

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
REGISTRATION FORM

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Mountain View Hotel

other names/site number None

2. Location

street & number 2747 Highway 130 not for publication ☐  
city or town Centennial vicinity ☐  
state Wyoming code WY county Albany code 001  
zip code 82055

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this ☐ 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 ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant ☐ nationally ☐ statewide ☐ locally. (☐ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official

Date

State or Federal Agency or Tribal government

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of commenting official/Title

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau

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#### 4. National Park Service Certification

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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    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

  2                         buildings

                             sites

_____	_____	structures
_____	_____	objects
<u>2</u>	_____	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

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

N/A

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## 6. Function or Use

=====

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: <u>DOMESTIC</u>	Sub: <u>hotel</u>
<u>COMMERCE/TRADE</u>	<u>restaurant</u>
<u>GOVERNMENT</u>	<u>post office</u>
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: <u>DOMESTIC</u>	Sub: <u>hotel</u>
<u>COMMERCE/TRADE</u>	<u>restaurant</u>
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

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## 7. Description

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Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

LATE VICTORIAN: Folk Victorian

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation	<u>STONE: granite and limestone</u>
roof	<u>ASPHALT</u>
walls	<u>STUCCO</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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8. Statement of Significance

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

- ☒ X 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)

INDUSTRY

TRANSPORTATION

OTHER (tourism)

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Period of Significance 1907 - 1941

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Mountain View Hotel

Albany County, Wyoming

Significant Dates 1907  
1914  
1941Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)  
\_\_\_\_\_Cultural Affiliation \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_Architect/Builder Boston-Wyoming Lumber Company  
\_\_\_\_\_

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

See continuation sheets.

## =====

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

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

Crouse, Roberta, Sandy Chapman, Judith Girard, Joyce LeBlanc, and Catherine Wiegand, eds. *Centennial, Wyoming: 1876-1996*. Centennial: Utopia Creek Press, 1996.Duncan, Mel. *Medicine Bow Mining Camps*. Laramie: Jelm Mountain Publications, 1990.Hollenback, Frank R. *The Laramie Plains Line*. Denver: Sage Books, 1960.McAlester, Virginia, and Lee McAlester. *A Field Guide to American Houses*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 2004.National Park Service, *The Homestead Act*, [on-line]; accessed 13 October 2006; available from [http://www.nps.gov/archive/home/homestead\\_act.html](http://www.nps.gov/archive/home/homestead_act.html).Public Broadcasting Station, *New Perspectives on the West*, [on-line]; accessed 13 October 2006; available from <http://www.pbs.org/weta/thewest/resources/archives/five/railact.htm>.Wiegand, Catherine, ed. *Centennial, Wyoming: 1876-1976, The Real Centennial*. Denver: Silars Printing Company, 1976.*Wyoming State Business Directory 1906-7*. Denver: Gazetteer Publishing Co., 1906.*Wyoming State Business Directory 1908-9, Vol. IV*. Denver: The Gazetteer Publishing Co., 1909.*Wyoming State Business Directory 1910-11*. Denver: Gazetteer Publishing Co., 1911.*Wyoming State Business Directory 1912-13*. Denver: Gazetteer Publishing Co., 1913.*Wyoming State Business Directory 1913-1914*. Denver: Gazetteer Publishing Co., 1914.

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: Wyoming State Library, Cheyenne, WY

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property less than one acre

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

	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	13	404544	4572218	3	_____	_____
2	_____	_____	_____	4	_____	_____

☐ See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Kristi Hamilton/Historic Preservation Specialist

organization Wyoming State Historic Preservation Office date \_\_\_\_\_

street & number 2301 Central Avenue telephone 307-777-8594

city or town Cheyenne state WY zip code 82002

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Maps

- A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

See continuation sheets.

Photographs

- Representative black and white photographs of the property.

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

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Property Owner

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

name Ev Elmendorf

street & number P.O. Box 328 telephone \_\_\_\_\_

city or town Centennial state WY zip code 82055

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**Summary Paragraph**

The Mountain View Hotel is located on three city lots in the town of Centennial in Albany County, Wyoming. The hotel complex consists of two contributing buildings: the two-story Folk Victorian hotel with its additions and an icehouse. There are no other structures on the immediate property.

**Hotel**

*Exterior*

The Mountain View Hotel is a two-story building of simple massing with rear additions. The original plan, simple elements, and original porch elements define the building as Folk Victorian. The footprint of the Mountain View Hotel is approximately 46 feet x 75 feet. The foundation is a combination of granite boulders and limestone. The main porch, a recent addition that mimics the original porch, is set on wood columns. The entire exterior of the hotel was originally wood clapboard siding, but previous owners applied a stucco-like finish that covers the boards in the 1950s. The hotel's gabled roof has a normal pitch<sup>1</sup> and is covered in asphalt shingles. The eaves have an overhang of approximately two feet. Below the roofline, the decoration is simple with a wide fascia board.

Numerous transformations have occurred to the porches. Today a modern wrap-around porch, which is not original to the building, remains. The porch encompassing the south and east façades is open and serve the two main entrances to the hotel. From the main south entrance, access is gained into the café and gift shop. Another entrance toward the west end of the south façade provides access to a guest room. Five wood columns, each measuring 12 inches in diameter and spaced approximately 10 feet apart, support the porch roof on the south façade. From the east entrance, access is gained into a small vestibule and stairway. Two wood columns, each measuring 12 inches in

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<sup>1</sup> Virginia and Lee McAlester, *A Field Guide to American Houses* (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 2004), 25.



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diameter, frame the east entrance and support the small gabled roof above. In addition to the support provided by these columns, two more columns south of the east entrance support the porch roof and are spaced approximately 12 feet apart. Access to the kitchen is located through a side entrance toward the north end of the east façade. This portion of the hotel was a later addition in the 1940s that enlarged the kitchen. The north elevation has two entrances, one located on the east end that serves the kitchen and another located on the west end that serves as access to guest rooms. The west elevation, a 1930s addition, has two entrances near the center that provide access into two separate guest rooms.

The south façade of the hotel is oriented to Highway 130 and delivers the first impression to visitors. The façade is simple and is consistent with the architecture of the town. The east end is the larger, older part of the hotel with two stories; the first floor has two fixed single-light metal windows located on either side of the centrally located main entrance. These windows measure approximately five feet wide by five and one-half feet tall. The second story has a balanced appearance with four evenly spaced, double-hung wood windows. A smaller, double-hung wood window is centrally located above the second story windows and serves the attic. The west end of the south façade is an early one-story addition with a fixed single-light metal window on the west side of the guest room entrance. A double-hung metal window is located on the east side of the guest room entrance. None of the windows on the south façade have ornamentation or decorative elements.

The east elevation is also simple and has three windows on the first story and seven windows on the second story. The porch comprises the southern half of the first story. The main entrance of this façade, enlarged in the 1940s, is centrally located and flanked by a pair of sidelights, and is covered with a small gabled roof. To the south of this entrance, a fixed single-light metal window provides light to the café. Immediately north of the covered entrance is a large fixed wood window. The window is divided into three parts, with a large, central, single-light comprising the majority of the opening. This part of the window is flanked on either side by a fixed, one-over-one opening. A pair of fixed-light wood windows shares an opening to the north of the large wood window. The

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one-story addition on the rear of the building has an entrance into the kitchen on its southern portion of the east elevation. A fixed one-over-one wood window is located immediately north of the entrance. On the second story, a double-hung wood window is centered above both ends of the gabled roof that covers the entrance. Between these windows, a pair of smaller, double-hung wood windows is found closer to the southernmost second story window. Three double-hung wood windows are found to the north of these windows, and they are evenly spaced throughout the remainder of the elevation. One of two brick chimneys is prominent on the roof of the northern end of this elevation and is original to the building.

The north elevation is utilitarian in nature. The kitchen and guest room addition comprises the entire first story. An entrance on the east side of the elevation serves as an exit for the modern kitchen. Immediately to the west of this entrance is a pair of sliding wood windows. A recessed portion of this addition at the west end of the elevation shows a sliding wood window similar to the other two at the addition's east end, along with an entrance to guest rooms to the west of the window. The addition has visible mechanical equipment and vents located on the roof. There are no openings on the second story. A small, double-hung wood window serving the attic can be found above the second story.

The west elevation of the hotel has numerous openings on the first and second stories. The first story is an early addition and has four windows and two entrances. An uncovered extension of the main porch serves as a walkway to the two guest room entrances. A sliding wood window is found at the north end of the first story, with a similar sliding wood window that is more rectangular in nature immediately to its south. A sliding glass patio door and another guest room entrance are located near the center of the façade. A sliding metal window is south of the guest room entrance, and a larger, fixed, three-pane metal window is found at the south end of the façade. The second story has a balanced appearance with six windows. Four double-hung wood windows are evenly spaced from the north of the elevation to a point above the guest room entrance. Next to these windows are two smaller, double-hung wood windows that are

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evenly spaced above a first story window. The second brick chimney, no longer in use, is visible from this façade, and it is original to the hotel.

*Interior*

In the first story of the original portion of the hotel there are two public areas, one utilitarian area, and one private guest room. The public areas include the café/gift shop space and a meeting room that also serves as a private dining area. In the café, which serves as the main hotel entrance, the original pine floor remains exposed and intact. A pressed tin ceiling that was original throughout the more formal areas can still be found in the café. The stairway, which is not original, is visible through a wide doorway at the north end of the café, and a short hallway extends underneath the stairway from this doorway to the private dining area. The side main entrance is located directly east of the stairway and has a small vestibule. The utilitarian area, which is located in the more recent addition, is comprised of a kitchen, food prep area, and a small space for communications. The guest suite is located off the west side of the private dining area and has a living room, bathroom, and large bedroom. In the early addition to the first story there are four guest rooms. Entry to the first guest room is gained through a door on the west end of the south façade. This room contains a bedroom and bathroom. Access to the second guest room is through a door on the west façade. The room contains a bedroom, closet, and bathroom. The third and fourth guest rooms are entered through a doorway leading into a shared vestibule on the north façade. The third guest room has a living room, bedroom, and kitchen. The fourth guest room has a bedroom and a bathroom. All finishes and furniture throughout the first floor are modern and rustic in design, with the exception of the café's original elements.

The second story has one guest room, a small room, a closet, and a private apartment located off a hall with access from the stairway. Orientation of the walls within each room has most likely been altered over the past 100 years. The guest room, located at the northern end of the hotel, has a large bedroom, living room, bathroom, dining area, and a small bedroom. The small room has two windows and a closet. The private apartment has a large living room,

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kitchen, bathroom, and bedroom. Access to the attic is gained through a narrow stairway in the private apartment. On the second story, the doors are original, and each has an operable transom above with decorative glass. The finishes have been altered through numerous remodeling projects, and are not original to the hotel.

The attic is simple and has unfinished wood floors. Exposed beams demonstrate the original construction of the hotel. The brick chimneys are visible coming through the floor of the attic and up through the roof. The unheated space is currently used for storage, and insulation is visible.

### **Outbuilding**

One original outbuilding remains on the hotel property. The building, which measures approximately 12 feet x 15 feet, originally sat near where the kitchen addition is currently located. The building served as an icehouse and is now used for storage. It was moved to the northeast corner of the property at an undetermined time, and has no foundation. It is clad in wood clapboard siding and has an asphalt roof. The south façade has the building's only entrance. The north elevation has a smaller opening most likely used for moving goods in and out of the building with ease. There are no other openings on the building.

### **Site/Landscape**

Highway 130 binds the land occupied by the Mountain View Hotel to the south, a gravel lot and two buildings occupy the boundary to the east, private residential land is north of the building, and city lots are to the west. A gravel parking lot encompasses the hotel to the south and east. The hotel stables were originally located on the land just west of the hotel, but have long since been demolished. The unimproved land is rocky and grassy; the result of the glacial action that shaped the area. To the north and west, the Snowy Range surrounds the hotel, and Sheep Mountain is found to the southeast. The Centennial Valley spreads to the south of the hotel.

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### Summary Paragraph

The Mountain View Hotel is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A. The hotel, built c. 1906, was an integral part of the settlement of the Centennial Valley in Wyoming. With strong ties to mining, railroad, and early tourism endeavors, the building has remained in service in numerous income-producing capacities for the past 100 years.

### Historical Context

The Mountain View Hotel, located in the Centennial Valley approximately 30 miles west of Laramie, was built c. 1906 and opened to miners, railroaders, and travelers in 1907. At the time, the town of Centennial had an estimated population of 200 in a state with a total population of 145,965.<sup>1</sup> Prior to the opening of the Mountain View Hotel, the area had seen its share of prospectors and opportunists.

In 1862, Congress passed what is considered one of the most important pieces of legislation in United States history. The Homestead Act affected 30 states, of which Wyoming would be one.<sup>2</sup> Six years later, President Andrew Johnson approved an act creating the Wyoming Territory. Another important piece of legislation, the first of two Pacific Railway Acts, was also passed in 1862 and was meant to "...aid in the Construction of a Railroad and Telegraph Line from the Missouri River to the Pacific Ocean. . . ."<sup>3</sup> The Centennial Valley and its abundance of resources would soon be discovered by individuals eager to strike gold.

Although the area surrounding Centennial was rich in natural resources such as timber, the greatest such resource was hidden in the nearby mountains. In 1875,

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<sup>1</sup> *Wyoming State Business Directory 1910-11*. (Denver: Gazetteer Publishing Co., 1911), 164.

<sup>2</sup> National Park Service, *The Homestead Act*, [on-line]; accessed 13 October 2006; available from [http://www.nps.gov/archive/home/homestead\\_act.html](http://www.nps.gov/archive/home/homestead_act.html).

<sup>3</sup> Public Broadcasting Station, *New Perspectives on the West*, [on-line]; accessed 13 October 2006; available from <http://www.pbs.org/weta/thewest/resources/archives/five/railact.htm>.

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many hopeful individuals came to the area following speculation and promises. The first assay of ore from the Centennial Lode showed \$965 of gold to the ton with a prediction that the most recent rock extracted from the mountains should run \$2,000 to the ton.<sup>4</sup> There were even assumptions that the Centennial discovery would prove to be the richest auriferous quartz in the country and equal the riches from the Comstock Lode in Nevada.<sup>5</sup> Between 1859 and 1878, the Comstock Lode yielded \$400 million in silver and gold.<sup>6</sup> The popularity of this belief is illustrated by the fact that in 1904 there were 23 Centennial-region mines within a camp that was only six miles long by four miles wide.<sup>7</sup> Unfortunately, the great vein of gold was never found, and only nominal finds worth enough to settle personal debts and turn small profits were recorded.<sup>8</sup> Determined prospectors and investors continually worked the area in search of the great, lost lode for years. They reluctantly gave up when personal misfortunes and losses of motivation and finances became sacrifices they were no longer willing to endure.

The men who relocated to the Centennial Valley spent their time doing more than mining. One individual, J.W. Collins, chose to give up mining for a period of time in 1876 long enough to establish a stage line between Laramie City (now Laramie) and Centennial. The line was the first official travel route between the already well established Laramie City and the newly forming Centennial. The line carried freight, mail, and passengers "at reasonable rates."<sup>9</sup> This line would eventually lead to a decision in 1901 by several investors and the Laramie, Hahns Peak and Pacific Railroad Company (LHPP) to build a line extending from Laramie City to Centennial where one branch would then travel south to the gold camp of Hahns Peak in Colorado and the second branch would travel west over

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<sup>4</sup> Mel Duncan, *Medicine Bow Mining Camps* (Laramie: Jelm Mountain Publications, 1990), 19-21.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid., 21.

<sup>6</sup> Wikipedia Website, "Comstock Lode," viewed 10/19/2006,  
[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Comstock\\_Lode](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Comstock_Lode)

<sup>7</sup> Roberta Crouse and others, eds., *Centennial, Wyoming: 1876-1996* (Centennial: Utopia Creek Press, 1996), 49.

<sup>8</sup> Duncan, *Medicine Bow Mining Camps*, 32.

<sup>9</sup> Ibid., 25

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the Snowy Range to Encampment.<sup>10</sup> Construction over the 32-mile distance between Laramie City and Centennial began in the summer of 1903. Due to numerous problems with the company and the geography of the area, the line would not reach Centennial until June 17, 1907.<sup>11</sup> When the first train arrived in Centennial that day, the workmen were rushing completion of the new company hotel and dining room.<sup>12</sup>

By the time the LHPP reached Centennial, the 320-acre town was already surveyed and platted with 56 blocks. Over 1,000 lots were laid out<sup>13</sup> and numerous businesses were created. One of the men responsible for shaping the history of the valley was Isaac Van Horn, an East Coast native. This successful Boston banker became interested in southern Wyoming and its potential for earning investors riches from the gold mines. His earliest endeavors included a collection of \$100,000 in pledges for a railroad from Ft. Steele to Saratoga; the organization of the Boston-Wyoming Smelter, Power and Light Company; the acquisition of the Acme Mine. He also formed eleven companies whose activities included "...gold, copper, iron, and coal mining; a mercantile business; an electric company; a hotel; a smelting company; a townsite company...a safe deposit and trust company...a publishing company; a hay, grain and livestock company; and lastly, the Wyoming Transportation and Development Company."<sup>14</sup> Van Horn had high aspirations for the new town of Centennial, among which included the construction of an exclusive country club he hoped would attract people to the area.<sup>15</sup> A fish hatchery was completed and fully operational by 1902.<sup>16</sup> Other services by 1904 included a lumberyard, planing mill, church, various stores, business houses, and several dwellings. Following the arrival of the railroad, Centennial doubled in population from 100 to 200 full-time residents by 1912, and the variety one could find in services increased. Photographers,

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<sup>10</sup> Crouse, *Centennial Wyoming 1876-1996*, 71.

<sup>11</sup> Duncan, *Medicine Bow Mining Camps*, 32.

<sup>12</sup> Frank Hollenback, *The Laramie Plains Line* (Denver: Sage Books, 1960), 31.

<sup>13</sup> Duncan, *Medicine Bow Mining Camps*, 29-32.

<sup>14</sup> Crouse, *Centennial Wyoming 1876-1996*, 70.

<sup>15</sup> *Ibid.*, 72.

<sup>16</sup> *Ibid.*

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blacksmiths, taxidermists, shoemakers, painters, pastors, general contractors, and a hotel proprietor were available.<sup>17</sup> The railroad remained in operation through Centennial until the 1990s, which more than likely contributed to the fact that the town did not die like so many other small railroad communities. Centennial has always had a rich history of tourism and has catered to various interests since it was founded. Located in the vicinity are several guest ranches, skiing and winter sports opportunities, hiking trails, and several other outdoor-related activities. In the early 1900s, the railroad would run "fish specials"<sup>18</sup> where individuals could board the train in Laramie in the morning and be let off wherever they saw a good fishing spot. The train would then pick the people up in the evening and return them to Laramie.<sup>19</sup> When the Sundbys owned and operated the Mountain View Hotel, they would take tourists up to Brooklyn and Telephone Lakes to stay overnight and return with several tubs of trout for the hotel to cook.<sup>20</sup> With the increase in automobile traffic and the popularity of the Snowy Range, a road over the range was started in 1923 and was shortly completed.<sup>21</sup> Tourism is still Centennial's biggest business, and establishments such as the Mountain View Hotel continue to cater to those seeking a taste of the life in Wyoming.

**Criterion A**

The Mountain View Hotel is eligible under Criterion A because of its ties to mining, the railroad, and early tourism. Construction of the building was first proposed in 1906 and was to be built by Eastern Capital at a cost of \$8,000. The Boston-Wyoming Lumber Company ended up earning the contract, and construction began immediately. The plan called for 20 guest rooms and three baths with "the most improved system of plumbing," however, the original

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<sup>17</sup> *Wyoming State Business Directory 1912-13*. (Denver: Gazetteer Publishing Co., 1913), 164-165.

<sup>18</sup> Crouse, *Centennial Wyoming 1876-1996*, 87.

<sup>19</sup> *Ibid.*, 87-88.

<sup>20</sup> *Ibid.*, 96.

<sup>21</sup> *Ibid.*, 105.



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bathrooms were placed outside in the livery stables for some reason. The hotel's furniture was shipped from Chicago, and a gentleman by the name of R. Mettler was imported by the railroad to handle its daily operations.<sup>22</sup>

In 1914, Gustav Sundby and his wife Anna, bought the Mountain View Hotel.<sup>23</sup> Reportedly, trout was served at every meal. For a price of \$1.00 to \$1.50, one could have accommodations and meals, which included a breakfast of fresh fried trout, toast, pancakes and eggs and a dinner of steak and trout.<sup>24</sup>

County records are sparse, and existing documents show that the Sundbys owned and operated the Mountain View Hotel as it was originally intended until the 1940s.<sup>25</sup> Following the Sundbys, many individuals owned the Mountain View Hotel throughout the 20<sup>th</sup> century, and an element of its function would change slightly with each new owner. Dorothy Fisher purchased the building and part of it became Fisher's Gift Shop and the town post office for a short period of time.<sup>26</sup> In the late 1950s, the building was converted into apartments. Today, the building is in operation as a hotel once more, and a small restaurant inside contributes to the overall experience. The hotel is a survivor both physically and fiscally. It embodies the spirit of the early pioneers, miners, ranchers, railroaders and entrepreneurs of Centennial. Much like the town of Centennial, the hotel retains a sense of the community spirit that welcomes any traveler with open arms.

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<sup>22</sup> Ibid., 80.

<sup>23</sup> *Wyoming State Business Directory 1913-1914*. (Denver: Gazetteer Publishing Co., 1913), 167.

<sup>24</sup> Crouse, *Centennial Wyoming 1876-1996*, 96.

<sup>25</sup> *Wyoming State Business Directory 1941-1942*. (Denver: Gazetteer Publishing Co., 1913), 173.

<sup>26</sup> Crouse, *Centennial Wyoming 1876-1996*, 123.

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**Verbal Boundary Description**

Centennial  
Block 53; Lots 18, 19, and 20

**Boundary Justification**

This is the legal description of the Mountain View Hotel property as recorded by the Albany County Assessor.

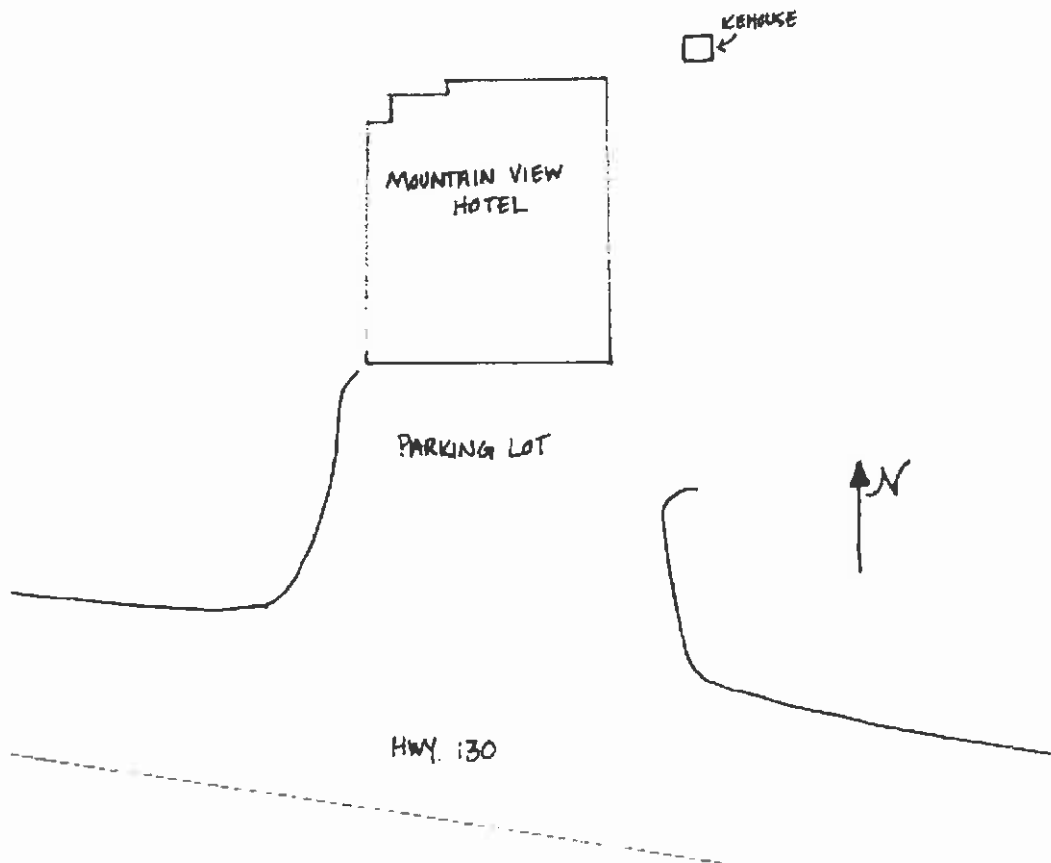
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Site Map

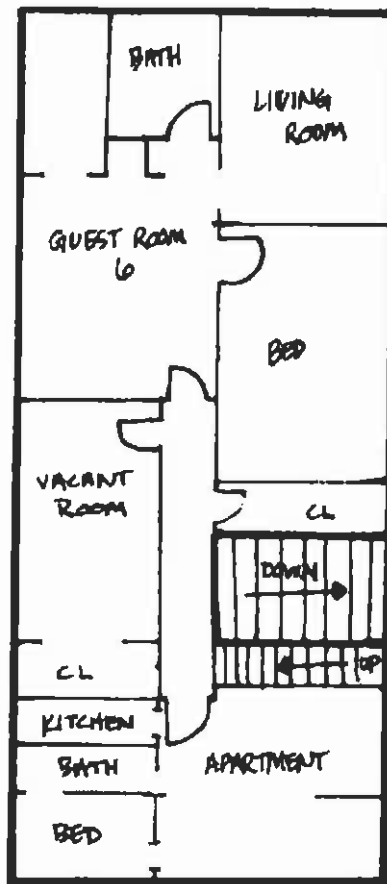


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Second Floor Plan  
(Shown at 75% of original)



0' 1' 5' 20'  
SCALE:  $\frac{3}{32}'' = 1'0''$