

COLORADO CULTURAL RESOURCE SURVEY

Architectural Inventory Form

Official Eligibility Determination
(OAHHP use only)

OAHHP1403
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.1587**
- 2. Temporary resource number: **N/A**
- 3. County: **San Miguel**
- 4. City: **Telluride**
- 5. Historic Building Name: **Shoemaker House**
- 6. Current Building Name: **Stevens House**
- 7. Building Address: **537 W. Colorado Avenue**
- 8. Owner Name and Address: **John & Dorothy Stevens
P. O. Box 307
Telluride, CO 81435-0307**

Parcel number(s):

456536315028



THLD RATING:

**Primary - Contributing to District
Garage – Non-Designated – New Constructiton**

Architectural Inventory Form

Page 2 of 8

II. GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

9. P.M.: **New Mexico** Township: **43N** Range: **9W**
NE ¼ of SW ¼ of SE ¼ of SW ¼ of Section 036
10. UTM reference (Datum: NAD27)
 Zone: **13** **252548 mE** **4202569 mN**
11. USGS quad name: **Telluride, Colorado**
 Year: **1955** Map scale: **7.5'**
12. Lot(s): **Lots 8-10, Block 9**
 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: 30 feet x Width: 17 feet**
16. Number of stories: **2**
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**
Fence
Ornamentation/Decorative Shingles
21. General architectural description:
This is a late nineteenth century, 2.5-story, wood frame dwelling. The main, rectangular-shaped, two-story portion of the house measures 26.5' N-S (deep) by 17' E-W (across). Not included in these dimensions is a 4' by 10' enclosed, shed-roofed, rear porch at the west end of the north elevation. The dwelling's exterior walls are clad with painted cream yellow horizontal weatherboard siding with painted pale green 1" by 4" corner boards. Painted pale green variegated wood shingles appear in the upper gable ends. The front gable roof is steeply-pitched, and is covered with metal roofing material. The eaves are boxed with painted pale green wood trim. The house's asymmetrical façade faces toward Colorado Avenue on the south elevation. Five wooden steps lead to an open wood porch which comprises the east end of the façade. This porch features a tongue-in-groove wood floor, an open wood railing, turned columns, and a low-pitched hip roof. The porch roof extends to also cover a rectangular bay, with four 1/1 double-hung sash windows, which is located to the west of the porch. A wood-paneled door, with a transom light, and covered by a wood storm door, leads from the porch into the house. The home's windows are predominantly single and paired 1/1 double-hung sash, with painted pale green wood frames and surrounds.
22. Architectural style: **Late Victorian**
 Building type:

Architectural Inventory Form

Page 3 of 8

23. Landscape or special setting features:

This property is located on the north side of Colorado Avenue, in the block between Townsend and Davis Streets, near the West end of the Telluride National Historic Landmark District. A notable, historic, wrought iron fence parallels the front sidewalk. This property features a wide, nicely-landscaped, side yard to the east of the house, where another dwelling was once located.

24. Associated buildings, features or objects:

Garage
<p>A non-historic wood frame garage, which measures 20' by 20.5', is built into a slope near the rear of the property. This building has a concrete block foundation, a concrete floor, stained brown board-and-batten exterior walls, and a gable roof. A painted brown wood-paneled door, with one upper sash light, enters the east end of the south elevation from an elevated wood porch. The roof is covered with corrugated metal roofing material laid over plywood decking and 2x wood rafters. A painted brown wood-paneled roll-away garage door opens toward the alley on the south elevation.</p>

IV. ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY

25. Date of construction: Estimate: **1896** Actual:
- Source of information: **Sanborn Insurance maps, February 1893 and December 1899; San Miguel County Assessor records.**
26. Architect: **Unknown**
- Source of information: **N/A**
27. Builder: **Unknown**
- Source of information: **N/A**
28. Original owner: **George Shoemaker (probably)**
- Source of information: **Telluride *Daily Journal*, October 12, 1897, p. 4.**
29. Construction history:
- San Miguel County Assessor records list 1899 as this house's year of construction. Sanborn Insurance maps, meanwhile, indicate that it was built sometime between February 1893 and December 1899. Telluride *Daily Journal* newspaper articles from the late 1890s suggest that this dwelling may predate October 1897. The enclosed, shed-roofed, rear porch, and a small shed-roofed extension at the north end of the east elevation, are apparently both modest additions to the regular building.**
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**

Architectural Inventory Form

Page 4 of 8

35. Historical background:

A Telluride *Daily Journal* article published on October 12, 1897 indicates that this house was originally occupied by Mr. and Mrs. George Shoemaker. On that date, the *Journal* reported:

Geo. Shoemaker has let the contract for the erection of a brick residence 22x42 feet to J.M. Ruggles, and work will be begun on the building at once. It will be built on the vacant lot adjoining Mr. Shoemaker's present residence on Colorado Avenue.

The new brick dwelling built for the Shoemakers by contractor Ruggles is located next door to this property at 541 W. Colorado Avenue (5SM.1586). This dwelling, thus, was apparently the Shoemaker's earlier residence.

George Shoemaker was a well-known mine owner and Telluride businessman during the 1890s and early 1900s. He held a one-third interest in the Shoemaker Mine near Ophir in the late 1890s, but was perhaps best known as proprietor of the Cosmopolitan Saloon, and later the Hub Buffet. Located at 109 E. Colorado Avenue, the Cosmopolitan was among the town's most popular drinking and gambling establishments for many years. The Telluride *Daily Journal* carried advertisements for the business on a routine basis, under the heading "The Cosmopolitan, A Thoroughly First Class Saloon, George Shoemaker, Prop." By 1898, W.R. Selby had joined Shoemaker as co-owner of the Cosmopolitan. The Shoemakers left Telluride for Chicago in late 1899, with Mr. Shoemaker reportedly selling his mine interest to W.E. Wheeler of the Bank of Telluride and to J.A. Clark of Denver. Conflicting articles in the Telluride *Daily Journal* variously report that he sold his saloon and restaurant interests to William Selby, Frank Maumey, and Joseph Piquard. By 1903, the Shoemakers had returned to Telluride, with Mr. Shoemaker founding a new business, The Hub Buffet." The following advertisement then routinely appeared in the Telluride *Daily Journal*:

A Pleasant and Popular Resort in the Sheridan block
The Hub Buffet
George Shoemaker, Proprietor
Carries a full stock of Wines, Liquors and Cigars of Domestic and Imported Brands and
Superior Grades.

Information regarding other early owners of this property has not been uncovered.

Architectural Inventory Form

Page 5 of 8

36. Sources of information:

Buys, Christian J. *Historic Telluride in Rare Photographs*. Ouray: Western Reflections, Inc., 1998, pp. 106, 149, 150.

Colorado Business Directory listings for Telluride, 1881-1950.

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

[Cosmopolitan Saloon advertisement] Telluride *Daily Journal*, May 28, 1896, p. 3

"Geo. Shoemaker has let the contract..." Telluride *Daily Journal*, October 12, 1897, p. 4.

"George Shoemaker Quits Telluride." Telluride *Daily Journal*, February 3, 1899, p. 1.

"Mrs. George Shoemaker..." Telluride *Daily Journal*, October 23, 1899.

"George Shoemaker Sells Out." Telluride *Daily Journal*, December 16, 1899, p. 2.

"Mrs. George Shoemaker..." Telluride *Daily Journal*, August 14, 1903, p. 3.

"Mr. and Mrs. George Shoemaker are again domiciled in their brick residence..." Telluride *Daily Journal*, September 21, 1903, p. 3.

[The Hub Buffet advertisement] Telluride *Daily Journal*, April 3, 1905, p. 3

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.

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

Architectural Inventory Form

Page 6 of 8

39. Area(s) of significance: **Architecture, Ethnic Heritage/European, Industry, Settlement**
40. Period of significance: **1878-1913**
41. Level of significance: National: State: Local:

42. Statement of significance:

This house is architecturally significant as a good representative two-story, vernacular, front gabled dwelling dating from the late Victorian era. The property is also historically significant for its association with Telluride's residential growth beginning in the late 1890s, and for its early association with the George Shoemaker family which made notable contributions to broad patterns of Telluride's history. The primary residence may be considered a contributing resource within the Telluride National Historic Landmark District. The Garage is non-designated.

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. Small shed-roofed additions to the north (rear) and east elevations are compatible with the house's original construction. There have been no other notable adverse alterations to the original dwelling. The construction of a modern garage at the rear of the property detracts somewhat from the integrity of setting.

VII. NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT

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

VIII. RECORDING INFORMATION

47. Photograph number(s): **CD #5, Images 172-177** CDs filed at: **Town of Telluride**
48. Report title: **Town of Telluride Re-Survey of Historic Structures** **Planning and Building**
Department
49. Date(s): **04/11/2007; revised 4/10/2012** **113 West Columbia Avenue**
50. Recorder(s): **Carl McWilliams** **Telluride, CO 81435**
Timothy Wilder
51. Organization: **Cultural Resource Historians**
52. Address: **Dogwood Court**
Fort Collins, CO 80525
53. Phone number(s): **(970) 493-5270**

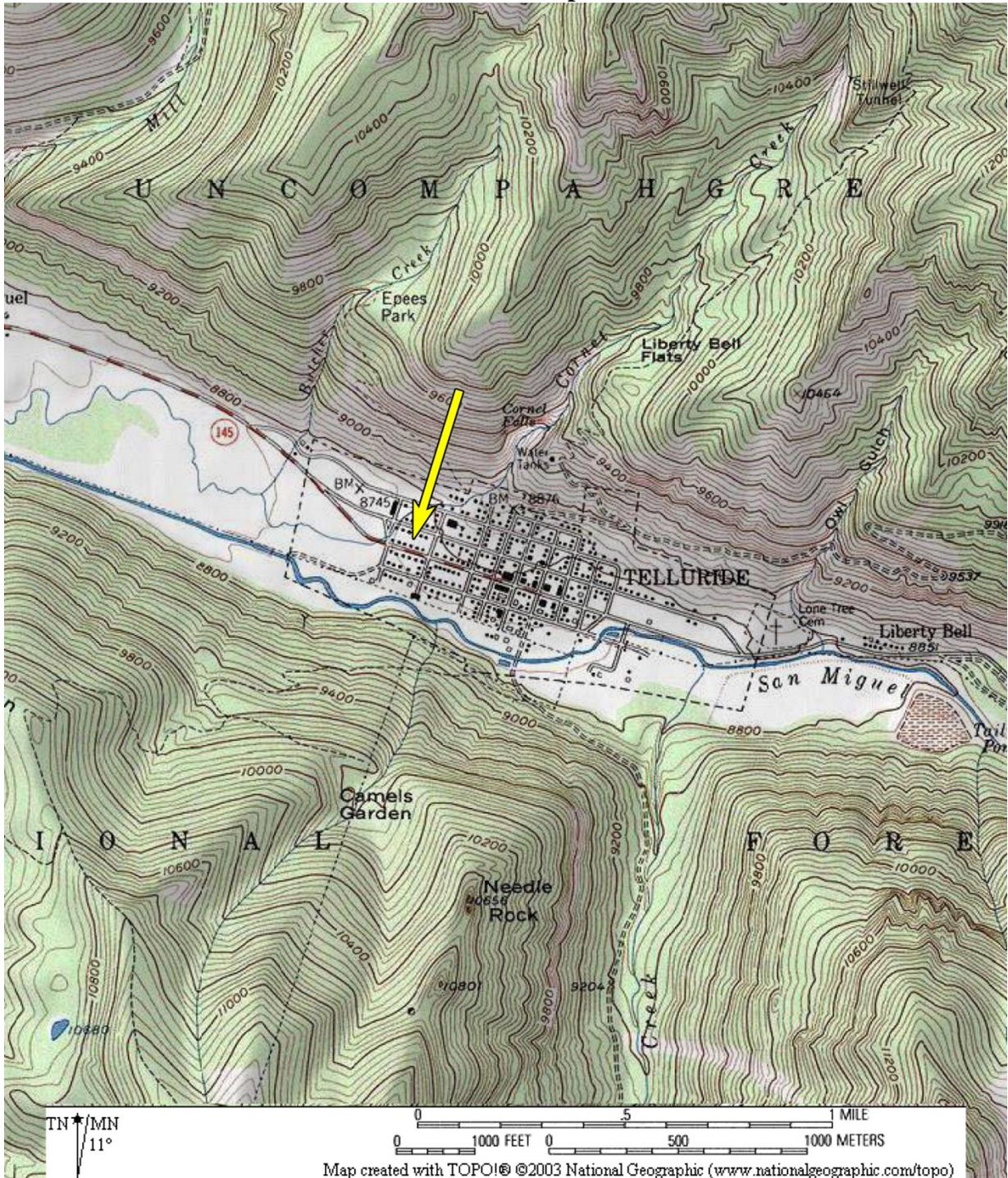
Architectural Inventory Form

Sketch Map



Architectural Inventory Form

Location Map



Map created with TOPO!® ©2003 National Geographic (www.nationalgeographic.com/topo)