

Resolution No. 2013-009

**RESOLUTION
OF
THE OURAY COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

Re: Designation of Sites as Historic Landmarks

Whereas, Colorado Revised Statutes 30-11-107 (bb) empowers the Board of County Commissioners to provide for the preservation of the cultural, historic, and architectural history within the County; and

Whereas, Ouray County Resolution 1998-072 provides for the preservation of cultural, historic, and architectural history within the County through the Ouray County Historical Society; and

Whereas, Ouray County Historical Society has made a recommendation to the Board of Commissioners in favor of designating particular sites as Historic Landmarks; and

Whereas, Mary Linda Wright-Minter, owner of the Wiesbaden Hot Springs Spa and Lodgings, supports and concurs with this recommendation; and

Whereas, the City of Ouray supports the application of the Ouray County Historical Society to add the Wiesbaden to the List of Ouray County Historical Landmarks.

Now Therefore, Be It Resolved by the Board of County Commissioners of Ouray County that the following site is hereby awarded the designation of Ouray County Historic Landmark:

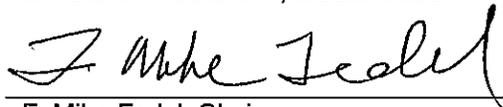
Wiesbaden Hot Springs Spa and Lodgings

The Wiesbaden is located at 625 5th Street, Ouray, Colorado.

Adopted this 19th day of FEBRUARY, 2013.

Voting for: Commissioners Fedel, Padgett and Batchelder
Voting against: None

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF OURAY COUNTY, COLORADO



F. Mike Fedel, Chair



Lynn M. Padgett, Vice-Chair



Don Batchelder, Commissioner





Michelle Nauer, Clerk and Recorder
By: Linda Munson-Haley, Deputy Clerk of the Board

STATE OF COLORADO)
) SS. Resolution No. 1998-072
 COUNTY OF OURAY)

At a regular meeting of the Board of County Commissioners for Ouray County, Colorado, held at the Ouray County Courthouse, on the 7th day of December, 1998, there were present:

Alan Staehle, Chairman

Frank Hodson, Commissioner

Joe Mattivi, Commissioner

Judy Wolford, Deputy Clerk

when the following proceedings, among others, were had and done, to wit:

WHEREAS, Colorado Revised Statutes 30-11-107(bb) empowers the Board of County Commissioners to provide for the preservation of the cultural, historic, and architectural history within the County; and,

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners desires to establish a procedure for the designation of appropriate historic sites as Historic Landmarks or Historic Districts, recognizing such a designation to be an integral part of the preservation of cultural, historic and architectural history within the County,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners, that the following procedure is hereby established as the means and method for receiving the designation of OURAY COUNTY HISTORIC LANDMARK or OURAY COUNTY HISTORIC DISTRICT:

- A. The Ouray County Historical Society is hereby authorized and directed to act as a body for the purpose of making recommendations to the Board of County Commissioners regarding the Preservation of cultural, historic, and/or architectural history within the boundaries of Ouray County;
- B. The procedure for requesting Historic Landmark or Historic District designation, along with the forms for such designation, shall be determined by the Ouray County Historical Society, subject to approval of the Ouray County Board of County Commissioners;
- C. Any person or entity seeking Historic Landmark or Historic District designation for any land, facility or structure within the boundaries of Ouray County must submit the request on the required form, along with all required documentation, to the Ouray County Historical Society, who shall then, upon completion of their review, forward a recommendation to the Board of County Commissioners;
- D. Upon receipt of a recommendation from the Ouray County Historical Society, the Board of County Commissioners shall, within 30 days at a regularly scheduled meeting, make a determination regarding the request for historic designation. Should such determination be in favor of historic designation, the Board of County Commissioners shall officially proclaim such designation by County Resolution.

E. The Ouray County Board of County Commissioners shall establish the OURAY COUNTY HISTORIC REGISTER, which shall be maintained in the office of the County Clerk and Recorder, and the County Land Use Administrator, in files titled, "OURAY COUNTY HISTORIC REGISTER".

Introduced, read, and passed this 7th day of December, A.D. 1998.

Voting in the affirmative: Alan Staehle, Frank Hodson, and Joe Mattivi.
Voting in the negative: None.

THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF
OURAY COUNTY, COLORADO.

BY:


Alan Staehle
Chairman, Board of County Commissioners

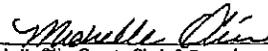
ATTEST:

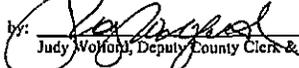


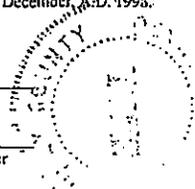
STATE OF COLORADO)
) SS.
COUNTY OF OURAY)

I, Michelle Olin, County Clerk and ex-officio Clerk of the Board of County Commissioners in and for the County and State aforesaid, do hereby certify that the annexed and foregoing Order is truly copied from the records of the Proceedings of the Board of County Commissioners for said Ouray County, now in my office.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of said County, at Ouray, this 22nd day of December, A.D: 1998.


Michelle Olin, County Clerk & Recorder

by: 
Judy Woford, Deputy County Clerk & Recorder



Ouray County
Historical Society
Box 151 • 420 6th Avenue
Ouray, Colorado 81427-0151



Phone: 970-325-4576
Fax: 970-325-4576
E-mail: ochs@ouraynet.com
Web: ouraycountyhistoricalsociety.org

January 17, 2013

Ouray County BOCC
Ouray, CO 81427

Request for Ouray County Landmark Designation

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Ouray County Historical Society (OCHS), I am requesting that the Wiesbaden Hot Springs Spa and Lodgings be designated as a Ouray County Landmark. This property is an important part of the history of Ouray. Attached is a short history of these hot springs from the time it was used by the Ute Indians, before any European-Americans had visited the site, to the present.

In addition, I have attached a letter of support from the Wiesbaden owner, Linda Wright Minter, as well as a letter of support from the City of Ouray. Also attached are the following photographs:

- 1) A copy of the signage placed by OCHS at the site of Chief Ouray's winter home, which is on the Wiesbaden property
- 2) a circa 1890 photo of the Buchanan Hot Springs
- 3) A circa 1930 photo of the Radium Vapor institute when run by Dr. Bates
- 4) A Bates advertisement showing the Hot Springs adjacent to the Bates Hospital when it was actually a block further west.

Thank you for considering our request.

Sincerely,

Donald R. Paulson, Ph.D.
Curator

P.O. Box 468
320 Sixth Avenue
Ouray, Colorado 81427



970.325.7211
Fax 970.325.7212
www.cityofouray.com

January 16, 2013

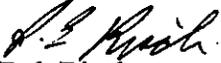
Board of Directors
Ouray County Historical Society
PO Box 151
Ouray, CO 81427

Dear Members of the Board,

Please accept this letter as confirmation that The City of Ouray supports the application of the Ouray County Historical Society to add the Wiesbaden Hot Springs to the List of Ouray County Historical Landmarks. The history of the spa dates back to the Utes and was the location of Chief Ouray's summer home. As one of the oldest applications of the City's geothermal assets, the spa has been run as a commercial hot springs since 1876.

It is also my understanding that, in its very early days the City owned the rights to the hot springs but exchanged them for rights to Oak Creek water, which was needed for a municipal water supply. It is interesting to contemplate how differently the springs might have been managed had an alternate source of potable water been available at the time.

Thank you for your continuing efforts to preserve our historical heritage,


Bob Risch
Mayor of Ouray

Short History of the Wiesbaden Hot Springs By Don Paulson Curator, OCHS

Use of the Wiesbaden Hot Springs dates back to at least the early nineteenth century when the Utes and other Indians used the hot springs. The Utes considered them sacred and called them "Miracle Waters" because of their curative powers. Still, today, the Wiesbaden springs are used for ceremonial purposes. Sometime before the early 1870s Chief Ouray built a home on the site.

W. J. Buchanan purchased the hot springs in 1877. The first mention of a commercial hot springs on the site is an ad for the Buchanan Hot Spring Baths that appeared in the Oct 24 1882 issue of *The Solid Muldoon*. The original structure of the Wiesbaden was built in 1879 and known as Mother Buchanan's Bath House.

Over the years the name of this hot springs changed numerous times: Dunbarton Bath House (1902), Ouray Mineral Hot Springs (1911) and the Radio Hot Springs (1911). In 1920 Dr. Carl Bates bought the property and later opened the Bates Bath and Sanitarium, which he ran in conjunction with his Bates Hospital until 1946. In 1929 he received approval from the Ouray City Council to build a larger building on the site and to dig a tunnel from the hospital to the sanitarium so the patients would not have to go outside. However, the depression ended these plans.

In 1945 Bates sold the hospital to the Idarado Mining Company and in 1947 he sold the hot springs Dumm, and Young. The property again changed hands several times and, in 1971, Dr. and Mrs. Bob Zimmerman bought the property and renamed it The Wiesbaden Hot Springs. The current owner, Linda Wright-Minter continues the operation of the Wiesbaden Hot Springs.

The current building dates back to the original Buchanan building although it has been added onto. The inside east wall of the Wiesbaden lobby is actually the original west wall of Dr. Bates Radium Hot Springs Sanitarium.

The Wiesbaden
Hot Springs Spa & Lodgings

625 5th Street
Ouray, Co 81427

P.O. Box 349
970-325-4347

August 27, 2012

Ouray County Historical Society
420 Sixth Avenue
Ouray, Colorado
81427

To Whom May Concern

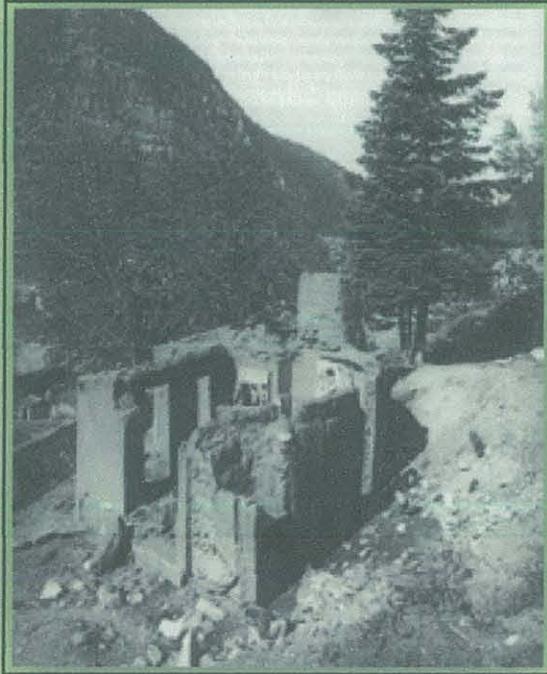
I, Mary Linda Wright-Minter, as owner of the Wiesbaden Hot Springs Spa & Lodgings, support the request of the Ouray County Historical Society to designate Wiesbaden Hot Springs Spa and Lodgings as a Ouray County Historical Landmark.

Sincerely,



Mary Linda Wright-Minter

Chief Ouray Mountain House



(figure 1) The famous and originally controversial photo of the rare rammed-earth "ruins of Ouray's House" believed to have been taken by George Mellon ca. 1888-1900 on behalf of the Detroit Publishing Co. The construction is of the Spanish style. View is to the northwest with the lower mountain slope of Twin Peaks showing in the background.



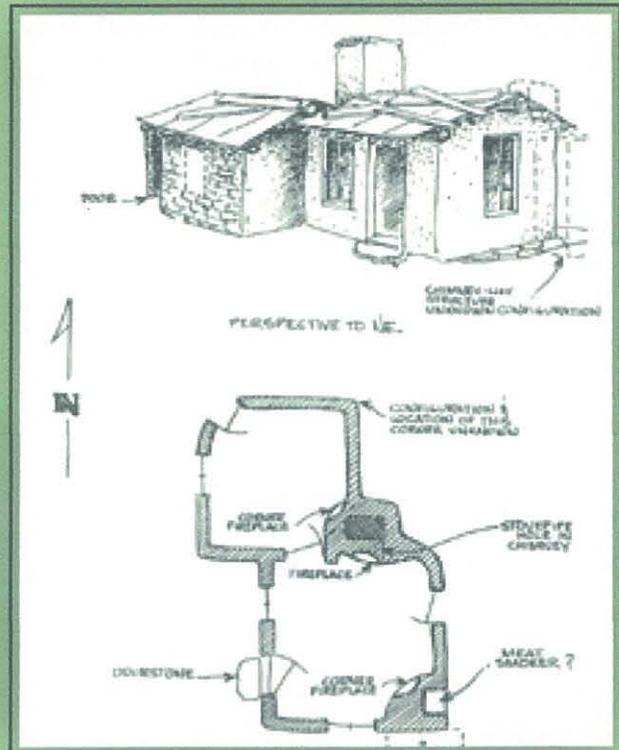
(figure 2) Historic Buckwalter photograph of the ruins of Ouray's House, apparently taken in the 1890's sometime after the Mellon view in figure 1.



(figure 3, A & B)



(figure 3) The Cottage House as it looks today nestled on the hillside above the Wiesbaden Hotel and Spa. The foundation rests on the same site as the Ouray House seen in figures 1 & 2.



(figure 4) Reconstruction drawings of the entire two-room Chief Ouray Mountain House as it appeared in somewhat modified form following the Chief Ouray occupation.

FIGURE 2

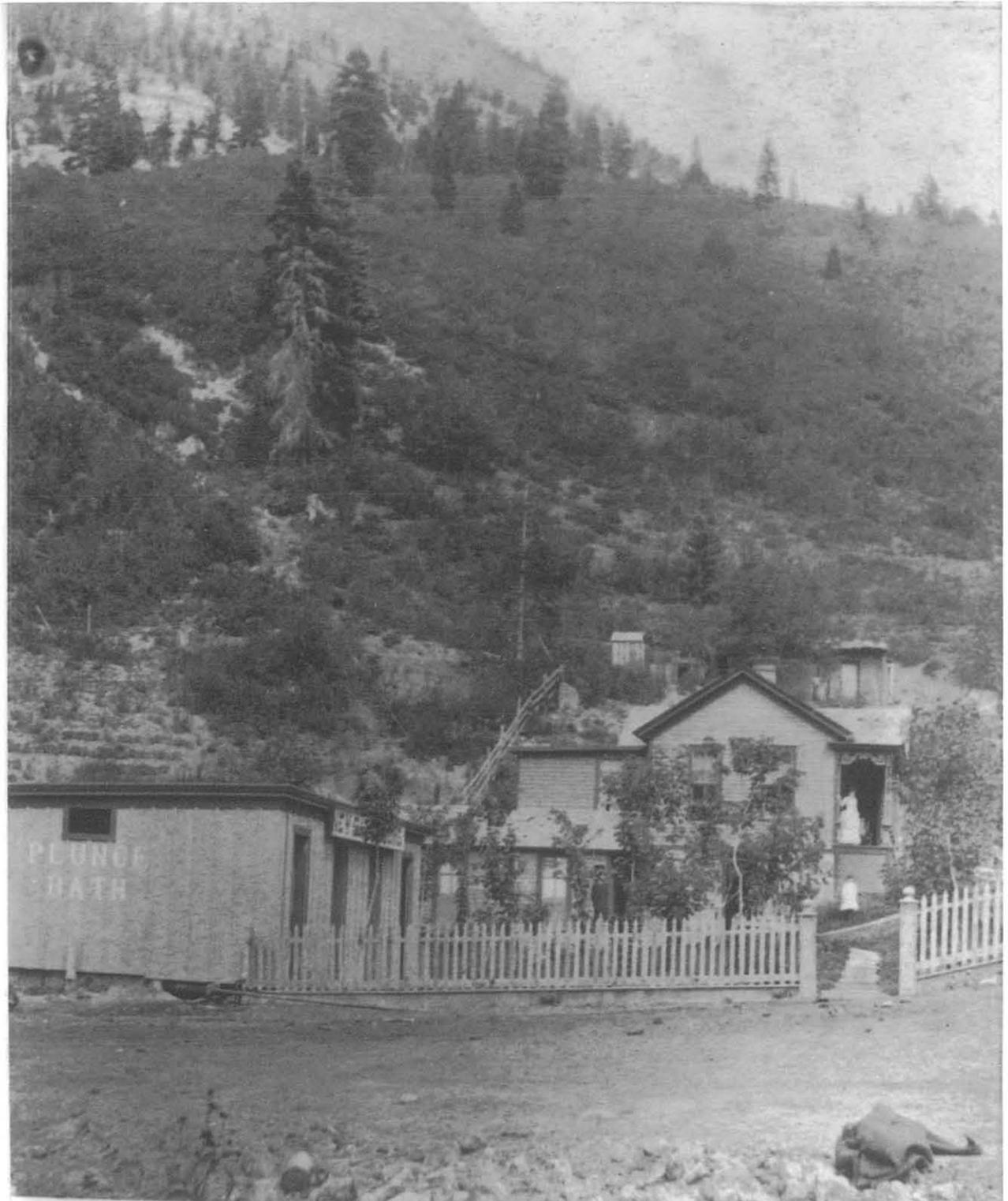




Figure 3

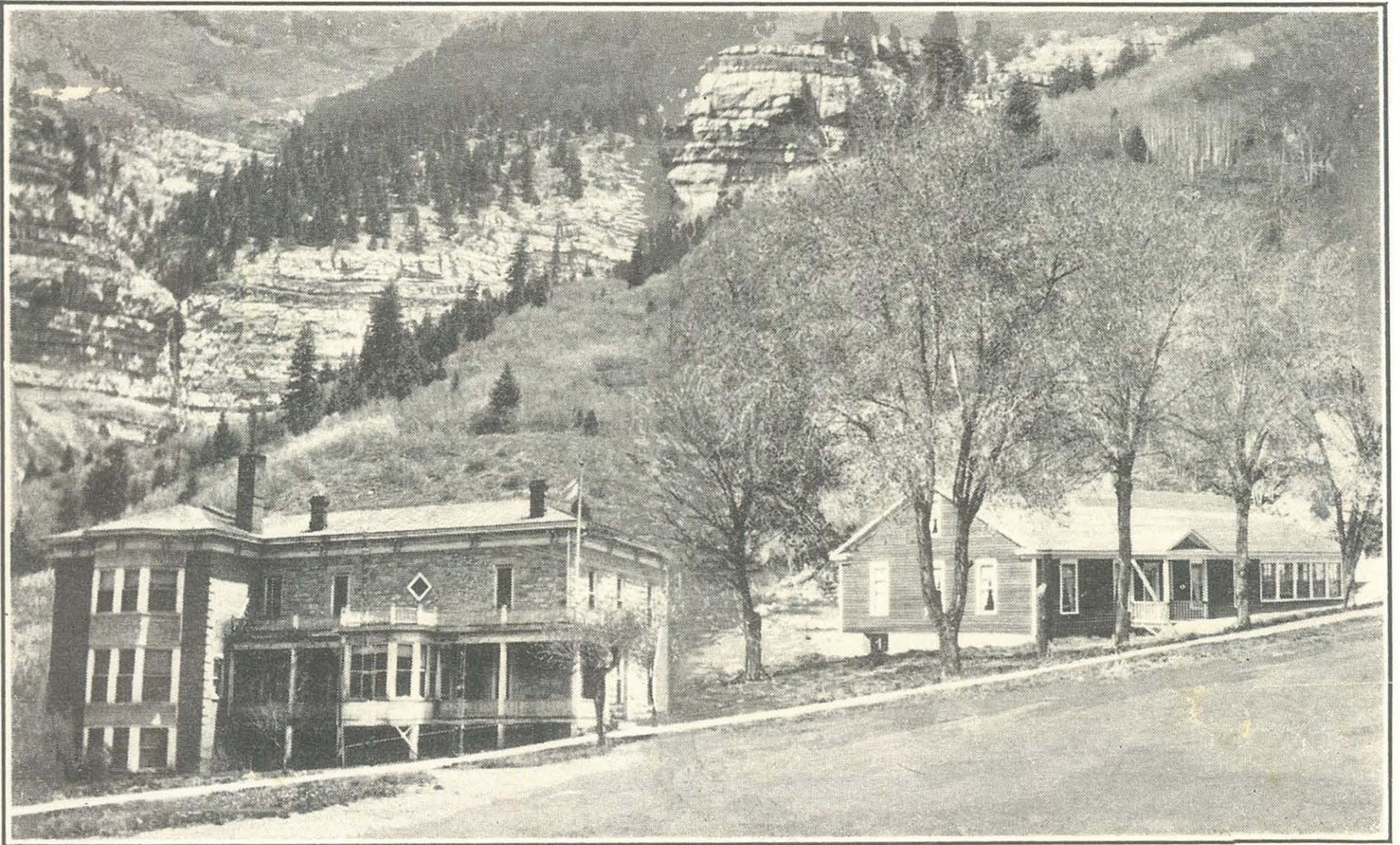


Figure 4

Radium Vapor Health Institute, Ouray, Colo.