

Cañon City History Scavenger Hunt



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|---|-----------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|----|---------------|--------------------------|
| 1 | A CLOCK TOWER | <input type="checkbox"/> | 6 | A MUSEUM | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2 | A SCULPTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> | 7 | A CABIN | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3 | A BUILDING WITH THE NAME OF THE PERSON WHO CONSTRUCTED IT | <input type="checkbox"/> | 8 | A PARK | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4 | A MURAL | <input type="checkbox"/> | 9 | A TRAIN DEPOT | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5 | A DINOSAUR | <input type="checkbox"/> | 10 | A BRIDGE | <input type="checkbox"/> |



Look around town and see if you can find something for each list item! The following pages have possible items you can find and their history.

1 A CLOCK TOWER - 3RD AND MAIN STREETS

This 1881 clock was originally used at the Fremont County Courthouse. The bell was donated to the Royal Gorge Regional Museum and History Center in 1965. It was loaned to Main Street USA for display in the clock tower, which was erected in 2004. Clocksmith Jim Cole of Hillside repaired the historic clock.

2 A SCULPTURE - 7TH AND ROYAL GORGE BLVD.

Bird Millman was born Jennadean Engleman in Cañon City in 1890. She adopted "Bird" as her stage name. She was known for her skill on the tightrope. During her career she performed with both the Ringling Brothers Circus and the Ziegfeld Follies. She passed away in 1940 in Cañon City and was inducted into the Circus Hall of Fame in 1961.

3 A BUILDING WITH THE NAME OF THE PERSON WHO CONSTRUCTED IT

All along Main Street are buildings with the names of the men who paid for their construction. At the corner of 4th and Main Street is the F.L. Smith Building. The building was designed by Charles C. Rittenhouse. F. L. Smith moved his dry goods business into the building in 1901. Other buildings you might see are Burrage, Taggart, Reynolds, and Harrison.

4 A MURAL - 4TH AND MAIN STREETS

The mural on the corner is of *The Mercury* newspaper office. A weekly paper, *The Mercury* began in May 1884 and stopped in 1885. The building was purchased a few years later and became a reading room. It was eventually torn down and the Annex Building was built (505-507 Main Street) in 1903.

5 A DINOSAUR - 612 ROYAL GORGE BLVD.

Fremont County is a paleontological hotspot. Fossil excavation began in 1877; Allosaurus was among those early fossils discovered. Allosaurus lived during the Jurassic Period (~155 mya) and was carnivorous (ate meat). Visit the museum to learn about all the fossils discovered in the region! Keep an eye out for the other dinosaurs around town which are part of a public art project!

6 A MUSEUM - 612 ROYAL GORGE BLVD.

This building originally opened in 1928 as City Hall. However, there has always been a museum in the building. Dall DeWeese, a local business man, offered his collection to the city for the museum. The museum occupied only the top floor of the building until 2004 when the new City Hall opened. The original collection was primarily natural history artifacts but today the museum covers all history of the Royal Gorge region. The city also has the Museum of Colorado Prisons, located in the old women's prison on 1st Street.



7 A CABIN - 612 ROYAL GORGE BLVD.

The house and cabin behind the museum are in their original locations. Both were built by the Rudd family, early pioneers of the area. The cabin was built in 1860, shortly after the Rudd's arrived by covered wagon. Anson Rudd was a blacksmith by trade but served as postmaster, sheriff, and even warden of the prison for a short time.

8 A PARK - CENTENNIAL PARK OFF THIRD STREET

The land for the park was purchased in 1968 and an official dedication took place in 1972, the 100th anniversary of Cañon City's incorporation. This park is also fondly called Duck Park because of the duck pond on the east side. The pond was originally designed for 50 ducks and geese but the population exploded. In 1989 there were as many as 150. The city decided on an interesting course of action - an adoption program! People came out and adopted ducks or geese in pairs which brought the numbers down.

9 A TRAIN DEPOT - ATCHISON, TOPEKA, & SANTA FE (AT&SF) DEPOT OFF THIRD ST.

The original depot was a simple wooden structure. The current structure was built in 1913. The offices of the AT&SF moved into the building in 1914. On June 3, 1921 the daily passenger train to Pueblo pulled out of the station, the last AT&SF passenger train to ever pull out of the depot. A flood in Pueblo wiped out large portions of the track. There was so much damage that the company chose not to rebuild. The depot was in use as a freight station until the early 1980s. The Royal Gorge Route Railroad opened their offices in 1998.

10 A BRIDGE - FOURTH STREET BRIDGE (TO CENTENNIAL PARK)

The Fourth Street truss bridge was built in 1891 by the Bullen Bridge Co. and connected to the viaduct across the Arkansas River on Fourth Street. As the oldest remaining truss bridge spanning the Arkansas River in Colorado, it was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1985. It was moved in 2001 and turned into a pedestrian bridge. As it is no longer in its original location, the bridge was removed from the National Register in 2009 but is still on the State Register.



Looking for more history?
Visit the museum at
612 Royal Gorge Boulevard!