

PH 008 7025

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Colorado
COUNTY: Huerfano
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE APR 23 1973

1. NAME

COMMON:  
Huerfano County Court House (and Jail)

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:  
400 Main Street

CITY OR TOWN:  
Walsenburg

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:  
#3 Frank E. Evans

STATE: Colorado CODE: 08 COUNTY: Huerfano CODE: 055

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure 	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:  
Huerfano County

STREET AND NUMBER:  
400 Main Street

CITY OR TOWN:  
Walsenburg

STATE:  
Colorado

CODE:  
08

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
Huerfano County Court House

STREET AND NUMBER:  
400 Main Street

CITY OR TOWN:  
Walsenburg

STATE:  
Colorado

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

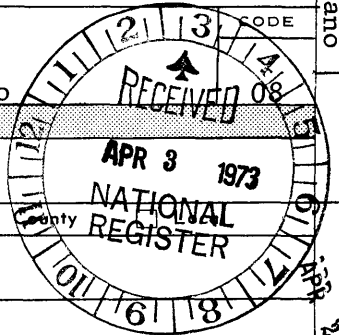
TITLE OF SURVEY:  
None

DATE OF SURVEY:  
 Federal  
 State  
 County

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:  
STATE:  
CODE:



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Colorado  
COUNTY: Huerfano  
ENTRY NUMBER: 23  
DATE: APR 23 1973  
FOR NPS USE ONLY

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

(Check One)

Excellent     Good     Fair     Deteriorated     Ruins     Unexposed

(Check One)

Altered     Unaltered

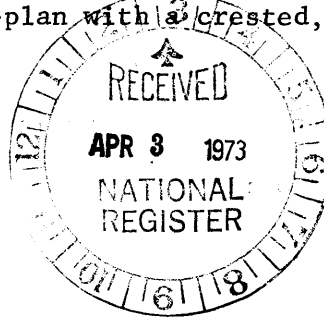
(Check One)

Moved     Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Huerfano County Court House was designed by C.A. Henderson of Pueblo for construction of coursed stone on a concrete foundation. The two-story building is symmetrical in plan with a central pedimented wing extending 8 feet to either side on the north and south facades. The hipped roof is intersected on the rear facade by a matching pedimented gable. A 90-foot square tower extension, surmounted by a pyramidal roof and finial, rises from the center of the main facade. Romanesque arches are used predominately at second floor level suggesting, together with the visual heaviness of the building, an adaptation of the Romanesque style so popular in Colorado commercial architecture at the beginning of the 20th century. An open porch, supported by stone columns, forms a balcony at second floor level in the tower section.

The two-story, coursed stone jail, adjacent to the Court House building, features a square tower centered on the main facade rising to a crested, hipped roof. The building is constructed on a T-plan with a crested, hipped roof.



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**8. SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |                                       |                                       |  |
|--|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century  | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 19th Century |  |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) **1904**

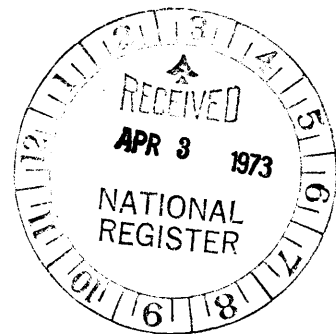
AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |   |  |   |
|--|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal              | <input type="checkbox"/> Education              | <input type="checkbox"/> Political           | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric             | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering            | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic                | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry               | <input type="checkbox"/> Science             | <u>Government</u>                                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture             | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention              | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture           | _____   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature             | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater             | _____   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce                | <input type="checkbox"/> Military               | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation      | _____   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> Music                  |  | _____   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation            |   |  | _____   |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Huerfano County was created by the First Territorial Legislature in 1861 with the settlement of Autobeas Plaza designated as county seat. Later, the town of Badito was selected as county seat and in 1874, the county seat was again moved, this time to Walsenburg, a colorful more promising settlement incorporated in 1873 on the site of La Plaza de los Leones, a primitive Hispano settlement.

The Huerfano County Courthouse was built at Walsenburg 30 years later during a sudden period of prosperity resulting from accelerated coal mining activity in the area. As new mines opened, railroad spurs were built to serve the mines, new jobs were created and the economy was improved. Construction of an imposing new county court house, at the cost of \$35,000, served as a strong expression of both optimism and pride, which in turn inspired a general building boom throughout the area. The Huerfano County Courthouse stands 70 years later as a still-imposing Walsenburg architectural landmark symbolic of civic pride and reminiscent of an exciting period of regional prosperity.



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**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Huerfano Independent, January 26, 1904. "Huerfano County's New Court House." Page 2.

13  
519 300  
416 050

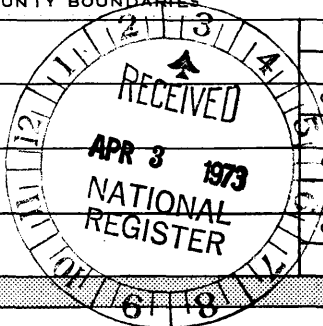
**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	0 0 0	0 0 0		37 37 29	104 46 53	
NE	0 0 0	0 0 0				
SE	0 0 0	0 0 0				
SW	0 0 0	0 0 0				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: Less than 2 acres

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE:  
Susan A. Nieminen, Assistant to the Director

ORGANIZATION: State Historical Society of Colorado DATE: 27 March 1973

STREET AND NUMBER:  
200 Fourteenth Avenue

CITY OR TOWN: Denver STATE: Colorado CODE: 08

**12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National  State  Local

Name: Stephen H. Hart  
Title: Colorado State Liaison Officer  
Date: March 29, 1973

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Robert M. Utley  
Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 4/23/73

ATTEST:  
[Signature]  
Keeper of The National Register

Date: 4/16/73