

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Montana
COUNTY: Granite
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE DEC 19 1974

1. NAME

COMMON:
Miners Union Hall

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Granite Miners Union Hall

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: *W of Phillipsburg in Granite County*
Main Street (upper end)

CITY OR TOWN: *Phillipsburg* CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:
Granite (E₂ Sec. 32, T7N, R13W) No. 1

STATE Montana	CODE 30	COUNTY: Granite	CODE 039
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3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) historic site

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
State of Montana (Recreation and Parks Division, Dept. of Fish and Game)

STREET AND NUMBER:
Mitchell Building

CITY OR TOWN: Helena	STATE: Montana	CODE: 30
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5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Granite County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Phillipsburg	STATE: Montana	CODE: 30
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6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Historic American Buildings Survey

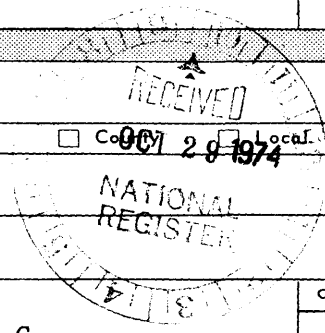
DATE OF SURVEY: September, 1965 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Library of Congress

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Washington	STATE: D.C.	CODE: 08
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SEE INSTRUCTIONS



STATE: Montana
COUNTY: Granite
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7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Completed in 1890, this once handsome three-story masonry structure is located on the upper part of what was once the Main Street of Granite. The building faces north and is built back into the mountain behind it.

Exterior: The foundation and first floor of the building was built of native granite. The east and west side walls are two feet thick. The case iron for the iron and wood panel front were cast in the Western Iron Works foundry in Butte, Montana. The 8-inch thick walls of the other two stories are of red brick with cut granite trim for the windows and a decorative cornice of sheet metal on the front. Five brick chimneys once crowned each of the east and west side walls. The building's overall dimensions are approximately 98 feet by 48 feet.

Interior: The ground floor, now in ruins with its interior finish and wood floor gone, once housed the lounge and recreation areas. Two large narrow rooms separated by a solid granite wall ran almost the length of the building. The main hall, with a ceiling height of over 18 feet was located on the second floor and had a stage on the end near the mountain at grade level. The second floor also had union offices, a library, reception room, ante-room, ticket booth and hallways. A stairway along the east wall led to the third floor lodge hall which consisted of a single 30 feet by 44 feet room. The floor of the main hall had a maple "spring floor" suitable for dancing. Also of note is the artificially-grained soft wood wainscoting on all interior trim. Today the furnishings are gone and the sheet metal covered Mansard roof over the main hall has fallen in; only the roof over the lodge room on the third floor front of the building remains. The maple "spring floor" has long disappeared, and the floor sags back to a void where the stage once stood. The shell of masonry sides and front remain, but the interior is disintegrating.

Renewed mining activity in 1974 may soon cause a threat to this and other remaining buildings in Granite.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian | 16th Century | 18th Century | 20th Century
 15th Century | 17th Century | 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Known as the Silver Queen City, Granite reached her heyday in 1889 when the production of the mines ran as high as \$250,000 to \$275,000 a month.

Located 2,000 feet above the valley floor, the town was well named, for the entire granite mountain even lacked fertile topsoil. Neither water wells nor graves were dug here. Burials took place in the valley four miles below the town. Water was hauled up the mountain in wooden barrels.

The social center of Granite was the Miner's Union Hall, completed December 31, 1890. The three-story brick and stone building with its decorative front facade of wood, metal and brick housed the club and game rooms on the first floor, an auditorium and offices on the second floor and the lodge room on the third floor.

Of interest is a portion of the dedication speech made by James A. Gilfillan, president of the Union, during the dedication on New Year's Eve, 1890. He stated, "The Union does not debate politics, religion or public opinion in their hall, and their meetings are confined strictly to the interests of the working man. . .".

Dances, concerts, theatricals and celebrations were held in the big main hall on the second floor. The maple "spring floor" was said to be the finest dance floor west of the Mississippi, and the stage was designed by C. H. Young of Butte who reportedly was the designer of the stage for the Bozeman Opera House. Granite became part of the theatre circuit of John Maguire of Butte, and minstrel shows, plays and operas appeared there for several years.

Then, on August 1, 1893, an order came to shut down the mines. Within 24 hours the town was almost deserted. Now a ghost town, Granite was reborn several times and as the people returned, the Miners Union Hall again became the social center of the town, with dances in the main hall and meetings upstairs. It is now one of the last remaining buildings in the town.

Money invested in Granite came from St. Louis and that city is indebted to Granite Mountain and Bi-Metallic silver. The proceeds of these mines laid the foundation for St. Louis' first major real estate boom.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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12 / 326880
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SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Hutchens, Joseph, One Man's Montana, J. B. Lippincott Co., Philadelphia & New York, 1964.
 McMillan, A.C., "Granite's Glittering Glory", Montana, the Magazine of Western History, Vol. XIV, No. 3, Summer, 1964.
Philipsburg Mail (newspaper), Philipsburg, Mont., May 23, 1889, June 20, 1889; March 27, 1890; December 11, 1890; December 18, 1890; January 1, 1891; and January 8, 1891.
 Wolle, Muriel S., Montana Pay Dirt: A Guide to the Mining Camps of the Treasure State, Sage Books, Denver, 1963.

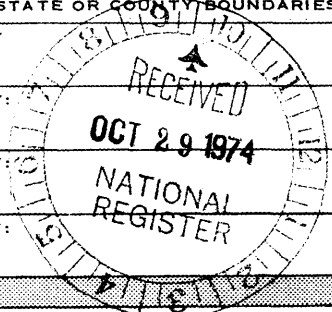
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	° ' "	° ' "		N 46°	19'	03"
NE	° ' "	° ' "		W 113°	14'	54"
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: less than 1

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
 David G. Conklin, Recreation Planner

ORGANIZATION: Recreation and Parks Division, Montana Fish and Game
 DATE: 10-11-74

STREET AND NUMBER:
 Mitchell Building

CITY OR TOWN: Helena
 STATE: Montana
 CODE: 30

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION **NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

<p>As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:</p> <p>National <input type="checkbox"/> State <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Name <u>Ashley G. Roberts</u> Ashley G. Roberts</p> <p>Title <u>State Historic Preservation Officer</u></p> <p>Date <u>Oct. 14, 1974</u></p>	<p>I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.</p> <p><u>A. K. Watters</u> Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation</p> <p>Date <u>11/19/74</u></p> <p>ATTEST:</p> <p><u>Charles D. ...</u> Keeper of The National Register</p> <p>Date <u>11.15.74</u></p>
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