

1. Title / Content Area:	Colorado Courthouses
2. Historic Site:	Hinsdale County Courthouse
3. Episode:	<a href="https://www.pbs.org/video/colorado-experience-courthouses/">https://www.pbs.org/video/colorado-experience-courthouses/</a>
4. Developed by:	Laura Israelsen, Denver Public Schools Michelle Pearson, Adams 12 Five Star Schools
5. Grade Level and Standards:	3-5: 3rd: 3rd: History 1.2, Geography 2.1, 2.2, Civics 4.2 4th: History 1.1, 1.2, Geography 2.1, Civics 4.1 5th: History 1.2, Geography 2.1
6. Assessment Question:	How does the architecture of the Hinsdale County Courthouse, in comparison to other buildings in the region during that time period, reflect the importance and permanence of the legal system in this region of Colorado?
7. Contextual Paragraph	<p>Colorado courthouses are prominent and important buildings throughout the state, and play an important role in the establishment of the communities they serve. Many times, courthouses were the signs and symbols of the government of the town, state, or nation in a place that may seem somewhat lawless otherwise.</p> <p>The Hinsdale County Courthouse in Lake City may seem like a demure building, but it has always been on the stage as an important one because of its role in county government and events. Examples include events such as when Alfred Packer was on trial in the courthouse, and when Susan B. Anthony packed the courthouse to speak to miners encouraging them to allow women to vote. It still functions as an important building in the region, and was definitely more advanced in design than most buildings in the community built during the same period. It has elements from the Italianate style (paired gable-end brackets, narrow thin windows with pedimented window heads, etc) and is one and a ½ story tall which is larger than other common buildings in the town.</p>
8. Connection to Historic Preservation	The Colorado State Historical Fund has invested millions of dollars in the restoration and preservation of historic sites in the state of Colorado and courthouses are some of their most widely seen and visited investments across the state. From roof to foundation, wood to stone, the materials, finishes, and built structures of these important buildings showcase what is best about Colorado craftsmanship. Many are landmarked and placed in the local, state, and national registers. The Hinsdale County Courthouse is part of the Lake City



	Historic District, which was placed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1978. It's a contributing building because of its architecture and events which occurred there.	
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## Document Based Question (DBQ)

### Document

Hinsdale Courthouse



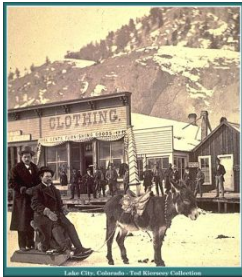
<http://www.hinsdalecountycolorado.us/history.html>

#### GUIDING QUESTIONS:

1. What type of individual architectural features do you see in this building?
2. The Hinsdale Courthouse is a rare example of what kind of architecture?
3. The courthouse is the oldest courthouse in Colorado still being used for its original purpose. How does this continued use assist with, and also create challenges for, its continued preservation?
4. Why would miners have built a building like this when most of them were living in very small houses or tents?

### Document

Lake City, CO



<http://www.narrowgauge.org/images/tkcok/m0004.jpg>

#### GUIDING QUESTIONS:

1. What do you see in this photo that gives you an indication that there is an established town in Lake City?
2. Who is missing in this photo?
3. What type of architecture do you see in this photo?
4. What are the buildings made of? Why?

Assessment Question
Response
How does the architecture of the Hinsdale Courthouse, in comparison to other buildings in the region during that time period, reflect the importance and permanence of the legal system in this region of Colorado?