

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.1790**
- 2. Temporary resource number: **N/A**
- 3. County: **San Miguel**
- 4. City: **Telluride**
- 5. Historic Building Name: **Rock House, Adams House**
- 6. Current Building Name: **Turpack House**
- 7. Building Address: **131 N. Willow Street**
- 8. Owner Name and Address: **Laura Turpack Tr utad 3 21 83 and Turpa  
1308 Angels Camp Drive  
Carson City, NV 89703**

Parcel number(s): **477901117001**




THLD RATING:

Contributing to District

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## II. GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

9. P.M.: **New Mexico** Township: **42N** Range: **9W**  
 ¼ of ¼ of ¼ of ¼ of Section 1
10. UTM reference (Datum: NAD27)  
 Zone: **13** **253216 mE** **4202382 mN**
11. USGS quad name: **Telluride, Colorado**  
 Year: **1955** Map scale: **7.5'**
12. Lot(s): **Lot 3, Block 9**  
 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): **L-Shaped Plan**
15. Dimensions in feet: **1054 square feet**
16. Number of stories: **1**
17. Primary external wall material(s): **Wood / Horizontal Siding**
18. Roof configuration: **Gabled Roof / Cross Gabled Roof**
19. Primary external roof material: **Metal Roof**
20. Special features: **Porch, Chimney, Fence**
21. General architectural description:  
**This is a single-story, L-shaped, cross gabled dwelling, with a historic gabled projection on the north (side) elevation, and a historic shed-roofed extension at the south end of the west (rear) elevation. Overall, the main L-shaped portion measures 26' N-S (across), by 39' E-W (deep), and the open front porch which fills in the leg of the "L" at the south end of the east elevation is included in these dimensions. The original gabled projection on the south elevation measures 5½' N-S by 12½' E-W; the shed-roofed extension at the south end of the west elevation measures 12' N-S by 9' E-W. The house is supported by an unpainted sandstone foundation, while its exterior walls are clad with painted light blue horizontal wood siding with painted blue/grey 1" by 4" corner boards. A pierced gable ornament appears in the facade's upper gable end on the east elevation. The cross gabled roof is steeply-pitched, with metal roofing material, and with painted dark blue boxed eaves. A red brick chimney is on the ridge. Two wood-paneled doors, each painted white with dark blue trim, enter the south end of the facade from the open front porch. This porch measures approximately 7' N-S by 14½' E-W. It is approached by three wood steps, and features a wood plank floor, an open wood railing, painted dark blue pierced wood supports, pierced brackets with teardrop motifs, and a shed roof. A painted blue wood door enters the south elevation of the rear shed-roofed extension. A corner bay, at the front southeast corner, has three 1/1 double-hung sash windows. A fixed-pane 4-light window, with a transom light and dentil courses, penetrates the facade wall north of the front porch. Windows elsewhere are primarily single and paired 1/1 double-hung sash with painted dark blue**

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## wood frames and surrounds.

22. Architectural style: **Late Victorian**

Building type:

23. Landscape or special setting features:

**This well-maintained property is located at the southwest corner of Willow Street and Columbia Avenue. A woven wire fence encloses a planted grass lawn which surrounds the house. A spruce tree is near the front northeast corner of the house.**

24. Associated buildings, features or objects: **N/A**

## IV. ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY

25. Date of construction: Estimate: Actual: **1896**  
 Source of information: **Telluride *Daily Journal*, May 12, 1896, p. 4; Sanborn Insurance maps; Sanborn Insurance maps**

26. Architect: **Unknown**  
 Source of information: **N/A**

27. Builder: **Unknown**  
 Source of information: **N/A**

28. Original owner: **Comma P. Rock**  
 Source of information: **Telluride *Daily Journal*, May 12, 1896, p. 4**

29. Construction history:

**Sanborn Insurance maps reveal that this property was originally developed circa 1888, with the construction of a very small L-shaped dwelling. The extant house dates primarily from 1896, however, as in that year owner C. P. Rock enlarged and extensively remodeled the original dwelling. The Telluride *Daily Journal* reported on the construction on May 12, 1896:**

**C. P. Rock is making changes to the construction of his dwelling house on the corner of Willow street and Columbia avenue which will materially improve its appearance. Additions are being built to both the front and rear, and when finished it will be a much larger structure.**

**Based on the Sanborn maps, the original dwelling may have fronted onto Columbia Avenue to the north, and the new 1896 dwelling was located a few feet farther south, fronting instead toward Willow Street to the east.**

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**

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33. Current use(s): **Domestic / Single Dwelling**
34. Site type(s): **Single Family Residence**

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35. Historical background:

This house was built in 1896, with a small previously-built home incorporated into its construction. The property was originally owned by Comma P. Rock who lived here with his wife, Clara, and daughters Jessie and Gertrude, between 1896 and 1902. C. P. Rock was born in Kentucky in January 1860, while Clara (maiden name unknown) had been born in Illinois, in November 1862. They were married circa 1884, and lived in Illinois before moving to Telluride during the early 1890s. Jessie, the eldest daughter, was born in August of 1885, while Gertrude was born in October of 1886. Mr. Rock was in the grocery business in Telluride. In August of 1902, the Rock family sold this property to John H. Adams and soon thereafter moved to Los Angeles. U. S. census records indicate that Mr. and Mrs. Rock were Los Angeles residents through at least 1920.

John H. and Ada F. Adams were longtime Telluride residents, from the early 1890s to the early 1930s. They lived on Colorado Avenue until purchasing this property in 1902. Later, in the 1920s and 1930s, they resided on North Spruce Street and on Columbia Avenue. A native of New York, John H. Adams was born in May of 1864. Ada Florence Adams (maiden name unknown), meanwhile, had been born in Indiana in March of 1864. They were married circa 1890, and by the time of the 1900 census, two children had been born to the couple: Everett H. (born in March 1893), and Eva E. (born in April 1900). John Adams ran a general merchandise store in Telluride for many years, which later evolved into a furniture store. He may also have had an undertaking business. He was involved in local affairs, serving at least one term as the San Miguel County Assessor.

36. Sources of information:

Colorado Business Directory listings for Telluride, 1881-1950.

Colorado's Historic Newspaper Collection. <http://www.coloradohistoricnewspapers.org>.

*Telluride Daily Journal*, May 12, 1896, p. 4.

*Telluride Daily Journal*, April 3, 1902, p. 4.

"San Miguel County Assessor Data Site." <http://sanmiguel.valuewest.net>

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 Christine Whitacre. Historic Building Inventory Record, May 1986.

Telluride Historical Museum. [www.telluridemuseum.org](http://www.telluridemuseum.org)

Town of Telluride Building Department building permit files.

U. S. Census Records.

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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).

**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

39. Area(s) of significance:    **Architecture**

40. Period of significance:    **1899**

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

42. Statement of significance:

**This property is historically significant for its association with Telluride's residential development, dating from the time of its construction in 1896, and for its early associations with the families of Comma P. Rock and John H. Adams. The house is also architecturally significant for its representative L-shaped cross gabled plan, and for its Late Victorian era details. This property rates as a "contributing" resource within the Telluride National Historic Landmark District.**

43. Assessment of historic physical integrity related to significance:

**This property displays a 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 are no additions and no notable adverse alterations to the historic residence. A sense of time and place remains intact, relative to how this property appeared when the house was built in 1899 and during the early decades of the twentieth century.**

### VII. NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT

44. National Register eligibility field assessment:    **Not Individually Eligible**

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

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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):	<b>CD #5, Images 310-313</b>	CDs filed at:	<b>Town of Telluride</b>
48. Report title:	<b>Town of Telluride Re-Survey of Historic Structures</b>		<b>Planning and Building Department</b>
49. Date(s):	<b>August 10, 2011</b>		<b>113 West Columbia Avenue</b>
50. Recorder(s):	<b>Carl McWilliams Timothy Wilder</b>		<b>Telluride, CO 81435</b>
51. Organization:	<b>Cultural Resource Historians</b>		
52. Address:	<b>Dogwood Court Fort Collins, CO 80525</b>		
53. Phone number(s):	<b>(970) 493-5270</b>		

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## Sketch Map



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## Location Map

