





1. Title / Content Area:	Colorado Prisons								
2. Historic Sites:	Colorado Territorial Prison, Colorado Penitentiary, Grand Junction Jail, Haswell Jail, Westcliffe Jail, Crested Butte Jail, Georgetown Jail								
3. Colorado Experience Episode	Colorado Experience: Imprisonment								
3. Developed by:	Laura Israelsen, Denver Public Schools Sally Purath, Poudre School District								
4. Grade Level and Standards:	<p><i>Grade Level:</i> 6th - HS</p> <p>Content in this Document Based Question (DBQ) link to Prepared Graduate Competencies in the Colorado Academic Standards</p> <p><i>Prepared Graduate Competencies:</i> <i>Understand the nature of historical knowledge as a process of inquiry that examines and analyzes how history is viewed, constructed, and interpreted.</i></p> <p><i>Colorado Standards:</i> 6th: History Standard 1 HS: History Standard 1</p> <p><i>C3 Standards in Social Studies:</i></p> <table><tr><td><i>D2.His.1.6-8</i></td><td><i>D3.1.6-8.</i></td></tr><tr><td><i>D2.His.2.6-8</i></td><td><i>D3.3.6-8</i></td></tr><tr><td><i>D2.His.3.6-8</i></td><td><i>D2.His.3.9-12.</i></td></tr><tr><td><i>D2.His.2.9-12.</i></td><td><i>D2.His.1.9-12.</i></td></tr></table>	<i>D2.His.1.6-8</i>	<i>D3.1.6-8.</i>	<i>D2.His.2.6-8</i>	<i>D3.3.6-8</i>	<i>D2.His.3.6-8</i>	<i>D2.His.3.9-12.</i>	<i>D2.His.2.9-12.</i>	<i>D2.His.1.9-12.</i>
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5. Assessment Question:	<p>How have prisons developed over time and played a role in law and order in the state of Colorado?</p> <p>Other possible questions: How are governments formed and what works for us to create law and order?</p> <p>What can we learn from buildings that will help us to create better facilities for</p>								







	incarceration in the future, and how could understanding the construction and design of these facilities deter criminal activity?	
6. Contextual Paragraph	<p>Jails and prisons have been part of every settlement, town and city since the beginning of Colorado. Incarcerations from the 19th century, one-room “drunk tanks” to the “Prison Valley” have been in historic jails and penitentiaries, which have evolved with the changing criminal times. Initially only a single building in the middle of a 25-acre plot of land near Cañon City, Colorado’s first prison was erected in 1868 before statehood.</p> <p>Colorado’s history of imprisonment has taken a turbulent journey through rebellions, riots, and escapes. The story of Old Max and its architectural journey tells the story of changing attitudes towards crime, justice and punishment. Each jail serves its community and tells the story of the place. There have been uprisings, escapes and a women’s wing at the state penitentiary but there are also some humorous stories behind some of the jails. Haswell Jail usually held unruly booster club members and a few car thieves. When it was empty, men would secretly meet here to play poker without their wives finding out. The Westcliffe Jail held many prisoners until it closed in the mid-1920s, but few knew of the secret in the walls: during construction, Scherer artfully assembled one section of the building without mortar so the stones were removable. When the builder himself served ten days in the jail, no one knew that he spent his days in the cell but his nights sleeping in his own bed at home thanks to the unmortared wall.</p>	
7. Connection to Historic Preservation	Historic preservation in the state of Colorado takes many forms and also supports communities in telling many types of stories that illuminate not only the structures and how they are built, but the stories behind their construction as well. The Canon City Penitentiary was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in May of 2001. The Haswell Jail was listed in the Colorado State Register of Historic Properties in 1996 and the Westcliff Jail was listed February 3, 1993. Each of the local communities continues to care for these historic places in their communities.	

Document Based Question (DBQ)

Document Set

Colorado State Penitentiary at Canon City 1900



[Historic image of the Colorado State Penitentiary](#)
[Photo courtesy of Denver Public Library](#)

GUIDING QUESTIONS:

1. What did you notice first?
2. What are the architectural features of the prison? How is it different than the prison building in 1896?
3. What is the physical setting?
4. What tools were used to create this?


1921 Haswell Jail





Haswell Jail
Photo by Jeffrey Beall,
<https://www.historycolorado.org/story/preservation/2015/06/28/3-historic-colorado-jails-and-one-prison-you-dont-know-about>

GUIDING QUESTIONS:

1. Examine all of the Jails in this set built in the 1800's. What do their structures have in common?
2. What materials are used for construction?
3. How does form follow function in these jail buildings?

Westcliffe Jail	<p>GUIDING QUESTIONS:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Examine all of the Jails in this set built in the 1800's. What do their structures have in common? 2. What materials are used for construction? 3. How does form follow function in these jail buildings?
	
<p>Photo History Colorado National Register, site number 5CR.218, Photo 1993 before restoration</p> <p>https://www.historycolorado.org/story/preservation/2015/06/28/3-historic-colorado-jails-and-one-prison-you-dont-know-about</p>	

Crested Butte Jail	<p>GUIDING QUESTIONS:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Examine all of the Jails in this set built in the 1800's. What do their structures have in common? 2. What materials are used for construction? 3. How does form follow function in these jail buildings?
	
<p><i>Historic photo of the Crested Butte Jail</i></p> <p>Photo courtesy Denver Public Library R7100050705</p> <p>https://www.historycolorado.org/media/564</p>	

Georgetown, Colorado Jail 1883	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Examine all of the Jails in this set built in the 1800's. What do their structures have in common?2. What materials are used for construction?3. How does form follow function in these jail buildings?
	
<p><i>Historic image of the Georgetown Jail</i> https://digital.denverlibrary.org/digital/collection/p15330coll22/id/79174/rec/1</p>	

Assessment Question

How have prisons developed over time and played a role in law and order in the state of Colorado?

Response