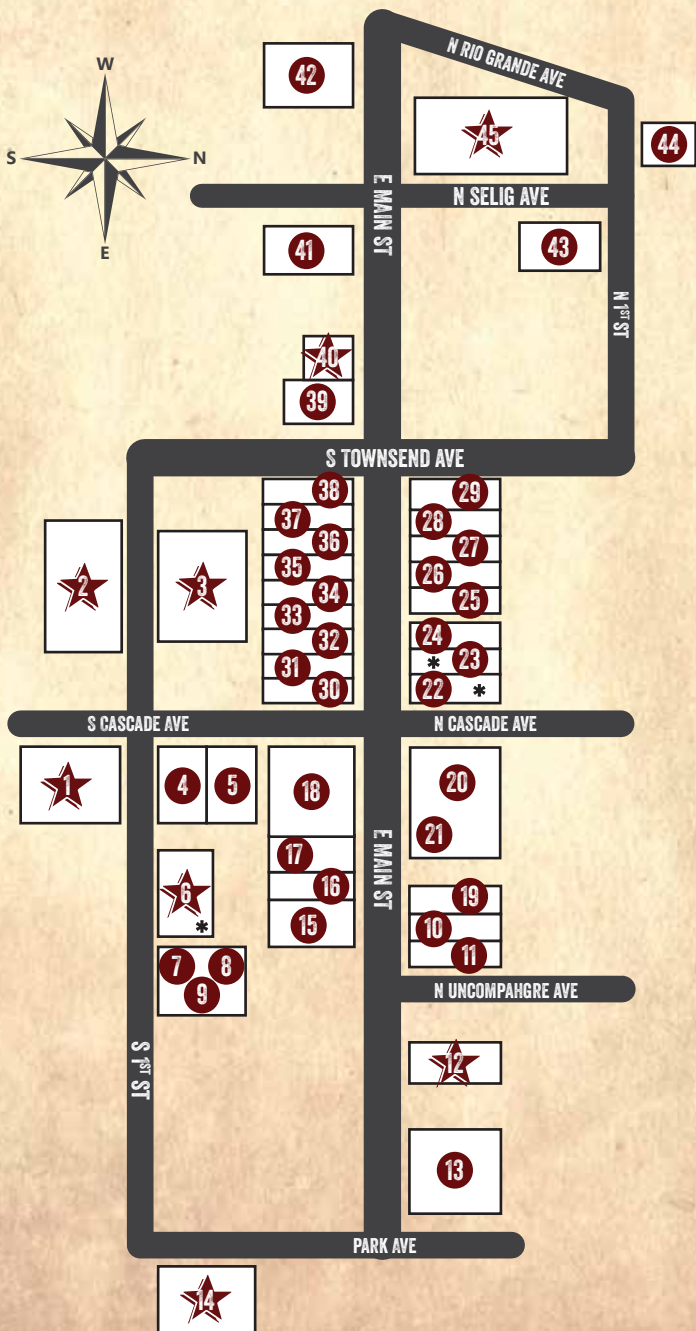


HISTORIC DOWNTOWN
MONTROSE
WALKING TOUR



TOUR LOCATIONS

★ National Register of Historic Places
 * Local Register of Historic Places



1



MONTROSE ELKS LODGE
107 S CASCADE



Built in 1927, this building was the Montrose Elks', B.P.O.E. #1053, original lodge (note the brick B.P.O.E. lettering above the balcony). Colorado Western College leased the building's main level beginning in 1967 and the upper level hosted dances, banquets, and more. The basement also housed two bowling alleys. The City of Montrose purchased the building and it is now home to the Montrose Visitor Center and the City Council Chambers.

2



MONTROSE COUNTY COURTHOUSE
320 S 1ST ST



In 1922, the Montrose County Courthouse was erected and dedicated as a memorial to Montrose County soldiers who served in World War I. The building was constructed from native stone, quarried just five miles outside of Montrose. Inside the building, be sure to read the Montrose County Roll of Honor, a bronze tablet listing the names of Montrose County's fallen World War I veterans. To the west of the courthouse, look for the county jail, a Works Progress Administration project, completed in 1936. The facility was operational until 1968.

3



U.S. POST OFFICE
321 S 1ST ST



After moving to several locations, the Montrose Post Office was officially established here in 1932. Built in Renaissance Revival style, the terracotta roof was sourced from the Northwestern Terra Cotta Company in Denver. The city's first postmaster, N.K. Hunter, could not read. Each evening, Montrose founding father Joseph Selig would help Hunter sort the mail. As you might imagine, this system led to a few infamous mix-ups, including a scandal over a few infamous "red-hot love letters."

4



KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS
33 S CASCADE AVE

Built in 1909, this building functioned as the permanent lodge for the Knights of Pythias fraternal order. Upstairs, the lodge hall housed four large club rooms, used for meetings and community social functions. The main floor housed a variety of businesses, including Hupp Furniture, Safeway, and Mash Appliances.

5



FOX THEATER
27 S CASCADE AVE

A long-time feature of the Montrose downtown, the Fox Theater was completed on October 31, 1929, just two days after the Stock Market crashed. Designed in Moorish Exotic Revival style, the building sought to convey fantasy, as with much 1920s architecture. Throughout the Depression, the theater was a common gathering place with wild gimmicks like pajama contests, pillow fights, vaudeville acts, and "Bank Nights" to help Montroseans escape daily life. Though altered slightly, the theater still maintains its prominent dome and minaret. Step inside and go back in time with the theater's intricate tile work and unique stained glass art.

6



CITY HALL
433 S 1ST ST



Spearheaded by a group of progressive Montrose women, the cornerstone for Montrose's first official city hall was laid in 1926. The building was completed in 1927 and still acts as City Hall. For several decades, the Montrose Library occupied a wing of the building.

7

IRON MIKE

CENTENNIAL PLAZA, UNCOMPAGRE & 1ST ST

In 1888, the Iron Mike artesian well was sunk by George Smith, Montrose's first blacksmith. The well was thought to have medicinal properties due to its high mineral content. Local legend holds that those who drank from the waters of Iron Mike would forever wish to return to Montrose.

8



THE MONTROSE FIREHOUSE

26 S UNCOMPAGRE

Now connected to City Hall, this building was constructed between 1909 and 1910 and housed Montrose's main firehouse until 1980. The lower level served as a stable and firemen were housed upstairs.

9



THE SECOND BELVEDERE HOTEL

CENTENNIAL PLAZA

After the original hotel mysteriously burned down, the Second Belvedere was constructed in this spot in 1896. The hotel was connected to a public bathhouse, drawing from the waters of Iron Mike. The building was torn down in 1975 and citizens had the chance to claim pieces of it.

10



LATHROP HARDWARE
439 E MAIN ST

In 1889, J.V. Lathrop commissioned this building to house the Lathrop Hardware Store. The store remained here until the 1980s. Lathrop was so successful during the early 1900s that he was able to construct the then largest house in Montrose.

11



THE FREES BUILDING
444 - 447 E MAIN ST

J.C. Frees started the first store in Montrose. When the city moved north to be closer to the railroad tracks, Frees moved his store to this location and it became the Montrose Mercantile of Frees, Osborn, and Davis. Erected in 1905 it later housed the Montrose Grocery and Bakery and a rooming house occupied the upper level.

12



MASONIC TEMPLE
509-517 E MAIN ST



Home to the Montrose Masonic Lodge #63, this building was completed in 1911. The Masons met upstairs until 1982 when a new hall was constructed. To help finance the elaborate construction, the ground floor was rented as storefronts, primarily to the White, Young, and Fliniau Undertakers. In 1924, Chipeta, wife of the Ute Indian leader Chief Ouray, was brought here after her death in Utah. She was laid to rest south of Montrose.

13



HARTMAN BROTHERS
523 - 531 E MAIN

The Hartman family has been a staple of the Montrose community since its inception. Throughout the years, they have owned a variety of businesses including an automobile repair shop and a sanitarium. The original Hartman Bros. automobile repair shop was built on this site in 1912. The current structure is still owned by the Hartman family and is a remodeled version of the original.

14



METHODIST CHURCH
19 S PARK AVE



A longstanding feature of the Montrose community, the Methodist Church had several locations before establishing this building in 1917. The church is constructed in Romanesque Revival style and is known for its distinct stain glass windows and bell.

15



THE THOMAS HOTEL
448 E MAIN ST

Built in 1906 by W.A. Thomas, the director of the First National Bank, the Thomas Hotel took up the top floor of this building and the lower level housed the Reinhold Gallaway Grocery Company in 1910. Later, the storefronts housed real estate and land offices. Around 1921, an indoor mini golf course was opened in the building. During the 1950s-1970s, the Chipeta Cafe and Lounge operated here, quickly becoming a local favorite.

16



BELL & CATLIN BUILDING
434-436 E MAIN ST

Completed in 1890, this building originally housed Frank D. Catlin's law office. A prominent water attorney and judge, Catlin hosted President Taft in his own home in 1909 during the Gunnison Tunnel dedication. Catlin's law partner, John C. Bell, was a U.S. congressman, Colorado jurist, and key member of the Democratic Party for nearly 50 years. Bell was called the "Father of Reclamation" due to his influence in water projects such as the Gunnison Tunnel. During the 1950s, the

law offices of Bryant, Petrie, and Wildeck were housed here. The building was re-faced in 2003, altering the historic facade.

17



S.H. NYE BUILDING
428 E MAIN ST

The Nye Building was erected in 1908. It is named for Samuel H. Nye, one of the first Montrose County commissioners. In 1910, the building was occupied by the Central Business College. In 1912, the lower level was Company. The Bell, Stivers & Jordan law offices and Justice of the Peace J.W. Howe had offices upstairs.



18



FIRST NATIONAL BANK

400 E MAIN ST

This prominent structure was constructed in 1889 and was known for its distinct copula. Montrose Dry Goods occupied a storefront on the building's east side. The upper level housed rental apartments. The First National Bank was a central part of downtown Montrose for several decades before it was condemned and torn down due to safety concerns.

19

INDEPENDENT ORDER OF ODD FELLOWS HALL

435 E MAIN ST

The I.O.O.F Uncompahgre Lodge #65 was first organized in 1885. Until the completion of this hall in 1905, the group met in a variety of upstairs rooms across downtown. In the 1910s, Dawson & Brattain grocery and meat market ran out of the lower level. In the 1960s, the storefront was occupied by the Robinson Drugstore. The building was restored by Heirlooms for Hospice in 2003, but it is still owned by the Odd Fellows, making it the longest single-owner held building in Montrose.

FIRST NATIONAL BANK

20



HOME STATE BANK WINN PHOTO

Lot's Hotel was built in 1883 by Otto Mears. It was named for Montrose founder and proprietor, O.D. Loutsenhizer, known locally as "Lot."

Upstairs, rooms were separated only by canvas sheets and

the lower level featured a bar and gambling tables. During its early years, the J.C. Sanderson Company operated out of the hotel, running daily stagecoaches to Gunnison, Ouray, and Telluride. Lot first visited the Montrose area in 1873 with a gold-seeking party led by Alferd Packer. He later returned to the area and joined Joseph Selig in creating the Montrose townsite. The building burned down in 1897 and was replaced by the Krebs and Mabry Building in 1898 which housed the Home State Bank, a dry goods store, and a hat shop. The Montrose National Bank moved to this location in 1922. From 1931 - the mid 1970s, the Busy Corner Pharmacy and a soda fountain operated on the main floor. The building was demolished in 1974 and replaced with the current structure.

21



LOTS HOTEL KREBS AND MABRY BUILDING 401 E MAIN ST



22



MISSOURI BUILDING
347 E MAIN ST



This site was first home to the Diehl Dry Goods store from 1884-1895. In 1898, the current building was completed and housed the J.F. Wilson Clothing Company and several doctors and dentists upstairs.

23



DIEHL'S DRY GOODS
345 E MAIN ST



Built in 1886, R.C. Diehl's Dry Goods Store was the first brick commercial building in Montrose. In 1910, the A.M. Harris Dry Goods store opened in the lower level along with a haberdashery and billiards room.

24



TOWNSEND BUILDING
337 E MAIN ST

T.B. Townsend, a Montrose founder, merchant, and prominent banker, erected this building in 1896 to replace his original adobe hovel store built in 1883, which housed the Montrose Hardware Company and furniture store from 1896-1899. The upper level housed a Green Stamp Redemption Center for many years.

25



**GETZ DRUGS
WESTERN SLOPE BANK
FIRST KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS**

317 - 321 E MAIN ST

Constructed in 1889, Getz Drugs was the premier pharmacy in Montrose. This building also housed the Western Slope Bank while the upstairs hosted the Knights of Pythias until the completion of their lodge. From the early 1930s - 1979, the W.D. Austin Drug Store was housed on the lower level.

26



HUMPHREY'S MERCANTILE

307 - 309 E MAIN ST

This building was completed in 1905 and became one of Montrose's top mercantile shops. Though a 1908 fire destroyed the store's inventory, the building was spared. In the 1930s, Dr. Good kept his medical office here. From 1951 through the early 1960s, the building was occupied by Gordon's Department Store. In 1963, the building housed the Central Hotel and Levine's Inc.

27



WESTERN SLOPE MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMPANY

307 - 309 E MAIN ST

This building opened in 1899 and held the Western Slope Meat & Livestock Company until 1904. In 1910, the J.W. Page Meat Market moved into this facility.

28

J.C. TAYLOR GROCERY & BAKERY

303 E MAIN ST

In 1904, Montrose County sheriff J.C. Taylor opened a bakery here and refused to run for a second term, choosing instead to keep up his bakery. Taylor was known throughout Montrose for making bread "just like your mother." In the 1910s, the Spencer & Gage Grocery took over the storefront.

29



O'NEILL BROTHERS KIRK'S HOTEL

301 E MAIN ST

Completed in 1898, Kirk's Hotel boasted 22 furnished rooms, steam heat, hot and cold running water, an upscale restaurant and a pool hall. In the 1920s, the Bantley Grocery occupied the lower level. In the 1940s, the building was re-established as the Chipeta Hotel and Restaurant.

30



E.J. MATTHEWS MERCANTILE
346 E MAIN ST

Constructed between 1886 and 1893, this building first housed Pinkstaff's Grocery. In 1908, a cigar store opened behind the storefront, replaced years later by the Calloway Brothers Grocery. In 1989, the Daily Bread Bakery opened its doors, becoming a Main Street staple for years to come.

31



DILWORTH BROTHERS MEAT MARKET
344 E MAIN ST

In 1893, the Dilworth Brothers Meat Market opened here. From 1899 - 1908, two furnishing stores opened here. From 1910 onwards, a variety of confectionaries and drug stores occupied the store front.

32



A. WALTERS DRY GOODS
340 E MAIN ST

The original location of the J.W. Page Meat Market, this building, erected in 1893, later housed a barbershop (332 E Main), second hand store (336 E Main), and most famously, the No Delay Cafe & Bar (330 E Main) beginning in 1946.

Built in 1893, this building was originally a furniture store. In 1899, the J.W. Page Meat Market moved here. In 1919, the J.H. Rose Second Hand Store opened here. In 1963, the building became the Walker Art Studio.

33



J.W. PAGE MEAT MARKET
330-336 E MAIN ST

34



REDDING FURNITURE
324-328 E MAIN ST

Built in 1902, the Redding Furniture store was a prominent Main Street business, selling a variety of home furnishings and decor. The business also ran a mortuary out of this location.

35



**PASTIMES
STOCKMEN'S CAFE & BAR**
320 E MAIN ST

A true Montrose legend, the Pastimes gentlemen's resort opened here in 1892 with a pool hall, bowling alley, and bar. During the 1930s, Allen's Cafe & Buffet occupied the storefront. In 1946, Stockmen's Cafe & Bar opened, operating here for 50 years. The restaurant was a popular gathering place for area ranchers and hosted many famous guests. John Wayne and Glen Campbell were Stockmen's regulars during the filming of "True

Grit." The original bar tops from the restaurant are now preserved at the Montrose County Historical Museum and the original Stockmen's sign is preserved behind Demoret Park.

36

MUSGRAVE & OSBORNE
312-316 E MAIN ST

In 1893, Musgrave & Osborne opened their saddle making shop at this location. The business later became Allison Saddle, a regionally well-known company whose saddles are now collector's items. The saddle makers designed one of many saddles sent to Admiral Bull Halsey from around the nation following his rallying cry to ride Emperor Hirohito's horse through Tokyo after the Allies won World War II.

37

REED'S MILLINERY COMPANY
308 E MAIN ST

From 1910-1912, this building was occupied by the Reed's hat shop. In 1963, Hadley's Pool Hall opened here. The original phone booth from the lounge may be seen at the MCHS Museum. In 1981, Creative Photography, the current tenant, opened shop here.



38



WONDER-WEIR MERCANTILE COMPANY

300-306 E MAIN ST

First opened in 1905, this location was home to the Wonder-Weir Mercantile, the largest wholesale retailer on Colorado's western slope. In 1910, the I. Tarkoff Clothing and Shoe Store occupied the storefront until 1912. The building lacked a steady tenant until 1963, when an Army surplus store and the Montrose Liquor Store opened here.

39



HODGES BUILDING DEMORET PARK

240 E MAIN ST

Built in 1910, the Hodges Building was home to a variety of law firms and doctors offices. Soon after, the Montrose townspeople lobbied for more clothing stores and the 21st J.C. Penney store in the country was opened here by Mr. J.C. Penney himself. The upper level of the building housed the Moose lodge and was the site of boxer Jack Dempsey's first professional fight against local blacksmith Fred Wood. The building was destroyed by a mysterious fire in 1986.

40

SHERMAN AND ROSS BLOCK

232-238 E MAIN ST



Constructed in 1910, this building was named for Sterling Samuel Sherman, the Montrose Mayor, City Attorney, and Montrose County Judge and Attorney and his law partner, Frank Ross. The building housed the Crystal Theater and C.F. Pennington Pool Hall beginning in 1912. Prominent Montrose residents Sam Selig, W.H. Wright, and Jacob Ross had apartments upstairs.

41



**ORIGINAL MOUNTROSE COUNTY
COURTHOUSE & ROLLER SKATING RINK**
202 E MAIN ST

Originally built as a roller skating rink by founder Joseph Selig in 1884, this building also housed the first county courthouse. In winter time, Selig had the floor flooded to create an indoor ice skating rink. During Prohibition, confiscated alcohol was kept in the basement of the building. Those with medical needs went to the courthouse to get their prescription for alcohol as well.

42



FIRST BELVEDERE HOTEL
CORNER OF MAIN & SELIG AVE

This lavish building was completed in 1889. With three stories, 100 rooms, a bar, and a double lobby, the Belvedere was the height of Montrose luxury until it began facing financial troubles in the 1890s. In an attempt to restore the hotel to its former glory, the owners hosted a grand Firemen's Ball on New Year's Eve to celebrate the community firefighters and ring in the new year. During the ball, a fire mysteriously broke out on the hotel roof. With no equipment, the firemen rushed from the hotel to the firehouse, but were too late upon return save it.

43

COORS BUILDING

134 N SELIG AVE

Constructed in 1908, this building was one of several Coors brewing buildings in Colorado. In 1912, the Gladstone Hotel was housed upstairs. During Prohibition, the Coors Saloon closed and the building became the Vandenburg Hotel. In 1940, the Cassias Pool Hall, a local gathering place for Mexican men not allowed in other establishments, was opened in the back of the building.

44



J.F. WARREN STORE

147 N 1ST ST

Opened in 1915, J.F. Warren operated this building as a shipping and storage facility for local produce, namely onions, potatoes, and apples. In the 1960s, the building changed hands, but remained a freight and shipping warehouse.

45



DENVER & RIO GRANDE RAILROAD DEPOT

21 N RIO GRANDE AVE



The depot, completed in 1912, was constructed in Mission-Revival style and was the heart of Montrose's burgeoning railroad community, freighting industry, and travel as the city continued to grow into the supply and transportation hub of the Western Slope. The building is now home to the Montrose County Historical Museum.



OFF THE BEATEN PATH

LATHROP HOUSE ★
718 E MAIN ST

MORGAN SCHOOL
245 S CASCADE AVE

SAMPLER SQUARE
72 S GRAND AVE

**POTATO GROWERS *
ASSOCIATION
BUILDING**

TOWNSEND HOUSE ★
222 S 5TH ST

39 W. MAIN ST

**UNCOMPAHGRE VALLEY WATER USERS
ASSOCIATION ★**
601 N PARK AVE

**UTE MEMORIAL SITE, CHIEF OURAY'S
RANCH ★**
2 MILES S OF MONTROSE, U.S. 550





Montrose County Historical Museum
21 N Rio Grande Ave
970.249.2085



**MUSEUM OF THE
MOUNTAIN WEST**
MONTROSE, COLORADO

Museum of the Mountain West
68169 Miami Rd
970.240.3400



UTE INDIAN MUSEUM

a Community Museum History Colorado

History Colorado Ute Indian Museum
17353 Chipeta Rd
970.249.3098



IN PARTNERSHIP WITH



*“The incomparable valley with
the unpronounceable name.”
- President William H. Taft*



DART
Development and Revitalization Team

