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## HPC-18-09

**TO:** City of Pueblo Historic Preservation Commission

**FROM:** Alan Lamberg, Planner

**THROUGH:** Scott Hobson, Land Use Administrative Official

**DATE:** August 8, 2018

**SUBJECT:** **A Nomination for Designation of a Landmark**

**LOCATION:** 418 & 426 North Santa Fe Avenue

**CULTURAL LISTING:** Numa Hotel / Saint James Hotel / BPOE Pueblo Lodge No. 90.  
Building constructed in 1881 (address 426)

**APPLICANT:** **The Benevolent and Protective Order of the Elks, Pueblo Lodge No. 90**  
426 North Santa Fe Avenue, Pueblo CO 81001

**PROPERTY OWNER:** Same as above

**ZONE DISTRICT:** Central Business (B-4 zone) district

**CONCURRENT REQUESTS:** None

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### **PURPOSE:**

The applicant, Exalted Ruler and President Dennis Morgan for the Benevolent and Protective Order of the Elks, Pueblo Lodge No. 90 (BPOE), nominated their building for designation of a landmark if it qualifies for significance by meeting certain criteria of history, architecture, and/or geography.<sup>1</sup>

### **LOCATION:**

The site is legally described as North 18 feet and 8 inches of Lot 4, and all of Lots 5 and 6, Block 22, Plan of Pueblo; parcel ID: 0431216010 (See attachments A: Location Map and B: Site Map).

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<sup>1</sup> Designation as provided in the Historic Preservation Ordinance, adopted in 2002 (Title IV, Chapter 14, Section 4-14-8, of the Municipal Code of Ordinances, City of Pueblo).

**BACKGROUND:**

The applicant nominated the building and site for its distinctive character and certain criteria, focusing on historical events and architecture. and is aware of the reasons for, and effect of, designation of local landmarks in the City of Pueblo.

Numa Vidal, "Prince of the Saloon Men," was born in southern France. Well educated, he went into French government service and worked for the postal department in Cairo, Egypt. He immigrated to the United States in 1867, lived in Washington, D.C., for a time and went westward to Central City and Denver. Vidal came to Pueblo from Denver to open a saloon in July 1872, shortly after the Denver & Rio Grande railroad was built. After his wife, Mary, passed away on September 4, 1878 at the age of 31, Vidal and his mother-in-law reared his two girls. Vidal built a hotel in Manitou Springs in 1874 and with a partner opened a hotel in the new town of Leadville in March, 1878. In June, he had fitted rooms in Pueblo on Santa Fe Avenue in magnificent style with a black walnut bar and Brussels carpet. The establishment included a restaurant and oyster bar. In 1881, he opened a fine hotel, the Numa, newly constructed at the southeast corner of Fifth and Santa Fe Avenue.<sup>2</sup>

Numa commissioned one of Pueblo's most prolific and best-known architects, Francis W. Cooper, to design the building. Cooper was born in New York and graduated from Cornell University in 1874. He worked in Ohio and Wyoming before establishing his firm in Pueblo in 1881. Pueblo's first powerful family, the Thatchers, hired Cooper. A century later, ten of his eleven commissions stand in Downtown Pueblo. An American Institute of Architects (AIA) Fellow, for sixteen years he served as President of the State Board of Architect Examiners. His work is symbolic of Pueblo as Southern Colorado's leading urban center, which became a serious economic rival to Denver.

Before 1904, the Numa presumably was sold to another hotelier and renamed the St. James Hotel. The Benevolent and Protective Order of the Elks, Lodge No. 90 (BPOE) secured an option on the hotel for \$12,500 on February 24, 1904. An appropriation of \$7,000 was made to remodel the building's interior suitable for the BPOE, designed by lodge member Cooper. The first meeting in the newly remodeled Elks Club was held on November 2, 1904. A report was made that the total cost of buying the property, remodeling, and furnishings amounted to \$30,838.<sup>3</sup> In 1913, the exterior façade was completely remodeled by BPOE member Robert Rapalje's construction company.<sup>4</sup>

On June 3, 1921, Pueblo was struck by the worst flood in its history that killed up to 1,500 people and destroyed 600 buildings estimated at \$20 million (unadjusted for inflation) in property damage. As the city struggled to help the survivors, the BPOE rose to the occasion. The storm started at 7 o'clock at night and by 11 o'clock people flocked to the hills. The water came within half a block of Fifth Street and Santa Fe, but the Elks Club was high and dry. BPOE extended relief to the thousands of destitute and terrified people who were without food, clothing, and shelter. The Elks Club was converted into a restaurant for refugees and volunteer workers. Sandwiches and coffee were provided and over 3,000 were fed the first day. Estimated total fed was 30,000.

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<sup>2</sup> Headstone of Numa Vidal. Information retrieved, July, 2018, from Mitchell, K., *Pueblo County, Colorado*, <http://www.kmitch.com/Pueblo/bios0067.html>

<sup>3</sup> Elks Pueblo Lodge No. 90. (1987.) *Those Magnificent Years, 1888-1988: the History of the Benevolent and Protective Order of the Elks, Lodge No. 90, Pueblo, Colorado, U.S.A.* B.P.O.E. No. 90, Pueblo, Colorado.

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid*, page 35.

This work was undertaken on June 3 and continued until June 15.<sup>5</sup> A previous leader of the Pueblo BPOE, Rush Holland, endowed \$10,000 for a relief fund.<sup>6</sup>

Many of the city's official agencies were left without a building and used the Elks Club during the crisis. On the main floor of the building was the Police Department, an employment agency, and the City Commissioner's office.<sup>7</sup> The basement held the volunteers and staff for the Salvation Army as well as the Red Cross.

A two-story building, adjacent to the south, existed from the late 19<sup>th</sup> Century until it was demolished at an unknown date. It contained two storefronts for a drug store and men's furnishings, later offices and a mattress factory.<sup>8</sup> A one-story masonry building was constructed before the 1950s. It contained a storefront addressed at 418, and a separate parlor that opened into the adjacent Elks Club building. The interior of both the Elks Club and the parlor were remodeled in 1948.<sup>9</sup> Further remodeling occurred in 1952.<sup>10</sup> The original, stucco facade was replaced with large tiles after 2003. Three stovepipe chimneys with a brick chimney are visible along the east facade.<sup>11</sup> On the roof is the Number 90's Bell, weighing 1,432 pounds, its origins traced back to February 15, 1890, when ordered from the Buckeye Foundry of Cincinnati, Ohio, donated to the First Methodist Episcopal Church of Pueblo, located at West Ninth and Main Streets, and later purchased by the BPOE in the early 1930s, and rung for the first time at its present location on February 3, 1932.<sup>12</sup>

The site and building have been surveyed since 1983<sup>13</sup> to test for listing on historic registers. It might be eligible for State Register listing and as a contributing resource to a National Register historic district because of the property's association with Numa and the BPOE, but it may require an intensive survey to be certain.<sup>14</sup>

Upon designation of the property to a historic register, the applicant and property owner, BPOE, intends to repair the building facade.

The applicant nominated the subject property for landmark designation per the requirements contained in Section 4-14-8, Chapter 14 – Historic Preservation Code, Title IV – Building Regulations, of the *Pueblo Municipal Code*. The Historic Preservation Commission may approve this application if it serves the goals of the historic preservation code. A building, object, monument, structure, or site may individually be designated as a Landmark, or one or more buildings, objects, monuments, structures, or sites which are united by past events or aesthetically by plan or physical development may be designated as a Historic District, if they have distinctive character and meet the following criteria:

<sup>5</sup> "Pueblo Elks No. 90 Tends Thousands" (1921, June 8). The Pueblo Chieftain. Chieftain Pub. Co.

<sup>6</sup> "Elks Bring \$10,000 Fund" (1921, June 9). The Pueblo Chieftain. Chieftain Pub. Co.

<sup>7</sup> "Work Order" (1921, June 8). The Pueblo Chieftain. Chieftain Pub. Co.

<sup>8</sup> Sanborn Map and Publishing Co. Ltd. (1883, 1886, 1893) *Pueblo, Colorado*; (1904.) *Insurance Maps of Pueblo, Colorado*. Sanborn Map and Publishing Co. Ltd, New York.

<sup>9</sup> Elks Pueblo Lodge No. 90, page 74.

<sup>10</sup> Sanborn Map and Publishing Co., 1953, revised 1963.

<sup>11</sup> Record number 5PE4513, Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS). National Parks Service. (Colorado records administered by Colorado Historical Society, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation [OAHP]). (Amended 2003, October 22.) Western Cultural Resource Management, Inc (WCRM).

<sup>12</sup> Severance, R. (2017, January 8.) *Elks: 113 years of giving in Pueblo*. The Pueblo Chieftain. Chieftain Pub. Co

<sup>13</sup> Record number 5PE584, Historic American Building Survey (HABS).

<sup>14</sup> Record number 5PE584, Historic American Building Survey (HABS). Also see Autobee, R. (2018, March.) *Steeltown's Barometer: a Survey and Context of Downtown Pueblo's History and Architecture*. State Historical Fund Grant Project (SHF) #2014-M2-016, SWCA Environmental Consultants, appendix D-1.

1. Special historic or prehistoric interest or importance:
  - a. Has significant character, interest or value, as part of the development, heritage, or cultural characteristics of the City, State, or Nation; or is associated with the life of a person significant in the past; or
  - b. Has the site of a historic event with a significant effect upon society; or
  - c. Exemplifies the cultural heritage of the community; or has yielded, or may be likely to yield, important prehistoric information.
2. Special architectural, engineering, or aesthetic interest or importance:
  - a. Portrays the environment in an era of history characterized by a distinctive architectural style; or
  - b. Embodies those distinguishing characteristics of an architectural-type or engineering specimen; or
  - c. Is the work of a designer whose individual work has significantly influenced the development of the City; or
  - d. Contains elements of design, detail, materials, or craftsmanship which represent a significant innovation.
3. Special geographic interest or importance:
  - a. By being part of or related to a square, park, or other distinctive area, which should be developed or preserved according to a plan based on a historic, cultural, or architectural motif, or
  - b. Owing to its unique location or singular physical characteristic, represents an established and familiar visual feature of the neighborhood, community, or City.

The Pueblo Historic Preservation Commission, in prior cases, has considered landmark designation applications eligible if they meet two of the three criteria. This application's justification of facts proposes eligibility for criteria 1a, 1b, and 2c. A staff recommendation may identify other eligibility criteria.

### **ZONING DISTRICT:**

The site and surrounding area is entirely zoned for Central Business (B-4) (See attachment C). This district's standards are intended to provide areas for the location of business and other central services required by the region at large.

### **LAND USE:**

#### **Site Character**

A building, over 137 years old, is located on a corner lot. It is eligible for listing on the Colorado State Historic Register and a contributing resource to a national historic district. Restoration and preservation is the primary goal for such buildings.

The original construction was three-story stone and brick masonry<sup>15</sup> and a foundation of stacked stone.<sup>16</sup> The original use for two decades was a hotel. Since 1904 it was a fraternal order and

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<sup>15</sup> Record number SPE584, Historic American Building Survey (HABS).

<sup>16</sup> Valentine, J. (2017, November 14.) Project #17.037 letter. Valentine Engineering, LLC.

social club. The exterior façade was completely remodeled in 1914. It was not impacted by the 1921 flood. In the 1940s, a parlor expanded into the south adjacent building, the interior was remodeled, with some features such as the card, billiard, and bar rooms currently retaining their historic appearance. The applicant stated its intent to stabilize and repair the foundation of the building and continue its historic use.

### **Neighborhood Compatibility**

The neighborhood is generally composed of a stable, established historic downtown with occupied storefronts consisting of early Twentieth Century masonry buildings.

### **PUEBLO REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT (COMPREHENSIVE) PLAN:**

#### **Regional Plan Guiding Principles<sup>17</sup>**

- Urban Development Principles
  - *Provide a Regional land use plan that recognizes the relative importance of Downtown Pueblo to the Region.*
- Design Character and Environmental Quality Principles
  - *Plan growth to enhance the Region’s natural and historic character.* Landmark designation is a method to enhance and preserve historic features.
  - *Encourage development that adds to the aesthetic quality of the Region.* Landmark designation qualifies for restoration tax credits, which support an aesthetic vision desirable to citizens and visitors, and encourages redevelopment where existing infrastructure is provided.
- Neighborhood Principles
  - *Promote both historic and economic neighborhood revitalization and preservation.*

#### **Development Action Areas<sup>18</sup>**

The existing character of Downtown Pueblo is a Developed Urban Area within the City of Pueblo. A future character of mixed use development (residential, office, and commercial) as well as cultural and governmental facilities is supported by landmark designation, and reinvestment through preservation, and tax credit and/or grant-funded restoration.

#### **Future Land Use**

The *Pueblo Regional Comprehensive Development Plan* Urban Area Plan Map depicts urban mixed use throughout the entire neighborhood (See Attachment D). The designation of *Urban Mixed Use* identifies land use supported by the traditional Downtown Pueblo area. It emphasizes retail, office, and public uses on the first floor of all buildings to maintain a high activity level that tends to spur redevelopment of underutilized commercial and office buildings. Office and high-density residential uses are encouraged on the upper floors in multi-story buildings. High density use encourages pedestrian-oriented development patterns reflective of the historic development within the urban area.<sup>19</sup>

<sup>17</sup> *Pueblo Regional Development Plan*, Regional Plan Guiding Principles, pp 30-32.

<sup>18</sup> *Pueblo Regional Development Plan*, Development Action Areas, pp 33-40.

<sup>19</sup> *Pueblo Regional Development Plan*, Future Land Uses, p. 47.

The continued use of a social club, along with pedestrian-oriented activities in a historic building, is consistent with the comprehensive plan.

### **Regional Transportation Plan**

Preservation and restoration of an existing building in Downtown Pueblo for the continued purpose of a social club support the goals of Land Use and Livability.

### **FINDINGS OF FACT FOR LANDMARK DESIGNATION REQUIREMENTS:<sup>20</sup>**

1. Special historic or prehistoric interest or importance.
  - **Comments:**  
Affirmative finding supports criteria 1a, regarding development of the City of Pueblo and the State of Colorado by historic institution of BPOE and associated persons; criteria 1b, site of historic event of 1921 flood relief operations; and, criteria 1c, regarding heritage of Downtown Pueblo.  
Furthermore, the property may be eligible for State and National Register listings under Criterion B, “Person,” for its association with significant people of the American past.
2. Special architectural, engineering, or aesthetic interest or importance.
  - **Comments:**  
Affirmative finding supports criteria 2a, regarding the environment of Downtown Pueblo; 2b, embodying distinguished architectural characteristics; and, 2c, association by notable architect Francis W. Cooper.  
Regarding State and National Register listings, it may be eligible for Criterion C, “Design/Construction,” which concerns distinctive characteristics of the building by its architecture and construction, including having great artistic value or being the work of a master.
3. Special geographic interest or importance.
  - **Comments:**  
Affirmative finding supports criteria 3a, for the site’s development as the original plan of Pueblo and development as Downtown; and 3b, for the building’s visual significance as a place over the course of Pueblo’s history.
4. Conform to the Pueblo Regional Development Plan with respect to Guiding Principles, Development Action Areas, Future Land Use, and Regional Transportation Plan.
  - **Comments:**  
Affirmative finding supports all aspects of the Comprehensive Plan through preservation, restoration, and continued historic use of Downtown places.

### **PLANNING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT STAFF RECOMMENDATION:**

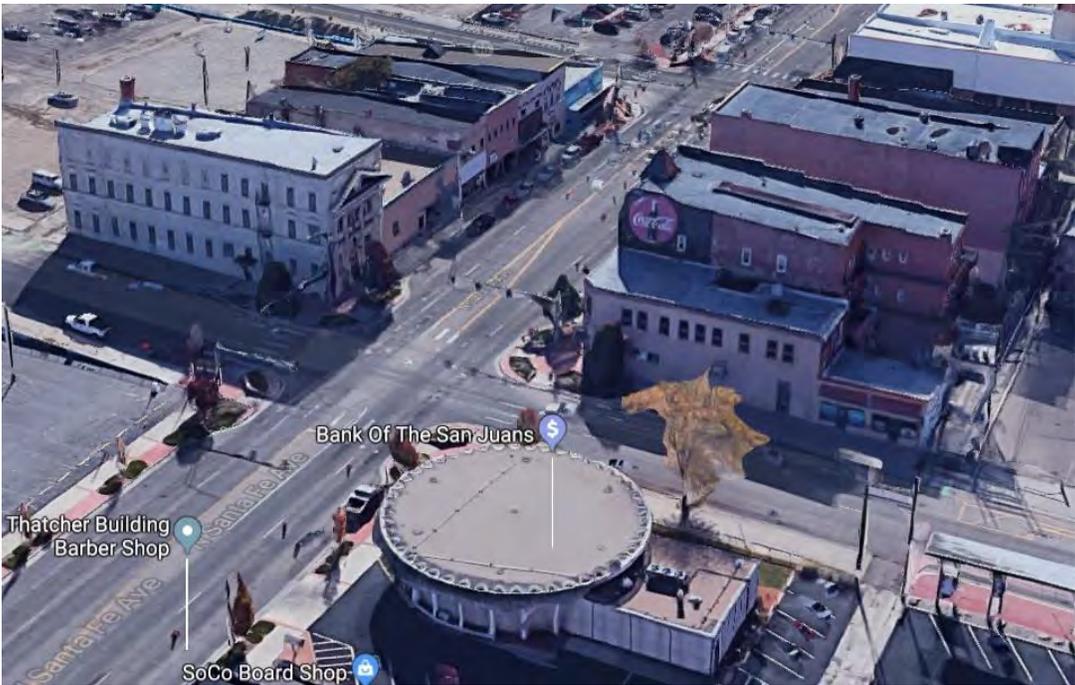
Staff recommends APPROVAL of the application for a Landmark Designation. If approved by the Historic Preservation Commission, the approval will be transmitted to the Planning & Zoning Commission for consideration and recommendation to City Council.

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<sup>20</sup> City of Pueblo *Municipal Code*, Section 4-14-8 (a).

**ATTACHMENTS:**

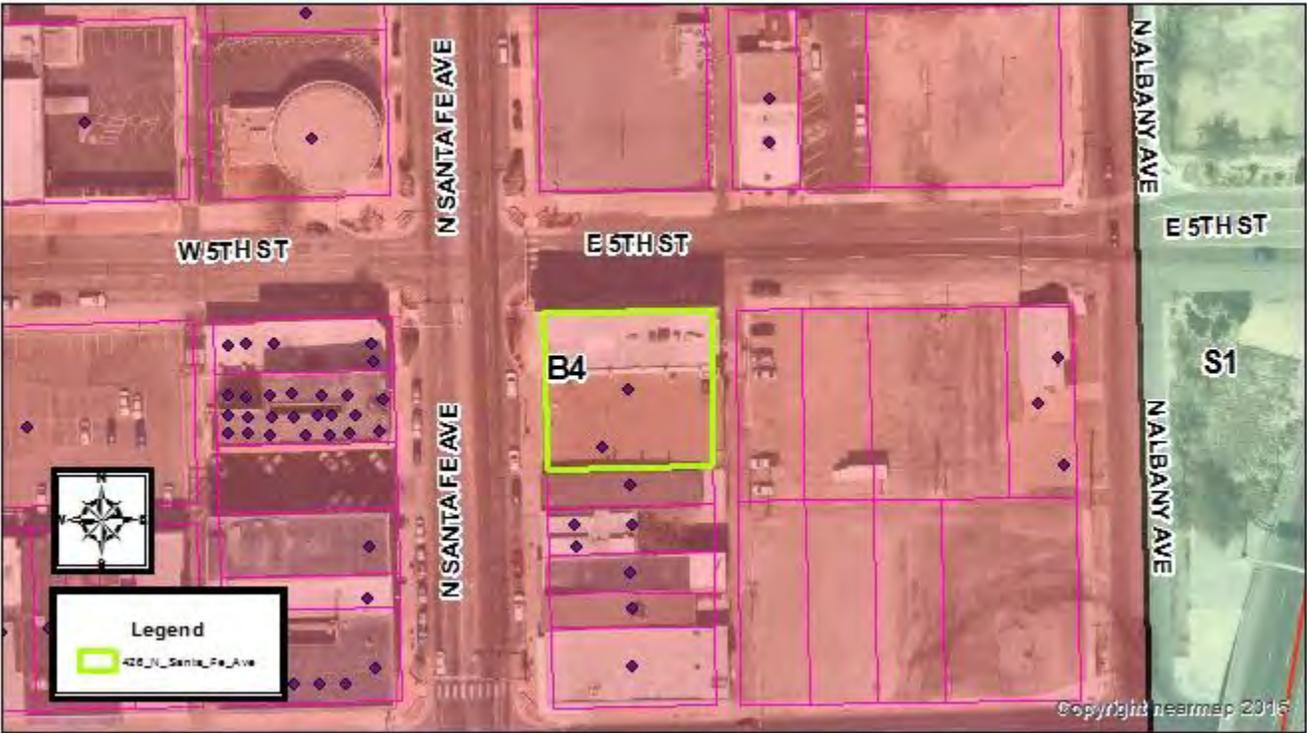
- A. Location Map
- B. Site Map
- C. Zoning Map
- D. Comprehensive Plan Map
- E. Site Photographs
- F. Public Notice Photograph
- G. Application



( A ) LOCATION



( B ) SITE MAP



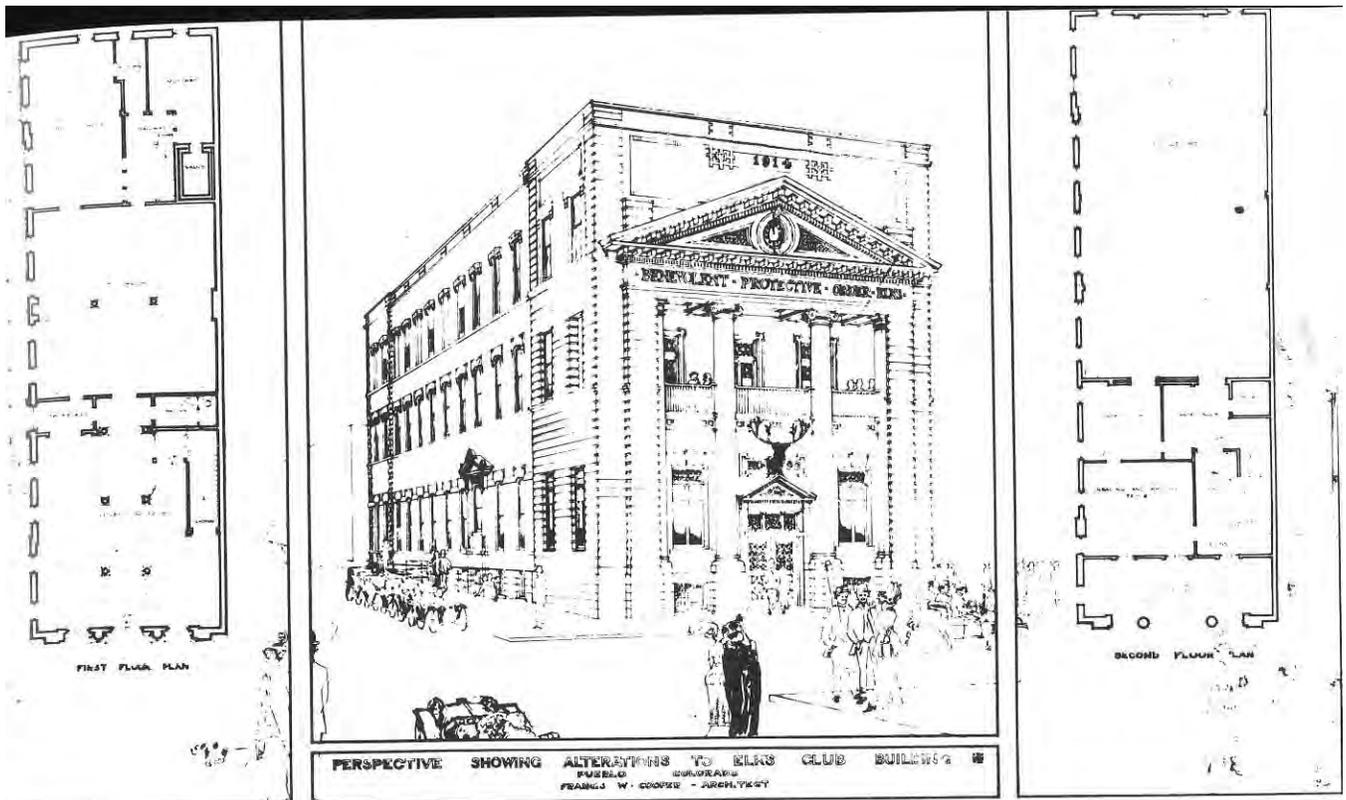
( C ) ZONING MAP



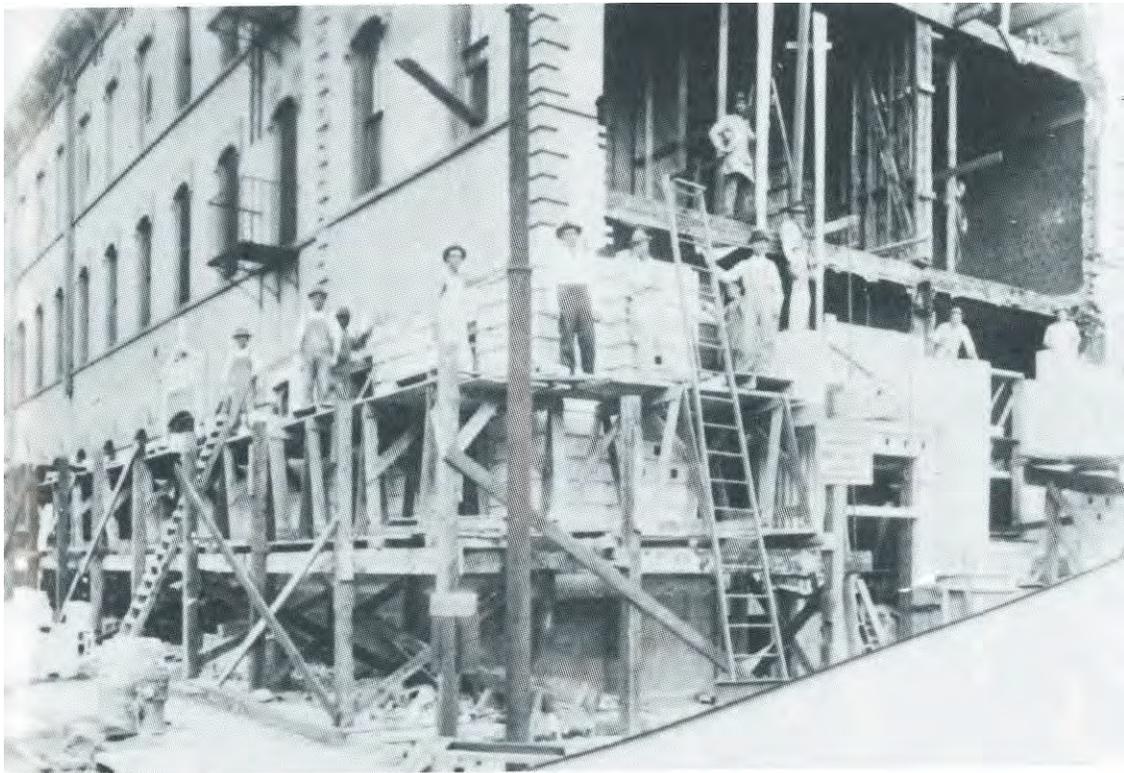
( D ) COMPREHENSIVE PLAN MAP



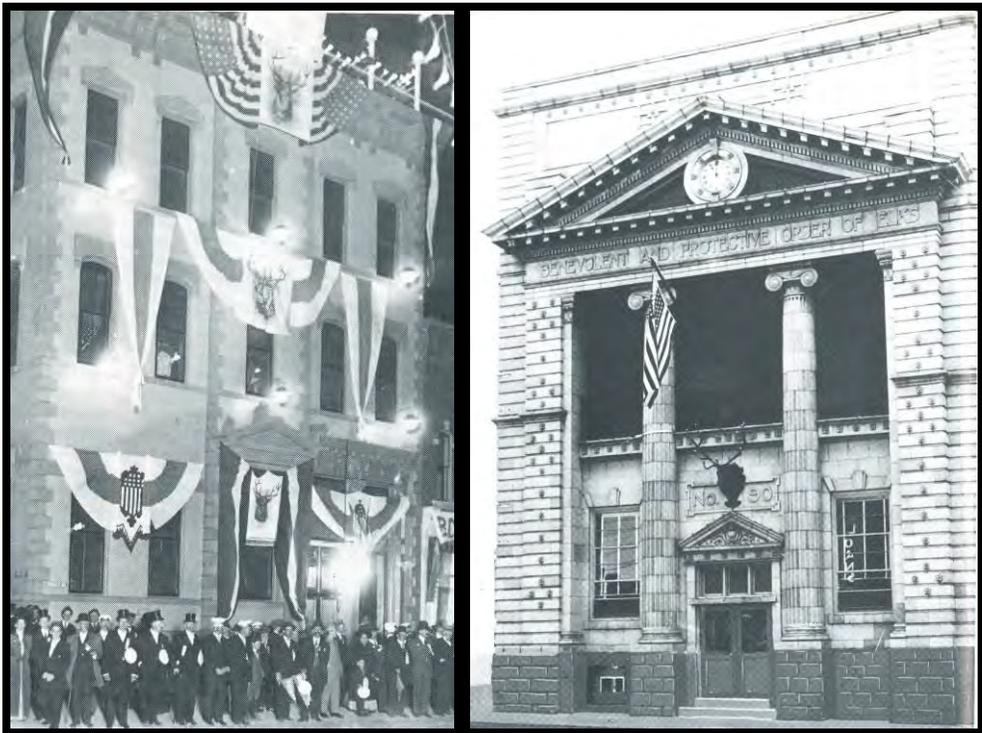
PHOTOGRAPH, 1909



FRANCIS COOPER PLANS FOR REMODEL, 1910s



**PHOTOGRAPH, EXTERIOR REMODEL, 1913**



**BEFORE (1909), AFTER (1914)**



**MAIN LODGE HALL, EARLY 1910s**



**(PHOTO BY JOHN JAQUES, THE PUEBLO CHIEFTAIN, 2017)**



**BAR, 1948**



**(PHOTO BY JOHN JAQUES, *THE PUEBLO CHIEFTAIN*, 2017)**



(PHOTO BY JOHN JAQUES, *THE PUEBLO CHIEFTAIN*, 2017)



**ARTHUR BIRMINGHAM, EXALTED RULER OF LODGE NO. 90, WITH NUMBER 90s BELL  
(PHOTO BY JOHN JAQUES, *THE PUEBLO CHIEFTAIN*, 2017)**



(E) SITE PHOTOGRAPH, 2018



(F) PUBLIC NOTICE POSTER



Nomination Application for Local Historic Designation

Name of Property and/or Historic Name: BPOE Pueblo Lodge #90

Name of Property Owner: BPOE Pueblo Lodge #90

Address of Property: 426 N Santa Fe Avenue

Legal Description: North 18 Feet 8 Inches of Lot 4 and all Lots 5 and 6, Block 22, Plan of Pueblo; parcel ID: 431216010

Zoning:

Present Use: Fraternal Organization

Historic Use: Hotel, Fraternal organization

Site Number (issued by State of Colorado):

Owner Consent to Designation

I (we), the undersigned, acting as owner(s) of, the property described in this application for landmark designation do, hereby, give my (our) consent to the designation of this structure as a Structure for Preservation.

Printed name (s): BPOE Pueblo Lodge 90

Address: P.O. Box 754, Pueblo Colorado 81002-0754

Telephone Number: 719-544-6452

Email Address: EIKSCLUB90@yahoo.com

Signature(s): Dennis Morgan Exalted Ruler, President

Date: June 8, 2018

Applicant Name (if not the Property Owner):

Affiliation/Interest in Property:

Address:

Telephone Number: Email Address:

Signature(s):

Signature(s):

Date:

For designating a historic district, please see Appendix F.

For Staff to Complete

Date Approved by HPC: P and Z City Council Ordinance #:

Fee Paid: Date: Scheduled Hearing:

## Eligibility Criteria:

To be eligible for consideration, a landmark, site or building must qualify in two of the following categories:

1. **History.** To have historical importance, the structure shall be more than 50 years old or have extraordinary importance to the architectural or historical development of Pueblo, and shall:
  - a. *Have direct association with the historical development of the city, state, or nation; or*
  - b. *Be the site of a significant historic event; or*
  - c. *Have direct and substantial association with a person(s) who had influence on society.*
2. **Architecture.** To have architectural importance, the structure or district shall have design quality and integrity, and shall:
  - a. *Embody distinguishing characteristics of an architectural style or type; or,*
  - b. *Be a significant example of the work of a recognized architect or master builder, or,*
  - c. *Contain elements of architectural design, engineering, materials, craftsmanship, or artistic merit which represent a significant or influential innovation; or,*
  - d. *Portray the environment of a group of people or physical development of an area of the city in an era of history characterized by a distinctive architectural style.*
3. **Geography.** To have geographical importance, the structure shall:
  - a. *Have a prominent location or be an established, familiar, and orienting visual feature of the contemporary city, or,*
  - b. *Promote understanding and appreciation of Pueblo's environment by means of distinctive physical characteristics or rarity; or,*
  - c. *Make a special contribution to Pueblo's distinctive character.*

## Statement of Significance (Summary)

The applicant nominates the aforementioned building and site for its distinctive character and certain historical, and architectural criteria, and is aware of the reasons for, and effect of, designation of local landmarks in the City of Pueblo.

This application's justification of historical evidence proposes eligibility based on the following criteria:

- 1) Special historic or prehistoric interest or importance:

As the site of a historical event with a significant effect upon society. In flood of 1921, Lodge was emergency community kitchen and became center of activities: police, City commissioners and officials, Salvation Army and Red Cross all housed in this structure.

- 2) Special architectural, engineering, or aesthetic interest or importance:

Is the work of Architect Francis W Cooper whose individual work has significantly influenced the development of the City. Mr. Cooper was, a lodge member and designed the remodel from hotel to lodge April 1904.

## Historical Data Summary

4. Year of Construction: 1881

Source of Information: Vidal headstone, Pueblo County Biographies  
<http://www.kmitch.com/Pueblo/bios0067.html> ,and Lodge records

5. Architect or Builder: Francis W Cooper  
Source of Information: Vidal headstone, Pueblo County Biographies  
<http://www.kmitch.com/Pueblo/bios0067.html> and lodge records
6. Original Owner: Numa Vidal  
Source of Information: Vidal Headstone, Pueblo County Biographies  
<http://www.kmitch.com/Pueblo/bios0067.html>

## 7. Photographs

In **Appendix E**, attach at least two (2) 5x7 or larger photographs (black and white or color) showing the views of the property from the public right-of-way(s) and any important features or details. *Interior photographs are encouraged when relevant.* Polaroid photographs are not adequate. If available, attach copies of historic photographs of the structure. Digital copies may be inserted in the electronic

## **Statement of Significance Appendix A**

The applicant nominates the aforementioned building and site for its distinctive character and certain historical, and architectural, and is aware of the reasons for, and effect of, designation of local landmarks in the City of Pueblo.

Numa Vidal, "Prince of the Saloon Men," was born in southern France. Well educated, he went into French government service and worked for the postal department in Cairo, Egypt. He immigrated to the United States in 1867, lived in Washington, D.C., for a time and went westward to Central City and Denver. Mr. Vidal came to Pueblo from Denver to open a saloon in July 1872, shortly after the Denver & Rio Grande railroad was built. His wife Mary died here on September 4, 1878, at the age of 31. Vidal and his mother-in-law reared the two little motherless girls. Vidal built a hotel in Manitou Springs in 1874 and with a partner opened a hotel in the new town of Leadville in March 1878. He closed the business in Leadville in 1881. Meanwhile in June 1878 he had fitted rooms on Santa Fe Avenue in magnificent style with a black walnut bar and brussels carpet. The establishment included a restaurant and oyster bar. In 1881 he opened a fine hotel, the Numa, at the southeast corner of Fifth and Santa Fe Avenue. Francis W. Cooper, one of Pueblo's most prolific and best-known architects, was commissioned by the Thatcher family to design the building.

Francis Cooper was born in New York and graduated from Cornell University in 1874. He worked in Ohio and Wyoming before establishing his firm in Pueblo in 1881. Pueblo's first powerful family, the Thatchers, hired Cooper and today, ten of his eleven commission still are standing in Downtown Pueblo. An American Institute of Architects (AIA) Fellow, for sixteen years he served as President of the State Board of Architect Examiners. His work is symbolic of Pueblo as Southern Colorado's leading urban center, which became a serious rival to Denver as Colorado's economic capital.

The Benevolent and Protective Order of the Elks, Lodge No. 90 secured an option on the St. James Hotel for \$12,500, on February 24, 1904. An appropriation of \$7,000 was made to remodel the St. James Hotel suitable for Pueblo Lodge #90. The first meeting in the new building at 5<sup>th</sup> and Santa Fe was held on November 2, 1904. A report was made that the total cost of buying property, remodeling and furnishings amounted to \$30,838.19.

On June 3, 1921, Pueblo was struck by the worst flood in its history that killed up to 1,500 people and destroyed 600 buildings estimated at \$20 million (unadjusted for inflation) in property damage. As the city struggled to help the survivors, Pueblo Lodge B.P.O.E No. 90 rose to the occasion.

The storm started at 7:00 o'clock at night and at 11:00 P.M. people were flocking to the hills. The water came within half a block of the Elks Club at 5<sup>th</sup> and Santa Fe, but the Elks Club was high and dry. Pueblo Lodge No. 90 extended relief to the thousands of destitute and terrified people who were without food, clothing and shelter. The Elks Home was converted into a restaurant for refugees and volunteer workers. Sandwiches and coffee were provided and over 3,000 were fed the first day. It is

estimated that we fed upwards to 30,000 in all. This work was undertaken on June 3 and continued until June 15.

Many of the city's official agencies were left without a building and used the Elks Lodge during the crisis. On the main floor of the Elks Lodge building was the Police Department, an employment agency, and the City Commissioner's office. The basement held the volunteers and staff for the Salvation Army as well as the Red Cross.

The applicant nominates the subject property for landmark designation per the requirements contained in Section 4-14-8, Chapter 14 – Historic Preservation Code, Title IV – Building Regulations, of the *Pueblo Municipal Code*. The Historical Preservation Commission may approve this application if it serves the goals of the historical preservation code. A building, object, monument, structure, or site may individually be designated as a Landmark, or one or more buildings, objects, monuments, structures, or sites which are united by past events or aesthetically by plan or physical development may be designed as a Historic District, if they have distinctive character.

### **Architectural Description (Appendix B)**

8. Concisely describe the structure and its surrounds.
  - a. Describe location and setting including physical context and relationship to neighborhood and other historic structures. **Located on the SE corner of Santa Fe and Fourth streets, site was included in original Pueblo City boundary.**
  - b. Architectural description including mention of major features, uncommon design features, ancillary structures, and important landscape or site features. Also describe interior spaces with extraordinary design features (if any). **Late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century Classical Revival style**
  - c. Describe major alterations to the exterior of the structure and any known plans to alter the exterior. **Remodel interior to convert from hotel to lodge in 1904; front and 5<sup>th</sup> street facades remodel in 1914. Remodel of Lodge Room 1948.**

### **History of the Structure and Its Associations (Appendix C)**

9. Describe the history of the structure and its associations with important individuals, groups, events, or historical trends.
  - a. Provide details about the circumstances of construction including the date of construction, architect, builder, and owner for the original structure and any significant additions. **Original owner Numa Vidal**  
**Constructed 1881 as the Numa Hotel (AKA St James). Purchased and remodeled by Elks Feb 1904. Continuous use as Elks Lodge to present. Remodel front and 5<sup>th</sup> street 1914. Remodel Lodge Room 1948.**
  - b. Describe specific historical associations including why this structure has direct association with the individual, group, event, or historical trend.

- c. Describe other structures that have similar associations and the relationship of this structure to them.

**Research Sources (Appendix D)**

10. Provide a list of research sources used in compiling this application.

Those Magnificent Years, 1888-1988: The History of the Benevolent and Protective Order of the Elks, Lodge No. 90, Library of congress Catalog Card Number 87-40503

Headstone of Numa Vidal, Pueblo County Biographies,  
<http://www.kmitch.com/Pueblo/bios0067.html>

Pueblo Chieftain, June 8 and 9, 1921

**Attachments.** Please attach a digital version of the form in word as well as digital photos in JPEG or TIFF format.

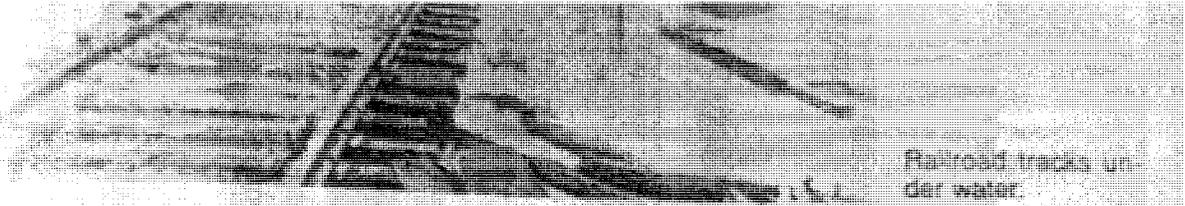
**13. Application Fee.**

Non-refundable application fee of **\$150** for an individual structure must be paid prior to the public hearing. (Make check payable to City of Pueblo).

Please submit the completed application for designation to:

Historic Preservation Commission  
211 East D Street  
Pueblo, Colorado 81003  
[PlanningLandUse@Pueblo.us](mailto:PlanningLandUse@Pueblo.us)  
(719) 553-2259

If you have any questions about the application form or designation process, please contact the Planning and Community Development Department at the above address.



Railroad tracks under water.



Elks kitchen set up to feed the homeless following the flood.

### Feeding survivors after the June 1921 Flood

## NUMA VIDAL

Numa Vida, "Prince of the Saloon Men," was born in southern France. Well educated, he went into French government service and worked for the postal department in Calro, Egypt.

He immigrated to the United States in 1867, lived in Washington, D.C., for a time and went westward to Central City and Denver.

Vidal came to Pueblo from Denver to open a saloon in July 1872, shortly after the Denver & Rio Grande railroad was built. His wife Mary died here on September 4, 1878, at the age of 31. Vidal and his mother-in-law reared the two little motherless girls.

Vidal built a hotel in Manitou Springs in 1874 and with a partner opened a hotel in the new town of Leadville in March 1878. He closed the business in Leadville in 1881.

Meanwhile in June 1878 he had fitted rooms on Santa Fe Avenue in magnificent style with a black walnut bar and brussels carpet. The establishment included a restaurant and oyster bar.

In 1881 he opened a fine hotel, the Numa, at the southeast corner of Fifth and Santa Fe Avenue. This was not a financial success, and a new owner renamed it the St. James. Vidal operated the business from time to time after that.

The hotel later became the home for Pueblo Elks Lodge 90.

Vidal was in Pueblo to make arrangements to ship the furniture from the St. Jams to a hotel he had built in the bustling new town of Creede, when he became ill and died April 20, 1892, at the age of 49.

**Numa Vidal Headstone**

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erty.  
Senators Phipps and Nicholson, and  
Representatives Hardy and Vaile were  
present at the conferences at the White  
House and war department.  
The members of the delegation said  
that both President Harding and Sec-  
retary Weeks were emphatically of the  
opinion that something should be done  
by the federal government to relieve  
distress and suffering in the Pueblo  
district.  
The resolutions will be treated as  
emergency legislation, Senator Phipps  
said, adding that it was expected that  
the million dollar relief fund would be  
available within a couple of days.

## Pueblo Elks No. 90 Tends Thousands

Since the first hours of the flood  
the Elks club at Sixth street and  
Santa Fe avenue has been the haven  
for thousands. It was the first  
emergency seat of city government  
and military authorities; has fed  
thousands during every minute of  
the day and night; it is now the  
headquarters of the police force of  
the city.

During early Saturday morning  
the local military company establish-  
ed headquarters on the top floor,  
where passes were issued. The rooms  
downstairs were turned into emerg-  
ency food depots; the little kitchen  
has, perhaps, prepared food for more  
persons to the square inch of floor  
space than any place in the city, and,  
perhaps, any place in the land ever.  
Tables were laid at all times;  
sandwiches hot coffee, soup and other  
things are obtainable for the recla-  
mation workers, soldiers, officers and  
others at any hour of the day and  
night.

Bands of devoted women and men  
have spent long hours—in some cases,  
it is said, more than 24 at one time—  
in serving the hungry.

A tent has been erected on the lot  
back of the club house where great  
kettles of soup and coffee are kept  
constantly boiling.

Pueblo No. 90 stepped gallantly into  
the breach and upheld the Elks' tra-  
dition of Best People on Earth. The  
club has been an oasis for thousands.

the time the automobile ran freely  
between the Mesa and the north side,  
and footmen had the free use of the  
Union avenue viaduct.  
The first train from Denver and the  
first for Denver were run over the  
Santa Fe railroad, from an improv-  
ised terminal near the State Hospital,  
and the first Missouri Pacific train  
came from the east as far as a termi-  
nal near the old brewery.

Mail was received from eastern  
points and delivered wherever prac-  
ticable.

An important event was the arrival  
of a traveling agent of the national  
Red Cross for the purpose of making  
a preliminary survey of the Pueblo  
disaster. This report will be found in  
full in another column. Edward B.  
Orr visited the devastated district  
from the Sterns-Roger plant to the  
east end of the concrete road on south  
Santa Fe avenue, and declared that  
the reports of the magnitude of the  
devastation had not been exaggerated.

Mr. Orr paid a high tribute to the  
emergency organization and service of  
Pueblo's Red Cross workers, declaring  
that he had had experience in twenty-

## INVESTIGATION CON OF ERNEST WITH

Seldom, if ever in Pueblo has any  
tragedy caused such universal sorrow  
and regret as the death of Ernest E.  
Withers, who was shot and immedi-  
ately killed by an unknown person  
while returning to his home late Mon-  
day evening.

No person in Pueblo had a wider or  
more numerous circle of friends than  
he, and his many activities in many  
lines of public service had won for  
him a prominent place among the  
younger and more active business men  
of the city.

Even the gigantic disaster of Pu-  
eblo's greatest and most terrible flood  
was temporarily forgotten in the shock  
of the news of "Ernie" Withers' death,  
or if remembered, this personal loss,  
felt by many hundreds of Pueblo's  
men and women, seemed to be the cli-  
max of a great catastrophe.

In many respects the accident or  
crime continued a profound mystery.

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Pueblo Chieftain  
Wed, June 8th, 1921

# Proclamations

## PROCLAMATION

Headquarters Department Colorado National Guard.

Pueblo, Colo., June 6, 1921.  
Local law having been declared City of Pueblo by the Hon. Governor of the state and the following proclamation:

A military commander assumes control over the military district state troops, rangers and other charged with the preservation and the protection of life and the administration of civil observation of food, fuel and sanitation and all emergency or the military business will be under the control of the City Council of Pueblo.

PAUL P. NEWLON, Lt. Col. Inf. C. N. G. Com.

## ORDER NO. 1

Headquarters Department Colorado National Guard  
Pueblo, Colo., June 6, 1921  
Adjutant General of Colorado, I hereby assume control of troops at this station.

PAUL P. NEWLON, Lt. Col. Inf. Colo. Natl. Guard  
Adjutant General's Office  
Capt. Fitzgibbon,  
Capt. Tallot.

## GENERAL ORDERS NO. 3

June 6, 1921.  
EXTRACT  
Effective at once. No one allowed on the streets of Pueblo, from 7 o'clock p. m. until 7 a. m. the following morning.

A night pass issue officers. Between the 7 p. m. there will be. All sentinels are to be under this order to the left. Under no circumstances used, except for door until further notice.

order of Lieut. Col. HAROLD O. NICHOLS, Capt. F. A., C. N. G. Adj.

No. 3  
In addition to his other Harold O. Nichols, Colorado National Guard Billeting Officer for district of Pueblo, Colorado order of Lieut. Col. JUSTIN, Capt. Inf., C. N. G.

## No. 4

The following named to make sanitary inspection of respective wards. In the performance of this duty, each doctor is to be accompanied by a chauffeur to accompany

(Military Headquarters Colorado National Guard)  
Congregation Hotel

Until further notice no city water will be used for any purpose other than for drinking and cooking. The order will be enforced to the letter.

By order of Lieut. Col. NEWLON, Commanding District 1  
E. C. Austin, Capt. Inf. Colo. N. G. Adjutant

June 6, 1921  
Part I. The Filling Stations of Pueblo, Colorado are prohibited from selling gasoline or oil except upon written order of T. D. Harris, Major, Q. M. Corps, C. N. G.

By order of Lieut. Col. NEWLON, E. C. Austin, Capt. Inf., C. N. G. Adj.

## WORK ORDER

G. O. No. 7 June 6, 1921  
Part I. Danger from fire and pestilence makes the removal of debris in the flooded area immediately necessary.

Military troops and rangers are used for guard and patrol duty that the actual work in cleaning the city must be done by the civilian population.

Every able-bodied man in Pueblo must apply himself to this duty. The rate of pay has been fixed at forty-three (43) cents an hour and the order will be strictly enforced by the military authorities.

Refusal to work, men will be placed under military guard and be compelled to work without compensation.

Visiting Fight-Seers must leave the city and to work. Residents of Pueblo will not be permitted to remain idle.

All employers of labor should make request for men to Chief of Police at Elks Club building, who is in charge of emergency employment bureau.

By order of Lieut. Col. NEWLON, E. C. Austin, Capt. Inf., C. N. G. Adj.

"All employers of labor should make requests for men to Chief of Police Daly, at Elks Club building, who is in charge of emergency employment bureau"

Pueblo Chieftain June 8, 1921

C. N. G.  
Y. M. C. A.  
Pueblo, Colo., June 7, 1921.  
During period of emergency, it will

## LOCAL WEATHER REPORT

June 8, 1921

Barometer 30.0  
Wind 54  
Dir. of wind NW  
Vel. of Wind 12  
State of weather Partly Cloudy  
Normal temperature for this date 68 degrees  
Mean temperature for today 68 degrees

Variation in temperature 10 hours, 2 degrees warmer.

Highest temperature 69 degrees at 3.50 p. m.

Highest temp recorded this year 103 degrees

Lowest temperature 54 degrees at 5.15 a. m.

Lowest temp recorded this year 33 years, 41 degrees

Highest wind velocity, 12 miles at 7.10 a. m.

Rainfall .01 inches.

Total rainfall and melted snow since first of year 8.59 inches.

Normal precipitation for date 1.35 inches

Time of sunset 7.15 p. m.

Temp. at Pueblo and vicinity calm, unsettled tonight and Tuesday probably showers; not change in temperature.

Temp. at Wednesday probably showers; not much change in temperature.

## WEATHER CONDITIONS

A trough of pressure extends the southern border of the continent to British Columbia, covering typically the Rocky Mountain and lower regions, with center over zone; an area of high pressure the coast of Washington with

high pressure covers states. Slightly warmer in the south cooler along the

are unsettled with tonight and Wednesday vicinity; not temperature.

H. B. DICK

## Conditions In Cities In the V

ports of several cities adjoining states during a week compiled from state weather bureau

Temp	Low	High
at 6 a.		

Chief administration.

# St Withers' Funeral Be Held Thursday

Funeral of E. E. Withers, who was accidentally shot and killed Monday about 10:45, will be held tomorrow (Thursday) at 1:30 p. m. from his home, 2316 West street. The funeral will be private, but the doors will be opened to all friends of the family from 10 to 11 o'clock tomorrow, so the body may be viewed. Carthy Undertaking company in charge of the funeral.

# Passenger to Platte

The engine crew had been in the water.

was received here that the fireman immersed engine had been tied in a tree in which he had taken safety after leaping into the water.

The man's name was Elmer Snelson. For some time after the accident searchers said they would hear for assistance and they made every effort to rescue him. When they finally reached him however he was dead.

# WALKER FAMILY MISSING

Mr. Walker and family are reported missing. Mr. Walker was last seen by the Newton Limber company on the south side yard.

Knowing anything of Mr. Walker's fate is requested to report to the Ramsey at the Elks' club.

stances as a result of the recent flood due to the overflow of the Arkansas river and its tributaries and in executing this joint resolution the Secretary of War is directed, so far as possible, to co-operate with the authorities of the state of Colorado and the mayors of such cities on the Arkansas river or its tributaries as may have sustained damages."

GUY U. HARDY.

# Red Cross Pictures To Secure Pueblo Aid

Pictures were made today by the Chieftain photographer of all Red Cross relief activities in Pueblo. These pictures were forwarded to national Red Cross headquarters and from there will be distributed over the United States to assist the Red Cross in securing relief funds for the devastated section of Colorado.

# Elks Bring \$10,000 Fund

Rush Holland, chairman of the Republican state central committee and past grand exalted ruler of the Elks' lodge, arrived yesterday with \$10,000 for the Elks' relief fund.

# AMONG THE MISSING

E. A. Bruner, passenger conductor on the A. T. & S. F. Description; height 6 feet, weight, 220; light complexion, large toe on right foot gone and thumb on right hand crippled. Any one finding a body of this description, please notify Walter Wilder of the Chieftain. Arkansas Valley papers please copy.

establishment of camping grounds for federal troops.

At a joint meeting of the county and city commissioners it was agreed to the temporary repairing of the levees in the levees, to cost approximately

# Temporary Bridge at Twelfth Street

A temporary bridge will be built immediately over the Fountain river at Twelfth street, according to announcement of J. L. Lovern, president of the commission. The contract has been let to Ripley and Leslie, Pueblo contractors.

# Chieftain's Flood Edition

The editions of The Chieftain since the great flood have not been supplied to regular subscribers, either in Pueblo or elsewhere. Much as the necessity was regretted—it was, utterly possible, because of the failure of electric power and gas, to print a regular edition, either as to size or as to number. It was a choice between doing nothing at all and doing as much as possible under the circumstances. Chieftain accepted the latter alternative.

At least once a day since Friday night The Chieftain has printed many papers as possible, as often as possible. In this it has had the cooperation of the city, state and military authorities, and these papers have been sold at the regular price, in the store or upon the streets, except upon special occasions when the authorities desired immediate publication of some order or proclamation, in which case free distribution was given.

All the regular subscribers of The Chieftain have received equal treatment.

Pueblo Chieftain  
June 9, 1921