

Townwide Design Guidelines Telluride, Colorado

Services:

- Visual character analysis
- Design guidelines for all neighborhoods in the town
- Ongoing updates of guidelines
- Commission training in design review

Client: Lance McDonald
Town of Telluride

Date: 1985-1998



Design guidelines focus on protection of views and natural resources.



The town of Telluride, set in one of the most spectacular locales in the West, encourages infill compatible with its historic context.

The town of Telluride is a unique environment, set in one of the most spectacular locales in the West. Approximately half of the community lies within a National Register Historic District. Concerned about protecting their mountain character and preserving their heritage, the Town developed a design review system in the 1970s.

The community worked with a preliminary set of design guidelines until 1987, when they hired Winter & Company to produce a comprehensive set of design guidelines that would apply to the entire community. As a part of the project, Winter & Company developed a set of master guidelines that apply townwide, produced a series of chapters of neighborhood-specific design guidelines and also developed design guidelines for a series of overlay zones associated with environmentally sensitive areas. Design guidelines in the Historic District focus on accepted principles of historic preservation and on encouraging infill construction that is compatible with the historic context.



A residential street scene in Telluride.

Developing design guidelines for outlying areas includes considering the protection of views and concern for natural resources, as well as establishing a sense of visual relatedness with the historic core without directly imitating it. Principles of good urban design, including promoting a pedestrian-friendly environment and developing a street edge that is of human scale, are the focus

DESIGN GUIDELINES SERVICES

Townwide Design Guidelines Telluride, Colorado (continued)



New construction on Main Street interprets traditional commercial storefront elements.



The Telluride guidelines encourage alley units, as an affordable housing strategy.



The train depot before renovation. (See the photo to the right for the depot after renovation.)



The design guidelines encourage contemporary interpretations of early building types. In the area that historically was industrial, new condominiums reflect simple forms of warehouses that were historically located in the area.



The depot after renovation, with a new contemporary infill project in the