

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received MAY 16 1983

date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name 5PE617

historic Mechanics Building/Masonic Building

and/or common American Furniture Building

2. Location

street & number 207-211 North Main Street n/a not for publication

city, town Pueblo n/a vicinity of

state Colorado code 08 county Pueblo code 101

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial <input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational <input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	n/a in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government <input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	n/a being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial <input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military <input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Tilly Winer

street & number 604 N. Sierra Drive

city, town Beverly Hills n/a vicinity of state California

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Pueblo County Courthouse

street & number 10th & Main Streets

city, town Pueblo state Colorado

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Colorado Inventory of Historic Sites has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date Ongoing  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records Colorado Historical Society, 1300 Broadway

city, town Denver state Colorado 80203

## 7. Description

**Condition**

excellent     deteriorated  
 good     ruins  
 fair     unexposed

**Check one**

unaltered  
 altered

**Check one**

original site  
 moved    date \_\_\_\_\_

**Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance**

The Masonic Building was constructed in 1890-1891 and is located in downtown Pueblo. It is a five-story Victorian commercial building of processed brick and tremail Fort Collins red sandstone. The building's most distinctive architectural feature is the centrally located copper oriel, two stories in height. Other dominant features include the row of arched windows and broken belt course along the fourth story, the decorative brickwork which highlights the fifth story, and the large stone-carved fan in the center section of the cornice.

The only major alteration is to the streetfront facade. The original storefront was divided by pillars, with clerestory windows above. At some time after 1900, this facade was replaced with molded circular glass windows, and the clerestory was covered with glass tile. The present owners have recently cleaned the front facade and replaced double hung windows with single pane windows.

The interior of the building also contains many original features, including pressed tin ceiling on all five stories. Of special note is the intact ballroom on the fifth floor. Extending around a large open room on three sides is a balcony, rounded at the corners and bowed in the middle of each side. It is decorated with ornate plaster work, and painted in pastel colors. The balcony still retains its original brass railing.

## 8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

**Specific dates** 1891 **Builder/Architect** Francis W. Cooper

**Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)**

The five-story Masonic Building is a significant commercial structure to the Pueblo skyline and is a landmark in the downtown. The central two-story copper oriel dominates the structure and is a unique architectural feature in Pueblo. The building was designed by Francis W. Cooper, a Pueblo architect who had a major role in the design of many of the downtown structures, including: the McCarthy Building, Elks Building, Henkel Building, the Pope Block, and the Amhurst Building.

The building was constructed in 1890-1891, and at that time the name block read the "Mechanics Building." In 1910, the structure was purchased by the Masonic Lodge and the name block was changed to the "Masonic Building." The building served as the Masonic meeting hall until 1946. In 1932, Sam Winer, who owned and operated the American Furniture Company on the street level, purchased the structure and retained ownership until 1957. The store, still in the same location, is now owned by members of the Winer family. Other tenants of the building have included the S. H. Kress Company and the Mechanics Savings Bank.

The architect of the building, Francis Cooper, grew up in New York and graduated from Cornell University in 1874. In 1881, after working in Ohio and Cheyenne, Wyoming, Cooper came to Pueblo, and in partnership with a New Jersey architect, Serena E. Todd, designed the M. D. Thatcher residence.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Insurance Maps of Pueblo, Colorado, Sanborn Map Company, 1983.  
Volume 2, Page 19.

Main Street File, Western Research Section, Pueblo Regional Library District.  
"One Hundred in Seventeen," Pueblo Masonic Lodge No.17, Historical Research Booklet, 1968

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property .13

Quadrangle name Northeast Pueblo Colorado

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

### UTM References

A 

1	3	5	3	4	2	7	0	4	2	3	5	5	5	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

B 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

C 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

D 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

E 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

F 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

G 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

H 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

### Verbal boundary description and justification

The north 60' of lots 14, 15, & 16 and Block 32 Pueblo, Colorado.

### List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	n/a	code	county	code

state	code	county	code

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Mildred C. Elkins, Controller

organization The American Furniture Company

date May 25, 1982

street & number 209 N. Main Street

telephone (303) 542-5975

city or town Pueblo

state Colorado

## 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national  state  local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

*B Barbara Sudler*

title State Historic Preservation Officer (Acting)

date 4/5/83

### For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register  
Entered in the  
National Register

date

6/16/83

*for* *Allores Byers*  
Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration