

COLORADO CULTURAL RESOURCE SURVEY

Architectural Inventory Form

- Date _____ Initials _____
- _____ Determined Eligible- NR
 - _____ Determined Not Eligible- NR
 - _____ Determined Eligible- SR
 - _____ Determined Not Eligible- SR
 - _____ Need Data
 - _____ Contributes to eligible NR District
 - _____ Noncontributing to eligible NR District

I. IDENTIFICATION

- 1. Resource number: **5RT.3154** Parcel number(s):
- 2. Temporary resource no.: **N/A** **288400001**
- 3. County: **Routt**
- 4. City: **Steamboat Springs**
- 5. Historic building name: **Dodd Diesel Building**
- 6. Current building name: **Back Door Sports / Wheels Building**
- 7. Building address: **841 Yampa Street**
- 8. Owner name and address: **River Front Partners LLC**
111 N. 181st Street, Suite 202
Elkhorn, NE 68022-4713



National Register field eligibility assessment: **Not Eligible**

Local Landmark eligibility field assessment: **Not Eligible**

II. Geographic Information

9. P.M. **6th** Township **6N** Range **84W**
SW ¼ of NE ¼ of NE ¼ of NW ¼ of section 17
10. UTM reference (NAD27)
Zone **13**; **344390** mE **4483078** mN
11. USGS quad name: **Steamboat Springs, Colorado**
Year: **1969** Map scale: **7.5'**
12. Legal Description: **Lot 1 Whitewater Run Subdivision**
13. Boundary Description and Justification: **This legally defined parcel encompasses, but does not exceed, the land historically associated with this property.**

III. ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

14. Building plan (footprint, shape): **Rectangular Plan**
15. Dimensions in feet: **60' NE-SW by 32' NE-SW**
16. Number of stories: **One**
17. Primary external wall material(s): **Wood / Vertical Siding, Metal**
18. Roof configuration: **Gabled Roof / Front Gabled Roof**
19. Primary external roof material: **Metal Roof**
20. Special features: **False Front**
21. General architectural description:
This rectangular-shaped building is supported by an unpainted poured concrete foundation which is faced with river rock on the northeast elevation (façade). The exterior walls are made of stained brown board-and-batten, except for the southwest (rear) elevation which is clad with white corrugated metal. The façade wall false front with a centered gabled pediment. Two signs are affixed to the façade wall, one advertising "BACKDOOR SPORTS" and the other advertising "WHEELS SALES PARTS SERVICE SINCE 1996." A painted turquoise with black trim wood-paneled door, with one upper sash light, enters the façade beneath a gabled porch roof with knee brace supports. The façade wall is also penetrated by three single-light fixed-pane windows. The southwest elevation wall is penetrated by a painted green glass-in-wood-frame door, and by two single-light fixed-pane windows. One of these windows is vertically oriented, and the other is square. The northwest (side) elevation is penetrated by three 1x1 horizontal sliding windows and by one single-light fixed-pane window. The southeast (side) elevation is penetrated by two 1x1 horizontal sliding windows and by one single-light fixed-pane window. A small shed-roofed extension is located at the southeast end of the southwest elevation.
22. Architectural style/building type: **False Front Commercial Building (altered)**

23. Landscaping or special setting features:

This building is located on the southwest side of Yampa Street, a short distance south of the T-intersection of Yampa and 9th Streets. Asphalt-paved parking lots flank the building's northwest and southeast sides. The Yampa River flows behind the building from the southeast to the northwest. Howelsen Hill is located directly across the river to the southwest.

24. Associated buildings, features, or objects: **N/A**

IV. ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY

25. Date of Construction: Estimate: **1976** Actual:

Source of information: **Pete Vandecarr**

26. Architect: **Unknown**

Source of information: **N/A**

27. Builder/Contractor: **Unknown**

Source of information: **N/A**

28. Original owner: **Dodd Diesel (possibly)**

Source of information: **Pete Vandecarr**

29. Construction history (include description and dates of major additions, alterations, or demolitions):

Oral sources indicate that this building was erected circa 1976 as a diesel repair shop. The false front façade was erected by Pete Vandecarr in 1993. He is the owner of Backdoor Sports, a retail business located in the building since 1990. The original building, now hidden behind a false front façade, is rectangular in shape, front gabled, and with metal-clad walls.

30. Original location: **Yes** Date of move(s): **N/A**

V. HISTORICAL ASSOCIATIONS

31. Original use(s): **Commerce/Trade**

32. Intermediate use(s): **Commerce/Trade**

33. Current use(s): **Commerce/Trade / Specialty Store**

34. Site type(s): **False Front Commercial Building**

35. Historical background:

The Steamboat Fish Hatchery was built on this site in 1920, and existed until its closure in 1942. The hatchery consisted of a building with river rock walls known as the "stone house," with adjacent traces and retaining ponds along the river. For just over two decades, the hatchery produced more than two million fish per year, stripped from silver salmon and trout trapped in area creeks and lakes. After the hatchery closed, the stone house served as the Routt County Rifle Club's indoor range between 1946 and 1984. The stone house was eventually razed, and this area along the river side of Yampa Street became part of the Steamboat Yacht Club.

Oral sources indicate that this building was erected in 1976, and that it was originally a diesel repair shop owned by Dodd Diesel. Later owners reportedly include the City of Steamboat Springs, Allen Barbee, Richard and Paulette Mills, and River Front Partners LLC. Today, in 2012, the building is devoted to retail use. Pete Vandecarr has owned and managed Backdoor Sports in the rear half of the building from 1990 to the present. He founded the business on 5th Street in 1986, before moving it to this site in 1990. Backdoor Sports is regarded as a premier river outfitter, with retail sales and rentals specializing in camping, kayaking, climbing, and team sports. The front half of the building is presently occupied by "Wheels" Bicycle Shop, offering sales and rentals of bikes and snowboards. Wheels is owned by Chris Johns and has been located here for since 2010.

36. Sources of information:

Johns, Chris. Interview with Carl McWilliams, July 2012.

"Million and Half Trout Eggs for Local Hatchery," *Steamboat Pilot*, May 8, 1938. (article located in clipping file at Tread of Pioneers Museum.)

Mountain States Telephone and Telegraph/ Mountain Bell Telephone Directories for Steamboat Springs, 1956 – 2009. On file at the Denver Public Library, Western History Department.

Routt County Assessor, Commercial Property Appraisal Record.

"Routt County Assessor/Treasurer Parcel Detail Information."

"Steamboat Springs, CO. About 1900." Retrospective plat map compiled by Marcellus Merrill, January 23, 1976.

"The Story of Steamboat's Special Places." *The Best of the West*, June 25, 1987, p. 3.

Vandecarr, Pete. Interview with Carl McWilliams, July 2012

VI. Significance

37. Local landmark designation: **N/A** Date of designation: **N/A**

Designating authority: **N/A**

38. Applicable National Register Criteria:

A. Associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad pattern of our history;

B. Associated with the lives of persons significant in our past;

C. Embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or represents the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or

D. Has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in history or prehistory.

Qualifies under Criteria Considerations A through G (see Manual)

xx Does not meet any of the above National Register criteria

38A Applicable Steamboat Springs Landmark Criteria

A building, site, structure or object may be eligible for designation as an Historic Resource on the Local Register if it meets at least one (1) criterion in one or more of the following categories:

1. **Historic Importance.** The building, site, structure or object has character, interest or value as part of the development, heritage or cultural characteristics of the City, State or Nation; is the site of an historic event with an effect upon society; is identified with a person or group of persons who had some influence on society; or, exemplifies the cultural, political, economic, social or historic heritage of the community.

2. **Architectural Importance.** The building, site, structure or object portrays the environment of a group of people in an era of history characterized by a distinctive architectural style; embodies those distinguishing characteristics of an architectural-type specimen; is the work of an architect or master builder whose individual work has influenced the development of the City or contains elements of architectural design, detail, materials and craftsmanship which represent a significant innovation.

3. **Geographic Importance.** The building, site, structure or object, because of being part of or related to a square, park or other distinctive area, should be developed or preserved according to a plan based on an historic, cultural or architectural motif; or, due to its unique location or singular physical characteristics, represents an established and familiar visual feature of the neighborhood, community or City.

39. Area(s) of significance: **N/A**
40. Period of significance: **N/A**
41. Level of significance: **Local**

42. Statement of significance:

Because it was constructed in 1976, and is therefore less than fifty years old, this building may be considered ineligible for inclusion in the National and State Registers. It is also ineligible for local landmark designation. It does not meet the National Register requirements for Criteria Consideration G, pertaining to properties which have achieved significance within the past fifty years.

43. Assessment of historic physical integrity related to significance:

This property displays a below average level of historical integrity, relative to the seven aspects of integrity as defined by the National Park Service and the Colorado Historical Society - setting, location, design, materials, workmanship, feeling and association. The building's original, 1976, appearance was substantially altered by the application of a false front façade in 1998.

VII. NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT

44. National Register eligibility field assessment: **Not Eligible**

Local Landmark eligibility field assessment: **Not Eligible**

45. Is there National Register district potential? **No**

Discuss: **Historic buildings in this area along Yampa Street are too dispersed to form a National Register historic district.**

If there is N.R. district potential, is this building contributing or noncontributing? **N/A**

46. If the building is in an existing N.R. district, is it contributing or noncontributing? **N/A**

VIII. RECORDING INFORMATION

47. Photograph numbers: **CD #1, Images 46-50; CD #2, Image 25**

CDs/Negatives filed at: **City of Steamboat Springs, 137 10th Street, Steamboat Springs, CO 80477**

48. Report title: **Old Town Steamboat Springs Residential Survey Phase IX**

49. Date(s): **July 31, 2012**

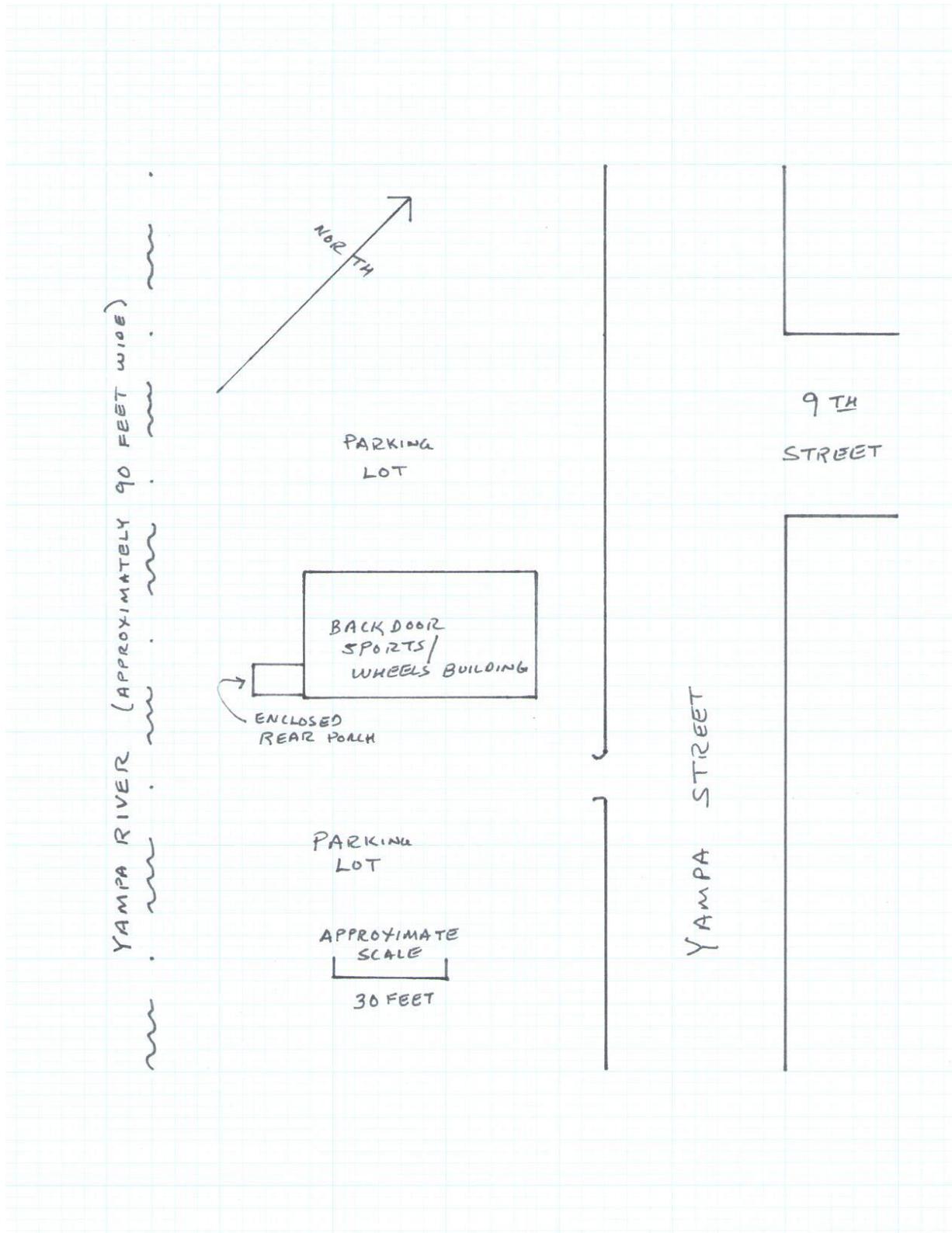
50. Recorder(s): **Carl McWilliams, Karen McWilliams**

51. Organization: **Cultural Resource Historians**

52. Address: **1607 Dogwood Court, Fort Collins, CO 80525**

53. Phone number(s): **(970) 493-5270**

Sketch Map



Location Map

