cheyenne

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property approximately 8.5 acres

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

	<u>Zone</u>	<u>Easting</u>	<u>Northing</u>
1.	13	564143	mE/4855996 mN
2.	13	564202	mE/4855895 mN
3.	13	564086	mE/4855833 mN
4.	13	564055	mE/4855877 mN
5.	13	563959	mE/4855824 mN
6.	13	563987	mE/4855774 mN
7.	13	563948	mE/4855753 mN
8.	13	563924	mE/4855802 mN
9.	13	563881	mE/4855781 mN
10.	13	563963	mE/4855632 mN
11.	13	563930	mE/4855615 mN
12.	13	563819	mE/4855818 mN

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.) **SEE CONTINUATION SHEETS AND ACCOMPANYING MAPS**

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.) **SEE CONTINUATION SHEETS**

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 9 Page 48

**Newcastle Commercial District  
Weston County, Wyoming**

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**9. Major Bibliographical References**

Brown, M.E. and B. Thorpe

1962 *And Then There was One: the Story of Cambria, Tubb Town and Newcastle.* Privately Printed.

Bonnar, Penny

1989 "Old Mill Inn Making Changes." *Newcastle Newsletter*, Newcastle, Wyoming, 27 July 1989.

Knight, W.C.

1893 *Geology of the Experiment Farms and Notes on the Mineral Resources of the State. Wyoming Experimental Station Bulletin No. 14*, pp. 103-212. University of Wyoming, Laramie.

Kolva, H.J.

1986 *Newcastle Post Office National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form.* On file at Wyoming SHPO, Cheyenne, and Anna Miller Museum, Newcastle.

National Park Service

1991 *How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation. National Register Bulletin No. 15.* U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Government printing Office, Washington, D.C.

Newcastle Chamber of Commerce

1996 *Newcastle's Seasonal Volksmarch Trail Guide.* Pamphlet issued by the Newcastle Chamber of Commerce.

No Author

1905 "The Mill Contract Signed." *Newcastle News-Journal*, Newcastle, Wyoming, 3 March 1905.

"Work on Mill Begun." *Newcastle News-Journal*, Newcastle, Wyoming, 24 March 1905.

"Another Big Enterprise." *Newcastle News-Journal*, Newcastle, Wyoming, 25 June 1905.

"New Light Plant." *Newcastle News-Journal*, Newcastle, Wyoming, 8 September 1905.

"A New Corporation." *Newcastle News-Journal*, Newcastle, Wyoming, 13 October 1905.

1910 "The A.M. Nichols Block." *The News Journal*, Newcastle, Wyoming, 3 June 1910.

"The Republican Candidates." *The News Journal*, Newcastle, Wyoming, 21 October 1910.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 9 Page 49

**Newcastle Commercial District  
Weston County, Wyoming**

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- 1912 "Stand by the Mill." *Newcastle News-Journal*, Newcastle, Wyoming, 1 February 1912.
- 1912 "Disastrous Conflagration." *The News-Journal*, Newcastle, Wyoming, 7 November 1912.
- 1920 "Elevator Here is Near Completion." *Newcastle News-Journal*, Newcastle, Wyoming, 20 July 1920.
- 1933 "Fire Levels Half Block in Business District of Newcastle." *The News Letter*, Newcastle, Wyoming, 2 November 1933.
- "Ordinance to Eliminate Fire Hazard in Business District Passed Monday." *The News Letter*, Newcastle, Wyoming, 7 December 1933.
- 1936 "Building of New Depot to Begin This Morning." *The News Letter and the News Journal*, Newcastle, Wyoming, 9 April 1936.
- "C.B. and Q. Moves to New Building." *The News Letter and the News Journal*, Newcastle, Wyoming, 30 June 1936.
- 1939 "Newcastle Hotel 50 Years Old to Undergo Remodeling." *News Letter Journal*, Newcastle, Wyoming, 1 June 1939.
- "Our Half Century Anniversary Edition Commemorating Fifty Years of Service to Newcastle and Northeastern Wyoming (Eight Sections)." *News Letter Journal*, Newcastle, Wyoming, 17 August 1939.
- "Remodeling of Antler's Hotel Get Underway." *News Letter Journal*, Newcastle, Wyoming, 7 September 1939.
- "Construction of Building Started." *News Letter Journal*, Newcastle, Wyoming, 2 November 1939.
- 1940 "Building in Newcastle During Year 1939 Totalled More Than \$100,000." *News Letter Journal*, Newcastle, Wyoming, 4 January 1940.
- "Owners of Hotel are Congratulated." *News Letter Journal*, Newcastle, Wyoming, 15 February 1940.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 9 Page 50

**Newcastle Commercial District  
Weston County, Wyoming**

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- 1950 "Construction of New Castle Theater Started This Week." *News Letter Journal*, Newcastle, Wyoming, 9 March 1950.
- "Large New Electric Light Sign to Advertise Newcastle." *News Letter Journal*, Newcastle, Wyoming, 8 June 1950.
- "Sioux Refinery to be in Full Operation by August." *News Letter Journal*, Newcastle, Wyoming, 20 July 1950.
- "Black Hills Amusement Co. Buys New Castle Theatre." *News Letter Journal*, Newcastle, Wyoming, 31 August 1950.
- 1951 "New Theatre Ultra Modern in Design and Equipment." *News Letter Journal*, Newcastle, Wyoming, 15 March 1951.
- "Dogie Theatre Dedication Greeted by Large Crowd." *News Letter Journal*, Newcastle, Wyoming, 22 March 1951.
- "Work on Masonic Temple Scheduled to Begin Today." *News Letter Journal*, Newcastle, Wyoming, 10 May 1951.
- "Beginning of the New Masonic Temple." *News Letter Journal*, Newcastle, Wyoming, 17 May 1951.
- "Masons Lay Cornerstone Saturday for New Temple." *News Letter Journal*, Newcastle, Wyoming, 20 September 1951.
- 1952 "Masons to Hold Open House in New Building May 3<sup>rd</sup>." *News Letter Journal*, Newcastle, Wyoming, 1 May 1952.
- "Over 500 Attend Masonic Open House Saturday." *News Letter Journal*, Newcastle, Wyoming.
- 1964 "Last Rites Saturday for Howard Toomey, Prominent Businessman." *Rapid City Journal*, Rapid City, South Dakota, 14 May 1964.
- 2002 *Old Mill Times*, Newcastle, Wyoming, Vol. XCV, No. XVII (part of menu for the Old Mill Inn.)

Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps of the City of Newcastle, 1891, 1896, 1903, 1907, 1912, 1920, 1936. University of Wyoming Coe Library, Laramie.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 9 Page 51

**Newcastle Commercial District  
Weston County, Wyoming**

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Spillane, Richard

1999 "If These Walls Could Talk." *News Letter Journal*, Newcastle, Wyoming, 4 February 1999.

Stone, R.W.

1912 Coal Near the Black Hills, Wyoming and South Dakota. *U.S. Geological survey Bulletin No. 499*. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C.

Weston County Courthouse. Tax Assessor's Office Property Cards. Newcastle, Wyoming.

Weston County Heritage Group

1988 Shelly Ritthaler, "Newcastle" and Jessie Y. Sundstrom "Sundstrom Family" in *Weston County Wyoming*. Curtis Media Corporation, Dallas, Texas.

Weston County Historic Preservation Board

2000 *Weston County Courthouse National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. On File at Wyoming SHPO, Cheyenne, Wyoming.

Wyoming Highway Commission

1917- *Biennial Reports*. Wyoming highway Commission, Cheyenne, Wyoming.

1950

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 10 Page 52

**Newcastle Commercial District  
Weston County, Wyoming**

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## **10. Geographical Data**

### **Verbal Boundary Description**

The district is oriented on a northeast by southwest axis of about 65 degrees. To simplify directions, streets and boundaries oriented northeast by southwest shall be described as east-west, and streets and boundaries oriented northwest by southeast shall be described as north-south.

Beginning at a point at the northeast corner of the district (Point 1), located at the northeast corner of Lot 18, Block 8, Original Addition, proceed south along the west edge of Summit Avenue, cross West Main Street (formerly Warren) and continue south to the southeast corner of Lot 1, Block 9 (Point 2). This defines the east boundary of the district.

Proceed west along the north edge of the alley of Block 9, cross Sumner Avenue, and continue west to the southwest corner of Lot 6, Block 10 (Point 3). Turn north along the line between Lots 6 and 7, Block 10, to the south side of West Main Street at the northeast corner of Lot 7, Block 10 (Point 4). Proceed west along the south side of West Main Street and the north sides of Lots 7-12 (thereby eliminating these lots). Continue west across Seneca Avenue along the south side of West Main Street to the northeast corner of Lot 3, Block 11 (Point 5), eliminating Lots 1-2, Block 11. Turn south along the lot line between Lots 2 and 3, Block 10, to the north edge of the alley in Block 11 (Point 6). From Point 6, turn west along the north edge of the alley in Block 11 to the southwest corner of Lot 9, Block 11 (Point 7). Turn north along the line between Lots 9 and 10, Block 11, to the south side of West Main Street and the northwest corner of Lot 9 (Point 8). Turn west and follow the south side of West Main Street along the north side of Lots 10, 11, and 12, Block 11 (thereby eliminating these lots). Continue west across Railway Avenue to the west side of said avenue and the northeast corner of the Burlington Northern-Santa Fe Railroad park (Point 9). This roughly defines the south boundary of the main commercial district.

From Point 9, turn south and follow the west side of Railway Avenue to Point 10, which is located at the point where the west side of Railway Avenue intersects with an imaginary line extending east from the south building line of Building No. 23, the Burlington Northern-Santa Fe Railroad Depot. Proceed west to Point 11, located at the intersection of an imaginary line extended slightly west to the southwest corner of the depot and the railroad tracks (Point 11). Turn north along the east side of the railroad tracks, cross West Main Street, and continue to Point 12, located at the northwest corner of a vacant lot on the west side of Railway Avenue and on an imaginary line that extends west along the south side of the alley in Block 6. This defines the west portion of the district that extends south to include the depot.

Turn east and follow the south side of the alley in Blocks 6, 7, and 8, returning to the Point of Beginning (Point 1). This defines the north boundary of the district.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 10 Page 53

**Newcastle Commercial District  
Weston County, Wyoming**

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**Boundary Description**

This irregular but roughly rectangular boundary was identified to encompass the highest concentration of historic buildings retaining physical integrity. Modern intrusions or groups of historic buildings that have lost integrity were excluded whenever possible.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 8

**NEWCASTLE COMMERCIAL DISTRICT  
WESTON COUNTY, WYOMING**

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title	<u>Robert G. and Elizabeth L. Rosenberg</u>	date	<u>September 2007</u>
organization	<u>Rosenberg Historical Consultants</u>	telephone	<u>(307) 632-1144</u>
street & number	<u>739 Crow Creek Road</u>	zip code	<u>82009</u>
city or town	<u>Cheyenne</u> state <u>WY</u>		

Revised by \_\_\_\_\_

**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

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.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

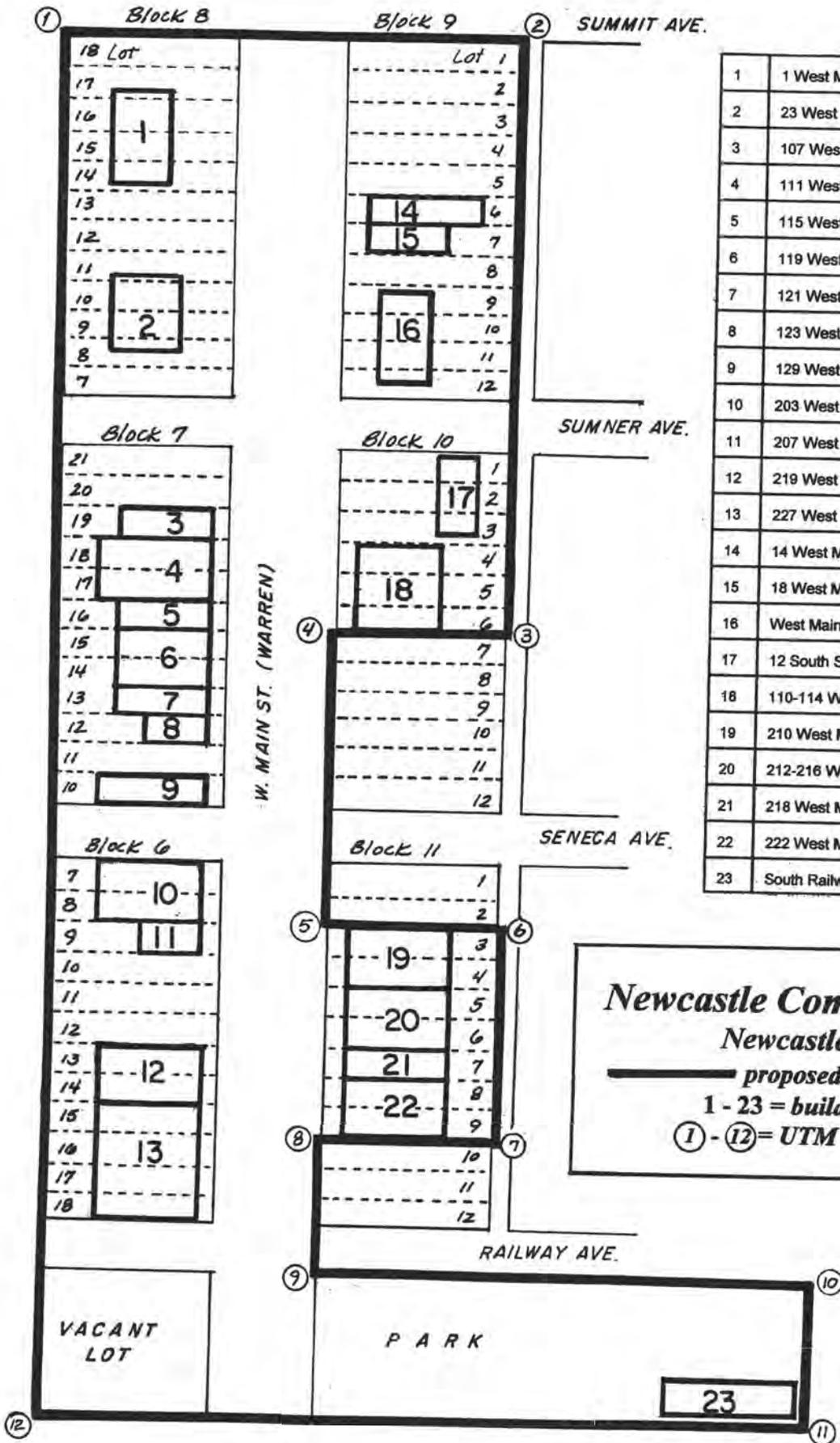
**Property Owner**

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

name \_\_\_\_\_

street & number \_\_\_\_\_ telephone \_\_\_\_\_

city or town \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_ zip code \_\_\_\_\_



1	1 West Main	Weston Co. Courthouse
2	23 West Main	Weston County Library
3	107 West Main	Modern Cleaners
4	111 West Main	Dogie Theater
5	115 West Main	Curves
6	119 West Main	Something Healthy
7	121 West Main	Sagebrush Realty
8	123 West Main	R&R Photo
9	129 West Main	Cashbox Ceramics
10	203 West Main	Antlers Hotel
11	207 West Main	Donna's Diner
12	219 West Main	Hardware Hanks
13	227 West Main	The Carter Company
14	14 West Main	News Letter Journal
15	18 West Main	Hansen & Peck
16	West Main	U.S. Post Office
17	12 South Sumner	Isabella's Restaurant
18	110-114 West Main	Grieves Building
19	210 West Main	Crafter's Mall
20	212-216 West Main	Masonic Building
21	218 West Main	TD Photo
22	222 West Main	Drunkin' Dog Saloon
23	South Railway Ave	Burlington-Santa Fe Depot

**Newcastle Commercial District**  
**Newcastle, Wyoming**  
 ——— proposed commercial district boundary  
 1 - 23 = buildings in district  
 ① - ⑫ = UTM boundary points



NOT TO SCALE

drafted by E. Rosenberg 8/2007

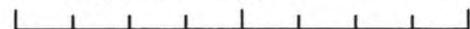
# Newcastle Commercial District



Newcastle Commercial District  
48WE1320  
T45N R61W S. 21  
Newcastle, WY USGS Topographic Quadrangle



0 0.045 0.09 0.18 Miles



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Newcastle Commercial District

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: WYOMING, Weston

DATE RECEIVED: 10/03/08      DATE OF PENDING LIST: 10/20/08  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 11/04/08      DATE OF 45TH DAY: 11/16/08  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 08001061

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N  
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N  
REQUEST: Y SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: Y NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT      RETURN      REJECT      DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

- Nomination is being returned for notification of FPO - U.S. Postal Service as required in 36 CFR Part 60 <sup>(revised in resubmission)</sup>
- Also, in section 8 - state why 1957 was selected as closing date of the period of significance
- Please drop & explain the following areas of significance in section 8: <sup>(adorned)</sup> Education & Entertainment/ Recreation

RECOM./CRITERIA Return      ✓ Please provide page 41 - which is msg.

REVIEWER JM Clelland      DISCIPLINE History

TELEPHONE 202-354-2258      DATE 11/13/08

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: RESUBMISSION

PROPERTY NAME: Newcastle Commercial District

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: WYOMING, Weston

DATE RECEIVED: 4/02/09 DATE OF PENDING LIST:  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: DATE OF 45TH DAY: 5/16/09  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 08001061

DETAILED EVALUATION:

ACCEPT  RETURN  REJECT \_\_\_\_\_ DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

*Nomination is being resubmitted with changes to the period of significance & areas of significance, as well as previously missing pages and FPO federal notification.*

*Representing the development of Newcastle's central business district from 1890 to 1952, this district is associated with the county seat's commercial development and role in county government. Among its fine collection of period architecture are the Western County Courthouse (1904), a prominent Neoclassical public building, and the 1936 Burlington, Northern - Sault Fee Dept, a fine local example of Mission Style.*

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept A+C

REVIEWER SLR/Clelland DISCIPLINE History

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE 4/21/09

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y(N) see attached SLR Y(N)



11-7-07

Newcastle Commercial District, Weston County Courthouse +  
Weston County Library. Bldgs. #1+2

Located at 1 West Main St. + 23 West Main St. in  
Newcastle, Wyoming

Weston County

View is West looking at the (SE) front of the bldgs.

Photographer: Richard Collier



11-7-07

Newcastle Commercial District. Streetscape

Located on West Main Street in Newcastle, Wyoming

Weston County

View is SW looking down West Main Street from the (NE) end  
of West Main Street

Photographer: Richard Collier



11-7-07

Newcastle Commercial District. Weston County Courthouse &  
Weston County Library. Bldgs. #1+2

Located at 1 West main St. + 23 West main St. in Newcastle, Wyoming

Weston County

View is North looking at the (NE) front of the Bldgs.

Photographer: Richard Collier



11-7-07

Newcastle Commercial District. Streetscape. Bldgs. 3-9

Located on the West side of West Main St. between  
Seneca Ave. + Sumner Ave. in Newcastle, Wyoming

Weston County

View is North

Photographer: Richard Collier



COCCIE

GOOD LUCK CHUCK 7:00

Modern Cleaners

Curtains

R.L.P. PHOTO

11-7-07

Newcastle Commercial District, Streetscape. Bldgs #3 thru 9

Located on the West side of West Main St. between Sumner Ave. & Seneca Ave. in Newcastle, Wyoming

Weston County

View is West looking at the (SE) front of the bldgs.

Photographer: Richard Collier



K & R PHOTO

Curves

M-COON

GOOD LUCK CHUCK 7:00

Modern Cleaners

11-7-07

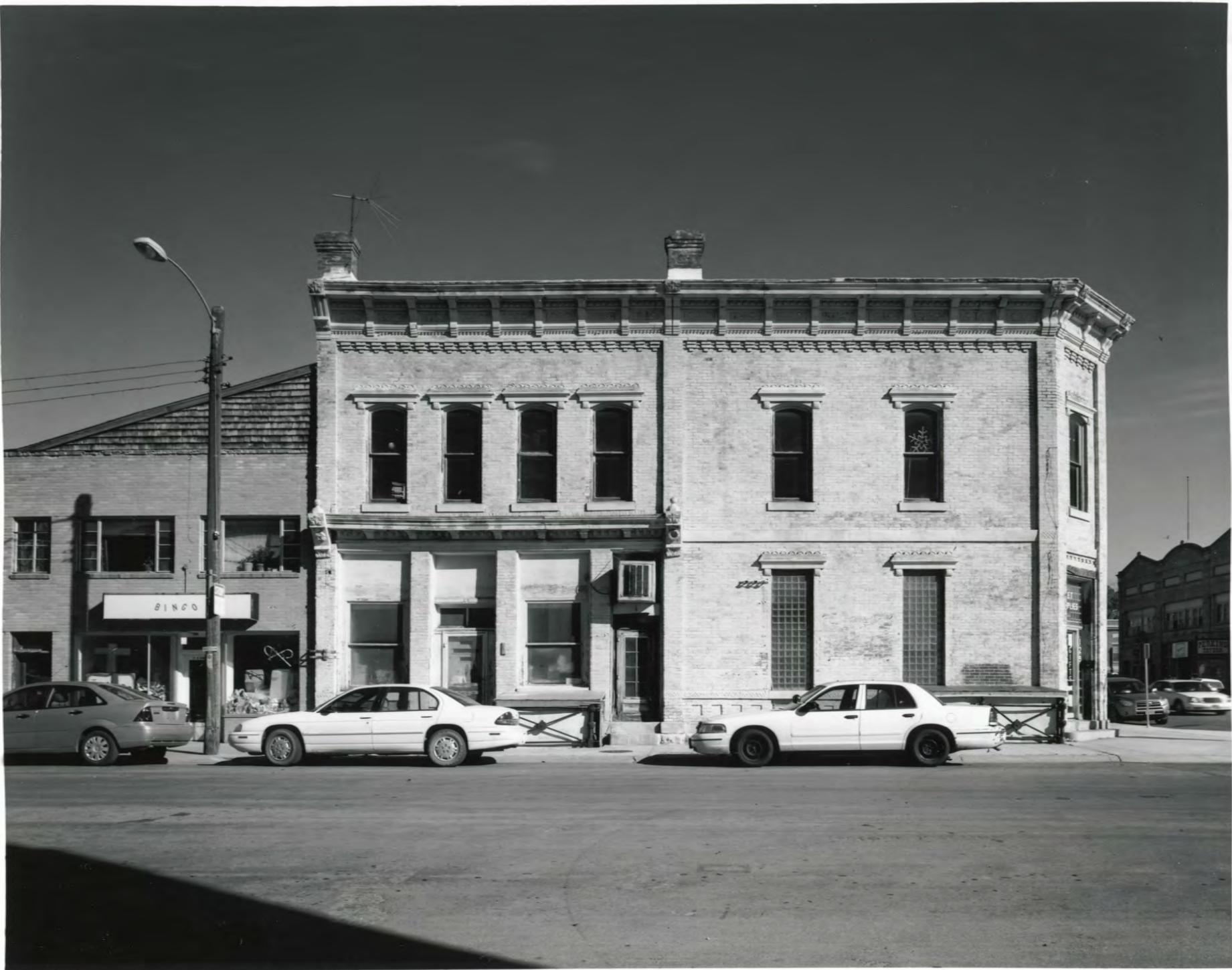
Newcastle Commercial District, Streetscape. Bldgs. # 3 thru 9.

Located on the west side of West Main St. between Sumner Ave +  
Seneca Ave. in Newcastle, Wyoming

Weston County

View is West looking at the (SE) front of the bldgs.

Photographer: Richard Collier



11-7-07

Newcastle Commercial District, Cashbox Ceramics, Bldg #9

Located at 129 West Main St. Newcastle, Wyoming

Weston County

View is NE looking at the (WSW) side of the bldg.

Photographer: Richard Collier



11-7-07

Newcastle Commercial District. Antler's Hotel + Donna's Diner, Bldgs. 10 + 11

Located at 203 + 207 West Main St. in Newcastle, Wyoming

Weston County

View is West looking at the (SE) front of the Bldgs

Photographer: Richard Collier



Dining ROOM

Dessert

11-7-07

Newcastle Commercial District. Antler's Hotel + Donna's Diner  
Bldg #. 10 + 11.

Located at 203 + 207 West Main St. in Newcastle, Wyoming

Weston County

View is NW looking at the (SE) front of the bldgs.

Photographer: Richard Collier



11-7-2007

Bldgs. 12+13

Newcastle Commercial District, Hardware Hanks + The Carter Company

Located at 219 + 227 West Main St. in Newcastle, Wyoming

Weston County

View is West looking at the front of 219 + 227 West Main St

Photographer: Richard Collier



GOOD LUCK CHUCK 7 00

GOOD LUCK CHUCK 7 00

OPEN

11-7-07

Newcastle Commercial District. Dogie Theater. Bldg. #4

Located at 111 West Main St. in Newcastle, Wyoming

Weston County

View is NW looking at the (SE) front of the bldg.

Photographer: Richard Collier



11-7-07

Newcastle Commercial District Burlington Santa Fe Depot. Bldg #23  
Located on South Railway Ave. in Newcastle, Wyoming.

Weston County

View is SE looking at the (NW) side of the bldg.

Photographer: Richard Collier



TAKE TWO! MOVIES MOVIE & MORE

PACKAGE LIQUORS  
WINES • BEER TO GO

SPORTS BAR  
PACKAGE LIQUORS  
COCKTAIL LOUNGE

PACKAGE LIQUORS

11-7-07

Newcastle Commercial District. Streetscape. Bldgs #19, 20, 21 & 22

Located on the east side of West main St. between  
Seneca Ave + Railway Ave. in Newcastle, Wyoming  
Weston County

View is NE looking at the NW fronts of the bldgs.  
Photographer: Richard Collier



11-7-07

Newcastle Commercial District. Bldg. Streetscape. Bldgs. #19, 20, 21  
Located at 210, 212-216 + 221 West Main St. in Newcastle, Wyoming  
Weston County

View is East looking at the (NW) front of the bldgs.  
Photographer: Richard Collier



11-7-07

Newcastle Commercial District, Streetscape

Located on West Main St. in Newcastle, Wyoming

Weston County

View is East looking at the East side of West Main Street  
between Seneca Ave. + Sumner Ave.

Photographer: Richard Collier



FRIEVE'S BLDG

Reflections  
Sales & Service  
746-2646

LOW GROSS  
WESTERN  
COUNTY  
TITLE

WESTERN  
COUNTY  
TITLE

OPEN

FRANK'S  
RESTAURANT

BURGERS

COMPUTER  
PRINTING  
& SIGNS

11-7-2007

Newcastle Commercial District, Grieves Block. Bldg #18  
Located at 110-114 West Main St. in Newcastle, Wyoming  
Weston County

View is SSE looking at the NW front of the bldg.  
Photographer: Richard Collier



PERKINS  
BLDG

LAW OFFICE  
WHEELER & MURPHY  
110

WEST COAST  
TITLE

Reflections  
796-2666

PERKINS  
TAVERN

COMPUTERS  
PRINTING  
& SIGNS

PERKINS TAVERN

PERKINS TAVERN

11-7-07

Newcastle Commercial District. Grieves Building. Bldg #18

Located at 110-114 West main St. in Newcastle, Wyoming

Weston County

View is South looking at the (NW) front of the bldg.

Photographer: Richard Collier



11-7-07

Newcastle Commercial District, Isabella's Resturant. Bldg #17

Located at 12 South Sumner Ave. in Newcastle, Wyoming

Weston County

View is West looking at the (NE) front & (SE) side of the bldg.

Photographer: Richard Collier



11-7-07

Newcastle Commercial District, Post Office, Bldg. #16  
Located on West Main St. in Newcastle, Wyoming  
Weston County

View is SE looking at the NW front of the bldg.  
Photographer: Richard Collier



HANSEN AND PECK  
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

H.W. MAIN

NEWS  
LETTER  
JOURNAL

Publishing  
Printing  
Office  
Restoring

11-7-07

Newcastle Commercial District. News Letter Journal + Hansent Peck offices  
Bldgs. 14 + 15

Located at 14 + 18 West Main St. in Newcastle, Wyoming  
Weston County

View is East looking at the (NW) front of the bldg.  
Photographer: Richard Collier

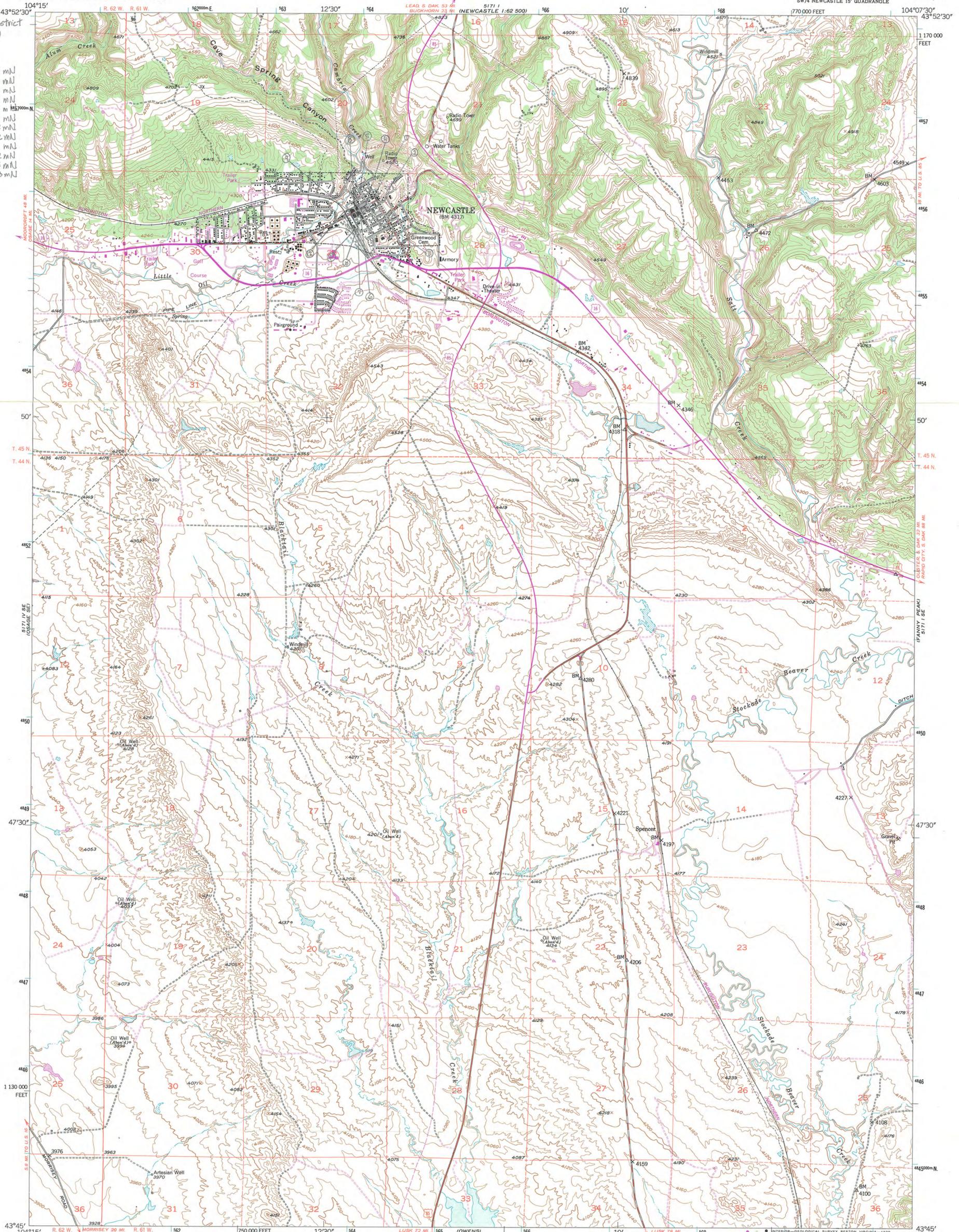
UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

NEWCASTLE QUADRANGLE  
WYOMING—WESTON CO.  
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)  
SW/4 NEWCASTLE 15' QUADRANGLE

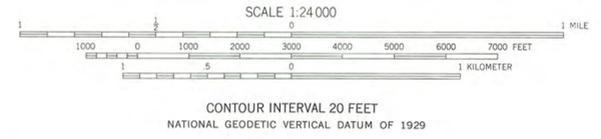
Newcastle Commercial District  
Weston County, Wyoming

UTM Reference Points

1. 13/564 148 mE/4855996 mN
2. 13/564202 mE/4855895 mN
3. 13/564086 mE/4855833 mN
4. 13/564055 mE/4855817 mN
5. 13/563959 mE/4855824 mN
6. 13/563987 mE/4855774 mN
7. 13/563948 mE/4855753 mN
8. 13/563924 mE/4855802 mN
9. 13/563881 mE/4855781 mN
10. 13/563963 mE/4855682 mN
11. 13/563920 mE/4855615 mN
12. 13/563819 mE/4855613 mN

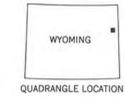
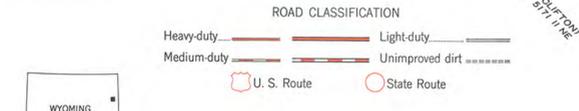


Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey as part of the Department of the Interior program for the development of the Missouri River Basin. Control by USGS and USC&GS. Topography from aerial photographs by multiplex methods by Tennessee Valley Authority 1951. Aerial photographs taken 1948. Field check 1951. Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum 10,000-foot grid based on Wyoming coordinate system, east zone. Dashed land lines indicate approximate locations 1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 13, shown in blue.



CONTOUR INTERVAL 20 FEET  
NATIONAL GEODETTIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092. A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST.



NEWCASTLE, WYO.  
SW/4 NEWCASTLE 15' QUADRANGLE  
N4345—W10407.5/7.5

1951  
PHOTOREVISED 1979  
AMS 5171 I SW—SERIES V874

Revisions shown in purple compiled from aerial photographs taken 1976 and other source data. This information not field checked. Map edited 1979.

# ARTS. PARKS. HISTORY.

Wyoming State Parks & Cultural Resources



State Historic Preservation Office  
Barrett Building, 3rd Floor  
2301 Central Avenue  
Cheyenne, WY 82002  
Phone: (307) 777-7697  
Fax: (307) 777-6421  
<http://wyoshpo.state.wy.us>

2 October 2008

Janet Matthews  
Keeper of the National Register of Historic Places  
National Park Service  
1201 Eye St., NW  
8<sup>th</sup> Floor (MS 2280)  
Washington, DC 20005

Re: Submission of the Toomey's Mills and the Newcastle Commercial District  
Nominations

Dear Ms. Matthews:

The Wyoming State Historic Preservation Office is submitting the Toomey's Mills and the Newcastle Commercial District nominations for your review, which the State Review Board accepted and Mary Hopkins, the Wyoming Interim State Historic Preservation Officer, signed.

Please contact me at 307-777-7828 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Kara Hahn

National Register Program Coordinator  
Wyoming State Historic Preservation Office  
2301 Central Avenue  
Cheyenne, WY 82002  
307-777-7828



Dave Freudenthal, Governor  
Milward Simpson, Director

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<http://wyoshpo.state.wy.us>

29 January 2009

Mr. Dallan C. Wordekemper  
Federal Preservation Officer  
CPM, Real Estate Specialist  
Facilities  
United States Postal Service  
4301 Wilson Boulevard  
Suite 300  
Arlington, VA 22203-1861

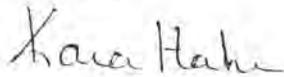
Re: Newcastle Commercial District National Register Nomination

Dear Mr. Wordekemper:

We are writing to notify you of the nomination of the Newcastle Commercial District to the National Register of Historic Places. This district comprising 23 buildings includes the local post office (West Main Street, Newcastle, Wyoming). The post office was originally listed in the National Register on 19 May 1987 and is now nominated as part of this historic district. Pursuant to 36CFR60.6(y), we are submitting the nomination for your review and comment. Enclosed is a copy of the nomination, which has been reviewed by the Wyoming State Review Board and signed by our Interim State Historic Preservation Office.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 307-777-7828.

Sincerely,



Kara Hahn

National Register Program Coordinator  
Wyoming State Historic Preservation Office  
2301 Central Ave  
Cheyenne, WY 82002

Enclosure



Dave Freudenthal, Governor  
Milward Simpson, Director

# ARTS. PARKS. HISTORY.

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31 March 2009

Janet Matthews  
Keeper of the National Register of Historic Places  
National Park Service  
1201 Eye St., NW  
8<sup>th</sup> Floor (MS 2280)  
Washington, DC 20005

Re: Resubmission of the Newcastle Commercial District Nomination

Dear Ms. Matthews:

The Wyoming State Historic Preservation Office is resubmitting the Newcastle Commercial District nomination for your review. Also enclosed is a copy of a letter of notification to Dallan C. Wrodekemper, Federal Preservation Officer for the United States Postal Service. He did not comment on the nomination.

Please contact me at 307-777-7828 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Kara Hahn

National Register Program Coordinator  
Wyoming State Historic Preservation Office  
2301 Central Avenue  
Cheyenne, WY 82002  
307-777-7828



Dave Freudenthal, Governor  
Milward Simpson, Director