

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.1734/THAS.14**
- 2. Temporary resource number: **N/A**
- 3. County: **San Miguel**
- 4. City: **Telluride**
- 5. Historic Building Name: **Spencer House**
- 6. Current Building Name: **Arguelles House**
- 7. Building Address: **505 W. Columbia Avenue**
- 8. Owner Name and Address: **Charles A. and Jackie W. Arguelles
P. O. Box 848, Telluride, CO 814350848**

Parcel number(s):	456536312018



THLD RATING:	Primary - Supporting to District Secondary Residence - Supporting to District
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II. GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

9. P.M.: **New Mexico** Township: **43N** Range: **9W**
NW ¼ of SE ¼ of SE ¼ of SW ¼ of Section 036
10. UTM reference (Datum: NAD27)
 Zone: **13** **252642 mE** **4202634 mN**
11. USGS quad name: **Telluride, Colorado**
 Year: **1955** Map scale: **7.5'**
12. Lot(s): **Lot 1, Block 10**
 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: **2417 square feet**
16. Number of stories: **1½**
17. Primary external wall material(s): **Wood / Horizontal Siding**
18. Roof configuration: **Hipped Roof**
19. Primary external roof material: **Metal Roof**
20. Special features: **Porch, Chimney, Dormer, Glass Block, Balcony, Fence**
21. General architectural description:
This 1½-story dwelling is supported by a poured concrete foundation which is covered by corrugated metal skirting above grade. There is a non-historic basement level, and the foundation wall above grade is penetrated by glass block windows. The home's exterior walls are clad with painted beige horizontal wood siding with painted white 1" by 4" corner boards. The roof is hipped with an intersecting front gable, and is covered with metal roofing material. The eaves are boxed, a corbelled red brick chimney is on the ridge, and a non-historic gabled dormer is on the east-facing roof slope. The house's symmetrical facade faces Columbia Avenue on the south elevation. A stained brown wood-paneled front door, with one upper sash light and a transom light, enters the center of the facade from a full-width front porch. The porch is approached by nine steps and features a wood plank floor, a painted white open wood railing, painted white chamfered wood posts, and a low-pitched hipped roof with an intersecting gable over the entry stairs. A boxed bay, with four single-light fixed-pane windows, projects onto the front porch west of the front door. A 1/1 double-hung sash window overlooks the front porch east of the front door. The intersecting gable which overlooks the front porch is penetrated by a single light window and is clad with diamond-shaped wood shingles. A band of three small single-light windows are located on the east elevation. Other windows are predominantly single and paired 1/1 double-hung sash with painted white wood frames and surrounds. A 2002 rear addition to the original house rests on a poured concrete foundation, and features painted beige board-and-batten exterior walls. The addition is covered by a gabled roof with corrugated metal roofing material and with painted red and white boxed eaves. A glass-in-wood-frame atrium door opens from the addition's upper half story onto a wood balcony on the north elevation. A wood door enters the addition's ground floor level from a wood stoop also on the north elevation.

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22. Architectural style: **Late Victorian**
 Building type:

23. Landscape or special setting features:
This well-maintained property is located on the north side of Columbia Avenue, the second house west of Townsend Street. A small front yard is nicely landscaped with native plants and flowers. A wrought iron fence with cannonball finials parallels the front sidewalk and the south end of the east property line. A narrow strip is planted with wildflowers, between the front sidewalk and the curb along Columbia Avenue.

24. Associated buildings, features or objects:

Secondary Residence (THAS #14)

A secondary residence (THAS #14) is located near the rear of the property. This building measures approximately 14' by 16', and it has stained brown horizontal wood plank walls with painted peach color 1" by 4" corner boards. The roof is a steeply-pitched front gable, with rusted corrugated metal roofing material and boxed eaves. An unpainted wood-paneled door enters the south end of the west elevation. Windows penetrate the west, north and south elevations.

IV. ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY

25. Date of construction: Estimate: Actual: **1897**
 Source of information: **Telluride *Daily Journal*, March 19, 1897, p. 8; Sanborn Insurance maps; San Miguel County Assessor files**

26. Architect: Original: **Unknown**
 2003 Addition: **Architects Collaborative**
 Source of information: Original: **N/A**
 2003 Addition: **Town of Telluride Building Permit #s 2002163, 2002115**

27. Builder: Original: **Unknown**
 2003 Addition: **Chuck and Jackie Arguelles (property owners)**
 Source of information: Original: **Unknown**
 2003 Addition: **Town of Telluride Building Permit #s 2002163, 2002115**

28. Original owner: **Isaac C. Spencer**
 Source of information: **Telluride *Daily Journal*, March 19, 1897, p. 8**

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29. Construction history:

This house was built in 1897 as a residence for the family of Isaac and Anna Spencer. Mr. Spencer had the house built during a four month period while his wife and children were visiting family in Iowa, as reported by the *Telluride Daily Journal* on March 19, 1897:

Mrs. I. C. Spencer and children returned home on last evening's train after an absence of about four months visiting friends and relatives in Iowa. She was met at the depot by Mr. Spencer who escorted her to his new residence on Columbia avenue next to Mr. Weller's brick dwelling, instead of their old home on the side of the mountain. It was a great surprise to Mrs. Spencer as the building had been constructed and handsomely furnished while she was away visiting her people.

An addition to the house's north (rear) elevation and other modifications were constructed in 2002-2003 from plans prepared by Architects Collaborative / Ken Alex. As listed on two building permits, the scope of work entailed: "Remodel historic structure. Lift house, add full basement. Rebuild front porch and repair exterior...Add / finish new bedroom, bathroom. Reconstruct 2nd floor and roof per engineering plans."

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 Residence**

35. Historical background:

This house was built in 1897 as a residence for the family of Isaac C. and Anna C. Spencer. Isaac Spencer was born in Ohio, in August 1857, while Anna Spencer (maiden name unknown) was born in Iowa in December 1869. They were married in 1888, and lived in Kansas before moving to Telluride during the early 1890s. By 1900, Mrs. Spencer had given birth to two daughters and three sons: Luella (born 1889), Clifford (born 1895), Rex (born 1898) and Vernon (born 1899). Another daughter, named Elizabeth Irene, would be born in 1903. Mr. Spencer had a paint shop and worked as a wall paper hanger and painter in Telluride. By 1910 the Spencer family had moved to Cody, Wyoming, where Mr. Spencer continued to work as a painter. The 1920 U.S. census records Mr. and Mrs. Spencer, along with daughter Elizabeth and son Clifford, as residents of the Shoshone National Forest Precinct in Park County, Wyoming. Interestingly, that year's census lists Isaac's occupation as "Tourist Guide Shoshone National Forest" and it lists Clifford's occupation as "Forest Ranger U. S. F. S." Members of the Spencer family were not found in the 1930 federal census, nor were obituaries for them found in online sources. Biographical information about other families and individuals who lived here during the 1900s has not been uncovered. Diane Adelson owned this property in the 1980s.

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36. Sources of information:

“San Miguel County Assessor Data Site.” <http://sanmiguel.valuwest.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

Town of Telluride Building Department building permit files.

U. S. Census Records.

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: **Circa 1897**

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 the late 1890s. The house is also architecturally significant for its Late Victorian era characteristics and details. These include a boxed bay window, chamfered wood porch supports, a corbelled red brick chimney, and narrow double-hung sash windows. With a modest loss of integrity, both the primary

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residence and the secondary residence rate as "supporting" resources within the Telluride National Historic Landmark District.

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. A 2002-2003 rear addition and a new basement level are well executed. The addition is compatible with and subservient to the original construction. It is not visible from the street, and its roof line does not project above the original roof line. The property's secondary building also displays reasonably high integrity. A sense of time and place remains intact, relative to how this building appeared during the late nineteenth century and 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 / 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 #7, Images 149-151 | CDs filed at: | Town of Telluride |
| 48. Report title: | Town of Telluride Re-Survey of Historic Structures | | Planning and Building
Department |
| 49. Date(s): | August 5, 2011 | | 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



Architectural Inventory Form

Location Map

