

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 National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. 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.

1. Name of Property

historic name Ruble-Orendorf Mercantile (SM.8805)
other names/site number Royer Building, Galloway Bros. Building, Norwood Hardware Store

2. Location

street & number 1635 Grand Ave not for publication
city or town Norwood vicinity
state CO county San Miguel zip code 81423

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 at the following level(s) of significance:

national statewide local

 Patrick A. Eidman ^{Deputy} State Historic Preservation Officer 10/4/23
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official Date

Title State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register determined eligible for the National Register
 determined not eligible for the National Register removed from the National Register
 other (explain:)

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

Name of Property _____

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In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.	
_____	_____
Signature of commenting official:	Date
_____	_____
Title :	State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- ___ entered in the National Register
- ___ determined eligible for the National Register
- ___ determined not eligible for the National Register
- ___ removed from the National Register
- ___ other (explain:) _____

Signature of the 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
-

Name of Property _____
 Site

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Structure

Object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>1</u>	_____	buildings
_____	_____	sites
_____	_____	structures
_____	_____	objects
<u>1</u>	_____	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

COMMERCE/TRADE – Restaurant: saloon, bar

COMMERCE/TRADE – Department store: mercantile, general store

COMMERCE/TRADE – Specialty Store: hardware store

DOMESTIC – Hotel: boarding house

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

VACANT/NOT IN USE

WORK IN PROGRESS

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7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

LATE 19th AND EARLY 20th CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS – Commercial

Style

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: _STONE – Granite, BRICK,
STUCCO_____

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

Summary Paragraph

The Ruble-Orendorf Mercantile building is a two-story Late 19th Century/Early 20th Century Commercial Style building. The building sits in a central location on Norwood, Colorado's main street (Grand Avenue), with the front façade of the building facing south. The stone and brick building is two stories and has a number of prominent architectural features of the period and style. The south facing street façade of the building has seven prominent stone arches; three of which have doors for entry, and the remaining four holding tall windows. The second floor has five arched windows facing the Grand Avenue, with a small centralized parapet projecting up from the roof-line and metal trim representative of the period of construction. At the east and west corners of the front façade, stone pilasters are in prominent view from the street. The first-floor level is constructed of stone (sandstone and granite) and mortar, with the second floor being of brick construction, covered with a tan stucco coating, which, according to oral references by long term town residents, is believed to have been applied in 1920s~1930s. The east facing wall faces a narrow, but accessible, alleyway, and has two circular windows, one closed with concrete block, and the other featuring an original circular

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window opening with the original steel shutter still intact. While the exact function of the circular widow, and the steel shutters is unknown, according to oral history, the original Galloway Bros. safe was used as a defacto bank in Norwood, taking gold and other valuable deposits from customers, and the steel shutters were locked nightly to protect ingress into the building from potential thieves. On the second floor of the east facing side, the original brick is visible under the stucco outer covering. The rear of the building has a wood frame construction for simple inventory storage, with a metal roof construction.

Narrative Description

General Features

The Ruble-Orendorf Mercantile building is a two-story rectangular building with a flat metal roof and is one of two prominent historic buildings on Grand Avenue from the time period. Constructed in 1898 in the Late 19th Century/Early 20th Century Commercial Style, the building incorporates character-defining features such as stone window and door arches, with prominent columns to the south facing Grand Avenue of Norwood, Colorado. The building is oriented to the south, and sits on a stone foundation. The many arched windows in the building are visible from the street level. The four street facing windows are fixed pane (storefront), with arched transoms units, and six on the west and east facing second floor are one-over-one double hung windows. The building is constructed of local stone and brick, with the foundation of the building being stone and mortar. The first-floor level walls are constructed almost entirely of stone, with the second-floor walls being constructed of brick. The roof is metal (steel). Prominent arched windows are seen on both the first and second floors, with steel covered circular windows on the east side of the building.

The property is in reasonably good condition; however, some degradation of the 2nd floor brick is in evidence on the east wall; with the degradation of the brick on the second floor, the owners of the building applied a stucco covering to cover the degrading brick facade. The building is approximately 135 ft in length and 40 ft. in width, set upon a parcel that is 160 feet in length, and 50 feet in width. The first-floor interior of the building is relatively open, having been used as a mercantile space for many years. In the center of the first floor is an original historic safe, presumably installed during the early days of the building's use as a mercantile center for the town. The property is situated on a level lot, 7,011 feet above sea level, and is the largest historical structure that exists on Norwood's main street, Grand Avenue.

Façade: South Side

The Grand Avenue facing façade of the building features seven prominent arched window and door features (Photo 1). The arches and foundation of the wall are constructed of rusticated stone and each of the four fixed windows sits on a sill of the same stone. Four of the 1st story windows are fixed-pane storefront windows (which may be original), with three entry doors that have rectangular transoms below the arched transoms. The westernmost door is flanked by two small sidelights with narrow vertical windows. The other two doors have the same spacing, but each is enclosed. Each arch has curved transoms with divided half-moon windows, the shape of which

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retains the original build design as was evidenced in the early 1900s (Photo 1). While it is difficult to establish fully, the half-moon transoms appear to be the original windows that were seen in 1900s images when the building was the Ruble-Orendorf Mercantile Company. The building also features two prominent pilasters to the east and west sides of the building that are original, and a belt course of stone is visible above the window arches separating the first and second floors. (Photo 1)

On the second story, which is predominately stucco, there are five arched windows in their original location and with their original design, one of which can be seen with a wooden shutter in historical photographs. These windows are single hung six over six lite arched vinyl windows with half-moon arched transoms. Each of the windows is encased in a projecting arched molding that terminates at the belt course of stone located beneath the windows.

Centrally located above the second story windows is an "Ace" sign associated with Ace Hardware Stores. Just above the Ace sign the historic remnant of the projecting cornice is visible underneath the stucco. The roofline of the building is simple with a raised parapet wall centrally located in the façade. The parapet is capped with a metal drip edge that protrudes slightly from the roof line.

East Side

The east side of the building has a prominent original stone wall on the first floor which appears to be essentially unaltered from its original build, with two unique circular window features (both of which are closed), one of which still has the original metal shutter that can be seen in photographs from the early 1900s (Photo 7). There are two prominent pilasters evenly spaced along the wall that carry to the roofline of the structure (Photo 2). Additionally, on the first floor, there is a single arched window that, while filled in with concrete block, remains from the building's original design. On the second floor visible from the small alleyway, 5 arched windows are present, each with a large stone sill, having double-hung vinyl windows installed in each window opening (Photo 2).

West Side

On the first story, the west side of the building is mostly covered by an adjacent structure, however the second floor has an exact match to the windows on the east side of the building, specifically, five arched windows, each with a large stone sill, having double-hung vinyl windows installed in each window opening. All five of the west side arched windows are visible from the south side of Grand Avenue (Photo 4). There are two existing arched windows on the first floor toward the rear of the building, of similar size to the windows on the second story. These windows have been enclosed with concrete block that face a small open area to the north behind the adjacent building.

North Side (Rear)

The north side of the building has a wood and metal addition that was likely used for inventory and wood/hardware storage. This shed roofed addition, which is believed to have been added to the building in the 1930s or 1940s, slopes to the rear of the building. Atop the shed roofed addition is a projecting gable roofed dormer in the center of the second story constructed of the

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same material as the addition. This section extends from the main stone and brick structure by 15-18 feet, facing the rear alley. While it is difficult to ascertain if this was part of the original building, it was likely added as additional coverage storage during the period the building was a mercantile facility. (Photo 6)

Interior Main Level: Bank Vault

In the center section of the building, on the main level exists the built-in, walk-in bank vault. The vault displays the brand name of Diebold Safe and Lock Co., Canton, O (likely Canton, Ohio). On the top of the safe, in large letters that name "Galloway Bros." is seen, and likely refers to John Galloway and his brother, L. Wood Galloway who founded a mercantile business in Norwood during the late 1800s.² On the bottom of the safe, is printed "Philip Garretson, Agent, Denver, Colo. The bank vault main lock handle has "93197" deeply embossed into the spherical body of the door handle. The vault/safe door is secured via a traditional combination lock. (Photo 8). Behind the combination barred door, a secondary keyed door is evidenced, with a second pair of narrow, double doors creating a shallow vestibule beyond the main safe door leading to a concrete storage area.

Interior Main Level: Entrance Arch

To the right of the safe area, a prominent store arch can be seen leading to the rear of the building. While the use of this arch is unclear, oral history has it that this arch allowed for horse drawn carriages to pull into the rear of the building for the loading and unloading of goods. Given the stone and brick construction of the wall, it is very likely part of the original building's construction. (Photo 11)

Interior Second Floor Open Space – East and West Side

The second-floor east and west sides of the building have exposed brick walls, and what may be the original wood floors in evidence. The exterior windows provide significant light to the second story open areas, which was likely used as a storage space for goods sold in the mercantile days.

Alterations/Integrity

Constructed in the late 1800s¹, this commercial building exhibits a good level of historical integrity and easily conveys its historic significance to the town of Norwood through well-preserved character defining features.

Aside from the original second story exposed brick being covered over with stucco, the creation of a small shed roofed addition, which both most likely occurred during the 1920's or 1930's, and the addition of vinyl windows on the second floor, there are few other exterior or interior alterations to the building, and it retains good overall historic integrity. While historic documentation of the building's original interior does not exist, there has been limited change over its lifetime to its original use as a mercantile space. The building retains sufficient physical

¹ Howard Greager, "An Oral History of the Ruble-Orendorf Mercantile," by the Norwood High School AV Club, May 25, 2023)
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ATIQjw_Bf9E

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integrity to convey its significance for listing on the National Register of Historic Places and the Colorado State Register of Historic Properties.

Location

With regard to location, the building is located on the main street (Grand Avenue) in a small town central to the town's commercial core. The building's location is unchanged and, therefore, retains integrity of location.

Setting

With regard to setting, the building is located on the main street in a small town and has been the commercial center of the town since its construction in the early 1900s. The orientation of the building toward the main street reflects an early 20th century culture and society to horse and then motorized vehicle-orientation for commerce. There has been minimal contemporary infill on main street and the setting has remained largely unchanged. As such, the building retains integrity of setting.

Design

With regard to design, the building retains the distinctive characteristics of Late 19th century/Early 20th century commercial style as described above. The building's design, while altered somewhat from its original build, retains good integrity. The second floor stucco, which was likely applied during the 1920s or 1930s, covers the original brick. The stucco on the second floor detracts somewhat from the original historical brick facade, while the vinyl windows (which according to prior building lessee were installed in the 1970s), are constructed of more modern materials, have similar shape and design to the original window casements. Overall the current design of the building in both the interior and exterior allow for the original design to be understood and, therefore, retains integrity.

Materials

With regard to materials, the building was constructed of long-lasting materials (stone and brick) and with prominent arched windows and doors that set it apart from the other buildings located along Grand Avenue. As such, it retains excellent integrity of materials.

Workmanship

With regard to workmanship, the simple stone and brick construction, with prominent arched stone windows and doors with stone ornamentation in the pillars and arched window and door features makes it a distinctive building amongst its neighbors along Norwood's main street. Those expressive features and the craft and skill that was used to construct the building have remained essentially unaltered. As such, the building also has excellent integrity of workmanship of its original build profile.

Association

With regard to association, the Ruble-Orendorf Mercantile building continues to be associated with the commerce and business dealings of the Town of Norwood, therefore retaining its integrity of association.

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Feeling

With regard to feeling, the Town of Norwood and the majority of her residents associate Ruble-Orendorf Mercantile as a symbol of the history and character, as a center of mercantile commerce for much of the town's history. The building retains excellent historical integrity of feeling, and the original stone construction clearly evokes the characteristics that make it historically significant.

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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 grave
- D. A cemetery
- E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure
- F. A commemorative property
- G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

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Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

COMMERCE

Period of Significance

1898-1973

Significant Dates

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Builder - Royer

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Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

The Ruble-Orendorf building, constructed in 1898, is locally significant under Criterion A in the area of Commerce as a center of commerce and mercantilism in the town of Norwood throughout the town's history. It aided in the establishment, expansion, and continuation of other businesses that provided services and commodities to the town throughout the town's development. The building's significance is justified in that it was the only mercantile location in the rural community of Norwood, Colorado, for many years. From approximately 1898 through the early 1940's the building was used as a saloon, boarding house, and a general mercantile with a number of owners, most notably as the Ruble-Orendorf Mercantile from 1910- 1919. In 1942, Mrs. Jesse Galloway Herndon received the store as part of her inheritance, and the store was, around that time, changed from a general mercantile to a hardware store for the town of Norwood. From the 1940's until 2020, though with varying ownership, the building was continuously operated as the sole hardware store in the town of Norwood. The period of significance for the area of Commerce extends from 1898, the date of the construction of the building and its first businesses, to 1973, a date fifty years in the past since there is no other appropriate end to the building's significance.

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

Criterion A: Commerce, 1898-1973

The Ruble-Orendorf building has a long commercial history associated with the town of Norwood and the surrounding area. The building's prominent location on Grand Ave, the main street of Norwood, and its continued historic function as a place of multiple businesses solidifies this building's significance in the area of Commerce.

According to historical town records², and oral history interviews of long time Norwood residents, the Royer building as it was known at the time of its construction in 1898, was built in the growing town of Norwood. Owned by Henry Copp, Mr. Copp opened Norwood's first general store, which was later sold to William Morgan, including all the related general merchandise in the building. Sometime thereafter, either in 1899 or 1900, John Galloway and his brother, L. Wood Galloway, came to Norwood, purchased the store from Mr. Morgan, and opened Galloway Bros. Mercantile in the Royer building. The safe that is still in place in the building (see photo 8) still bears the Galloway name.

² San Miguel County Clerk's Recording Office, various documents recorded from 1908 to 2023 for Lots 16 and 17 of the Cops Addition, Norwood Colorado, San Miguel County.

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After leaving school he [John Galloway] engaged in the stock industry until 1899, when he came to Norwood and, in partnership with his brother, L. Wood Galloway, started the business which they are now conducting. They have a fine two-story business block equipped with every modern device for the convenient and successful management of their business, and carry a large and varied stock of general merchandise which is selected with special reference to the needs of the community and kept up-to-date in every particular [sic]. It includes all kinds of farm machinery, along with other commodities, and the establishment is one of the leading ones in the county, laying under tribute to its trade a large extent of the surrounding country.³

From the late 1800s through the mid-1900s Norwood began to prosper as a ranching and agricultural town. Norwood, and the whole of Wright's Mesa was a perfect location to raise livestock with its vast grassland. Its comfortable climate and fertile soil made it an ideal location for farming as well. Norwood quickly became a main supplier of meat, produce, goods and lumber for those working in the mines of Telluride.

In approximately 1908, the Galloway Bros leased the building to Ruble-Orendorf Mercantile Company⁴, a new concern whose motto was "Everything" (see historical newspaper advertisements below). Fred Ruble was a traveling salesman who represented C.S. Morey Mercantile Co. and Morey Mills Company out of Denver and who made regular trips from Denver to sell products and wares to the people of Telluride. Historic newspaper accounts from the *San Miguel Examiner* track his movement in and out of Telluride in the late 1890's to the early 1910's. Listed as a member of the Telluride Republican Club, he was a notable member of society with his marriage and birth of his first son noted in the newspaper in 1899 and 1901 respectively.⁵

Marshall Orendorf was another businessman who operated in the pattern of the Colorado mining industry in the early 1900's. Born in Virginia in 1867, Orendorf traveled to Colorado in the mid 1880's with his cousin who contracted pneumonia and died in Fort Collins. Orendorf continued to Montrose where he was employed by the Denver and Rio Grande Western Railroad. After pursuing studies at night school, he found employment with Bailey's Hardware in Durango, worked briefly with the Revenue Mines, and eventually moved on to Telluride where he worked with the grocery and general store industry.⁶

Orendorf relayed his success in the grocery business in Telluride into several private ventures through the 1890's and 1900's including the purchase of a bakery, the Tomboy Mine Commissary, and the Camp Bird Commissary in Ouray. The proceeds from these ventures allowed him to expand and play a leading role in the establishment of the Citizens Bank of

³ *Progressive Men of Western Colorado*, (Chicago: A.W. Bowen & Co, 1905).

⁴ Greager, "An Oral History of the Ruble-Orendorf Mercantile," https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ATIQjw_Bf9E

⁵ *San Miguel Examiner*, September 9, 1899.

⁶ "Biographical Note" Marshall Orendorf Papers, accessed August 9, 2023, <https://archives.colorado.edu/repositories/2/resources/1159#>.

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Ouray, open the Lily Land and Ditch Company, and to open the Ruble-Orendorf Mercantile Company with Fred Ruble in Norwood on September 1st, 1910.⁷

The Ruble-Orendorf building, either in its iteration as Galloway Bros or Ruble-Orendorf Mercantile was the main supplier of general merchandise, farm equipment, everyday staples and dry goods that supported the local community. Historic newspaper accounts and advertisements from the *San Miguel Examiner* and *The Norwood Post* indicate that the Ruble-Orendorf Mercantile provided a wide variety of products and merchandise for the town of Norwood and the surrounding community.

During the early 1900s, there was an influx of people into the Wright's Mesa area, homesteading the area's land and applying for water permits for cattle and agriculture. The town of Norwood would soon have two hotels, three blacksmith shops, several liverys, three pool halls, two saloons, two general stores, a Post Office and a bank.⁸

The building continued to house the Ruble-Orendorf Mercantile until it closed in 1919⁹, and while there is not specific detail on when, the general store transitioned sometime in the 1930s to become the only hardware store in the Norwood area, moving away from its role as the main general store for Wright's Mesa. Oral history recollection from some of Norwood's older residents places a new grocery store moving into Norwood in the 1930s, about the time that the Ruble-Orendorf building began its long history as Norwood's primary hardware store.

The hardware store was purportedly known as "Herndon's Hardware" during the 1930s through approximately the mid-1950s, whereupon it was sold by the Herndon's to the Waglar family, and was during that time aligned with Ace hardware stores national brands. From the mid-1950s, through the modern day, the Norwood hardware store continued to operate as the main hardware goods purveyor on Wright's Mesa. Local oral history accounts the store being a place:

...where you could always get your tools sharpened, with a warm Pot-Belly stove heating the store during the cold winter months. (2023 Video Interview, Mont Schneider, 70-year resident of Norwood, Colorado).¹⁰

During the 1950s through the modern day, the store also was a main local source for hunting and fishing licenses, along with associated sporting goods materials, guns and ammunition that helped to supply a growing seasonal hunting and sporting influx of tourists into the Wright's Mesa area. With the advent of broader automobile travel, Wright's Mesa, located in Colorado state hunting unit 70, one of the larger hunting tracts in the state, became a major site for in and out of state hunters. The broad, flat area of Wright's Mesa provided ample fodder for game, and prior to the state hunting lottery system, many hunters procured their hunting licenses and equipment from the Ace hardware store during the fall hunting season.

⁷ *San Miguel Examiner*, August 27, 1910.

⁸ Greager, "An Oral History of the Ruble-Orendorf Mercantile," https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ATIQjw_Bf9E

⁹ *San Miguel Examiner*, May 31, 1919.

¹⁰ Greager, "An Oral History of the Ruble-Orendorf Mercantile," https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ATIQjw_Bf9E

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With the development of the Telluride ski area in the 1970s, Norwood began to slowly grow as a bedroom community to the Telluride area. With the boom of the ski industry in Telluride in the 1980s and 1990s, Norwood became an affordable area working class families could afford, and build homes, as opposed to the massively expensive ski resort properties that Telluride had become. During this time, the Ace hardware became a necessity to the community, supporting the growing number of families who lived in a more affordable Norwood, but supported the ever expanding Telluride ski area expansion.

Throughout the history of the Ruble-Orendorf Building, it has continued to serve as the main location of commerce for the town of Norwood and the surrounding area of Wright's Mesa. From its start as a saloon to its transition to a general mercantile to its evolution to a hardware store, the building served as a location for the trading of goods, services and commodities that changed and adapted to the needs and demands of the community that surrounded it. As such, the building is locally significant under Criteria A in the area of Commerce.

Developmental History/Additional Historic Context Information

The History of Wright's Mesa and Norwood:

In 1877 two placer miners working their way down from the San Miguel River from Telluride came upon a mesa in southwest Colorado above the canyon that they were traveling in. The mesa was a vast expanse of grassland that they quickly told people about. Later F.E. Wright came upon the mesa that would later bear his name and saw a wonderful opportunity in front of him for ranching and raising cattle in. Wright located a favorable piece of land and soon traveled to Lake City to file with the land office. The first survey plat of Norwood, the Haden survey, included the Copp's and Nick's addition (which is located on the main street, Grand Avenue, in Norwood).¹¹

Although F.E. Wright was the first to purchase land on the mesa, Edwin Joseph, a business owner who operated a weigh station in Telluride, was the first to settle on the mesa. Others eventually followed.¹²

A pioneer by the name of Harry Copp came to Wright's Mesa in the spring of 1885 and filed on the land that had been surveyed and added out by Charles Wheeler. He named his new home Norwood, Colorado after his hometown in Missouri. Harry Copp became the first mayor of Norwood as well as the first postmaster.¹³

Henry Copp filed for a patent from the U.S government to homestead the area and sent the application fee for the homestead on June 1st of 1887. Mr. Copp received the approved patent on

¹¹ History of Wright's Mesa and Norwood, Colorado. <https://norwoodcolorado.com/history-of-norwood-colorado/>.

¹² Ibid.

¹³ Greager, "History of Wrights Mesa and Norwood, Colorado." https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ATIQjw_Bf9E

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September 18th of 1890. The first official plot of the town, which comprised lots 16 and 17 of the Copp's addition, was completed in 1900.

In 1887, W. H. Nelson was given the contract to build a road in San Miguel Canyon. Nelson put in a bridge across the San Miguel River and in 1888, completed a road that topped out east of the newly formed town of Norwood. By 1889, there was a working canal system in operation, furnishing water to a vast majority of people on the mesa. The State of Colorado advertised all over the world that they had "land and water for a price in beautiful San Miguel County.

Wright's Mesa was a perfect location to raise livestock with its vast grassland. Its comfortable climate and fertile soil made it an ideal location for farming as well. Norwood quickly became a main supplier of meat, produce, goods and lumber for those working in the mines of Telluride.

Cowboys also loved to visit Norwood during their travels. There was liquor, gambling, prostitution and no law other than the County Sheriff. When cowboys left town, it was common to see them make their horses buck the full length of Main Street. After Edwin Joseph purchased Wright's preemption, he went back to Telluride, where he continued to operate his weigh station. During that time, he traveled back and forth from Telluride to Wright's Mesa and built a cabin on the 80-acre parcel with the spring where he later relocated his family. There was no road then, only a cow trail from Placerville that followed the San Miguel River. The morning the Josephs left Placerville it was 10 degrees below zero. They crossed the river at Specie Creek, traveled across Specie Mesa and arrived on Wright's Mesa by pack train, and in 1886, the Joseph family became the first pioneer family to settle on Wright's Mesa.

At the time Wright preempted his land, the only other settlers known to be living anywhere near the area were the Goshorn Family and a couple by the name of Mr. & Mrs. Tozer. Their sole reason for living there was to maintain a herd of saddle horses for the mail carriers who, at that time, brought mail from Ouray, Colorado to Richardson, Utah. The mail route from Ouray to Wright's Mesa went through a large area of mostly open land, just south of the rim of the San Miguel River. When there was mail for Wright or Joseph, the carrier would place the mail in a sack and hang it on a tree or a landmark stump. Later on, the mail carrier constructed a sturdier container that secured it from birds, predators and weather. This is how this area became known as Mailbox Park.¹⁴

As the area of Norwood continued to grow, supporting the large mining operations in the Telluride area, Norwood became a main source of agricultural products and timber that went to supply the mining communities in the nearby mountains.

¹⁴ Howard and Betty Greager, "History of Wright's Mesa and Norwood, Colorado," *Wright's Mesa Historical Society*, Norwood Chamber of Commerce of Wright's Mesa, <https://norwoodcolorado.com/history-of-norwood-colorado/>, accessed 9 August, 2023.

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Additional Context for the Ruble-Orendorf Building

In approximately 1897/1898, the sandstone that was used to construct the building was quarried in Maverick Draw near Norwood, and the (Royer) building was constructed around that time and started its use as a general mercantile (presumably by Mr. Henry Copp).

On January 1st 1889, Henry Copp sold the second half interest of the building to William Morgan; along with the building and all of the inventory, groceries, dry goods, boots and shoes and a general stock of merchandise. Mr. Morgan operated the general store for a short time thereafter.

On October 28th of 1899, William Morgan sold the store, the building, along with lots 15, 16 and 17, and all store inventory to John R. and L.W. Galloway, brothers from. While it is not entirely clear who ran the store from 1899 forward, it is assumed the Galloway brothers were the proprietors at the time.

In 1908, it is assumed that William Ruble and Marshall Orendorf leased the hardware store and purchased all the inventory. Aside from the general store, the Ruble Orendorf mercantile also functioned as a bank, noting the safe installed in the store for the protection of valuables, gold and currency deposits. The Galloway family (or the Herndon family) operated the store from the early 1900s forward, and in 1942, the store was passed via inheritance to Ms. Jesse Galloway Herndon.

In 1952, Jesse Galloway Herndon's son, Steve, inherited the store, and the store was subsequently sold to Sid Wagler, and his partner Elmer Falk. In 1977, Rick Wagler inherited the store, which he continued to operate, and then sold the building to Timberline Trading Company in 1993.

In 2005, Timberline sold the building to San Juan trading, and in May 2022, San Chris Ventures purchased the building when the hardware store was slated to move from its historical location to a newer building to the east of Norwood.¹⁵

¹⁵ Greager, "An Oral History of the Ruble-Orendorf Mercantile," https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ATIQjw_Bf9E

Name of Property

County and State



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Figure 1 Timeline, Norwood Historical Society Website¹⁷

¹⁶ Although this timeline states that the Royer Building was built in 1905, this is incorrect. Oral History and other sources place the construction of the building in 1898.

¹⁷ Timeline can originally be found at <https://norwoodcolorado.com/history-of-norwood-colorado/>, accessed August 9, 2023.

Name of Property

County and State

9. Major Bibliographical References

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

"Biographical Note." Marshall Orendorf papers. Accessed August 9, 2023.

<https://archives.colorado.edu/repositories/2/resources/1159#>

Greager, Howard. "An Oral History of the Ruble-Orendorf Mercantile." By Norwood High School AV Club. May 25, 2023. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ATIQjw_Bf9E

Greager, Howard and Betty. "History of Wright's Mesa and Norwood, Colorado." *Wrights Mesa Historical Society*, Norwood Chamber of Commerce of Wright's Mesa.

<https://norwoodcolorado.com/history-of-norwood-colorado/> Accessed August 9, 2023.

History of Wright's Mesa and Norwood, Colorado. <https://norwoodcolorado.com/history-of-norwood-colorado/>, accessed 22 November 2023.

The Norwood Post, May 23, 1913.

The Norwood Post, March 6, 1914.

The Norwood Post, March 13, 1914.

Progressive Men of Western Colorado. Chicago: A.W. Bowen & Co., 1905.

San Miguel County Clerk's Recording Office, various documents recorded from 1908 to 2023 for Lots 16 and 17 of the Copps Addition, Norwood Colorado, San Miguel County

San Miguel Examiner, March 5, 1898.

San Miguel Examiner, May 28, 1898.

San Miguel Examiner, September 9, 1899.

San Miguel Examiner, January 5, 1901.

San Miguel Examiner, August 27, 1910.

San Miguel Examiner, August 14, 1915.

San Miguel Examiner, May 31, 1919.

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 # _____

Name of Property _____

County and State _____

_____ recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

_____ State Historic Preservation Office

_____ Other State agency

_____ Federal agency

_____ Local government

_____ University

_____ Other

Name of repository: _____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 0.1867

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: _____

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

1. Latitude: 38.13097996335667 Longitude: -108.28914871681897

2. Latitude: Longitude:

3. Latitude: Longitude:

4. Latitude: Longitude:

Or

UTM References

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927 or NAD 1983

1. Zone: Easting: Northing:

2. Zone: Easting: Northing:

3. Zone: Easting: Northing:

4. Zone: Easting : Northing:

Name of Property

County and State

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

Lots 16 and 17, Block 1 West, Copp's Addition to the Town of Norwood, according to the plat recorded June 26, 1990 in Plat Book 28 Page 17, San Miguel County, Colorado, AND part of Lot 15, Block 1 West, Copps Addition to the Town of Norwood, being restricted to, but including all that portion of a structure built in 1904 and known as the Timberline Trading Company, more particularly described as follows:

Beginning at a point which is the Southeast corner of Lot 15, currently defined as being S 89 ° 52'24" W 243.49 and N 00 ° 07'36" W 43.32 feet from the brass cap 1/4 corner 22/27, bearing Number PLS 24954, bearings based upon Norwood Town Grid Survey, and running thence as follows:

S 89 ° 25'44" W 6.26 feet along the South face of the Timberline building and the South line of said Lot 15; thence following the West wall of said building generally running N 00 ° 50'48" E 121.12 feet to the Northwest corner of said building; thence following the Northerly wall of said building S 89 ° 02'40" E 4.21 feet to the East line of said Lot 15; thence S 00 0° 7'36" E 120.97 feet to the Point of Beginning. Areas within Lot 15 overlapping the extended structural lines of the subject building are not included in this description.

The building is bounded to the east by a small alleyway, and abuts a smaller commercial structure to the west (which covers the first floor west side of the building)

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

This is a city lot that retains its original property lines. The boundaries of the proposed property include all historic resources associated with the Ruble Orendorf Mercantile site. See the attached boundary map which shows the property lines of the lot.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Zak W. Raley
organization: Manager, San Chris Ventures
street & number: 5248 S. Elk Ridge Rd.
city or town: Evergreen state: CO zip code: 80439
e-mail: zakraley@gmail.com
telephone: 202.464.2152
date: 8/9/2023

Name of Property

County and State

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

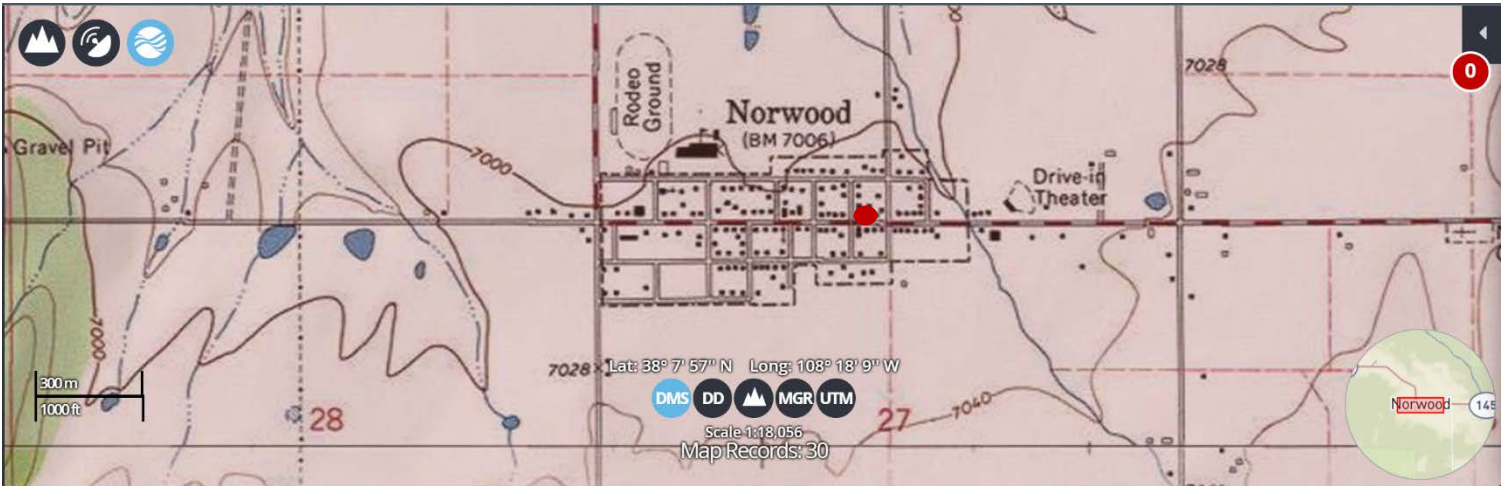


Figure 3: Close up of USGS Map showing location of 1635 Grand Ave with a red dot. Lat: 38.13097996335667, Long: -108.28914871681897.



Figure 4: San Miguel County Plat map with parcel boundaries of 1635 Grand Ave; location of 1635 Grand Avenue shown with red dot.

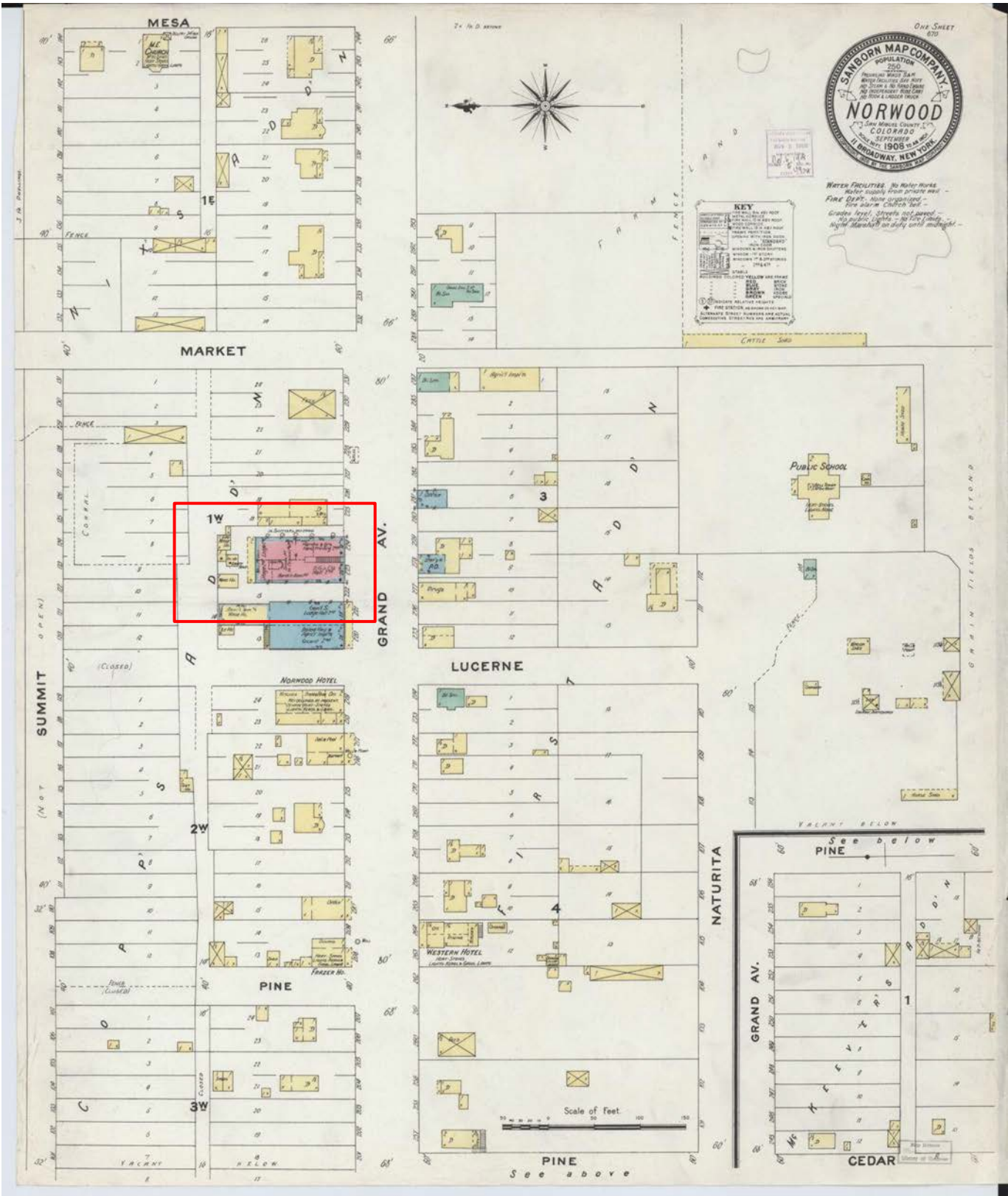


Figure 6: Sanborn maps 1908

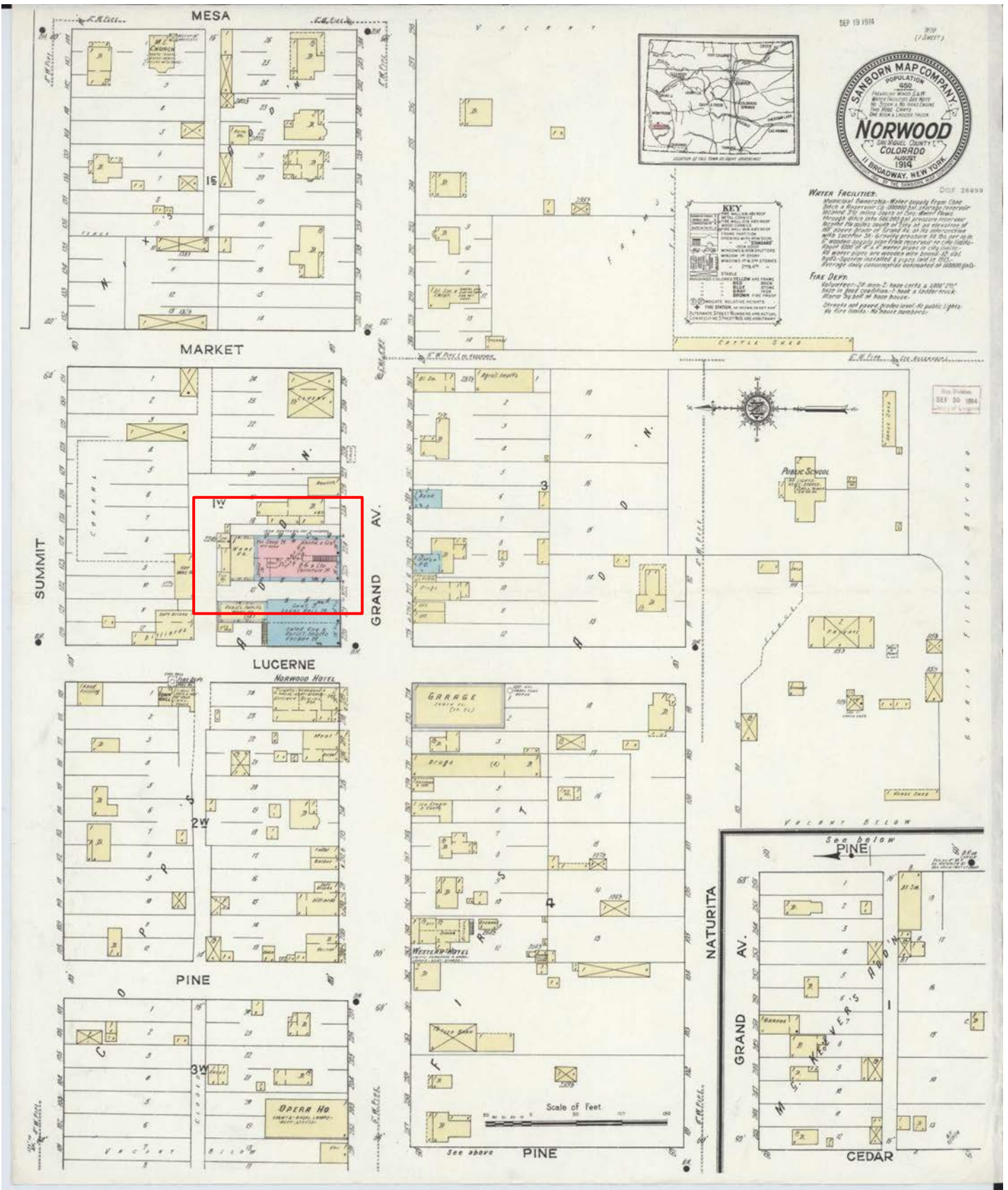


Figure 7: Sanborn Maps 1914

A MAIL ORDER HOUSE AT YOUR DOOR

The Ruble Orendorf Mer. Co.

Everything

THE READY TO SERVE STORE

Our merchandising thoughts and ability are centered solely upon your needs and wants. It is you we want to please, not merely satisfy, please beyond your expectation. A very common remark among our patrons: "We got it at Ruble Orendorf's and it was the best we have ever seen." "Just delicious; the best we ever had", etc. That's the kind of references that lay the foundation of the great stores.

By your most liberal patronage, you have built this great store. It could be rightly called "Everybody's Store".

OUR CALENDAR, HANG IT UP A Day for Everything

MONDAY, Wash Day

Laundry soap, bluing, Ermine, wash tubs, wash boards, washing machines, wringers, washing powder, Soapstone, clothes pins, wash boilers and clothes lines.

TUESDAY, Ironing Day

Starch, ironing boards, sal irons, gasoline irons, mop sticks, O Cedar mops and Little Lady broom.

WEDNESDAY, Baking Day

PURE GOLD FLOUR

THURSDAY, Sewing Day

Thread, needles, thimbles, embroidery hoops, crochet cotton, darning cotton, embroidery floss, Royal Society packages, art linen, art denim and White Sewing Machines.

FRIDAY, Candy Day

All our high grade regular 25c per pound candies are sold to you for advertising purposes, at 15c per pound. For these same candies you are asked to pay 50c and 60c per pound elsewhere.

SATURDAY, Vegetable Day

We receive every Saturday, direct by express, from Grand Junction,

Montrose, Canon City and Denver every fresh vegetable or fruit sold at the time in any market in the United States just the same as if you were in the largest city in the country. Do you value this service?

SUNDAY, Rest Day

Couches, day-sports, rockers, hammocks, sofas, Studebaker buggies, camp chairs and easy chairs.

Don't Forget Candy Day Every Friday. Regular 25c candy at 15c per pound Fridays. Take a pound home to the children. It's pure.

Remember we close promptly at 8 o'clock every evening except Saturday we remain open till 9 o'clock.

Fresh vegetables arrive Saturday noon.

Figure 8: Advertisement for the Ruble Orendorf Mercantile in *The Norwood Post*, May 23, 1913.

A MAIL ORDER HOUSE AT YOUR DOOR

The Ruble Orendorf Mer. Co.

Everything

Spring Dresses

You know it's not a minute too early to start your spring sewing. It won't be long until Easter will be here, when we all want to look our best. CREPES will be worn in plenty; we are showing them in profusion; fine crepes, striped crepes, and printed crepes—they're all here. RATINES of the widest variety, in all colors; if you don't get a RATINE it won't be our fault, as we have provided them for you.

Easter Hats

Very attractive spring hats for Men, Women and Children, all in and just on sale. Dainty trim straws, and the new shapes in ratine hats for women and children.

Silk Hats, the new ventilated kind, silk Auto Caps; all this year's new styles for men; don't overlook seeing them; consider this a personal invitation to come in and look at them.

Spring Shoes

The greatest line of shoes it has ever been our pleasure to display. The styles this year are unique and designed for the men and women who care. Ours are the STAR BRAND, the kind with a Star on every heel.

Stronger-than-the-law shoes for the boys, cuts your shoe bill in half. It is positively the only shoe made that will stand the rough usage of the average boy.

Variety Section

In this department there are a thousand and one articles, sold at ten and fifteen cents; each one a household necessity. We especially ask you to look through this department.

Furnish Your Home Free

Furnish your house with the decorations we are giving to you absolutely free with your cash checks; new goods arriving almost every week, all for you; save your cash checks they are free, ask for them with every purchase. Rugs, Pictures, Mirrors, and What Not

Dont forget Candy Day every Friday. Regular 25c candy at 15c per lb. Fridays.

Take a pound home to the children. It's pure.

Remember we close promptly at 8 o'clock every evening except Saturday we remain open till 9 o'clock. Closed all day Sundays.

Figure 9: Advertisement for The Ruble-Orendorf Mercantile in *The Norwood Post*, March 6, 1914.

A MAIL ORDER HOUSE AT YOUR DOOR

The Ruble Orendorf Mer. Co.

Everything

For the Particular Man

We know you'll like the clever style in Hats and Caps we are showing this season. If you are interested in up-to-date headgear, you'll undoubtedly notice the difference in size and shape and material from last season.

These popular priced hats, at \$3.50, are certainly shutting out the Five Dollar ones. You are never well dressed without a fashionable hat.

Spring Neckwear

Our spring shipment of new styles, new shapes, and color combinations in ties is here and on display. This is the most beautiful lot of ties we ever had; specially priced at .50 and .75 each; not a bad one in the lot; all beauties.

Ladies' Shoes

Did it ever occur to you that the continued good appearance of your feet depends, not only upon the shape and style of the shoes, but also upon the comfort and durability.

Our stylish shoes are made from perfectly tanned, extra fine grade leather, and will retain their original style and beauty until completely worn out; continuing to impart to the wearer's foot that air of distinction which is their chief charm.

LOOK FOR THE STAR ON EVERY HEEL.

Ladies' Hosiery

The well dressed women of to-day are just as particular in the selection of their hosiery as of any other portion of their apparel; for you'll find no greater mark of refined good taste than proper Hosiery.

Dainty hose enhance the appearance of a neat pair of shoes; and it is those who appreciate a fine quality, superior finish and a dainty style, that our 25 cent hose appeals to.

Vegetable Day

On Saturday of each week, we have fresh vegetables; they arrive at noon and are the very freshest—picked especially for your table each week, they come from Canon City, Grand Junction and Denver. You have all the varieties in all those markets.

Save Your Coupons

Save your cash coupons; they are valuable to you; one is issued with every cash purchase; insist on getting them. There are lots and lots of things you will want for your home; all free with these cash register checks. You cannot buy them at any price they are absolutely free.

Dont forget Candy Day every Friday. Regular 25c candy at 15c per lb. Fridays.

Take a pound home to the children. It's pure.

Remember we close promptly at 8 o'clock every evening except Saturday we remain open till 9 o'clock. Closed all day Sundays.

Figure 10: Advertisement for The Ruble Orendorf Mercantile in *The Norwood Post*, March 13, 1914.

Historic Photographs:

Historic Photo 1: South Façade, Ruble Orendorf Mercantile.

Historic Photo 2: Pioneer Day Parade (1920?), building to the right of photo.

Historic Photo 3: Norwood Postcard from 1912, Ruble Orendorf Mercantile Building to right of photo.

Historic Photo 4: Norwood Postcard from 1912, Ruble Orendorf Mercantile Building to right of photo.

Historic Photo 1: South Façade, Ruble Orendorf Mercantile (Date Unknown)



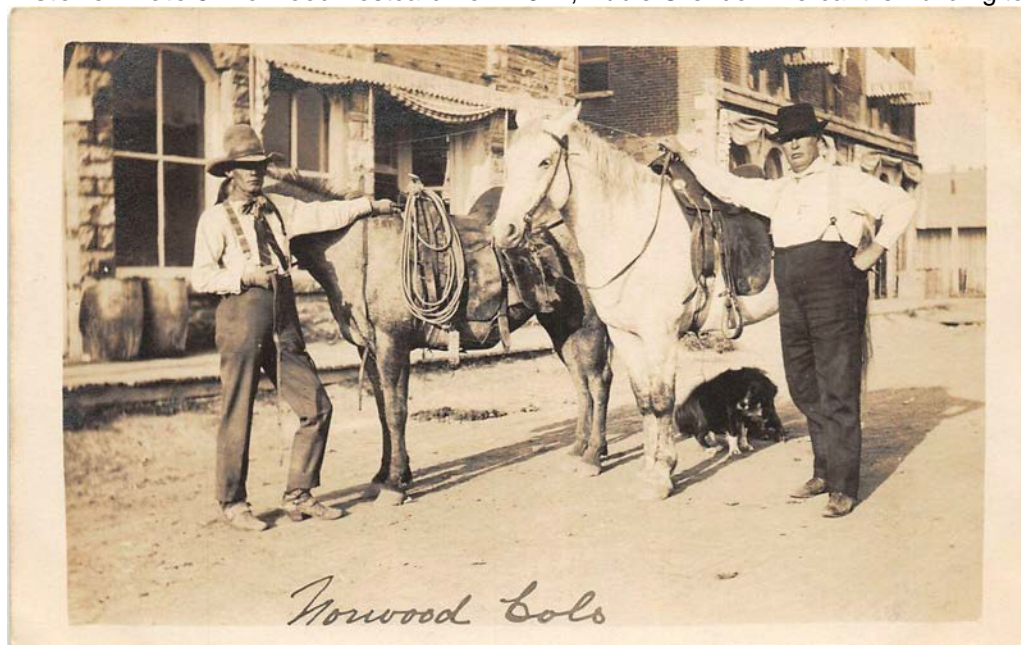
Historic Photo 2: Pioneer Day Parade (ca. 1920), building to the right of photo.



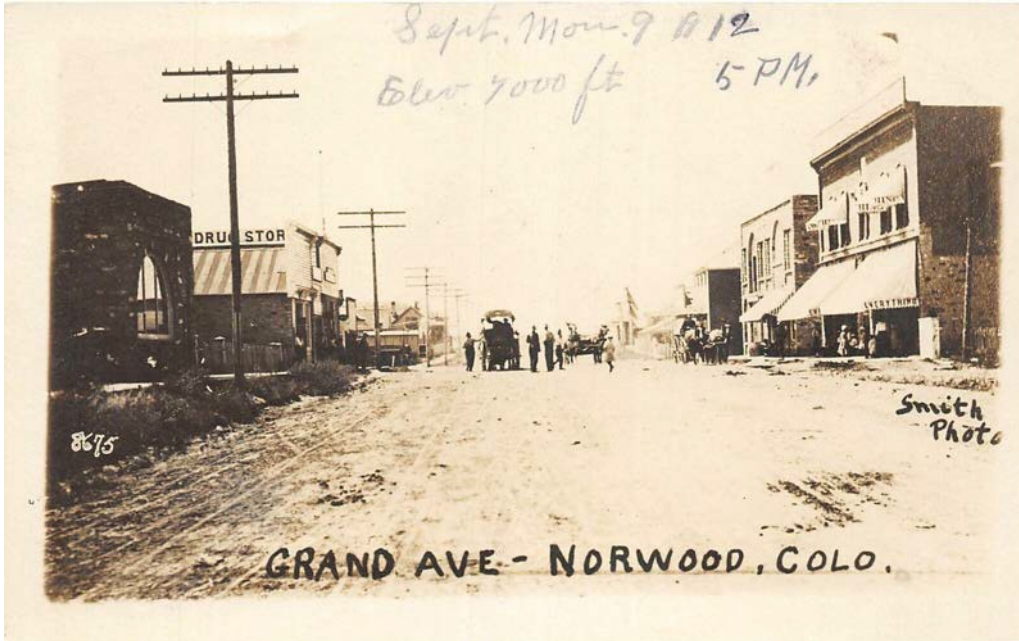
Historic Photo 3: Norwood Postcard from 1912, Ruble Orendorf Mercantile Building to right of photo.



Historic Photo 3: Norwood Postcard from 1912, Ruble Orendorf Mercantile Building to right of photo



Historic Photo 4: Norwood Postcard from 1912, Ruble Orendorf Mercantile Building to right of photo.



Photographs:

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map.

Name of Property: 1635 Grand Ave

City or Vicinity: Norwood

County: San Miguel County

State: CO

Photographer: Evan Elk

Date Photographed: 15 June 2023

Description of Photograph(s) and number:

Photo 1: South Façade

Photo 2: East Side

Photo 3: West Facing Side, Upper Level

Photo 4: West Side, Rear View

Photo 5: West Facing Side, 1st floor detail

Photo 6: North Facing Side, Rear

Photo 7: Circular Window Detail

Photo 8/9/10: Interior Safe Photos, Main Floor

Photo 11: Main Floor Arch

Photo 12-16: Interior areas

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

Name of Property

County and State

Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Photo Log

Name of Property: 1635 Grand Ave

City or Vicinity: Norwood

County: San Miguel County

State: CO

Photographer: Evan Elk

Date Photographed: 15 June 2023

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

Photo 1: South Façade

Photo 2: East Side

Photo 3: West Facing Side, Upper Level

Photo 4: West Side, Rear View

Photo 5: West Facing Side, 1st floor detail

Photo 6: North Facing Side, Rear

Photo 7: Circular Window Detail

Photo 8/9/10: Interior Safe Photos, Main Floor

Photo 11: Main Floor Arch

Photo 12-16: Interior areas

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for nominations to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.). We may not conduct or sponsor and you are not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for each response using this form is estimated to be between the Tier 1 and Tier 4 levels with the estimate of the time for each tier as follows:

Tier 1 – 60-100 hours

Tier 2 – 120 hours

Tier 3 – 230 hours

Tier 4 – 280 hours

The above estimates include time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and preparing and transmitting nominations. Send comments regarding these estimates or any other aspect of the requirement(s) to the Service Information Collection Clearance Officer, National Park Service, 1201 Oakridge Drive Fort Collins, CO 80525.