

COLORADO CULTURAL RESOURCE SURVEY

Architectural Inventory Form

Official Eligibility Determination (OAH use only)

OAHP1403 Rev. 9/98

- Date _____ Initials _____
- Determined Eligible – National Register
- Determined Not Eligible – National Register
- Determined Eligible – State Register
- Determine Not Eligible – State Register
- Need Data
- Contributes to eligible National Register District
- Noncontributing to eligible National Register District

I. IDENTIFICATION

- 1. Resource number: **5RT.1053** Parcel number(s): **145017005**
- 2. Temporary resource number: **N/A**
- 3. County: **Routt**
- 4. City: **Steamboat Springs**
- 5. Historic Building Name: **Christian Science Society Building**
- 6. Current Building Name: **Christian Science Society**
- 7. Building Address: **641 Oak Street**
- 8. Owner Name: **Christian Science Society**
- Owner Organization:
- Owner Address: **P.O. Box 771826**
Steamboat Springs, CO 80477



44. National Register eligibility field assessment:	Eligible
Local landmark eligibility field assessment:	Eligible

Architectural Inventory Form

Page 2 of 8

II. GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

9. P.M.: **6th** Township: **6N** Range: **84W**
NE ¼ of NW ¼ of NW ¼ of NE ¼ of Section 17
10. UTM reference (Datum: NAD27)
 Zone: **13** **344723 mE** **4483113 mN**
11. USGS quad name: **Steamboat Springs, Colorado**
 Year: **1969** Map scale: **7.5**
12. Lot(s): **Lots 5 and 6 Block 17**
 Addition: **Original Addition of Steamboat Springs** Year of addition: **1884**
13. Boundary description and justification:
This legally defined parcel encompasses, but does not exceed, the land historically associated with this property.
 Metes and bounds?: Describe:

III. ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

14. Building plan (footprint, shape): **Rectangular Plan**
15. Dimensions in feet: **850 square feet**
16. Number of stories: **1**
17. Primary external wall material(s): **Wood/Log**
18. Roof configuration: **Gabled Roof/Front Gabled Roof**
19. Primary external roof material: **Metal Roof**
20. Special features: **N/A**
21. General architectural description:
The Christian Science Church building is located at the southern corner of Oak and 7th Streets. Built in 1934, this is a rectangular-shaped wood frame building. It is supported by a river rock foundation, and its exterior walls are clad with stained brown half log siding with whole vertical logs at the corners. Diagonal half logs appear in the upper gable ends. The building is covered by a steeply-pitched front gable roof, with metal roofing material over 1x wood decking. Decorative stained brown log rafter ends are exposed beneath the eaves. A red brick chimney is located just below the ridge at the southwest end of the southeast-facing roof slope. The building features a symmetrical façade which faces toward Oak Street on the northeast elevation. The main entry door into the church is centered on the façade and leads into an enclosed gable-roofed foyer or vestibule. The stained brown vertical wood plank entry door has a small 16-light upper sash window, black metal strap hinges, and it is set within a rounded arch, with a painted green rustic wood door frame. A concrete sidewalk, which is handicapped-accessible, leads from the door to the curb at Oak Street. Windows on the southeast and northwest and southeast (side) elevations are mirror images of each other. Each of these elevations feature two bands of three 6-light casement windows, and one 3-light (ribbon-style) window, all with painted green rustic wood surrounds. There are no windows in the northeast and northwest (end) elevations.
22. Architectural style: **Late 19th And Early 20th Century American Movements/Rustic**
 Building type:

Architectural Inventory Form

Page 3 of 8

23. Landscape or special setting features: **The Christian Science Church building is located on a 50' by 140' lot at the southern corner of Oak and 7th Streets in Steamboat Springs. Lincoln Avenue (U.S. Highway 40), Steamboat Springs' main street, is one block to the southwest. A nicely-landscaped planted grass lawn surrounds the building, including groves of small aspen trees along the alley, and along Butcher Knife Creek which flows from the northeast to the southwest along the southeast edge of the property.**

24. Associated buildings, features or objects: **Not Applicable**

IV. ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY

25. Date of construction: Estimate: Actual: **1934**
 Source of information: **Schaffer, Laureen, National Register of Historic Places Registration Form, February 2007; Routt County Assessor records.**
26. Architect: **N/A**
 Source of information: **N/A**
27. Builder: **Ernest Campbell**
 Source of information: **Schaffer, Laureen, National Register of Historic Places Registration Form, February 2007.**
28. Original owner: **Christian Science Society**
 Source of information: **Schaffer, Laureen, National Register of Historic Places Registration Form, February 2007.**
29. Construction history:
Sanborn Insurance maps reveal that this lot was initially developed with the construction of the Onyx Hotel in the early 1900s. The Christian Science Church was built between August and November 1934, by Ernest Campbell, at a reported cost of \$1345.00. There have been no additions, and no notable exterior alterations, to the original building.
30. Original location: Moved: Date of move(s): **N/A**

V. HISTORICAL ASSOCIATIONS

31. Original use(s): **Religion/Church**
32. Intermediate use(s): **Religion/Church**
33. Current use(s): **Religion/Church**
34. Site type(s): **Christian Science Society Church**

Architectural Inventory Form

Page 4 of 8

35. Historical background:

The following historic background narrative is excerpted from the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form, prepared by Laureen Schaffer in February 2007.

Steamboat Springs residents organized the Christian Science Society on July 22, 1908. The Sunday school started the following year. The church records include a Reading Room sales' book dated 1910 and 1911. In 1919 or 1920, George Shaw Cook delivered the first lecture. Until 1934, Christian Science services were held in various places in the community.

The original eight charter members included Mrs. Nellie Allen, Mrs. Guerina Banning, Mary Weldon Borland, Mrs. Margaret Crawford, Mrs. Sylvia Creveling, Charles H. Leckenby, Laura Leckenby, and Mrs. Molly Lockhart. James and Margaret Crawford founded and named the town of Steamboat Springs in 1875. Margaret came from Sedalia, Missouri, and on a return visit, first heard about Christian Science. She brought its precepts back to Steamboat Springs and introduced Christian Science to her friends and neighbors.

In 1920, the Christian Science Society purchased the corner lot at Oak and 7th streets from F. A. Metcalf for \$650. The property had previously been the site of the Onyx Hotel. The society members decided in the spring of 1934 to erect a church building on the property. They hired local builder Ernest Campbell as the contractor to construct the church for \$1,345. Work began in August and the congregation held its first service in the new church building just three months later on November 4, 1934. Dedication services occurred when the church was free of all debt—Sunday, December 15, 1935. Regular services have since been held continuously.

36. Sources of information:

Schaffer, Laureen, National Register of Historic Places Registration Form, February 2007.

Sources cited in above document:

Reiff, Lynn W., "Christian Science Society," Routt County Historic Preservation Board Application Form for Local Historic Designation, January 28, 2001.

Richards, Dee. Steamboat Round the Bend. Steamboat Springs: The Steamboat Pilot, 1976.

Routt County Assessor's Office. Steamboat Springs, CO.

The Steamboat Pilot, Colorado's Historic Newspaper Collection, 1859-1923 and December 13, 1935.

United States Census, 1920.

Architectural Inventory Form

Page 5 of 8

VI. SIGNIFICANCE

37. Local landmark designation: Yes No Date of designation:

Designating authority: **Routt County Board of County Commissioners**

38. Applicable National Register criteria:

- A. Associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad pattern of our history;
 - B. Associated with the lives of persons significant in our past;
 - C. Embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or represents the work of a master, or that possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguished entity whose components may lack individual distinction;
 - D. Has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in history or prehistory.
- Qualifies under Criteria Considerations A through G (see Manual).
Does not meet any of the above National Register criteria.

Steamboat Springs Standards for Designation:

- A. Its character, interest, or value as part of the development, heritage, or cultural characteristics of Routt County, the State of Colorado, or the United States.
- Not Applicable B. Its location as a site of a significant historic event.
- C. Its identification with a person or persons who significantly contributed to the culture and development of Routt County.
- Not Applicable D. Its exemplification of the cultural, economic, social, or historic heritage of Routt County.
- Not Applicable E. Its portrayal of the environment of a group of people in an era of history characterized by a distinctive architectural style.
- F. Its embodiment of distinguishing characteristics of an architectural type or specimen.
- Not Applicable G. Its identification as the work of an architect or master builder whose individual work has influenced the development of Routt County.
- Not Applicable H. Its embodiment of elements of architectural design, detail, materials, and/or craftsmanship that represent a significant architectural innovation.
- Not Applicable I. Its relationship to other distinctive areas that are eligible for preservation according to a plan based on an historic, cultural, or architectural motif.
- J. Its unique location or singular physical characteristic representing an established and familiar visual feature of a neighborhood, a community, or Routt County.

39. Area(s) of significance: **Architecture**

40. Period of significance: **1934**

41. Level of significance: National: State: Local:

Architectural Inventory Form

Page 6 of 8

42. Statement of significance:

The 1934 Christian Science Society Building in Steamboat Springs is eligible to the National Register under Criterion C in the area of architecture as a good local example of the Rustic style. It embodies many of the defining characteristics of the design philosophy, including the use of native materials in its log construction and stone foundation, the multi-light windows, simple ornamentation, and log wall interior. The building is in harmony with its mountain setting, an important quality of naturalistic design encompassed in the Rustic style.

This property has been individually listed in the National Register.

43. Assessment of historic physical integrity related to significance:

The Christian Science Society Building displays a very high standard of integrity, relative to the seven aspects of integrity as defined by the National Park Service and the Colorado Historical Society - setting, location, design, materials, workmanship, feeling and association. There have been no additions, and no notable adverse alterations to the original building.

VII. NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT

44. National Register eligibility field assessment: **Eligible**

Local landmark eligibility field assessment: **Eligible**

45. Is there National Register district potential? Yes No

Discuss: **Historic buildings in this area along Oak Street probably do not collectively possess the historical or architectural significance, and do not display sufficient physical integrity, to be part of a National Register historic district.**

If there is National Register district potential, is this building: Contributing Noncontributing N/A:

46. If the building is in existing National Register district, is it: Contributing Noncontributing N/A:

VIII. RECORDING INFORMATION

47. Photograph number(s): **CD #16, Images 303-306** CDs filed at: **City of Steamboat Springs**

48. Report title: **Historic Building Inventory of Downtown Steamboat Springs** **137 10th Street**

49. Date(s): **09/09/07** **Steamboat Springs, CO**
80477

50. Recorder(s): **Carl McWilliams**
Timothy Wilder

51. Organization: **Cultural Resource Historians**

52. Address: **1607 Dogwood Court**
Fort Collins, CO 80525

53. Phone number(s): **(970) 493-5270**

Architectural Inventory Form

Sketch Map



Architectural Inventory Form

Location Map

