

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Colorado
COUNTY: Saguache
FOR NPS USE ONLY:
ENTRY DATE MAY 2 1977

1. NAME

COMMON: *School + Jail*
Saguache County Museum Buildings *see central sheet*

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
On Highway 285 and San Juan Avenue

CITY OR TOWN: **Saguache** CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: **3rd**

STATE: **colorado** CODE: **08** COUNTY: **Saguache** CODE: **109**

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 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"/> County	<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"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious		
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific		

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
The County of Saguache

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: **Saguache** STATE: **Colorado** CODE: **08**

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

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

STREET AND NUMBER:
Main and Christy

CITY OR TOWN: **Saguache** STATE: **Colorado** CODE: **08**

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

DATE OF SURVEY: Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE:

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STATE: **Colorado**
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DATE:

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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

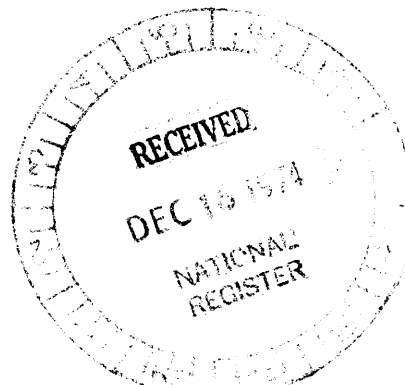
The structure wherein the Saguache Museum display is housed was planned some time in the year 1873. Building was erected in 1874 and used as a school. It was originally, a large one room building one story in height. The walls are very thick. The building being adobe has a gabled roof tapering on both sides from a wood beam. Wood shingles covered the original roof of boards. These have been replaced by rubberoid shingles which serve the purpose quite well. The color of the building is gray with patches of cement used in repair. Windows are deep seated and high. Of simple construction, the building has no extra trim and keeps to the old outline outside. Inside, partitions have been added to make seven rooms including a small reading nook and small space for storage. Floors are of pine.

The jail adjoins the school and was built in 1908. It is a marvel of protective confinement with its steel center block of cells, a front office and women's cell equipped with heavy iron bars and doors. The walls have been left as the prisoners decorated them. The jail was in use until 1959 when a new jail was erected near the present courthouse.

The legal land description of the museum building shows it is in the NE 1/4 of the NE 1/4 of Section 12, Township 44 North, Range 7 East of the New Mexican Meridian. It was patented from the United States to Nathaneal Russell January 30, 1875. The Russell's Addition was Platted as an addition to the town of Saguache April 9, 1875. The Saguache Town Company deeded the property to Saguache County June 7, 1875. The plat shows this property to be described as Lot I in Block I, Russell's Addition to the Town of Saguache.

A room was added in 1972 with one side of the jail acting as a wall on the south end of the room and the east wall being a part of the west wall of the old building. A entrance porch was built joining both jail and old building to make a blending structure to conform with the overall appearance desired.

Over-all measurements shown on enclosed sheet.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The county of Saguache was organized by an act of the territorial legislature of Colorado, approved December 29, 1866.

Saguache is an Indian word. It means Water at the Blue Earth, and is pronounced Sa-Watch. Many old timers referred to it as Si-Watch.

The first settlement was a mile southeast of the present site and was known as Milton. The founding year was 1867.

This was Ute country when the early day settlers first arrived. The great peace-maker Chief Ouray and his wife Chipeta roamed the area with members of their tribe. They warred with and prevailed over other tribes only to lose to the white men.

Saguache is the County Seat of Saguache County. It serves a wide area, and has, since The Saguache Town Company was organized in February, on the seventh day, in 1874. The land was donated by seven ranchmen; and on June 15th, 1874, the matter of a school was considered.

Saguache is blessed with a setting of natural beauty. The Saguache Range lies to the west of the town and the Sangre de Cristos to the east. Sangre de Cristo means "blood of Christ". It was named for its sunrise and sunset coloring ranging in shades of pastel to blood-red. The range was given its name by the Spanish people who penetrated the valley as early as 1591.

The structure is an example of early day pioneer building made to stand the ravages of time. The building is in fair condition except for the floors which need some repair. The 1908 jail roof is covered with a metal sheet material made to appear like a shingle one and is in good condition. Its most famous tenant was Alfred Packer, notorious for his cannibalism episode in the mountain.

The building has been loaned to the museum board for the fine display gleaned from local families supporting it with gracious gifts and loans. The museum is gaining a reputation

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9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Old Saguache County papers have been a real source of help. The Court House and the Saguache County Abstract and Investment Company are sources of research and the knowledge of the first hand source from the lips of old timers who are now at rest.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

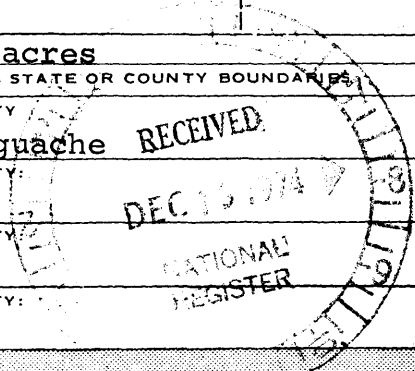
LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	0 . "	0 . "		38° 5 . 16 .	106° 8 . 35 .	
NE	0 . "	0 . "				
SE	0 . "	0 . "				
SW	0 . "	0 . "				

13/39969
4215960
CD

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **6.6 acres**

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
Colorado	08	Saguache	109
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Helen A. Kempner, Chairman of Collection and Display

ORGANIZATION: **Saguache County Museum** DATE: _____

STREET AND NUMBER:
Highway 285 and San Juan Avenue

CITY OR TOWN: **Saguache** STATE: **Colorado** CODE: **81149**
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 Historic Preservation Officer*

Date: *12/9/74*

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

R. F. W. ...
Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: *5/2/75*

ATTEST:

Charles A. ...
Keeper of The National Register

Date: *5-2-75*

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Colorado	
COUNTY Saguache	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER MAY 2	DATE 1975

(Number all entries)

Statement of Significance

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for being one of the best of its kind in the country and the exhibit with the old building will be of great service depicting a pioneer era for generations to come.

The museum building is one of the oldest structures in Saguache. It is the only museum in Saguache and is open to the public.

The old reason for the structure has not been neglected-- the museum contains a school room of pioneer order. It is also most closely oriented to the education of the community as regards their heritage. The building saw much use as a meeting place for county and town business in the early history of Saguache which lends great significance. Typical of all early schools in small communities, it served a great many of the social and political needs of the community. The very first meeting of county officers was held in Nathan Russell's old corral. Nathan, the man who donated the site to the town for the school building, was the first anglo to arrive in Saguache. The year was 1866. He founded the first settlement that was to grow into the town of Saguache.

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