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Form 10-300 (Rev. 6-72)

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2. LOCATION

3. CLASSIFICATION

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

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The Town of Crested Butte was incorporated in July of 1880. Of the 339 major structures within town, 85% of them date from the late 1800s to the early 1900s. All of the buildings

depict a poor-western-victorian style.

The business district on Elk Avenue represents the most dramatic concentrated, and intense presentation of the western style. Here soaring false fronts provide closure and security for the visitor, like the walls of a room. Decorative window and door surrounds and decorative boxed cornices present an interesting and changing texture for the eye.

Outside of the business district residential structures exhibit the western victorian style in a subtler yet equally significant fashion. Basically functional in shape, these structures are decorated with window and door surrounds, turned wooden posts, and filigree wood pendants.

Most town structures are related in building materials (predominantly wood drop siding with tin roofs), roof shape, texture, and a related rythmn of shapes.

The following are a few significant examples of the town buildings:

Heg's Place (the old Post Office building) was built (1)about 1900. The building is of one story and has a rectangular floor plan. It is a wood frame building with a drop siding exterior. Hidden behind the false front is a medium gable roof surfaced with galvanized steel (commonly called tin) sheets. The top of the false is trimed with a thin boxed cornice that resembles a shelf. The cornice is supported by four brackets. A double leaf three paneled door is centered in the front face of the building. Surrounding the entrance doorway to either side and above are large single paned fixed windows. The building shares a common roof and common double wall with "Dick Montrose Real Estate" . The building is painted white with black trim. It is heated by a coal burning pot-bellied stove. The building is in good condition structurally and in appearances.

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- The Wooden Nickel (Tony's Tavern) was built in 1929 by Martin Sprintzer and Pitsker Sporcich. It is a one story, two roomed building that has a rectangular shaped floor plan with the small side of the rectangle facing Main Street (Elk Avenue). This is a wood frame building with an exterior covering of wooden drop siding. Behind a partial false front is a high gable roof covered with galvanized steel. of the false front including the peak of the roof is trimed with a boxed cornice supported on five brackets. An entablature supported by four brackets is present at the top of the first floor. The main door is located in the center of the street facade. The door is a single leaf one panel door with a window. The door surround includes a stained glass transom panel. windows are present on either side of the entrance. There are tall flat double hung windows with a projecting shelf lintel that echo's the front facade roof shape. The side trim is cut to resemble a column silhouette. The window surrounds are finished with a lugsill. The interior includes a wainscoat ceiling, wainscoating, antique mahogany fireplace, and antique bar and backbar. A pot-belly coal stove provides heat for the building. The building exterior is painted green with white The Wooden Nickel is structurally in good condition.
- The Elk Mountain Lodge (Company Hotel) was built about (3)1900 by the Colorado Fuel and Iron Company. The lodge is a two story building with basement and is divided into 25 rooms. The building has a rectangular floor plan. It is constructed of locally made cinder blocks. The roof is a high hip roof and is covered with painted galvanized steel sheets. The cornice is finished with fascia alone. Three equally spaced butresses on each of the long sides of the building provide support for the walls. On the south building face is an enclosed porch. The porch is log frame enclosed by glass and vertical wood siding. The porch is covered with painted steel sheeting. A double leaf two panel door provides access into the building thru the porch. The main building windows are bouble sash and have cinderblock lintels and lugsills. front slope brick chimneys are offset right. The interior is finished in barnwood mosiac for the first floor and wall paper for the second. The building is equipped with coal heat, and a fireplace.



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- The Croation Hall was built about 1900. It is a two story (4)three roomed building with a rectangular floor plan. is a wood frame building with an exterior covering of corrugated steel sheeting. The roof is hidden behind a false front but is a medium gable covered with corrugated steel sheets. front cornice is boxed and arches in the center. The cornice is supported by eight carved wooden brackets. Below the cornice is a decorated frieze. Between the first and second stories is an entablature supported by 14 carved wooden brackets. Immediately below the entablature is a wood frame roof covered with corrugated steel sheeting that provides protection for the centrally located entrance. There are three equally spaced, tall, rectangular, double hung windows in the front facade of the second story. Each window is capped with a shelf type surround that has an arch that echos the shape of the front facade roof line. The remaining window surrounds are plain and have a slipsill. The first floor door is recessed and with two rectangular windows equally divides the first floor front facade like the three windows on the second floor. The downstairs is furnished with the original bar and backbar from the building's early 1900s saloon days.
- The Town Hall was built in 1883 and is basically a two story three roomed structure with a rectangular floor plan. The building is of wood frame construction with an exterior covering of horizontal wooden drop siding. Behind the front facade false front is a medium gable roof sheathed with corrugated steel. The roof trim consists of plain fascia alone. The top of the false front is boxed and contains a central arch. Under the arch are wood letters that read "city hall." cornice is supported by five carved wooden brackets. Directly behind the arch of the false front is a wooden steeple. front facade has a central, double leaf, two paneled, decorated door topped with a similarly decorated flush fan. Directly above the main entrance are three double hung rectangular windows topped with a large fixed multiple pane fan window. This bank of windows repeats the size and shape of the main door. On either side of the main door in the first floor and the main window in the second floor is a double hung rectangular window topped with a single pane fixed fan window. front facade window surrounds are arched on top, and have a lugsill base. The main facade windows are double hung, have an entablature top surround and silhouetted column side surrounds supported visually on a lugsill. The building is painted white with accenting red trim.

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- The Crested Butte Liquor Store was built in 1898 by Mr. Applegate. It is a two story structure with a rectangular shaped floor plan. The building is of wood frame construction and has an exterior with the exception of the false front of horizontal drop siding. The exterior of the false front is asbestos cement sheet textured to represent brick. The roof consists of a medium gable sheathed with corrugated steel and trimmed with fascia alone. The top of the false front is boxed with a decorative frieze. The cornice is supported on two wooden brackets. Between the first and second floor a wood frame roof extends out over the main entrance. This projection is also covered with corrugated steel sheathing. square fixed single sash windows with plain surrounds are located in the second floor front facade. The main entrance is a centrally located recessed double leaf double panel door with a light, mullion, transom panel. On either side of the main door is a large fixed six paned window. Below each window is a decorated horizontal wood panel. The building is equipped with a coal heater and has a single offset left side slope brick chimney.
- The Grubstake originally consisted of three small buildings (7) built about 1890. A single roof constructed in the early 1930s joined the three buildings into one. The building is a one story, seven roomed structure with a rectangular floor shape. It is a wood frame building with an exterior of horizontal wood siding and flat square steel sheets on the roof portion of the gable facades. The roof is a medium gable shape, surfaced with steel sheets and trimmed with fascia alone. A braced overhanging roof is present at the top of the first floor on the front facade. Above this roof is a false front that rises halfway to the peak of the roof. The false front is divided into three equal sections by white vertical columns. Centered within each section and built on top of the false front cornice is a decorative carved wood sign; and reads "bank" the remaining two are blank. The top of the false front is boxed and is supported by nineteen carved wood brackets. Below the cornice is a decorative frieze. There are three main entrance ways into the building through the front facade. center and left entrances are centered in the middle of the third portions of the building, the right entrance is located Ito the building, the right entrance is located to the extreme

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right of its "third." All the doors are single leaf three panel wood doors, bordered on either side by three thin vertical rectangular fixed sidelight windows. Six window units separated by decorated wood columns comprise the remaining first floor front elevation. Each unit begins from the ground with a horizontal double panel wood section, then a shelf slipsill, two vertical rectangular fixed window panes, with a plain surround, and is topped with two horizontal rectangular, fixed window panes with a plain surround. The centerline of each window unit is emphasized with a thin mullion. One single brick straddle ridge chimney is at the rear gable end of the building.

- The Barber Shop was built about 1890. It is a one story, (8) two roomed structure with a rectangular floor plan. is a wood frame building covered with an exterior (except for the building front) of vertical board and batten. The front of the building (which includes a false front) is covered with horizontal lap siding. Behind the false front is a medium gable roof covered with corrugated steel sheets. The top of The top of the false front is boxed and supported on four brackets. Two double hung vertical rectangular windows with a plain surround are located on the left front facade. The entrance is located on the right side of the front facade and consists of a wooden four panel door with flush, light, transom panel; the entrance has a shelf moulding head surround and plain side surrounds.
- The Masonic Building was built about 1880 by the Knights of Pithia. The building is wood frame with an exterior of horizontal wood lap siding. It is a two story structure with a rectangular floor plan. Behind the false front is a high gable roof, covered with corrugated steel sheets, and trimmed with fascia alone. From a line between the first and second stories in the front an overhanging roof extends out to form an open porch supported by four piers. The front verge of the gable is boxed and is incorporated into the plane of the false front. White cut wood shingles cover the gable. The top facade above the false front is boxed and supported by seven carved wood brackets. Below the cornice of the false front is a plain frieze. Three vertical rectangular double hung windows equally divide the front facade second floor. A shelf-type head surround includes a peak that echos the roof line. The side surrounds are mounded trim, the bottom is a slipsill. main entrance is centered and recessed; it consists of a single leaf two panel wood door with flush light transom panel and sidelights on either side of the entrance is a square four paned

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fixed window. On each side of the windows is a moulded pillar, while below the windows is a moulded wooden panel. Two single brick chimneys straddle the ridgeline.

- The Forest Queen Hotel was built about 1900. two story structure with a rectangular shaped floor plan. It is a wood frame building with an exterior finish of horizontal wood drop siding. Behind a false front is a high gable roof covered with corrugated steel sheets. The roof is trimmed with fascia alone. The top of the false front is boxed and supported on four wood brackets. Below the false front cornice is a moulded wood panel frieze. Three vertical rectangular double hung are equally spaced across the second floor of the front facade. The windows have a shelf type head surround and silhouetted column side surrounds. Immediately below the second floor windows is a moulded entablature, supported on five wood brackets. Below the entablature a braced wood frame roof extends out over the main entrance. The main door is centrally located and is a five panel wood door with clear sidelights. The entrance is framed by two vertical columns. Two large fixed single pane windows are located on either side of the entrance. The window surrounds are plain. Below each window is a moulded wood panel.
- Stefanics General Store was built about 1893. It is a (11)two story structure with a rectangular shaped floor plan. The building is wood frame and has an exterior covering of textured asphalt sheet (brick and wood shingle textures). Behind a false front is a high gable roof sheathed in corrugated steel. The roof trim is cornice fascia alone. The front facade verges are incorporated into the plane of the false front. The cornice of the false front is boxed and supported on six carved wood brackets. Above the false front cornice are two decorated wood balusters that support a wood sign panel. Above this panel is a decorative carved wood triangular panel that completes the space between the roof verges. Below the false front cornice is a decorative diamond wood band frieze. Immediately below the frieze are three moulded wood panels. Three second story double hung rectangular windows equally divide the space of the second story front.facade. The head surround is of the plain pediment type with a decorative wood relief within the triangular gable.



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There are plain side surrounds and a lugsill. Below the second story windows is an entablature and frieze. The entablature is supported on five wood brackets. Decorated wood pillars trim out each edge of the front facade. Centrally located is a five panel wood door surrounded by sidelights and topped with a flush, light, mullion transom panel. The entrance is framed by two decorated wood pillars. On either side of the entrance is a four panel fixed mullion window with plain surrounds. Below each window is a double moulded wood panel. A small two panel wood door with a flush light transom panel is located on the left side of the front facade.

- The Jacob Kochevar was built by Jacob Kochevar in 1913. (12)It is a two story wood frame four roomed structure with an exterior of unpainted wood drop siding. Behind a false front is a medium gable roof covered with corrugated steel sheets. The roof trim is fascia board alone. The false front cornice is boxed and contains a central arch. Under the arch is a wood panel fan with the date of the house in raised letters. cornice is supported on four wood brackets. Below the cornice is a moulded wood panel frieze. The second story front facade is sided with hand carved wood fishscales. In the center are two double hung wood windows with a shelf type head surround and decorated column silhouette side surrounds. The first story front facade extends outward several feet beyond the plane of the second story. In the center are two double hung wood windows trimmed exactly like those on the second story with a lugsill.
- (13) The Union Congregational Church was built in 1882 by the Crested Butte Protestant Organization. It is a one and a half story, wood frame structure with a rectangular floor plan. It has an exterior covering of painted horizontal wood drop siding. It has a high gable roof covered with corrugated steel sheets. The roof cornices are boxed and moulded. A single extended bell tower is located at the left of the front gable facade. The tower is roofed with wood shingles in a modified mansard shape. Decorated triangular arches provide support for the roof spire and openings on all four faces into the bell tower. Closing the base of each arch is a paneled wooden railing. Noting the features as one descends the opening into the bell tower; they are: a moulded band; a mansard roof; another moulded

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band; a cloverleaf frieze; and a vertical trim section that interupts the horizontal siding at regular intervals. entrance is located in the gable facade of the church tower. It is framed by a gothic arch roof finished in wood shingles. The main door opening is a gothic or pointed arch. The door is double leaf with each leaf containing six moulded panels. The front gable facade is topped with a wood finial. Below the finial is a segmentated equilateral triangle of heavy wood timbers supported by a decorated arched wood panel. The arch is in turn supported by a bracket on either side. Vertical wood trim from the brackets to the foundation completes a gothic arch shape. Centered in the top story are three grouped gothic arched windows. The center window is taller and contains six fixed panes. The two outside windows of the triad are the same size and contain five fixed panes. The windows surrounds are moulded. Directly below this triad is a first floor group of three rectangular double hung windows visually connected by vertical trim at the intervals of the window surrounds. single double hung window is offset to the right. All the first floor front facade windows are held at top and bottom between two horizontal trim bands. Five gothic windows are in each side of the first floor main facades. Within each structural opening are seven fixed glass panels arranged to form two smaller pointed arches.

The Rock Schoolhouse was built in 1883. It is a two story structure of broken course cut stone and has a rectangular floor plan. It has a medium hip roof covered with corrugated steel sheets. The roof is trimmed with boxed cornices. The front main facade includes a single, centre, extended bell tower. The tower is roofed with a modified bellcast mansard covered with wood shingles and finished with a large finial. bellcast roof cornice is boxed and supported by four corner piers, leaving all sides open into the bell. A wood railing decorates the bottom of each open side and a board cut with a shallow arch trims the top of each open side. Below the open portion of the bell tower is a wood shingled mansard roof. Centered in the tower second story is a wood double hung window with moulded surrounds. Immediately to either side of the tower in the second story front facade is a small double hung wood window with moulded surrounds. Two larger double hung windows.

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one on either side of the building, finish the second story. The first story front facade includes a rectangular double hung window of wood with stone lintel and lugsill in the center of the bell tower. To either side of the tower are the main entrances both identical. They are protected by a projecting roof supported on large wood brackets. The entrances are double leaf four panel doors with a flush light transom panel. head surround is arched, the side surrounds plain.

- The Saltlick was built in 1893. It is a one story two roomed wood structure with a rectangular floor plan. The exterior is covered with wood drop siding. Behind a false front is a high gable roof with eaves projecting and exposed rafters. The roof is covered with corrugated steel sheets. The top exposed triangular portion of the gable facade is boxed. Below this triangle are two decorated balusters that support a wood panel sign and two decorative triangles. The false front cornice is boxed and moulded. Below the cornice is a decorated frieze made out of pressed tin. Two large decorated pilasters edge either side of the front facade. The main entrance is recessed and consists of a double leaf three panel door with light recessed two paned transom panel. A horizontal wood band that extends to either side of the facade separates the door opening and transom panel. Below the horizontal band two fixed single pane windows, one angled and one flush with the front facade are on either side of the main door. Below each window are two moulded wood panels. Above the horizontal band are two horizontally divided windows one angled and one flush on either side of the transom panel. Two small decorated pilasters frame the main entrance.
- The Princess Theatre was built about 1900. It is a two (16)story four roomed stone building with a rectangular floor plan. Behind a false front is a one side low one side high gable roof covered with corrugated steel sheets. The false front cornice is boxed and peaked in the center to hide the gable peak. The cornice is supported on nine wood brackets. Below the cornice is a decorated wood relief frieze. Arched across the second story front facade is an entablature. Below and centered under the arch is a unit of two double hung windows with plain side surrounds. The head surround is a shelf-type and pointed to echo the roof line. The second story is faced with drop siding. A moulded horizontal band joins the lower ends of the arch and separates the first and second story. The main entrance is centered and recessed. It consists of a two paneled single leaf door with eight blind sidelights. On either side of the main door are four pairs of blind windows; three are

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flush with the front facade and one is angled. The blind light surrounds are plain. Three moulded wood panels also are present on each side of the main door and below the blind lights. The false front is covered with drop siding (second story) and vertical plank (first story).

- The Kochevar Building was built in 1900 by Jacob Kochevar (17)and his son. It is a two and a half story, wood frame building with a rectangular floor plan. The building false front is covered with drop siding; the remainder is covered with horizontal planking. Behind the false front is a medium gable roof covered with corrugated steel. The roof eaves are overhung and boxed. At one time horizontal supports extended from the right side of the roof line to vertical poles to buttress and structure. The top false front cornice is boxed and moulded. It is supported by five carved wood brackets. Below the cornice is a moulded wood panel frieze. rectangular double hung wood windows with moulded surrounds open into the attic. Three larger double hung rectangular windows with moulded surrounds open into the second story. moulded horizontal band divides the first and second stories. The entrance is centered and recessed. It consists of a double leaf three panel door with a flush double light transom panel. On either side of the main door is an angled fixed two paned window with plain surrounds. On either side of the entrance is a large fixed four paned window with plain surrounds. Below each window pane unit is a decorated wood panel. Four decorated wood pilasters equally divide the first floor facade.
- (18)Frank and Gals was built about 1900. It is a two story, wood frame, four roomed structure, with a rectangular floor plan. The exterior is stucco. Behind the false front is a high gable roof cover with steel sheets. The roof eaves are trimmed with fascia alone. The verges above the false front are close and moulded. The gable facade above the false front is covered with wood shingles. Centered in a portion of the facade is a double hung rectangular wood window with plain side surrounds, a shaped moulded head surround and lugsill. The false front cornice is boxed and overhangs the facade. double units and a single window open into the second story. They are trimmed like the attic window. An overhanging braced roof shields the first story. Three single leaf wood panel doors with plain surrounds open into the first story. Four units of two paned fixed windows with plain surrounds and four overhead lights provide a clear band across the first story. Six buttresses support the main facade.

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- The Stationhouse was built in 1881 by the Denver and Rio (19)Grande Railroad. It is a one and a half story, wood frame structure with a rectangular floor plan. The first floor exterior is horizontal planking. The primary building structure has a high gable roof shape with a cross gable. The gable facades have an exterior of wood shingles. The gable verges are close and moulded. A moulded horizontal band forms a triangle with the top quarter of the roof verges. In each triangle is a decorative wood fan. The front facade roof eaves are greatly extended, curved and supported on five wood brackets. cornice is trimmed with moulded fascia alone. The windows are all double hung with plain surrounds and lugsills. The two main doors are three paneled with plain trim and a clear flush transom panels. Centered in the extension one story wing is a double leaf garage type door with multiple clear transom lights. The doors are decorated with an "X" over "T" pattern.
- (20) The Company Store was built about 1937 by the Colorado Fuel and Iron Company. It is a one story eight roomed cinder block structure with a rectangular floor plan. The building exterior is stucco. Behind a false front is a low gable roof covered with corrugated steel. The cornice of the false is curvilinear and tiled. The front is decorated with hand carved wood letters and a modified cloverleaf. An overhanging roof shields the first floor front. The main entrance is recessed and centered. The main door is a double leafed and wood paneled with a flush fan transom panel. On either side of the entrance is a three panel fixed window. Below the windows is a horizontal brick belt course that rings the building.



ERIOD (Check One or More as	Appropriate)		
Pre-Columbian	☐ 16th Century	☐ 18th Century	20th Century
☐ 15th Century	☐ 17th Century	🔼 19th Century	
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Prehistoric	Engineering	X Religion/Phi-	Other (Specify)
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☐ Art	Architecture	Social/Human-	
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Communications	☐ Military	☐X Theater	
Conservation	Music	Transportation	

- (1) Heg's Place: Originally a mortuary owned by C.J. Diel, this building also housed Crested Butte's first movie theatre (operated by Bill Guilliford); a roller skating rink (managed by Harry Gibbs) and the Post Office from 1925-1964.
- (2) Wooden Nickel: Chris Vuletich and Pete Maumich had the building built which remains today. It was sold to Bill Starika who operated the bar until 1950. Bill was known to fire a .45 pistol at a stump he kept behind the bar to keep his customers from nodding off. In 1951 Tony Kapushion bought and ran the bar until 1967. Don Bachman owned the bar until 1971 when it was sold to Rick Holderith, its present owner.
- (3) Elk Mountain Lodge: Originally the "Company Hotel" the building was built by Colorado Fuel and Iron Company as a boarding house for its miners and quarters for company visitors. The building was constructed of cinders from the mine slag piles (as was the Company Store). The Company Hotel could house sixty-five boarders. When the big mine closed in 1952 the building was sold to Austin Yarnel who changed the name to the Elk Mountain Lodge. The Elk Mountain is still a working lodge today.
- (4) Croation Hall: The building was originally located on Elk Avenue but was moved to its present position about 1902 with only logs and muscle. The downstairs was a bar (the bar and back bar are today present in the saloon room). The upstairs is one large meeting room used by the Croation Fraternal Union. This organization offered every kind of insurance to its members from straight life to education and endowment insurance, scholarship funds, widows and orphans benefits, sickness benefits, and others.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

MAY 3 1974

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(Number all entries) #8 (page 2)

- (5) Town Hall: The building was built to house the town council members and the fire department. But it was also used by the Catholics for church services, and it was regularly rented out for parties and dances. It was the functional town hall until 1952 and has continued as the firehouse to this date.
- (6) Crested Butte Liquor Store: Originally a millinery shop it became the "City Hotel" in the 1920's run by the Murphys, where many of Crested Butte's miners lived. From 1926 to 1936 the Yelenicks operated the Western Hotel and Restaurant in the building. Today the Yelenicks operate the Crested Butte Liquor Store.
- (7) The Grubstake: Originally three small buildings, a single roof was put over them in the early 1930s. The business in the three buildings was the Bank of Crested Butte which survived until 1931 and at one time had Dr. J. W. Rockefeller as the bank's president, a drugstore in the middle owned by Dr. J. W. Rockefeller, and a Post Office, later a mortuary. In 1961 Phil Hyslop remodeled the building and opened the Grubstake Restaurant which remains today.
- (8) The Barber Shop: Crested Butte's first barber occupied this building. Mr. Boyd was his name and he was the distinction of being Crested Butte's first and to date only Black businessman. The barber chair from this shop is in the town museum. In 1890 a shed attached to the building was raised and an old mash cooker and some still parts were unearthed.
- (9) Masonic Building: Built by the Knights of Pithia this building was also the meeting place of the Masons, the International Order of Odd Fellows, and the Rebekahs. It is still used by the Masons and the Rebekahs today.
- (10) The Forest Queen Hotel: Originally a bar and brothel, this building also was Mike Perko's General Store. Today
 Barry Coreman operates the Forest Queen Hotel and Breakfast Room.
- (11) Stefanics General Store: Originally a millinery shop
 this building became a general merchandise store in 1910
 (bought by Mike Fisher). The intent of this store has been
 maintained up to the present day. Under Mr. Fisher's control a
 small bottling plant was set up on the second floor where he
 produced and bottled soda pop which was sold to local dance halls.

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- (12) Jacob Kochevar's House: Built by Jacob Kochevar for his parents the buildings false front is one of the most ornamental in town. Jacob traced designs along long pieces of wood siding, cut them out with tools he made himself, and adorned the second story with them.
- (13) The Union Congregational Church: Built by the Crested Butte Protestants Organization. The bell in the tower of the Union Congregational Church came from the short lived boom town of Irwin. It was installed in 1917.
- (14) The Rock Schoolhouse: The Rock Schoolhouse was Crested Butte's first permanent school structure. When the school opened there was 36 students in eight grades. By 1900 the enrollment had grown to 225. By 1916 Crested Butte had the largest enrollment of any school district in Gunnison County.
- (15) The Saltlick: In 1880 (the year of the town's incorporation) Herman and Louis Glick opened a general merchandise store at the corner of Elk and Third. On January 9, 1893 a fire destroyed the original building but the Glick brothers quickly rebuilt the building which remains today. The building continued as a merchandise store through 1940 when it became a grocery store until 1955. Today it is a tavern.
- (16) The Princess Theatre: The stone walls of the theatre were originally the walls of the Colorado Supply Store which was operating about the turn of the century. In 1919 or 1920 Joe Faussone came to Crested Butte from Marble and renovated the building into the Princess Theatre. (Joe was also involved with a Princess Theatre in Marble.) The Princess was sold to Ben Snyder in 1922. It was Snyder who installed sound equipment and new projectors. The theatre is still operating today.
- (17) The Kochevar Building: This building is constructed of timbers hand hewn by Jacob and his son. Jake ran a bar until 1918 (the bar is still present in the back of the building) After the bar Jake ran a general merchandise store. Today Fritz Kochevar lives in the building his father built and in which he was born.

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- stable, an automobile garage and a prohibition "pool hall," this building was bought in the 1920s by Gus Mattivi and remodeled upstairs for a dance hall. The downstairs remained a saloon. Heavy braces had to be wedged between the first floor and ceiling to support the dancers weight. One can still see the notches cut to accept the supporting members. Also during the 1920s Ben Snyder operated a roller skating rink three nights a week. Frank Starika bought the building in 1944. Frank and his wife "Gal" (really Jetina) operated their bar and restaurant until 1971. From 1948 to 1962 Frank was the Mayor of Crested Butte and lead the delegation that went out in search of new industry for the town when the coal mines pulled out.
- (19) Denver & Rio Grande Railroad Stationhouse: For 70 years the stationhouse was the business office of the Denver and Rio Grande Railroad. The railroad was the only significant and reliable contact the town had with the outside world. During the period between 1885 and 1910, the railroad hauled five million tons of hard and soft coal and better than one million tons of coke.
- (20) The Company Store: This building is made from cinder blocks that were pressed locally with a hand operated block press. The Colorado Fuel and Iron Company which owned and operated the Company Store was the biggest employer in town and the company which produced coal and core for General William J. Palmers steel mills in Pueblo.

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Town History

The town of Crested Butte was incorporated in 1880, but settlers were in the area as early as 1874 looking for precious minerals. Prior to this, the area had been known only to the Ute Indians who came into the area by way of the Kebler Trail from the high plains to the west. With the advent of the prospectors, the Utes were restricted to a reservation near the top of Kebler Pass during the summers. As mineral development increased, this concession was revoked.

The districts surrounding the area quickly grew into many mining camps where millions of dollars of gold and silver were extracted. Crested Butte served them as a logical and natural center of supply. By 1881 the Denver & Rio Grande Railroad had laid a line from Gunnison. However, the gold and silver boom was very short-lived--from 1880 to about 1885. New mining activity, less glamorous, but more substantial, formed the economic background for the continued growth of Crested Butte--fine quality bituminous coal. The first large coal mine was the Jokerville that was operated by the Colorado Coal and Iron Company, later the Colorado Fuel and Iron Company. 1884 a tragic and terrific explosion ripped through the mine, closing it and claiming also the lives of 58 Crested Butte miners. In 1894 the CF & I opened the largest mine in the area and resumed operation as the largest coking interest in the town, owning and operating about 100 ovens capable of coking two tons every 24 hours.

Coal operations in Crested Butte were curtailed drastically in the 1930s and 1940s. Finally in 1952 the Big Mine shut down. The Denver & Rio Grande pulled out its railroad line a year later. Those who remained in the town sought employment at other mining interests, principally the American Smelting and Refining Company which subsequently operated the big Keystone Mine, producing precious metals, lead, zinc and copper.

Also during this period of hard times Crested Butte began to develop a new base of economics—the winter tourist. In 1962 the town had its first ski area. The idea caught on and Crested Butte has attracted summer and winter tourists in increasing numbers ever since.

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The Town of Crested Butte has always been known for its scenic setting, its mineral lodes, and its hardy citizenry. Scots-English-Irish stock predomenated in the early mining era. Central and Southern Europ@an stock sunk roots during the coal development period. By 1925, the town's population consisted largely of unskilled immigrant labor. Eventually these people owned and operated many of the local businesses. Some ethnic rivalry existed during these years; the Ku Klux Klan was briefly popular. But mostly the people found, in the words of one old-timer, that they were "one big family, not always a happy family, but still one family."

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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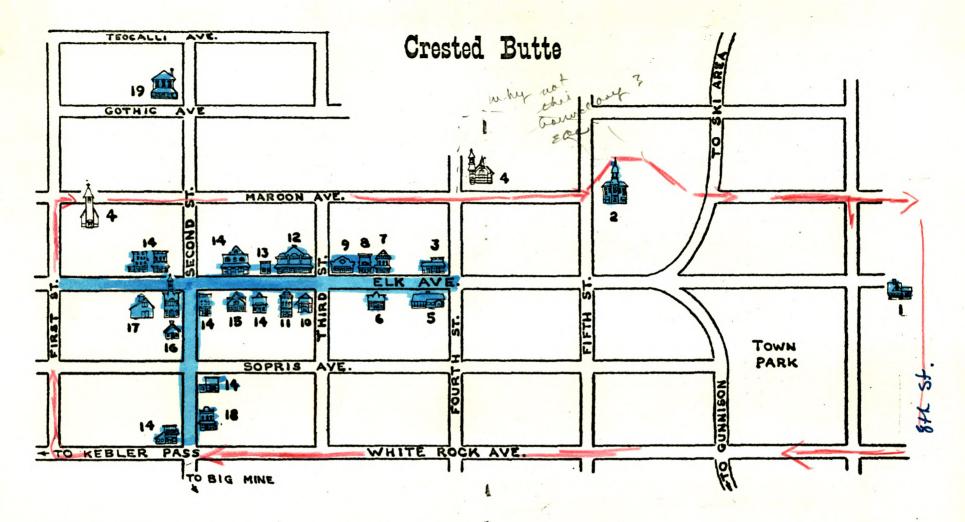
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Attached is a sketch map showing building locations and their relations to each other. The map shows the basic old town lay-out with the Town Park. Specific buildings mentioned in the nomination form are bine-markered. The district can be delineated by going from Maroon Avenue to Eighth Street and down that to White Rock Avenue up to First Street. Only the commercial buildings were listed specifically in the nomination forms. The gaps are filled by the older homes of the original town. Specific nominations will be forthcoming on these elements of the district. The Town of Crested Butte refers to the business district. The buildings within the boundary are about 95% between the 1880's and 1910.

If it would be preferrable to take as a district only those structures along the blue streets and to make separate nominations for the others outside the immediate area, that will be fine. Please let us know how to best expedite this to your satisfaction for this year's funding.



1. The D. & R. G. Railroad Station (Page 15)

*2. The Rock Schoolhouse (Page 17)

¥3. The Crested Butte Hardware (Page 20)

4. The Churches

(Page 22)

>5. The Elk Mountain House (Page 24)

₩ 6. The Old Post Office

(Page 29) ★7. The Masonic Building

(Page 31)

8. Frank and Mary Yelenick's Building
(Page 34)

X9. The Company Store (Page 35)

(Page 42)

y 11. Stefanic's General Store

(Page 48) ★12. The Grubstake Building (Page 51)

x13. The Barbershop (Page 56)

14. Buildings in the Saloon Distr (Pages 58-70)

y 15. The Princess Theatre (Page 70)

16. City Hall, Fire House and Jail (Page 73)

17. C. B. Light & Water Powerhouse (Page 76)

8. The Croation Fraternal Union (Page 78)

x19. The Elk Mountain Lodge -(Page 82)

Drawings on Map by Susan Anderton

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