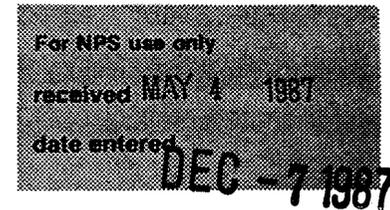


United States Department of the Interior
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National Register of Historic Places
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Guadalupe County, Santa Rosa
County Courthouses of New Mexico

1. Name: Guadalupe County Courthouse (Former) in Santa Rosa
Guadalupe County Youth Drop-In Center
(County Courthouses of New Mexico)
2. Location: NW Corner S. 4th Street and Parker Avenue
Santa Rosa, New Mexico
3. Owner: Guadalupe County Commission
420 Parker Avenue
Santa Rosa, New Mexico 88435
7. Description: The 1909 Richardson Romanesque Style Guadalupe County Courthouse is a two story, rectangular shaped building, with carved sandstone details. This courthouse represents a repeated and more sophisticated use of the Richardson Romanesque Style seen in the earlier Guadalupe County Courthouse in Puerto de Luna. The red sandstone used for construction of the building is found in the region. Situated on a Shelbyville style court square, the structure now shares the square with the associated but non-contributing 1946 Guadalupe County Courthouse and 1970's era jail.

This 1909, two story sandstone structure has a hipped roof with pedimented and capped false parapet walls at varying heights. Located on the roof at the four corners of the building are carved sandstone eagles and urns; only one of the eagles remains due to deterioration. The false parapet on the southwest (front) facade is larger than the others and embellished with engaged stone pilasters, circular decorative stone inlay, and a cast panel which reads COURTHOUSE. The front facade consists of a central mass and two flanking bays. The second story is detailed with fluted stone engaged pilasters with eagle motif capitals, and a central enlarged window with dark stone quoins and arched transom. Windows are 1-over-1 double hung wood sash; windows on the second floor in the central section are arched. Entry is gained through a centrally located arched opening framed with slender, carved stone columns. The doors are double, wood with half glazing and closed transom.

The interior of this structure is remodeled and deteriorating. Originally the courtroom was on the second floor. The original arched ceiling which crowned the space has been removed.

Prior to its present use as a Youth Drop-In Center, the building was used as a Senior Citizens Center. There is a ramp for handicap access at the front of the building; there is no elevator access. The building is in deteriorated condition with minor remodeling on the interior.

**United States Department of the Interior
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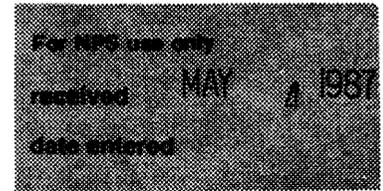
Guadalupe Co. Courthouse in Santa Rosa

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front of the building; there is no elevator access. The building is in deteriorated condition with minor remodeling on the interior.

8. Significance: The 1909 Guadalupe County Courthouse is architecturally significant as an example of Richardson Romanesque styling, and historically significant as the second Guadalupe County Courthouse.

Guadalupe County was created in 1891 from the southern part of San Miguel County, and named for Our Lady of Guadalupe, the patron saint of Mexico. The first county seat was located in Puerto de Luna from 1891 until 1907. During this period, from 1903-1905, the county changed its name to Leonard Wood County, in honor of the commander of the Rough Riders during 1898, Leonard Wood. The name was returned to Guadalupe presumably due to pressure from the residents of the area. In 1907, the county seat was moved to Santa Rosa, and in 1909 this Richardson Romanesque Style courthouse was erected.

Although not attributed to a specific architect, this courthouse has an uncanny similarity to the Culberson County Courthouse in Van Horn, Texas designed by E.E. Church in 1912. It is possible that this courthouse was a "first-run" for architect E.E. Church, although there are no records to determine this. The structure has slightly undersized windows and a disproportionate parapet, resulting in a charming local adaptation of a nationally popular style. It once provided a monumental space in which to conduct county business and justice.

9. Major Bibliographical References:

New Mexico State Archives, Santa Fe. WPA File #205. Carrie Hodges, "Santa Rosa". June 5, 1936.

Whisenhunt, Donald. New Mexico Courthouses. El Paso, Texas Western Press, 1979.

10. Geographical Data: The nominated property consists of all of Block 5, Original Townsite, Santa Rosa.

Quadrangle Name: Santa Rosa
Quadrangle Scale: 7.5 minute

UTM References:
Zone 13 Easting 528630 Northing 3866380
Acreage: Approximately 1.5 acres