

Annual Report 2017

Ken-Caryl Ranch Historical Society

The Ken-Caryl Ranch Historical Society (KCRHS) is a standing committee of the Ken-Caryl Ranch Master Association. There are 18 KCRHS members and this report summarizes their activities and accomplishments for 2017, and identifies the challenges and aspirations for the year ahead.

Leadership

At the start of the year the chairman of KCRHS was Rosemary Lewis. However, in May she resigned from the committee, and at a special meeting in June, Jim Antes was selected as chairman. We wish to thank Rose for her many years of service on the committee.

KCRHS decided to elect additional officers. Job descriptions of chairman, vice-chairman, treasurer, and secretary were approved, and Vinny Badolato, Marilyn Elrod, and Lois Claggett, respectively, were elected to the latter three offices.

Meetings

KCRHS met quarterly, at 2 PM on the 3rd Wednesdays of January, April, July, and October, as has been the practice for several years. At the October meeting we decided that in 2018 we will meet bi-monthly, for two main reasons: (1) the increased amount of business to discuss; and (2) the desire to discuss aspects of the history of Ken-Caryl Ranch as well as transact business. Because of schedules of members, the meeting times were changed to 1 PM on the 2nd Wednesdays of alternate months, beginning in January.

KCRHS Charter

At the July meeting, KCRHS proposed changes to its charter to more accurately reflect its work and sources of funding. At its August 15 meeting the Master Association Board of Directors approved the changes. The revised charter is appended to this report.

Accomplishments

KCRHS members volunteer to work on different projects or areas of responsibility. What follows is a list of accomplishments attained in 2017 on those projects, presented in alphabetical order of the project title.

1. Apple Orchard.
 - a. We took more cuttings from the trees for propagation of trees to replace those that died.
 - b. We performed clean-up activities at the orchard and nearby Bradford-Perley House.
 - c. A bench was purchased, inscribed to honor the Bradford and Perley families, which will be placed in the orchard in the spring.

2. Archaeology and Paleontology.
 - a. An interpretive sign describing the archaeology of Ken-Caryl Ranch was created and installed on the kiosk at the Bradford-Perley House.
 - b. Proposals on the topics of archaeological surveys and artifact collection were created and presented to the Open Space Committee.
 - c. Feedback was presented to the Open Space Committee on archaeological issues contained in the draft Open Space Management Plan.
 - d. A new display case was purchased for the Ranch House in which the archaeological story of the Ranch will be told, including display of artifacts found on the Ranch.
 - e. We approved a policy that we are only interested in storing archaeological artifacts from sites on Ken-Caryl Ranch property.
 - f. We contacted Matthew Mossbrucker, Director and Chief Curator of the Morrison Natural History Museum, who identified 3 fossils that had been found on KCR property and donated to KCRHS.
3. Archives.
 - a. All the materials from the previous archives location in the basement of the Ranch House have been successfully relocated to the new site on the first floor of the Ranch House.
 - b. A map filing case was donated to the archives by former KCRHS member Jo Hering.
4. Bradford-Perley House and Garden.
 - a. A new sign describing the history of the Bradford-Perley House was created and installed on the kiosk near the house.
 - b. The garden was maintained during the growing season.
 - c. We requested the help of the Metropolitan District's arborist to provide an assessment of the large cottonwood tree located on the north side of the house.
 - d. A boulder was moved from the north side of the house, outside the fence, to the front of the house, and the National Register plaque was installed on it. (Thanks to the Ranger staff for their help in moving the boulder.)
5. Equestrian Center National Register Nomination. We have begun the process of nominating the Equestrian Center for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. We achieved approval of the Master Association Board of Directors (representing the Master Association, which is the property owner) at their March meeting to pursue the nomination. To date, we have submitted the "Preliminary Property Evaluation" to the History Colorado Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, which is an early step in the process.
6. Field Trips.
 - a. Five members attended the Jefferson County Historical Commission's Historic Preservation Symposium in Evergreen in May.
 - b. Rangers Sean Warren and Peter Marozas led about eight members and guests on a July tour of the area around Little John's Chimney, which included in addition to the Chimney, a nearby well and cistern and the flagpole on Beacon Hill.

- c. Five members attended the Jefferson County Historical Commission's Hall of Fame event in October.
7. Possible Grave Site. There is a possible grave site in open space in the North Ranch. Its location has been documented and further investigation will occur.
8. iMovies. An ongoing KCRHS project is to create brief videos ("iMovies") about historical topics relating to Ken-Caryl Ranch. Once they are created the videos are posted on the KCR website and are available on YouTube. This year:
 - a. Two videos describing historic sites on the Ranch have been created, one involving sites near North Massey Draw and the other involving sites near the Bradford-Perley House.
 - b. Additional information has been obtained about former Ranch owner Joseph Minissale (see Oral Histories below) and the previously-developed video about him is in the process of being modified.
 - c. Resident Susan Schell created a brief video about the work done by KCRHS members Steve and Lori Kraft to repair the pump house that sits along North Massey Draw not far from the Equestrian Center. The video is accessible, along with the other iMovies, on the KCR website.
9. Kiln Stabilization. There are the remnants of an historic lime kiln on the east-facing slope of the Lyons Hogback. KCRHS has arranged for a professional assessment to be performed on it in 2018 to determine the feasibility of stabilizing it to limit further deterioration.
10. Open Space Committee Liaison. KCRHS has a liaison to the Open Space Committee (OSC) who attends every OSC meeting and answers questions and offers input relating to open space projects that have possible impact on historic sites. Two specific areas of feedback included recommendations against a new loop trail near Little John's Chimney and an Eagle Scout project locating a pergola near the Bradford-Perley House. Recommendations against both projects were based upon possible negative impacts on the historic sites.
11. Oral Histories. KCRHS was contacted by Patricia Haddad, granddaughter of former Ranch owner Joseph Minissale, because she had seen the brief video we had created about her grandfather. We have pursued contact with her in hopes of learning more about Minissale's life and, particularly, about the time he owned the Ranch in the 1940s.
12. Photography. One member has volunteered to document KCRHS events with photographs. The photos are being saved for the KCRHS archives.
13. Public Programs, Publicity, and Communication.
 - a. On April 6, KCRHS sponsored a presentation by Michael Schaub on the Rocky Mountain Fur Trade. About 50 people attended. This was promoted in the March 8, March 22, and April 5 issues of *Life at Ken-Caryl*.
 - b. An article in the May 3 issue of *Life at Ken-Caryl* described the April 6 presentation and other KCRHS activities.
 - c. The May 17 issue of *Life at Ken-Caryl* contained an article about the Bradford apple orchard.

- d. On June 1 a presentation on the Bradford-Perley House and the Manor House was given to a seniors group at Faith Community Church.
 - e. The June 14 issue of *Life at Ken-Caryl* included a story describing brief videos about the history of Ken-Caryl Ranch that were created by 2nd graders at Bradford K-8 School.
 - f. In the August 9 issue of *Life at Ken-Caryl* was a story about two new interpretive signs on the kiosk near the Bradford-Perley House, one about the history of the house and the other about prehistoric peoples who lived in the area.
 - g. The August 23 issue of *Life at Ken-Caryl* had an article about the KCRHS iMovie describing historic sites near North Massey Draw.
 - h. There was a brief story in the November 15 issue of *Life at Ken-Caryl* relating to the vandalism that has occurred to signs that portray the history of Ken-Caryl Ranch. Readers were asked if the portrayal of the history may have led to the vandalism.
 - i. The December 27 edition of *Life at Ken-Caryl* included a story describing two new historical videos, one telling about historical sites near the Bradford-Perley House and the other relating the work done to repair the pump house on North Massey Draw.
 - j. We arranged to post the KCRHS meeting agendas and minutes on the KCR website.
14. Interpretive Signs.
- a. A new sign was created and installed at the entrance to the Bridlegate neighborhood. This replaces the prior sign, which was badly weathered.
 - b. The Ranger staff invited us to help in the design of replacement signs at Little John's Chimney and the Flagpole on Beacon Hill. Those news signs have been installed.
 - c. Two new signs have been installed on the kiosk at the Bradford-Perley House, one chronicling the history of the house and the other describing the prehistoric people who lived in the area.
 - d. We are in the process of photographically documenting historic sites on the Ranch and taking gps coordinates.
15. Tours.
- a. On February 26 Cub Scouts from Ute Meadows School were given a tour of the Bradford-Perley House.
 - b. Second graders from Bradford K-8 School were given tours of the Bradford-Perley House on May 3rd. This was preceded on a prior day by a presentation on the settlement history of the area.
 - c. In October two tours were given of the Bradford-Perley House and historic sites Bradford II and Bradford III to members of a Highlands Ranch church.

Budget Summary

Project	Income	Expense	Total
2017 Budget			\$7,000.00
Donation	\$100.00		
Apple orchard		\$681.05	
Archaeology and Paleontology		\$674.70	
Bradford-Perley House		\$325.00	
Equestrian Center nomination		\$42.93	
iMovies		\$50.00	
Name badges		\$103.39	
Photography		\$43.05	
Pump House		\$35.43	
Signs		\$335.46	
TOTALS	\$100.00	\$2,291.01	\$4,808.99
Requested to be held in reserve for Kiln assessment in 2018		\$4,600.00	
Returned to Master Association			\$208.99

A Word of Thanks

It is important to recognize the support afforded KCRHS by members of Ken-Caryl Ranch staff, residents of the community, and professionals in the area who have offered their expertise. More specifically, we offer a heartfelt thank you to:

- Chris Pacetti, Executive Director of the Master Association, for his support of our work, and wise and timely responses to our questions.
- Victoria DeSair, Communications Director, for her readiness to help us communicate the results of our work to the community.
- Open Space Manager Sean Warren, Ranger Peter Marozas, and other Ranger staff for being so willing to help us on a variety of projects, and for being so aware of the importance of historic sites on the Ranch and ready to consult KCRHS when these sites might be impacted.
- Members of the Open Space Committee and Master Association Board of Directors for their willingness to listen to our interests and concerns and respond with sensitivity.
- Matthew Mossbrucker, Director and Chief Curator of the Morrison Natural History Museum, for being willing to identify fossils that had been donated to KCRHS.
- Michael Schaub, for his informative public presentation about fur trading in the region.

Looking Ahead

KCRHS members are an energetic and committed group of volunteers who have accomplished much during 2017. As indicated above there are many projects underway that require sustained attention. The number of projects, combined with an interest in sharing knowledge with each other about the history of the Ranch, put a strain on our practice of meeting quarterly for two hours. Consequently, as mentioned above, during 2018 we will meet bimonthly, with some of the meetings focused more on sharing knowledge about Ranch history and other meetings dedicated to reporting and decision-making about projects.

In 2017 project coordinators established goals to be accomplished during the year. We will be reporting on those goals in January of 2018, and also undertake establishing new goals.

We look forward to the coming year with enthusiasm as we work to study the rich history of Ken-Caryl Ranch and share that history with the community.

Respectfully submitted,
Jim Antes
Chairman, KCRHS

**Charter of the Ken-Caryl Ranch Historical Society
(Revised, August 2017)**

Purpose

The purpose of the Ken-Caryl Ranch Historical Society, hereafter referred to as the KCRHS, is to promote the study of and appreciation for the history of Ken-Caryl Ranch (KCR), to promote awareness and appreciation for the historical and archaeological sites on KCR, and to protect and preserve these sites.

Organization

The KCRHS is a standing committee of the Ken-Caryl Ranch Master Association (KCRMA).

The KCRHS membership shall consist of residents of the KCR interested in supporting the purpose of the KCRHS. Membership is open to members of adjoining communities who demonstrate they share the purpose of KCRHS.

The members of the KCRHS shall elect a Chairman. The Chairman is responsible to the KCRMA BOD. The KCRMA BOD will appoint a BOD member to serve as the liaison to the KCRHS.

Function

The KCRHS shall be responsible for historical program planning and implementation. Programs could include, but not be limited to, documenting and researching KCR history; documenting, researching, preserving, and restoring KCR historical and archaeological structures and sites; informing the public about KCR history and archaeology through public programs, publications, and tours; and maintaining an archive of historical/archaeological documents, photos, and artifacts. Annual funding is provided by the KCRMA BOD, and the KCRHS may seek additional funding from the KCRMA BOD and from other sources.

The KCRHS shall work with the various organizations associated with the KCR, including the KCR Metropolitan District, the KCR Foundation, other standing committees of the KCRMA, and sub-associations to the KCRMA.

The KCRHS shall establish and maintain a close relationship with History Colorado (Colorado Historical Society), Jefferson County Historical Commission, Colorado Preservation, Inc., and other relevant historical organizations.