

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED FEB 28 1980

DATE ENTERED

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Doyle Settlement

AND/OR COMMON

White House, Casa Blanca

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER on Doyle Road, about 13 miles  
southeast of U.S. Highway 50

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

East of Pueblo

VICINITY OF

3

STATE

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

Colorado

08

Pueblo

101

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER: Ranchin

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

See Continuation Sheet

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE

VICINITY OF

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Register of Deeds

STREET & NUMBER

Pueblo County Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Pueblo

Colorado

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

Colorado Inventory of Historic Sites

51/07/0000/03

DATE

Ongoing

FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR

SURVEY RECORDS Colorado Historical Society, 1300 Broadway

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Denver

Colorado 80203

# 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED      DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

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## DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Doyle Settlement is the site of one of the earliest, non-mining communities established in Colorado. It consists of some old farm and grazing lands, foundations and ruins of various buildings, an abandoned adobe schoolhouse, and a small cemetery holding one of the best collections of carved Spanish headstones in Colorado. The boundaries of the site have been drawn to incorporate the known structures built in the mid-to-late nineteenth century, not to incorporate the entire 1,200 acre-purchase that Joseph Doyle made for his settlement. The Huerfano River running to the southeast forms the only natural boundary.

The structures whose ruins lie on the site date from the late 1850s and early 1860s. The most important and prominent was Joseph Doyle's home, "Casa Blanca," which was built about 1862 as a fine large white frame house with green blinds, much resembling those in the East, where Doyle had originally come from. To the east of it was an large adobe store. To the southeast of the "Casa Blanca" were two rows of adobe and jacal houses facing each other along a north/south axis; the eastern group held living and cooking areas; the western group had the storehouses and granaries, as well as the very earliest schoolhouse. Somewhat farther to the west of these structures were the gristmill with a small row of houses for the hands that worked there. Somewhat north and east of these was the blacksmith shop. All that remains of these structures today are foundations and related ruins.

The only structure still standing from the Doyle Settlement is the schoolhouse built some years after the founding of the community. It is a single detached square structure built of adobe and covered with vertical wood siding. It is about twenty-four feet in each dimension and has a low-pitched roof covered by wooden shingles. The doors and windows are missing, and the structure is in a very poor state of repair. There may once have been an addition, but this is now gone.

On the high ground north of the schoolhouse and northwest of "Casa Blanca" is the cemetery. No one knows how many people are interred here, but the headstones represent some of the finest carved headstones in Colorado. The Doyle Settlement was comprised of men drawn primarily from the United States and women of Spanish/Mexican origin, and these headstones reflect the mixture of these two cultural traditions. The cemetery itself is on the highest ground which also makes it a prominent landmark in this section of the Huerfano River Valley.

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CONTINUATION SHEET Owners of Property ITEM NUMBER 4

PAGE 2

Joseph Oreskovich  
2043 East Orman Avenue  
Pueblo, Colorado

Vernon D. Baski  
33490 Highway 50 East  
Pueblo, Colorado

County of Pueblo  
County Courthouse  
Tenth and Main Streets  
Pueblo, Colorado

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
1400-1499	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
1500-1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES Late 1850-1950

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

Joseph B. Doyle

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Doyle Settlement is significant for its association with Joseph Doyle, an early Colorado pioneer, and for the role it played in the early development of southern Colorado, particularly the Huerfano River area east of modern-day Pueblo. As this settlement preceded the Pike's Peak Gold Rush of 1859, there is the potential that archaeological investigation may reveal important information about this little known time of settlement.

Joseph Bainbridge Lafayette Doyle, known to many as "Honest Joe Doyle," was the builder, first inhabitant, and namesake of the Doyle Settlement. He was born in Shanandoah County, West Virginia, on July 18, 1817, and from his birthplace, traveled west and southwest, becoming one of the region's most important pioneers. He was alternately a trapper, Indian trader, pioneer agriculturist, businessman, and lawmaker in the territorial legislature. In his long career he was either associated or acquainted with most of the important southwestern pioneers. His early career in Colorado is obscure, but he was apparently a trapper for a short-time, and he is also known to have been an employee of Bent, St. Vrain and Company at Bent's Old Fort on the lower Arkansas. Through his early contacts made at the fort, Doyle formed many associations and went on to become a partner in several trading posts established in Colorado: El Pueblo, Hardscrabble, and also Fort Borclay in New Mexico, and others.

In November 1859 Doyle purchased 1,200 acres from the Vigil and St. Vrain Land Grant and on this site, sixteen miles above the mouth of the Huerfano River, he built his settlement. Though not all came at once, he eventually put up a family residence (known later as "Casa Blanca" or the "White House"), housing for his many farm workers, one of the first flour mills in Colorado, one of the first schoolhouses, irrigation ditches which by 1861 brought 600 acres of land into cultivation, and corrals for sheep and cattle which grazed on the uplands. While Doyle was building the settlement, he began importing goods from the east to sell to the many gold seekers. With the imported goods and agricultural produce from his own and neighboring farms, he opened up stores in Auraria (later a part of Denver), Canon City, Tarryall, Colorado City (now Colorado Springs), and Pueblo. From this base, he entered politics and was elected one of the first county commissioners for the newly formed Huerfano County. In 1864, he was elected to the State Council, the upper house of the territorial legislature, representing Pueblo, Huerfano, El Paso, and Fremont Counties. While serving in this post in Denver, Doyle died suddenly on March 4, 1864. He was 47 years old.

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

F. W. Gragin Papers, Colorado Springs Pioneer Museum.

Hafen, Leroy, ed. The Mountain Man and the Fur Trader of the Far West (Glendale, CA: Arthur Clark Company, 1965).

Trine, Z. V. & Hills, V. G., Map of Pueblo County Colorado (Pueblo, CO: 1888)

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

UTM NOT VERIFIED

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 58

ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

QUADRANGLE NAME Doyle Bridge

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24000

UTM REFERENCES

A | 1,3 | 5|5,1|8,3,0 | 4,2|1,2|2,6,0

B | 1,3 | 5|5,1|5,2,0 | 4,2|1,1|9,3,0

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C | 1,3 | 5|5,1|0,9,0 | 4,2|1,2|1,5,0

D | 1,3 | 5|5,1|2,0,0 | 4,2|1,2|3,5,0

E | 1,3 | 5|5,0|9,4,0 | 4,2|1,2|4,9,0

F | 1,3 | 5|5,1|4,1,0 | 4,2|1,2|4,9,0

G | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

H | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

See the U.S.G.S. Quadrangle Map

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

STATE CODE COUNTY CODE

STATE CODE COUNTY CODE

# 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

James Munch

ORGANIZATION

Pueblo Regional Planning Commission for the Preservation Advisory Committee

DATE November 16, 1978

STREET & NUMBER

1 City Hall Place

TELEPHONE

(303) 543-6006

CITY OR TOWN

Pueblo

STATE

Colorado

# 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

*Arthur C. Amund*

2/22/80

TITLE State Historic Preservation Officer-Colorado

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

*William Ray Luce*

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

4/10/80

ATTEST:

*William H. Graham*

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

DATE

4-10-80

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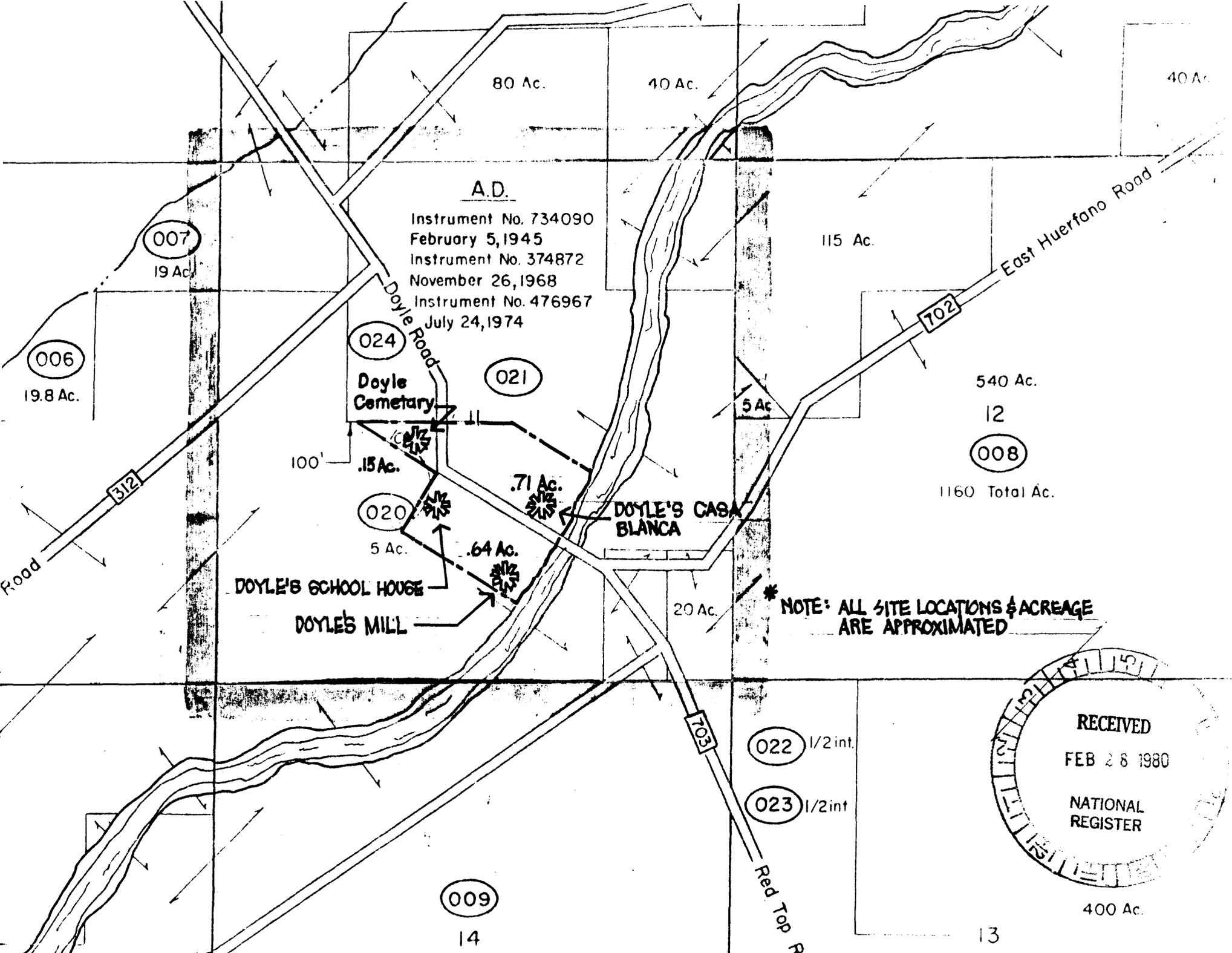
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CONTINUATION SHEET Doyle Settlement ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 2

The Doyle Settlement is a good example of settlements of the period. It was a self-contained unit including the main residence, dining facility, store, housing for laborers, flour mill, blacksmith shop, and graineries. Because of the time period in which the settlement was built, many of these structures or activities rank among the first in the area.

The main residence was "Casa Blanca." The "White House" with its green shutters was not characteristic of the architectural style of the west, but rather with the architectural style of Doyle's youth in the east. It is said that the lumber for the house was shipped in from Kansas City. The "White House" became a landmark in the area, and the segment of the Denver to Santa Fe Road, which borders it and runs between the Huerfano River Crossing and Denver, was commonly known as the "White House Road." Both the flour mill and the schoolhouse were among the first in Colorado. Records indicate that school was held on the site of the Doyle Settlement from its earliest days until 1950. Although the flour mill no longer exists, the Doyle Schoolhouse still stands. When Joseph Doyle was appointed the first postmaster for Huerfano County, "Casa Blanca" became the first post office.

The passage of time of course has effaced much of the settlement. New road construction bypassed it, larger agricultural developments grew elsewhere, fires took their toll, and eventually most of the small number of residents moved away. Today, Joseph Doyle's entire settlement lies in ruins. Bushes and trees have overgrown the flour mill and small shops, the school is little more than an abandoned adobe shell, but the gravestones, despite some vandalism, still lie on the high promontory overlooking the site where these very early settlers lived, worked, and died.



A.D.

Instrument No. 734090  
 February 5, 1945  
 Instrument No. 374872  
 November 26, 1968  
 Instrument No. 476967  
 July 24, 1974

024

Doyle  
 Cometary

021

020

DOYLE'S SCHOOL HOUSE

DOYLE'S MILL

DOYLE'S CASA  
 BLANCA

\* NOTE: ALL SITE LOCATIONS & ACREAGE  
 ARE APPROXIMATED

008

540 Ac.  
 12  
 1160 Total Ac.

009

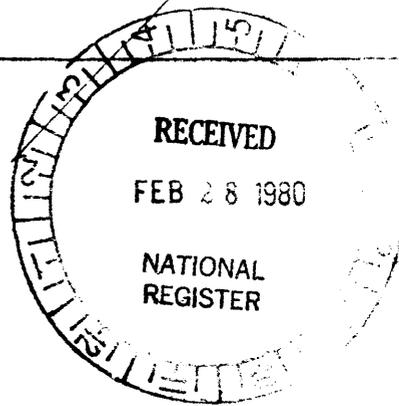
14

022

1/2 int.

023

1/2 int.



400 Ac.

13