

COLORADO CULTURAL RESOURCE SURVEY

Official Eligibility Determination
(OAHF use only)

OAHF1403

Rev. 9/98

Architectural Inventory Form

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- 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: **5SM.1653**
- 2. Temporary resource number: **N/A**
- 3. County: **San Miguel**
- 4. City: **Telluride**
- 5. Historic Building Name: **Finn Hall**
- 6. Current Building Name: **Finn Hall**
- 7. Building Address: **440 W. Pacific Avenue**
- 8. Owner Name and Address: **Susan Coit
3153 9th Street
Boulder, CO 80304**

Parcel number(s):

477901204008



THLD RATING:

Contributing to District

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II. GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

9. P.M.: **New Mexico** Township: **43N** Range: **9W**
 $\frac{1}{4}$ of $\frac{1}{4}$ of $\frac{1}{4}$ of $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section **1**
10. UTM reference (Datum: NAD27)
 Zone: **13** **252651 mE** **4202370 mN**
11. USGS quad name: **Telluride, Colorado**
 Year: **1955** Map scale: **7.5'**
12. Lot(s): **Lot 29, Block 6**
 Addition: **West Telluride Addition** Year of addition: **1891**
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): **Rectangular Plan**
15. Dimensions in feet: **Length: 62 feet x Width: 22 feet**
16. Number of stories: **1**
17. Primary external wall material(s): **Wood/Horizontal Siding**
18. Roof configuration: **Gabled Roof/Front Gabled Roof**
19. Primary external roof material: **Metal Roof**
20. Special features: **Porch**
21. General architectural description:
Finn Hall is a rectangular-shaped, front-gabled, wood frame building with a modest shed-roofed addition to its south (rear) elevation. The building is supported by a low, unpainted, concrete foundation, covered by a painted pale blue bead board skirting. The exterior walls are clad with painted pale blue horizontal wood siding, with painted dark blue 1" by 4" corner boards. The front gable roof is covered with corrugated metal, and the eaves are boxed with painted dark blue wood trim. The building features a symmetrical façade which faces toward Pacific Avenue on the north elevation. A set of paired, painted white, wood-paneled doors, each with an upper sash light, and topped by a single transom light, enter the center of the façade from an open 6-step wood porch. Single 1/1 double-hung sash windows, with painted white wood frames and painted blue wood surrounds, penetrate the façade wall to either side of the porch. Windows elsewhere are also predominantly 1/1 double-hung sash with painted white wood frames and painted blue wood surrounds. The shed-roofed rear addition on the south elevation features a walkout basement level, which in part serves as a garage. A painted pale blue vertical wood plank garage door opens from the basement level onto a gravel driveway which extends to the alley. A painted white wood-paneled door, with an upper sash light, enters the main level from an elevated wood deck above the walkout basement level.
22. Architectural style: **No Defined Style**

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Building type:

23. Landscape or special setting features: **This property is located on the south side of West Pacific Avenue in the block between Aspen and Townsend Streets.**
24. Associated buildings, features or objects: **N/A**

IV. ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY

25. Date of construction: Estimate: **1899** Actual:
- Source of information: **Sanborn Insurance maps, February 1893; December 1899; San Miguel County Assessor records; Telluride Journal, January 28, 1899, p. 3.**
26. Architect: **Unknown**
- Source of information: **N/A**
27. Builder: **Unknown**
- Source of information: **N/A**
28. Original owner: **unknown**
- Source of information: **N/A**
29. Construction history:
- San Miguel County Assessor records and a façade plaque indicate that Finn Hall was constructed in 1899. Sanborn Insurance maps also document that the building was erected between February of 1893 and December of 1899. The February 1893 Sanborn map depicts this property as undeveloped, while the December 1899 Sanborn map depicts the extant building labeled "Finn Hall." Early issues of the *Telluride Journal* newspaper indicate that the building was in existence by January 28, 1899. On that date, the Journal reported that the funerals for two Finnish miners, John Michelson and Esa Salmela, were held at the Finn Hall. They had been killed in an explosion while working in the Smuggler-Union mine.**
30. Original location: Moved: _____ Date of move(s): _____

V. HISTORICAL ASSOCIATIONS

31. Original use(s): **Social/Meeting Hall**
32. Intermediate use(s): **Social/Meeting Hall**
33. Current use(s): **Domestic/Single Dwelling**
34. Site type(s): **Historically utilized as "Finn Hall" in Telluride; presently a single family dwelling.**
35. Historical background:
- Finn Hall was completed by early 1899, and subsequently served as a social meeting hall and gathering place for Telluride's Finnish population. Immigrants from Scandinavia represented Telluride's largest ethnic population, and were divided culturally into three groups: "pure" Swedes, who generally settled in the vicinity of Tomboy Road, Finns (from Finland), who principally settled in this area of town along Pacific Avenue, and Swede-Finns, or Swedish-Finns, who generally settled toward the west end of Pacific Avenue. Immigrants of Swede- Finn descent**

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had been born in southern Finland, near the Swedish border, and spoke Swedish, not Finnish. Although they were born in Finland, Swede-Finns identified culturally more with Sweden than Finland. A plaque on this building's façade contains the following text:

Finn Hall

Built in 1899, this structure served as a functional gathering place. Finn Hall's large front gable building with its double doors and double-hung windows made it suitable for meetings, dances and parties. This is a one-story structure with a front gabled form containing corner boards and frieze. Note the tall, narrow, double-hung windows on either side of the double doors with transoms at the entrance. Several hundred Finns lived on Pacific Ave. They had their own grocery store, boarding houses, public saunas, and social hall. Some of the most popular events in the hall were box dinner socials.

36. Sources of information:

Buy, Christian J. *Historic Telluride in Rare Photographs*. Ouray: Western Reflections, Inc., 1998.
Colorado's Historic Newspaper Collection. <http://www.coloradohistoricnewspapers.org>.

"Bad Accident in the Smuggler-Union," *Telluride Journal*, January 28, 1899, p. 3.

Denver Public Library, Western History and Genealogy, DPL Western History Photos database.
<http://www.photoswest.org>

Façade Plaque.

Pera, Davine (comp.). *Conversations at 9,000 Feet A Collection of Oral Histories From Telluride, Colorado*. Ouray: Western Reflections Publishing Company, 2000.

San Miguel County Assessor records.

San Miguel County Property Appraisal Record.

Sanborn Insurance maps, August 1886, October 1890, February 1893, December 1899, July 1904, November 1908, October 1922.

Simmons, Laurie and Whitacre, Christine. *Historic Building Inventory Record*, May 1986.

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.

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Telluride Standards for Designation:

- 7-505.A.1. The structure is representative of a unique historical social activity of an era
- 7-505.A.2. The structure dominates the neighborhood by virtue of its mass, architecture or location
- 7-505.A.3. The structure was an historically or architecturally important public building
- 7-505.A.4. The structure has a unique historical significance beyond a local level
- 7-505.A.5. The parcel was the site of an important historic event or activity
- 7-505.A.6. The structure has a "contributing or qualified contributing" rating on the THAS

39. Area(s) of significance: **Architecture, Ethnic Heritage/European, Settlement, Social History**

40. Period of significance: **1899; 1899-1913**

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

42. Statement of significance:

Finn Hall is historically significant, under National Register Criterion A, because it served as the social focal point for Telluride's Finnish population. The building is also architecturally significant, under National Register Criterion C, as a representative example of a wood frame building constructed as a meeting hall, and for its representative wood frame front gabled plan. Meeting halls such as this represent an important property type in Telluride, and mining towns generally, and were of singular importance to the community's ethnic and social history. As such, this building may be considered individually eligible for inclusion in the National and State Registers, and it rates as a contributing resource within the Telluride National Historic Landmark District.

43. Assessment of historic physical integrity related to significance:

Finn Hall displays a reasonably high standard of physical integrity, relative to the seven aspects of integrity as defined by the National Park Service and the Colorado Historical Society, Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation - setting, location, design, materials, workmanship, feeling and association. Modest alterations have been made to the rear of the historic building; however, the building still conveys a strong sense of its history, and thus rates as a contributing resource within the Telluride National Historic Landmark District.

VII. NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT

44. National Register eligibility field assessment: **Individually Eligible**

Local landmark eligibility field assessment: **Eligible / Contributing to District**

45. Is there National Register district potential? Yes No

Discuss: **This property is located within the Telluride National Historic Landmark 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:

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VIII. RECORDING INFORMATION

47. Photograph number(s):	CD #5, Images 480-484	CDs filed at:	Town of Telluride
48. Report title:	Town of Telluride Re-Survey of Historic Structures		Planning and Building Department
49. Date(s):	09/30/2007; revised 4/10/2012		113 West Columbia Avenue
50. Recorder(s):	Carl McWilliams Timothy Wilder		Telluride, CO 81435
51. Organization:	Cultural Resource Historians		
52. Address:	Dogwood Court Fort Collins, CO 80525		
53. Phone number(s):	(970) 493-5270		

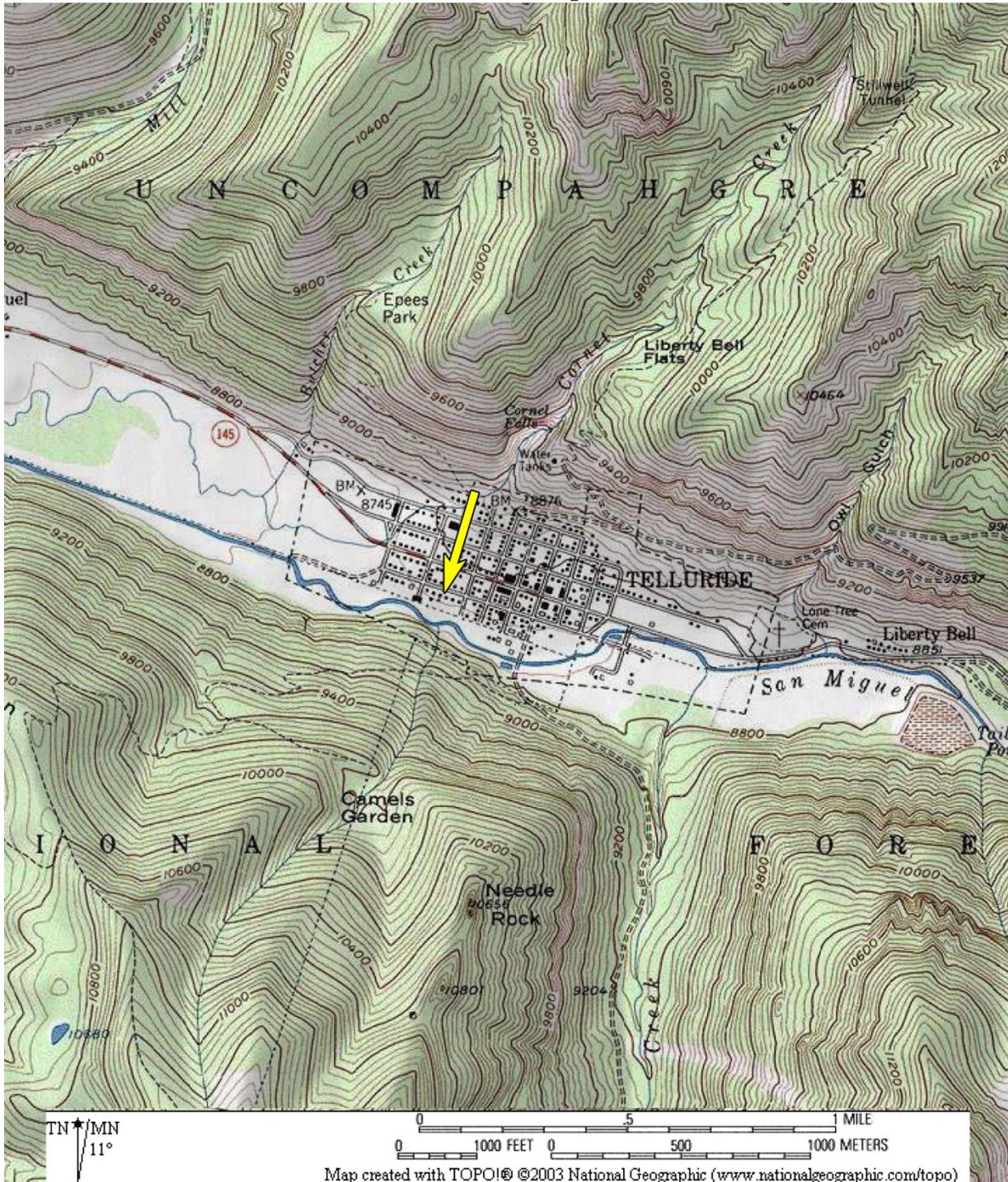
Architectural Inventory Form

Sketch Map



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Location Map



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