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NATIONAL AND STATE REGISTER

Frisco-Bagley Mill

San Juan County

Constructed in 1912, the Frisco Mill is important for its distinctive architecture. The 150-ton ore concentration mill with its massive post and beam construction is an unusual example of a prefabricated industrial building. Its pieces were pre-cut, pre-fit, and coded with numbers and letters before being shipped to the site for assembly. This speeded and simplified the construction process on site. The Bagley Tunnel, excavated between 1904 and 1911, runs for nearly one and one-half miles and was one of the first examples of cross-cut tunneling in the area.



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Such a tunnel allowed several different veins to be mined simultaneously or individually to meet the needs of the mill. The tunnel is notable for its size, symmetry and straight northwesterly course through Houghton Mountain. The mill and tunnel were associated with hard rock mining in the upper Animas River drainage system of the San Juan Mining District. Although the project accessed the mineral veins near the town of Mineral Point, the community of Animas Forks ultimately benefited from the construction and operation of the tunnel and mill building. This property is associated with the [Historic Mining Resources of San Juan County](#) Multiple Property Submission.

**Frisco-Bagley Mill State Register
nomination, 5SA.165 (PDF)**

State Register

May 18, 2005

Address

820 County Rd. 9, Silverton vicinity

Site Number

5SA.165

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