

# Conifer Junction Schoolhouse

*National Register of Historic Places*

On February 10, 2014, the Conifer Junction Schoolhouse at 26951 Barkley Road was listed on the National Register of Historic Places (5JF.5107). Conifer Junction Schoolhouse, referred to by locals as the Little White Schoolhouse, sits on a one-acre lot in the unincorporated community of Conifer. A nearby barn, built sometime in the 1930s, housed the animals that the teacher and students rode to school. The school functioned as a one-room schoolhouse until the growth necessitated a larger school in 1965. The Little White Schoolhouse was continuously used from 1923 to 1965 for grades 1-8.

The Conifer Junction Schoolhouse replaced a previous schoolhouse, which was in an abandoned reform Mormon church. In 1965 the Jefferson County School District converted the Little White Schoolhouse to a preschool, which operated until 2012 when it was sold to the Conifer Historical Society and Museum. The school provided a central gathering place for dances, box socials, and other community events over the years, including church services.



Conifer area families probably came together to help a local builder construct the school. Its two floors include a classroom and two cloakrooms, with a basement kitchen, office, and bathrooms. The school and the 1930s horse barn are good examples of the Late 19th and Early 20th Century American Movements architectural style. The low-pitched hipped roof, the overhanging eaves with exposed rafter tails, the porch with sturdy columns, and the single-story design help emphasize its horizontal look. The entry porch, with three doors that lead into the main room, and the protruding cloakrooms make this schoolhouse distinctive. ♪

## Bradford Junction, 27051 Barkley Road, Conifer

*Colorado State Register of Historic Properties*

Bradford Junction began as a stage stop with a small hotel and restaurant at the crossing of Highway 73 and Bradford Road, where Robert Bradford purchased 320 acres. The Bradford Road, the Mount Vernon Road, and the Denver and South Park Wagon Road were all stage lines to different mining areas from the larger cities, such as Denver. As more people stopped and stayed in the crossroads settlement, Bradford Junction added a post office in 1865.

The Bradford Junction property listed on the Colorado State Register of Historic Properties consists of a large barn (The Yellow Barn) at the northwest boundary, a small cottage at the southwest corner, and a larger house to the east. The barn, caretaker's house, and ranch house were all constructed in 1918 and are considered contributing

structures to the State Register designation. The Civil War Well located at the center of the area formed by the three buildings was considered non-contributing as it has lost integrity due to the removal and replacement of the original superstructure.

All three contributing structures are mail-order, Gordon Van Tine kit buildings that have remained intact on their original locations and are recognizable from the original catalog pages. The Yellow Barn was designated as a Jefferson County Historic Landmark in 2003.

The official designation of Bradford Junction in the Colorado State Register of Historic Properties (5JD.308) took place on January 23, 2014, in recognition of the property's contribution to the heritage of the State of Colorado. ♪