

Architectural Inventory Form

Official Eligibility Determination
(for OAHF use only)

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

I. Identification

1. Resource number: 5HN68.29
2. Temporary resource number: 116
3. County: Hinsdale
4. City: Lake City
5. Historic building name: St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church
6. Current building name:
7. Building address: 112 South Silver Street, Lake City, CO 81235
8. Owner name and address: St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church, P.O. Box 111, Lake City CO 81235

II. Geographic Information

- County Property No.: RTax exempt
9. P.M. 6th Township 44N Range 4W NW4 of SW4 of NW4 of Section 34
 10. UTM reference
Zone 13 296540 mE 4210940 mN
 11. USGS quad name: Lake City Quad year: 1985 Map scale: X 7.5' ___ 15'
 12. Block(s): 5 Lot(s): 17-21 Legal:
Addition: Foote & Richardson Addition Year of Addition: 1881
 13. Boundary description and justification: Perimeter of parcel

III. Architectural Description

14. Building plan: Irregular
15. Dimensions: 1440 square feet
16. Number of stories: 1
17. External wall material(s): Wood horizontal siding
18. Roof configuration: Front gabled
19. Roof material: Metal
20. Special features: Decorative shingles, flared eaves, tower
21. General architectural description:

One-story, front-gabled frame building on an elevated site. Metal roof. Walls are clad in clapboards and trimmed in cornerboards. Façade has vestibule topped by tower. Tower base is square with flared eaves and a bracketed cornice. It is covered in diamond and fishscale shingles; small round opening covered in wood in north wall. Center portion of the base has paired louvers on each elevation and bracketed cornice surmounted by four-sided steeple covered in fish scale and square wood shingles. Plain metal cross at steeple summit.

Windows are newer 6-over-6 with original exterior frames with triangular pediment. Vestibule has original narrow 2-over-2 windows, east-facing and west-facing, with same frame and molding. Entrance consists of paired, paneled doors with 4-lite transom topped by a triangular pediment. Stone foundation partially enclosed in a horizontal board. Entrance is accessed by wide set of low-rising steps on the west and by wheelchair ramp on east, with non-historic, low fence with turned balusters.

Circa 1990, one-story gabled addition on the rear has clapboard materials and similar window frames. West-facing entrance has paneled door, triangular pediment and is sheltered by a gabled porch entry with turned posts, spindlework balustrade, and wood steps.

22. Architectural style/Building type: Carpenter Gothic

23. Landscaping or special setting:

24. Associated building, features or objects:

IV. Architectural History

25. Date of construction Estimate: _____ Actual: 1877 Source of info: Lake City SILVER WORLD, Sat., November 17, 1877, page 3, Sat., January 12, 1878, page 3.

26. Architect: Unknown Source of info:

27. Builder/contractor: Unknown Source of info:

28. Original owner: Catholic archdiocese Source of info:

29. Construction history (major additions, alterations, demolitions):

Parsonage built on rear in 1902 by Kranichfeld and Gannon; removed circa 1945. Addition built on rear circa 1985. Roof replaced ca 1994.

30. Original location: Moved Date of move(s) _____

V. Historical Associations

31. Original use(s): Church

32. Intermediate use(s):

33. Current use(s): Church

34. Site type(s):

35. Historical background:

St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church is one of four Lake City churches dating from the final quarter of the 19th Century, three of which -- Community Presbyterian and St. James Episcopal, both 1876, and St. Rose of Lima, 1877-78 -- date from Lake City's initial building boom in the 1870s. The fourth 19th Century church in the Lake City Historic District is First Baptist, 401 Bluff, dating from 1891.

Although St. Rose of Lima underwent considerable renovation in the mid-1980s, including new roof and window replacement, it remains a significant element of the local historic district as the oldest Catholic Church on Colorado's Western Slope. Covered in clapboard, the original gable-facing structure was designed with moveable six-over-six pane sash and pedimented exterior window trim. Original sash and glass were replaced with identical six-over-six double-pane windows during the 1985 renovation, with some attempt made to reuse some of the late 1870s glass panes. Similar to Community Presbyterian Church, an entrance vestibule and steeple with belfry were added to the front of the building in 1897. Belfry louvers and cut shingle steeple form a predominate element of the historic structure; also notable and worthy of preservation are the paneled double entry doors which date to 1877 and are the sole surviving original church doors of Lake City's four historic church buildings. The doors were manufactured locally by the carpentry firm Echlin, Routt & Co. An integral interior feature of St. Rose of Lima is its elaborate wooden altar which is perhaps Lake City's finest example of local carpentry building skills in the 1870s.

A triangular-shaped tract of land south of Henson Creek known as the Foote & Richardson Addition to the Town of Lake City was promoted by Dr. J.P. Richardson and Smith C. Foote in the late 1870s. As an inducement for further development, Dr. Richardson provided the local Roman Catholic congregation with five lots overlooking the south end of Silver Street as a location for their church building. Fundraising began in late summer, 1877, and \$800 raised toward a \$2,500 Gothic-style building with winding stairway for choir gallery and elaborate altar installed within a half-circle alcove.

Despite projections that the needed construction funds would be forthcoming, money was evidently in short supply and plans for the Catholic church were scaled down to a single-story 22x55' frame structure costing \$1,200. Work on the structure continued through fall and winter, 1877. Temperatures were 18-degrees below zero in early December, 1877, prompting plasterers to keep fires burning in the building.

Work was continuing in January, 1878, when Father Hayes of Del Norte, Colorado, formally dedicated the church. George Boggs, a local carpenter drew plans for the church and served as chief contractor.

The interior arrangement, according to Lake City SILVER WORLD at the building's January, 1878, dedication, "is very neat, and when completed will be a very handsome little church." Interior features included an arched ceiling which was plastered and painted, wainscoting grained to imitate oak surrounding the sanctuary, and the altar, also crafted by George Boggs, built in the "Roman style" with painting imitating marble. It was noted an addition at the rear of the church would be partitioned to provide two rooms for the priest.

Local church finances went into decline after 1879 and by 1883 St. Rose of Lima was in considerable debt. A series of dances and benefits was held in 1883, including an effort by Father Quinn, the church's new priest, to obtain \$95 in donations ranging from \$10 pledged by John C. Crooke to \$5 given by Barney Mallon and Mrs. George J. Richards. The increase in funds also allowed for two chandeliers and five new pews. A further ongoing complication was Dr. Richardson's failure to furnish the congregation with legal title to the five Foote & Richardson Addition lots on which the church was located. A lawsuit was commenced which was concluded in January, 1884, when Richardson was paid \$1,000 based on a mortgage of the Lake City church property.

A revival of interest in St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church occurred in the 1890s coinciding with an increase in the number of Italian miners and their families working at the Ute-Ulay and Hidden Treasure mines on Henson Creek. "Services were held in the five churches of Lake City last Sunday morning and evening," the Lake City TIMES wrote in August, 1896, "with good audiences present at the Presbyterian, Baptist, Christian, Episcopal and Catholic... for a town of only a thousand people, this speaks well for Lake City." Increased attendance at St. Rose of Lima resulted in construction of the entrance steeple in July, 1897, and a reconfiguration and expansion of the attached parsonage at the rear of the church by the carpentry firm Kranichfeld & Gannon in October, 1902.

St. Rose generally mirrored Lake City's downward economic trend post-1910. Without a resident priest, the congregation of the Lake City parish was served by priests from Gunnison who intermittently traveled to Crested Butte and Lake City to conduct Mass. Photographs of the church building taken by Muriel Sibyl Wolle in 1942 show the building still painted, shingled and with coxcomb trim on the roof ridge. Windows of the building are, however, boarded shut. Wolle's 1942 photographs confirm the presence of an attached parsonage with shed roof porch at the rear of the building, although this addition disappeared at some point post-1942.

The ongoing cycle of renewal at the church recommenced in the 1960s when residents and local visitors joined forces to resurrect the building and resume weekly Sunday worship utilizing the services of a Gunnison priest, Father Friel, and two nuns. Summer residents headed by Frenchy Huval planted flowers and painted the exterior clapboard a pinkish rose hue. Sunday Mass continued under the residency of a retired Jesuit Priest, Father Nick Cermak, beginning in 1978. Changes in the manner with which Mass was traditionally held resulted in a temporary removal of the altar (it was returned to the church in 1984), together with replacement of the original turned altar rail. Father Cermak and the local congregation began an ambitious building renovation starting in 1982 and continuing through 1991 which included raising the building and installing a foundation and reconstruction of rooms at the rear of the building for use as a temporary chapel.

The roof was replaced after structural analysis confirmed that the walls of the building were spreading outward from the eaves; resulting interior renovation included removal of the old wainscoting and plaster, together with insulating adobe bricks found stacked between the wall studs. New sheet rock and wainscoting replaced the old plaster walls and arched cove between wall and ceiling. Original painted wood pews were replaced with stout oak pews brought from St. Peter's Catholic Church in Gunnison. Also added at this time was a circular leaded stained glass window located at the apex of the wall above the altar; the window, which is artificially lit from behind, was rescued from the demolished Mt. St. Gertrude Academy at Boulder, Colorado, and donated to the church by Chalones and Hank Roberts.

36. Sources of information:

Lake City SILVER WORLD, Sat., September 8, 1877, page 3, Sat., December 8, 1877, page 3, Sat., January 12, 1878, page 3, Fri., June 8, 1884, page 1, Fri., August 2, 1885, pages 6, 7 and 10, Fri., September 13, 1885, page 1, Fri., September 26, 1886, page 1, Thurs., April 4, 2002, page 3; Lake City MINING REGISTER, Fri., May 4, 1883, page 3, Fri., May 11, 1883, page 3, Fri., January 11, 1884, page 3; Lake City TIMES, Thurs., August 20, 1896, page 3, Thurs., July 22, 1897, page 3, Thurs., October 30, 1902, page 3.

VI. Significance

37. Local landmark: Yes No Date of design.: _____ Design. authority: _____

Within Lake City Historic District (local historic district)

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 distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or
- D. Has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in history or prehistory
- Qualifies under Criteria Considerations A through G
- Does not meet any of the above National Register criteria

39. Area(s) of significance: Social history, religion, architecture

40. Period of significance: 1877 - 1904

41. Level of significance: National State Local

42. Statement of significance:

This building is associated with settlement and development of Lake City during the late 1800s mining era. The church also reflects the strong community spirit in the town. Unlike other mining camps where saloons far outnumbered churches, early Lake City had a number of churches, four of which remain well preserved today.

St. Rose of Lima Church is a well-preserved representative of the Carpenter Gothic style constructed in Lake City during this period, as reflected in its steeply pitched gabled roof, decorative shingles, pediment windowheads, and shingled steeple. The property is one of the few intact church buildings in Colorado remaining from the 1870s. It is the earliest Catholic Church on the Western Slope.

43. Assessment of historic physical integrity to significance:

The architectural integrity of this building is intact, as evidenced by minimal alterations to its character-defining features.

VII. National Register Eligibility Assessment

44. National Register eligibility field assessment: Eligible Not Eligible Need Data

45. Is there National Register district potential? Yes No

Discuss _____

If there is National Register district potential, is this building Contributing Noncontributing

46. If the building is in an existing National Register district is it? Contributing Noncontributing
(Lake City National Historic District)

VIII. Recording Information

47. Photograph numbers: Roll 20, frames 1A - 4A, 7A, 8A; Roll 31, frame 26A Negatives filed at: Lake City Town Hall

48. Report title: 2003 Architectural Survey of Lake City, Colorado

49. Date(s): September 2002 - June 2003

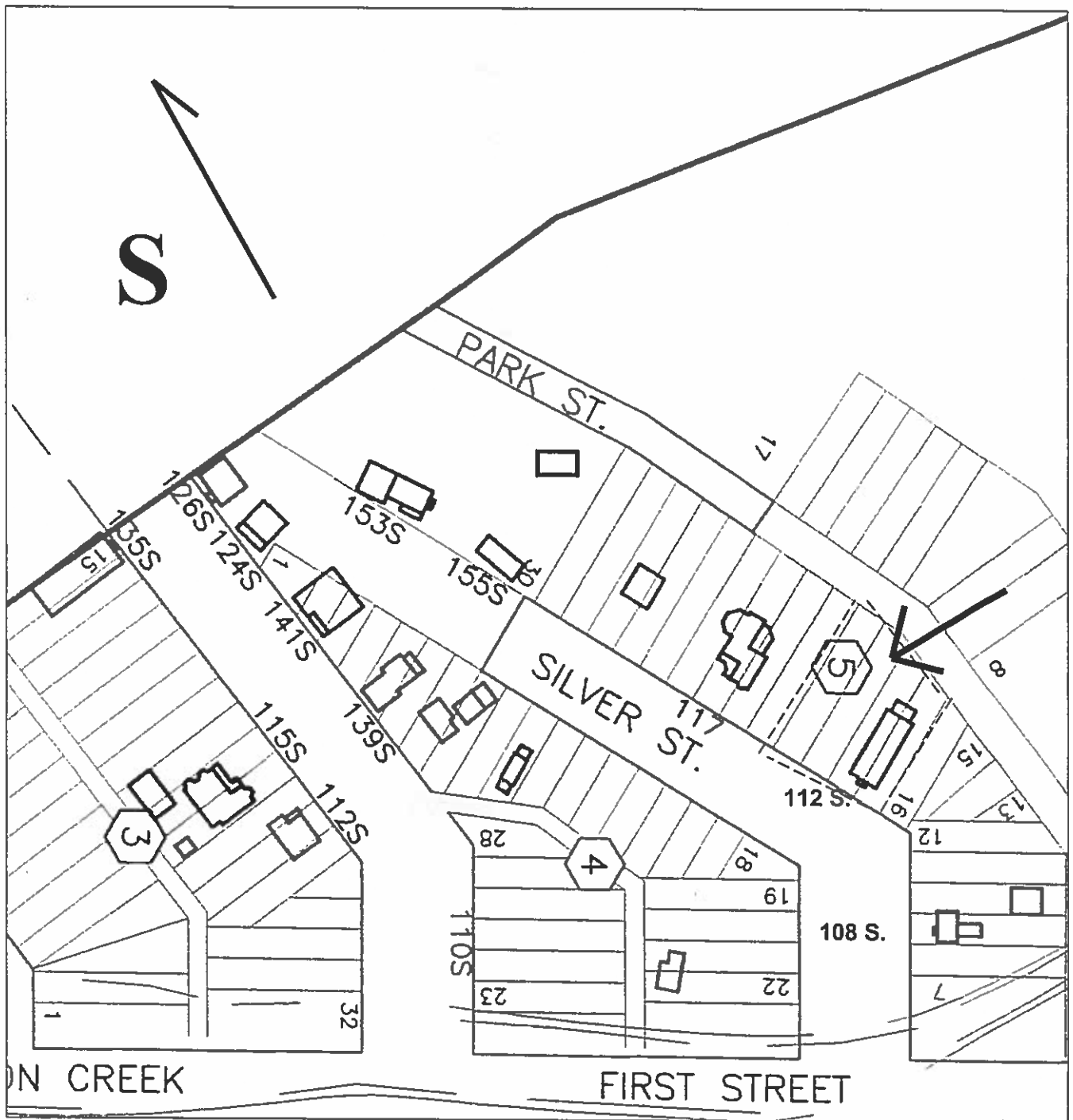
50. Recorders: Cathleen M. Norman and Grant E. Houston

51. Organization: Town of Lake City

52. Address: 230 Bluff Street, Lake City CO 81235

53. Phone no. (970) 944-2333

Colorado Historical Society - Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation
1300 Broadway, Denver CO 80203 (303) 866-3395



5HN68.29

112 South Silver Avenue