



Así  
es la  
Cacha



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IT

July - 2013

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# EMBROIDERY SAMPLER

Running

Outline

Colcha

Satin

Split

Band Shot

Lazy Daisy

Chain

French Knot - Turkey

Seed

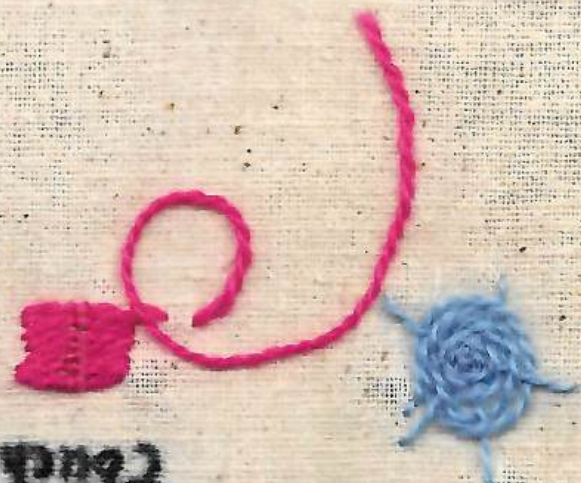
Criss Stitch

Spider Web

Roumanian Couching

Button Hole Wheel

Button Hole



## THE ORIGIN AND HISTORY OF THE COLCHA STITCH.

Colcha is a word in Spanish meaning quilt or coverlet. The embroidery stitch was used on the quilts and got its name from that.

Colcha is a couching stitch worked with tapestry or crewel yarn. 2 lengths of thread are used in the needle at the same time. A line of thread is laid across the pattern and anchored at irregular intervals with slanting stitches before the next line is laid. The stitch gives an almost woven effect and can be used for covering large areas as a solid filler or on small motifs.

The first sample of Colcha embroidery was found on a fragment of wool excavated in Northern Mongolia but believed to originate from Iran. It was dated back to the 1<sup>st</sup> Century B.C. Several Colcha masterpieces from the 11<sup>th</sup> century Spain still survive in museums and cathedral treasuries.

The Spaniards brought wool, silk and looms to New Spain. (Old Mexico). In 1534, Sancho Garcia de Larraval, master embroiderer came to teach converted Mexican Indians. Most embroidery work was used by church officials, vestments and altar cloths.

In the early 1600's, New Spain colonies were established in the Española Valley, New Mexico. The women brought their love of decoration with them. Living in these remote areas inspired these women to find new ways to enrich their impoverished status. They used wool from small, hardy, plentiful Churro sheep brought originally from Spain by Oñate to make yarn. Since it was almost oil free, long and silky, the wool was easy to wash, dye and spin into yarn. The women used either a hand spindle or spinning wheel, if they were fortunate to own one. The dyes were made from plants, roots and barks to color the embroidery yarn. Plain woolen yarn was woven into a loose weave material called Sabanilla. This material was also used as a trade article with Mexico and Spain. One invoice included 19 pieces of coarse cloth made in Santa Cruz and Chimayo. Each piece was 100 varas long and 33 inches wide. A vara is about 33 inches.

The Colcha embroidery was used exclusively during the 1700s. All types of articles were done in this stitch. The quilts were considered high trade goods exceeding most other things. They were classified as "wool on wool" on the trade market. Trade items became more plentiful with the advent of the Spanish Trail, bringing fine weave cotton and muslin.

In the 1800s the introduction of Merino sheep produced wool that was short, oily, rough and hard to wash, spin and dye. Interbreeding Marinos to Churros made inferior wool which would fray and break when used on these new materials, so smaller motifs were used and these items were classified as "wool on Cotton".

In 1878 the railroad came to New Mexico with a flood of goods from the East. Machine-made, cheap trade goods replaced the local weavers and sewers. The Colcha embroidery declined and was only done by a few of the descendants of the original settlers.

## HISTORY OF THE ARTE ANTIGUO GROUP.

Regina Cata, born in 1886 in the San Luis Valley, Colorado, married a man from Ohkay Owingeh Pueblo, New Mexico (San Juan) and settled in that Pueblo. In 1934 she started a group called Arte Antiquo, (Old Art). The membership was carefully screened and limited to 12 Hispanic women from nearby areas. They met every month. Regina taught the Colcha embroidery that had been handed down in her family for generations. This group endured for more than 60 years. Regina later moved on to other projects in the Pueblo.

Teofila Ortiz Lujan, born in 1885 in El Guique, N.M. was a permanent member to the Arte Antiguo, She lived with her family in San Pedro, a small settlement across the river from Santa Cruz. She became good friends with Regina who introduced her to Colcha which became a life long passion. Teofila embroidered until she became blind at the age of 87. In that time she produced many embroideries and received many awards and honors for her spectacular work. She died 4months before her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday.

In 1935, the New Mexico Vocational and Training Program introduced an instruction booklet of Colcha patterns taken from traditional embroideries. There were several efforts in N.M. during the 1930s and later to establish cottage industries and revive old crafts, notably the WPA and others, but none were successful. One exception was the Mormon homesteaders from Carson, a small settlement south of Taos, which developed the only financially successful Colcha sales operation. They used worn, ragged textiles such as old quilts as ground fabric and unraveled yarn from old Indian blankets. They depicted Catholic Saints, Indian and other religious motifs in their work.

In the 1930s, Rebecca James came to N.M. with the artist Georgia O'Keefe. Rebecca became fascinated with the Colcha craft and reproduced many traditional works and created original pictures using the stitch. In a letter to D.H. Lawrence's wife, Rebecca wrote, "In embroidery, the tools are a stiff little piece of shining steel and a thin thread, small tools, but they make an enormous expression if the eye is true, the hands diligent, the mind disciplined, and the spirit aware."

Arte Antiguo expired in 1995 when Teofila died. In 2001 her daughter, Esther, began demonstrating the Colcha embroidery and teaching classes. Her aim is to preserve the Spanish Colonial Art for future generations.

Beatrice Sandoval from Las Vegas, N.M. also teaches Colcha classes in Española, N.M. at the Fiber Arts Center. She also gives individual lessons.

Así es la Colcha. That's the way of the Colcha.

The source of this article was found in the fascinating book, "New Mexico Colcha Club". The author is Nancy C. Benson

### ORIGIN OF "LA COSTURA DE SAGUACHE"

In 1975 The Virginia Neal Blue (VNB) Resource Center for Colorado Women, under the direction of it's director, Blanche Cowperthwaite, joined the Sisters of Divine Providence of Center, Colorado, through their Crafts Cooperative, known as "Los Artes del Valle". The purpose was to do a study to determine the feasibility of promoting a program that would produce income for the women of the San Luis Valley. The towns of San Luis, Center and Saguache were selected to participate in a Cottage Industry and revive the Ancient Colcha method of embroidery.

Patsy Garcia, a local resident of Saguache coordinated the program in Saguache by securing the recently rebuilt church which was converted into a Community Center. The Center provided space for the first Head Start Program, an Adult Basic Education Program and various other activities in the Community. Patsy contacted several ladies that were interested in embroidery and a new project was born. Jan Roehr was the director and Pat Martinez the Valley coordinator. Senora Carmen Orrego de Salaz from Chili, then living in Indiana, was hired to teach the Colcha embroidery stitch which had been handed down for generations from Spain, and via Old and New Mexico, to a few surviving stitchers in Colorado. This was to serve two purposes. 1—to revive old crafts and, 2—generate income for the participants. VNB supplied fine Paternayan yarn of many exciting colors and a loose-weave material called Osnaberg, as well as needles.

The Saguache group, La Costura de Saguache, had a membership of 8 local women. Patsy Garcia, Tiva Trujillo, Evelyn Trujillo, Lupe Tafoya, Bina Lovato, Sadie Pacheco, Yvonne Halburian and Delores Worley. They met on Sunday afternoons to embroider, share life stories and enjoy each other's company. Mary Baker joined later. We were encouraged to use our imaginations. We discovered pink in the hills, different shades of blue in the sky, colors all around us. Scenes of childhood memories, old wives tales, dreams, homesteads, pets, and family members all translated into a colcha piece. We used other stitches to accent a scene or give depth to a picture.

Tiva's eerie "La Llorona" and her childhood "San Acacio" were memorable stories told through embroidery. Bina's beloved pet dog, "Little Bit", Mary Baker's "Bee Hives", "The Cuts" by Patsy, "Prestigious Poultry" by Yvonne, "Old Homestead" by Evelyn, "My House" by Sadie and "San Luis Valley Scene" by Delores were some of the fun pictures stitched by the group.

VNB marketed the finished product and some of them were displayed at museums. The stitcher was paid 25c a square inch.

As of Feb. 2013, there are 3 living members of this group. They are Patsy Garcia, Yvonne Halburian and Delores Worley. Through this book memories of all this group live on through their embroideries.

# LA COSTURA DE SAGUACHE

The Original Colcha Group---1976 TO 1979



Sadie Pacheco



TIVA TRUJILLO



Mary Baker  
Patsy Garcia  
Virginia Lovato



Yvonne Halburian



Lupe Tafaya  
+ Joe



Delores Worley



Evelyn Trujillo



## Feasibility Study

The Virginia Neal Blue Resource Centers for Colorado Women has satisfactorily completed a feasibility study on developing a craft business enterprise for rural, low-income United States citizens living in the San Luis Valley under a grant from the Four Corners Regional Commission. This was in August, 1974.

The Virginia Neal Blue Resource Centers for Colorado Women also has successfully completed a project which involved the production of a bi-lingual slide/tape show depicting the various crafts identified in the feasibility study. This also was funded by the Four Corners Regional Commission and was completed in the summer of 1975.

The Virginia Neal Blue Centers raised additional funds, the major portion from a grant made by Community Colleges and Occupational Education to hold two stitchery classes in the San Luis Valley, taught by Carmen Orrego-Salas. These centers supplied all materials for said classes during the summer of 1975.

Considering the above accomplishments the Virginia Neal Blue Resource Centers for Colorado Women have been awarded a new two year grant sponsored as a regional project by all of the states of the Four Corners Commission. This grant is for a pilot training program for traditional crafts revival for low-income citizens of the San Luis Valley, Colorado and other four corner states.

The Virginia Neal Blue Centers have promised the Four Corners Commission that they will be responsible for continuing this project after the funded two year period with whatever time, effort, and monies are indicated. The centers in no way stand to profit in any monetary manner from this project. Quite the opposite, the centers, board, and staff will be contributing a great deal in the way of time, effort, and money toward the program.

Under the terms of this contract with the Four Corners Commission all of the participants who will be involved in the workshops should understand that both they and we (Virginia Neal Blue Centers) are committed to a program which will not in any way be looked upon as a temporary hobby but is a serious effort to establish a worthwhile business enterprise which will supplement the incomes of families concerned.

### THE CETA PROGRAM

In 1979 the Ceta Program took over and increased the time to a weekly 5 day job with a regular salary. Cathy Baxter was the director. The original workers were, Mary Swindle, Margie Gurulé, Nyla Orvis Lambert, Francis Russell, Nettie Quintana, Mary Pacheco, Muggs Batchelder, Brenda Rowe Heckathorn, Janice Rice, Bina Lovato, Marcella Quintana, and Mary Ann Gallegos. Others joined later, Tiva Trujillo, Sadie Pacheco, Mary Baker, Luana Worley Lovato and Chris Pacheco.

The program lasted about a year but some ladies continued stitching for the love of it.

Some of the stitches used were the Colcha, split, feather, stem, chain, fly, satin, turkey, buttonhole, cross, french knot, running and daisy .

The group made several trips to visit other sites and places of interest. The Crested Butte Festival, Trapper's convention, Fort Garland Museum, San Luis Catholic Church, (The Most Precious Blood of Christ), and visits to Capulin to see the Weavers under the directorship of well known weaver Eppie Archuleta, and the Colcha group in San Luis were also on the agenda. A great time was had by all taking a break to the Big Springs Camp Ground.

Several of the ladies produced the beautiful wall hanging in the Memorial Room at the Saguache County Library. It is done in blocks. Each one depicts an Historical building in Saguache. After several years of wondering what happened to it, Blanche Copperwaithe was contacted and agreed to donate it back to Saguache. It was agreed that the Library should display it. On September 8, 1993 it was presented to the Library by Blanche. The Library Director, Charlotte McKee, and the Library Board accepted. Many local residents attended the reception. It has found its permanent home at last.

Sources of information for the ladies who worked on the wall hanging and the old buildings are as follows:

- Cecil Hall's weekly articles in the Saguache Crescent.
- Museum publication-Images of the past
- Interviews with stitchers and their families.
- Senior Citizen's scrap book.
- Saguache County Library
- Saguache County Assessor's Office.
- Artists of the San Luis Valley, Pink book included in this scrap book.
- Smoke Signals-Mountain Valley School Paper-October 14, 1980.
- Daughter, Luana Lovato, for her Photo Lab expertise*

Many, many thanks to all who helped me find information for this project. I have enjoyed the investigating tremendously. I hope this will be of interest to our community. "ASÍ ES LA COLCHA."

*With love,  
Delores Worley*

1 Colcha Presentation From VNB To Saguache County Library



Blanche Copperthwaite - Charlott McKee  
 Virginia Neal Blue Saguache Library Director  
 VNB

STITCHERS -  
 Back row: Mary Baker - Patsy Garcia  
 Nyla Orvis - Cathy Baxter  
 Front row: Virginia Lovato - Margie Gurulé



Left: Blanche - VNB  
 Mary Moffitt \*  
 Right: Virginia Sutherland  
 (Saguache County Museum)  
 Becky Clay \*  
 Elaine Woodard \*  
 Charlotte McKee  
 Cecil Hall \*

Community Reception  
 in Saguache County  
 Library

\* Librarian Board Member

COLCHA BLOCKS and STITCHERS  
Saguache main street + Coffee Shop Nyla (Orvis) Lambert &

Warehouse and store.

(meat cutter Louis Leouiz)

Mary Baker

Saguache Grade School

Patsy Garcia

Ernie Kemimberine Chile Parlor.

Virginia Lovato

Saguache County Bank.

Virginia Lovato.

Saguache Hotel

Tiva Trujillo

Hammens Mercantile. Tiva Trujillo

Saguache Pharmacy Oscar Marshall.

Frances Russell

First National Bank.

Frances Russell.

Sag Crescent - Cathy Baxter

Conoco

Cathy Baxter

First County Court house. Tiva stitched Margie drew it.

Saguache Post office. 1918 - Anne Gallegos.

Saguache Museum - Margie Gurnale

Saguache Town Hall. Margie Gurnale.

Community Methodist church - Mirella Quintana

Stockmens Club - Mrs. Connor - Margie G. drew Methodist

Maloffe. - Mirella Quintana Margie Gurnale.

Feather stitch around tapestry - Frances Russell.

Community reception for Colcha presentation - Sept. 8, 1993

VNB-Blanche Cowperthwaite  
Jane Russell

Community members

Librarian - Charlotte McKee

Mary MorFitt

Virginia Satherland

Embroidery Ladies

Barbara Sibley

Mary Emma Schmittie

Marge Gurnale

Elaine Woodard

Muriel Ward

Virginia (Bina) Lovato

Marcia Prevost

Becky Clay

Cathy Baxter

Myrtice Childers

Mary Pacheco

Sadie Pacheco

Gloria Goehl

Chris Pacheco

Nyla Orvis

Matilyn Franz

Sally Hall

Patsy Garcia

Louise Hazard

Cecil Hall

Mary Baker

Grace Spangler

Carla Mondragon

Delores Worley

Lottie Gray

9.

MARY ELIZABETH NICKELSON BAKER  
Gotthelf—Tarbell Mercantile

4<sup>th</sup> row--#4



Mary Baker (deceased) was born in Alamosa, Colorado to Mat and Eva Nickelsen of La Jara, Co. She married Don Baker. They had a son, Matthew and a daughter, Lisa.

By Don Baker—Mary was raised in La Jara a block from the train tracks. She grew up hearing the narrow gage engines whistling which she really enjoyed. Her father was a commercial bee-keeper for fifty years. Mary loved bees and became a bee-keeper herself. She graduated from high school in La Jara with honors. She attended Adam State College in Alamosa with a chemistry major, anthropology major and close to a music minor, graduating in 1964. She married Donald G. Baker that same year. In July 1989 she earned a Master Degree in special education, and took an art class.

Mary Beth was an exceptional person. She was kind, loving and intellectually bright. She loved local history and the beauty of the San Luis Valley. She worked at the Sheriffs office 9 years and during free time worked on her Colcha embroidery.

In the spring of 1998 Mary was diagnosed with Leukemia which she bravely fought for 8 months before passing .

by Delores Worley: Mary joined the original Colcha group and later the CETA group. She loved her embroidery. She produced some wonderful pieces, one in particular, her beloved beehives. She was one of the most intelligent persons I have ever met. She was greatly missed by all of us. The picture above is a composite of her when she was younger and her daughter Lisa, who did the original.

Top row--#4

CATHY BAXTER  
The Saguache Crescent



Cathy Baxter was born in Durango, Colorado to Elizabeth Eagan and Frank Gibbs. She has a sister Linda and a brother Terry. Her father worked on the railroad in Antonito, Colo. She married John Baxter.

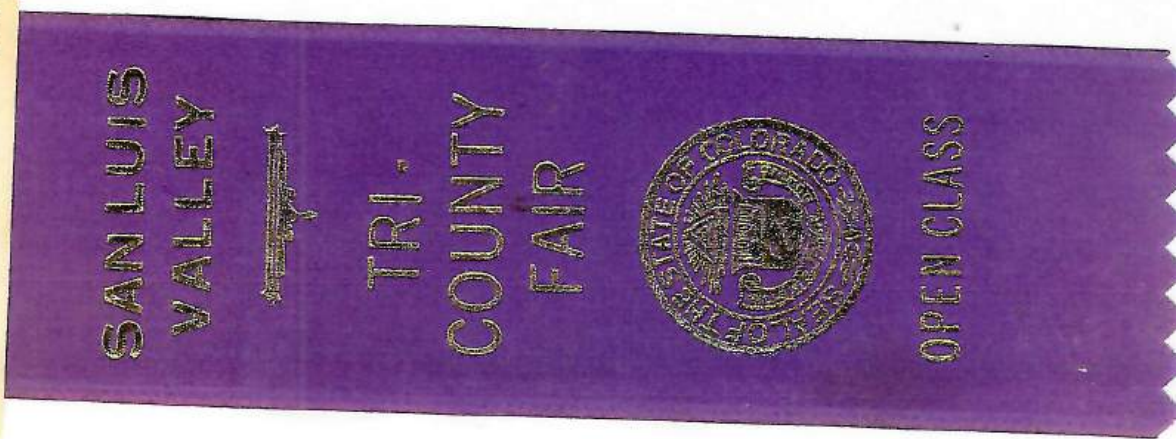
In 1973 they moved to Saguache, Colorado. They set up a lumber mill west of town in 1975, which is in operation to this day. (2012)

When the local Colcha group was included in the CETA program she was asked by Pat Martinez, the director of the original San Luis Valley Virginia Neal Blue Home Industry program to be the director. The ladies involved worked on embroidery during a regular 8 hour, 5 day a week job. They produced many spectacular pictures using the Colcha stitch plus many others. She says they all learned together. "I appreciate stitchery now," she says.

Cathy loves flowers. Beautiful blooms showcase her lovely log house every summer. She has a wonderful view of the Sangre de Cristo Mountains from her home. The deer make themselves at home under a huge tree in her back yard. The little artificial stream in front brings a feeling of peace to all who visit.

The Faircraft Co  
Rock Island, Ill.

Class Embroidered Picture  
 Prize \_\_\_\_\_  
 Awarded to Cathy Baxter  
 Date 8/11/78



11-A

MARGARET (MUGS) BATCHELDER  
CETA Colcha Group Photographer



— "I was born in Decatur, Illinois. My parents were Luollie and Grant Batchelder  
I enjoy walking my dog. I have been retired since December, 2007. I mostly hang  
around the house.

I was into painting, illuminated lettering, painting cute little rocks, calligraphy,  
pottery and quilting. I don't do them at all these days. I did see a package in a fabric  
store. They didn't know how to do Colcha.

I liked working in the Colcha group. There were always neat ways to stitch in  
the Colcha way. I loved working with color and designs to make a really interesting  
piece. I depended on the group to keep my motivation intact. I was a very slow  
stitcher, but I tried it a few times and slowly I got the stitches and colors right.'

Note by Delores: When Mugs lived in Saguache she did some wonderful paintings.  
She also worked at the Saguache Crescent Office with Marie and Dean Coombs.

Mugs currently lives in Tucson Arizona where she taught art in the school there  
until she became disabled.

MARGARET (MUGS) BATCHELDER  
CETA Colcha Group Photographer



Saguache — 1985

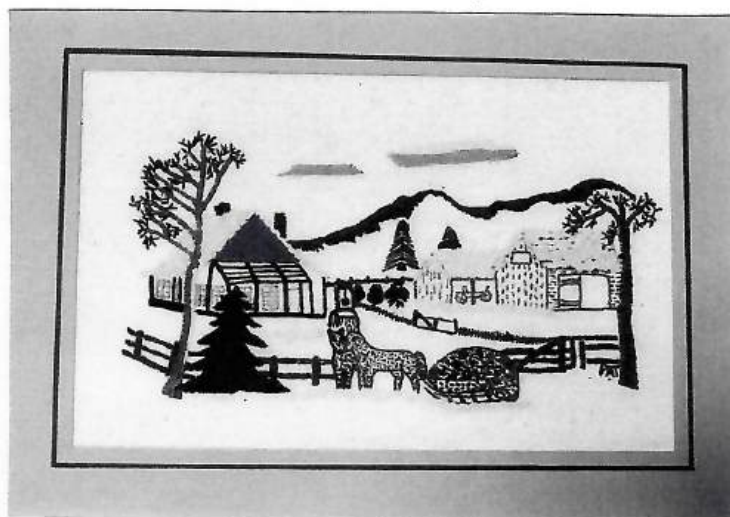
Mugs Batchelder's views on the day's events. Mugs and Dean had just completed the press run when McMillen came to the Crescent to visit.



12.

4<sup>th</sup> row--#2

PATRICIA (PATSY) GARCIA  
Old School



Patsy was born April 4, 1933 in Saguache, Colorado. Her mother's was Tomasita Martinez and her father was Victor Garcia. There were 10 brothers and sisters; Tommy, Irene, Wayne, Robert, Agnes, Loretta, Santiago, Richard, Allen and Fred. She married Salvador (Babe) Garcia. They had 3 children. Donny writes music, plays the keyboard and guitar, has a band and sings. Brenda is a full time student. She loves school and takes classes through internet. She also loves animals. Peggy has 3 grown up children. She teaches Pre-school at Mountain Valley Schools.

About her life, she says, "I really liked school. I didn't have money for college. I married in 1955. We lived in Denver about 6 months and then in 1957 we moved to Colorado Springs. Then we went back to Saguache. I went to Spanish Baptist Mission Church run by the Schantzes. I was contact person for Mental Health in Saguache. I was the 1<sup>st</sup> Head Start Teacher in 1974 under Mental Health. They paid salary but no money for material. We made do with what we could find.

I joined the original Colcha group, "La Costura de Saguache. I loved the getting together. We learned so much, the colcha stitches from Carmen, our teacher. She was delightful. I did my own drawing for my picture "The Old School". I sat across the street to draw it. I went to school there.

You know, there's so many special things about the Spanish people. Our language is special to me, our different ways. It's taken a long time for me to be able to say that because I think for a long time we wanted to be someone else. It would be a lot easier not to be Spanish or poor. But we are who we are and we are special that way."

MARY ANN (ANNIE) GALLEGOS  
The Old Post Office

5<sup>th</sup> row-# 2



Mary Ann Gallegos, known as "Annie", was born on October 9, 1921, in Saguache, Colorado. Her mother and father were Elvira and Juan Mondragon. She married William (Bill) Gallegos. They have 10 living children: Diane, Elizabeth, Georgia, Mickie, Barry, Eric, Leo, Melody, Johnny and Carmen.

Mary loved to raise chickens and turkeys. She is now a resident at the Del Norte Nursing Home. She says there is still a big white Tom Turkey at her house in Saguache that loves to show off his tail fan in the neighborhood. She had an extensive collection of all kinds of owls. It was a very impressive collection and fun to look at.

Mary says her favorite things to do are sit at the front door and watch the cars go by and play bingo. She says, "I have good friends here."

She joined the CETA Program and learned to do the Colcha embroidery. Her comment, "I liked the Colcha group. We sure did have fun. I did the Old Post Office Building."

Note by Delores: I worked with Mary doing her taxes for many years. She is a very special lady. She did some fabulous Colcha embroideries. I have included pictures of some of them in this scrap book.

*Sadly, Mary passed away December 18, 2012*

2<sup>nd</sup> row-#1MARJORIE EVELYN GURULÉ  
Stockman's Liquor/Hotel

Marjorie, best known as Margie, Evelyn Gurulé was born March 21, 1920 in Saguache, Colorado to Escolastica Marks. She had a brother Philip Archuleta and a sister, Juanita Garcia.

She married Lawrence Gurulé. To this union were born 2 children; Carla Rebecca Quintana and Steven Daniel Martinez. She passed Sept. 21, 1995.

She loved embroidery and enjoyed working in the CETA Group. She was very good at drawing and wrote many articles for the Saguache Crescent. She also wrote a very interesting history of Saguache, included in another section.

Quote: "Since I was 7 years old, my mom set me down at the sewing machine. If I didn't sew it right, she would take it apart and I would have to sew it again. She just stayed with me until I learned. I take pride in my work. You put a lot of yourself in it. In those little stitches you put love and thought. To me it means a lot."

By Carla Quintana, Margie's daughter: My mom was born and raised here in Saguache. She lived in Pueblo for some time but came back to Saguache and lived in the same house where she grew up in. My mom enjoyed reading her Bible, studying it and attending Bible studies. One of her granddaughters remembers drinking hot cocoa and watching the Braves. Base ball was something my mom enjoyed. She loved to cook and bake, having family and friends over to eat. She loved quilts and made various ones. She did enjoy learning all the new techniques of stitching. The group did some traveling, seeing new sights and meeting new people, who also did the stitchery. That is my mom Margie Gurulé.

Note by Delores Worley: Margie was an excellent artist and stitcher. Her bird's eye view of Fort Garland, and "Denver at Dusk" are masterpieces. She also did some very fine quilts. She left an impressive legacy.

Top row--#2

VIRGINIA (BINA) LOVATO  
Old Pioneer Bank



Virginia Lovato, known to all as Bina, was born on February 24, 1922 in Saguache, Colorado. Her mother was Elena Maez and her father was Cirilo Lujan. He was adopted by Ute Chief Ouray. She had 4 brothers, Edineo, Felix, Cipriano, and Pete. She was married to Antonio (Spike) Lovato. They had 10 children: Arnold, Glenn, Steve, Carla Mondragon, Jimmy, Barbara Vigil, Dick, Ronnie, deceased, Gary and Cindy Arredondo, as well as numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren. She is now deceased.

Her hobbies were sewing, ceramics and cooking which she did a lot of. Her meat empanadas were a family favorite. She loved to shop, spoil the grandchildren and travel. She visited Hawaii, California, Texas and Arizona where she met some Ute relatives.

Bina was one of the original Colcha group stitchers and also worked with the CETA Program. She loved embroidering the Old Bank Building and the Chili Parlor, still remembered by other oldtimers.

Note by Delores. Bina was the life of the party. She had numerous funny stories to tell during our Colcha meetings. She loved her little dog "Little Bit" and made an adorable embroidery of him. She was the kindest person you could ever hope to meet. Some of my fondest memories are the walks we took early each morning down the road and the confidences we shared. She was greatly missed by all of us.

16.

2<sup>nd</sup> row--#2

NYLA THOMPSON ORVIS  
Saguache Main Street



Nyla was born August 28, 1951 in Wadena, Minnesota. Her parents were Vera and George Thompson. She had one brother, Dave and two sisters, Nadine and Roberta. The family moved to Colorado Springs in 1957. She graduated from Palmer High School in 1969. They made another move to Casita Park near Crestone in 1974.

She married Randall Orvis in 1976. She has 5 children; T'Nette, Anthony, also known as Tony the Tiger, Tyrone, Randall and Amiee. She has lived in Saguache since her marriage.

She is currently doing Home Health Care. She likes her clients and the job although it can get pretty demanding at times.

Nyla really enjoyed the CETA group. They were a fun group to work with. She says she had no trouble stitching for 8 hours a day. The nice thing was that they could go outside in good weather to work in the fresh air. They also made several trips to see other programs. They visited the weavers in Capulin where they saw how the yarn was dyed and readied for use in their weaving projects.

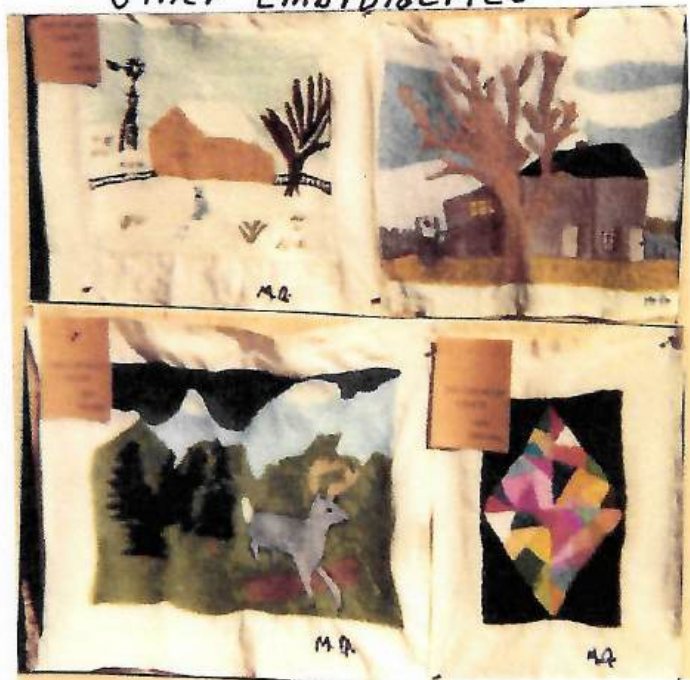
They also went to San Luis and Center to visit the Colcha embroideries there. In San Luis they toured the Colcha facilities and visited the beautiful local Church and Museum.

Nyla took over as director of the Ceta Program when Cathy Baxter left. She said she would have liked the program to last longer.

MARCELLA QUINTANA  
Community Methodist Church

4<sup>th</sup> row--#1

Other Embroideries



Marcella was born May 10 in Saguache Colorado to Juanita Martinez. Her siblings are: Dave, Barbara, Augustina, Rogas and Danny. She was married to Edward Quintana, deceased. Marcella had 4 children, Charles, Edna, Christina and Marilyn. She is a grandmother.

MARCELLA; Ever since I was 5 years old I would run away and go to the Catholic Church. When I grew up I taught Bible School at the Baptist Church and at Shant's in the Headstart Building. I helped clean the Head Start for classes. I've always been energetic. I would help feed 200 people at the Community Building. I like to do puzzles. I pray and use my bible every day. I like music a lot. "RCA Dog" my mom called me. It's hard to be alone. I like to visit with people, be included. At the embroidery place Cathy Baxter trusted me to take over when she was gone. The ladies were real nice. When I saw a building I wanted to make I would go home and draw it from memory. I liked being there.

Note from Delores Worley. Marcella's home is beautifully decorated with religious icons, statues etc. She also has an extensive collection of American Indian memorabilia. Very impressive. She is shy. Marcella walks a lot with her son as her companion. She has done some wonderful embroideries.

3<sup>rd</sup> row--#3

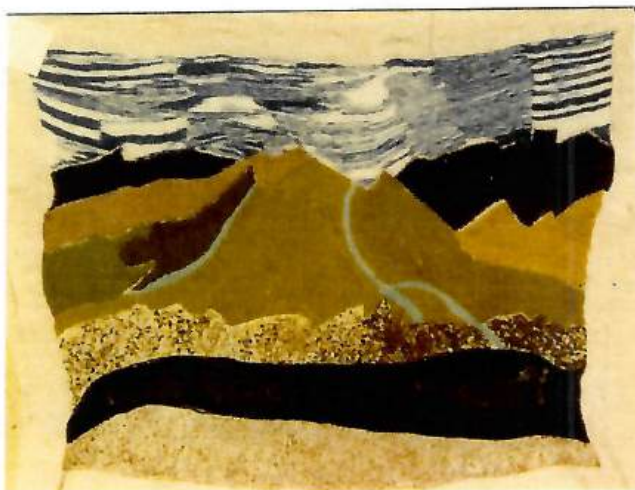
NETTIE QUINTANA  
Malouff's Grocery and Ute Theater



Natividad Quintana, known by all as Nettie, was born on Christmas Day of 12-25-1939 in Saguache, Colorado. Natividad means nativity in Spanish. Her mother was Ruby Woodson. She was raised by her grandmother Olympia Woodson. She had a brother Mike. She married Severo Quintana. They had seven children; Joe Severo, James Joseph, Sue Ann, Theresa Ruth, Victoria, Gladys and Ambrose. James and Sue Ann are deceased. Nettie died in a tragic accident in Del Norte, Colo. Many grandchildren are living in different parts of the country.

Note by Delores. Nettie was part of the CETA Colcha group. She did beautiful delicate embroidery, some in one strand of embroidery thread. While she worked in the CETA program she did an exceptional piece done entirely in French Knots. I don't think I have ever seen a nicer French Knot. She also did some other very nice scenic pictures using other stitches.

Her son, Joe, said she made the best tortillas he had ever eaten.  
Nettie had a big heart.



3<sup>rd</sup> row--#1FRANCIS RUSSELL  
Ramie's Drugs

Eforsina Russell, better known as Francis, was born December 23, 1939 in Monte Vista, Colorado. Her mother was Josephine Trujillo and her father was Merejildo O'cana. She had 11 brothers and sisters, 4 of which are still living. Francis died Feb. 14, 1995.

She married James Russell and had 3 children, Randy, Jeanette and Debbie. She also had 3 older children, Joe, Andy and David Benavidez.

Her daughter Jeanette said her mother loved to read, crochet and work in the garden. She loved to play cards. Her children and their friends would gather at her home for card games that lasted late into the night. A favorite game was Spades.

Francis was a member of the Ceta Colcha Embroidery group. She was quite shy, never had much to say, but turned out some beautiful embroidery pieces.



20.

Top row #1

NATIVIDAD (TIVE) SEGURA TRUJILLO  
Saguache Hotel



By June Trujillo Lovato (daughter).

Our mom (Tive) as most people knew her was born in San Luis, Colorado on June 6, 1917 to Juanita Trujillo and Celestino Segura. She had 6 brothers and 3 sisters. She was 12 years old when her mother died and she took on the role of mother to her siblings and for the rest of her life she became the core of the Segura family. She married Pablo Jose Trujillo and had 3 daughters, Pauline, June and Hope.

Mom did not have much education. I believe she self taught herself to read and became an avid reader. She especially loved reading her Bible and loved God and going to Church.

She always had a creative mind and I believe that is what made her so successful as an embroiderer. She was very proud of her heritage as her artwork depicts. Her artwork is her autobiography which no one else can duplicate. These were her memories and her thoughts.

Mom's first creation was a life size nativity scene made out of paper mache and wire forms, which she displayed at Christmas in 1960-61. She was awarded a special prize of \$10.00 by the Kiwanis Club. It took her 10 months to complete her project.

On Feb. 23, 1980 a standing room only crowd attended a premier showing of "Hispanic Women Folk Artists of the San Luis Valley" in Alamosa. The slide/tape show featured 2 folk artists from the Valley, one which was our mom. The show portrayed the lives and works of the Hispanic women folk artists in the Valley.

Mom died unexpectedly on Sept. 19, 1980 with some of her artwork undone, but left us with memories galore that have always been cherished. I know that if she had lived longer she would have accomplished greater things especially in the folk art world, for that was her destiny.

SAGUACHE HISTORY written by Margaret (Margie) Gurule

The Town of Saguache was organized in 1867 by Otto Mears, first banker, home and railroad builder, and David Heimberger-first president of the Town Company, and Issac Gotthelf-Justice of Peace. He and Mears formed the first mercantile partnership, and he was the proprietor of that business. Saguache was the name given the area by the Ute Indians and means "Blue Waters".

The first grade school was built in 1874 and had a tower and bell. The second grade school was a two story brick with ten classrooms and several offices. In the mid sixties there were 250 students in the grade school. Saguache also had a high school, hospital and two banks. The County Bank still much in its original state is one of the town's most handsome buildings. The County Court House was erected in 1881. In 1910 it burned to the ground and was replaced by the present one. Also built in the '80's was the Dunn Block known as the "Old Post Office".

1875 was a promising year except for Alferd Packer's alleged cannibalism yet the townspeople retained their integrity and pioneering spirit and a closely knit community began to grow. Irrigation came from famous Saguache Creek which still supplies water to the town. Along the town's ditch banks are the large cottonwood trees that are so much a part of the town.

Most of Saguache's buildings were made of brick from Saguache's own foundry. In 1910, Saguache Hotel's cornerstone was laid. The Museum, a widely known attraction, is one of the old county jails. Saguache's current main street came to life in 1914. One of its most colorful buildings is the Saguache Crescent office. It was indeed a unique little town full of charm.

You'll reach Saguache on North 285 nestled west of the beautiful Sangre de Cristo Range in the beautiful San Luis Valley. It is noted for its fishing, hunting, good water, unpolluted air and beautiful scenery. It has been referred to as the "Sleeping Giant"—and holds nostalgic charisma for its native sons and daughters calling them back.

22-A1

SAGUACHE HOTEL  
Colcha embroidery block

top row-#1  
Tiva Trujillo



Bad Temptation by a  
Spider



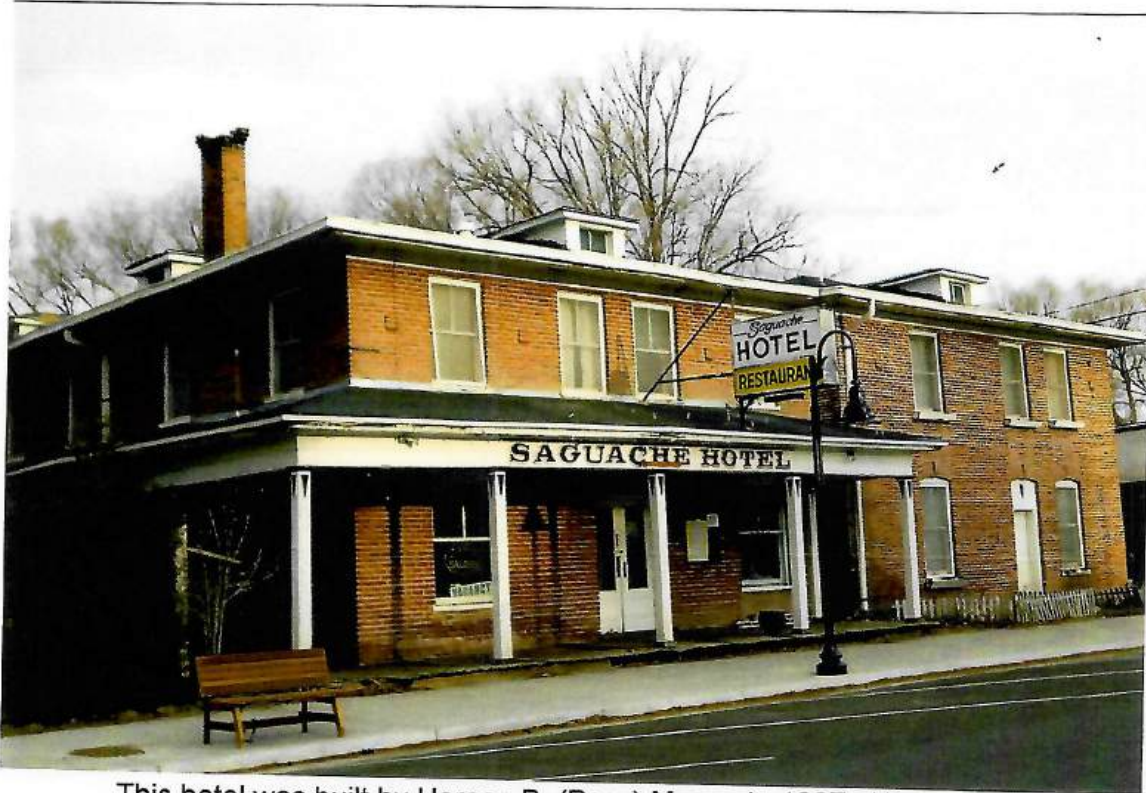
Sheep Shearing Time  
Tive's Older Brother

Current photo

SAGUACHE HOTEL

top row--#1

Tiva Trujillo



This hotel was built by Horace B. (Boss) Means in 1887. His son Frank inherited it, who then sold it to his Uncle Roll Means. Roll Means came upon hard times during the depression and turned it back to Frank together with a debt of \$3,000 in back taxes and bills. Frank decided to board it up but after much disagreement his wife Florence talked him into letting her try to raise the money to pay the debt and take ownership. Frank finally agreed to sell it to her for \$1.00 but refused to have anything to do with it except help with legal matters. Florence did manage to borrow money from the bank on her own signature in 1935. She paid the bills, make repairs, and turned it into a thriving business in 2 years. The rooms were almost always filled and several teachers and a doctor and dentist had permanent residency. She sold the hotel to Zoe Hazard and made a profit of \$10,000, \$5,000 in cash and 3 rental buildings on Main Street.

It has since had several owners. It served as Public Service Building, liquor store and garage. A segment of a T.V. movie was made at the hotel in 1987. "The Land of Little Rain", the story of Mary Austin's life, starred the actress Helen Hunt. Several local people were used as extras for part of the movie.

Later the Broomfields ran the Hotel and dining room. Jaxene Collier took over running the Hotel. Her cook, Joann Alexander, made delicious pies every morning.

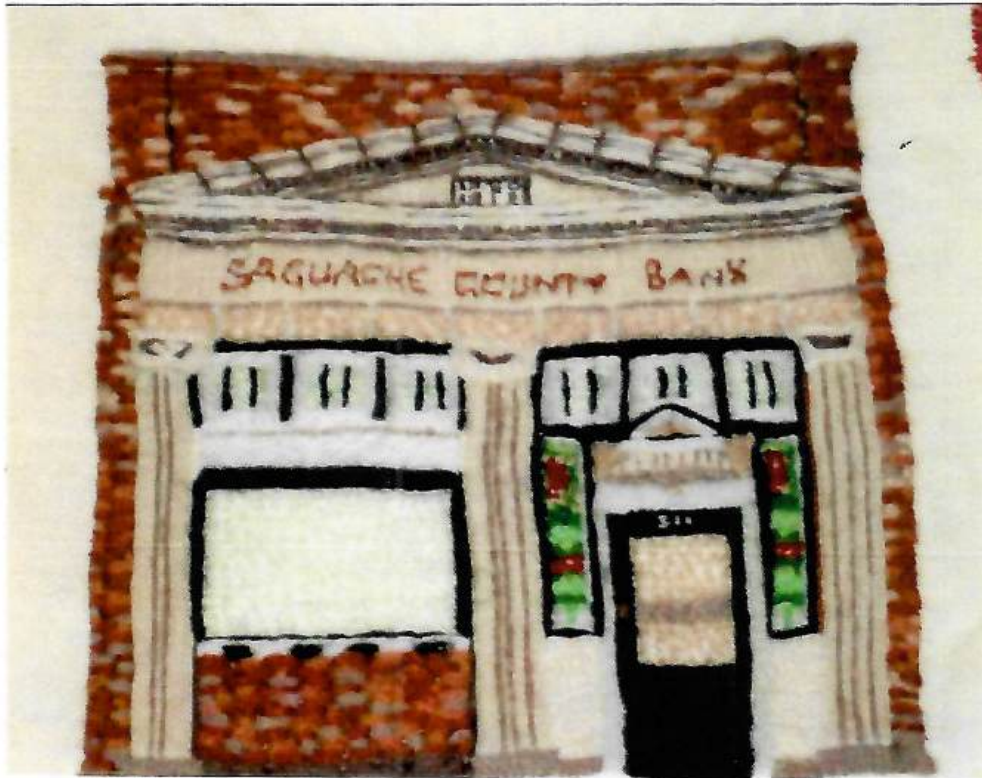
The last owners to run the business were Shirley and Bob Neighbors. It has been vacant since 1989. The current owners have just put it on the market.

23-A.

Colcha embroidery block

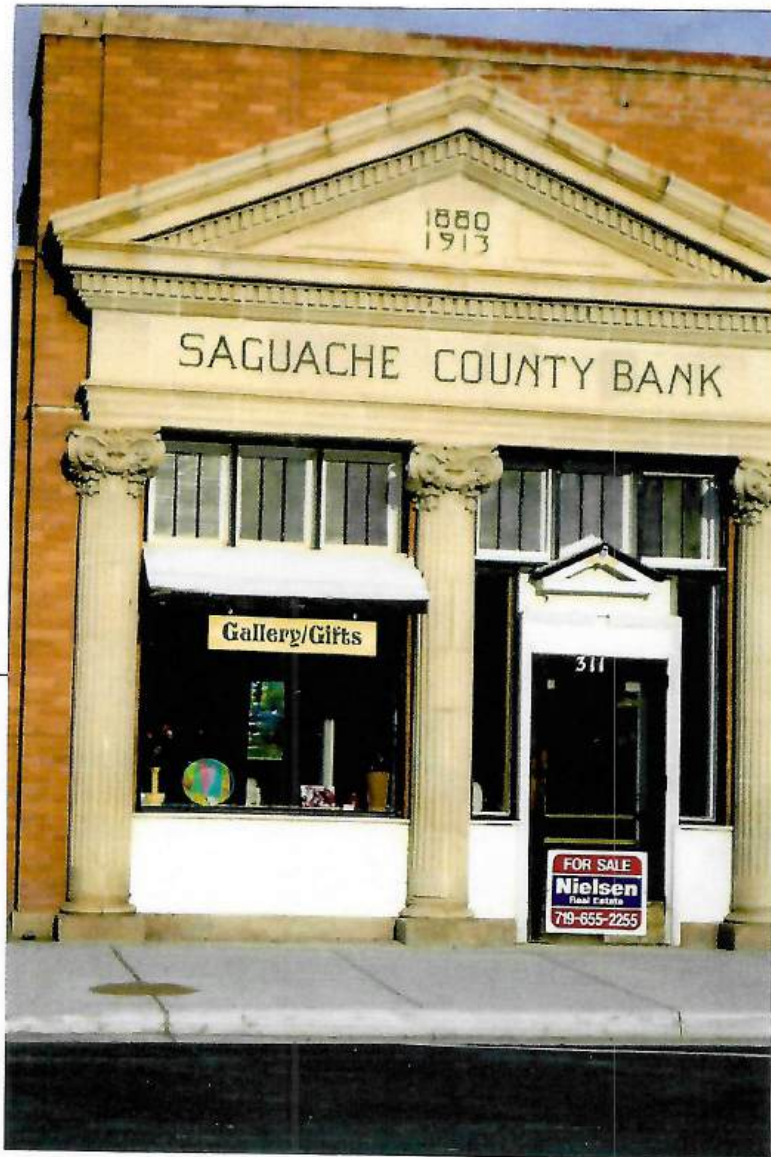
OLD PIONEER BANK  
(Saguache County Bank)

top row--#2  
Virginia Lovato



Current photo

OLD PIONEER BANK

top row--#2  
Virginia Lovato

The Pioneer Bank (Saguache County Bank), situated at 311 Main Street, started in back of the Gotthelf and Mayer General Store in 1880. It was incorporated in 1882. In 1913 it was remodeled and purchased by Isaac Gotthelf. It is a beautiful stately building with columns in front and the dates 1880 to 1913 over the door. After a lot of competition, it merged with the new 1<sup>st</sup> National Bank.

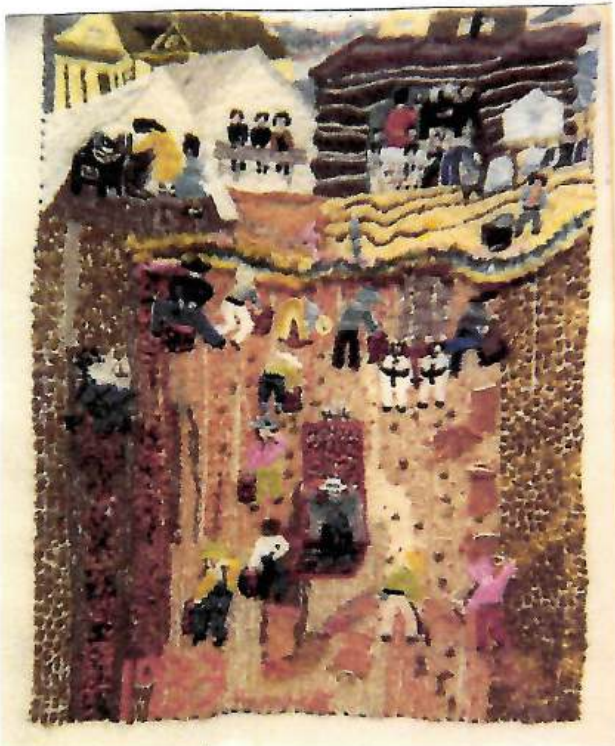
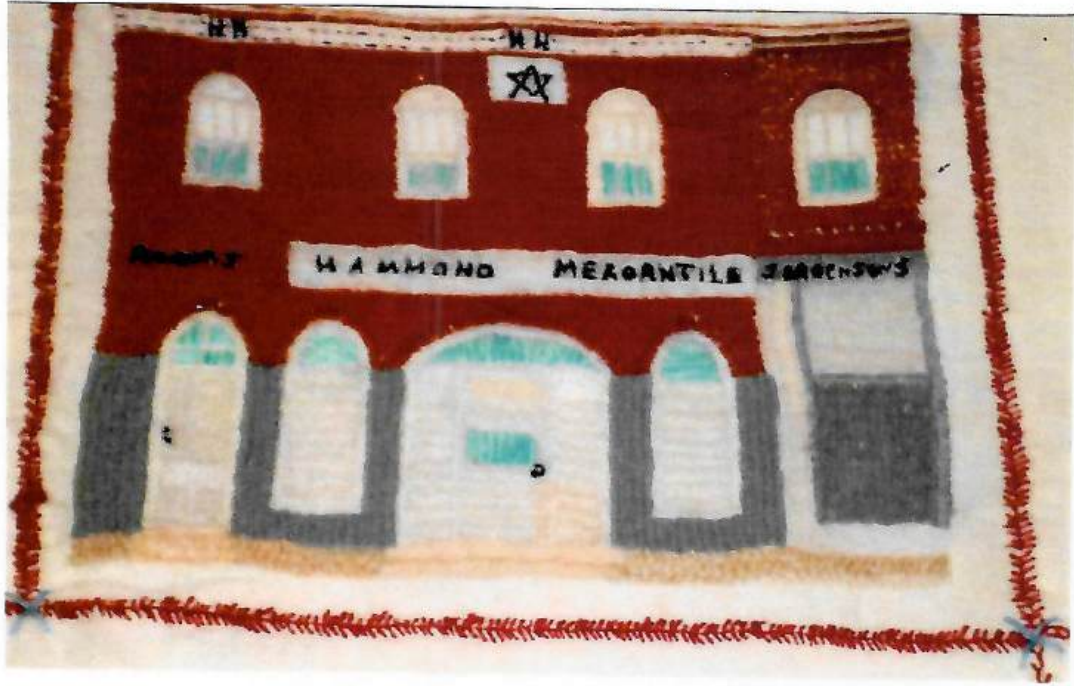
G. Herbert Hazard bought it in 1928. It was then a liquor store. Florence Means bought it in 1939 and sold it to N. C. Nielson in 1946 who operated a locker plant until 1956. Leona Curtis bought it in 1957 and sold it to Elmer and Beth Keck in 1960. They also used it as a cold storage locker plant. They remodeled in 1974 and ran a bar and a restaurant. It later served as residence and office for lawyer Laura Riley. Chuck Lilly bought it as a residence and lived there. After his death his son Joe and daughter-in-law Cindy remodeled it to an art gallery. It is currently on the market. 2012.

Update July 2013---The Saguache County Bank Building was purchased by the Aventa Credit Union and remodeled. It is now open for business.

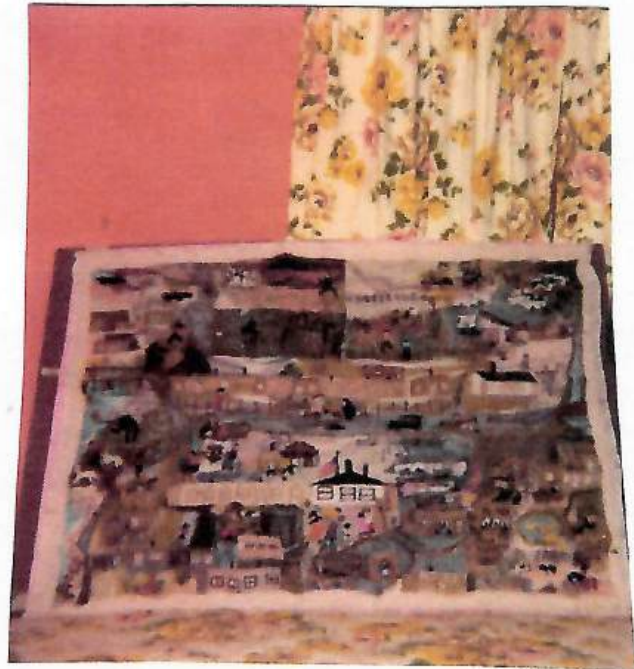
24-A.

HAMMOND MERCANTILE  
Colcha embroidery block

top row—#3  
Tiva Trujillo



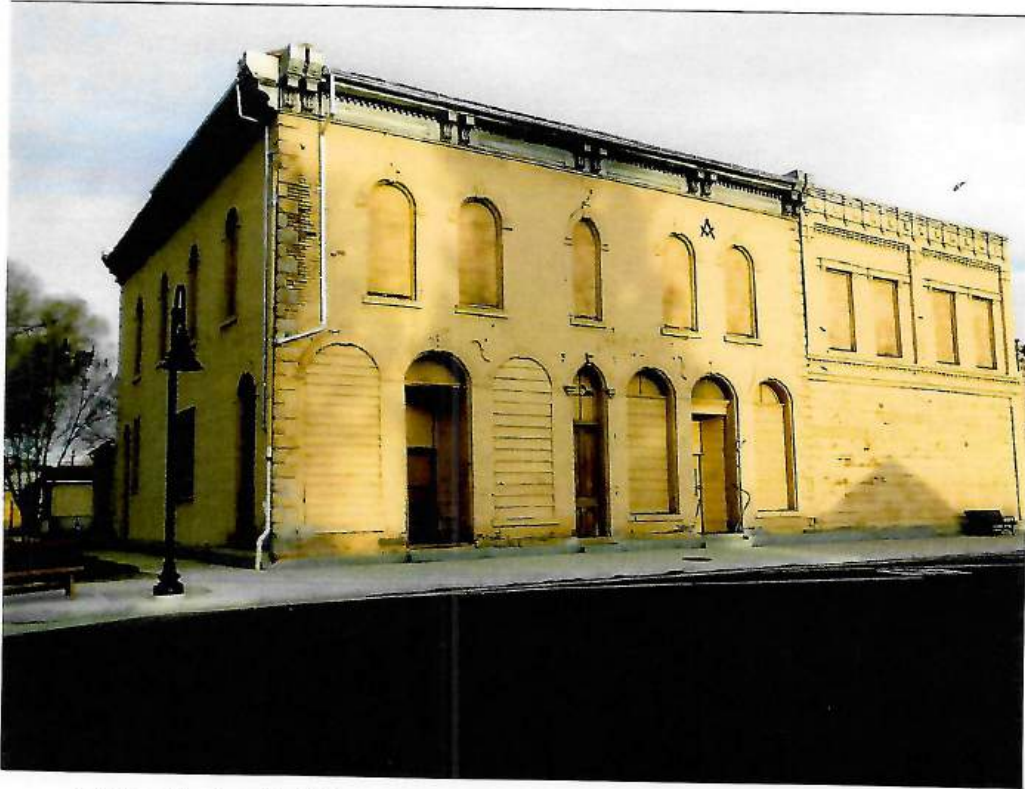
POTATO Harvest  
Tive's Family



OLD San Acacio  
Childhood Home

Current photo

HAMMOND MERCANTILE top row--#3  
Tiva Trujillo



A large 2-story building was built by Mr. Dunn and known as the Dunn Building. Downstairs was the Denver Beer and Billiard Hall. Tom Ashley and Horace Means bought it in 1910, later adding a building. They established the Means and Ashley Mercantile Company. It included a grocery and dry goods department which was managed by Luis P. Hammond. It closed in 1922. Louis Hammond and son Walter bought the building and opened Hammond Mercantile on November 11, 1925. They were in business until April 22, 1960.

The first door to the south was the Shallaburger Hardware.

The second north door served as dry goods and shoe department. An elevator rose to the top floor which specialized in furniture, carpets, stoves, etc.

A Post Office occupied the south part.

Next door, the Hammond Mercantile, run by Walter, ran a delivery service for groceries twice a week and ice in the summer. The ice house was in the alley of 500 block of San Juan Ave.

The north part was the Stockman's Liquor. This part is currently boarded up.



25-A.

THE SAGUACHE CRESCENT Top row--#4  
Colcha embroidery block Cathy Baxter



Current photo

THE SAGUACHE CRESCENT Top row-#4  
Cathy Baxter



This building was one of the first built when Saguache was founded. From 1874 it has served as a livery stable, barber shop, taxidermy and had the first telephone office and switchboard before being a printing press.

On January 12, 1882 the first newspaper was founded by Capt. Robert H. Jones, editor, publisher and ½ owner of the Colorado Herald, and called the "Saguache Advance." On Oct. 8, 1885 the name was changed to the "Saguache Democrat." On Jan. 7, 1886 Henry Mingay bought the newspaper and on Aug. 1, 1889 changed the name to "The Saguache Crescent." It changed hands many times. In Aug. 1917 Charles and Mary Ogden bought it. He was the editor publisher until his death in 1935. Mary and daughter Marie took over. Marie's marriage to Ivan Coombs brought in another typesetter. Over the years the Crescent has won many special awards. Marie worked there until her death. She was in her 80s. Marie was featured in numerous magazine and news articles and received many awards for her work in the newspaper business.

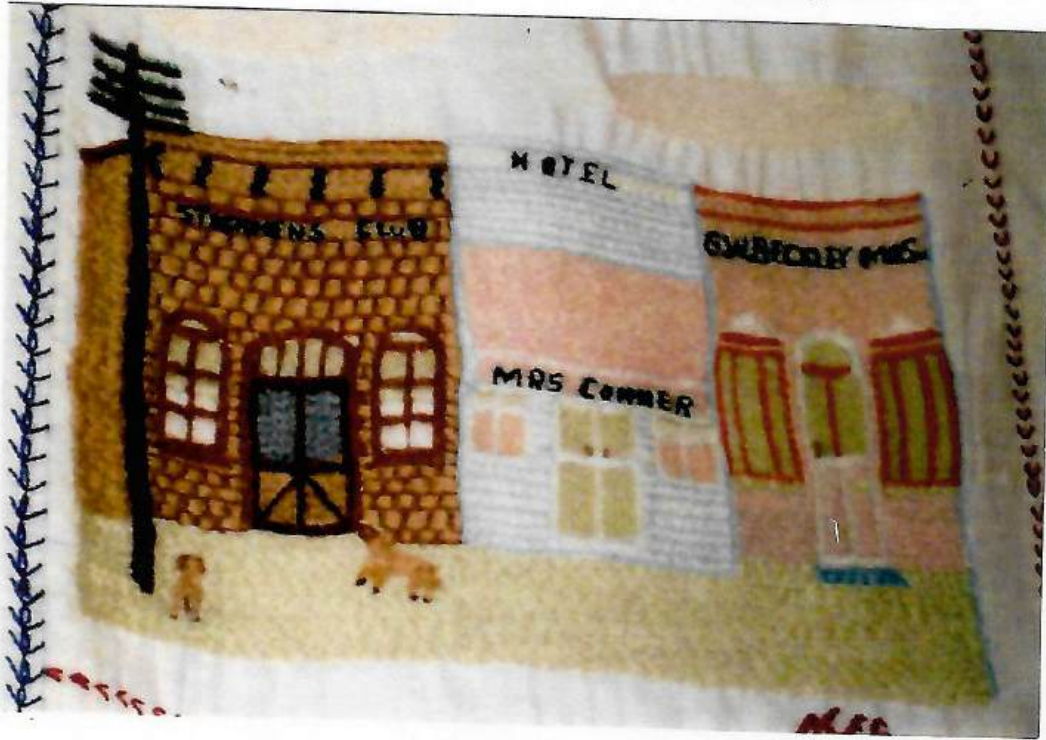
Her son Dean still maintains and runs the old Linotype machines as of 2012. It is one of the very few in the whole country. Our newspaper arrives as regular as clock work.

26-A.

Colcha embroidery block

STOCKMANS LIQUOR

2<sup>nd</sup> row--#1  
Marge Gurule



Current photo

STOCKMANS LIQUOR

2<sup>nd</sup> row--#1  
Marge Gurule

The first three buildings, across the alley from the Saguache Hotel were part of the "Dallas Block". The first building was the Stockman's Club and Saloon. It was later used as an ice cream parlor known as "Nix Place". It also served as Werner's Plumbing Shop. Etta Michaud ran the first laundromat in the front part and lived in the rear apartment. Next, Rod Hines had a cabinet shop in the front. Loretta Orvis lived in back. The building was bought by Susan Crutchfield, granddaughter of Daisy Noland Lockett. She remodeled the front part and made it into a book store. It was named "Daisy's Bookstore" in honor of her grand mother. It is now owned by Esther Last who runs the 4<sup>th</sup> Street Diner.

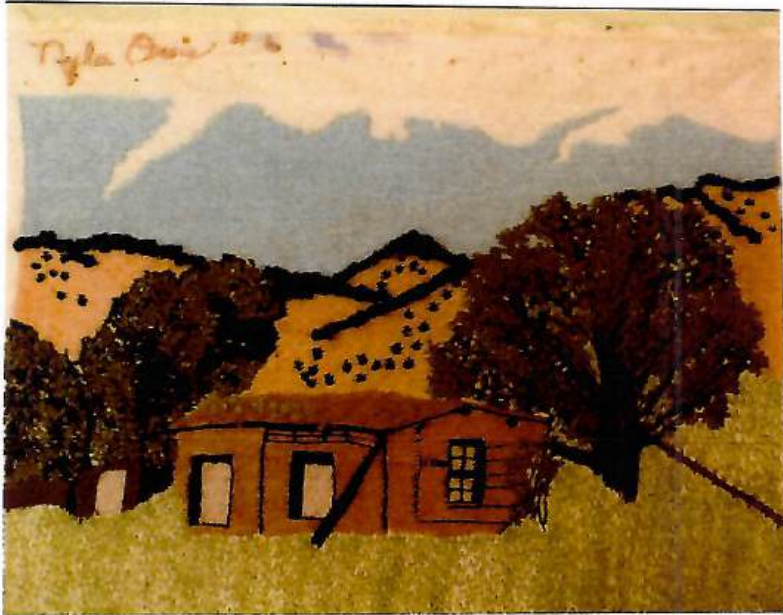
In 1909 the second building had a sign "Sherman House" on the store front. Robb ran a bakery there during the depression. He sold it to the Hartwick family. Later Lamar and Lena Howard turned it into a residence. They made the third building north into a hardware store. Rick Berandes is the current owner and has an antique store in both places.

27-A.

Colcha embroidery block

SAGUACHE MAIN STREET

2<sup>nd</sup> row--#2  
Nyla Orvis

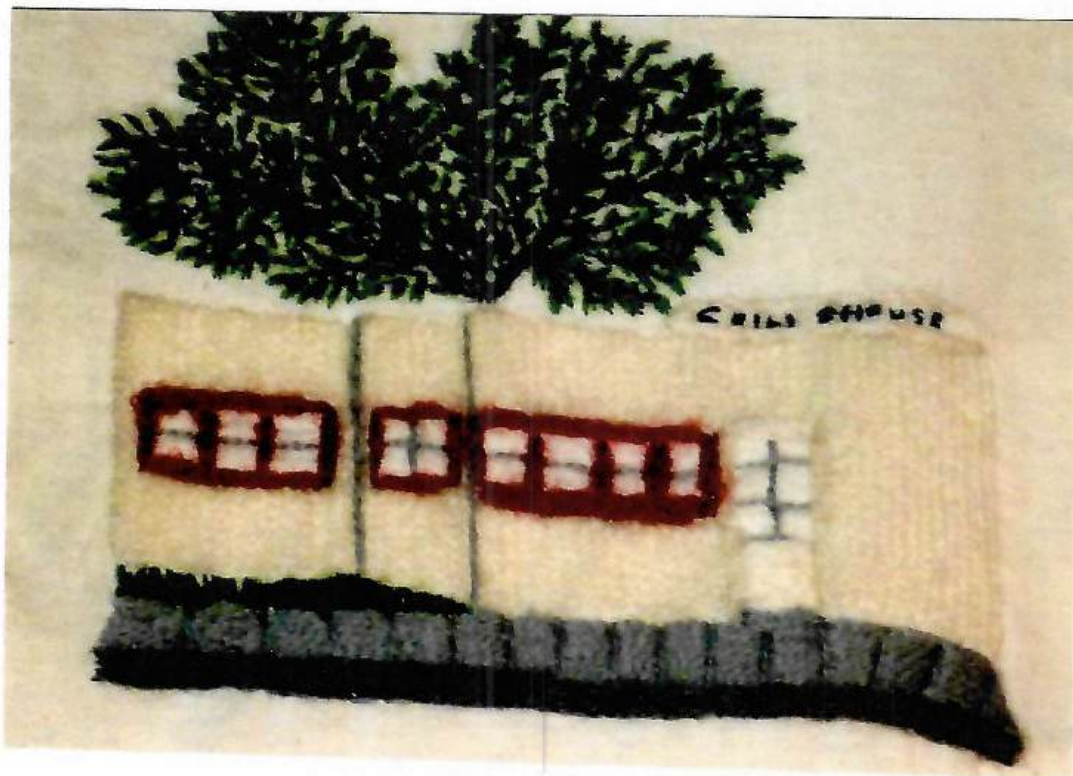


28-A.

Colcha embroidery block

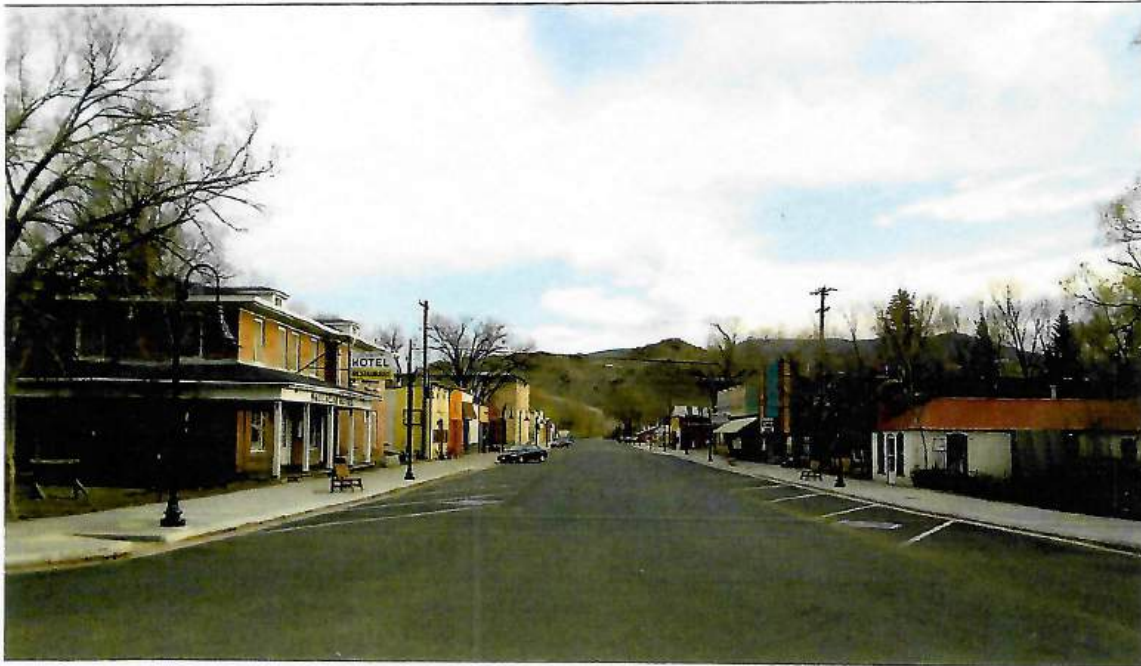
CHILI PARLOR

2<sup>nd</sup> row--#3  
Virginia Lovato



Current photo

SAGUACHE MAIN STREET

2<sup>nd</sup> row--#2  
Nyla Orvis

Saguache was originally the meeting place of the Ute Indian Tribe. In 1865 the first treaty with the Utes was made and a settlement started in Milton 3 miles east of present day Saguache. Milton was later moved to Saguache due to the boggy land. It is said that Chief Uray suggested the name which supposedly meant "Land by the Blue Waters". It became part of Saguache County in 1867. It originally contained 110 acres near the Saguache River, in the north central part of the San Luis Valley. It is surrounded by the Sangre de Cristo Mountains on the east and the San Juan Mountains to the west. It is known for its pure air, good water and fertile soil.

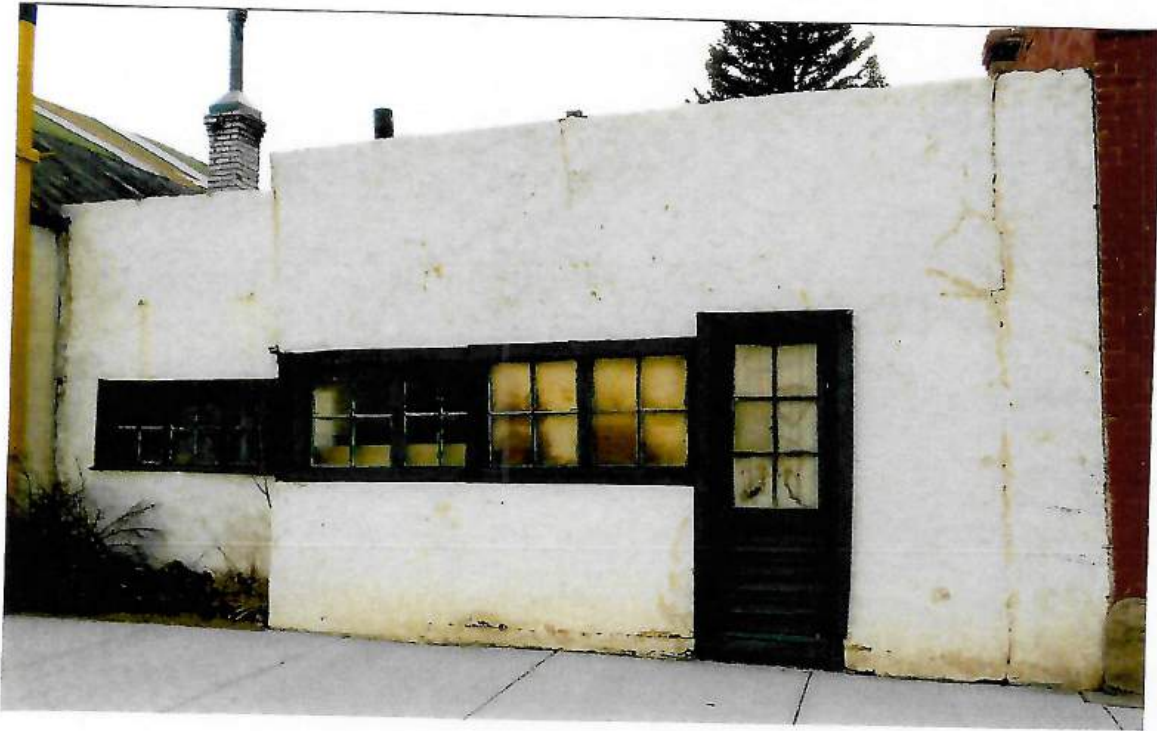
Saguache was incorporated Feb. 20, 1874 by the Saguache Town Company. In September it was legally acknowledged and the town was laid out and platted with streets 90 feet wide and lots 50 feet by 150 feet.

In 1891 the population of Saguache County was 5,000. The records show 4 churches, public schools to 11<sup>th</sup> grade. Principal businesses were abstract company, 2 bakers, 1 bank, barber shop, billiard hall, 2 blacksmiths, book and stationery store, pharmacy, boots and shoes, (maker and repair), 3 carpenters, druggist, dry goods, 3 groceries, 2 hardwares, a harness maker, hotel, jeweler, 2 lawyers, 3 liverymen, a meat market, milliner, 2 newspapers, 2 physicians, real estate, insurance and a taxidermist. Saguache's population was 600. It was a thriving town catering to ranchers, freighters and the like.

The population has declined over the years but there is still a lot of activity. It is a charming small town. There has been extensive downtown renovation in 2011 and 2012.

Current photo

CHILI PARLOR

2<sup>nd</sup> row--#3  
Virginia Lovato

This is a small white building located between the red brick Coffee Shop and the Saguache Crescent on East Main Street. It is now vacant and used for storage by the Crescent.

George Sherman owned it and ran a cafe there in the early years. Later Bill Kimberlin served hamburgers and chili. It was called "Willy's Chilli Parlor".

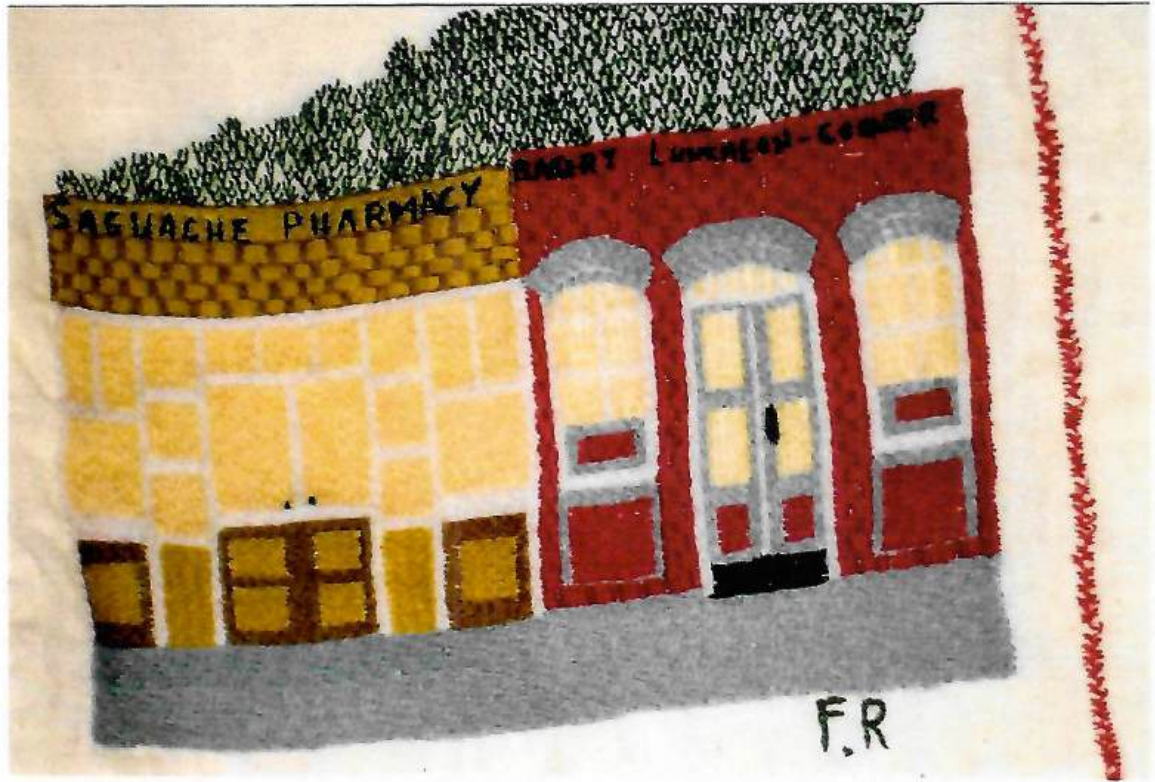
Pearl Nehls opened a short order cafe before 1943. It was known as 'Just a hole in the wall, not very big, but real good food'.



29-A.

Colcha embroidery block

RAMIE'S DRUGS 3<sup>rd</sup> row--#1  
Francis Russell

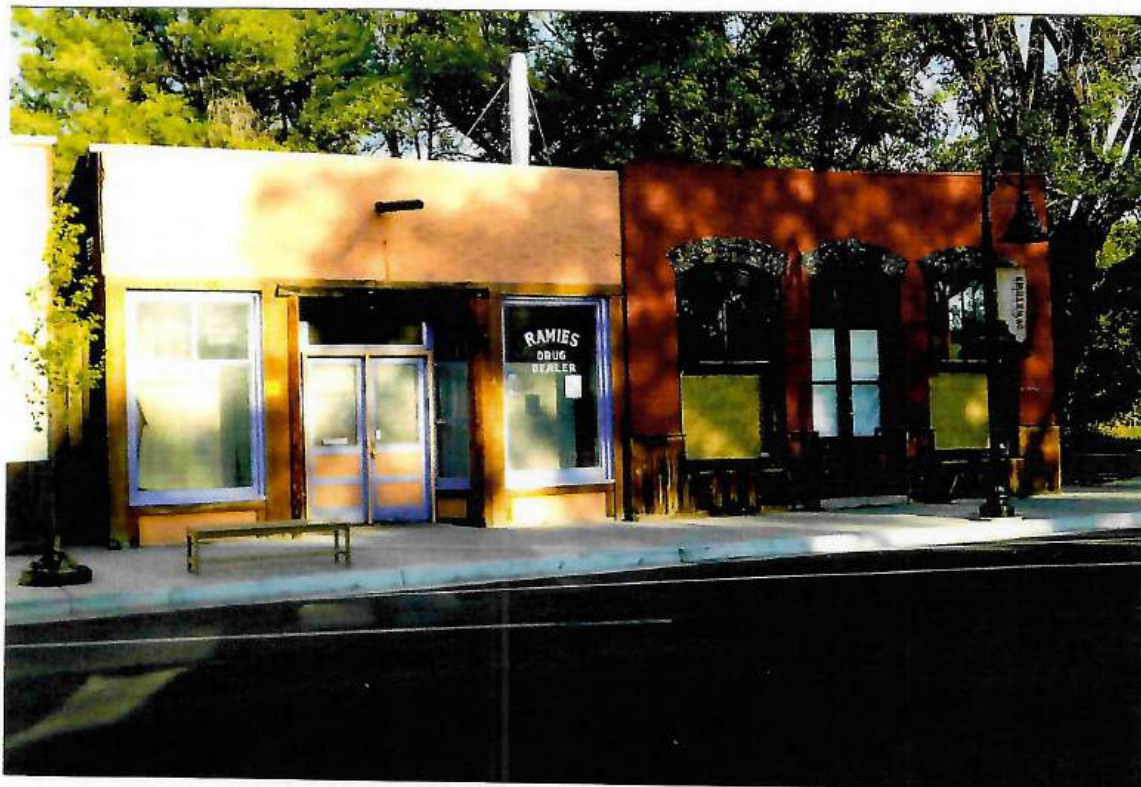


Current photo

RAMIE'S DRUGS

3<sup>rd</sup> row--#1

Francis Russell



This building was built in 1914. Oscar Marold owned a pharmacy in this building. Oscar was crippled but was ably assisted by Ramoncita Borrego, fondly known as Ramie. She worked for him for years. Ramie was related to J.D. Espinoza who was well known in the area as he ran a large sheep operation and company store in Carnero in the 1800s. J.D.'s daughter Elvira, who was Ramie's aunt, kept her father's books for years. Ramie married Al Zigler.

Oscar Marold willed the store to her when he died. Ramie was not a pharmacist so ran it as an over-the-counter drug store. She also sold paper goods, cards, etc.

The building on the north side was later made into a bar called, "Packer's Place." It was sold to John Callaghan a WWI Veteran who ran the bar and lived in the rear apartment until his death April 2012.

Although it is currently no longer a business, the "Ramie's Drugs" sign in the window is still a well known landmark.

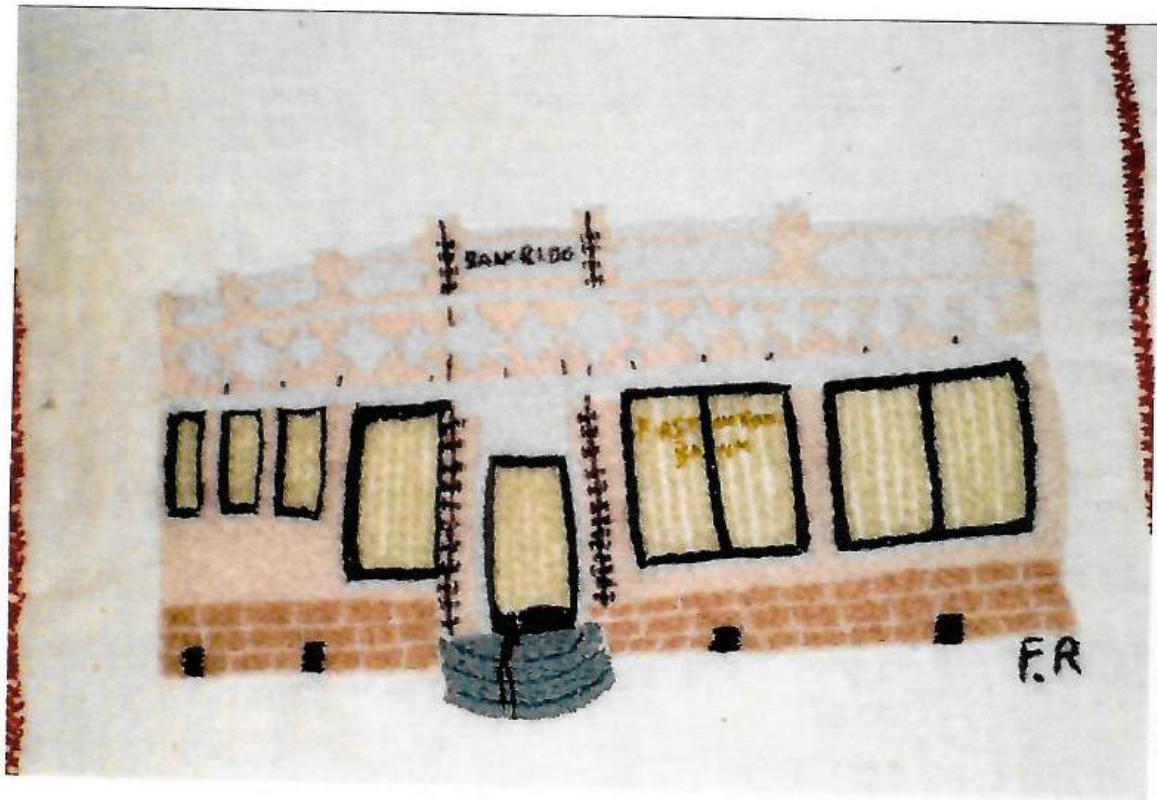
30-A.

Colcha embroidery block

THE NEW BANK

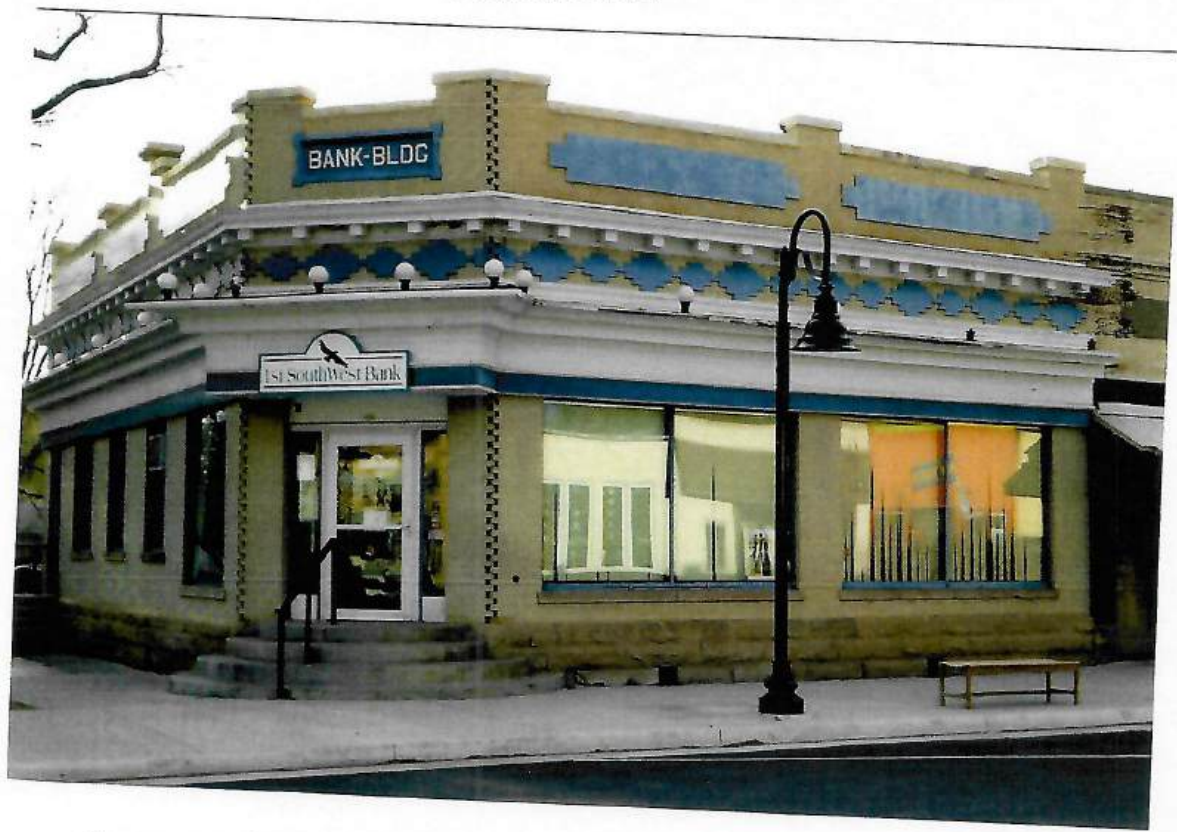
3<sup>rd</sup> row--#2

Francis Russell



THE NEW BANK 3<sup>rd</sup> row--#2  
Francis Russell

Current photo



There was strong competition between Horace B. Means and Gotthelf, both in the mercantile business. They ended up having two banks.

The new bank started in 1911 by Horace B. Means, Dallas Stubbs and Adam Shallabarger. Eventually in 1927 the old bank and the new bank merged as the 1<sup>st</sup> National Bank with Gordon Gotthelf as president. It later became the Vectra Bank and is currently known as the First Southwest Bank. It is located on the southeast corner of Main street and San Juan. It is a very handsome building and is currently, May 2012, being remodeled to become handicapped friendly with a ramp being built on the north side.

31-A.

MALOUFF'S GROCERY AND UTE THEATER 3<sup>rd</sup> row--#3  
Colcha embroidery block  
Nettie Quintana



MALOUFF'S GROCERY AND UTE THEATER 3<sup>rd</sup> row--#3  
 Current photo Nettie Quintana



**Malouff's Grocery.**

The main street grocery store was built by Dr. O.P. Shippey, a well known family doctor. It was later owned by Les Noland and became a pool hall. Hockaday, Juan Chavez and Mary Russell ran a grocery store. Later Malouff and family ran it as a grocery and dry goods store.

Hartley ran it as a grocery store. Later Max and Sue Renaud used it as an art studio. It has served as a Girl Scout Center, teen game room. Second-hand store run by Jennie Lujan, antique store by Peggy Asher and a video store run by Steve Wilson. It has recently been bought, Apr. 2012, and currently houses a yoga center and used book store.

**Ute Theater.**

In the very early days Mark Gould ran a livery stable at this location. Ray Ellis and Mr. Russell had a garage business and black smith there. In the 1930s the building was remodeled by Ross Labart to become the Ute Theater. He sold it to Louis Groy and then Mr. and Mrs. Earl McDaniel showed movies there for many years. It was sold to Susan Crutchfield who remodeled it. The current owner, Christy Guydeson upgraded it and not only shows movies but sponsors many theater productions and musical events. She has just opened up a little adjoining room and converted it into a Pizza bar to the delight of her customers.

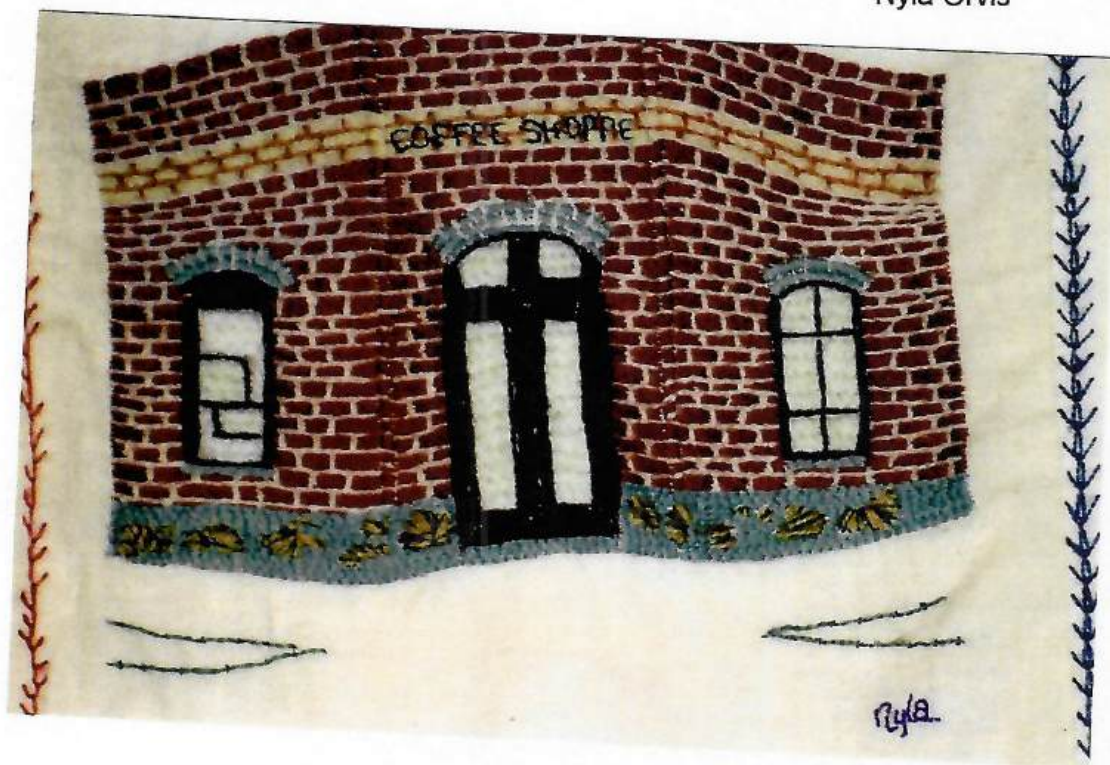
**Update July 2013—Malouff's old grocery store has gone through extensive renovation and is now a Visitor Center. It houses a Gallery/ Gift Shop and thrift store. It also sponsors exercise and dance classes and offers a fresh, organic food selection as well as WiFi service.**

32-A.

Colcha embroidered block

COFFEE SHOP

3<sup>rd</sup> row--#4  
Nyla Orvis



Joint effort  
by  
Nyla  
and  
Muggs



Current photo

COFFEE SHOP

3<sup>rd</sup> row--#4  
Nyla Orvis

In 1880 the Freemont County Bank bought a lot from A. W. Settle for \$300 and built an 18 by 32 foot red brick building. In the early days A. A. Lampe was U. S. Postmaster there. Over the years it has served as a saloon, barber shop run by Glint Wilder, and a second-hand store.

It served as the home of Reverend Spaugh (Pilgrim Faith Mission). After W. W. ~~II~~ Bill Vahrenkampe operated a coffee shop in the building. At one time Nancy Ward leased the building. It was said that she made the best beans with ham and chili in the County.

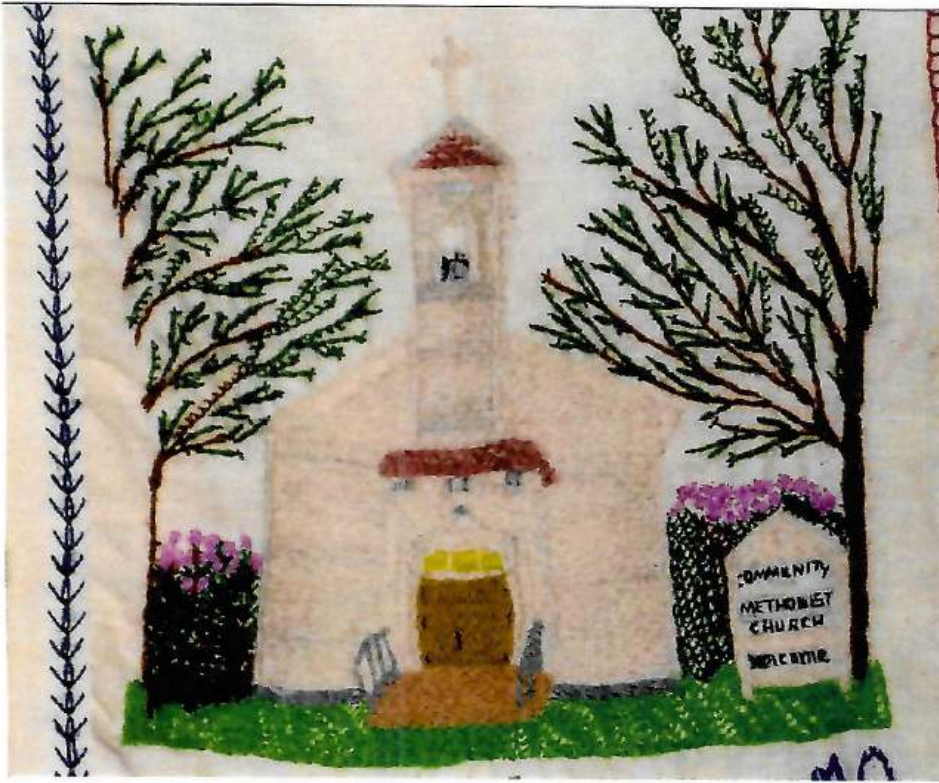
It is currently owned by Dean Coombs and is vacant

Update July 2013—The Old Coffee Shop has a brand new look. The inside has been turned into a lovely gallery featuring Judith Page's art work and Dean Coomb's collection of African beads, baskets, etc.



33-A.

COMMUNITY METHODIST CHURCH 4<sup>th</sup> row #1  
Marcella Quintana

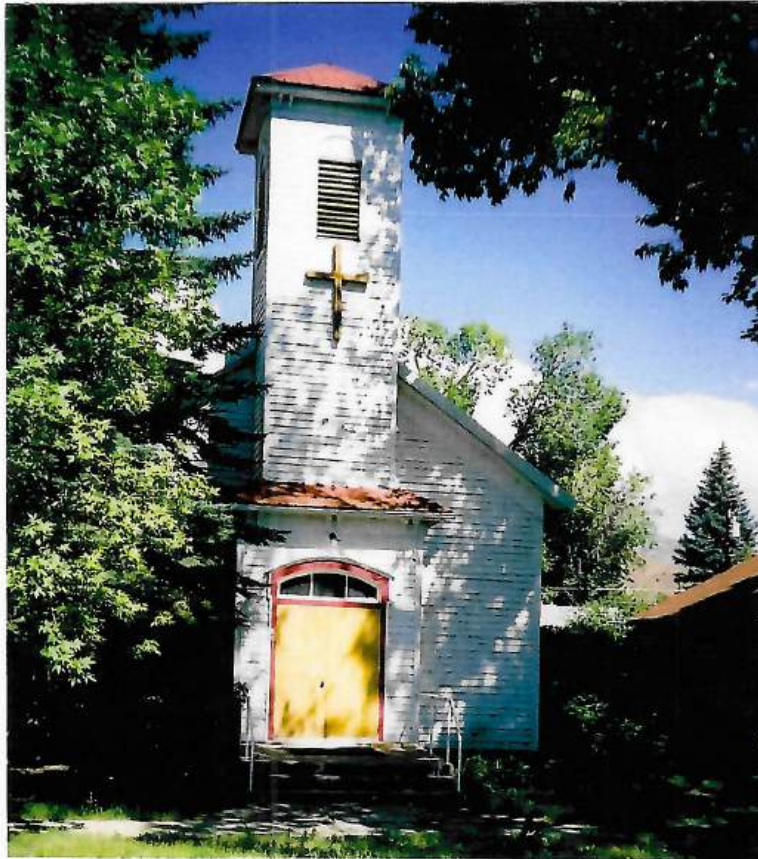


Indian Chief



Bronco

COMMUNITY METHODIST CHURCH 4<sup>th</sup> row #1  
Marcella Quintana



The Methodist Church was originally constructed in the little town of Milton, east of Saguache in 1873. The church elders preached in it on their circuit through Saguache County to Del Norte, Colorado.

In 1884 the church board bought a lot on San Juan Ave. in Saguache where the church now stands. The moving of the building and some remodeling costs in the amount of \$860 were owed to Robert Phillips. Due to the small membership it took a long time to pay it all off. A parsonage was built on the north side and now serves as a fellowship hall. The church has had continuous ministries since 1867 except for 1 and ½ years during **WWII**, an admirable record.

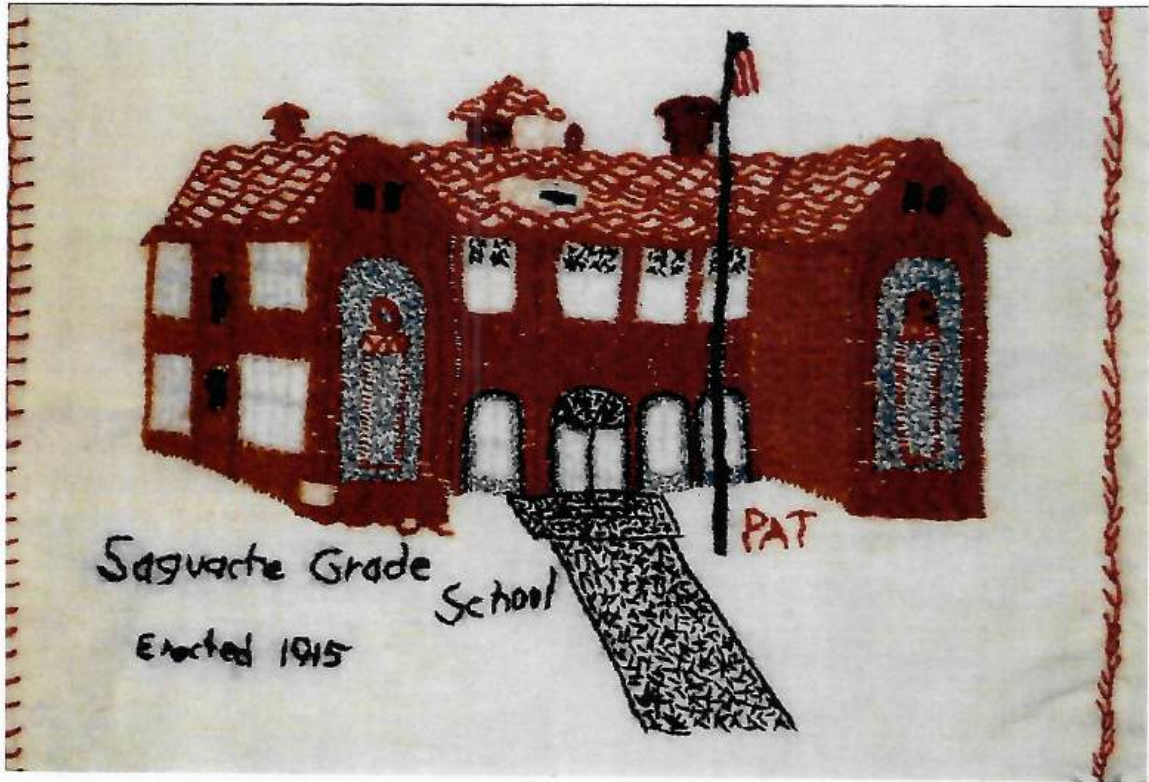
It is currently used for various community functions such as the Woman's Study Club, Red Hat Lady Society, Saguache Chorus and many others. A great asset to Saguache.

34-A.

Colcha embroidery block

THE OLD SCHOOL 4<sup>th</sup> row--#2

Patsy Garcia



Current photo

THE OLD SCHOOL 4<sup>th</sup> row--#2  
Patsy Garcia

The handsome 2 story grade school was built in 1915 of red brick with a red tile roof. It was vacated in 1967 after 52 years of service. Many of the older citizens remember their school days and the teachers who taught the 3 Rs.

In 1972, Dodson and Meg Benedec, bought the building on 12 town lots, sight unseen, for \$8,000. Their intention was to start an artist complex which they were not able to bring to fruition. He sold it to his sister who sold it to Tom Blunt, Muriel Ward and Mayor Floyd Smith in 1976. In 1979 the County Commissioners bought the building and lots for \$13,500. The lower floor was designated Senior Citizens use and the upper floor for County offices. They took bids for renovation in 1980 and had a Grand Opening on June 27, 1981.

The Senior Citizens used it extensively for all kinds of get-to-gathers, exercise, games, etc. They served meals daily. Rosie Maez was the director of the Senior meals from 1979 until her death in Sept. of 1990. Christina Cale took over in 1991 as director and her volunteer kitchen assistant, Jane Trujillo and Alice Wardlow, who delivers meals to shut-ins, have helped out for years. The Senior population and participation has fallen a great deal over the years. Besides meals, a weekly Scrabble game brings several competitors to the Center and it serves as a meeting place for other occasions.

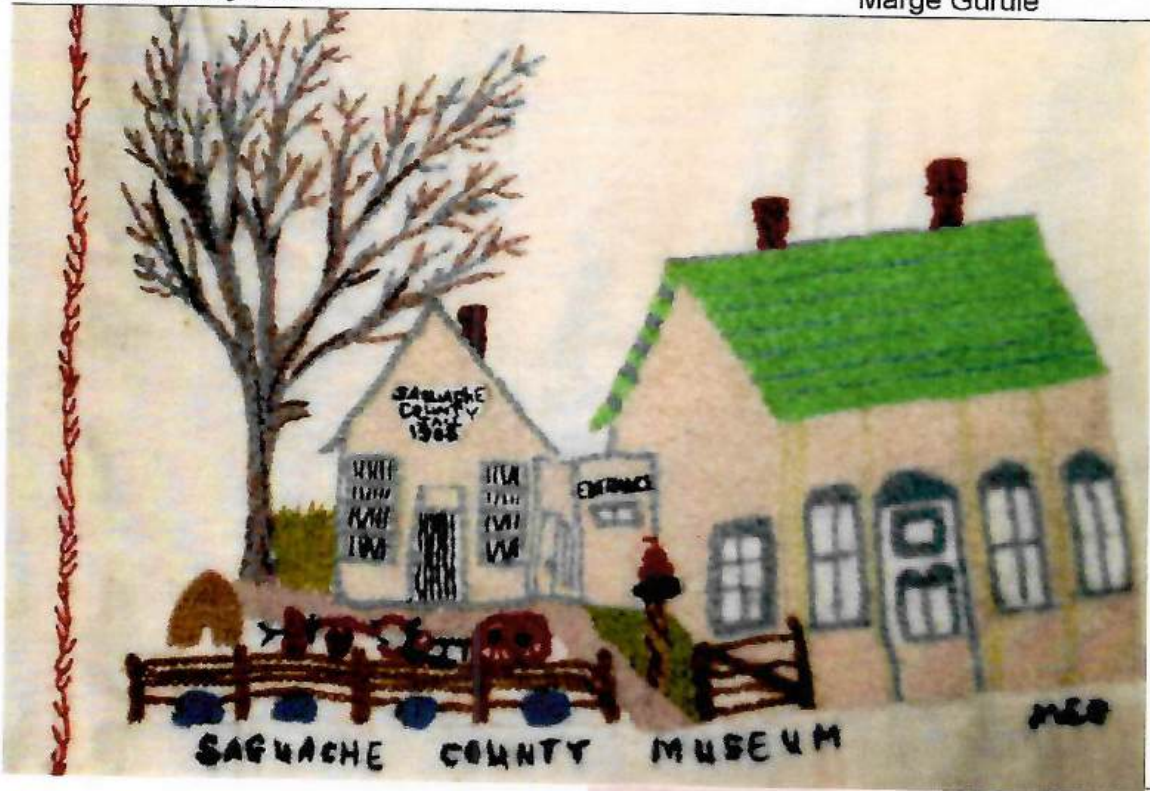
At one time the upstairs held storage facilities for the Museum. It is now office space for Saguache County Social Service Offices. There are currently low income apartments on the south 6 lots.

35-A.

Colcha embroidery block

SAGUACHE COUNTY MUSEUM

4<sup>TH</sup> row--#3  
Marge Gurule



by granddaughter Cathy

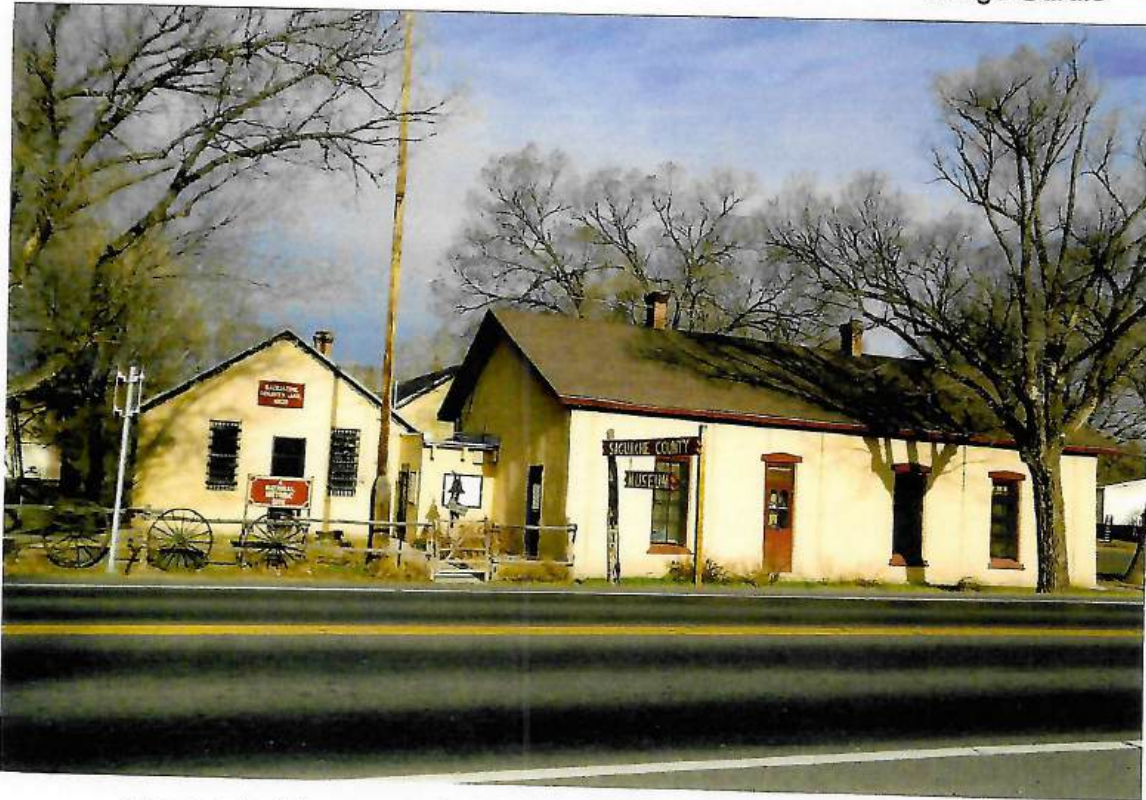
Another memory was her cooking and baking, I like to say I am a great cook, but a natural baker, I am not. Grandma could put together; add a little bit of that, a little shake of this, stir, bake and Voila! We would enjoy a cake, a pie, cinnamon rolls, homemade pizzas, fresh loaves bread or rolls! What a talent, it is one of the things I regret the most, I never learned how to make things from scratch, I thank the people responsible for packing those little boxes where all you have to do is "add eggs, oil and water".

Current photo

SAGUACHE COUNTY MUSEUM

4<sup>TH</sup> row--#3

Marge Gurule ✓



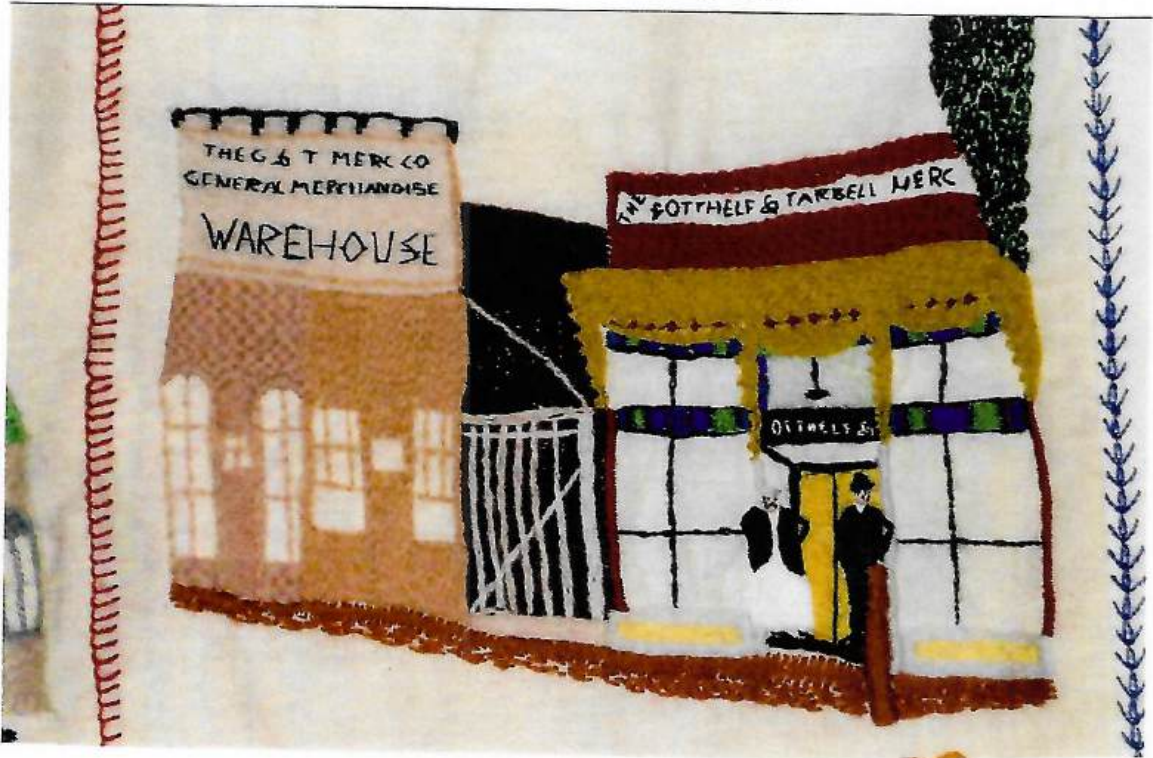
The original house was built around 1870. In 1872 it was an original school room, courtroom and community building. Nathan Russell donated the building and property to the Town of Saguache in 1874. In 1908 the jail was built beside the house and the sheriff or under-sheriff lived in the house and looked over the jail.

The Saguache Woman's Club was assigned the task of putting together a small museum to celebrate 100 years. (The 1859 Rush to the Rockies Gold Fever). Colorado became known as the 'Centennial State'. The club was given the house and property to use for their project. It took a tremendous amount of work and dedication by the whole community to get it in shape to house a museum display. A committee headed by Evelyn Youngblood Curtis and Helen Gotthelf began soliciting and assembling artifacts and collections from the area. They were ready to open June 20, 1959, a huge accomplishment. A memorial room was added in 1972. Virginia Sutherland has headed the Museum Board from it's beginning. Most staffers are volunteers. It is a non-profit corporation, depending on donations and grants.

It is visited every year from opening Memorial Day Celebration to Labor Day closing by people from all over the world. It has a reputation far and wide as one of the "Best Little Museums in the Country".

36-A.

GOTTHELF—TARBELL MERCANTILE 4<sup>th</sup> row--#4  
Colcha embroidery block Mary Baker



ZIA - Acoma

Medina Plaza Church

MARY

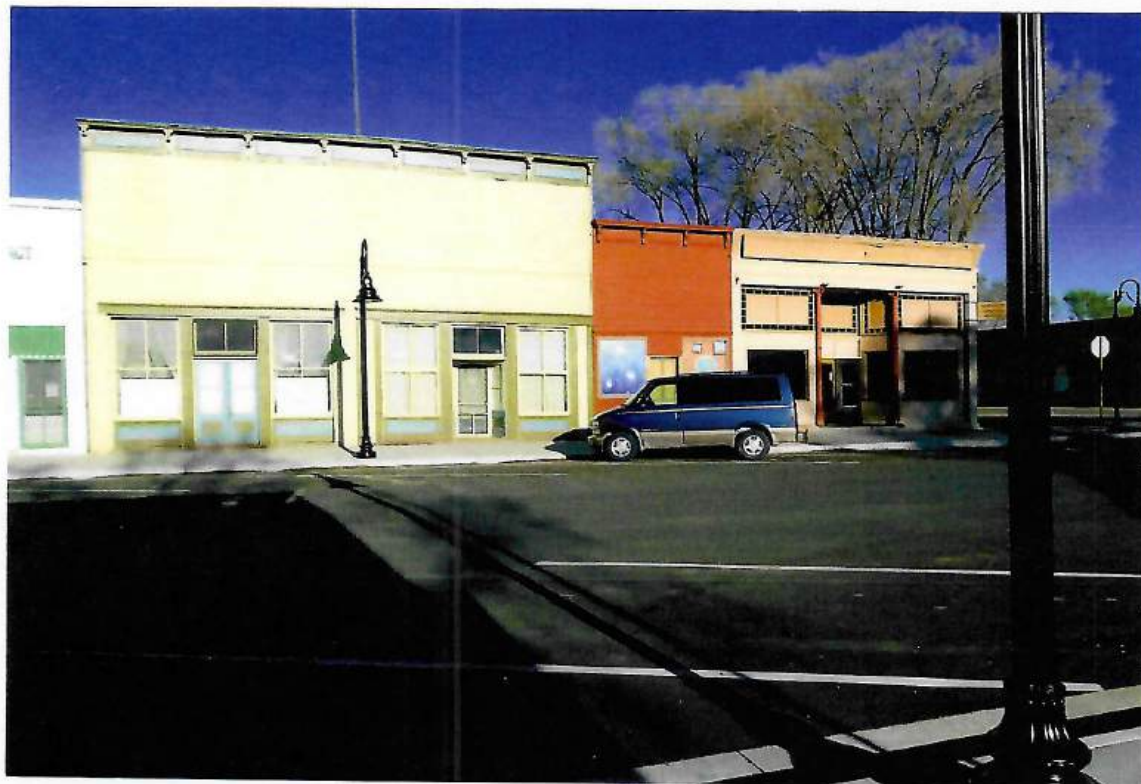


Sanford Hills

Bee Hives



Current Photo

GOTTHELF—TARBELL MERCANTILE 4<sup>th</sup> row--#4  
Mary Baker

This building was one of Saguache's earliest and largest store building. It had 2 store fronts. It was first founded in 1867 by Isaac Gotthelf, a Saguache pioneer from Germany. His partner was Leopold Mayer. The building was incorporated in September of 1889. The store carried a large general merchandise line. The mercantile got the 1<sup>st</sup> telephone line, #A, in 1902.

It was later sold to F. Ridgeway who owned it for 30 years. George Hazard later owned and operated Hazard Electrical and Plumbing. Then Rebie and Wade Collins ran the Saguache Ranch and Supply where they sold ranch feed and tack. The other part of the store was called the Cochetopa Gallery where Wade displayed and sold his exceptional art work and bronze castings. The building later became a medical clinic staffed by a succession of doctors and dentists. The front part facing the main street had a pharmacy for a while.

Currently the north building is used by David Arnette and his associate doctors from Salida Co. who alternate servicing the clinic during the week. Mike Cassidy has a residence in the south building.



37-A.

SAGUACHE TOWN Hall  
Colcha embroidery block

5<sup>th</sup> row--#1  
Marge Gurule



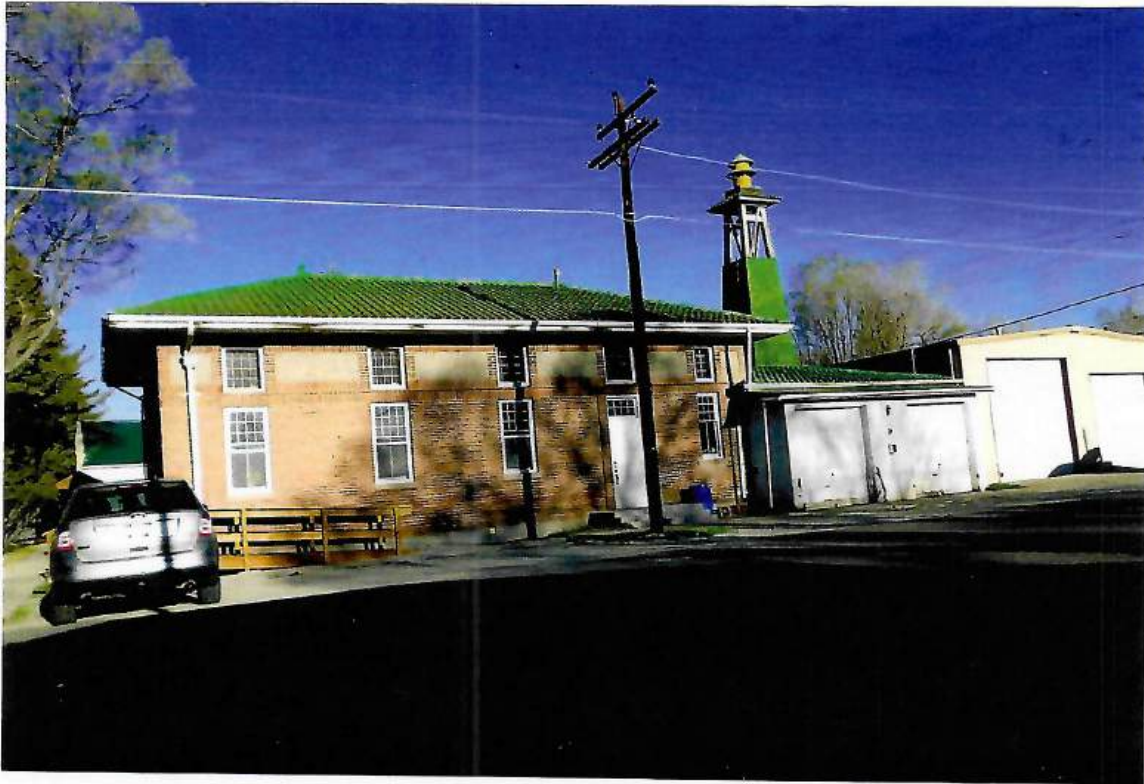
by Tina Serna- granddaughter

One of my fondest memories of my Grandma, Margie Gurule, is doing her hair! La Bella Hair Gel was the gel of choice! She would wash her hair and then we would wait, and wait and wait (of course, this was before Grandma discovered the "hair dryer" for her hair to dry. I would then set up the table with her curlers, a comb and "the gel" and proceed to section off her hair and put curlers in each piece, now keep in mind I was NOT a hairdresser, but I must say I must have done a good job because that would be "my job" every time she needed her hair done.

## SAGUACHE TOWN HALL

5<sup>th</sup> row --#1  
Marge Gurule

Current photo



The present Town Hall was built on the same site as the Old Town Hall which was torn down. Work on the new building began in January, 1915 with walls of red brick 12 inches thick at an extra cost of \$295.00. The town board allotted \$4,000 to be used to build the structure which would also house the jail and a vault. The town board let School District #6 use the building until the new school was completed. H. W. Jedbroke was the architect. Those elected to serve on the town board were Mayor Thomas Noland, clerk W.L. Hammond and trustees, E.G. Gotthelf, D.Vigil, E.R. Cochrane, J.P. Campbell, J A. Chavez and A. Brewer.

In early 1916 an addition of 24X25 feet was built on the north end to house the new fire engine. In May 1917 a new fire siren was installed in the tower which is still in use today. (2012) It alerts the volunteer fire dept. to a fire or accident situation and lets the general public know it is time for lunch at 12 noon.

The Town Hall was first lighted by acetylene gas lamps until the conversion to electric lights in Jan. 1917.

The popular Mayor Floyd Smith held office over 30 years. The current Mayor is Milton Jones.

38-A.

THE OLD POST OFFICE 5<sup>th</sup> row--#2  
Colcha embroidery block

Mary Ann Gallegos

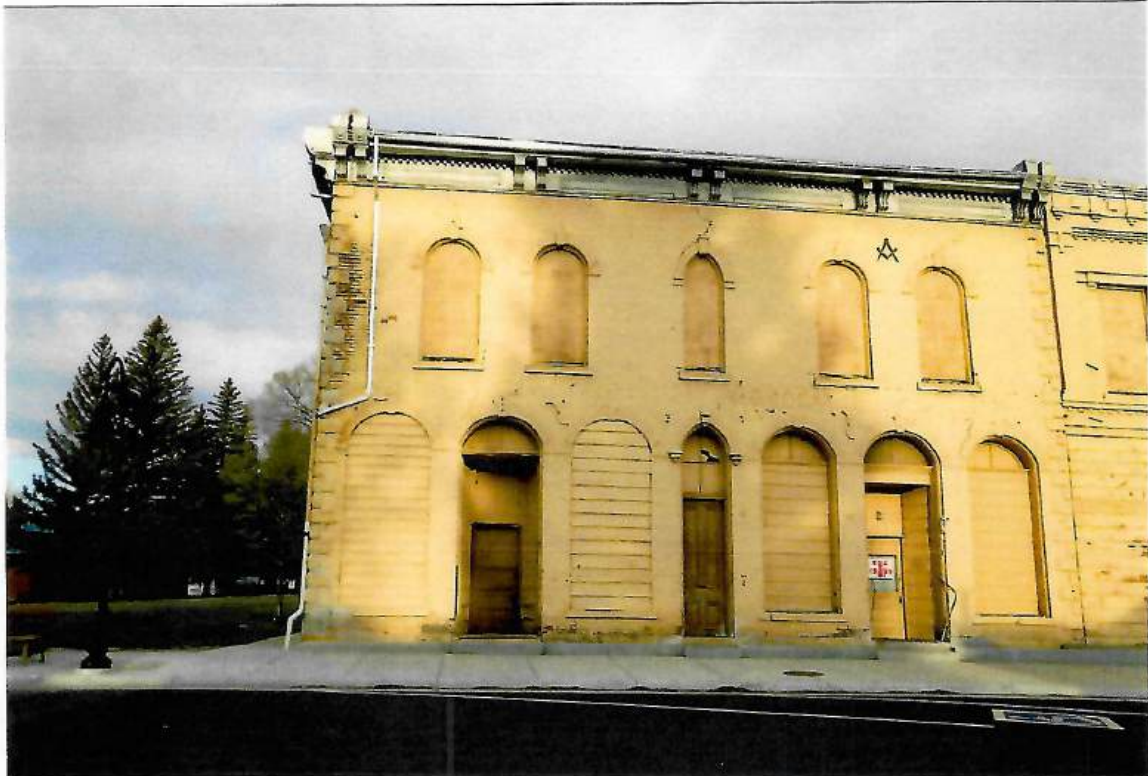


OWL



Curtis Ranch

Current Photo

THE OLD POST OFFICE 5<sup>TH</sup> row--#2  
Mary Ann Gallegos

The Old Post Office was situated in the south part of the Dunn Building. This is the large 2-story building on West Main Street and San Juan Avenue.

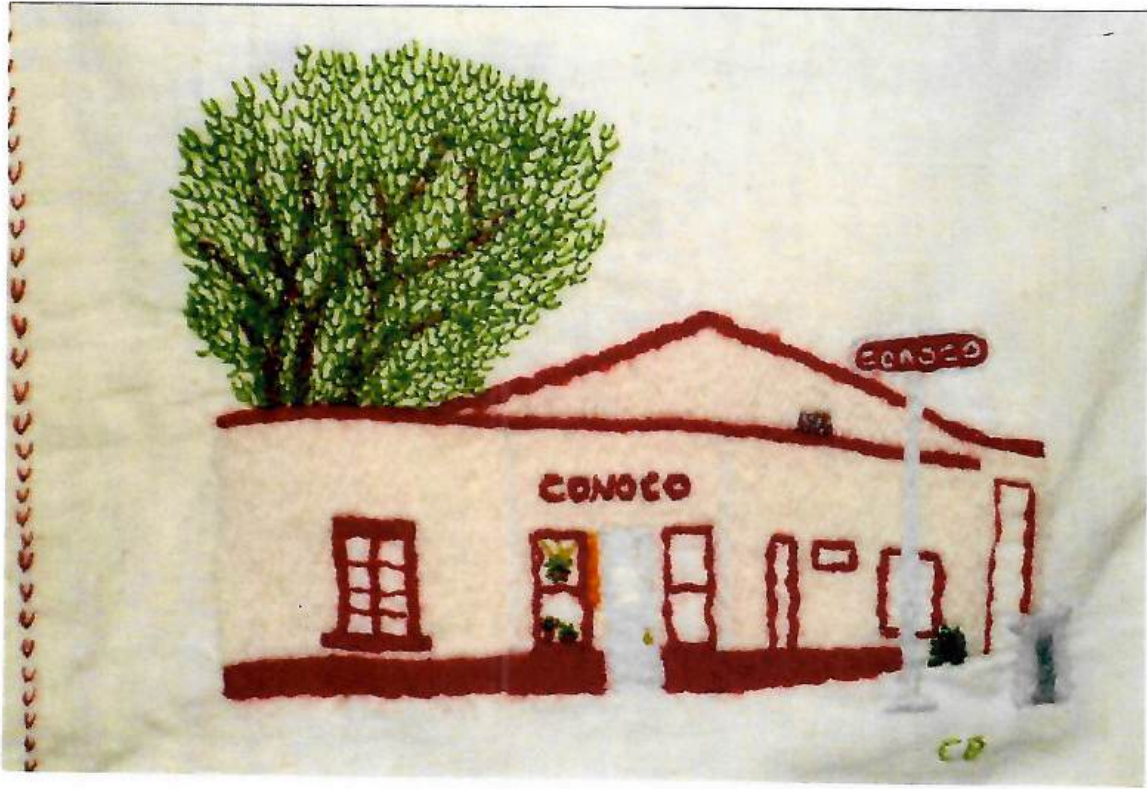
Captain Robert H. Jones was the postmaster there from 1886 to 1891. There were several Postmasters over the years. Later notables included John Lawrence, Daniel Vigil, Fred Curtis, Mrs. Carl (Lulu) Marold, Mr Nick Fuson and Mrs. Esta Fuson. Dan Howard built the present Post Office in the 1950's.

The Old Post Office part of the building is now boarded up. The Masonic and Eastern Star Lodges are the only users of the building. The Masonic emblem on the front and the lettering, I.O.O.F. are the last reminders of a grand old building

39-A.

THE CONOCO STATION  
Colcha embroidery block

5<sup>TH</sup> ROW--#3  
Cathy Baxter



Current photo THE CONOCO STATION 5<sup>TH</sup> ROW--#3  
Cathy Baxter



This building was built in 1908 on the corner of North Main Street and Highway 285,

Abstract records show a succession of owners.

1916 property owned by Solomans

1936-W.E. Cummings (Elsie) to Ainsworth, C.F.

Cecil and Lucille Ainsworth lived in the south residential part and Cecil ran the Conoco Filling Station on the north corner for many years. Cecil was a good artist and sold his paintings there. He and Lucille loved to fish.

In 1991 the property is shown as transferring from Cecil F. and Lucille Ainsworth to Cecil, Lucille, Roy, Glen C. Ainsworth and Juanita Jean Burch and Judy Olsen, all family members.

1998 shows a transfer of the property from the Ainsworths, Burch and Olsen to Elvie and Annette Conley.

The Conley's have used it as a home rental and office building.

40-A.

Colcha embroidery block

OLD COURT HOUSE

5<sup>TH</sup> row--#4  
Tiva Trujillo



TIVA  
Trujillo  
and  
Mary  
Anne  
Gallegos

A QUOTE BY MOM: IF YOU DRAW A PICTURE OF YOUR OWN, THE PAST AND THAT'S WHAT I'VE BEEN DOING, EVERY PICTURE THAT I HAVE DRAWN...IT'S MY PAST, MY LIFE YOU KNOW, THAT'S WHAT IT IS, IT'S A TRUE PICTURE AND A REAL PICTURE, THEY WERE ALIVE SOMETIME, OH.. ONCE UPON A TIME. THAT'S WHY I LOVE TO DRAW. I LOVE TO DRAW MY OWN TANGLES. THIS BE BEEN REAL NICE FOR ME TO WORK ON, YOU KNOW. IT'S HARD BUT IT'S NICE IT'S DROUD!!!

Current photo

OLD COURT HOUSE

5<sup>th</sup> row-#4  
Tiva Trujillo

SAGUACHE COUNTY COURT  
HOUSE BURNED DOWN ON  
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2, 1910  
(Saguache Crescent, 1910)

The original Court House was constructed in 1882, Otto Mears owned property on Main Street and wanted the Court House built on his property. Nathan Russell wanted it built on the west side of town where he owned nearly all lots west of 8<sup>th</sup> Street, (now Highway 285), known as the Russell Addition. In 1880 Russell and Mears had a power struggle as to the location of the new Saguache County Court House. Russell won out and the building was built on the 1000 block of Christy Avenue. It was constructed of red brick at a cost of \$12,926. In 1910 a fire destroyed the building as well as the Court House records.

As luck would have it, the new Court House was built on the Otto Mears Addition at 4<sup>th</sup> Street and Christy Avenue, its present location and serves the County of Saguache to this day, (2012).

Joe and Jenny Lujan presently live on the old County Court House site.



A TRIBUTE TO TIVA TRUJILLO by Brenda Lee Garcia, 'Nature Spectator'

This was taken from the Mountain Valley School Paper, The Smoke Signals October, 14, 1980.

Another artist to be remembered has left some of the greatest pieces of her colorful past. Tiva Trujillo, of Saguache, Colorado, was an incredible lady to many people in her town. Many people remember her as a very joyful person in everything she did, combined with a great sense of humor.

The program she worked under was "The Costura de Saguache" under Virginia Neal Blue whose purpose was to develop programs for women of the San Luis Valley. The embroidery group in Saguache, of which Tiva has been a part of since 1975, have produced many tapestries depicting much of their own lives, past and present. Tiva's sense of humor is evident in the pictures she embroidered. These include an embroidery of the San Luis Valley, Old San Acacio, (as she remembered from childhood), New San Acacio, Her older brother's wedding, La Llorona, a three part series of the famed tale. And many more. Some of these are on display at the Denver Heritage Center.

Like Grandmother Moses, she captured people and places she remembered. Tiva loved people and was very sensitive to their feelings.

She came from a large family. Her mother died when she was quite young and she helped raise her younger brothers and sisters. Growing up alone wasn't easy but learning is the funnest way possible. It was said to be an experience she could never forget. Through her childhood she grew courageous and strong.

Some of her hobbies were cooking, sewing and gardening. She was an active member in the Community activities.

At the age of 63, Sept. 19, 1980, Tiva passed away. Her courage and strength gave her friends something to hang on to. They carry in their hearts the spirit of joy she left behind. One of her friends comments, "Tiva, if your friends miss you so, what a great loss for your husband and daughters. They all love you. We'll all remember you."

TIVA QUOTE: "In the cellars (potato) I have about 9 years. But in the potato fields and harvest I have worked all my life. If you draw a picture of your past it's my life you know."

SAGUACHE CRESCENT ARTICLE; 2-21-1980. Tiva Trujillo and Eppie Archuleta featured on a slide and tape program. LOS TESTAMENTOS, HISPANIC WOMEN FOLK ARTISTS. (History of people, past and present), from photographs taken by Kathryn Nelson.

QUOTE FROM "ARTISTS OF THE SAN LUIS VALLEY."

TIVA—It's nice to think of yourself as a child you know. That's something to think about now that you are growing old. When you go to your childhood or your past, you think about everything. That's why I like to draw".



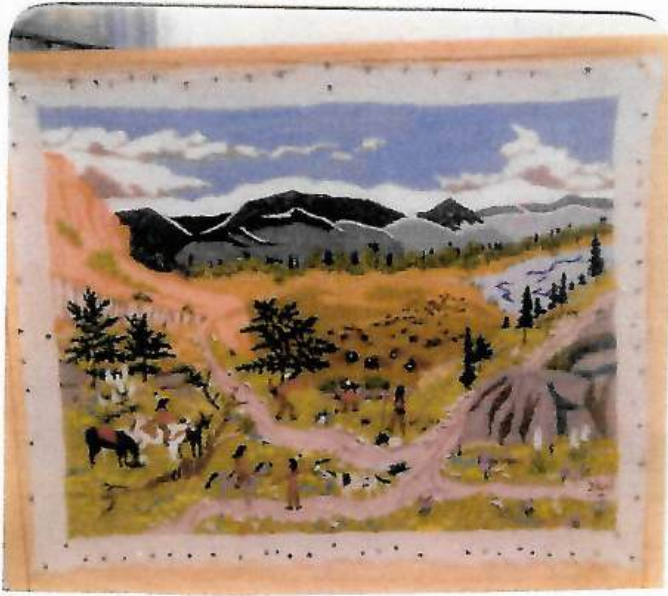
Top Row - L-R  
 Bina Lovato - Dorothy Ainsworth - Carmen Ortego de Salas (Solcha Teacher)  
 Brenda Rowe - Delores Worley - Liz Reilley  
 Bottom Row - L-R  
 Muggs Batchelder - Paula Duggin



Top Row - L-R. Cathy Baxter - Nettie Quintana - Janice Rice - Marcella Quintana  
 Nyla Orvis  
 Bottom Row - L-R Brenda Rowe - Annie Gallegos - Bina Lovato  
 Mary Pacheco - Francis Russell ?



This is a solid embroidery using mostly Colcha stitch. This is the way it looked in the 70's.



This one is the same size as the one on top. This one and the other are solid embroidery.



Delores Worley



## DELORES EVELYN WORLEY

Researched and collected material about the Saguache Colcha Wall hanging in the Saguache County Library for the Library Scrap Book.

Delores Evelyn Worley was born Born March 19, 1929 in Verdigre, Nebraska. Her parents were Evelyn Emma Chocholousek and Silvyn Hrbek. She had 3 younger sisters, Yvonne Halburian, Diane Carter and Annette Murrin, and one brother, Gary, deceased.

After several moves during the 1930 depression years, the family moved to Espanola, New Mexico in 1942. They started a whole new life. The Spanish culture, language, music and customs they found to be very exciting. Eventually they acquired a wonderful step dad, Philip Dorn, and a new baby brother, Phil, which brought the siblings to 6.

Delores met Wilfred Sanchez in Belen, N.M. They were married and had 5 children, 4 of them still alive. After a divorce, Delores married Julian Worley in Albuquerque, N.M. 3 children were born to that union. At the same time she inherited 3 Worley children making a total of 10, his, hers and theirs. Their names are Prescilla, Patricia (PJ), Johnny, Will, Penny, David, Terry, Jimmie, Luana, and Evelyn. Delores is the grandmother of 17 and great grandmother of 27 at last count. The family moved to Saguache, Colorado in 1975.

Delores became fluent in Spanish early on. She and Julian played guitars and sang together. She also plays the organ and accordion.

She has had many interesting jobs. In Albuquerque the first job required expertise at making the curl on top of the ice cream cone at the Dairy Queen. She was seamstress at Pioneer Wear and clerk at TG&Y. She also served as the youngest lay midwife in Bernalillo County for 14 years. In Saguache she worked as teacher aide for Kinder and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade at Mountain Valley Schools. She taught Adult Ed. 14 years and worked in the migrant program. She worked for Nancy Ward at the Mountain Maid Jelly factory, Taught Head Start and Sign Language Classes. She did home health care for the elderly, translated in the Saguache County Court 6 ½ years for the Mexican Nationals. As a side job she baked and decorated cakes for all occasions and she enjoyed them all.

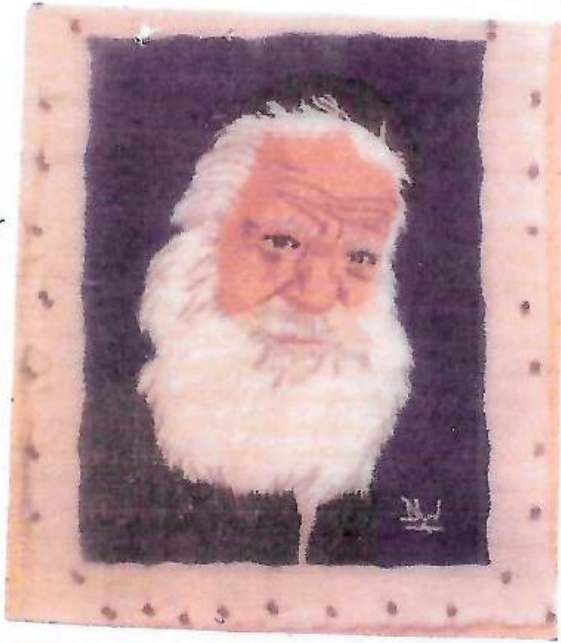
Her hobbies are beadwork, weekly scrabble games, yardwork, and chorus.

Delores joined the first Colcha Embroidery Group in 1975. She embroidered many pictures. She loved the friendship of the group and especially loved to listen to the older ladies tell stories about their lives. She embroidered after the program ended and her last picture is dated March 1990.

She decided to make a scrap book featuring the artists that embroidered the blocks in the Colcha wall hanging and their work. "I dedicate this scrap book to all who participated in the making of this masterpiece. The ladies were all friends of mine and I want them to be known and remembered as the special people that they were."

44. Portraits - Done in Colcha Stitch - by Delores Worley

Grandfather



Sarah.



Randy  
A Friend  
of my Son  
Timmie



Navaho



The  
Master

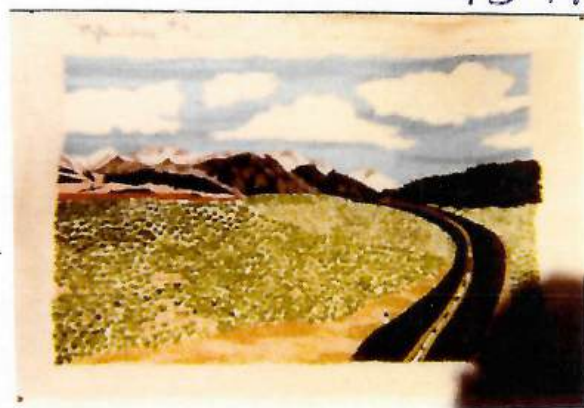


Mei Lei  
my  
granddaughte





Kachina - Eve Davis  
 Night Scene - Mary Pacheco  
 My House - Mary Swindle  
 Piñon Picking - Patsy Garcia



Poncha Pass - Nyla Orvis



Fall Trees - Mary Pacheco  
 Tobler's House - Nettie Quintan  
 Flowers - Marcella Quintana  
 Cabin - Francis Russell



Hartleys - Brenda Rowe  
 Cattails - Margie Gutule  
 Ducks - Eve Davis



Kaleidoscope - by  
 Mary Ann Gallegos

45-B.



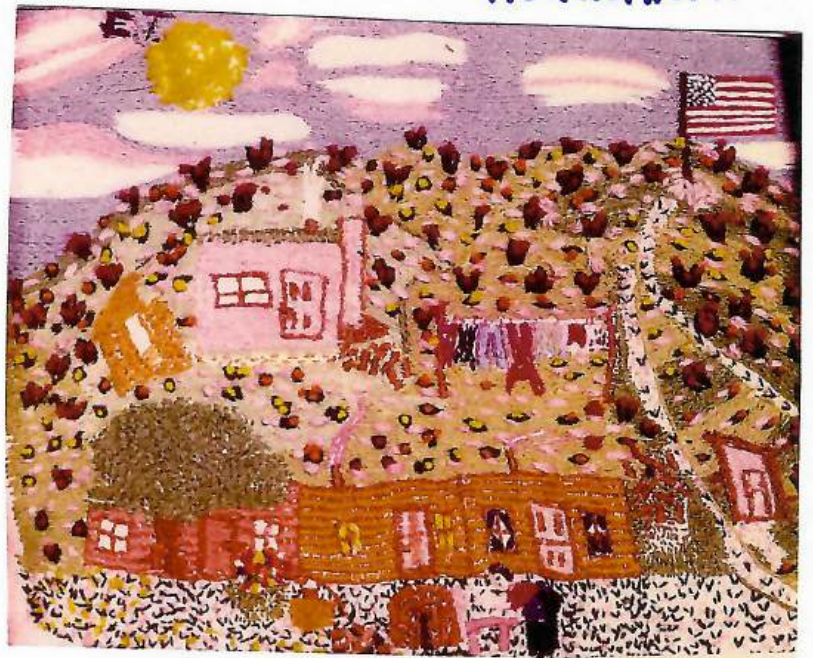
My Home - by Lupe Tafoya



Evening Star - by Brenda Rowe Heckathorn



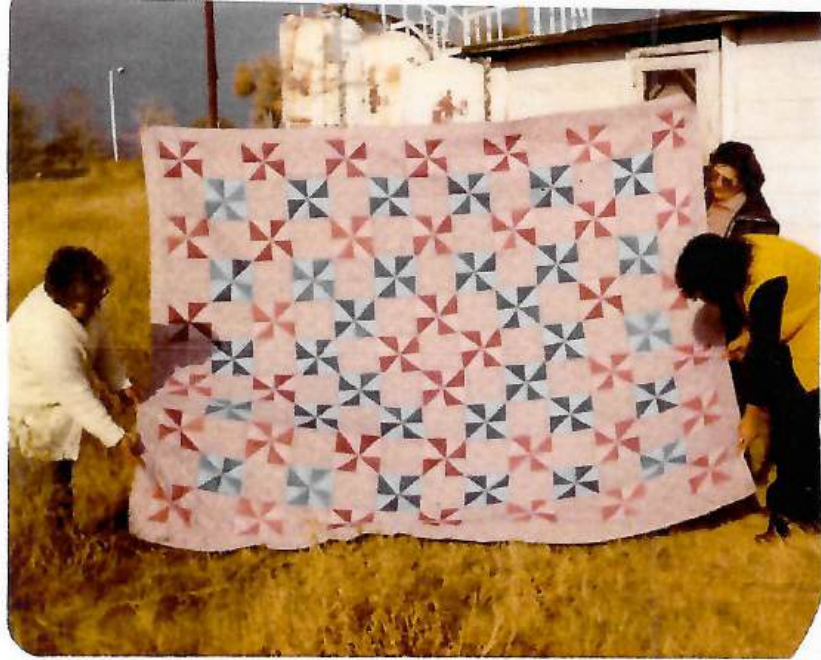
Sand Dunes at Dusk  
by Cathy Baxter



My Home by Flag Hill  
By Evelyn Trajillo



Matiposa - Margio Gurbicé



Quilts 45-C.  
 #1- wind mill  
 #2- Butter Flies & Flowers



'Prestigious Poultry'  
 by Yvonne Halbutian

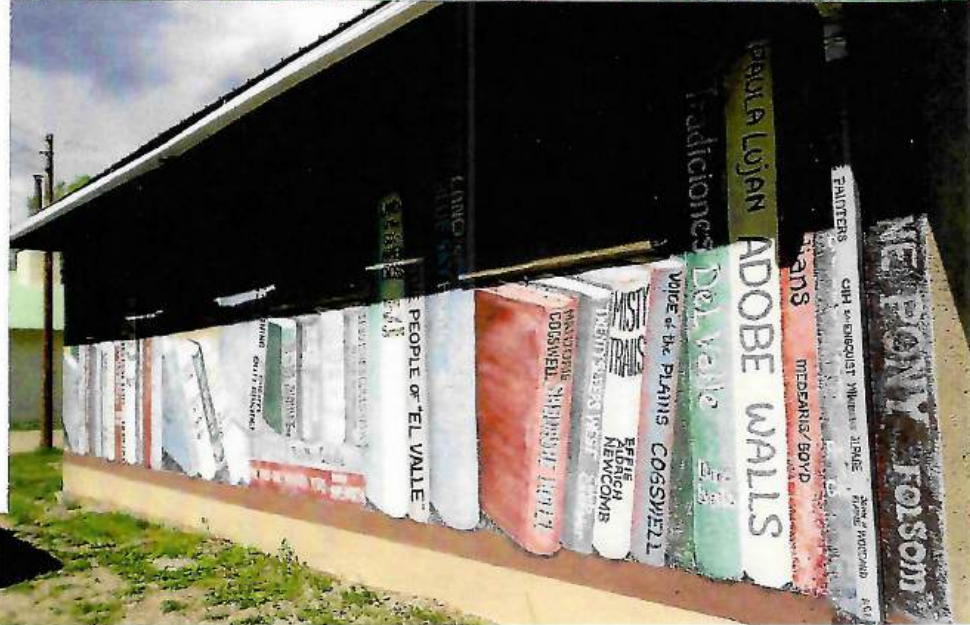


LA COSTURA DE SAGUACHE  
 DESIGNED AND HANDCRAFTED  
 EMBROIDERIES  
 OF THE SOUTHWEST  
 VIRGINIA NEAL BLUE CENTER  
 IN  
 SAGUACHE, COLORADO  
 655-2511  
 712 DENVER AVE.

+  
 Sunshine  
 Festival  
 in  
 Alamosa, CO.



# SAGUACHE PUBLIC LIBRARY



Update July 2013---The Saguache Library has undergone extensive interior remodeling and has been converted from a crowded maze to a beautiful spacious work and reading area. Many volunteers put in hours of planning and hard work to make it happen.

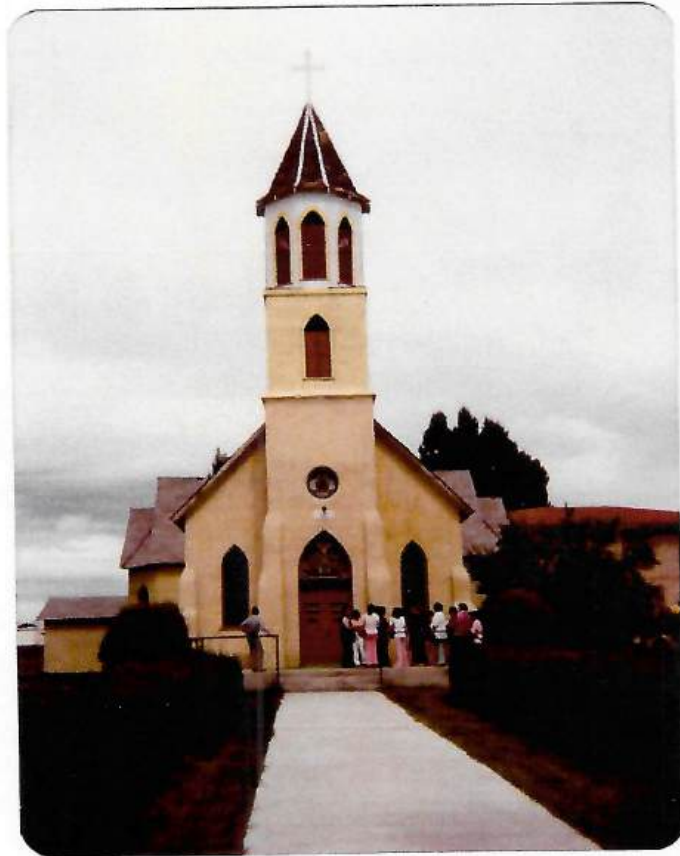
The Library is celebrating its 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary this year.

The small side room has been changed from a seldom used sitting room to a Colorado History Room and houses a wide collection of Colorado reading material. It also displays the Colcha Wall Hanging which this book is all about.

Library Staff  
 L to R:  
 Carla Mondragon  
 Librarian  
 Penny Bruce  
 Branch Manager  
 Sarah Koehn Frey  
 Director  
 +  
 A great source of  
 information and  
 assistance

# San Luis Church

Built in 1886



Saguache Colcha Group

Visit to San Luis, Co. - Aug. 17, 1979



The Capulin Weavers  
 visit  
 Saguache Colcha Group

Sept. 19, 1979



at the  
 Saguache Head Start  
 Building



at the  
 Saguache County  
 Museum