

COLORADO CULTURAL RESOURCE SURVEY

Architectural Inventory Form

Official Eligibility Determination  
(OAHF use only)

OAHF1403  
Rev. 9/98

- Date \_\_\_\_\_ Initials \_\_\_\_\_
- Determined Eligible – National Register
- Determined Not Eligible – National Register
- Determined Eligible – State Register
- Determine Not Eligible – State Register
- Need Data
- Contributes to eligible National Register District
- Noncontributing to eligible National Register District

I. IDENTIFICATION

- 1. Resource number: **5RT.2399** Parcel number(s): **145017007**
- 2. Temporary resource number: **N/A**
- 3. County: **Routt**
- 4. City: **Steamboat Springs**
- 5. Historic Building Name: **Not Applicable**
- 6. Current Building Name: **Go-Fer Foods/ Space Station**
- 7. Building Address: **644 Lincoln Avenue**
- 8. Owner Name: **Monument Oil Company**
- Owner Organization:
- Owner Address: **703 23 1/2 Road**  
**Grand Junction, CO 81505**



44. National Register eligibility field assessment:	<b>Not yet determined</b>
Local landmark eligibility field assessment:	<b>Eligible</b>

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### II. GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

9. P.M.: **6th** Township: **6N** Range: **84W**  
**SW ¼ of NW ¼ of NW ¼ of NE ¼ of Section 17**
10. UTM reference (Datum: NAD27)  
 Zone: **13** **344672 mE** **4483052 mN**
11. USGS quad name: **Steamboat Springs, Colorado**  
 Year: **1969** Map scale: **7.5**
12. Lot(s): **Lots 7 & 8, Block 17**  
 Addition: **Original Addition of Steamboat Springs** Year of addition: **1884**
13. Boundary description and justification:  
**This legally defined parcel encompasses, but does not exceed, the land historically associated with this property.**  
 Metes and bounds?: Describe:

### III. ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

14. Building plan (footprint, shape): **Not Applicable**
15. Dimensions in feet: **Not Applicable**
16. Number of stories: **Not Applicable**
17. Primary external wall material(s): **Not Applicable**
18. Roof configuration: **Not Applicable**
19. Primary external roof material: **Not Applicable**
20. Special features: **Not Applicable**
21. General architectural description:  
**The Space Station sign is the most notable historical/ architectural feature at this location. Dating from the early 1960s, the distinctive sign has most recently been associated with a Conoco gas station and Go-fer Foods convenience store at this location. The sign, which sits atop a round painted blue steel pole, is located adjacent to the east corner of Lincoln Avenue and 7th Street. The lighted box sign has four components. The lowest component consists of two square white sign boards (one on either side of the pole) each with the word "LIQUOR" spelled in red block letters. The letters appear diagonally from the upper left corner to the lower right corner of each sign board. The second component consists of three rectangular-shaped metal boxes, each inset with two white Plexiglas panels. The word GAS appears in the panels in large red letters, one letter in each panel, so that the word "GAS" is visible from either direction. The center box, with the "A" panels, is higher than the two flanking panels with the "G" and "S" panels, and is directly above the "LIQUOR" signboards. The third component is a rectangular-shaped red metal box, with V-shaped indentations at either end, which is centered atop the metal box with the "A" panels. The words "Space Station" appear in white letters on either side of the box. The fourth component is the most notable. This is a three-dimensional asteroid motif which is centered above the "Space Station" sign. The asteroid consists of a white ball, with multiple projecting red legs. Small clear light bulbs are at the end of each leg, while several clear light bulbs also illuminate the ball itself.**
22. Architectural style: **No Style**  
 Building type:

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23. Landscape or special setting features: **This property is located at the eastern corner of Lincoln Avenue and 6th Street in downtown Steamboat Springs. At the time of survey, the property consisted of the Space Station sign, Conoco gasoline pumps under a flat canopy, the Go-Fer Foods convenience store building, and a small building which abuts the Rio Grande Restaurant building at the southeast end of the property. The Conoco station and the convenience store closed in June 2007, however. The convenience store building is located near the rear (northeast end) of the lot, with an asphalt parking lot extending from the front of the store to Lincoln Avenue.**

24. Associated buildings, features or objects:

Type: **Go-Fer Foods Building**

Describe: **The Go-Fer Foods convenience store building measures 76' NW-SE (across) by 40' NE-SW (deep). Located near the rear (northeast end) of the property, the single-story building is supported by a low concrete foundation, and is probably built of concrete block construction. The façade wall (southwest elevation) is clad with a red brick veneer laid in running bond. A set of paired glass-in-steel-frame doors enter the store near the northwest end of the façade. These entry doors are located beneath a large intersecting gable, supported by two large round wood columns. The intersecting gable roof is covered with corrugated metal, while the words "Go-fer FOODS" and decorative false half-timbering appear in the upper gable end. Another, single, glass-in-steel-frame door enters a separate retail space near the southeast end of the façade. Formerly occupied by "Pisa's Restaurant," this space was unoccupied at the time of survey. The façade wall is penetrated by seven storefront display windows. A projecting eave extends from the flat roof, providing shelter in front of the building, along all of the façade. The northwest (side) elevation (facing 7th Street) is clad with a red brick veneer, laid in running bond, with no doors or windows. The northeast (rear) elevation (facing the alley) is clad with stained natural brown vertical wood siding. Two steel utility doors enter the rear elevation. The rear portion of the northeast (side) elevation is exposed. The wall here is made of unpainted concrete blocks.**

Type: **Building**

Describe: **A separate small flat-roofed building is located at the southeast end of the property, where it abuts the Rio Grande Restaurant building on the adjacent property. This structure measures 16' NW-SE by 14' NE-SW, and has red brick veneer exterior walls. This building was unoccupied at the time of survey, but had previously been occupied by "Fancies" offering "Gift Baskets" and "Catering."**

### IV. ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY

25. Date of construction:      Estimate: **1965**      Actual:
- Source of information: **Mountain States Telephone and Telegraph directories; field estimate; oral tradition.**
26. Architect:                    **N/A**
- Source of information: **N/A**
27. Builder:                        **Unknown**
- Source of information: **N/A**
28. Original owner:               **Unknown**
- Source of information: **N/A**

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29. Construction history:

**Efforts to research the origins of the Space Station sign - its designer, its design origins, who commissioned its design, and who erected it - have thus far proved unsuccessful. The sign was probably erected prior to the late 1960s when the Space Station name begins to appear in Steamboat Springs telephone directories.**

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

### V. HISTORICAL ASSOCIATIONS

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

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

33. Current use(s):                      **Vacant/Not in Use**

34. Site type(s):                        **Early 1960s lighted box sign displaying an outer space theme, associated with a service station.**

35. Historical background:

**Efforts to research the origins of the Space Station sign - its designer, its design origins, who commissioned its design, and who erected it - have thus far proved unsuccessful. The sign was apparently erected prior to the late 1960s when the Space Station name begins to appear in Steamboat Springs telephone directories. The Roberts Oil Company is listed at this address in the 1956 Mountain States Telephone and Telegraph yellow pages, under the heading "Automobile Radiators - Repairing." Roberts oil Company also appears in the 1956 directory, under the heading "Service Stations," with the following advertisement:**

**ROBERTS OIL CO  
STEAM CLEANING  
RADIATORS REVERSE FLUSHED  
FRONTIER PRODUCTS - DAYTON TIRES**

**Roberts Oil Company is not listed in the 1959 directory. Instead, "Van's Frontier" is listed at this address under the "Service Stations" heading. According to its 1959 advertisement, Van's Frontier sold Frontier motor oil and gasoline, and Dayton tires. The property is then not listed under any heading, or in the white pages, in the 1961 directory, perhaps indicating the property was then in transition. In the 1965 telephone directory, "Cal's Sinclair Service" is listed at this address; however, by 1970 the property appears under the "Space Station" name.**

36. Sources of information:

**Mountain States Telephone and Telegraph/ Mountain Bell Telephone Directories for Steamboat Springs, 1956 – 2007. On file at the Denver Public Library, Western History Department.**

**Routt County Assessor, Commercial Property Appraisal Record.**

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### VI. SIGNIFICANCE

37. Local landmark designation:    Yes        No     Date of designation:

Designating authority:

38. Applicable National Register criteria:

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

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

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

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

Qualifies under Criteria Considerations A through G (see Manual).

Does not meet any of the above National Register criteria.

Steamboat Springs Standards for Designation:

Not Applicable    A. Its character, interest, or value as part of the development, heritage, or cultural characteristics of Routt County, the State of Colorado, or the United States.

Not Applicable    B. Its location as a site of a significant historic event.

Not Applicable    C. Its identification with a person or persons who significantly contributed to the culture and development of Routt County.

Not Applicable    D. Its exemplification of the cultural, economic, social, or historic heritage of Routt County.

Not Applicable    E. Its portrayal of the environment of a group of people in an era of history characterized by a distinctive architectural style.

Not Applicable    F. Its embodiment of distinguishing characteristics of an architectural type or specimen.

Not Applicable    G. Its identification as the work of an architect or master builder whose individual work has influenced the development of Routt County.

Not Applicable    H. Its embodiment of elements of architectural design, detail, materials, and/or craftsmanship that represent a significant architectural innovation.

Not Applicable    I. Its relationship to other distinctive areas that are eligible for preservation according to a plan based on an historic, cultural, or architectural motif.

Not Applicable    J. Its unique location or singular physical characteristic representing an established and familiar visual feature of a neighborhood, a community, or Routt County.

39. Area(s) of significance:                    **Not Applicable**

40. Period of significance:                    **Not Applicable**

41. Level of significance:    National:                    State:                    Local:

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42. Statement of significance:

**The Space Station sign may be considered individually eligible for local landmark designation. Pending further research, it may also qualify for listing in the State or National Registers.**

43. Assessment of historic physical integrity related to significance:

**The Space Station sign is likely minimally altered from its original construction. As a result, it displays a high standard of integrity of setting, location, design, materials, workmanship, feeling and association.**

### VII. NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT

44. National Register eligibility field assessment: **Not yet determined**

Local landmark eligibility field assessment: **Eligible**

45. Is there National Register district potential? Yes  No

Discuss: **Historic buildings in the core area of downtown Steamboat Springs may collectively possess the historical and/or architectural significance, and display sufficient physical integrity, to comprise a National Register historic district**

If there is National Register district potential, is this building: Contributing  Noncontributing N/A:

46. If the building is in existing National Register district, is it: Contributing Noncontributing N/A:

### VIII. RECORDING INFORMATION

47. Photograph number(s): **CD #5, Frames 87-91; CD #8, Frame 142** CDs filed at: **City of Steamboat Springs**
48. Report title: **Historic Building Inventory of Downtown Steamboat Springs** **137 10th Street**
49. Date(s): **06/22/07** **Steamboat Springs, CO 80477**
50. Recorder(s): **Carl McWilliams**  
**Timothy Wilder**
51. Organization: **Cultural Resource Historians**
52. Address: **1607 Dogwood Court**  
**Fort Collins, CO 80525**
53. Phone number(s): **(970) 493-5270**

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## Sketch Map





# Architectural Inventory Form

## Location Map

