

PITCOY 9662

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Colorado  
 COUNTY: Ouray  
 FOR NPS USE ONLY  
 ENTRY DATE: APR 16 1975

1. NAME

COMMON: Ouray City ~~(Town)~~ Hall and Walsh Library (2nd floor)  
 AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: Block 18 of 6th Avenue (between 3rd (Main) and 4th Streets)  
 CITY OR TOWN: Ouray  
 STATE: Colorado CODE: 08 COUNTY: Ouray CODE: 091

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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific		

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: Ouray County Historical Society  
 STREET AND NUMBER:  
 CITY OR TOWN: Ouray STATE: Colorado CODE: 08

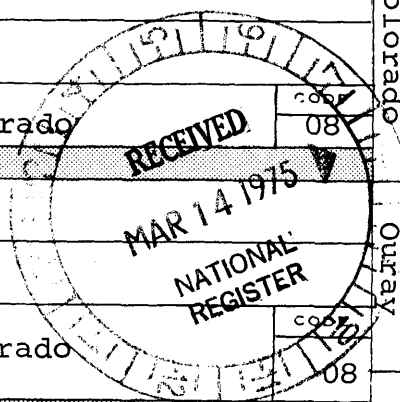
5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: City Property (Ouray County Courthouse)  
 STREET AND NUMBER: 4th Street  
 CITY OR TOWN: Ouray STATE: Colorado CODE: 08

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: Forest Service (USDA) Inventory of Historic Sites  
 DATE OF SURVEY:  Federal  State  County  Local  
 DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: District, Forest and Regional Office (Denver)  
 STREET AND NUMBER: Bldg. 85, Denver Federal Center  
 CITY OR TOWN: Denver STATE: Colorado CODE: 08

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



STATE: Colorado  
 COUNTY: Ouray  
 ENTRY NUMBER:  
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7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input 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

Plans for the first floor of the City Hall were accepted on 3/10/1899 by the Ouray Council. Plans originated by Kullerstrand and Reynolds, local business men and contractors. Bids for construction were called for on 3/17/99 by order of Louis Hohl, Mayor. 4/7/99: \$9,000 on hand, work to begin immediately. 4/7/99: \$7,500 budgeted of city funds for 1899. 4/14/99: Contract let to Frank Carney for \$6,925 for foundation and his bond accepted. ~~4/28/99: Excavation completed.~~ 5/12/99: Walls going up. 7/7/99: Cornice piece arrived ornamented with bronze bust of Chief Ouray. 9/8-22/99: Plastering by Fred Leonard contracted for. First floor nearing completion. 11/24/99 Silverite Plaindealer - A proposal dated 11/17/99 to the Ouray City Council by William Stang, Frank Carbetin, and G. A. Scott representing Thomas Walsh offered to build the 2nd story at his sole expense. The only instructions being that it be used for public purposes of library, gymnasium, etc. City Council accepts generous offer; attested by David Frakos, City Clerk and George S. Scott, mayor. Attorney Bradshaw will receive and transmit money from Walsh. 4/16/1900: \$1,500 needed to complete finishing work on lower floors and \$1,475 estimated for steam fittings. 4/27/00: \$10,000 is estimate of cost for 2nd floor to be provided by Walsh. 5/4/00: City Council considers and accepts architectural plans of architect Keith of Milwaukee, Wis. to put Walsh 2nd tier on top of Victorian stone and brick first story. Stone, cut coursed native sandstone with brick from local kiln (Ouray pool area) used for remainder of 1st and 2nd story. Main floor openings semi-circular arches w/radiating brick voussoirs containing recessed fan transom panels. Recessed panel doors w/lites. 2nd Story-Walsh library and gym to include Roman Grecian pillars and illuminated 4 faced clock. First story ends w/boxed cornice w/frieze and brackets (stone). An inset balcony under a wide pediment supported by 4 ionic columns centers the front facade. Three front facing pedimented windows are enclosed within the falcony and two bracket the pillar supported pediment. A boxed inset columned parapet is support by another boxed wood cornice w/frieze and brackets. Centered over the large column supported pediment but positioned to the rear is the bell clock tower w/ a 4' fial and roman numeral face. The clock tower is ornamented w/columns, cornices, frieze and brackets. Atop the clock tower is a hexagonal open arched bell tower w/finial and urn decoration within which hung the striking bell for the clock. A flag pole surmounts the gold roofed cupola-bell tower. (See photos) 2nd story ornamentation was all wood probably w/some painting to simulate stone. Except for minor architectural changes to make the proper proportions, the second story facade and bell-clock tower is a reduced size reproduction of Independence Hall in Philadelphia, Pa.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian       16th Century       18th Century       20th Century  
 15th Century       17th Century       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/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic                | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Industry    | <input type="checkbox"/> Science             | _____  |
| <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

Building still in use as City Hall and Fire Department. It is within the historic mining town of Ouray. Other buildings of the period but of somewhat different architectural style (wholly Victorian) remain: County Courthouse, Elks Lodge, Beaumont Hotel (Victorian Gothic), Wrights Hall, Western Hotel, Cohn House, all are within several blocks. (See Section 7 for construction dates). This building is the only remaining building (public or otherwise) known to have been commissioned specifically by Tom Walsh of the fabulous Camp Bird, Hope Diamond, Father Struck it Rich fame. It is a unique combination of the Roman, Greek and American Victorian styles. As so called Victorian architecture was itself a mixture of styles and periods, so this structure was as true a Victorian representation for the period as might be found. Walsh's Camp Bird mine is still one of the few big mines still in operation in the San Juans. No other building with the same association with Walsh has survived. The pride of the town received quite a blow with the January 1950 fire and efforts at reconstruction involved the whole community and fund raising drives, etc., because insurance money was far from sufficient to cover even basic reconstruction costs. A library was reestablished although the original signed volumes Walsh donated could never be replaced. The exhibits of mineral from almost every major mine in the area have also never been reassembled. The building as patched together in 1950 is now an anachronism in the 1890 atmosphere community. People miss the clock striking the hours (while bell was salvaged it cracked shortly after incorporation into the new clock mechanism and was silenced because of the sour tone - another parallel with Independence Hall in Philadelphia where the cracked Liberty Bell also resides). The Ouray county historical society has recognized the importance and significance of this project and is the endorser of this proposal and have appointed a representative to the Walsh Library Building Restoration Committee, a non-profit tax exempt corporation being formed to carry the project thru the Centennial-Bicentennial period to completion. This is a reconstruction project although the basic building remains and is in the process of being certified by the state building inspector as suitable for reconstruction with the proper structural modifications. Initially at least only the facade, clock tower and belfry are being considered for restoration. Interior reconstruction aside from that structurally required is not anticipated at this time.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Uncompahgre Country - Wilson Rockwell, page 234  
 Colorado Magazine, Volume 37, July 1960, "Ouray Remembered" by Lois Borland  
 Father Struck It Rich - Evelyn Walsh McLean  
 Ouray Herald & Plaindealer - see attached copies of current articles  
 Ouray County, Colorado - Josie Crum  
 Silverite Plaindealer - 1899-1901

**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

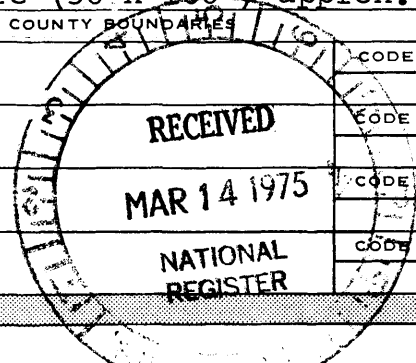
LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		38° 01' 23"	107° 40' 13"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

13/2656  
 4211531  
 (u)

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: one tenth acre (50' x 100') approx.

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:  
Ouray County Historical Society (Walter Rule representative)

ORGANIZATION: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: 6/12/74

STREET AND NUMBER:  
1525 Bristol Drive

CITY OR TOWN: Montrose STATE: Colorado CODE: 08

**12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION**

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 Cynthia Emrick  
 Title Acting State Hist. Pres. Off.  
 Date March 3, 1975

**NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

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

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

Date 4/16/75

ATTEST:  
W. Montrose  
 Keeper of The National Register

Date APR 14 1975

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

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
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(Number all entries)

Physical Appearance

page 2

9/7/00 City Hall building fast: 11/9/00: Tower awaiting installation of the clock: 12/14/00: building nearing completion. 7.19/01: Formal dedication-presentation to take place 7/26/01 - Special train from Denver for guests - big banquet w/champagne. After the January 1915 fire which left the main floor, basement and walls largely intact, the upper story was rebuilt but w/o the Independence Hall facade. A new clock was installed in an abbreviated tower with the old bell which was salvaged but is now cracked and silenced.

(All dated references above from the Silverite plaindealer: Ouray paper of the period).

