

**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**

For NPS use only

**received** MAY 15 1985  
**date entered**

## **1. Name**

## **historic** Victor Downtown Historic District

**and/or common** Victor Downtown Historic District

## **2. Location**

**street & number** See Map **n/a** not for publication

**city, town** Victor **n/a vicinity of**

state Colorado code 08 county Teller code 119

### **3. Classification**

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

## **4. Owner of Property**

## name      Multiple

**street & number**

**city, town** \_\_\_\_\_ **vicinity of** \_\_\_\_\_ **state** \_\_\_\_\_

## **5. Location of Legal Description**

**courthouse, registry of deeds, etc.      Teller County Courthouse**

Street & number Bennett Avenue

**city, town** Cripple Creek **state** Colorado

## **6. Representation in Existing Surveys**

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

date 1984         federal XX state    county    local

**depository for survey records** Colorado Historical Society, OAHP

**city, town** Denver **state** Colorado 80203

## 7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved      date _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

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

The Victor Downtown Historic District consists of 66 buildings which compose the commercial core of Victor, once a wealthy mining town at the turn-of-the-century. The community is located in the mountains of Colorado about six miles southeast of the noted mining town of Cripple Creek (listed in the National Register). Although not a ghost town, Victor does contain some buildings that have been vacant for many years, which contributes to a feeling of abandonment to the community. However, because of its lack of economic development over the years, its isolation, and other factors, little alterations of many of the structures has occurred. Sandstone sidewalks are still in place in many locations. An amazing number of streetfronts remain relatively unaltered. The richness of the ornamentation characterizing Victor's downtown can still be observed, despite deterioration.

Victor's appearance dates largely to the turn-of-the-century. When a fire destroyed much of the commercial section in 1899, reconstruction occurred with brick replacing frame as the primary building material. Because the character of the area is one period, and of similar material and scale, a striking cohesiveness and unity is achieved. The design and ornamentation of the different properties are diverse but relate well to one another. The high quality of design and detailing speaks to the wealth of that mining area as well as a certain sophistication in architectural taste of the residents of this somewhat isolated mining town.

The majority of the commercial buildings are one and two stories with single or double storefronts. Living or office space is provided in the upper stories. In design the buildings reflect elements of both centuries. The storefronts retain 19th century characteristics--such as recessed entries, decorative wood and iron posts, display windows with tall clerestories--while the upper floors contain elements relating to the 20th century Neo-Classical Revival. Examples of the later styles can be seen in the First Church of Christ Scientist #8, and the Gold Coin Club #1. The Bray Block #16 has a second floor facade decorated with classic elements and a large Palladian window. Classic festoons, wreaths, and foliate designs decorate upper and secondary cornices. The design on the upper frieze of the City Hall #6 is also seen on the secondary frieze of the Gift Shop #5. The only building that is clearly 20th century in design is the New Victor Hotel #15.

Another interesting feature of the downtown is the number of second floor bay windows. Examples include the three-story Tatlow Building #18, the Gift Shop #5, and the Gold Camp Hotel #26. There was also considerable use of beveled glass, as seen in the upper window transoms and storefront clerestories of the Assay Office #4, the corner Abott Building #31, 208 Victor Avenue, and 112 Third Street. Other common design features include heavily decorative bracketed cornices, friezes and corbeled brickwork. Examples include 206 Victor, Barret's Furniture, and Amber Inn #23, Gorman Building, and Bert's Market.

The public, religious, social and fraternal buildings are located on the fringes of the commercial core. The most impressive include the City Hall #6, the Gold Coin Club #1, and the Masonic Building #20. These are the most elaborate in design and application of decorative elements. Another prominent public structure is the Midland Terminal #10, an excellent example of a 19th century railroad station. The Baptist Church #9 and the Christian Science Church #8 compose the architecturally significant church buildings within the district.

The majority of the properties in the district are in restorable condition with some renovation work already in progress. The intrusions, which include twelve out of the total sixty-six buildings in the district, consist of a few contemporary buildings or inappropriately altered older buildings. They are scattered throughout the district and do not disrupt or compromise the continuity of the nominated area.

## 8. Significance

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

Specific dates 1893–1915

Builder/Architect Unknown

### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The downtown district of Victor is significant for its many relatively unaltered and contiguous commercial, public, fraternal and religious buildings of late 19th and early 20th century design. They form the commercial core for an important mining community that composed part of the Cripple Creek-Victor Mining District. The area is one of the richest in gold deposits in the state and played a prominent role in the development of Colorado's mining industry. Downtown Victor still reflects the great wealth and prosperity that resulted from the gold mining operations in the town proper and the surrounding area.

The cultural landscape of Victor has been shaped by the tremendous mining potential presented by the area and the historic events following the discovery of gold there in the 1890s. Gold and silver have been mined since the 1850s along the Colorado mineral belt that stretches from Boulder County on the southeast to San Juan County on the southwest. Few suspected, however, that the richest mining district would be located far to the east on the slopes of Pikes Peak. According to legend, in 1890 a homesteader in the vicinity stumbled over some richly mineralized rocks and the gold rush was on.

The Cripple Creek mining district was established in 1891. As more and more mining claims were established several miles from the town of Cripple Creek, the camp of Victor came into existence closer to the mines. Several rich mines were located near Victor in 1891 and 1892, but there was no appreciable growth in the town until 1893 when the Woods Investment Company platted and promoted the community.<sup>1</sup> The company was headed by Frank and Harry Woods who contributed greatly to the development of Victor by constructing substantial buildings and organizing utility companies.

Victor, called the "City of Gold" and "Core of the Rich Cripple Creek Mining District," was literally built on gold ore. Several important mines were discovered within the town limits and the mining claims scattered throughout the town were worked beneath the streets and buildings. Backyard mining operations had gallows frames towering over the tops of the houses, underground blasting shook the ground and heavy ore wagons continuously rumbled through streets and alleys on the way to the trains. The Gold Coin Mine was discovered while a foundation was being dug for a hotel and gold was discovered under the high school athletic field. Even the streets were paved with low grade ore.<sup>2</sup>

On August 21, 1899, a fire raged through the town destroying fourteen blocks of some 200 buildings and leaving 3,000 homeless. Although the fire was tragic, it did give the residents the opportunity to design and build a modern new city and little if anything erected prior to 1899 stands today. The new construction was of brick and instead of the crude, boom town architecture of the original city, the new Victor was composed of well designed brick buildings.<sup>3</sup> When rebuilt, Victor represented one of the most modern mining towns in the country.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Grimstad, Bill. The Last Gold Rush. Victor: Pollux Press, 1893.

Hollister, O. J. The Far Western Frontier. New York: Arno Press, 1973.

Sprague, Marshall. Money Mountain. Lincoln, Nebraska: University of Nebraska Press, 1979  
See continuation sheet.

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property approx. 22 acres

Quadrangle name Cripple Creek South, Colorado

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References

A	1 3	4 8 8 0 0 0	4 2 8 4 6 7 0
	Zone	Easting	Northing
C	1 3	4 8 7 6 1 5	4 2 8 4 3 2 0
E			
G			

B	1 3	4 8 7 9 2 0	4 2 8 4 2 7 0
	Zone	Easting	Northing
D	1 3	4 8 7 6 8 0	4 2 8 4 7 2 0
F			
H			

Verbal boundary description and justification

See Map #2.

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

state	N/A	code	county	code
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state		code	county	code
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## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title	Barbara Norgren/ Ruth Schauer	Edited:	GM
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organization	Preservation Consultant/ Student	date	September 1984
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street & number	7453 E. Jefferson Drive/Austin Bluffs	Parkway	telephone
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city or town	Denver / Colorado Springs	state	Colorado
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## 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

title	State Historic Preservation Officer	date	4-29-85
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I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

Entered in the  
National Register

date

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

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The following is a list of the buildings within the boundaries of the district (Numbers are keyed to the photographs and map):

2. Page Building - 123 4th Street (1899) Two-story front commercial building, brick exterior single storefront. Two pairs of one-over-one sash beneath segmental arch of ornamental brickwork. Decorative brick frieze and cornice, curved pediment in center. First story has display windows on either side of entry door with tall clerestory above. Entrance to second floor with clerestory at one side of front.

4. Assay Office/Rooming House (c. 1899) 119-121 4th Street Two-story commercial building constructed of brick. The storefronts of the two shop spaces on the lower floor have been altered. The second story has a two-bay facade with four segmental arched windows per bay. There is brick corbeling below the frieze of the projecting cornice.

5. Gift Shop - 415 Victor Avenue (1899) Two-story, brick with double storefront. Altered by addition of shingled overhanging roof above display windows. Two ground level recessed entries with display windows on either side and second story entry at extreme right. Two large second story bay windows with one-over-one sash. Bays are highly decorated with foliated scrolls, festoons, and intersecting geometric designs. There is a plain boxed cornice beneath a paneled parapet.

7. Boston Building - 410 Victor Avenue (1900) This two-story brick commercial building has a storefront on the first floor with an arched opening at the west. The second floor features eleven window sets, each with three sash panels. There is corbeled brickwork at the top of the wall.

11. Caffery Building - 114 4th Street (1899) A two-story building with a rock-faced stone facade, shingle storefront framed with heavy timbers, recessed entrance flanked by multi-paned windows, second floor entry at one side. Tall, narrow second floor windows, one-over-one double hung sash, with continuous stone sills and lintels. A stepped parapet with large stone dentils beneath and the building name. The entire front was redone in new materials within the past five years.

12. The Playhouse - 4th Street (1900) Formerly the armory, this two-story building may have a facade applied to an older brick building. The front is constructed of stucco over wood. There are two side pavillions with recesses in central portions for the double entry doors with multi-paned transoms. There are pairs of one-over-one double hung sash on the upper floor.

14. Rosser Building - 106 4th Street (1900) Single storefront building of light color brick. Recessed store entry flanked by display windows and recessed second story entry. The boxed cornice has brackets and dentils across the frieze and corbelled brick beneath. Brick quoins at corners. There are two, second floor, rectangular one-over-one, double hung sash windows.

15. New Victor Hotel - Corner of 4th Street and Victor Avenue (1899) A semi-detached, rectangular building, four stories in height and constructed with load bearing tan brick walls with a basement that originally held a bank safe. The main or west elevation has

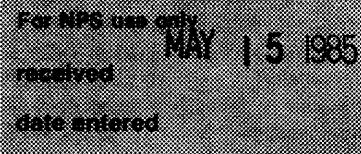
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five bays divided vertically by brick pilasters and horizontally by brick spandrels. The roof is flat with four chimneys. There are storefronts along the first floor of the building and a semi-arched entrance with a recessed door at the southwest corner of the building. The windows are paired except for the end bays where they are single. The second and third floor windows are one-over-one double hung sash and the paired fourth floor windows crest a semi-elliptical arch. There is a boxed overhanging cornice with brackets and plain frieze. The original roof was of copper, but was later replaced with a tar covering, now deteriorated. Some of the storefronts have been altered from their original appearance.

16. Bray Block - 314 Victor Avenue (1900) A two-story highly decorated, brick building with single storefront, recessed center entry. Display windows with wide spandrel below clerestory and paneled wood pilasters. Secondary cornice below large second floor Palladian window. On each side of the central arch is a large cartouche with the date of construction. The frieze across the upper portion of the building has a swag and wreath design with a molded cornice above surmounted by a central rectangular parapet bearing the building name and flanked on one side by a large console. The parapet has a molded cornice with delicate cresting on top.

Bascom Building - 316 Victor Avenue (1900) Rectangular two-story brick structure with flat roof and single storefront with recessed store and second floor entries. Display windows with clerestory, now boarded over. Paired one-over-one sash beneath decorative brick segmental arches. Corbeled brick cornice with triangular parapet in center with building name.

17. Diamond Saloon - 318 Victor Avenue (1900) A two-story storefront (altered) building with the first floor windows and one on the second story boarded. The rectangular second floor windows have molded lintels supported by brick pilasters. There is a corbeled brick cornice.

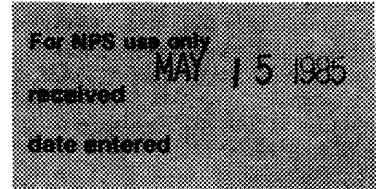
18. Tatlow Building - 100 South 4th Street (1899) Three-story brick corner commercial block with two storefronts. The corner has a clipped corner entrance with display windows on each elevation with transom above. Second small storefront contains a recessed entry, display window and entry to second floor. The bay windows of the second story have a center fixed window with narrow sash on each side and transoms above. The third floor has paired, one-over-one sash with flat arched molded lintels. There is a boxed cornice with modillions and decorated frieze. An ornamented plaque with building name and date is centered above third story windows on north facade.

Victor Plumbing Shop - 108 4th Street (1900) A one-story brick building with three hinged garage type doors each with six glass panes in the upper portion and a French door with transom which takes up half of the front. The other half contains a boarded over display window. The clerestory consists of a band of small panes across the front. There is decorative brickwork near the top of the wall. There was possibly a second story which has been removed.

Abbotts - 202 Victor Avenue (1899) A two-story brick building with tin trim sited on a corner. The ground floor contains storefronts with recessed entries and a clipped corner entry, and display windows with clerestories. Wide second floor windows have fixed center

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pane flanked by one-over-one sash all topped by transoms of leaded beveled glass and a molded entablature above. The boxed cornice below the brick parapet is bracketed, the festoon and wreath decorated frieze has small dentils across the top.

Bert's Market - Victor Avenue (1900) Two-story brick building with single storefront recessed double door entry flanked by display windows with clerestory covered on exterior. Recessed second story entrance at one side. Four semi-circular arched windows with stone sills across front of second floor. Decorative brick work at top of front wall below the molded cornice.

Gorman Building - 309 Victor Avenue (c. 1898) This two-story brick and stone building features a lower floor with two storefronts and recessed entries on either side of large display window. Clerestory painted over. The tripartite windows on the second floor have a fixed central pane with transom and narrow, double hung side windows. There is decorative brickwork beneath the unusual tin cornice with crenellation across the top.

19. Antlers Hotel - 310/312 Victor Avenue (n.d.) This two-story double storefront building is constructed with a concrete foundation and twelve inch thick exterior brick walls. It is a fifty foot square structure with display windows, clerestory and recessed entries to shops and second floor. The second floor has a series of semi-circular arched windows with one-over-one sash. There is a corbeled brick parapet and secondary cornice with dentils between the first and second floors.

102 4th Street - (1899) First used as a retail store, this one-story, double storefront building has a concrete foundation with eight inch thick brick walls. There is a recessed entry flanked by display windows, one has been altered, with clerestory. A second door at one side may have led to a second story which has been removed. There is a decorative brick frieze and brick corbeling which also is seen on the Bascom Building, 316 Victor.

106 4th Street - (1900) This one-story brick building is rectangular, has a flat roof and eight inch thick walls. The brick parapet is undecorated and the storefront altered.

Harrington Building - 108-110 4th Street (1899) Constructed of concrete and face brick, this one-story triple storefront building has post and beam construction with a flat roof. Frame partitions separate the three interior rooms. Display windows with clerestory and two recessed entries are featured on the west facade, with a decorated frieze above with triangular designs in contrasting brick.

22. Victor Record - 118 4th Street (1899) This one-story rectangular building may have originally been two stories. It has a single storefront with recessed entry flanked by multi-paned display windows and clerestory above on west facade. The top of the wall has corbeled brick. An automobile garage and service area with warehouse are located on the east side of this building.

120 4th Street - (c. 1899) Built of concrete block and brick, the building has two second story bay windows on the west facade. The first story storefront has a double door recessed entry and display windows on either side. All windows are boarded over. The decorative brick parapet features dentils and corbelling.

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Amber Inn - 306 Victor Avenue (c.1900) Two-story brick building with single storefront, recessed, double entry doors flanked by display windows with clerestory. Recessed second story entry with transom and clerestory. Large second floor windows are set under a segmental arch of radiating bricks and keystones. Bracketed boxed cornice with dentiled frieze decorated with festoons, wreaths and triangular shaped corbelled brick beneath. Secondary cornice between first and second floors with wreath decorated frieze.

Victor General Mercantile - 304 Victor Avenue (1899) A two-story brick storefront building with wood trim and flat roof. Two first story entries, one recessed. Display windows with clerestory. Two windows boarded up. Second floor paired one-over-one double hung sash have a classical entablature with fluted wood pilasters. The top of the building is undecorated.

24. Harshbarger - 300-302 Victor Avenue (c.1900) This two-story building is situated on the corner of Third and Victor, measuring fifty feet square, is of post and beam construction with brick facing on exterior walls. Two storefronts are divided by pilasters. One storefront has a clipped corner entry and the other is recessed. Entry doors are double with transoms, large display windows have clerestories. Recessed entry to second floor. Plain secondary cornice divides the floors. Upper story is divided into three recessed bays, separated by pilasters corresponding to those at first level. Paired double hung windows with transoms and rusticated stone sills are inset, capped with a rusticated stone band. The building terminates with a narrow corbelled brick parapet with square voids. Narrow brick pilasters divide the top floor into bays and correspond with the first floor brick piers topped with a stone piece.

26. Gold Camp Hotel - 107 3rd Street (1899) Single storefront two-story brick building with recessed entry and door to second floor at one side. Large display window with multi-pane clerestory. Second story bay windows with fixed sash and beveled, leaded glass transom flanked by narrow one-over-one sash. Cornice and decorated frieze over the windows. Building is topped by bracketed cornice, decorated frieze with triangular corbelling below.

Wishing Well - 108 3rd Street (c.1899) This single storefront, two-story building is of brick with corbeled brick below the decorated, bracketed cornice. The first story has a recessed entry door with transom and large display windows framed by iron posts on either side. The secondary cornice between the stories has a delicate volute design across the frieze.

28. Gold Coin Cafe - Victor and 3rd Street (c.1899) This large two-story red brick has a prominent location on the corner. Has semi-circular arched display windows with keystones on the first story. (Part of first story has been altered.) The tall, paired second floor rectangular windows have sandstone sills and lintels, now painted. Below a paneled parapet is a tin bracketed cornice.

29. Victor Museum - 102 3rd Street (n.d.) This large corner business block has two stories, is constructed of brick and has a flat roof. Thin decorated wood piers separate the large fixed display windows and clerestories on the first floor. There is a clipped corner entrance and at the other side of the front is a recessed store entrance and display windows. The second story windows are rectangular, one-over-one, double hung sash with rusticated stone sills. There is a bracketed cornice and plain, undecorated frieze.

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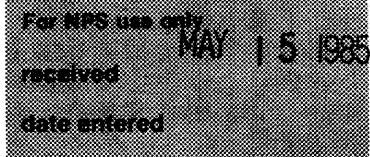
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Barret's Furniture - 104 3rd Street (n.d.) Two-story brick, single storefront with recessed double door flanked by display windows with clerestory. Recessed entrance to second floor. A molded secondary cornice between stories. Second story windows with rusticated stone sills. Cornice with brackets and frieze decorated with festoons. Corbelled brick under frieze.

112 3rd Street - (n.d.) Perhaps the most elegantly decorated building in the district, this two-story brick building has a central recessed entry flanked by display windows with beveled, leaded glass clerestories. A secondary dentiled cornice is between the stories with the entire upper portion composed of two tripartite windows with wood framing and leaded, beveled glass transoms. The facia above is decorated with a sunburst ornament and the cornice has modillions with a frieze with festooning.

Assay Office - 113 3rd Street (1899) This one-story brick building may originally have had a second story. Its double storefront has a recessed entry with two doors, two display windows, one boarded up, and beveled/leaded glass clerestory. There is a secondary cornice.

Rogers Block - 114 3rd Street (n.d.) Single storefront, brick, two-story building with flat roof. Recessed double entry doors with boarded up display windows and clerestory. Rusticated stone belt course on second story at bottom of windows. Two center windows altered into one large window. Decorative brick cornice.

116 3rd Street - (n.d.) Two-story, brick, single storefront building, recessed central entrance with tall transom and flanked by boarded display windows. Second floor stone belt-courses form sills for two rectangular windows beneath segmental arched openings. Single course of brick diapering near top of windows. Brick corbelling below the paneled frieze and dentiled cornice. Decorative projections at each corner.

Library - 124 3rd Street (n.d.) Two-story, single storefront building of brick with recessed double front entry with transom and flanked by display windows with clerestories. Second floor entry at one side of front. Second floor brick facing is ornamented with lighter brick laid in horizontal courses and a decorative brick parapet. Rectangular double hung windows on second floor.

30. Power and Light Company - 204 Diamond Avenue (c.1900) One-story, brick with corrugated metal roof. The windows are arched and there are small gabled hoods supported by brackets over the two doorways. A rectangular building with non-original garage door is attached to the east end of the building with a band of circular openings around the upper walls.

32. T.E. Dunn Building - 204 Victor Avenue (1900) A two-story brick building with a single storefront, center recessed double entry doors with display windows on each side edged with paneled wood posts with thin double brackets at top and bottom, paneled kick plate and clerestory, side entrance to second floor. Four rectangular one-over-one double hung sash with radiating brick voussoirs on second story. Decorative brick work at top of wall with triangular pediment in center with name and date of the building.

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206 Victor Avenue - (1900) This two-story, single storefront, brick building has an altered first floor. The four windows across the second story have semi-circular arches beneath brick corbelling with attached pendants. There is a molded cornice and plain frieze beneath the parapet which has a broken pediment with urn in the center, with the date under the pediment.

208 Victor Avenue - (c.1900) Two-story brick building, single storefront with display windows on right side boarded over. Recessed entry with multi-pane display window and second story entrance at one side. Two double hung second floor windows with leaded, beveled glass transoms. Elaborately corbeled brick cornice with attached brick pendants at ends. Decorated parapet which has been repaired.

Alta Vista Railroad Depot - Victor Avenue and 2nd Street (1800) A one-story, wood building with bellcast hip roof faced in corrugated metal. The eaves have a wide overhang and are bracketed at the corners with slender brackets curving down to meet the building face some distance from the eave line. The building is faced in non-original vertical siding.

RELIGIOUS - FRATERNAL - SOCIAL BUILDINGS

1. Gold Coin Club - 413 West Diamond (1899) This two-story rectangular building is constructed of brick with stone and wood trim in the Colonial Revival style. It features a truncated hip roof, projecting cornice with exposed rafters, classical pediment across the front and decorative frieze around entire building. Windows of the first storefront have single sash with leaded glass transoms and the double entry doors have a segmental arched top with side panels. The two-story front portico has Ionic columns on the first and second floors. The second story of the portico was enclosed at some unknown date with multi-pane windows covering the entire opening. There is a decorated frieze.

8. First Church of Christ Scientist - 117 South Fourth Street (c.1896) This Neo-Classical Revival facade may have been applied over an older brick building. There are four Tuscan wood columns which support an overhanging second story with a large triangular pediment on top. The three bay upper portion has three rectangular windows now boarded over. Rising behind the pediment, is the wall of the building behind the facade with balls at the top of the corners. The front portion of the building is faced in stucco.

9. First Baptist Church - 4th and Portland (1898) Built of brick, this building is Romanesque Revival in style with a large semi-circular arched window with intersecting tracery dominating the gabled front elevation. The gable is faced in fishscale shingles. There is a two-story rectangular brick tower at the left side with pyramidal roof and finials at roof top and tower corners. A semi-circular arch entry is at the base of the tower. The interior is in excellent condition with original pews and woodwork.

20. Masonic Building - 114 Fourth Street (1900) The building has three bays on the first floor and three pedimented pavillions on the second. The base of the center pediment towers high above the roof line of the back building. The cornices have modillions and festooned friezes, the pilasters have Ionic caps. The pilasters create recessed windows and a small

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balcony at the center of the second story. The second story side windows appear to have been bay windows with a curved base. On the first floor there is a three arched opening for a recessed entry with large display windows on either side. The arches have contrasting stepped voussoirs.

25. American Legion - 105 3rd Street (c.1900) This two-story building has a concrete foundation, face brick exterior walls and flat roof. Single storefront with two second story bay windows. Building is vacant and in deteriorating condition.

27. Elk's Club - 3rd Street (1899) Two-story with large columned facade. The second story overhangs the entry. Building is faced in light tan brick.

Victory Chapel - (1905) Very simple, unadorned front gable, brick building. Short tower with pyramidal roof with finial. Gable face and tower faced in shingles. Segmental arch door under tower with transom and segmental arch windows around building.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS

6. City Hall - Victor Avenue (1900) A large two-story brick building with central tower. A central pavillion topped by a low triangular pediment with round arched recesses on second floor with a pair of arched windows and the double entry on the first floor. The pavillion is flanked by double garage doors and a storefront on the first floor and by three round arched windows on the second. There are quoins at the corners, a boxed cornice with modillions and frieze decorated with festoons. The highly ornamented cupola has pairs of round arched windows on each side with similar cornice treatment topped by a balustrade and crowned with a rectangular structure adorned with rosettes, pairs of fluted pilasters, decorated entablature, corner finials and central dome. The building name and date are on a panel over the main entry.

3. Pikes Peak Power Station (1900) This two-story building is constructed of brick with a high foundation of rusticated stone. The upper portion is divided into three bays with pairs of round arched windows in each bay. A corbelled brick cornice at top of facade, flat roof.

10. Midland Terminal - 4th Street and Granite Avenue (1895) This one-story, brick building is in railroad vernacular style with a medium pitch hip roof with wide projecting eaves with brackets and a short tower with conical roof with finial. Base of tower forms bay window on front, semi-circular arched window openings around the building. Heavy piers at corners.

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I. Contributing Buildings--Pictured

<u>Photo No.</u>		<u>Description</u>	<u>Owner</u>
1	Gold Coin Club 413 W. Diamond Ave.	E 75 Ft. L 17-21 Blk. 6 Victor	Irmgard Ussery P.O. Box 34 Victor, CO 80860
2	Page Building 123 4th St.	L 5 Blk. 13 Victor	R. Burgess 13050 Pinery Rd. Colorado Springs, CO
3	Pikes Peak Power Station 4th & Diamond	L 9 Blk. 13 Victor	Centel 4th & Diamond Victor, CO 80860
4	Assay Office/Rooming House 119-121 4th St.	L 6 & 8 Blk. 13 Victor	Havalah Mining Co. Virginia Blanning Victor, CO 80860
5	Gift Shop 411 Victor Ave.	E 75 Ft. of L 20 Blk. 13 W 50 Ft. of E 75 Ft. L 17-19 Blk. 13 Victor	Lester Mundy Rt. #1 Box 286 Collbran, CO 81624
6	City Hall 5th & Victor Ave.	L 17-20 Blk. 13 Victor	City of Victor Victor, CO 80860
7	Boston Building 400-408 Victor Ave.	L 1-3 Blk. 20 Victor	Ralph Brandt 3118 N. 42nd Pl. Milwaukee, WI 53216
8	Old Christian Science Church Building (previously original Saloon & Bowling Alley) 117 S. 4th St.	L 8-13 Blk. 20 Victor	Mary L. Rueter 211 Elm Street Denver, CO 80220
9	First Baptist Church 129-131 S. 4th St.	L 14, 15 & 16 Blk. 20 Victor	First Baptist Church Box 44 Victor, CO 80860

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Photo No.

		<u>Description</u>	<u>Owner</u>
10	Midland Terminal 230 N. 4th St.	L 31 & 32 Blk. 7 Victor	J. Stitzel 521 E. Laurel St. Ft. Collins, CO 80521
11	Joe Caffery Bldg. 124 N. 4th St.	L 27-29 Blk. 12 Victor	Lloyd Quinn Box 470 Mt. Vernon, IN 47620
12	The Playhouse (previous WFMA Hall) 110-112 N. 4th St.	L 22 & 23 Blk. 12 Victor	Warren Reindel 7565 Braun Ct. Arvada, CO 80005
13	Victor Plumbing Shop 108 N. 4th St.	L 21 Blk. 12 Victor	Trust Department c/o Penny Geordhart First Nat'l Bank Colorado Springs, CO
14	H. H. Rosser Bldg. 106 N. 4th St.	L 20 Blk. 12 Victor	Trust Department c/o Penny Geordhart First Nat'l Bank Colorado Springs, CO
15	New Victor Hotel 319 Victor Ave.	W 50 Ft. L 17-19 Blk. 12 Victor	Jerry Blake 2807 Bachman Dr. Dallas, TX 75220
16	Bray Block 307 Victor Ave.	E 25 Ft. L 17-19 Blk. 12 Victor	Tom Aitken Box 131 Victor, CO 80860
17	Diamond Saloon 318 Victor Ave.	L 17, 18, 19 Blk. 12 Victor	William & Judith Harmon 1120 N. Lewis Tulsa, OK 74110
18	Tatlow Bldg. 100 S. 4th St.	W 50 Ft. 122 Blk. 21 Victor	Lloyd Quinn (previous owner- Charlie Carbon-Drug Store) Box 286 Mt. Vernon, IN 47620

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Photo No.

		<u>Description</u>	<u>Owner</u>
19	Antlers Hotel 310-312 Victor Ave.	E 25 Ft. W 75 Ft. L 30-32 Blk. 21 E 50 Ft. L 0-32 Blk 21 Victor	Marshall Hopkins Box 267 Victor, CO 80860
20	Masonic Hall 114 S. 4th St.	L 24 & 25 Blk 21 S 12 1/2 Ft. of L 26 Blk. 21 Victor	Victor Masonic Lodge No. 99 AF & AM Victor, CO 80860
21	Bottling Works 120 S. 4th St.	L 22 Blk. 21 Victor	Universal Salvage Box 408 Bictor, CO 80860
22	Victor Record 118 S. 4th St.	L 23 Blk. 21 Victor	Lonnie Smith 4055 Everett Wheatridge, CO 80033
23	Amber Inn 306 Victor Ave.	E 25 Ft. W 50 Ft. L 1-3 Blk. 21 Victor	Owen Fuhlrodt (previous George Farger-Cigar Store Box 243 Victor, CO 80860
24	Harshbarger (Fortune Club) 300-302 Victor Ave.	E 50 Ft. of L 1 & 2 Blk. 21 Victor	Wayne McCornick (Victor Partnership) General Delivery Victor, CO 80860
25	American Legion Bldg. 105 S. 3rd St.	E 75 Ft. L 3 Blk. 21 Victor	American Legion Victor, CO 80860
26	Gold Camp Hotel 107 S. 3rd St.	L 4 Blk. 21 Victor	Viola Kissell 4285 Carr St. Wheat Ridge, CO 80033
27	Victor Elks Lodge 3rd & Diamond	L 30 Blk. 11 Victor	Victor Elks Lodge #367 Victor, CO 80860

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Photo No.

		<u>Description</u>	<u>Owner</u>
28	Post Office Block (Gold Coin Cafe) 100-106 N. 3rd St.	W 70 Ft. of L 17-20 Blk. 11 Victor	Sue Cunningham H.B. Hall (Siegel/Hall Assoc.) 310 S. Cascade, Ste. 202 Colorado Springs, CO 80903
29	Schoen Drug Store (Victor Museum) 102 3rd St.	L 31 & 32 Blk. 22 Victor	Victor Improvement Assoc. Victor, CO 80860
30	Power & Light Co. 204 Diamond Ave.	L 1 Blk. 11 Victor	Centel 4th & Diamond Victor, CO 80860
31	Monarch Bldg. 301 -303 Victor Avenue	E 50 Ft. L 14-16 Blk. 12 Victor	Victor Partnership General Delivery Victor, CO 80860
32	T. F. Dunn Mortuary Building 204 Victor Ave.	N 65 Ft. E 25 Ft. W 75 Ft. Victor	Harold Phillips 10201 Riverdale Rd. Thornton, CO 80229

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**II. OTHER CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS**

	<u>Description</u>	<u>Owner</u>
Barret's Furniture 104 3rd St.		Glenna Smith Box 25, Victor, CO 80860
Wishing Well 108 3rd St.	L 21 Blk. 11	Linnie Curron Box 94, Victor, CO 80860
112 3rd St.		Virginia Blanning Box 125, Victor, CO 80860
Assay Office 113 3rd St.	L 7 & 8 Blk. 21	Owen & June Fuhlridt Box 243 Victor, CO 80860
Roger's Block 114 3rd St.		James Blanning Box 43 Aspen, CO 81612
116 S. 3rd St.		Pat McDonald General Delivery Victor, CO 80860
Library 124 S. 3rd St.		Victor Library Board General Delivery Victor, CO 80860
129-131 N. 3rd	L 2 & 3 Blk. 12	Viola Kissell 4285 Carr St. Wheatridge, CO 80033
102 4th St.	L 30 & 31 W 50 Ft. Blk. 21	Sarah Johnson General Delivery Victor, CO 80860
106 4th St.	L 29 Blk. 21	James Keeler General Delivery Victor, CO 80860

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	<u>Description</u>	<u>Owner</u>
Victor Plumbing Shop	L 21 Blk. 12	Trust Dept. c/o Penny Geodhart First Nat'l. Bank Colorado Springs, CO
Harrington Bldg. 108-110 4th St.	L N 12½ Ft. of L 26 All of L 27 & 28 Blk. 21	Lillian Titman General Delivery Victor, CO 80860
120 4th St.		Universal Salvage Box 408 Victor, CO 80860
206 Victor Ave.		Dan Bucanan General Delivery Victor, CO 80860
Victor General Mercantile 304 Victor Ave.		Donna Lea Sims 3271 W. 81st Ave. Westminster, CO 80030
Gorman Bldg. 309 Victor Ave.	L 16 15 Ft. 14 Blk. 12	Ada Lillian Titmas General Delivery Victor, CO 80860
Bascom Bldg. 316 Victor Ave.	E 25 Ft. W 75 Ft. L 31 & 32 Blk. 21	Jean Netherton 5115 S. Osceola Littleton, CO 80123
Diamond Saloon 318 Victor Ave.		William Harmon 1120 N. Lewis Tulsa, OK 74110
Alta Vista Rail Road Depot Victor & 2nd		Victor Improvement Assoc. Victor, CO 80860
Bert's Market Victor Ave.	L 16 Blk. 16	Gail Peterson 1180 Valkenbury Colorado Springs, CO
Prospector's Trading Post 209 Portland		J. Brownlee General Delivery Cripple Creek, CO
208 Victor Ave.		Bill Clymer General Delivery Victor, CO 80860

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**III. NON-CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS (letters key to Map 2)**

Key

<u>Key</u>		<u>Description</u>	<u>Owner</u>
A	Garages 4th & Diamond	56 Ft. Lot 2 All Lot 3 & 4 Blk. 6	Texas Gulf General Delivery Victor, CO 80860
B	Jet Service 401 Victor Ave.	Lots 14, 15, 16 Blk. 13	Travis Allen General Delivery Victor, CO 80860
C	Teller County Search & Rescue 415-425 S. 4th St.	Lots 4-9 Blk. 20	Teller County c/o County Commissioners City Hall Victor, CO 80860
D	Trailer Below Depot 216 N. 4th	Lot 20-30 Blk. 7	Nabil Saweers General Delivery Victor, CO 80860
E	Cory's Gas Station 109 N. 3rd St.	Lot 9-12 Blk. 7	Georgia Cory General Delivery Victor, CO 80860
F	Bottle Shop 105 N. 3rd St.	Lot 13 exc. 12½ Ft. of W 50 Ft. Blk. 12	Alice Ashley General Delivery Victor, CO 80860
G	Tommy Knocker Cafe 308 Victor Ave.	W 25 Ft. Lots 1-3 Blk. 21 Victor Add.	Fukiko Deno General Delivery Victor, CO 80860
H	ISIS 109 S. 3rd St.	Lots 5 & 6 Blk. 21	Betty Kennedy 7718 Newman St. Arvada, CO 80005
I	Old Bowling Alley 106 S. 3rd St.	Lot 29 Blk. 22	Chuck Dager General Delivery Victor, CO 80860
J	Zeke's Place 108 S. 3rd St.	Lot 29 Blk. 22	Ort Yeager General Delivery Victor, CO 80860

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Key

		<u>Description</u>	<u>Owner</u>
K	Yellow Gold of Cripple Creek	Lot W 60 Ft. of Lot 23 Blk. 22	Chuck Dager General Delivery Victor, CO 80860
L	Tar Paper House 117-119 N. 2nd St.	Lot 8-10 Blk. 11	Rudy Hall General Delivery Victor, CO 80860

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Because coal and water were scarce in the mining district, it was more economical to haul gold ore by rail to be processed at the mills in Pueblo and Colorado Springs. The railroads were essential to the mining operations in the district. The first line to arrive in Victor was the Florence and Cripple Creek in 1894 followed by the Midland in 1895. In 1901, a third, the Colorado Springs and Cripple Creek railroad, began service to Victor. Today, bits of track, roadbeds, and the Midland Terminal Depot, untouched by the 1899 fire, are the only remaining traces of the railroads which played such an important role in the history of this mining district.

In 1894 and again in 1903, labor disputes erupted between the mine owners and the Western Federation of Miners union. The miners demanded more pay and an eight hour day, but when no agreement was reached, the miners went on strike. In the 1903 dispute, the owners hired non-union workers to keep the mines in operation. Within a few months violence erupted resulting in many deaths. In June of 1904, 13 non-union miners were killed in an explosion at the train depot and the mine owners ordered the mines closed. In addition, all of the saloons in Victor and Cripple Creek were also shut down. The town never did fully recover from the after effects of that strike.<sup>4</sup>

There are several Coloradoans of note who became extremely wealthy through investments in the mining and railroad operations in the mining district. Winfield Scott Stratton staked out the Independence Mine in July 1891. When it turned out to be one of the richest mines in the area, Stratton became the first millionaire in that district. David H. Moffat invested heavily in the mining and railroad activities and Verner Z. Reed of Denver and Spencer Penrose of Colorado Springs both made considerable fortunes from their investments in the mining district.

Of national fame, Lowell Thomas graduated from Victor High School and Jack Dempsey worked in the mines around Victor for a time after his brother was killed there in a mine accident.<sup>5</sup>

Although there is little mining activity today, the surface buildings and piles of tailings from the 475 mines that once operated in the district are still prominent features on the landscape surrounding the town. Victor was a miners town with numerous clubs for their entertainment, two of which still remain: the Gold Coin Club and the Masonic Temple. In 1903, Victor and Cripple Creek were connected by two electric trolley lines, the High Line and the Low Line. This is probably the only mining district where the miners could ride to work on a trolley.<sup>6</sup>

Architecturally, Victor appears almost frozen in time, with few alterations over the years. It is a unique and valuable resource as an unspoiled example of a late 19th and early 20th century mining town.

Among the more important buildings of historic note included are the following:

1. Gold Coin Club - Built in 1899 by the Woods Brothers, founders of Victor. The club is significant as a rare example of a social club built exclusively for the miners by the mine owners. Patterned after the New York Athletic Club, the Gold Club was the pride of Victor. It contained a ballroom, gymnasium, bowling alleys, pool and game rooms, 700-volume library, dining rooms and space for a 25-piece band which played at most of the Victor community events. The labor strikes of 1903-1904 were devastating to the Woods Brother's financial empire, forcing the closure of the Gold Coin Club.

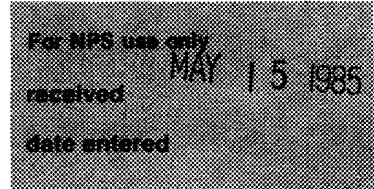
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3. Pikes Peak Power Station - Owned by the Woods Brothers, this was a substation of Skaguay Hydro Plant. Since the Woods Brothers were founders of Victor, they invested in utilities, banks, and shops to support their plans of making Victor a wealthy mining town.

9. First Baptist Church - The Woods Brothers donated the church to the people of Baptist faith living in the Cripple Creek/Victor District.

10. Midland Terminal - Significant as one of the last vestiges of the Midland Terminal Railroad which served the Cripple Creek district from 1895-1949. The Midland Terminal officially opened for business into Victor on December 10, 1894. The Victor Depot was completed in 1895 and saw the arrival of many distinguished people who visited the "City of Mines". The railroad experienced fierce competition from the other railroads that served the district during the early years. However, by 1920 it was the only remaining railroad in the Cripple Creek District. When the Carlton Mill was built between Victor and Cripple Creek in 1949, the need for rail service was eliminated and the Midland Terminal passed into history.

12. Playhouse - In 1900 this building housed the Victor Miners Union. A labor dispute broke out in 1904 and stories are told of bullet holes that still exist in the original (brick) facade which is now covered in stucco. This labor dispute played a big part in the downfall of the Woods Brothers financial empire.

15. The Victor Hotel - Listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

22. Victor Record - Housed a printing office for the Victor Record, one of seven newspapers being published in Victor at the turn of the century. During the mining strikes of 1903-1904, Victor Record was the mouthpiece for pro-union elected officials. The editor, George Kyner, and four of his employees were arrested during the strikes, and the Victor Record office was bombed.

30. Power & Light Company - This building was another example of the financial success of the Woods Brothers' empire. The Woods owned and operated this company as well as many other buildings that were important to the growth of this unique mining town.

<sup>1</sup>Muriel Sibell Wolle, Stampede to Timberline. Chicago: Sage Books, 1969, p. 463.

<sup>2</sup>Wolle, pp. 463-466, 455.

Perry Eberhart, Guide to Colorado Ghost Towns and Mining Camps, Denver: Sage Books (Alan Swallow), 1959, p. 453.

<sup>3</sup>Wolle, p. 465.

<sup>4</sup>Wolle, pp. 471-473.

<sup>5</sup>Wolle, pp. 468, 474-475.

<sup>6</sup>Wolle, p. 460.

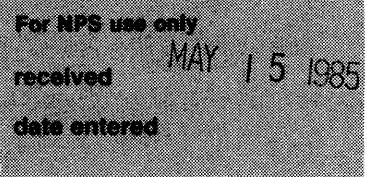
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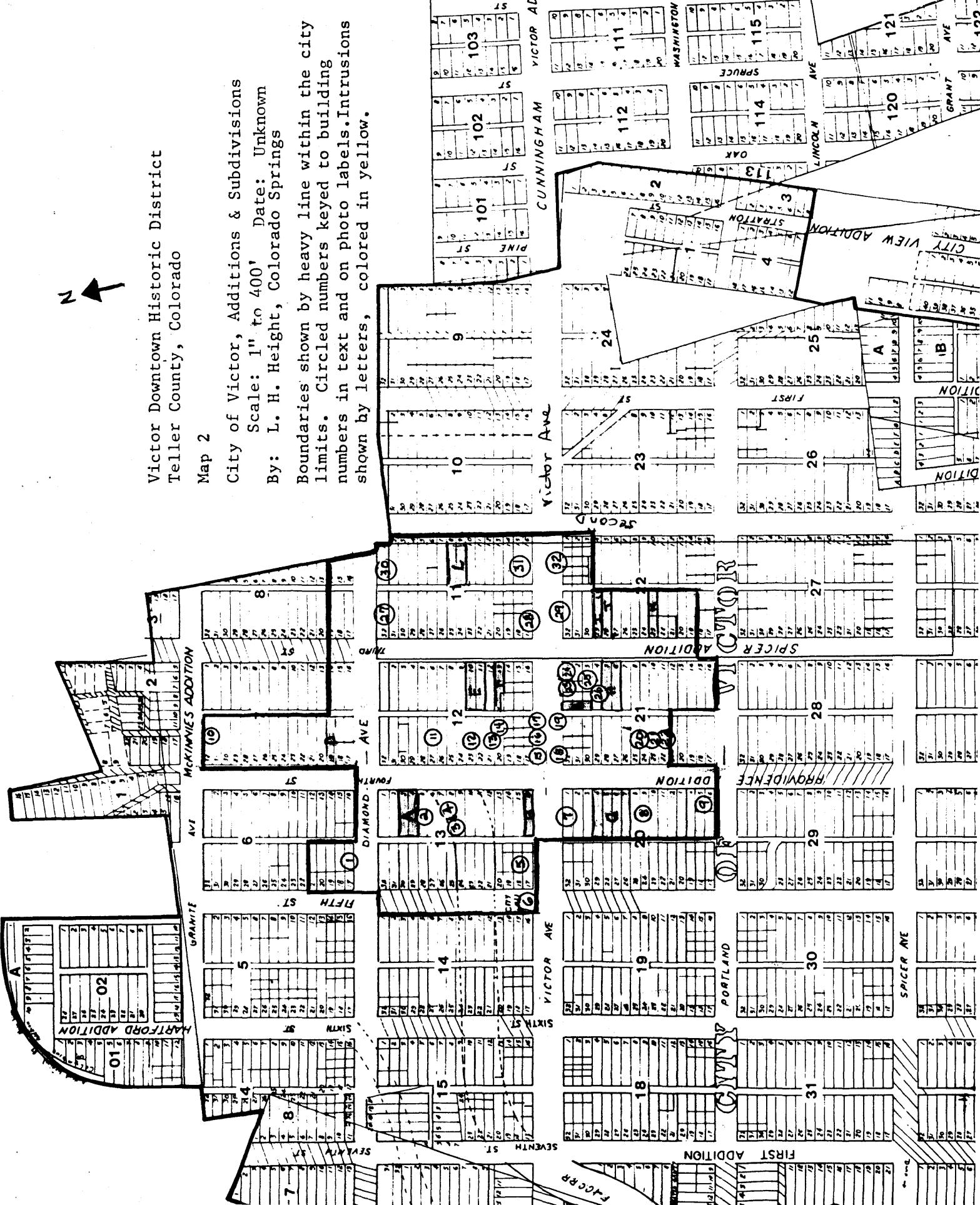
Wolle, Muriel Sibell. Stampede to Timberline. Chicago: Sage Books, 1969.

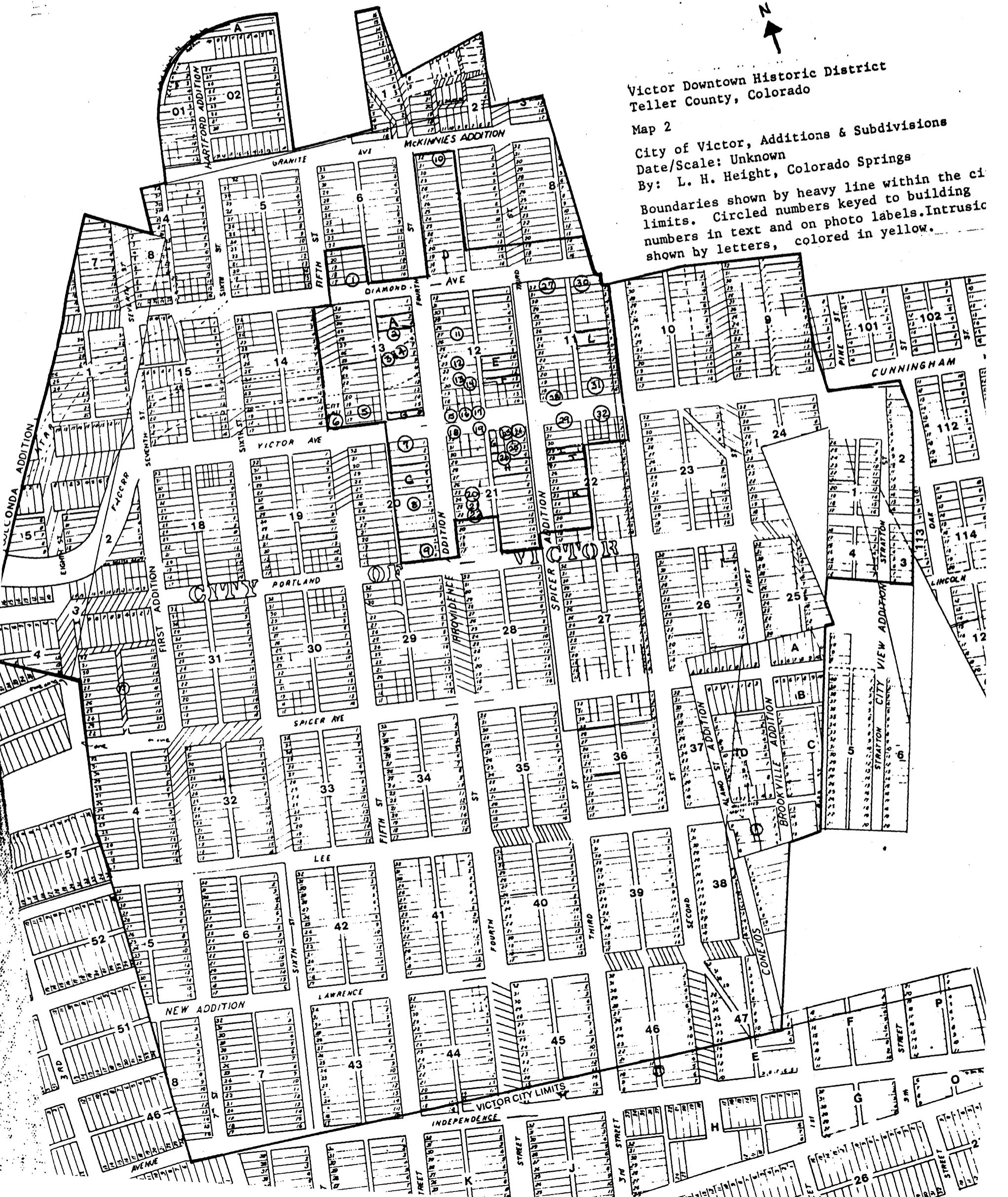
## Victor Downtown Historic District Teller County, Colorado

Map 2

City of Victor, Additions & Subdivisions  
Scale: 1" to 400' Date: Unknown  
By: L. H. Height, Colorado Springs

Boundaries shown by heavy line within the city limits. Circled numbers keyed to building numbers in text and on photo labels. Intrusions shown by letters, colored in yellow.





Victor Downtown Historic District  
Teller County, Colorado

Map 2

Map 2  
City of Victor, Additions & Subdivisions  
Date/Scale: Unknown  
Right Colorado Springs

City of Victoria,  
Date/Scale: Unknown

Date/Scale: June 1958  
By: L. H. Height, Colorado Springs  
in line with

By: L. H. Newell  
Boundaries shown by heavy line within the limits. Circled numbers keyed to building numbers in text and on photo labels. Intrusive shown by letters, colored in yellow.