

COLORADO CULTURAL RESOURCE SURVEY

Official Eligibility Determination  
(OAHHP use only)

OAHHP1403  
Rev. 9/98

Architectural Inventory Form

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First Draft 2/15/13

- 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.1779/THAS.125&126**
- 2. Temporary resource number: **N/A**
- 3. County: **San Miguel**
- 4. City: **Telluride**
- 5. Historic Building Name: **Wunderlich House**
- 6. Current Building Name: **Wunderlich House**
- 7. Building Address: **218 N. Spruce Street**
- 8. Owner Name and Address: **Elvira F. Wunderlich and Eugene A. Wunderlich  
P.O. Box 551  
Telluride, CO 81435**

Parcel number(s):	<b>456536420005</b>



<b>THLD RATING</b>	<b>Primary - Supporting to District</b> <b>Garage - Supporting to District</b> <b>Shed – Contributing to District</b>
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### II. GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

9. P.M.: **New Mexico** Township: **43N** Range: **9W**  
**SE ¼ of SE ¼ of SW ¼ of SE ¼ of Section 36**
10. UTM reference (Datum: NAD27)  
 Zone: **13** **253189 mE** **4202446 mN**
11. USGS quad name: **Telluride, Colorado**  
 Year: **1955** Map scale: **7.5'**
12. Lot(s): **Lots 12, 14, Block 32**  
 Addition: **Telluride Original Townsite** Year of addition: **1883**
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: **37' N-S by 38½' E-W**
16. Number of stories: **1**
17. Primary external wall material(s): **Asbestos**
18. Roof configuration: **Hipped Roof**
19. Primary external roof material: **Metal Roof**
20. Special features: **Porch, Chimney, Fence**
21. General architectural description:  
**This single-story wood frame dwelling features a rectangular plan which measures 31' N-S (across) by 37' E-W (deep). Not included in these dimensions is a shed-roofed extension at the east end of the north elevation which measures 6' N-S by 16' E-W. The main rectangular section is supported by an unpainted concrete foundation, while the shed-roofed extension is supported by a low sandstone foundation partially covered with concrete parquetry. The east (rear) elevation foundation wall is penetrated by a 3-light hopper basement window. The house's exterior walls are clad with cream white color undulated asbestos shingle siding. The main section of the house is covered by a moderately-pitched, truncated, hipped roof, with metal roofing material and painted white boxed eaves. A brown brick chimney is located near the east end of the north elevation. A painted white, 15-light, glass-in-wood-frame door, covered by an aluminum storm door, enters the asymmetrical façade on the west elevation from a wraparound front porch which covers the south end of the façade and the west end of the south elevation. Two large single-light fixed-pane windows overlook the wraparound porch, one on the façade, north of the entry door, and the other on the south elevation. Another single-light fixed-pane window is located on the north elevation. A band of five 6-light windows penetrates the enclosed shed-roofed extension at the east end of the south elevation. Windows elsewhere are 1/1 double-hung sash with painted white wood frames and surrounds. The wraparound front porch features painted white turned columns with scrolled brackets and a low-pitched hipped roof. A painted white wood-paneled door, with two upper sash lights, enters the shed-roofed**

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extension from the end of the wraparound porch on the south elevation.

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22. Architectural style: **Hipped-Roof Box**

Building type:

23. Landscape or special setting features:

**This property is located on the east side of North Spruce Street in the block between Columbia and Galena Avenues. A planted grass lawn surrounds the house, with a large fir or spruce tree in the front yard. A black wrought iron fence parallels the front sidewalk and also extends in front of 226 Spruce Street next door to the north. A narrow grass strip is located between the front sidewalk and the curb along Spruce Street. The backyard is enclosed by a chain link fence along the alley.**

24. Associated buildings, features or objects:

**Garage (THAS #126)**

**A wood-frame garage, which measures 15' N-S by 26' E-W, is located southeast of the house. The garage's exterior walls are clad with cream white color corrugated metal with painted white 1" by 4" corner boards. A moderately-pitched front gable roof is covered with corrugated metal, laid over 1x wood decking and 2x wood rafters. The rafter ends are painted white and are exposed beneath the eaves. A set of paired, painted white, horizontal wood plank garage doors, with X-bracing, and side-hinged with metal strap hinges, are located on the west elevation. These doors open onto a gravel and grass driveway (unused in recent years) which extends through a gate in the wrought iron fence to Spruce Street. Single-light windows penetrate the north and south elevations. A 2-light window penetrates the east elevation.**

**Shed (THAS #125)**

**A wood-frame shed, which measures approximately 18' N-S by 8' E-W, is located adjacent to the alley at the rear of the property. This utilitarian structure is supported by a wood timbers on grade foundation, while its exterior walls are made of unpainted board-and-batten. A shed roof, is covered with corrugated metal laid over 1x wood decking and 2x wood rafters. The rafter ends are painted white and are exposed beneath the eaves. An unpainted wood-paneled door, and two 4-light windows, are located on the west elevation. Two shuttered window openings face toward the alley on the east elevation.**

### IV. ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY

25. Date of construction:      Estimate:    **1921**      Actual:
- Source of information:    **Sanborn Insurance maps, November 1908 and October 1922; 1920 U.S. Census records**
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**

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29. Construction history:

Sanborn Insurance maps document that this house was built sometime between November of 1908 and October of 1922. Further, the 1920 U.S. Census records for Telluride, which typically enumerated citizens' addresses, does not include an entry for any person at this address (218 N. Spruce Street), or at 216 N. Spruce Street (the house's address as depicted on the 1922 Sanborn map). Thus, this house was probably built between 1920 and 1922. Earlier Sanborn maps depict an older dwelling on this lot, constructed between 1893 and 1899. Although the census records suggest that the property was probably undeveloped in 1920, it is possible that portions of the earlier dwelling were incorporated into the extant dwelling's construction. The Sanborn maps also indicate that the garage (THAS #126) postdates 1922, while the shed (THAS #125) predates 1899. The house is unaltered in recent decades, except for the alteration of some window openings and the application of asbestos shingle siding, which probably dates to the 1950s.

30. Original location:  Moved: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of move(s): \_\_\_\_\_

### V. HISTORICAL ASSOCIATIONS

31. Original use(s):                    **Domestic/Single Dwelling**  
 32. Intermediate use(s):            **Domestic/Single Dwelling**  
 33. Current use(s):                   **Domestic/Single Dwelling**  
 34. Site type(s):                      **Single Family Dwelling**

35. Historical background:

Built in the early 1920s, this house has been associated with the Wunderlich family of Telluride throughout most of its history. Brothers Oscar and Herman Wunderlich were German immigrants who arrived in Telluride in the years surrounding the turn of the twentieth century. Colorado business directories list Oscar Wunderlich as a saloonkeeper in Telluride, beginning in 1904, and by 1910, he was the proprietor of the Telluride Beer Hall on East Colorado Avenue, in partnership with Emanuele Visintin. Later, in the 1920s, Oscar was co-owner with Irene Wichman, of the Golden Rule Store in Telluride. Oscar and his wife Hedwig (Hettie) lived at 504 W. Colorado Avenue (5SM.1570) until moving to a house on North Oak Street which was destroyed by the Cornet Creek Flood of July 27, 1914. Herman Wunderlich and his wife Cristine resided on Spruce Street during the early 1900s, apparently not at this location, however, as census records indicate their home on Spruce Street was south of Colorado Avenue.

Oscar and Hettie Wunderlich had two children, a son, Albert "Dutch" born in 1913, and a daughter, Helen born in 1920. Dutch Wunderlich was married to Elvira Visintin, the daughter of his father's business partner. Dutch and Elvira then resided in this house on North Spruce Street for many years prior to Dutch's death in 1963. Born in Telluride on July 4, 1914, Elvira was the daughter of Emanuele and Ermida (Canestrini) Visintin, and the sister of Irene Visintin who had been born in Telluride on January 4, 1913. Emanuele (born December 18, 1876) and Ermida (born November 11, 1886) were both Austrian immigrants who met in Telluride where they were married in St. Patrick's Church in 1912. Ermida had been married previously for a year-and-a-half; however, her first husband (name unknown) died while working at the Liberty Bell Mine. Ermida then went to work for a Mrs. Cologne who ran a boardinghouse on East Colorado Avenue, and it was there that she met Emanuele. Their daughters, Irene and Elvira Visintin, were both graduates of Telluride High School, with Irene serving as the Valedictorian for the class of 1931.

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Dutch Wunderlich was a prominent community leader, serving on the Telluride Town Board in the years prior to his death in 1963. Elvira took over as a Town Board member after her husband's passing, and later served as the Town Treasurer and Town Clerk. As of 2010, Elvira Wunderlich (nee Visintin) and other members of the Wunderlich family remain the owners of this North Spruce Street home.

36. Sources of information:

Buys, Christian J. *Historic Telluride in Rare Photographs*. Ouray: Western Reflections, Inc., 1998.

Colorado Business Directory listings for Telluride, 1881-1950.

Denver Public Library, Western History and Genealogy, DPL Western History Photos database.

<http://www.photoswest.org>

Fifteenth Census of the United States, 1930, San Miguel, County, Colorado, (reference Visintin and Wunderlich).

Fourteenth Census of the United States, 1920, San Miguel, County, Colorado, (reference Visintin and Wunderlich).

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 Commercial 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.

Telluride Museum Digital Photo Collection: <http://www.telluridemuseum.org>

Thirteenth Census of the United States, 1910, San Miguel, County, Colorado, (reference Wunderlich).

### 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).

**xx** Does not meet any of the above National Register criteria.

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

**xx** 7-505.A.6. The structure has a "contributing or qualified contributing" rating on the THAS

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39. Area(s) of significance: **N/A**
40. Period of significance: **N/A**
41. Level of significance: National: State: Local: **xx**

42. Statement of significance:

**This house is historically significant for its association with Telluride's residential development, beginning during the early decades of the twentieth century. The house is also historically significant for its long association with Dutch and Elvira (Visintin) Wunderlich, notable lifelong Telluride residents and descendants of pioneer families. The house is also architecturally significant for its, locally somewhat rare, hipped-roof plan, with some late Victorian era architectural characteristics – most notably its bracketed porch columns. Because it likely dates from the early 1920s after the end of Telluride's mining boom period, and because there have been modest alterations to its original construction, this residence and garage rates as "supporting" resources within the Telluride National Historic Landmark District. The shed is rated as contributing.**

43. Assessment of historic physical integrity related to significance:

**This property 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. There have been no additions to the dwelling; however, some windows were altered and the house was sided with asbestos shingle siding, probably in the 1950s. The house has not been altered in more than a half century, however. A sense of time and place relative to how this property appeared when it was first built remains largely intact.**

### VII. NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT

44. National Register eligibility field assessment: **Not Individually Eligible**  
 Local landmark eligibility field assessment: **Eligible / Supporting 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:

### VIII. RECORDING INFORMATION

47. Photograph number(s): **CD #5; Images 55-63** CDs filed at: **Town of Telluride**
48. Report title: **Town of Telluride Re-Survey of Historic Structures** **Planning and Building**  
**Department**
49. Date(s): **December 20, 2010** **113 West Columbia Avenue**
50. Recorder(s): **Carl McWilliams** **Telluride, CO 81435**  
**Karen McWilliams**
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



# Architectural Inventory Form

## Location Map

