

Stroll the streets of Fairplay and discover the stories behind its historic sites.

This tour highlights just a few of the 14 historic sites included on the Fairplay Walking Tour for Smart Phones. To access the full tour:

- 1. Open your mobile browser on your Smart Phone
- 2. Type in the tour URL: http://www.fairplayco.us/mobile
- 3. Click "Start Tour"









Tour produced by the South Park National Heritage Area and the Park County Office of Historic Preservation 1246 County Road 16, Fairplay, CO 80440 • (719) 836-2583



1874

Old Park County Courthouse

418 MAIN STREET

Seven years after Fairplay became the county seat, local officials replaced a small log courthouse (now in South Park City Museum) with this impressive Italianate style structure constructed of native red sandstone. Along with the stone jail (northwest of the Courthouse), the building witnessed a parade of the famous, the notorious, and the ordinary, including Johnny Hoover who was hung by vigilantes from a second-story window in 1880. As a result of this incident, it has been referred to as the "hanging court" for well over 100 years. Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, it now houses county offices and a public library.



1881 **Fairplay School**

639 HATHAWAY STREET

Q Named for a beloved teacher and administrator who served for several decades, the Fairplay School is now known as Edith Teter Elementary and is among the oldest surviving schools in Colorado. The original 1880s section is constructed of native red sandstone in the Italianate style, a popular Victorian Era style characterized by prominent eaves, decorative roof brackets, and hooded windows. Additions in 1934, 1947, and 1986 reflect changes in architectural taste and local population growth over the years. Currently, the school is undergoing rehabilitation as part of an expansion plan that will provide additional classroom space for South Park students. Listed on the Colorado State Register of Historic Properties, the building is also a Park County Historic Landmark and serves as the administration building for the Park County RE-2 School District.



1874

South Park Community Church

SIXTH & HATHAWAY STREETS

3 Built in 1874, this board and batten church is a well-preserved example of the Carpenter Gothic style with lancet windows, extensive wood trim, and an intricately detailed bell tower. One of many churches in the West established by Sheldon Jackson, this Fairplay landmark is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Born in New York and educated at Princeton, Jackson began his extensive missionary career in Wisconsin and Minnesota. His work soon led him to the Rocky Mountains and by 1869 Jackson had become the superintendent of all Presbyterian missions in the West. During his extensive travels, he established over 100 missions and churches and traveled close to a million miles. In 1877, he turned his attention to Alaska where he founded numerous schools and training centers. Sheldon Jackson's passion for the educational and spiritual growth of native Alaskans continued until his death in 1909.



1873-4

Paul-Teter House

700 CASTELLO AVENUE

4 This prominently located home was built in 1873-4 for James Marshall Paul, a lawyer and mining operator who came to Colorado from Philadelphia in 1865. By 1867, he had settled in Fairplay with wife Laura and young son Charles. He practiced law in Fairplay, but also directed much energy to mining enterprises, most notably the Printer Boy Mine in Lake County. In 1875, Paul sold the house to his father for \$4,000.

Fifteen years later, the house was sold to local mining entrepreneur Stewart Van Deusen. While manager of the Mudsill Mine, Van Deusen became embroiled in a drawn out and very public legal battle. He and partner Orville Watrous were accused of "salting" the Mudsill Mine with

silver prior to selling controlling interest in the property to an English company for \$110,000. In 1894, an appeals court ruled in Van Deusen's favor but that same year the family sold the home and moved to Denver.

The house is perhaps best remembered as the residence of local blacksmith George M. Teter and his wife Mary who moved into the home in 1898. Active in Republican politics, George served as a Fairplay trustee, county commissioner, and school board treasurer. He later opened the South Park Motor and Livery Company, converting his blacksmith shop into a garage. Wife Mary was active in the Ladies Aid Society, hosting events in the home. During the 40s, the home fell into disrepair. In 1952, Willard and Erma Scroggs purchased the home and began extensive renovations of the residence, which has since regained much of its stately character.

Please respect private property and only view this building from the street.



1876

Hall-O'Mailia House

600 CLARK STREET

6 Records indicate that this house was constructed in 1876 for the prominent Assyria Hall family. Lillian and Assyria "Cy" Hall came to Fairplay in 1868 where Assyria eventually established the highly successful Dolly Varden and Moose Mines on Mount Bross. Lillian Hall sold the house in 1899 to North Carolina native and blacksmith William S. Hudson and his wife Alma a few years after their marriage. Hudson worked in both Fairplay and Leavick, but eventually the family returned to North Carolina, keeping the house until 1917 when it was sold to Michael I. O'Mailia. O'Mailia came to Fairplay around the turn of the century and soon became active in local politics. Michael served as the county attorney, mayor of Fairplay, and headed the local Democratic Party. In 1906, O'Mailia married Mayme Remington who taught at many schools in Park County and served as County School Superintendent for some 40 years. The house sat vacant for nearly a decade before it was purchased by B. Edward McNamara in 1963. McNamara became a prominent doctor in Fairplay and a new hospital was built in his name on Castello Street.

Please respect private property and only view this building from the street.



1874

Cohen's Store

530 FRONT STREET

Records suggest that this building may be the only building in Fairplay originally constructed of adobe and that the façade of this building has been replaced with fired brick on at least two occasions. A native of Warsaw, Poland, Samuel Cohen walked to Fairplay from Pueblo, Colorado, in 1873 and soon opened general stores in Fairplay and Leavick. Cohen was a prominent member of the community, serving on the town council and school board as well as mayor of Fairplay and state representative. For several years, this building was Whiteman and Cohen's and later Cohen's Store (until 1911), both selling groceries and general merchandise. In 1879, the frame structure on the right was added to provide residential space and, in later years, additional commercial space that once housed Mrs. Briggs Gift Shop.



1932

Hand Hotel

531 FRONT STREET

Now the Hand Hotel Bed and Breakfast, this hostelry building built in 1931 by Jake and Jessie Hand has experienced many owners and renovations. The Hands also operated the Fairplay Hotel for a period of time and Jessie, better known as Grandma Hand, became well known throughout South Park for her arrowhead collection. Jessie Hand furnished the hotel with western and Indian artifacts, including her extensive arrowhead collection that is now on display at South Park City Museum. By the 1980s, the hotel had fallen into disrepair and sat boarded up and vacant until it was heavily remodeled in 1987 and took on a more rustic appearance. Today, its interior décor is modeled after western hotels of the 1890-1920 period.



c 1870s

Senate Saloon and Odd Fellows Hall

443 & 441 FRONT STREET

(3) These two brick buildings were among the first to be built after the disastrous fire of 1873 leveled much of the business district. The building on the left was A.E. Jones' Store and later housed the Senate Saloon for much of the early 1900s, before becoming the Park County Republican and Fairplay Flume newspaper office for many years. The building on the right served several purposes. Among the ground floor tenants were Hathaway's Bank and later the Patriotic Order of the Sons of America. The longest occupant of this building has been the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, which has met upstairs for 125 years.



1922

The Fairplay Hotel

500 MAIN STREET

This site has served the hotels of Fairplay since 1873, beginning with the Valiton Hotel and later the Bergh House and Hotel Windsor. The Hotel Windsor was closed after a 1921 fire and the Fairplay Hotel, designed by prominent Denver architect William N. Bowman, was constructed in its place the following year. A 1923 advertisement for the new hotel boasted dining facilities, hot and cold running water, private bathrooms in some rooms, and steam heat. In addition to providing rooms for visitors to Fairplay, the hotel rented space to local businesses, including a dentist. In 1934, the sun porch on the northwest side of the hotel was converted to the Silverheels Lounge and its 1883 Brunswick mahogany bar was brought in from Rache's Place in Alma. Today, the hotel operates as the Fairplay-Valiton Hotel and houses the Middle Fork Restaurant and Silverheels Lounge.