



A, D, H, & J. OLD TOWN HALL
131 East Main Street, Oak Creek

The Town of Oak Creek was created by coal, identified in John Fremont's expeditions in 1844 as one of the minerals available in Northwest Colorado. In 1907, three businessmen purchased a ranch at the head of Oak Creek Canyon, formed the Oak Creek Town Land and Mining Company, and filed a town plat. By the following year, the town had fifty residents, a store, a post office, and a newspaper, and by 1910, 200 residents, general stores, a hotel, a lumber yard, a restaurant, barber shops, saloons, a pool hall, a livery stable, a laundry, drug store, a dairy, a bank, and the first church and school. Oak Creek boomed after the railroad reached the town in 1909 and homesteaders had moved to the valley to develop the area's major vegetable-growing potential. Labor issues weakened the coal industry into the 1920s. The Town Board purchased land for and began construction of a town hall, jail, administrative offices, a vault, and firehouse in 1927. The long, narrow cinder-block-and-stuccoed building, conforming to its lot size, was used for these purposes as well as a voting location and social gathering place until the mid-1990s, after which it fell into disrepair. The Historical Society of Oak Creek and Phippsburg was awarded State Historical Fund grants to refurbish the building and convert it into a museum due to its historic significance, its prominent location in the town, and its architectural integrity. It will house a museum and complement the coal and agricultural historical park located on the adjacent lot.