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NPS Form 10-900
(Rev. 8/86)
NPS/WHS Word Processor Format
(Approved 03/88)
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

OMB No. 1024-0018

JUN 28 1989

NATIONAL REGISTER

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries. Use letter quality printers in 12 pitch. Use only 25% or greater cotton content bond paper.

1. Name of Property

historic name: Marble High School

other names/site number: N/A

2. Location

street & number: 412 Main Street

not for publication

city, town: Marble

vicinity

state: Colorado

code: CO

county: Gunnison

code: 051

zip code: 81623

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	No. of Resources within Property	
		contributing	noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)		
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	<u>2</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> objects
		<u>2</u>	<u>0</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing:

No. of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

Historic Resources of Marble, Colorado, and Vicinity

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this X nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property X meets does not meet the National Register criteria.
 See continuation sheet.

Barbara Sudler

6-15-89

Signature of certifying official
State Historic Preservation Officer

Date

State or Federal agency or bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register
 See continuation sheet

 determined eligible for the National Register. See continuation sheet

 determined not eligible for the National Register.

 removed from the National Register
 other, (explain:)

Entered in the
National Register

Helmer Byers

8/3/89

Signature of the Keeper

Date

6. Functions or Use

Historic Functions
(enter categories from instructions)
EDUCATION/school

Current Functions
(enter categories from instructions)
RECREATION AND CULTURE/museum

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(enter categories from instructions)

BUNGALOW/CRAFTSMAN

Materials
(enter categories from instructions)

foundations: STONE/marble

walls: WOOD/weatherboard

roof: METAL

other: _____

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The Marble High School was built in 1910 in response to the population boom enjoyed by the town of Marble, Colorado, after the founding of the Colorado-Yule Marble Company in 1905. The building is included in the "Historic Resources of Marble, Colorado, and Vicinity" multiple property listing under the historic context of "Settlement and Development of the Town of Marble, Colorado, 1881-1917." Because the Marble High School was (1) constructed as a school within the 1881-1917 period of significance, and (2) reflects its original design, workmanship, materials, and setting, it meets the registration requirements of the "Schools" property type. Despite the preponderance of marble in the area, the Marble High School is the only surviving building in town which utilizes marble in its construction. The building is now owned by the Marble Historical Society which uses it as an historical museum.

A "pattern-book" school similar to others of that era, the Marble High School exhibits Craftsman-style influences, which can be seen in the form of its overhanging eaves, "elephantine" marble porch piers, and nine-over-one windows. An elementary school of similar construction was originally located across the street, but has been razed. The Marble High School is a symmetrically-arranged, two-story, side-gabled, wood frame building with a raised marble foundation and a marble porch. The building has shiplap siding and is painted white with green trim, the colors of the Colorado-Yule Marble Company, which donated the original paint for the school. The building footprint is U-shaped; the inset bay at the rear of the building leads to an entrance to the furnace room.

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The center entry porch has a front-gabled roof supported by large porch piers of regularly-coursed, rough-faced marble. Carved wooden brackets on each side of the top of the porch piers support the overhanging eaves of the porch roof. The foundation level of the building is constructed of similar laid stone. On top of the porch roof is a small, cupola-like bell tower. The front gable end of the porch has half-timbering, as does the center, front-gabled, wall dormer. The entry bay is flanked by pairs of nine-over-one windows with simple wooden surrounds. A four-pane, casement-style window is located above each pair of double-hung windows on the facade. Two similar casement-style windows are also located in the front wall dormer, which holds an attic. The space under the raised front porch holds a coal bin. The basement level windows are two-over-two, with marble sills and lintels.

The exterior of the building has retained most of its historic integrity and, based on historic photographs, has changed little from the time of its construction. The most significant remodeling has been the recent addition of a green corrugated metal roof. The building's bell tower has been replaced, and the front porch steps were recently rebuilt. The fire escape on the eastern elevation is not original, but has been on the building for at least twenty years. Some of the basement windows have been boarded.

Also located on the property is a privy which is associated with the Marble High School. The school originally had two such buildings, one for the boys, one for the girls. Only the boy's privy is still standing. Located behind the high school, the privy is a small side-gabled building with shiplap siding which is contributing.

The building interior has retained a high degree of historic integrity, and still has many of its original furnishings and school memorabilia. The simply designed and furnished rooms have wood plank flooring, plaster ceilings and walls, plain wood trim, and tongue-and-groove wainscot. The wainscot has been restored to its original blue color. The double-door, first-floor entrance opens into a large central hallway. On the left is a large classroom, which was also used as an auditorium. On the right, is the principal's office and library. South of the principal's office is a small classroom. The second floor also contains a large classroom on the east, and a smaller classroom on the west. The large central hallways of both the first and second floors were often also used as classrooms. A coal furnace and additional classroom space are located in the basement level. The interior of the building has changed little over time, although some of the rooms have sustained water damage.

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Marble High School

The Marble High School is located on the northern end of town. The facade is oriented toward the north, and originally faced the elementary school. Typical of most lots within the town, the Marble High School site is heavily forested with native pine and aspen trees. The museum is only operated during the summer months and is closed during the winter.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties: ___ nationally ___ statewide X locally

Applicable National Register Criteria X A ___ B X C ___ D
Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) ___ A ___ B ___ C ___ D ___ E ___ F ___ G

Areas of Significance

(enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

Period of Significance

Significant Dates

1910

1910-1917

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

Marble School District

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

The Marble High School was built in 1910, in response to the population influx in Marble, Colorado, during the peak years of the local marble industry, 1905-1917. The Marble High School is included in the "Historic Resources of Marble, Colorado, and Vicinity" multiple property listing and meets the requirements of the "Schools" property type. Because the Marble High School is associated with the history and community development of the town of Marble during its peak years of growth, it is eligible to the National Register of Historic Places under criterion A. Because it represents early twentieth century, institutional architecture in the mining communities of western Colorado, the Marble High School is also eligible to the National Register under criterion C. The Marble high school is also significant because it is the only surviving school building in the town of Marble. The building is now owned and operated by the Marble Historical Society and is used as an historical museum.

The first school in Marble was constructed in the early 1890s, and was located across the street from the Marble High School, on a site now occupied by the Marble Town Hall. Like the schools of many other Colorado mining towns, Marble's first school had a short school term. To avoid bad weather and minimize the costs of operation, school started in April and ended in October or November. As the area developed, however, the short term grew increasingly unpopular, and some families began moving out every winter to enable their children to schools with nine-month terms. Marble's short term was eventually

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replaced with a standard term.¹

Marble's first school was torn down in 1908, and a new, much larger, elementary school was constructed on the same site. The Marble elementary school was built in response to the population boom which followed the incorporation of the Colorado Yule-Marble Company in 1905, and the arrival of the Crystal River and San Juan Railroad in 1906. In 1910, the Marble High School was constructed directly across the street from the elementary school.

The Marble schools were a center of community activities. Many of the students were Italian immigrants. Although regular classes were always in English, "Professor" A. R. Ambrosini taught additional classes in the English and Italian. Although not part of the public school system, these classes were often taught in the high school. In addition to the language classes, Ambrosini taught vocational classes relating to the marble industry: mechanical drawing, design, and the rudiments of architecture and sculpture.²

The history of the Marble schools reflected the economy of the town. At the height of the population boom, the schools held two sessions a day. As the marble industry declined in 1917, the population and school base dwindled. With the closing of the Colorado-Yule Marble Company and the threatened closure of the railroad in 1917, many residents left town. Due to the small number of students, the high school was, by the 1920s, used for both the elementary and high school grades. The elementary school was used as a gymnasium. During the 1930s and 1940s, the school averaged less than thirty-five students.

The Marble High School was closed during the 1941-1942 school year. The elementary school was torn down c. 1943. After that time, the town's few remaining students attended classes in the converted Colorado-Yule Marble Company cottage which now serves as the town hall. Marble's last school classes were held in 1950.³

¹Duane Vandebusch and Rex Myers, Marble, Colorado: City of Stone (Denver: Golden Bell Press, 1970), 34.

²Oscar McCollum, Glenwood Springs, Colorado, personal interview September, 1988, and telephone interviews, March, 1989.

³Ibid.

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Marble High School

The Marble High School is the town's largest building, and the only structure which utilizes marble in its construction. All of the other historic buildings in town which were built with marble were either destroyed by fire or flood or torn down. The Marble High School is also architecturally significant because it represents early twentieth century, institutional building construction in Colorado. A "pattern-book" school similar to others of that era, the Marble High School exhibits Craftsman-style influences, which can be seen in the form of its overhanging eaves, "elephantine" marble porch piers, and nine-over-one windows. Like all of the town's public buildings, the Marble High School is painted white and green, the colors of the Colorado-Yule Marble Company.

9. Major Bibliographical References

McCollum, Oscar. Glenwood Springs, Colorado. Interviews, October, 1988, and March, 1989.

Vandenbusche, Duane and Rex Myers. Marble, Colorado: City of Stone. Denver: Golden Bell Press, 1970.

Previous documentation on file (NPS): See continuation sheet

preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested

previously listed in the National Register

previously determined eligible by the National Register

designated a National Historic Landmark

recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____

recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary location of additional data:
 State Historic Preservation Office
 Other State agency
 Federal agency
 Local government
 University
 Other

Specify Repository:

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property Less than 1 acre.

UTM References

A 1/3 3/1/0/3/6/0 4/3/2/6/8/0/0 B / / / / / / / / /
Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The Marble High School is located on lots 6-10, block 26, Town of Marble.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The boundaries encompass all of the land historically associated with the Marble High School.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Christine Whitacre and R. Laurie Simmons

organization: Front Range Research Associates, Inc. date: March, 1989

street & number: 3635 W. 46th Avenue telephone: (303) 477-7597

city or town: Denver state: CO zip code: 80211

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Section number photographs Page 1 Marble High School

Property: Marble High School
412 Main Street
Marble, Colorado 81623

Photographer: Roger Whitacre

Date: October, 1988

Negative Location: Colorado Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation
1300 Broadway
Denver, Colorado 80203

<u>Photo Number</u>	<u>View</u>
1	Marble High School (exterior) Camera Orientation: southeast
2	Marble High School (facade) Camera Orientation: south
3	Marble High School, large classroom on first floor, east side Camera Orientation: south
4	Marble High School, small classroom on second floor, west side