

Routt County Historic Preservation Board  
 Historic Register Data Base Entry Project  
 Revised 7/14/04

**ROUTT COUNTY HISTORIC REGISTER PROPERTIES**

\*\*Name of Property used for Designation

41 - Woody Bar & Grill

\*\*Physical Address of Property

136 East Jefferson Hayden

\*\*Legal Description

Lot 1 Replot of lots 10-14 Blocks 4 & W 35 ft. lots 6-9 Blk. 4

\*\*Routt County PIN

R3822171

smg. town of Hayden

Date of designating Resolution

7-17-07

Reception number of Resolution

037

Already designated

Comments for Public Remarks

Historic in 2007

Designating Resolution Number

per rec#660601,

\*\*Which Historic Register: Routt Colorado, and/or National

7/17/07

\*\*Historic Name of Property

T.L. Nowell Groceries

\*\*What is being designated: barn, house, entire parcel etc.

1 - 14 - 1900s

11/2/07

# Historic HiWay Bar restored

The HiWay Bar soon will have a new, old look. In an effort to restore the property to its historical state — and take care of some much-needed maintenance — owner Fawna Odom is undertaking massive renovations.

“It just needed to be restored and brought back to its historical condition,” Odom said.

Odom submitted an application to the Routt County Historic Preservation Board last month in hopes of getting the bar added to the Routt County Register of Historic Properties. The board has recommended approving Odom’s application, but the decision still awaits approval from Routt County commissioners.

## SUNDAY FOCUS

STORY BY  
BRANDON GEE

“At one point or another, it has meant a lot of things to a lot of people,” Odom said of the HiWay Bar.

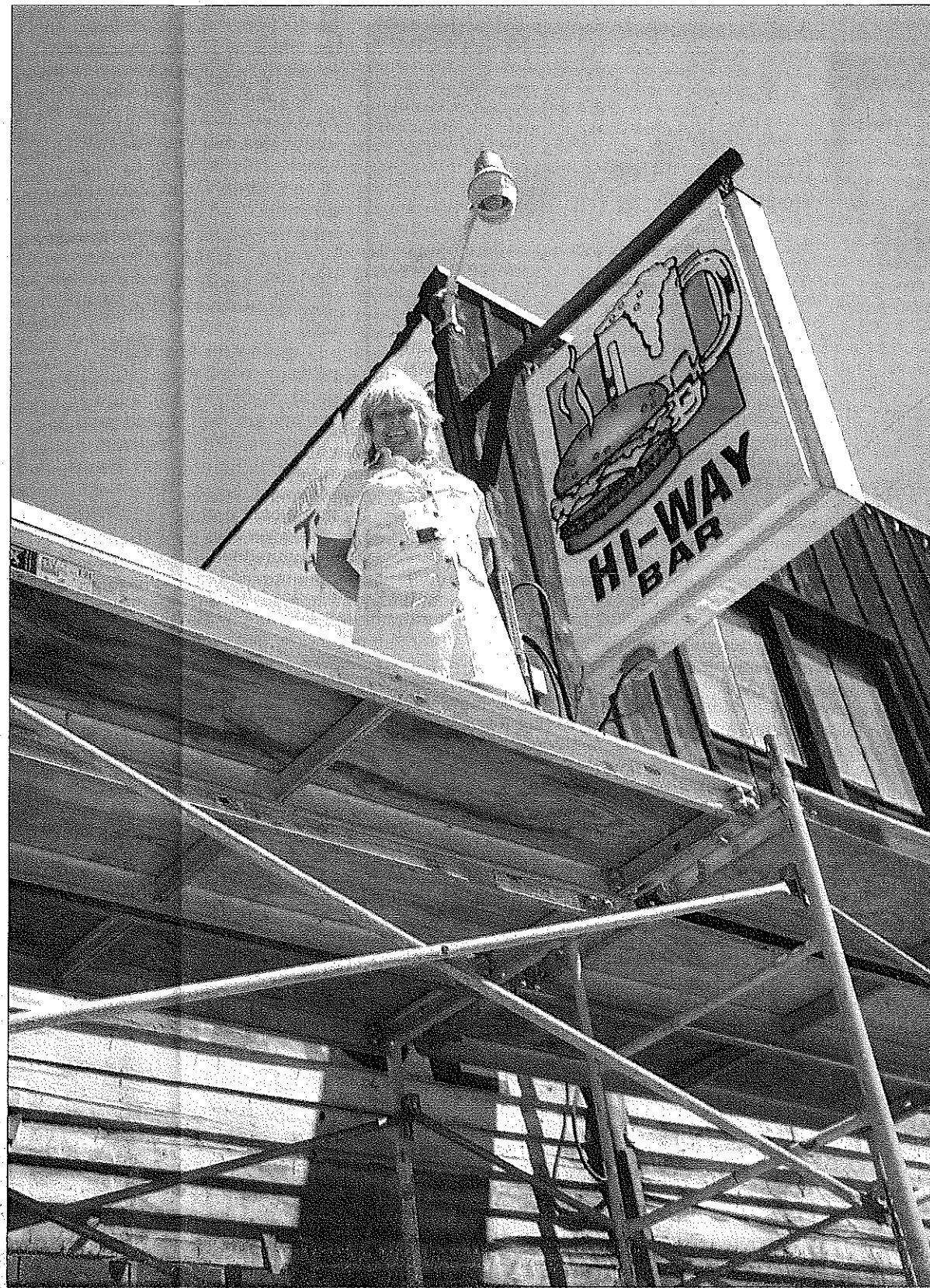
The building was the homestead of William Walker and was built in 1888. J.L. Norvell, who turned it into a multi-purpose dry goods store, purchased it a few years later. In the years since, the building has served as a liquor store, a gambling hall, a general store and a bank, among other things. Odom said a warehouse in the back of the building once served as Hayden’s jail because it was the only building in the town that had a lock.

“It’s probably the oldest continuous business in Northwest Colorado,” said Pat Holderness, a Hayden resident and historian and a member of the Routt County Historic Preservation Board. “I don’t think it has ever been closed down that I know of.”

Holderness said many interesting stories surround the property and recalled one about Norvell deciding to become a “cowboy preacher.”

“The story is, when he became a cowboy preacher and got religion, he took his liquor out and poured it in the street and cowboys wept,” Holderness said. “I don’t know if that’s true, but that’s the story.”

Odom collected several historical documents and pictures for her presentation to the historic preservation board.



Fawna Odom, owner of the HiWay Bar, is restoring the building that houses her bar on Jefferson Avenue in Hayden. When construction is finished, the building will resemble how it looked when it was built in the 1880s.

MATT STENSLAND/STAFF

See **HiWay Bar**, page 4B