

COLORADO CULTURAL RESOURCE SURVEY

Architectural Inventory Form

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- Date _____ Initials _____
- ___ Determined Eligible-National Register
 - ___ Determined Not Eligible - National Register
 - ___ Determined Eligible - State Register
 - ___ Determined Not Eligible - State Register
 - ___ Need Data
 - ___ Contributing to eligible National Register District
 - ___ Noncontributing to eligible National Register District



I. IDENTIFICATION

- 1. Resource number: **5PE.5630**
- 2. Temporary resource number: **060**
- 3. County: **Pueblo**
- 4. City: **Pueblo**
- 5. Historic building name: **Mertz, Aaron C., House**
- 6. Current building name: **Duran-Wear House**
- 7. Building address: **722 W 12th Street**
- 8. Owner name: **Jose Duran and Doris Wear**
- Owner organization:
- Owner address: **722 W 12th St**
Pueblo, CO 81003

Parcel number(s):

525319006

- | | | | |
|---|---|--|---|
| 44. National Register eligibility field assessment: | <input type="checkbox"/> Individually eligible | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not eligible | <input type="checkbox"/> Need data |
| Local landmark eligibility field assessment: | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Individually eligible | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not eligible | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Need data |

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II. GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

9. P.M.: **6th** Township: **20S** Range: **65W**
NE 1/4 of **SE** 1/4 of **NE** 1/4 of **SW** 1/4 of Section **25**
10. UTM reference zone: **13**
Easting: **533513** Northing: **4236514**
11. USGS quad name: **Northeast Pueblo** Scale: **7.5**
Year: **1961 (Photorevised 1970 and 1974)**
12. Lot(s) : **Lot 5; Block 1**
Addition: **Craig's Addition** Year of addition: **1871**
13. Boundary description and justification:
The parcel, as described above, contains but does not exceed the land historically associated with this property.
Metes and bounds exist:

III. ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

14. Building plan (footprint, shape): **L-Shaped Plan**
Other building plan descriptions:
15. Dimensions in feet (length x width): **1,144 square feet**
16. Number of stories: **1**
17. Primary external wall material(s): **Wood/Horizontal Siding** Other wall materials:
18. Roof configuration: **Gabled Roof/Side Gabled Roof**
Other roof configurations:
19. Primary external roof material: **Asphalt Roof/Composition Roof**
Other roof materials:
20. Special features: **Fence**
Porch
21. General architectural description:
Oriented to the north, this house appears to consist of at least 2 distinct portions: (1) an original, cross-gabled house with (2) a side-gabled addition protruding from the east elevation. The original core (1) rests on a concrete sill and concrete-block foundations, which appear to have been installed after construction. The remainder of the building (2) rests on a random-coursed, sandstone foundation. Tan-painted, horizontal wood siding, with khaki-painted, 1-by-4-inch cornerboards, clads the exterior walls. The same color square-cut wood shingles cover a portion of the house comprising the southeast corner. Windows are 1-over-1-light, double-hung sash, with khaki-painted wood frames and surrounds. They are paired in the front (north) façade. A shed-roofed porch spans the entire façade and wraps around the northeast corner of the house. It has a concrete floor and aluminum porch supports. A single, concrete step approaches the porch near its center. The principal doorway opens in the center of the symmetrical façade of the original core. It hosts a wood slab door, opening behind an aluminum-frame storm door. Above the door is a single-light transom. Another doorway opens in the north elevation of the addition that protrudes eastward. It has a 1-light, paneled door and aluminum-frame storm door. This doorway also has a single-light transom. Another doorway opens near the center of the rear (south) elevation. It hosts a wood slab door. Approaching the doorway are 5 concrete steps. Above them is a shed-roofed hood, on simple knee brackets. A similar set of steps approaches the rear elevation near its eastern end, but goes nowhere; the porch it once accessed has been enclosed. Gray-green asphalt shingles cover the side-gabled roof. Tan-painted wood soffit and khaki-painted wood fascia, with a projecting cornice, box the eaves. Decorative vergeboards, with an alternating pattern of rosettes and voids, decorate the gables of the original core.

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22. Architectural style: **No Style**

Other architectural styles:

Building type:

23. Landscape or special setting features:

This property is located on terrain sloping downward from north to south, with an elevation of around 4,700 feet above mean sea level. The neighborhood features modest, one- and two-story houses. This property is located on the south side of West 12th Street, an east-west-oriented thoroughfare. It is situated between 720 W 12th Street, to the east, and 724 West 12th Street to the west. Running parallel to the street is a sidewalk of pink sandstone slabs. A grass strip separates the sidewalk from the street. Surrounding the house is a planted-grass yard, with mature landscaping. A chain-link fence encircles the backyard.

24. Associated buildings, features or objects: **No associated buildings identified.**

IV. ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY

25. Date of Construction: Estimate: **1890** Actual:

Source of Information: **Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps (for Pueblo, Colorado). New York: Sanborn Map and Publishing Co., 1883, 1886, 1889, 1893, 1904-05, 1904-51, and 1904-52.**

Pueblo City Directory. Pueblo, Co.; Salt Lake City; Kansas City, Mo.; and others: R.L. Polk & Co, consulted 1886 through 2003.

26. Architect: **unknown**

Source of information:

27. Builder: **unknown**

Source of information:

28. Original Owner: **Aaron C. Mertz**

Source of information: **Pueblo City Directory. Pueblo, Co.; Salt Lake City; Kansas City, Mo.; and others: R.L. Polk & Co, consulted 1886 through 2003.**

29. Construction history:

According to Pueblo County tax records, this building was constructed in 1900. However, city directories and Sanborn insurance maps suggest that this building existed around 1890. An analysis of the form, style, and materials corroborates a circa 1890 date of construction. The east addition was constructed prior to 1904. A porch within the inside (southeast-facing) corner was enclosed at an unknown date.

30. Location: **original** Date of move(s):

V. HISTORICAL ASSOCIATIONS

31. Original use(s): **Single Dwelling**

32. Intermediate use(s): **Single Dwelling**

33. Current use(s): **Single Dwelling**

34. Site type(s): **Residence**

35. Historical background:

The original owner and resident of this house, constructed around 1890, was pioneer Pueblo settler Aaron C. Mertz. Members of the Mertz family would reside in this house for more than 70 years. Aaron Mertz was a blacksmith, with a shop at 316 Grand Avenue. He was born in Pennsylvania in 1858. Around 1881, he married his wife, Annie E., who was born in England in January 1863. Together, they had three children: William, Edna M., and Howard M., who served in World War I and died in September 1940. His father, Aaron Mertz, lived in this house until his death in September 1954, at the age of 96.

Upon Aaron Mertz's death, his daughter, Edna, took over the property and continued to reside here. She superintendent of the nursery at First Baptist Church and was employed in the sewing department of Parkview Episcopal Hospital (now Parkview

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Medical Center). Edna Mertz died in this house on July 26, 1963.

Betsy L. Low purchased this property in 1980, selling it six years later to Wallace R. and Sharon Stealey. They sold the property in 1989 to Gail Fabrizio. Nancy D. Trujillo purchased the house and lot from Fabrizio in 1994, selling it in 1999 to Jose Duran and Doris Wear, the current owners, in 1999.

36. Sources of information:

Pueblo County Office of Tax Assessor. Property information card [internet].

Pueblo City Directory. Pueblo, Co.; Salt Lake City; Kansas City, Mo.; and others: R.L. Polk & Co, consulted 1886 through 2003.

"Mertz (Edna)" [obituary]. Pueblo Chieftain, 27 July 1963, p. 3A.

"Mertz (Howard Milton) [obituary]. Pueblo Chieftain, 18 September 1940, p. 7.

U.S. Census of 1900. Precinct 1, Pueblo, Pueblo County, Colorado. Series T623, roll 128, p. 11.

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VI. SIGNIFICANCE

37. Local landmark designation: Yes No

Designation authority:

Date of designation:

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 distinguished entity whose components may lack individual distinction.
- D. Has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in history or prehistory.
- Qualifies under Criteria Considerations A through G (see manual).
- Does not meet any of the above National Register criteria.

Pueblo Standards for Designation:

1a. History Have direct association with the historical development of the city, state, or nation; or1b. History Be the site of a significant historic event; or1c. History Have direct and substantial association with a person or group of persons who had influence on society.2a. Architecture Embody distinguishing characteristics of an architectural style or type; or2b. Architecture Be a significant example of the work of a recognized architect or master builder, or2c. Architecture Contain elements of architectural design, engineering, materials, craftsmanship, or artistic merit which represent a significant or influential innovation;2d. Architecture Portray the environment of a group of people or physical development of an area of the city in an era of history characterized by a distinctive architectural style.3a. Geography Have a prominent location or be an established, familiar, and orienting visual feature of the contemporary city, or3b. Geography Promote understanding and appreciation of Pueblo's environment by means of distinctive physical characteristics or rarity; or3c. Geography Make a special contribution to Pueblo's distinctive character.Not Applicable Does not meet any of the above Pueblo landmark criteria.39. Area(s) of Significance: **Not Applicable**40. Period of Significance: **n/a**41. Level of significance: National: State Local

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42. Statement of significance:

This property is historically significant under Pueblo Local Landmark criterion 1A for its association with the early development of Pueblo's North Side Neighborhood. However, the levels of architectural and historical significance, combined with physical integrity, are not to the extent that this property would qualify for individual listing in the National Register of Historic Places, the Colorado State Register of Historic Properties, or as a City of Pueblo Landmark. Nonetheless, it is a contributing resource within any potential historic district.

43. Assessment of historic physical integrity related to significance:

Constructed around 1890, this house exhibits a moderately high level of physical integrity relative to the seven aspects of integrity as defined by the National Park Service and the Colorado Historical Society: location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. While the house has had a major addition to the east elevation, it was constructed within the period of significance and does not obscure character-defining features. The building retains sufficient physical integrity to convey its significance.

VII. NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT

44. National Register eligibility field assessment: Individually eligible Not eligible Need data
Local landmark eligibility field assessment: Individually eligible Not eligible Need data
45. Is there National Register district potential? Yes No
- Discuss: **Pueblo's North Side Neighborhood represents the evolution of the city's professional middle and upper classes. Its diversity of architectural styles and forms directly represents the city's changing economic and cultural climates. As well, the neighborhood is distinctive because it appears to have evolved independently of the area's dominant industry, steel manufacturing.**
- If there is National Register district potential, is this building contributing: Yes No N/A
46. If the building is in existing National Register district, is it contributing: Yes No N/A

VIII. RECORDING INFORMATION

47. Photograph numbers): **CD-ROM Photo Disc: North Side Photos**
File Name(s): 12thstw722
- Negatives filed at: **Special Collections**
Robert Hoag Rawlings Public Library
100 East Abriendo Avenue
Pueblo, CO 81004-4290
48. Report title: **Pueblo North Side Neighborhood Survey**
49. Date(s): **06/21/05**
50. Recorder(s): **Adam Thomas**
51. Organization: **Historitecture, L.L.C.**
52. Address: **PO Box 419**
Estes Park, CO 80517-0419
53. Phone number(s): **(970) 586-1165**

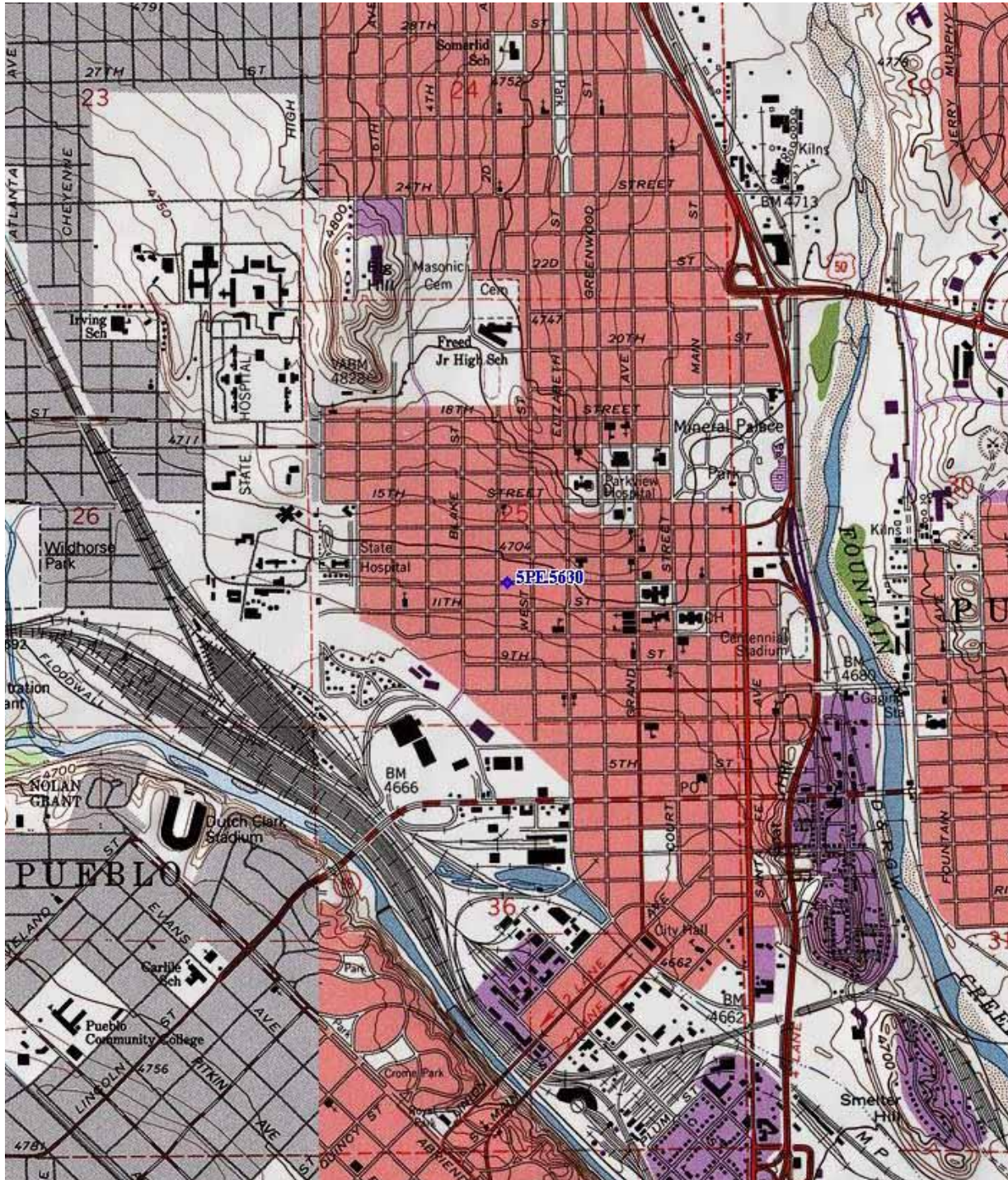
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SITE SKETCH MAP



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LOCATION MAP



Source: U.S. Geological Survey 7.5' Northeast Pueblo topographic quadrangle - 1961 (Photorevised 1970 and 1974)