United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

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

1. Name

historic   Goldfield City Hall and Fire Station

and/or common Same

2. Location

street & number Southeast corner of Victor Avenue and Ninth Street   n/a not for publication

city, town   Goldfield   n/a vicinity of

state   Colorado   code 08   county Teller   code 119

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
___ district	_x_ public	___ occupied	___ agriculture	___ museum
_X_building(s)	___ private	_X_ unoccupied	___ commercial	___ park
___ structure	___ both	___ work in progress	___ educational	___ private residence
___ site	**Public Acquisition**	**Accessible**	___ entertainment	___ religious
___ object	n/a in process	_X_ yes: restricted	___ government	___ scientific
	n/a being considered	___ yes: unrestricted	___ industrial	___ transportation
		___ no	___ military	_X_ other: vacant

4. Owner of Property

name   Teller County Board of Commissioners c/o June Fuhlrodt, Chairman

street & number   P. O. Box 959

city, town Cripple Creek   n/a vicinity of   state CO   80813

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc.   Teller County Assessor's Office

street & number   Teller County Courthouse

city, town   Cripple Creek   state   CO

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

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

date Ongoing   ___ federal _x_ state ___ county ___ local

depository for survey records Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation

city, town   Denver   state CO

7. Description

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Goldfield City Hall and Fire Station is a two-story, detached clapboarded frame building located on a slight hillside in the small community of Goldfield. The building is on the corner of Victor Avenue (which it faces) and Ninth Street. Goldfield, a town composed of about 63 buildings, many of which are vacant, is one mile northeast of Victor, and 7½ miles southeast of Cripple Creek. Most of the structures remaining in Goldfield are residential.

The building is rectangular in shape, 25' by 46'2" in depth. It has a flat roof with decorative elongated brackets under the eaves. Distinctive features include the large story-high double doors on the front (northwest) facade and the bell tower placed at the rear (southwest) corner of the structure.

The first floor was designed for use as the fire station, housing the fire cart; the second floor served as city offices. Access to the front of the building is through the double doors, which are composed of two upper panels of boards running diagonally and a lower section of horizontal boards. The south door has a double door inset; and the north door has a regular sized door cut into the larger door. One double hung window with plain molding is placed on either side of the doors. The second floor has a double window centrally located on the front wall, with one window to each side. All are double hung. A wood belt course extends around the front and southwest walls at sill level, and also around the tops of the windows, with the brackets connecting the band with the roof line.

There are no openings on the southwest wall. The rear (southeast) is composed of a mix of diagonal and horizontal boards. The southwest corner extends above the roof line to form the base of the bell tower, which has small lookout windows on three sides of the base. The belfy is open, and capped with a pyramidal roof.

The first floor of the northeast wall has one window near the front portion of the building, and a door near the rear section. The second floor has three windows, which have been boarded.

The flooring on the first level has deteriorated. The stairs have been removed to prevent access to the second floor and the bell tower. The second floor, however, has sound flooring and the plaster walls and ceiling are in fair condition. A renovation was begun in 1976 and has proceeded yearly as funds were available. All window frames have been rebuilt and the glass replaced. The windows on the front wall have been replaced. The large front door and the front ramp have been rebuilt from an original photograph. A new foundation was built under three sides. A new flat roof on the bell tower was installed and the bell tower strengthened. Temporary cables were installed to stabilize the building.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below

Period
- ___ prehistoric
- ___ 1400–1499
- ___ 1500–1599
- ___ 1600–1699
- ___ 1700–1799
- _x_ 1800–1899
- _x_ 1900–

Areas of Significance—Check and justify below
- ___ archeology-prehistoric
- ___ archeology-historic
- ___ agriculture
- _x_ architecture
- ___ art
- ___ commerce
- ___ communications
- ___ community planning
- ___ conservation
- ___ economics
- ___ education
- ___ engineering
- ___ exploration/settlement
- ___ industry
- ___ invention
- ___ landscape architecture
- ___ law
- ___ literature
- ___ military
- ___ music
- ___ philosophy
- _x_ politics/government
- ___ religion
- ___ science
- ___ sculpture
- ___ social/ humanitarian
- ___ theater
- ___ transportation
- ___ other (specify)

Specific dates 1899   **Builder/Architect** Unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The town hall and fire station of Goldfield is the only remaining public structure in the historic mining community—now virtually a ghost town. As such, the building can be said to be an important visual and historic reminder of the once thriving town, which was once the home for many of the laborers of the Cripple Creek district gold mines. Also, the property is one of few frame buildings of this scale to survive in the early mining communities of the state, as well as being one of few early frame fire stations extant.

Goldfield was founded in 1895 by the owners of the Portland Mine, James Doyle and J. F. Burns. Many mines were located in the nearby hills, with Goldfield developing around the diggings. Since the town had the advantage of being laid out on level ground and near many of the large mines, three railroads elected to maintain stations and freight yards here. Seventy-five percent of all the ore mined in the district was shipped from Goldfield. The Portland Mines were, in fact, the biggest shippers in the area and produced more than sixty million dollars in gold.[1]

Because there were such a number of important mines located near Goldfield, many of the families of the workers settled in the community. By the end of the first year, 2,191 people resided in Goldfield. (Not far away, the town of Independence had grown up around the Hull Placer deposit. Within a short period of time the two towns grew toward each other and merged.) By 1895, the population totaled 3,000.

Historically, Goldfield was known as a strong union town, with many of the local officials also serving as union officials. During the period of the labor wars of 1894 and 1903, the unions were broken and known members deported out of the state.[2] "By the close of 1904, nearly half the homes at Goldfield were empty....All unionized city officials were ousted from office...and control of the city was restored to the mineowners."[3]

The Goldfield Fire Station was built in 1899. The bell was used to summon the members of the volunteer fire department, which was composed of both miners and their wives. The firehouse was equipped with a four wheel fire cart (now housed at the Victor Museum; the bell is in the keeping of the Victor City Fire Hall). The building was in active use until the 1930s when the city of Goldfield dissolved as a result of a dispute over payment for a defective water reservoir.[4]

[1]Perry Eberhart, p. 457.
[2]Robert Brown, p. 186.
[3]Ibid., p. 186.
[4]"Ordinances of the City of Goldfield, Colorado," Times Office, 1901.

9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property ___.07___

Quadrangle name ___Cripple Creek___   Quadrangle scale ___1:24000___

UTM References

A |1,3| |4,8,9,2,5,5| |4,2,8,5,3,3,0| B |__| |__,__,__,__,__| |__,__,__,__,__,__|
  Zone Easting   Northing   Zone Easting   Northing

C |__| |__,__,__,__,__| |__,__,__,__,__,__| D |__| |__,__,__,__,__| |__,__,__,__,__,__|

E |__| |__,__,__,__,__| |__,__,__,__,__,__| F |__| |__,__,__,__,__| |__,__,__,__,__,__|

G |__| |__,__,__,__,__| |__,__,__,__,__,__| H |__| |__,__,__,__,__| |__,__,__,__,__,__|

Verbal boundary description and justification

Lot 1   Block 15

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 ___Florence Ingraham___   ___and Gloria Mills --OAHP___

organization Goldfield City Hall and Fire Station Committee   date   10/12/83

street & number   24 Cragmor Village   telephone   303   598-8675

city or town   Colorado Springs   state   Colorado

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

___ national   ___ state   XX 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   _Barbara Sudler_

title   State Historic Preservation Officer   date   4/10/84

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Inventory—Nomination Form
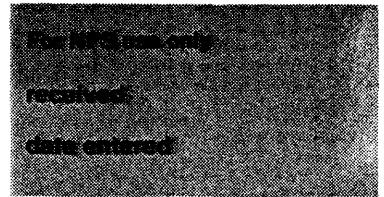
Major Bibliographical References

Brown, Robert L. Ghost Towns of the Colorado Rockies. Caldwell: Coxton Printers, 1968.

Eberhart, Perry. Guide to Colorado Ghost Towns and Mining Camps. Chicago: Swallow
     Press, 1974 (4th revised edition).

Feitz, Leland Cripple Creek. Colorado Springs: Little London Press, 1967.

"Ordinances of the City of Goldfield, Colorado" Times Office. 1901.

Wolle, Muriel Sibell Stampede to Timberline. Chicago: Swallow Press, Inc., 1974.