



A, D, & F. MESA SCHOOLHOUSE
33985 U. S. Highway 40, Steamboat Springs

Although sources vary, consensus is that the Mesa School District was established and the first schoolhouse built on private property in 1890. The present Mesa Schoolhouse, built in 1916 by Art Gumprecht, embodies many distinguishing characteristics of Routt County one-room schoolhouses: it is a one-story, wood frame structure with a single gable roof, double-hung windows, clapboard siding, and coarse shingles in the gable ends, and has a covered porch entry, a bell tower, and a flagpole. Originally the schoolhouse contained a classroom, blackboard, wooden desks, a small library, a coal stove, a coal storage area, and a cloakroom; the site had two outhouses and a well. Later a teacherage was constructed. The teacherage, well, and outbuilding foundations still remain. The school served District 13 until 1959, when several school districts were consolidated; the Mesa School was one of the last to close. The school was central for community social gatherings and area activities such as picnics, plays, parties, and dances. The property was in private ownership from 1959 to 1975, when it was purchased by the City of Steamboat Springs, refurbished by volunteers, and is used as a meeting place for special events in the summer.