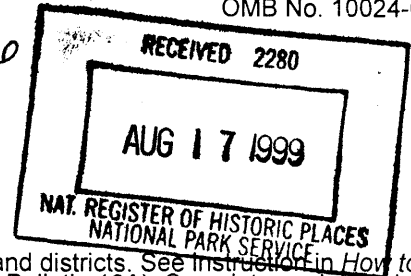


1146



National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determination for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Marble City State Bank Building

other names/site number 5GN2872

2. Location

street & number 105 W. Main Street [N/A] not for publication

city or town Marble [N/A] vicinity

state Colorado code CO county Gunnison code 051 zip code 81623-9041

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this 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 meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. ([] See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Sharon A. Canty State Historic Preservation Officer August 9, 1999
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State Historic Preservation Office, Colorado Historical Society
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria.
([] See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the 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
[] See continuation sheet.

Edson A. Beall Signature of the Keeper 9/17/99 Date of Action

Marble City State Bank Building

Gunnison County/Colorado

Name of Property

County/State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property

(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not count previously listed resources.)

Contributing

Noncontributing

| | | |
|---|---|------------|
| 1 | 0 | buildings |
| 0 | 0 | sites |
| 0 | 0 | structures |
| 0 | 0 | objects |
| 1 | 0 | Total |

Name of related multiple property listing.

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register.

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Function

(Enter categories from instructions)

Commerce/financial institution

Trade/specialty store

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Vacant/not in use

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

Late Victorian

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Stone

walls Wood

roof Metal

other _____

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Marble City State Bank Building

Gunnison County/Colorado

Name of Property

County/State

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- [x] A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
[] B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
[x] C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
[] D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- [] A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
[] B removed from its original location.
[] C a birthplace or grave.
[] D a cemetery.
[] E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
[] F a commemorative property.
[] G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- [] 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
#

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Commerce

Architecture

Periods of Significance

1909-1918

Significant Dates

1909

1912

Significant Person(s)

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above).

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

Primary location of additional data:

- [X] State Historic Preservation Office
[] Other State Agency
[] Federal Agency
[] Local Government
[] University
[x] Other

Name of repository:

Colorado Historical Society
Frontier Historical Museum

Marble City State Bank Building
Name of Property

Gunnison County/Colorado
County/State

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property less than one

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1. 13 310705 4326840
Zone Easting Northing

2. Zone Easting Northing

3. Zone Easting Northing

4. Zone Easting Northing

[] See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Bettie Lou Gilbert, Vice-President

(Edited by S. Doggett)

organization Marble Historical Society

date April 7, 1999

street & number 832 Serpentine Trail

telephone 970-704-0554

city or town Marble

state CO

zip code 81623-9041

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional Items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name Gunnison County

street & number 200 E. Virginia

telephone 970-641-0248

city or town Gunnison

state CO

zip code 81230

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Marble City State Bank Building
Gunnison County, Colorado

Section number 7 Page 1

DESCRIPTION

The circa 1909 Marble City State Bank Building is located approximately two blocks north of the Crystal River, on the north side of Main Street, just west of First Street. The narrow city lot slopes up from Main Street. Street surfaces within Marble are graveled, and the surrounding landscape consists of natural grasses with a backdrop of mature trees typical of the area. The building sits close to the south end of the lot. It is in its original location and is the only commercial structure remaining in what was originally the heart of the commercial district.

The building was designed to function as a two-part commercial block, with living quarters located above a first floor retail space. The building's overall condition is fair to good. The structural condition is excellent, most likely due to the strength of its stacked timber walls. In 1993, a community supported project, based on historic photographs, restored the south facade to its original appearance. The property exhibits a high degree of integrity in terms of design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

The small, two story building has an attic. Its rectangular plan measures 18 feet in width by 32 feet in depth. The foundation is rubble limestone with marble veneer. The steeply pitched, front gable roof is covered with metal sheathing that replaced the original wood shingles at an unknown date. A red brick chimney pierces the east slope of the roof.

The south, east, and west exterior walls are faced with the traditional rabbeted lap board siding used on similar historic buildings in and around Marble. At this time, these walls are painted white, and the wood framed windows, doors, and trim are painted green. Although, one would expect to find a balloon frame internal super structure, the main structural elements are large milled timbers stacked horizontally and tied together with lap joints at the corners. The timbers are approximately 6" x 6" and are most likely pinned with spikes on each course.

On the south facade, the original first floor storefront was compromised sometime in the 1940s after the property began to serve as a storage area for Gunnison County's department of roads and bridges. The original storefront was carefully restored in 1993. The first floor features a narrow, single central doorway that is topped with a glass filled lunette. The wood door is paneled below, with a single light and transom above. Flanking the doorway, there are large single light wood framed windows that are topped with glass filled lunettes. The second floor and attic double hung, wood window frames are original. There are two 2/2 windows on the second floor, and a 4/4 window is centered in the gable end.

Toward the rear of the west wall of the building there are two 2/2 double hung windows on the first floor and one 2/2 on the second floor. Centered on the east wall, there is a single wood paneled door. Near the front, at the second floor level, there is a wood sign, identifying the building as the Marble City State Bank.

On the north side, there is evidence of a structure, which was attached to the back of building. Although

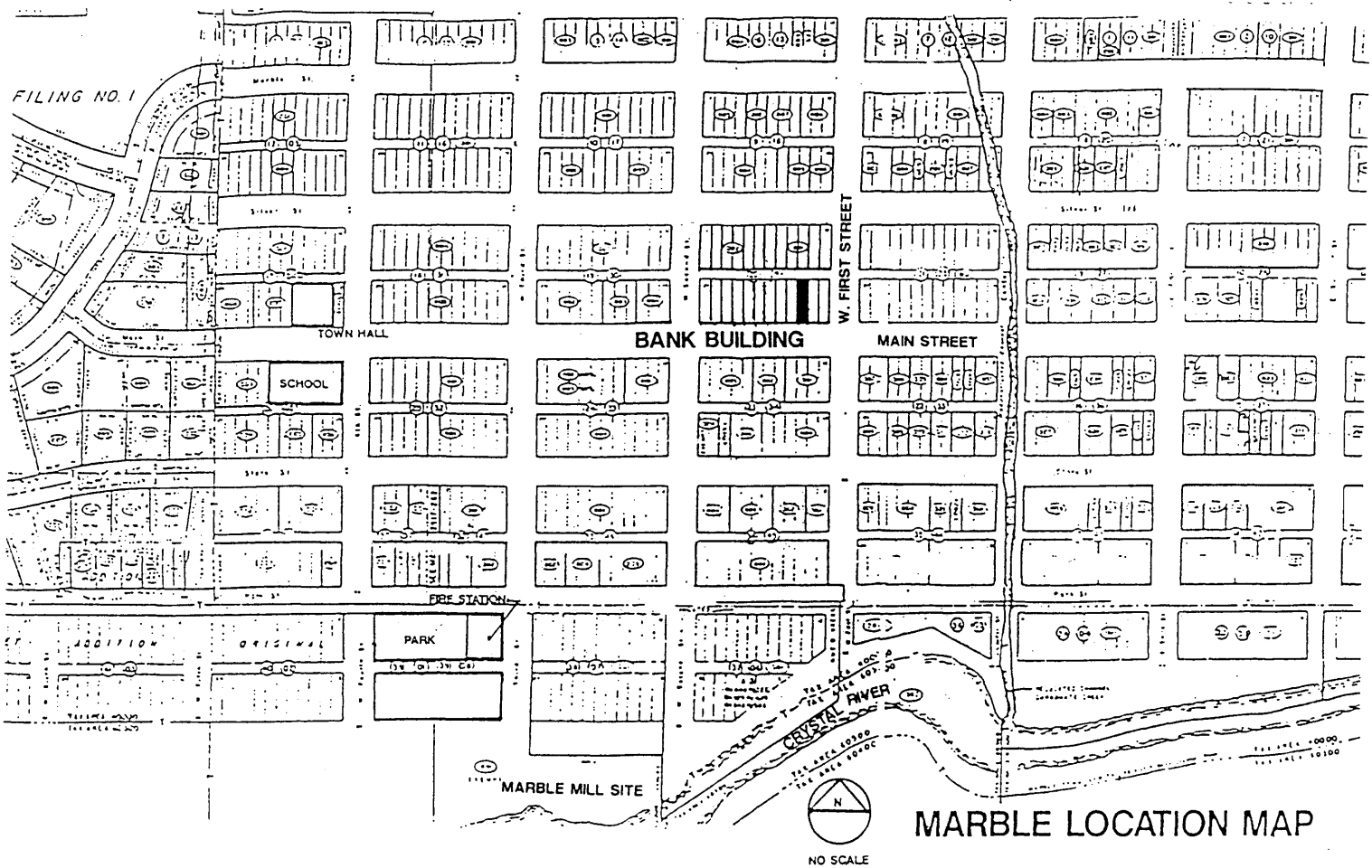
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 2

Marble City State Bank Building
Gunnison County, Colorado

the structure also appears on some early maps, the dates of its construction and subsequent removal are unknown. At this time, the north wall is faced with wood shingles and the interior plaster remaining from the no longer extant structure. A small section of the stack timber wall is exposed. An open wood stairway provides access to a wood paneled door, which opens into the second floor living quarters. Single window openings are found on the second floor level and in the gable end. At the first floor level, there is a doorway providing access to what appears to be a limited "root cellar" basement area.



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

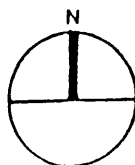
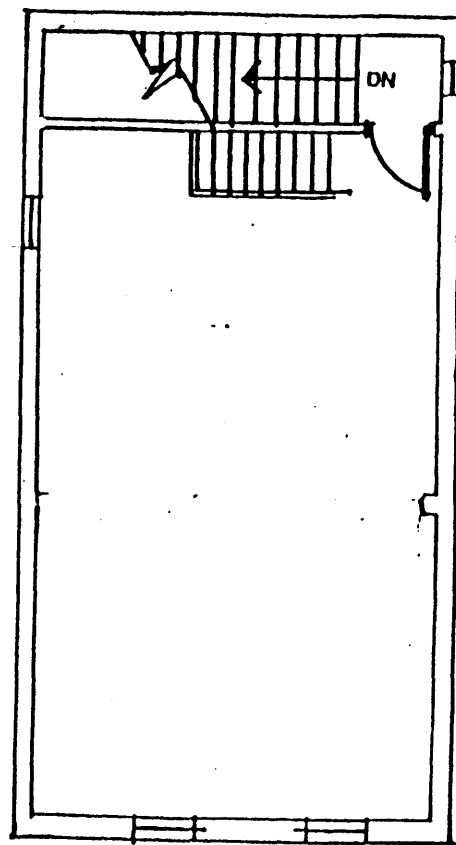
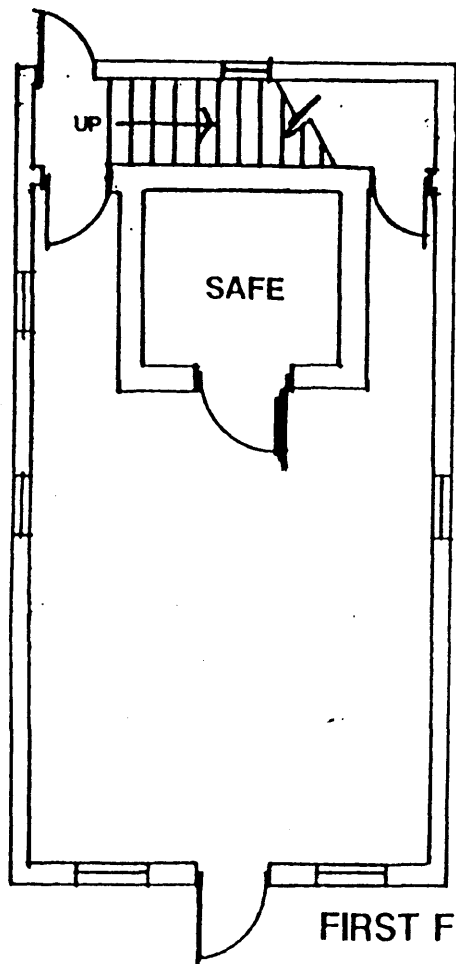
National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 3

Marble City State Bank Building
Gunnison County, Colorado

Interior

The lath and plaster interior walls are furred out with 2" x 4" native spruce. Floors are of wide wood boards. Toward the end of 1911, the first floor interior was remodeled for use as a bank by a local contractor, Charles Lebow. A considerable amount of marble was added for decoration. The cement vault was poured in place at that time, and the safe was transported from Cincinnati, Ohio. The vault is in excellent condition, as are the windows, plaster, and the second floor level. The interior retains much of its character, although the first floor is in need of some repair because of its subsequent use as county storage facility. The building has only been heated with wood burning stoves, and an original ornate stove remains on the first floor.



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 6/10 Page 4

Marble City State Bank Building
Gunnison County, Colorado

SIGNIFICANCE

The circa 1909 Marble City State Bank Building is significant under Criterion A for Commerce and Criterion C for Architecture. The building provides an important visual link to Marble's past. It is centrally located in an area of other historic structures and is an interesting and well-preserved monument to the skills and determination of Marble's early 20th century residents.

Criterion A – Commerce

In addition to being one of Marble's first commercial buildings, it is the only one surviving from the community's early 20th century period of economic and population growth that was associated with a high level of activity in the local quarrying and processing of Yule marble. The first floor retail space housed a millinery shop until the building was purchased by the Marble City State Bank in 1911. It then housed the Marble City State Bank from 1912 until the bank ceased operations in 1918.

The town of Marble was founded on mining, but it was the nearby discovery of the beautiful white Yule marble and the vision of Colonel Channing Meek that really started the economic engine. Meek took over the marble quarry in 1905, just after he arranged for financing to extend the railroad to Marble after recognizing the importance of transportation to enhancing the economic viability of the heavy white stone. In 1907, under Meek's leadership, the marble company installed what was reported to be the world's largest marble finishing mill. It was this foresight that began to make the town appear financially viable.

At the time of the building's construction, the town of Marble was just entering a period of economic boom, growing from an estimated population of 150 in 1908 to 700 in 1909. By 1911, the population had grown to approximately 1,000, and the town fathers decided that Marble needed a bank. A subsequent economic bust, coming as rapidly as the boom, resulted in the population falling from approximately 1,400 in 1917 to 100 in 1918.

Initially, Marble's infrastructure was financed from "back East" with bonds, but with 1,000 people residing in the town (and predictions of 15,000 to 20,000), citizens of Marble could see the financial promise of having their own bank. At a Businessman's Association meeting on July 20, 1911, a committee was appointed to ask the First National Bank of Carbondale to open a branch in Marble. A plan was presented to do this in August by W. M. Dinkel, President of the First National Bank of Carbondale. The building was purchased in September, stock was sold to local residents in November, the building's interior was remodeled during November and December, and the Marble City State Bank opened on January 2, 1912. The cashier, W.L.(Fate) Girdner, from Carbondale, planned to live above the Bank.

Perhaps a bad omen, one of the bank's deposit-generating activities in its first year of operations was to collect the memorial contributions for the economic scion of Marble, Col. Meek, who died jumping off

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 89 Page 5

Marble City State Bank Building
Gunnison County, Colorado

a run-away tram car in 1912. The predictions of continuing economic success proved to be unfounded, as World War I took away the underpinnings of the economy. A large number of the quarry laborers and the finishing mill's skilled workers were Austrian and Italian. When World War I started, they were called home to fight for their countries, leaving a labor shortage in Marble. After the United States entered the war, the Federal Government declared the marble industry non-essential to the war effort, and the quarry and the mill both closed. The bank struggled to stay open, selling war bonds and trying to encourage the remaining residents to hang on for a "turn-around" in the marble business. Although the bank operated successfully during the boom period, it did not have the capital base to withstand the subsequent large withdrawal of assets and residents, and it was forced to closed in 1918.

Criterion C - Architecture

This simple vernacular building includes lap siding, a steeply pitched front gabled roof, and symmetrical fenestration, all architectural elements found on many of the buildings constructed in this mountain community during its early 20th century boom period. Although the building exhibits a somewhat house-like form, it was constructed to function as a two-part commercial block, with retail space on the first floor and living quarters above. In addition, it is the only known building in Marble utilizing stacked timbers in the construction of its walls.

It is not known why this method of construction was chosen for the Marble City State Bank Building. The sturdy walls of the building may account for its ability to seemingly beat the odds and withstand major disasters, such as snow slides, floods, and a 1916 fire that destroyed many of the wood frame buildings on Main Street, including those right across the street. During the late 19th and early 20th centuries, this method of construction was often utilized as a means to strengthen the walls of large storage structures such as grain elevators, silos, and coal bins. Its use required access to large quantities of wood. In most cases, the method was referred to as cribbed or stack lumber construction.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Marble City State Bank Building
Gunnison County, Colorado

Section number 9 Page 6

Historical Background

The property on which the building is located was owned by Dr. E. W. Fuller, one of Marble's pioneers. He was born in Massachusetts in 1828 and came to Marble in the 1890s by way of Schofield and Crystal City. He was listed in the local business directory from 1894 to 1908 variously as a physician, druggist, postmaster, justice of the peace and notary public. He served as Mayor in 1905.

The first tenant, Mrs. Lou Bantock, operated a millinery store called "The Emporium" until 1911. She then moved her business to another building and continued in business until 1915. There is no known occupation of the building between 1920 and 1940. The property reverted to Gunnison County in 1925 at a tax sale.

In 1940, the county roads and bridges operation took over the building in order to "store the dozer" and to provide rather Spartan living quarters for the County Roads Manager, Wilford Parry. The building was occupied and maintained by Parry and later by John Darien, who died in the upstairs apartment. Upon his death, the County negotiated the exchange of the adjacent alley for giving up use of the building, which has been vacant for some time. County facilities continue to occupy the north end of the lot and extend to adjacent parcels.

In the early 1990s, community efforts led to the restoration of the building's facade. In the future, the community hopes to utilize the building as an information center and/or museum.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 7

Marble City State Bank Building
Gunnison County, Colorado

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**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 10 Page 8

Marble City State Bank Building
Gunnison County, Colorado

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary includes the south 40 ft. of Lot 15, Block 20, West Marble Townsite.

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes the parcel of land, now known as 105 W. Main Street, that is historically associated with the Marble City State Bank Building.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Marble City State Bank Building
Gunnison County, Colorado

Section number Additional Materials Page 9

PHOTOGRAPH LOG

The following information is the same for all photographs:

Name of property: Marble City State Bank Building
Location: 105 W. Main Street, Marble, Gunnison County, Colorado
Photographer: Patsy Wagner
Date of photographs: February 1999
Location of negatives: 832 Serpentine Trail, Marble, Colorado

| <u>Photo #</u> | <u>Description</u> |
|----------------|---|
| 1 | South facade from Main Street; camera facing north |
| 2 | Southwest corner of building; camera facing northeast |
| 3 | South and east sides from intersection of First & Main; camera facing northwest |
| 4 | East side; camera facing west |
| 5 | North side; camera facing south |
| 6 | Interior view of vault and original stove; camera facing north |
| 7 | Interior, facing door on Main Street; camera facing south |

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Marble City State Bank Building
Gunnison County,

Section number Additional Materials Page 10
Colorado

USGS MAP
Marble, CO

