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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).

1. Name of Property

historic name Iglesia de San Francisco de Assisi

other names/site number 5CT.447

2. Location

street & number 23531 County Rd. J.2

N/A	not for publication
N/A	vicinity

city or town San Francisco (La Valley)

state Colorado code CO county Costilla code 023 zip code 81152

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

national statewide local

Edward Chulesta State Historic Preservation Officer 1-26-12
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, History Colorado
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official Date

Title State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register removed from the National Register
- other (explain:)

Jon Edson H. Beall 3-27-12
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

Iglesia de San Francisco de Assisi Culebra Villages of Costilla County, Colorado MPS Costilla County, CO
Name of Property County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- private
- public - Local
- public - State
- public - Federal

Category of Property
(Check only **one** box.)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	0	buildings
		district
		site
		structure
		object
1	0	Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

The Culebra River Villages of Costilla County,
Colorado

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

RELIGION/Religious Facility

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

RELIGION/Religious Facility

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions.)

NO STYLE

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: CONCRETE
walls: CONCRETE; BRICK

roof: METAL
other: _____

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Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance of the property. Explain contributing and noncontributing resources if necessary. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, setting, size, and significant features.)

Summary Paragraph

The mission church at San Francisco meets the description and registration requirements for the property subtype, vernacular churches and parish compound, as outlined in the National Register Multiple Property Documentation Form, *The Culebra River Villages of Costilla County Colorado*.¹ Consecrated in 1960, this particular church is a distinct representation amongst the Culebra River villages of a later building constructed, not of adobe, but of concrete block, yet exhibiting the vernacular character-defining features sympathetic with its fellow mission churches of earlier construction, notably: an enclosed vestibule, twin bell towers with pyramidal roofs, front-gable nave roof, and the presence of a church model for use in procession.

Narrative Description

The vernacular churches and parish compound property type in the Culebra River Villages is described as follows:

Early churches in the Culebra villages were about sixteen feet in width and at least twice as long as residential rooms. Although early religious spaces were low-profiled and domestic-like in scale, their siting on high ground, massiveness, and the use of a glazing indicate the central importance of the church (...) In contrast [to the mission of Viejo San Acacio], most adobe missions emulate the Gothic Revival innovations introduced at the central church at San Luis including pointed arched windows and doors with tracery, centered entry tower(s) constructed into an adobe core, and steep gabled roof. While designs vary, San Isidro is an example typical of smaller churches. Constructed of adobe this structure has a rectangular plan, gabled roof, single hung windows, wood shake shingles, and a belfry with a pyramid roof. An example of later church construction departing from the norm is the San Francisco Church. Constructed of concrete block this rectangular plan has metal single-pane casement windows, gabled roof with metal panel roofing, and crenellated parapets at twin belfry towers.²

Further, this particular church is ascribed to the 1946-1964 period of regional development and significance:

During this time the church erected four mission churches, a grade school, and a rectory/day chapel. In the spirit of old Padre Garcia (1894-1921), Reverend Humphrey [Onofre] Martorell (a member of the Order of the Theatines, pastor, and supernatant) revolutionized religious spaces in Costilla County. Under Padre Martorell's pastorate (1933-1962) the majority of missions were adobe, single-nave, linear plans, with Southwest vernacular style. However, Martorell, a native of Spain, also introduced cinder block and brick, with Iberian and Mediterranean detailing. The only church erected in the Rio Culebra at this time was the Mission of San Francisco. Constructed of cinder block, this mission is one of two religious spaces in the parish with dual towers. The asymmetrical towers, one slightly recessed to the rear and lower than the other, have crenellated detailing at their peaks.³

Setting

Echoing the development pattern of the other plaza communities along the Rio Culebra in the San Luis Valley, including San Pedro, San Pablo, La Plaza Medio (later San Luis de la Culebra), La Culebra Abajo (San Acacio), Nuestra Senora del Rosario (later Chama), San Francisco was dedicated to a patron saint:

La plaza de San Francisco (ca. 1853-4), was located along *El Rio de Francisco* (also known as *El Rito de Gregorio*) and dedicated to the spiritual care of Saint Francis (...) The *pobladores* place naming favored saint-protectors

¹ Maria Mondragón-Valdéz, *The Culebra River Villages of Costilla County, Colorado* National Register of Historic Places Multiple Property Documentation Form (Washington, D.C.: National Park Service, 2000), E57-58.

² Mondragón-Valdéz, *Culebra River Villages*, E57-58.

³ Mondragón-Valdéz, *Culebra River Villages*, E33-34.

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because the villagers were overwhelmingly Catholic as their ancestors before them. Denoting the landscape and villages after important religious symbols mirrors the religious and social values of the *pobladores* of the Rio Culebra and the Hispano culture of the Rio Arriba.⁴

The church sits at the western entrance of the small unincorporated village of San Francisco (also known as La Valle, La Valley, or El Rito), due over nine miles southeast of San Luis along County Road J2 and opposite a small general store. The only other designated building to date in the community is the Colorado State Register of Historic Properties listed San Francisco Morada (5CT.200, 3/8/2000). The building is accessed from the road via a short circular deteriorated asphalt drive.

Overall, the site slopes slightly east to west. Although largely devoid of vegetation except for grass, there is a single large shrub at center on the south façade. While delaminating, the entire building is painted white with sky blue accents.

Church (contributing building, ca. 1950-1960)

Exterior: South Façade (Main Entrance)

The cinder-block church building, measuring 32'-6" x 95', features a peeling, white cementitious stucco coating. The main entrance on the southern façade is accessed by seven concrete stairs bordered by metal pipe railing leading to non-historic hollow core double four-panel doors with fan lights housed in a single recessed compass-head opening. This asymmetrical façade is dominated by the larger of two bell towers at the southwest corner; as such, the main entrance is directly underneath the primary bell.

A roundel above the double doors features a painted mural of San Francisco. The patron saint is depicted holding a dove, while another sits on his shoulder. Roses surround him in the background. Below the roundel, a modern light fixture surmounts the entry doors.

The smaller southeastern tower serves to flank a recessed central bay with a curvilinear parapet and dominated by a large steel-frame, multi-pane compass head window. The parapet is constructed of brick, as made apparent by the delamination of the cementitious stucco. This parapet, along with the stucco finish and belt coursing of the towers, lends Mission Revival stylistic attributes to the design. All of the church windows are clear glass. A glass block (five block by ten block, with two additional blocks laid side-by-side at the base) cross lights the southwestern tower's stairwell.

Both towers feature hipped, standing seam metal roofs and crenellations. Both towers, as well as the central bay, are surmounted by wooden crosses, with the one at center being a stylized Bottonee cross, while the other two are simple Latin crosses. Above a simple belt course, the upper level of each façade of the southwestern tower features twin compass-head openings containing somewhat deteriorated slatwork. The south façade of the southeastern tower features a single rectangular slatted opening.

A truncated model of the church, constructed of plywood and asphalt shingle, sits just west of the main entrance.

East and West Façades

The east and west façades of the building echo the long sides of the church nave. Divided into seven bays (including the bell tower) punctuated by unadorned pilasters, each bay features a fixed steel window containing twelve lights. The six central lights of those windows in the central five bays are larger. The standing seam metal roof has only a slight overhang on the east and west façades and irregularly spaced modern rolled gutters and downspouts.

In addition, the second floor of the west side of the bell tower also features a fixed nine-light steel window. Twin compass head slatted bell openings in a square recession pierce the uppermost level (as on the south façade). Meanwhile, the east façade of the east bell tower features a fifteen-light fixed steel window in its second story.

The water table on both the east and west façades features ventilation openings grouped in threes and spaced at intervals.

⁴ Mondragón-Valdéz, *Culebra River Villages*, E10.

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North (Rear) Façade

The north or rear façade features two historic panel doors with concrete stoops. A brick chimney and single stove pipe punctuate the standing seam metal gable roof of the nave in the last bay towards this façade.

Interior

Painted and stuccoed a bright white, the open ceiling of the beveled gable roof line dominates the simple church interior. Modern ceiling fans interspersed with historic light fixtures (among them two in the opaque glass schoolhouse style) hang along the center line. The nave retains its historic wood plank flooring and wood pews throughout. The Stations of the Cross in carved wood frames line the long walls of the nave. The few modern audio speaker units affixed to the wall do not overly detract and are removable. Light streams in from the tall clear glass windows.

The Gothic Revival-style tripartite carved wood altar features three separate niches, of which the center and the one at right retain their statues. Attenuated columns flank the niches's pointed arch openings. The central niche houses a painted statue of San Francisco, the congregation's patron saint, above which is a Bottonee cross. The painted statue at right (when facing the altar) depicts the Virgin and Child. Two smaller scale statues sit atop the altar, depicting Jesus and again San Francisco. A large, brightly painted Virgin on a bed of roses is freestanding at left set on the floor. It is possible that this is the statue for the third altar niche, but the scale is proportionately large. The lower tier of the altar (behind the communion table) features a painted scene of the Last Supper in the central panel.

A modern wood communion table is set before the altar. Non-historic purple carpet covers the altar area, which is set up one step from the rest of the nave. This area is accessed via a gate in the open-carved wood altar rail. To each side of the gate, the rail features four bays with Bottonee crosses inscribed in roundels with symmetrical abstract patterning.

To either side of the altar, two historic single-panel doors with original brass hardware allow access to the sacristy behind. The sacristy features an original acoustical tile ceiling, carved sacristy cabinet echoing the altar design, and some vinyl flooring overlaying the wood plank flooring.

In comparison with the undated historic photo (showing both the previous *capilla*, or chapel, next to the newly completed *iglesia*, or church) framed and hung in the church, all major character-defining features remain intact (see H0001 and H0004).

The entrance to the east bell tower from the church interior is via a non-historic fifteen-light wood door. The west bell tower is accessed via a historic two-panel door. Above the main entrance's recessed vestibule is an open choir loft with a carved rail echoing the altar rail.

Alterations

The parish began construction on this building ca. 1950 and were using the building in some capacity prior to its consecration in 1960. Based on a photograph of the building taken by University of Colorado at Denver Professor Tom Noel between 1980 and 1990 and housed with the Denver Public Library digital collections, a few exterior changes have occurred to the building since at least 1990.⁵ The tower roofs were then covered in asphalt shingle. The main entrance doors were at that time flush panel. The painting of San Francisco in the roundel above the main entrance is not clearly visible. And, finally, the water table of the western nave was painted a darker color.

⁵ See Denver Public Library digital collection photo AUR-786 at:
http://digital.denverlibrary.org/cdm4/item_viewer.php?CISOROOT=%2Fp15330coll14&CISOPTR=1320&DMSCALE=25&DMWIDTH=600&DMHEIGHT=600&DMMODE=viewer&DMFULL=0&DMX=528&DMY=289&DMTEXT=%2520AUR-786&DMTHUMB=1&REC=1&DMROTATE=0&x=453&y=207. Accessed November 3, 2011.

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Integrity

As the site of continual cultural use, this property has evolved over time. As a traditional cultural place, it has retained its integrity of feeling and association.⁶ Continuing to be central to the community of San Francisco (La Valley), the church property retains a high level of integrity of setting and location. Irrespective of some maintenance considerations, such as water damage evident on the ceiling of the building interior, the church at San Francisco maintains a good degree of integrity of materials, design, and workmanship in order to convey its historic association. Finally, the property meets the registration requirements for the property type "Vernacular Churches and Parish Compound" under *The Culebra River Villages of Costilla County, Colorado* MPDF.

⁶ "A traditional cultural property, then, can be defined generally as one that is eligible for inclusion in the National Register because of its association with cultural practices or beliefs of a living community that (a) are rooted in that community's history, and (b) are important in maintaining the continuing cultural identity of the community." Patricia L. Parker and Thomas F. King, *Guidelines for Evaluating and Documenting Traditional Cultural Properties*, *National Register Bulletin 38* (Washington, D.C.: National Park Service, 1990, revised 1992, 1998), 1.

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8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

ARCHITECTURE

ETHNIC HERITAGE/Hispanic

Period of Significance

Ca. 1950-1962

Significant Dates

1960

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

Period of Significance (justification)

The period of significance for Criterion A: Ethnic Heritage begins in ca. 1950 with the initial construction of the extant church, which is the oldest extant historic resource on the property, and ends in 1962 to comply with National Register guidelines. The period of significance for Criterion C: Architecture is 1960, the year the building was consecrated.

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Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)

The church embodies the cultural and historic roots of Hispano heritage in Costilla County. This property symbolizes the central role of religion in some of the longest non-Native American settlements in the state. Likewise, these religious spaces reflect the evolution of Hispano vernacular traditions in Colorado. As the core of Hispano village life in San Francisco (La Valley), this property reflects the continuity of community organizations fostering inter-group cooperation.⁷ As such the church fulfills the burden of Criterion Consideration A.

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance and applicable criteria.)

Iglesia de San Francisco de Assisi is eligible for the National Register under Criterion A in the area of Ethnic Heritage: Hispanic from ca. 1950 to 1962 at the local level of significance. As the central gathering place for the community of San Francisco (La Valley), the church remains the location for ongoing cultural usage and is a site of regular community gatherings. Additionally, the church is eligible under Criterion C in the area of Architecture for 1960 at the local level of significance as a good example of vernacular church construction for the San Luis Catholic mission churches after World War II. As such, it features concrete block rather than adobe bricks with architectural references to Late Gothic Revival and Mission Revival forms rather than the Early Gothic Revival elements of other mission churches in the region.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least one paragraph for each area of significance.)

Architecture

Iglesia de San Francisco de Assisi is a vernacular expression of regional Catholic mission church construction, with architectural references primarily to Gothic and Mission Revival styles. While earlier mission churches in the region were constructed of adobe bricks, this mid-century building is of concrete block. The Gothic Revival elements of the building include the crenellated square towers on either side of the front (south) façade and its rectilinear form. The central bay on the front façade expresses Mission Revival style through its curvilinear parapet, which is topped by a stylized Bottonee cross. Father Martorell, who served the San Luis missions from 1933 to 1966, oversaw the construction of two modern churches during his tenure: one at San Francisco and one at Fort Garland. Martorell, who was from Spain, left his mark on these churches, both of which have a more Mediterranean feel to them than the previous mission churches.⁸ While Martorell oversaw these construction projects and guided their efforts, in the case of the *iglesia* (or church) at San Francisco, one of the assistant pastors, Father Pedro Verd, actually designed the building.⁹

The rest of the building is indicative of post-World War II building trends, with its industrial-style multi-light casement windows, concrete block construction, and cementitious stucco. These simple materials combine to create a religious building that integrates both modern and the more traditional ecclesiastical architectural vocabularies. Of the San Luis mission churches, this is one of two church buildings from this period, and therefore speaks to a later period of development for these communities in complement to the earlier San Luis mission churches.

Although Catholic churches had largely retained their traditional forms, by the mid-nineteenth century Protestant churches were adopting auditorium plans and experimenting with diverse architectural styles. The popularity of these types of churches peaked at the turn of the twentieth century and as the Progressive Era came to a close, American religious architecture, as part of a larger national trend, returned to rectilinear forms and Gothic Revival style for their houses of worship. As this architectural trend evolved, many Protestant churches incorporated Gothic Revival elements, such as square towers and crenellation.¹⁰ As the twentieth century advanced, buildings of all types (including churches) made use of more modern building materials, such as concrete block and metal casement windows. As such, this church fits into

⁷ Adapted from María Mondragón-Valdéz, *The Culebra River Villages of Costilla County, Colorado*, National Register of Historic Places, Multiple Property Documentation Form (Denver: Colorado Historical Society, 2000), 60.

⁸ O.M. [Onofre Martorell], "History of the Most Precious Blood Parish, San Luis, Colo.," typescript manuscript, dated 1951, from Colorado Historical Society geography file, pp. 3-4.

⁹ María Mondragón-Valdéz, *Casa del Señor: A Brief History of Sangre de Cristo Parish Church and its Missions* (San Luis, CO: María Mondragón-Valdéz, 2001), 23.

¹⁰ Jeanne Halgren Kilde, *When Church Became Theatre: The Transformation of Evangelical Architecture and Worship in Nineteenth-Century America* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2002), 205-208.

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larger trends in American religious architecture through both the choice of building materials and its architectural vocabulary, while also drawing upon regional cultural influences and those of the Spanish priest who initiated this building project.

Hispano Heritage

Per *The Culebra River Villages of Costilla County, Colorado* MPDF:

Churches embody the cultural and historic roots of the Hispano early settlers of Costilla County...these structures are significant for Colorado as symbolic reminders of the central role that religion held in the lives of the longest non-Amerindian settlements in the state... Currently, since churches (along with irrigation associations) form the core of Hispano village life, they reflect the continuity of community organizations fostering intergroup cooperation.¹¹

One of the first of the Culebra River villages, Hispano immigrants from New Mexico founded *La plaza de San Francisco* circa 1853-54 along the banks of *El Rio de Francisco*.¹² This community has had several place names over the years and while locals and county records identify the community as "San Francisco," most maps identify this community as "La Valley," in part due to a post office bearing that name in this community from 1903 to 1918.¹³ By 1860, the *pobladores* (or settlers) had established the San Francisco Ditch.¹⁴ The community had a *capilla* (or simple chapel) by at least 1889, and continued to use that adobe church until Father Martorell began construction of the current church on the same lot.¹⁵ Historic photographs on display within Iglesia de San Francisco show the small adobe chapel (similar in appearance to *Capilla de San Isidro* in Los Fuertes) immediately to the west of the larger concrete block church (see H0003). The community was able to continue to use the location, which is in the center of town and adjacent to the San Francisco Ditch, for religious and community functions while the new church underwent a decade of construction. While the older chapel is no longer extant, the current church speaks to the ongoing Hispano cultural connection to this space.

While the *capilla* was still extant as late as 1962, per a dated historic photograph, there is currently no surface evidence to denote its location in the yard immediately west of the current church building. The cemetery for the community of San Francisco is located on the hill directly to the north of the church. This cemetery is active and seems to mostly contain modern burials. Future archaeological investigation could possibly locate the former location of the adobe *capilla*, which may have contained burials as was common in early Hispano communities.¹⁶

Developmental history/additional historic context information (if appropriate)

While the community had an adobe chapel on this location beginning in the late nineteenth century, the current building dates to the mid-twentieth century. The building was constructed at the behest of Padre Onofre Martorell, and designed by one of the assistant pastors, Pedro Verd. A typescript manuscript dated 1951 provides a valuable local, first-person account of the history of the larger parish, including San Francisco.

In San Luis, the Rev. Father Garcia [ordained December 1887, active at San Luis 1894-1921] enlarged the adobe Church [at San Luis] which had been built by Rev. J.B. Pitaval and made it cruciform. He also built a small Rectory in San Luis and constructed chapels at San Pablo, Chama, San Acacio, San Francisco, San Isidro and Fort Garland.¹⁷

¹¹ Mondragón-Valdéz, *Culebra River Villages*, F60.

¹² Mondragón-Valdéz, *Culebra River Villages*, E10.

¹³ Donald R. Elliot, comp.; Doris L. Elliot, ed., *Colorado Place Names: A Genealogical and Historical Guide to Colorado Sites* (Denver: Colorado Council of Genealogical Societies, Inc., 1999). Additionally, the *Catholic Register* typically denoted this church as La Valley for most of the twentieth century, which differentiated this mission from the community of San Francisco in nearby Conejos County.

¹⁴ Mondragón-Valdéz, *Culebra River Villages*, E13.

¹⁵ Mondragón-Valdéz, *Casa del Señor*, 22.

¹⁶ Capilla de Viejo San Acacio is the oldest of the San Luis mission churches and it has burials both within the footprint of the building and immediately outside the main entrance. Capilla de Viejo San Acacio, site file, 5CT.131, History Colorado, Denver, CO.

¹⁷ O.M., "History of the Most Precious Blood Parish, San Luis, Colo.," p. 3.

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The account goes on to indicate that after 1923, the Theatine Fathers administered the parish and that by 1951:

[The Theatine Fathers] built the Chapel of the Blessed Sacrament in San Luis; rebuilt the Church in Chama, which was burned in 1932. They built Chapels in Chama Canyon and Blanca and a beautiful Church in San Pablo which was dedicated to St. Peter & St. Paul. This was the second church that had the honor of being dedicated by the first Bishop of Pueblo, the Most Rev. Joseph C. Willging, D. D. Chapels at Garcia and Jaroso are nearing completion. Two beautiful [sic] and large Churches are now already under roof. One in Ft. Garland and the other at San Francisco. Many of these Chapels and Churches in the Missions of this Parish are modern and comfortable.¹⁸

While the phrase "under roof" is a bit amorphous, it does imply that construction had progressed to the point where the church could host some activities. The emphasis on "modern and comfortable" helps to highlight the use of modern building forms and materials, which were an important factor in mid-century construction. Although Father Martorell identified the building as being well under way by 1951, both of his church projects (San Francisco and Fort Garland) were not consecrated until 6 November 1960 by Bishop Charles A. Buswell. As with other mission church building projects in the San Luis region, the church at San Francisco was made possible by funding from the Catholic Extension Service.¹⁹

The community still uses the church, particularly in the summer months when each of the San Luis mission churches host the resident pastor of San Luis as part of a circuit. In the yard of the church is a processional model of the church, which the community uses in religious festivals by parading the models throughout the villages in the beds of trucks. The church represents its appearance dating from its consecration in 1960, and thus conforms to the registration requirements of the Multiple Property Documentation Form.²⁰

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

Carrillo, Richard F. "Ethnicity." In E. Steve Cassells, ed., *Colorado History: A Context for Historical Archaeology*. Denver: Colorado Council of Professional Archaeologists, 2007.

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Elliot, Donald R., comp.; Doris L. Elliot, ed. *Colorado Place Names: A Genealogical and Historical Guide to Colorado Sites*. Denver: Colorado Council of Genealogical Societies, Inc., 1999.

Kilde, Jeanne Halgren. *When Church Became Theatre: The Transformation of Evangelical Architecture and Worship in Nineteenth-Century America*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2002.

Lopez, Olibama. "Pioneer Life in the San Luis Valley." *The Colorado Magazine* 19.5. Denver: The State Historical Society of Colorado (Sep 1942): 161-167.

Manzaneres, Mary Jo, Sangre de Cristo Parish. Letter to Joe Ortiz, Planning and Zoning. Dated 2 Mar 2009.

O.M. [Onofre Martorell]. "History of the Most Precious Blood Parish, San Luis, Colo." Typescript manuscript, dated 1951, from Colorado Historical Society geography file.

Mondragón-Valdéz, María. *Casa del Señor: A Brief History of Sangre de Cristo Parish Church and its Missions*. San Luis, CO: María Mondragón-Valdéz, 2001.

¹⁸ O.M., p. 4.

¹⁹ Mondragón-Valdéz, *Casa del Señor*, 23.

²⁰ Mondragón-Valdéz, *Culebra Villages*, F60-61.

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 The Culebra River Villages of Costilla County, Colorado. National Register of Historic Places Multiple Property Documentation Form. Denver: Colorado Historical Society, June 2000.

Parker, Patricia L. and Thomas F. King. *Guidelines for Evaluating and Documenting Traditional Cultural Properties, National Register Bulletin 38*. Washington, D.C.: National Park Service, 1990, revised 1992, 1998.

Simmons, Virginia McConnell. *The San Luis Valley: Land of the Six-Armed Cross* 2nd edition. Niwot, CO: University Press of Colorado, 1999.

Valdez, Arnold. *Costilla County Adobe Survey Historic Building Inventory Records*, 1991. On file with the Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, History Colorado, Denver.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67 has been requested)
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
 - Other State agency
 - Federal agency
 - Local government
 - University
 - Other
- Name of repository: History Colorado

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): 5CT.447

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less than one acre
(Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

The UTM reference point was derived from heads up digitization on Digital Raster Graphic (DRG) maps provided to OAHP by the U.S. Bureau of Land Management.

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 13 469007 4106084
Zone Easting Northing

2 _____
Zone Easting Northing

(NAD 27)

3 _____
Zone Easting Northing

4 _____
Zone Easting Northing

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

Iglesia de San Francisco de Assisi is located in Lot 17 in San Francisco, 23531 County Road J.2.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundary includes all land historically and legally associated with Iglesia de San Francisco de Assisi.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Heather L. Bailey, Ph.D., and Astrid Liverman, Ph.D. (for property owner)

organization Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, History Colorado date October 2011

street & number 1200 Broadway telephone 303-866-3395

city or town Denver state CO zip code 80203

e-mail _____

Iglesia de San Francisco de Assisi Culebra Villages of Costilla County, Colorado MPS Costilla County, CO
Name of Property County and State

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Continuation Sheets**
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

Photographs:

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map.

Name of Property: Iglesia de San Francisco de Assisi
City or Vicinity: San Francisco (La Valley)
County: Costilla **State:** Colorado
Photographer: Heather L. Bailey
Description of Photograph(s) and number:

0001	South-facing façade (25 May 2011)
0002	Northeast corner of church (15 February 2011)
0003	West wall of church and view of southwest tower (25 May 2011)
0004	Glass-block cross inset on southeast tower (6 July 2010)
0005	Metal casement windows (6 July 2010)
0006	Curvilinear parapet and stylized Bottonee cross on central bay of main façade (15 February 2011)
0007	Delaminated stucco revealing concrete block wall on west wall (15 February 2011)
0008	Concrete block vent in foundation on east wall (25 May 2011)
0009	Sanctuary interior, looking north (25 May 2011)
0010	Sanctuary interior, looking south (25 May 2011)
0011	Altar rail and statue of Our Lady of Guadalupe (25 May 2011)
0012	Altar and reredos featuring Saint Francis and the Virgin with Child (25 May 2011)
0013	Door to sacristy, featuring image of Pope John Paul II over the door (25 May 2011)
0014	Decorative tile floor in entranceway in cross form (25 May 2011)

Historic Image Log

H0001. "Catholic Church at Old town of San Francisco, Colo of San Luis," 4 February 1962 (Courtesy Denver Public Library, call number X-13516)

H0002. "Catholic Church, San Francisco, Colo.," 2001 (Courtesy Denver Public Library, Tom Noel Photograph Collection Notebook Costilla, call number AUR-763)

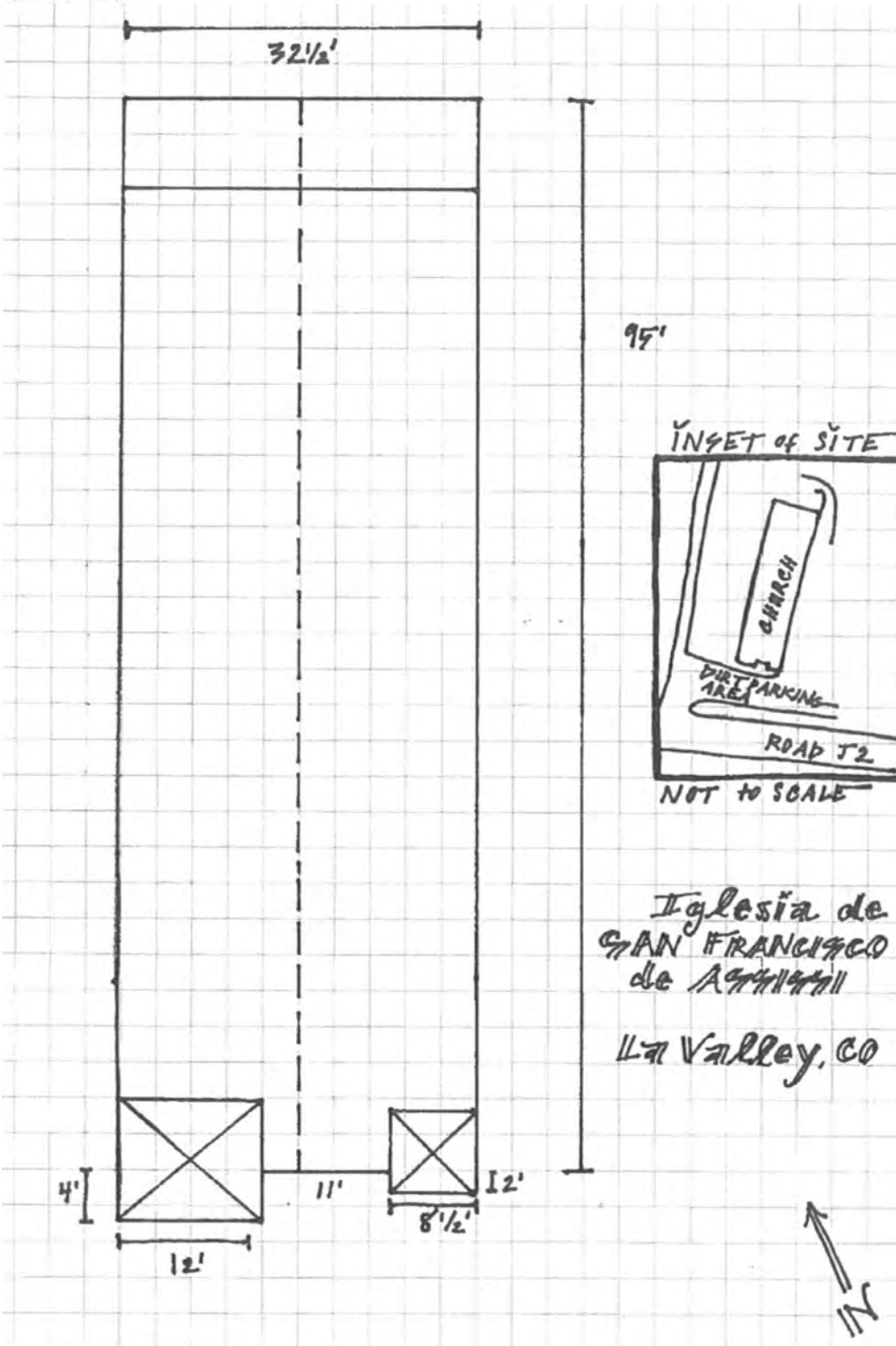
H0003. Historic images on display in Iglesia de San Francisco de Assisi

H0004. Former *capilla* and new *iglesia* at San Francisco.

Iglesia de San Francisco de Assisi Culebra Villages of Costilla County, Colorado MPS
Name of Property

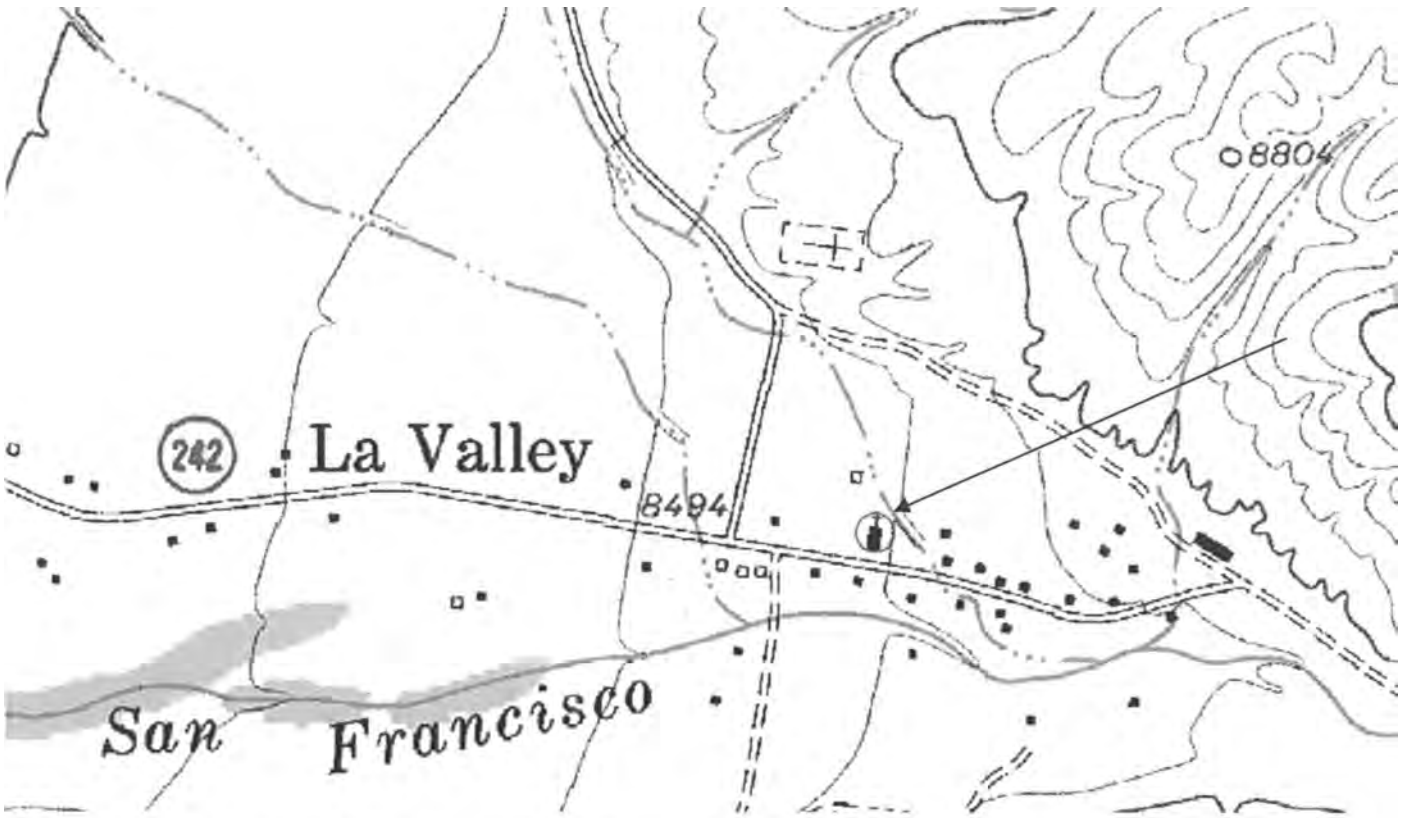
Costilla County, CO
County and State

SKETCH MAP



Iglesia de San Francisco de Assisi Culebra Villages of Costilla County, Colorado MPS Costilla County, CO
Name of Property County and State

USGS Map
La Valley Quad

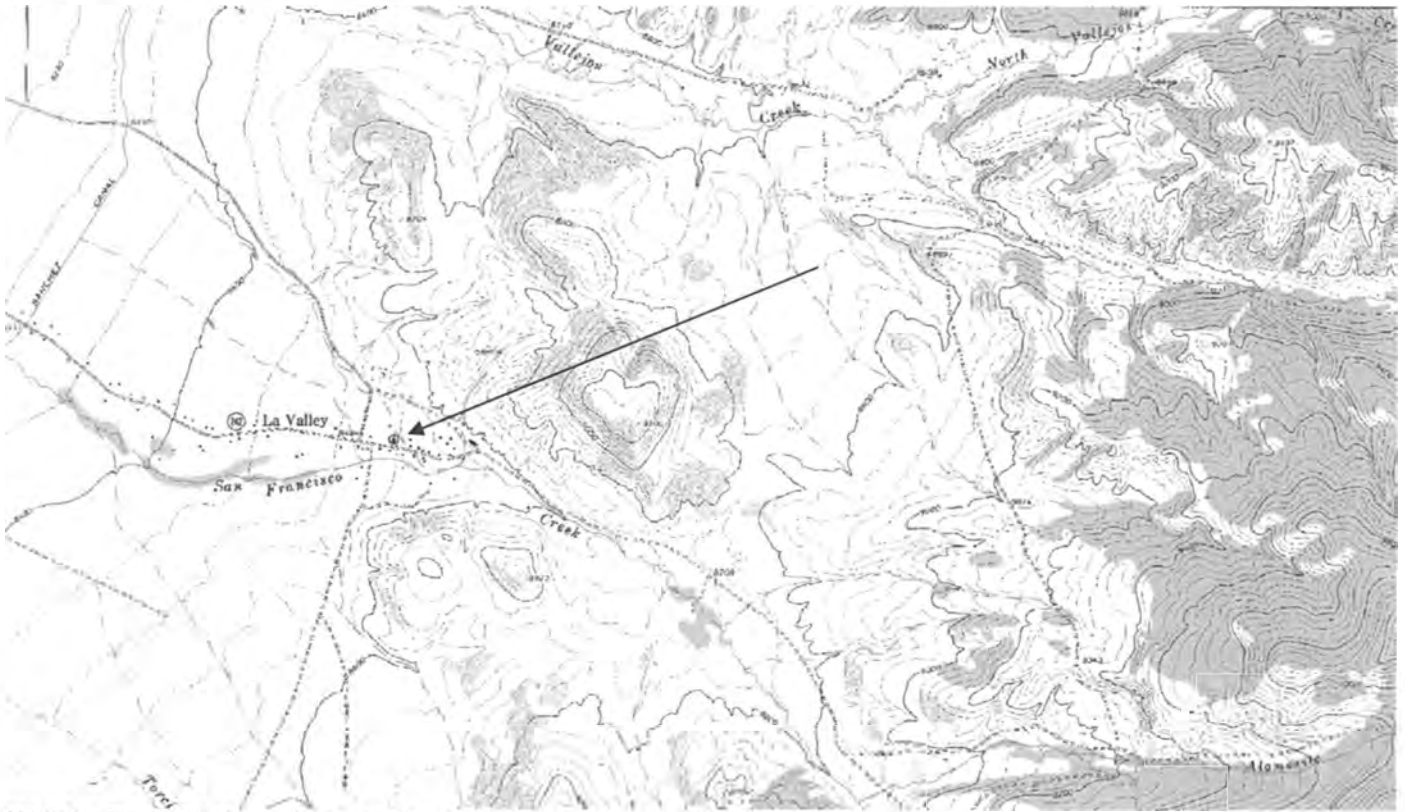


M0001. Close view of Iglesia de San Francisco de Assisi within La Valley Quad

Iglesia de San Francisco de Assisi
Name of Property

Culebra Villages of Costilla County, Colorado MPS

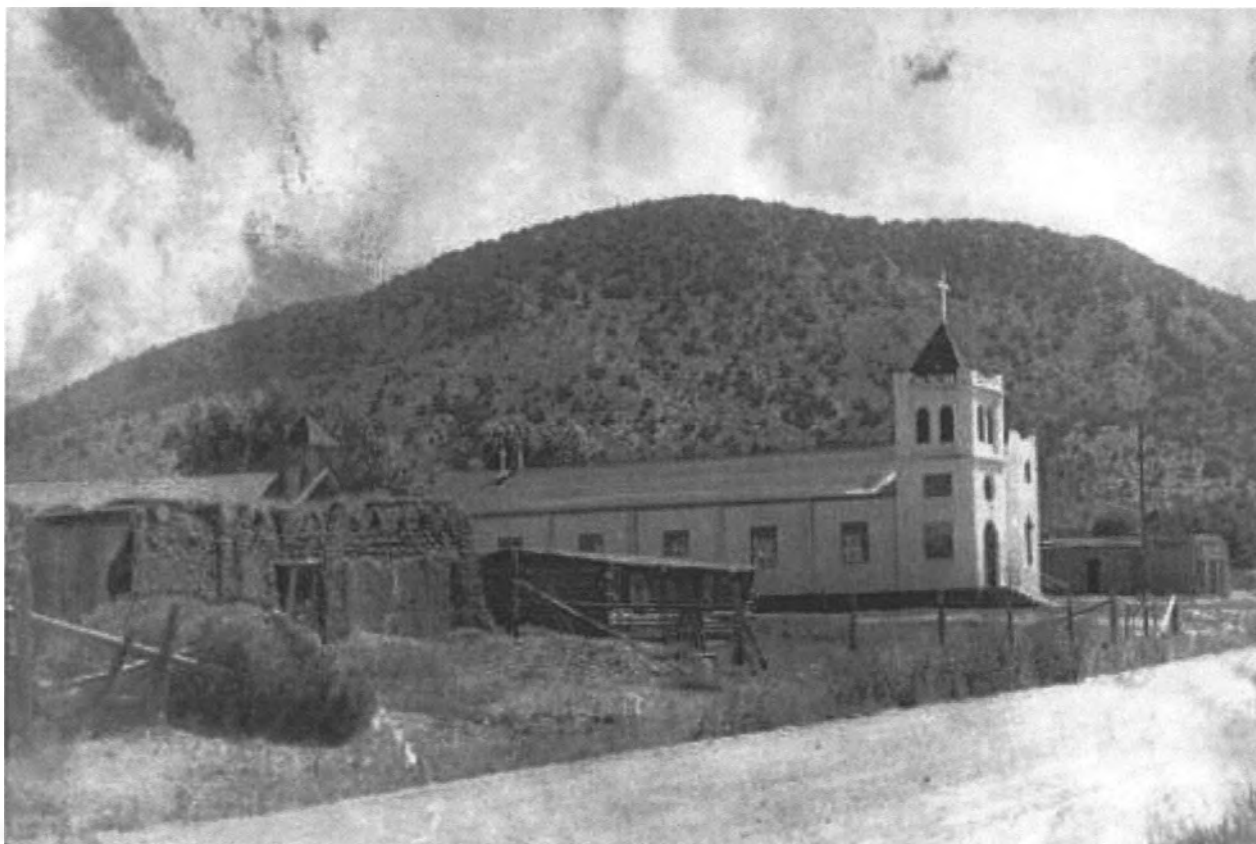
Costilla County, CO
County and State



M0002. Regional view Iglesia de San Francisco de Assisi within La Valley Quad.

Iglesia de San Francisco de Assisi Culebra Villages of Costilla County, Colorado MPS Costilla County, CO
Name of Property County and State

HISTORIC IMAGES



H0001. "Catholic Church at Old town of San Francisco, Colo of San Luis," 4 February 1962 (Courtesy Denver Public Library, call number X-13516) All images from the Denver Public Library collection are copyright © protected and may not be reproduced in any way without permission from the Denver Public Library. Commercial use of images is subject to service fees. We require that all images be credited to the Denver Public Library, Western History Collection.

Iglesia de San Francisco de Assisi Culebra Villages of Costilla County, Colorado MPS Costilla County, CO
Name of Property County and State



H0002. "Catholic Church, San Francisco, Colo.," 2001 (Courtesy Denver Public Library, Tom Noel Photograph Collection Notebook Costilla, call number AUR-763) All images from the Denver Public Library collection are copyright © protected and may not be reproduced in any way without permission from the Denver Public Library. Commercial use of images is subject to service fees. We require that all images be credited to the Denver Public Library, Western History Collection.

Iglesia de San Francisco de Assisi Culebra Villages of Costilla County, Colorado MPS Costilla County, CO
Name of Property County and State



H0003. Historic images on display in Iglesia de San Francisco de Assisi

Iglesia de San Francisco de Assisi Culebra Villages of Costilla County, Colorado MPS
Name of Property

Costilla County, CO
County and State



H0004. Former *capilla* and new *iglesia* at San Francisco.

Iglesia de San Francisco de Assisi Culebra Villages of Costilla County, Colorado MPS Costilla County, CO
Name of Property County and State

Property Owner:

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name Diocese of Pueblo
street & number 1001 North Grand Avenue telephone _____
city or town Pueblo state CO zip code 81003

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Iglesia de San Francisco de Assisi
NAME:

MULTIPLE Culebra River Villages of Costilla County MPS
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: COLORADO, Costilla

DATE RECEIVED: 2/10/12 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 3/02/12
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 3/19/12 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 3/28/12
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 12000144

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 3.27.12 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Entered in
The National Register
of
Historic Places

RECOM./CRITERIA _____

REVIEWER _____ DISCIPLINE _____

TELEPHONE _____ DATE _____

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.



Iglesia de San Francisco
de Assisi

111111, CO_Costilla County_Iglesia de S

0001



Iglesia de San Francisco
de Assisi

0002

1111111, CO_Costilla County_Iglesia de S



Iglesia de San Francisco
de Assisi

0003

1111111, CO_Costilla County_Iglesia de S



Iglesia de San Francisco
de Assisi

111111, CO_Costilla County_Iglesia de S

0004



Iglesia de San Francisco
de Assisi

0005

111111, CO_Costilla County_Iglesia de S

Fujicolor Crystal Archive
Sage

FUJIFILM

Fujicolor Crystal Archive
Sage

FUJIFILM



Iglesia de San Francisco
de Assisi

1111111, CO_Castilla County_Iglesia de S

0006



Iglesia de San Francisco
de Assisi

0007

1111111, CO_Costilla County_Iglesia de S



Iglesia de San Francisco
de Assisi

6008

1111111, CO_Costilla County_Iglesia de S



Iglesia de San Francisco
de Assisi

0009

1111111, CO_Costilla County_Iglesia de S



Iglesia de San Francisco
de Asisii

0010

111111, CO_Costilla County_Iglesia de S



Iglesia de San Francisco
de Assisi

0011

1111111, CO-Costilla County-Iglesia de S



Iglesia de San Francisco
de Assisi

6012

1111111, CO_Costilla County_Iglesia de S



Iglesia de San Francisco
de Assisi

1111111, CO_Costilla County...Iglesia de S

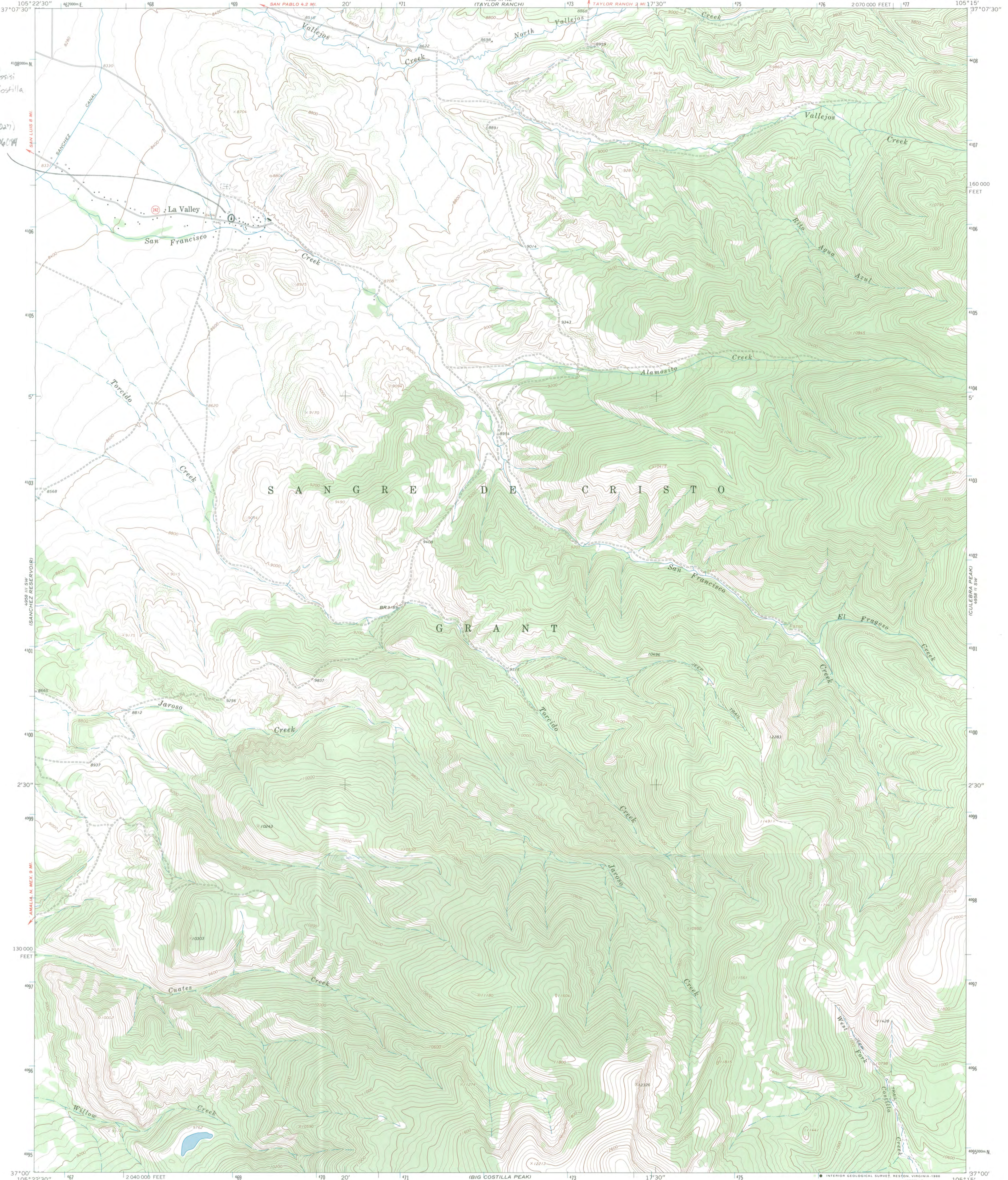


Iglesia de San Francisco
de Assisi

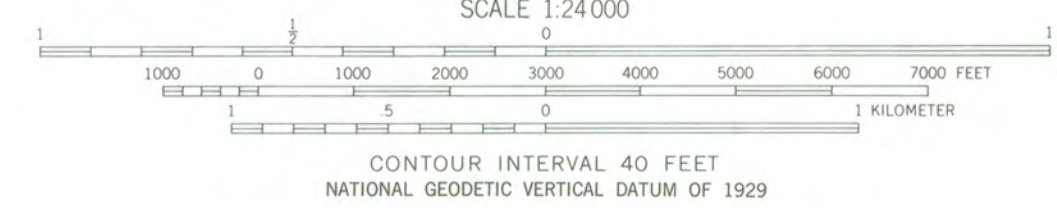
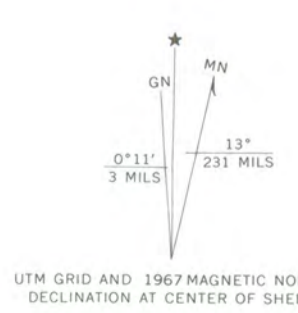
2014

1111111, CO_Costilla County_Iglesia de S

Iglesia de San Francisco de Asisi
La Valley, Costilla County, CO
SCT. 447
UTM: (NAD27)
13/469007/4106074



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS and USC&GS
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1965. Field checked 1967
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American Datum
10,000-foot grid based on Colorado coordinate system, south zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 13, shown in blue
To place on the predicted North American Datum 1983
move the projection lines 2 meters north and
49 meters east as shown by dashed corner ticks
Map photinspected 1979
No major culture or drainage changes observed

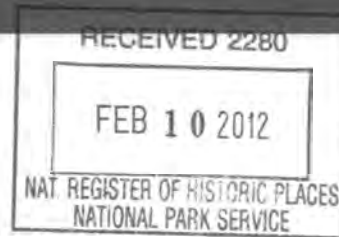


ROAD CLASSIFICATION
Light-duty ————— Unimproved dirt - - - - -
○ State Route

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

LA VALLEY, COLO.
37105-A3-TF-024

1967
PHOTOINSPECTED 1979
DMA 4958 III SE-SERIES V877



January 30, 2012

Carol D. Shull
Keeper of the National Register
National Register of Historic Places
1201 Eye "T" Street, N.W., 8th Floor (MS 2280)
Washington, D.C. 20005-5905

Dear Ms. Shull:

We are pleased to submit for your review the enclosed National Register of Historic Places nomination for the Iglesia de San Francisco de Assisi, Costilla County (5CT.447), as part of the Culebra Villages of Costilla County MPS.

The State Review Board reviewed the nomination at its meeting on January 20, 2012. The board voted unanimously to recommend to the State Historic Preservation Officer that the property met the criteria for listing in the National Register.

We look forward to the formal listing of this property. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Heather L. Bailey
National & State Register Historian
(303) 866-4683
heather.bailey@state.co.us

Enclosures

- Registration forms
- USGS map
- CDR
- Photographs