

GUNNISON COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARIES



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Public Buildings

Business Ventures





**GUNNISON'S FIRST POST OFFICE  
(Original Location)**

—Photo Courtesy Pioneer Society

## **Gunnison's First Post Office**

The country was raw, young and wild, with a handful of white settlers, an abundance of Ute Indians, and prospectors combing the hills for valuable ore. Even so, the need for some kind of postal service, which meant contact with the folks back home, soon became evident.

One of the early homesteaders of the area was Alonzo Hartman, who along with James Kelley, ran a cow camp for the Los Pinos Indian Agency. Hartman and Kelley set up a combination store and post office around 1876 before there was any real thought of a town being formed. But by 1879, more and more prospectors and settlers had arrived, and the town of Gunnison had taken shape.

In Hartman's own words: "Jim (Kelley) and I moved our store to cabins near Gunnison, where Dos Rios ranch is now located. Here we were in the center of activities."

"At first the mail went to Lake City by horseback; then, after the road was built for freighting and passengers were more numerous, a stage coach came through Cebolla to Lake City. This became inconven-

ient so a post office was established in Cebolla. It was called White Earth".

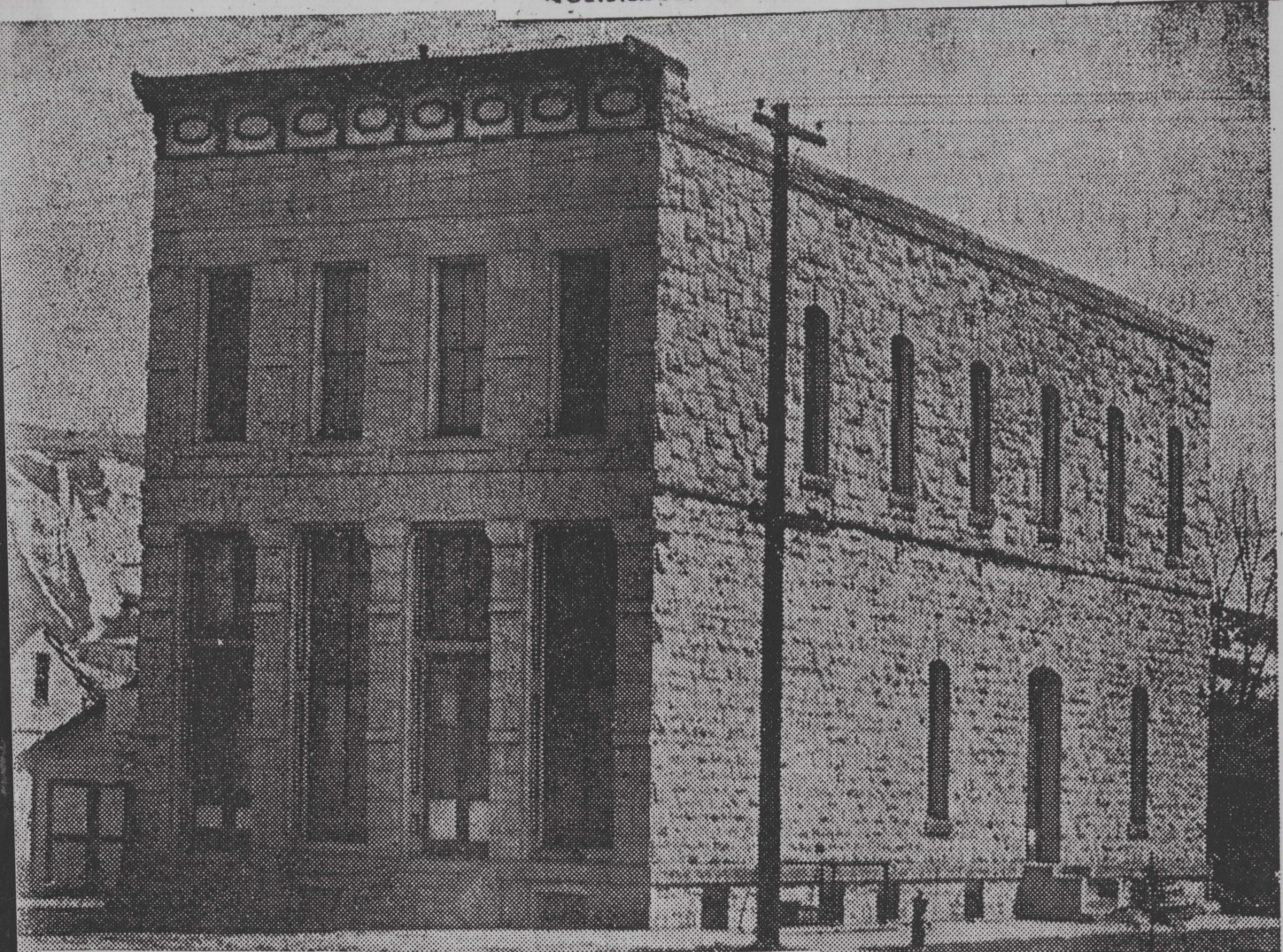
"We had our mail come to White Earth. Jim and I carried the mail once a week, but as Gunnison grew, we made our trip twice a week."

"About that time Mr. Adams was appointed postmaster inspector for the state. He appointed me postmaster at Gunnison; the office was in one of our cabins. It consisted of a box on the wall, and folks came from all around to get their mail and trade at our little store."

"Later, as the town of Gunnison took shape, we moved the post office up there. I was postmaster nine years and nine months."

An excerpt from the Pioneer Society newsletter, dated January 10, 1973, reads as follows: "Gunnison's first post office has now been restored completely, with mail boxes donated by Helen Wilson, former Postmaster at Powderhorn, an antique clock from the Gunnison post office, and a pot-bellied stove of the kind originally used. In this connection we were recently saddened by the death of Bruce Hartman, son of Alonzo Hartman who was Gunnison's first Postmaster."





*Buck and Bouccher,  
Newspaper Editors, had  
the building constructed  
in 1880.*

*Perhaps a third story  
was considered. "Old  
Timers" have said that  
there never was a  
third story. There was  
a finished basement.*

LAST MEETING of Gunnison Lodge No. 39 AF & AM in the old Masonic Hall shown in the recent staff photo above will be a "Past Masters' Night" Tuesday, before it is torn down to make room for a new \$110,000 Masonic Temple. The above building was first built in 1880 three stories high to house The Gunnison Daily News. Considerable mystery surrounds the question as to how and when the top floor was removed and Gunnison Newspapers has been unable to find an actual photograph dating



*A Gunnison Saloon*







Mr. Collins  
Mrs. Collins  
Ed Collins  
Margaret  
E. M.  
Nurse

O'Leary's Drug Store

O'Leary Drug Store





Gunnison County Courthouse in the early 1900s. (Photo courtesy of Virginia Allen).



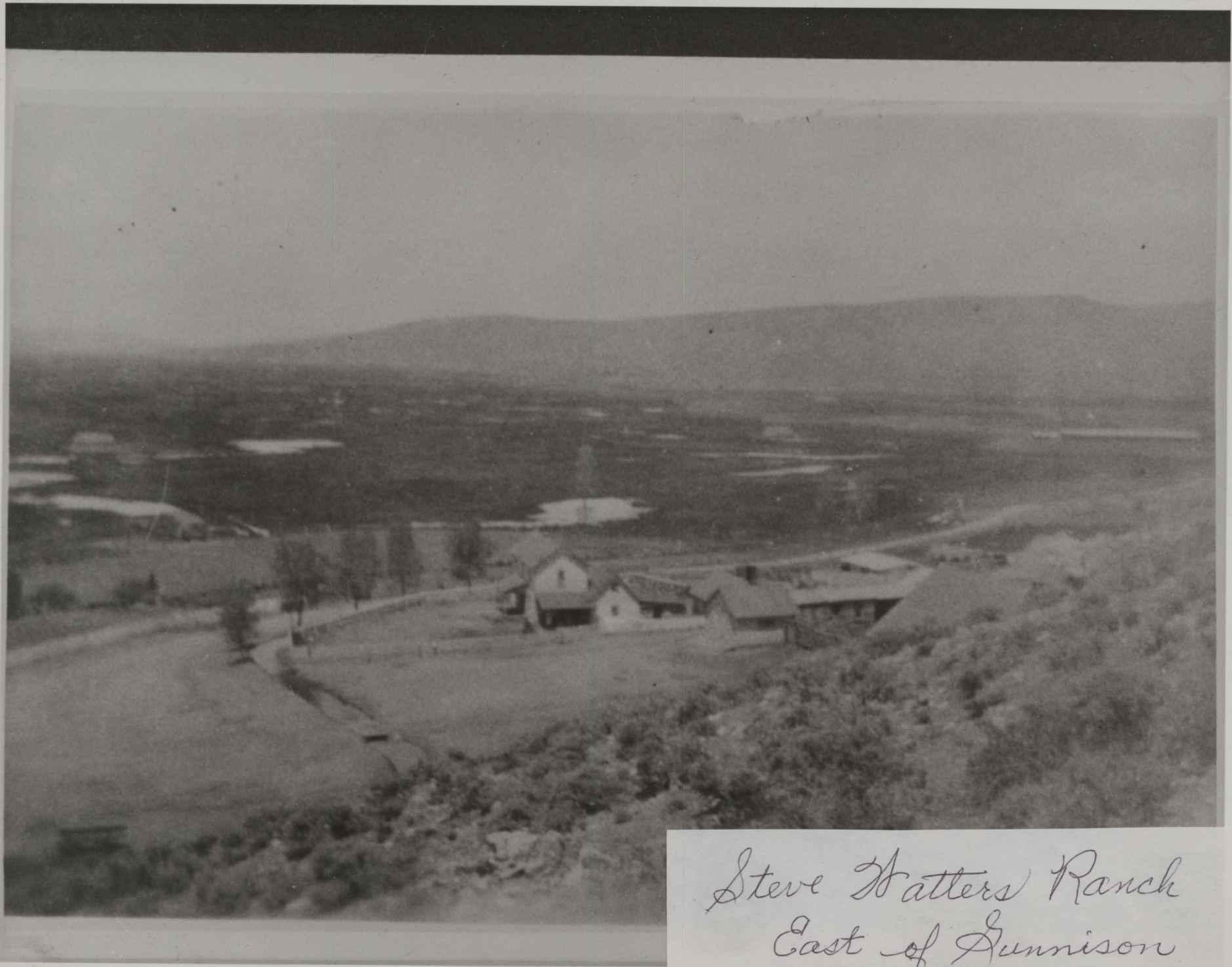
1972  
**40 YEARS AGO**  
The remodeling of the courthouse, now 60 years old, is complete, and cost \$13,944.12. It is expected to last another 40 years. New office equipment is extra.





Haying below  
Tomichi Dome





Steve Watters Ranch  
East of Gunnison





*Family Transportation*

*Photos - Deer Pioneer Museum*



*Ore Hagon*





Roy and Verda Lobdell at their new store in Darlin, Colo





Mary and Parker Dice Store  
Bowerman

Photo Courtesy - Pioneer Museum



1910

1911

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# BUSINESS DIRECTORY

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USE  
**STEMMER & COMPANY'S**  
SUPERIOR INKS

CHICAGO :: :: ILLINOIS



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## Gunnison, Colo.

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**ADAMS, CLARENCE.**

Licensed Embalmer, Furniture, Queensware, Carpets, Window Shades and Picture Frames. Office Phone Beaver 561, Res. Gun. 891. Tomichi Ave.

---

**ANDERSON, B. F.**

Barber Shop and Bath Rooms.  
Tomichi Ave.

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**BERG, GEORGE.**

Mfgr. of Fine Cigars.  
Scott Block, Tomichi Ave.

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**BLACKSTOCK, JOS.**

Boots, Shoes and Furnishing Goods.  
Scott Block, Tomichi Ave.

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**BOULEVARD CAFE & LUNCH ROOM. (THE)**

R. N. Teachout, Prop. Edgerton House in Connection. Short Orders and Lunch, Cigars and Tobacco. Opp. D. & R. G. Depot.

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**BOYLES, PAUL C.**

Bookseller and Stationer. Phone Gun. 341.  
Virginia Ave. near Post Office.

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**CANADAY, D.**

Prescription Druggist. Phone Gun. 111.  
Main St.

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**CITY LIVERY STABLES. "Auto Hire."**

George W. Eastman, Prop. Phone 34. Dealer in Hay and Grain.  
Horses Boarded. Tomichi Ave.

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**CLARK, JOHN A. L.**

Barber Shop.  
New York Ave.

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**COLLINS, E. M.**

Grocer and Baker. Hay, Grain, Flour, Fruits, Vegetables and Oysters. Phone No. 2. Main St.

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**CORUM, W. H.**

Town Treasurer. Phone Gun. 371.  
Main St.

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**DITTO, W. S.**

Groceries, Provisions, Flour, Fruits, Confectionery, Etc.  
West New York Ave. Phone Gun. 351.

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**DOWLING, TIM.**

Choice Wines, Liquors and Cigars.  
Near D. & R. G. Depot.

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**EASTMAN, GEO. W.**

Farm Implements, Buggies and Wagons. Phone 34. Hay and Grain. Auto Livery and Blacksmithing. Livery in Connection. Tomichi Ave.

**ELK HORN MEAT MARKET. (THE) Estab. 1880.**

J. D. Miller & Bro. Market Phone Gun. 121. Wholesale and Retail Beef, Veal, Pork and Mutton. Main St. Res Phone, Beaver 602.

**ENDNER LUMBER CO. (THE)**

Building Supplies. Wm. H. Endner, Prest.; L. N. Fontaine, Vice Prest.; H. W. Endner, Secy. and Treas. Cor. Spruce and Virginia Ave. Phone Gun. 171.

**EUROPEAN HOTEL. (THE)**

Mrs. Eva M. Boyles, Prop. Cool Rooms, Electric Lights. Meals served if desired. Cor. Main and Tomichi Ave.

**FIRST NATIONAL BANK. (THE) Estab. 1882.**

Capital, Surplus and Undivided Profits, \$90,000.00. S. P. Spencer, Pres.; A. Hartman, Vice Pres.; W. W. McKee, Cashier; J. J. Miller, Asst. Cashier. Main St. and Virginia Ave.

**GAVETTE BROS.**

Grocers. Phone Gun. 191. W. A. Gavette, Pres.; R. U. Gavette, Sec. and Treas. Opp. La Veta Hotel.

**GAVETTE, L. E.**

Mfgr. of Fine Home made Chocolates. Stationery and Musical Notions. Phone Beaver 301. Main St.

**GORDON, JOHN.**

Real Estate and Insurance.  
Virginia Ave.

**GUNNISON BOTTLING WORKS.**

W. R. McNeil, Prop. Phone Gun. 221.  
West New York Ave.

**GUNNISON HARDWARE CO. (THE) Inc.**

Hardware and Groceries. William Snyder, Prest.; John A. Steele, Vice Prest., Treas.; A. G. Clark, Secy. Main St. and Tomichi Ave.

**GUNNISON REPUBLICAN. (THE)**

C. T. Sills, Editor and Prop. Phone Gun. 251. A Weekly Newspaper. Fine Job Printing. Virginia Ave.

**HARDS, ROBERT.**

Cigars, Tobacco and Soft Drinks.  
Main St.

**HARDS, ROBERT.**

Barber Shop and Bath Rooms.  
L. G. Sauer, Mgr. Main St.

**HYATT, N. J.**

Physician and Surgeon. Phone Beaver 361.  
Office and Res., Main St.

**JENNINGS, Mrs. J. D.**

Millinery and Hair Goods.  
Main St.



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**JOHNSON'S RESTAURANT.**

S. S. Johnson, Prop. Regular Meals 35c.  
Main St.

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**KLEBSATTEL, GOTTLIEB.**

Merchant Tailor. Cleaning, Pressing and Repairing.  
Main St.

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**LAKE, HENRY F.**

Notary Public and Conveyancer. Real Estate, Loans, Insurance and  
Investments. Main St.

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**LARGE, W. S. "Photographer."**

Photographic Supplies, Portraiture, Developing, Printing and En-  
larging. Ansco Cameras. Main St.

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**LA VETA HOTEL.**

Joseph H. Howland, Prop. Phone Gun. 101. Rates 3.00 per Day.  
The Best Summer Resort in the World. Opp D. & R. G. Depot.

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**LAWRENCE, H. C.**

Hay, Grain and Coal. Farming Implements, Vehicles, Grain and  
Grass Seeds. Barbed Wire, Rock Salt, Bale Ties and Firewood.  
Tomichi Ave. Phone Gun. 91.

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**LEAHY, J. A.**

Justice of the Peace and Police Magistrate; also Shoe Shop. P. O.  
Box 366. Main St.

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**LOBBY BAR. (THE)**

P. J. Gunn, Prop. Phone Gun. 181. Choice Wines, Liquors and  
Cigars. Main St.

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**MARTIN, G. D.**

Harness and Saddle Goods. Furniture, Hardware, Stoves, Repairing,  
Hides, Furs, Hay, Grain, Chop and Bran. Main St. Phone Gun 71.

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**MAUER, HERMAN, JR.**

Lumber and Building Material, Wall Paper, Paints, Rugs and Leno-  
leums. Phone No. 37. Yards and Planing Mill, South Main St.

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**METROZ, JOS.**

The Bank Saloon. Phone Gun. 951. Choice Wines, Liquors and  
Cigars. Main St.

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**MILLER'S ROOMING HOUSE.**

Alice Miller, Prop. Phone Beaver 751. Furnished Rooms 50c, 75c  
and \$1.00 per Day. Light Housekeeping Rooms for Rent. Cor Vir-  
ginia and Wisconsin Sts.

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**MILLER, S. J. & SON.**

Dry Goods, Clothing, Hats, Caps, Furnishing Goods, Etc. Phone Gun.  
231. Main St.

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**MUELLER, E. E.**

Jeweler. Expert Watch and Jewelry Repairing.  
Main St.

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**MURRAY, G. T.**

Choice Wines, Liquors and Cigars. P. O. Box 374.  
Main St. Phone Gun 761.



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**MYERS, MRS. L. A.**

Furnished Rooms. 35c to 50c per Day.  
Main St.

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**NELSON, NELS.**

Beer Hall. Phone Gun 291. Lunch Room in Connection.  
West New York Ave.

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**NEWS-CHAMPION. (THE)**

H. F. Lake, Jr., Editor. Leading Newspaper and Printing Office of  
the Gunnison Valley. Main St.

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**NOURSE & HALDERMAN.**

E. M. Nourse, J. F. Halderman. Phone Beaver 341. Attorneys and  
Counselors. First Nat. Bank Bldg. Gunnison, Colo. Margery Bldg.,  
Grand Junction, Colo.

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**O'LEARY, T.**

Prescription Pharmacist.  
North Main St. Phone Gun 201.

---

**OSBORNE, CURTIS.**

Plumbing, Pipe Fitting and Supplies. Fairbanks-Morse Gasoline En-  
gines, Steam and Hot Water Heating. Upper Main St.

---

**PINE STREET LIVERY. (THE)**

Frank Young, Prop. Horses Boarded by the Day, Week or Month.  
Gunnison, Colo.

---

**QUARLES GROCERY COMPANY.**

Staple and Fancy Groceries and Provisions.  
Phone Gun. 841. Main St.

---

**QUINN, M.**

"The Gunnison Exchange." Fine Wines, Liquors and Cigars.  
Phone Gun. 391. Main St.

---

**ROGERS, MRS. LA. N.**

Fine Millinery a Specialty. Wash Suits, Tailor Made Suits and  
Skirts. Main St.

---

**ROYAL CAFE.**

B. B. Lashbrook, Prop. Furnished Rooms. Regular Meals 35c.  
Main St.

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**SAMPLINER, E. J. & CO.**

Dry Goods, Clothing Hats and Shoes. Phone Beaver 561.  
Cor. Main and Wisconsin Sts.

---

**SCHAVERS, PROF. F.**

Barber Shop and Bath Rooms.  
Cor. Boulevard and New York Ave.

---

**SCHMIDT, THEO. L.**

Dealer in Paints and Oils. Mfr. of Colors. Also Storage. Furnished  
Rooms for Rent. South Main St.

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**SILLS, C. T.**

Real Estate, Insurance, Loans and Mines.  
Phone Gun. 251. Virginia Ave.

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**SMITH, W. H.**

General Blacksmith, Wagon and Paint Shop. Hand-Steeld Picks.  
Horseshoeing a Specialty. Tomichi Ave.

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**STRUNK, WM.**

Ladies and Gents Furnishings, Boots, Shoes, Hats, Caps, Gloves and  
Mittens. Rubber Goods, Repairing. Tomichi Ave.

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**TRINE, EMMETT.**

Restaurant and Lodging House. Regular Meals and Short Orders.  
Phone Beaver 351. West New York Ave.

---

**TRINE, S. L.**

Harness, Saddlery and Horse Furnishing Goods.  
Tomichi Ave. Phone Gun. 311.

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**WEBER HOUSE. (THE)**

L. N. Brunton, Prop. Furnished Rooms 50c and 75c per Day.  
West New York Ave.

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**WEINBERGER, L.**

Fishing Tackle that's Fit For Fishing. Cigars, Tobacco and Smokers  
Articles. Main St.



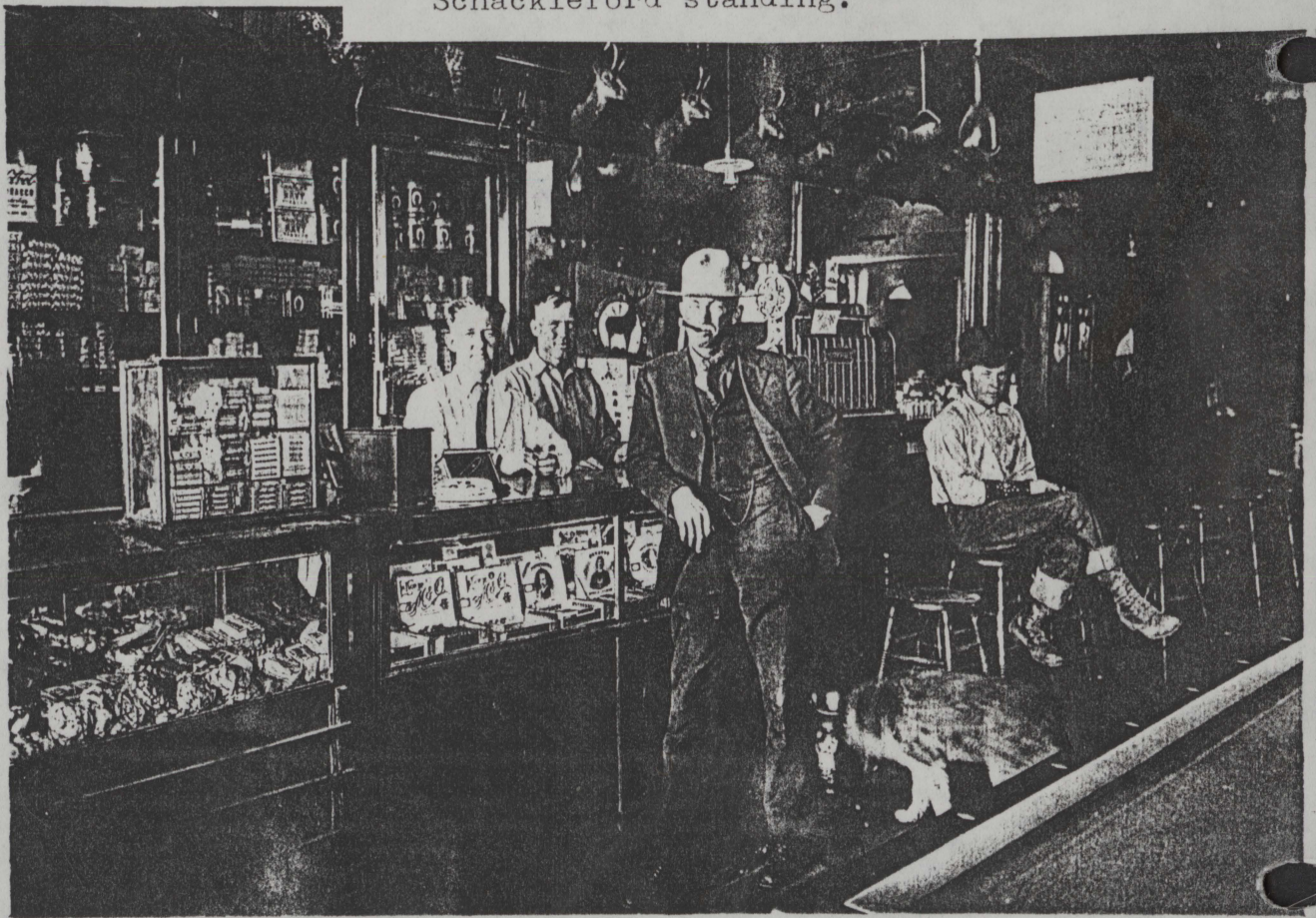


Blackstock's Shoe Store  
Joseph Blackstock

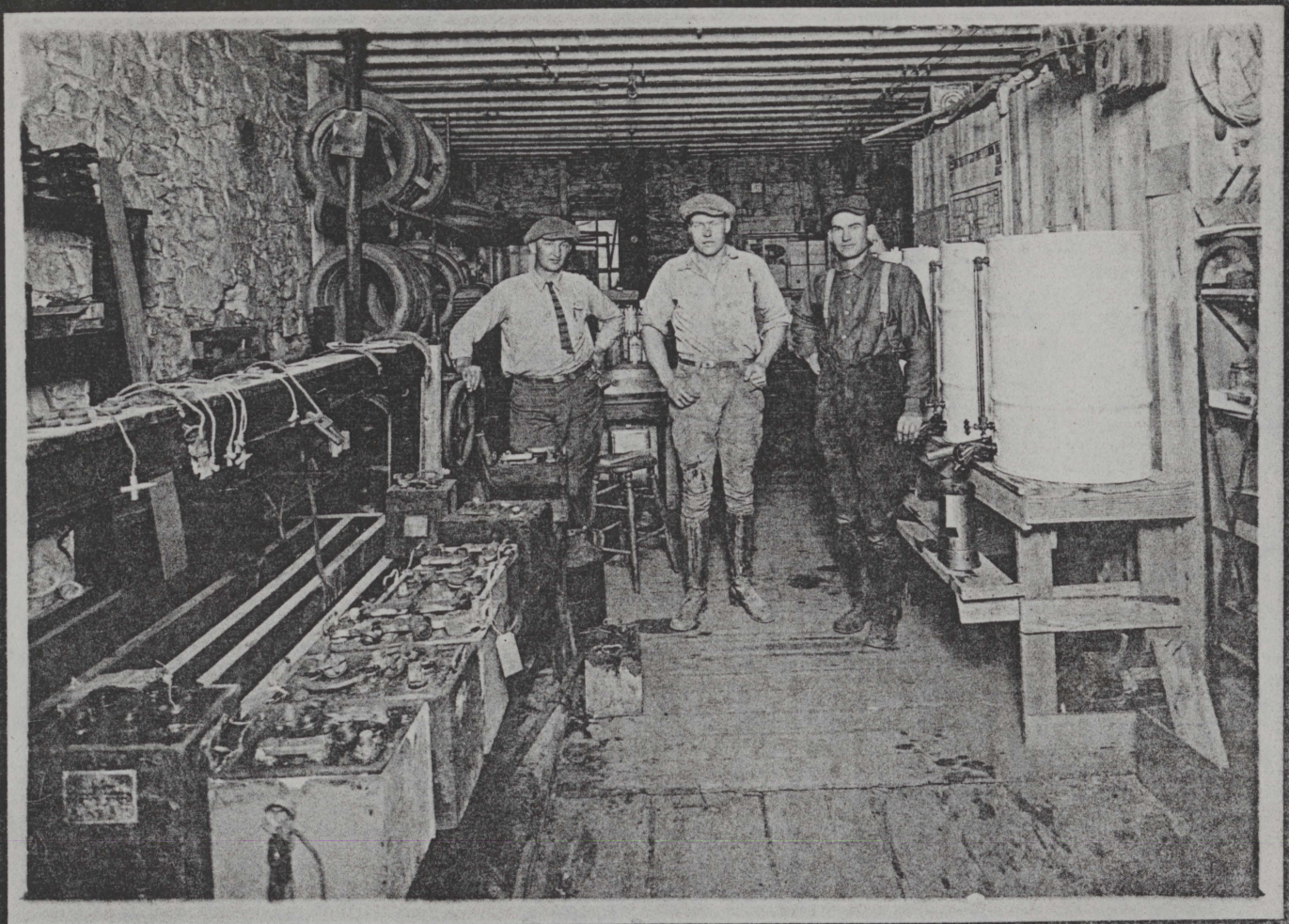




Harry Gavette ran the Pastime Billiard Parlor on North Main St. Pictured are Harry and Arthur Chinery behind the counter and James Schackleford standing.







Pitts's Garage - Batteries, cables, tires









**UNIQUE THEATER**  
CHESTER M. PITTSER, PROP.  
GUNNISON, COLORADO





Ossie Pittser.



*Resorts and  
Hotels*





Waunita Hot Springs  
Circa 1890



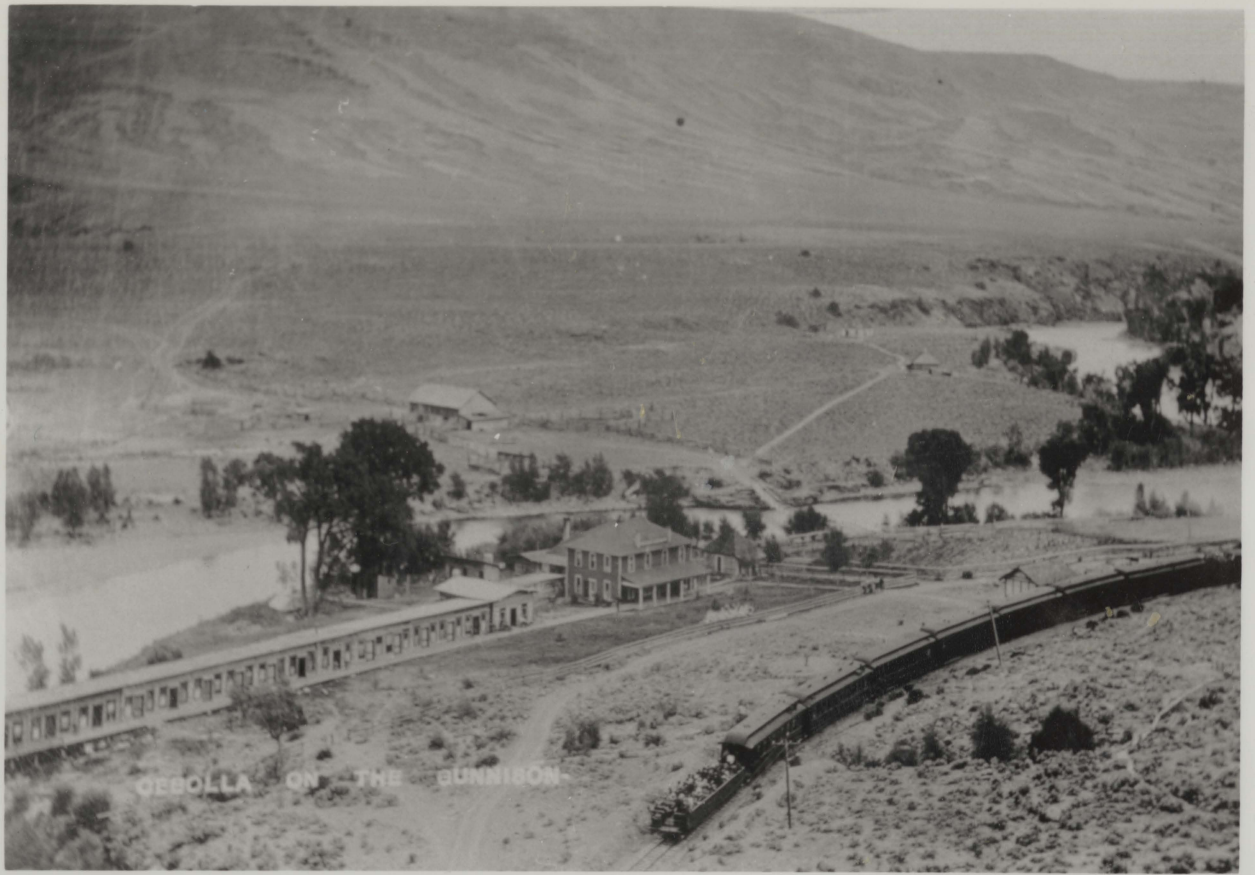


Lodge at Almont  
Destroyed by Fire



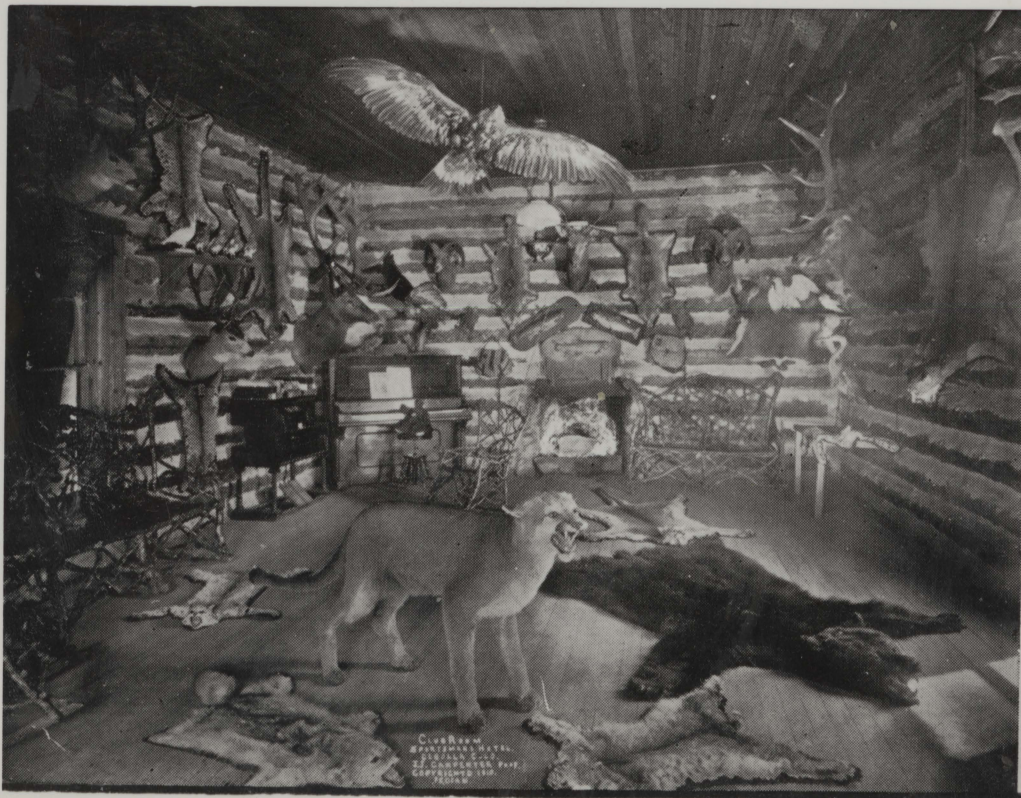
Called Tabor - then Palisades Hotel - Corner  
Main and Virginia, Destroyed by fire.  
Basement hole remained into 1930's,  
Built 1882





CEBOLLA ON THE GUNNISON

*Sportsman's Lodge - Row  
of cabins - Narrow Gauge  
Railroad Train foreground*



CLUB ROOM  
SPORTSMAN'S  
HOTEL,  
CEBOLLA,  
COLORADO.  
J. J. CARPEN-  
TER, PROP.

CLUB ROOM  
SPORTSMAN'S HOTEL,  
CEBOLLA, COLO.  
J. J. CARPENTER, PROP.





Sportsman's Lodge now  
Moncreiff's before the  
Blue Mesa lake.







CRAIG AND KATE GOODWIN appear on the porch of her parents hotel, the Rainbow, in this picture taken in 1917 during their courting days.

*Sapinero, Colorado*





Edgerton Buildings  
1990





"Heywood Hot Springs Colorado 1882"

It wasn't very glamorous but the "Heywood" Hot Springs Hotel at least offered a good meal and a clean bed at a reasonable price — all three being much sought after by weary travelers.



A welcome sight to the weary traveler in the Gunnison Country was the roadhouse. Rooms, food and drink were available at a reasonable cost. Note the character on the porch shooting his rifle. We can't help but wonder if the horsebackrider in the foreground found himself atop a spooked horse as the rifle discharged just a few feet away! Life was never dull in the 1880's!



# The Lively Past ...



While locals the world over are not necessarily renowned for their kindness to tourists, 1884 was an especially bad year for visitors to White Pine.

White Pine was officially founded in the summer of 1880 to service the silver miners populating the area. By 1883 the town was booming and roads were being built into the area.

Toll roads were set up from both Monarch and Sargents, with a branch running to Waunita Hot Springs and Pitkin. A stage line carried passengers to and from the Rio Grande Railroad in Sargents.

Just because its official title was that of "road," no guarantee was provided that the ride would be smooth -- as stage riders in 1884 found out.

In May of that year, the stage smashed into some particularly deep chuckholes and overturned. None of the passengers were hurt, but perhaps they were a little more cautious when choosing a way out of White Pine if the opportunity to leave ever arose again.

The stage drivers may not have learned their lesson, however. Later that year, driver R.L. McDonough took advantage of the ruts and washboards to rattle a passenger that he regarded as a loud-mouthed pest.

He raced his team over the road, delivering the hapless guest -- with his hat crushed beyond repair -- to Sargents in just over an hour. There is no record of whether the visitor ever returned to White Pine.

Perhaps the most unfortunate tourist of the year was

Gus Sievert, who only wanted to visit his brother Aaron, who was living in White Pine.

Gus and his family chose to visit Aaron in August, but they also listened to advice that sent them to White Pine by way of the Denver South Park line, which got no closer to the town than Woodstock.

Gus was assured that he could get to White Pine without trouble, and that a hack could be procured in Woodstock. He and his family disembarked at Woodstock and spent an hour or two searching for the town.

At last a miner happened by and told them the town had disappeared in a snow slide last winter. Then, in the true tradition of natives, the miner solemnly informed the visitors that another snow slide was due any minute and that White Pine was just a few yards below the top of the hill.

Gus carried the baby, his wife carried the valise, and his son carried a coat and a fan. Ten miles later they caught sight of White Pine, which they reached after walking another 10 miles.

Some native wit asked the new arrival if he were tired. "My feet are blistered; my legs and arms ache," answered Gus Sievert, but he'd already learned his first lesson of the Tomichi country: "Oh no, my friend; I'm not tired."

**Text by T.L. Livermore. Source: The Gunnison Country, by Duane Vandebusch. Photo reprinted from The Gunnison Country.**



# 1989



Tom Bushman stands in front of the Mary Lawrence Inn, a new bed and breakfast he and his wife Leslie will open in the next week in Gunnison.

(Photo by Kerry Mulholland)

## *The Mary Lawrence Inn: B&B to open within a week*

Within the week the Mary Lawrence Inn will open, a bed and breakfast located at 601 N. Taylor.

Owned and operated by Leslie and Tom Bushman, the inn will have a two-room suite, along with four other rooms. Leslie expects the inn will have a capacity of 15.

The inn will be especially attractive for families. "We want a place where families can have a big, comfortable place to stay," Leslie said.

The Bushmans got the idea for a bed and breakfast from their real estate agent when they decided to purchase the house last summer.

"We got in through the back door," said Leslie, of the agent's suggestion.

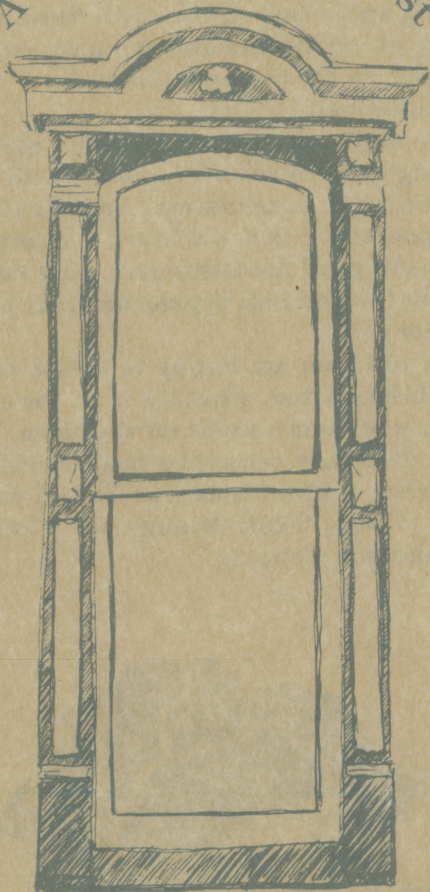
The couple, who have three children (Sunny, Bert and Laurel), moved from Colorado Springs when Tom took a teaching position in mathematics at Western State College. They realized the inn would be a good supplemental income.

Leslie said rooms will go for \$38, \$42 and \$70 for the suite. The price includes a full breakfast.

She also plans to make a special deal for Gunnison country residents. Those people in the county who just want to get away from home receive complimentary champagne during their stay at the inn, along with breakfast in bed, if so desired.



*The Mary Lawrence Inn*  
A Bed and Breakfast



"Peek through our window  
at Gunnison Country"

601 North Taylor  
Gunnison, Colorado 81230  
(303) 641-3343

Les and Tom Bushman  
Innkeepers

### Room Rates

The following rates include lodging and breakfast. Occupancy tax is not included in room rates. Personal checks, cash, VISA and MC accepted.

**"Nathan Weinberger Suite" –**

Double bed and king size bed with private bath/shower.

\$70.00

**"The Mullin Patch" –** Double bed, shared bath/shower.

**"Kathryn Firebaugh's Room" –** Double bed, shared bath/shower.

**"The Galloping Goose" –** Double bed, shared bath/shower.

\$38.00

**"Chipeta" –** Queen size bed and sink, shared bath/shower.

\$42.00

### Child Rates

(These charges are in addition to the room rate. There are some occupancy limits on these rooms.)

18 mos. to age 5	\$3.00/child
age 6 to 12	\$7.50/child
age 13 to 16	\$12.00/child

\*Rates are subject to change without notice.