

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: **5SM.1549** Parcel number(s): **477901124004**
- 2. Temporary resource number: **N/A**
- 3. County: **San Miguel**
- 4. City: **Telluride**
- 5. Historic Building Name: **Telluride Lodge No. 56, A. F. & A. M**
- 6. Current Building Name: **Telluride Lodge No. 56, A. F. & A. M/ Timberline Ace Hardware**
- 7. Building Address: **200 E. Colorado Avenue**
- 8. Owner Name and Address: **Telluride Masonic Temple Association  
P. O. Box 55, Telluride, CO 81435**

477901124004



<b>THLD RATING:</b>	<b>Contributing to District</b>
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## II. GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

9. P.M.: **New Mexico** Township: **42N** 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** **253125 mE** **4202297 mN**
11. USGS quad name: **Telluride, Colorado**  
 Year: **1955** Map scale: **7.5'**
12. Lot(s): **Lots 80, 82, Block 10**  
 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: **Length: 97 feet x Width: 48 feet**
16. Number of stories: **2**
17. Primary external wall material(s): **Brick**
18. Roof configuration: **Flat Roof**
19. Primary external roof material: **Asphalt Roof/Composition Roof**
20. Special features: **Window/Segmental Arch**  
**Roof Treatment/Decorative Cornice**
21. General architectural description:  
**The Masonic Temple Building is a late 19th century commercial style landmark building located at the southeast corner of E. Colorado Avenue and Spruce Street in downtown Telluride. The prominent two-story brick edifice measures approximately 97' N-S (deep) by 48' E-W (across). It is supported by a coursed sandstone foundation, which ranges from at grade on the north elevation, to approximately 2.5' above grade on the south elevation. Its walls are made of red brick, laid in running bond, and the roof is flat with parapets rising above the roof line on the north and west elevations. The building features a symmetrical façade which fronts directly onto the concrete sidewalk paralleling Colorado Avenue on the north elevation. The façade's first story contains two nearly identical storefronts, although the retail space within is currently occupied by a single retail store - Timberline Ace Hardware. The two storefronts are divided by a single brick column, and single brick columns also flank the storefronts at either end of the façade. Each storefront features a set of paired wood-paneled entry doors, with single upper sash lights, and with flanking sidelights and transom lights, which enter the building from within a recessed entryway. Each entryway, in turn, is flanked by large storefront display windows, with transom lights, and with wood-paneled kickplates. Painted beige, fluted, cast iron columns flank each of the entryways, while a dentil course is located above each set of paired entry doors. The words "TELLURIDE IRON WORKS" are faintly discernable on a painted-over plate at the base of one of the cast iron columns. A secondary cornice separates the façade's first and second stories, and wraps around to cover the north end of the west (side) elevation. Above this secondary cornice, the upper façade wall is made of red brick laid in running bond. Five evenly-spaced triple-hung sash windows penetrate the upper façade wall, providing light and ventilation for the second story. Each of these windows features a painted green wood frame, a sandstone lugsill, and rounded, corbelled,**

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brick arches with sandstone keystones and springers. An ornate bracketed metal cornice extends along the top of the façade wall, and wraps around to also extend along the top of the west elevation wall. A black, traditionally electrically-lit, sign, hangs perpendicular to the west end of the façade. Among other emblems of Freemasonry, the sign includes the compass and square motif which in part represent the three indispensable jewels of a Masonic Lodge - equality, liberty and fraternity. Another compass and square motif is affixed to the north (front) end of the west elevation. The west elevation wall is made of red brick laid in running bond, and its second story is penetrated by three single triple-hung windows, and a set of paired triple-hung windows. These windows have the same details as the windows on the façade's second story. Another similar window penetrates the west elevation's first story. A fixed-pane display window, with a wood-paneled kickplate, is located at the front end of the west elevation. A set of paired painted dark green wood-paneled doors, with single upper sash lights, and topped by a dentil course and a transom light, are located beneath a segmental brick arch at the south (rear) end of the west elevation. The upper portion of the original south (rear) elevation is exposed, and the brick wall here is covered with concrete pargeting. Three 1/1 double-hung windows, with segmental brick arches, penetrate the second story of this elevation. An exterior wooden staircase ascends to a door with a segmental brick arch header which enters the west end of the second story on the south elevation. The staircase is situated over a wood frame, shed-roofed, addition to the west end of the south elevation. A larger wood frame, shed-roofed, addition covers the east portion of the south elevation..

22. Architectural style: **Late 19th Century Commercial Style**  
 Building type:

23. Landscape or special setting features:  
**This property is located at the southeast corner of E. Colorado Avenue and Spruce Street in downtown Telluride. Spruce Street has been vacated at this location to create a small park and pedestrian plaza.**

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

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### IV. ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY

25. Date of construction: Estimate: Actual: **1897-1899**  
 Source of information: **"The Dedication Ceremonies Were Very Impressive." Telluride *Daily Journal*, May 27, 1899, p. 5.**

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

27. Builder: **William Anderson, et. al.**  
 Source of information: **"A Red Letter Day for the Masons of Telluride." Telluride *Daily Journal*, May 27, 1899, p. 1.**

28. Original owner: **Telluride Lodge No. 56, A. F. & A. M**  
 Source of information: **"The Dedication Ceremonies Were Very Impressive." Telluride *Daily Journal*, May 27, 1899, p. 1.**

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29. Construction history:

Telluride's Masonic Temple building at the corner of Colorado Avenue and Spruce Street was dedicated on May 24, 1899. The building's construction history, and a history of the Masons in Telluride up to that date, is detailed in an article titled "A Red Letter Day for the Masons of Telluride" which appeared in the Telluride *Daily Journal* on May 27, 1899. According to this article, the building's basement was excavated, and its foundation laid in the fall of 1897. Contracts for the building's construction were then awarded to local contractors the following spring. William Anderson received the contract for brick work; J.W Jackson received the carpentry work contract; August Brodin was awarded the plastering contract; Spencer and Robinson received the painting and decorating contract; Phillips and Kingsbery were awarded the contract for installing the heating and plumbing apparatus. Now approaching 110 years of age (in 2007), apart from two small rear additions, the building appears little changed from its original construction.

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

### V. HISTORICAL ASSOCIATIONS

31. Original use(s): **Social/Meeting Hall; Commerce and Trade**
32. Intermediate use(s): **Social/Meeting Hall; Commerce and Trade**
33. Current use(s): **Social/Meeting Hall; Commerce and Trade**
34. Site type(s): **Two-story late 19th century commercial building, built to house a Masonic Lodge in its second story, and with retail space in its first story.**

35. Historical background:

Built in 1897-1899 under the direction of Telluride Lodge No. 56, A. F. & A. M, this building has housed a Masonic Lodge in its second story, and retail space in its first story, throughout its history. The Masons have owned the building continuously from the time of its construction. Freemasonry had its start in Telluride in the summer of 1880, when a group of nine hardy settlers organized a Masonic school. These individuals included George S. Andrus, J.H. Bishop, A.B. Cooper, J.R. Grant, A.F. Kibbe, Frank Leland, Robert McCulloch, Ed McFarlane, and W.H. Trout. The first meetings were held in Andrus' cabin located near the corner of Oak and Columbia Streets. The Masons subsequently met in a variety of locations in Telluride prior to the completion of this building in the spring of 1899. These included a property known as the Blair Building at the corner of Galena and Pine Streets, a building associated with Andrus' assaying business on a back lot on Colorado Avenue, and in the second story of a building at the northwest corner of Colorado Avenue and Pine Streets (W.B. Van Atta's clothing store occupied the building's first story). The Masons later moved into the second story of the newly-constructed building at the northeast corner of Colorado Avenue and Oak Street, which was soon to become the Sheridan Block. About this same time, the Lodge's name was changed to the "Telluride Lodge No. 56, A.F. & A.M., and this entity was officially chartered on August 23, 1884.

The Masons moved once again, following the January 1887 fire which destroyed the original San Miguel County Courthouse and other buildings on the south side of Colorado Avenue between Fir and Pine Streets. After the fire, the Masons moved into the second floor of the newly-built McCormick-Davis Block, while the post office, and perhaps other entities, occupied the ground floor space. The Masons then met at that location until moving to the new building at this location in 1899.

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In 1895, the Masons acquired a 50' by 125' lot located at the southeast corner of Colorado Avenue and Spruce Street, with the intention of soon building a permanent Lodge at this site. Two wood frame buildings, which then housed a saloon and a boardinghouse, already occupied the site. The Masons then generated rental income from these buildings until breaking ground for the new Masonic building in the fall of 1897. Earlier that year, the Masons formed the Telluride Masonic Building Association, under the leadership of President and Director H.M. Hogg. This entity raised \$25,000.00 in capital stock, and subsequently oversaw the building's construction which began in the fall of 1897. The building's basement was excavated, and a sandstone foundation was formed in place before work was halted until the following spring. Multiple contracts were then awarded to local firms, with William Anderson receiving the brick work contract, J.W. Jackson the carpentry work contract, August Brodin the plastering contract, Spencer and Robinson the painting and decorating contract, and Phillips and Kingsbery, the heating and plumbing contract. The building was completed in May of 1899, and was dedicated in a lavish ceremony on Wednesday May 24, 1899. The building reportedly cost a total of \$23,000.00, including \$20,000.00 for the contracts, and \$3000.00 for the property.

36. Sources of information:

Buy, Christian J. *Historic Telluride in Rare Photographs*. Ouray: Western Reflections, Inc., 1998, p. 75.

Colorado Business Directory listings for Telluride, 1881-1950.

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

"The lower floor of the Masonic Block is ready for tenants." *Telluride Journal*, February 11, 1899, p. 3.

"Date of Dedication Fixed." *Telluride Journal*, March 25, 1899, p. 5.

"It Will Double Its Output." *Telluride Journal*, May 13, 1899, p. 1.

"A Red Letter Day For The Masons Of Telluride." *Telluride Journal*, May 27, 1899, p. 1.

"The Dedication Ceremonies Were Very Impressive." *Telluride Journal*, May 27, 1899, p. 5.

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

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.

### 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, Commerce, Industry, Settlement, Social History**

40. Period of significance: **1899; 1899-1958**

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

42. Statement of significance:

**This building is architecturally significant as an excellent local example of a late 19th century two-story commercial building, with a double-storefront, and with some Italianate influences. It is also architecturally significant for such details as its cast iron columns, decorative cornice, and triple-hung sash windows with rounded arches, and for the fine craftsmanship displayed in its brick construction. The building is historically significant, as well, for its life-long association with Telluride Lodge No. 56, A. F. & A. M., and for its association with Telluride's socioeconomic development which has continued for more than a century. As such, this building may be considered individually eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places, and in the State Register of Historic Properties. It also rates as a "contributing" building within the Telluride National Historic Landmark District.**

43. Assessment of historic physical integrity related to significance:

**This building displays a high standard of integrity relative to the seven aspects of integrity as defined by the Colorado Historical Society and the National Park Service - location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling and association.**

### 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:

# Architectural Inventory Form

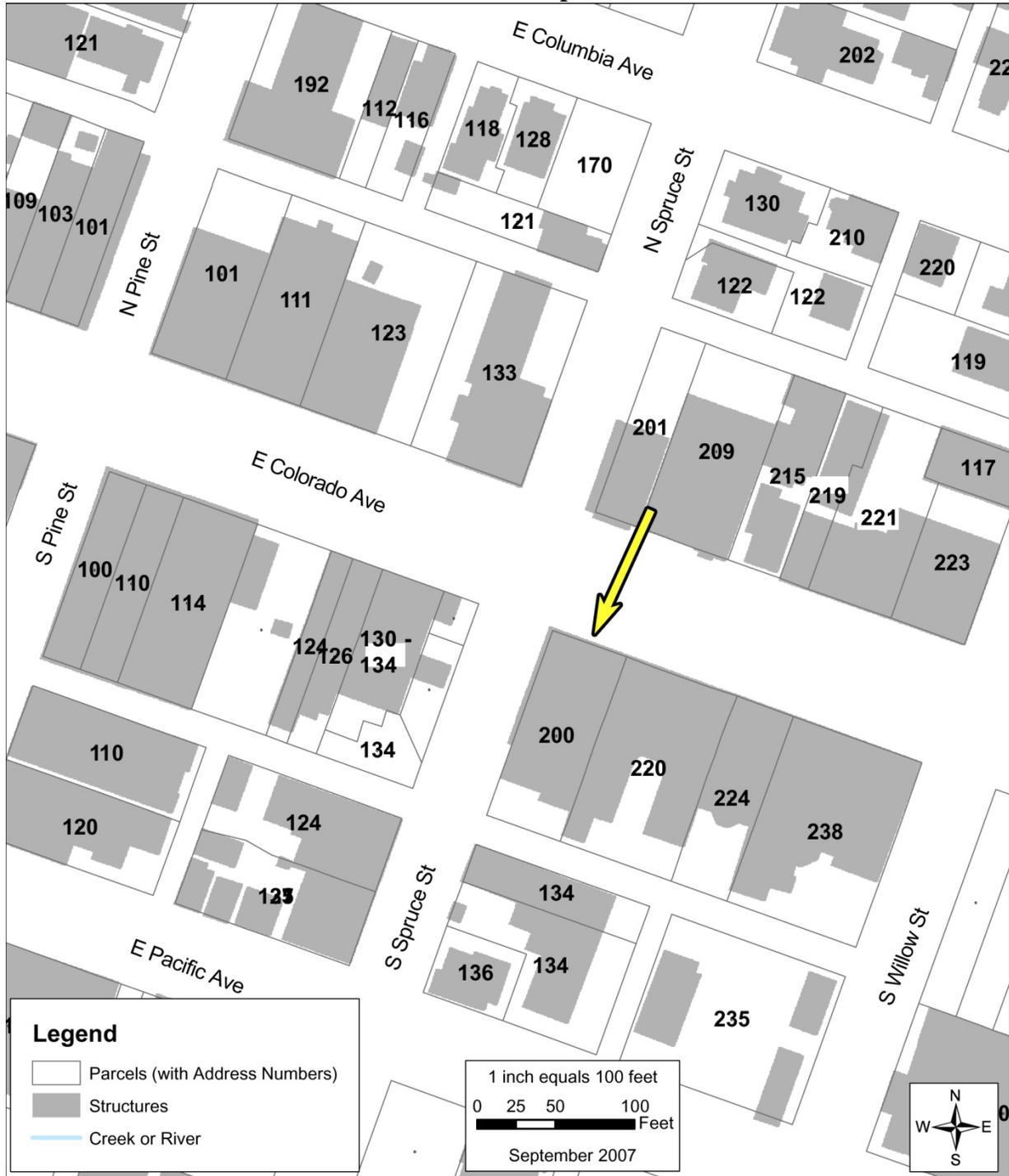
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## VIII. RECORDING INFORMATION

47. Photograph number(s):	<b>CD #3, Images 74-78</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 Dept.</b>
49. Date(s):	<b>06/30/07; revised 4/10/2012</b>		<b>113 West Columbia Avenue</b>
50. Recorder(s):	<b>Carl McWilliams</b> <b>Timothy Wilder</b>		<b>Telluride, CO 81435</b>
51. Organization:	<b>Cultural Resource Historians</b>		
52. Address:	<b>Dogwood Court</b> <b>Fort Collins, CO 80525</b>		
53. Phone number(s):	<b>(970) 493-5270</b>		

# Architectural Inventory Form

## Sketch Map



# Architectural Inventory Form

## Location Map

