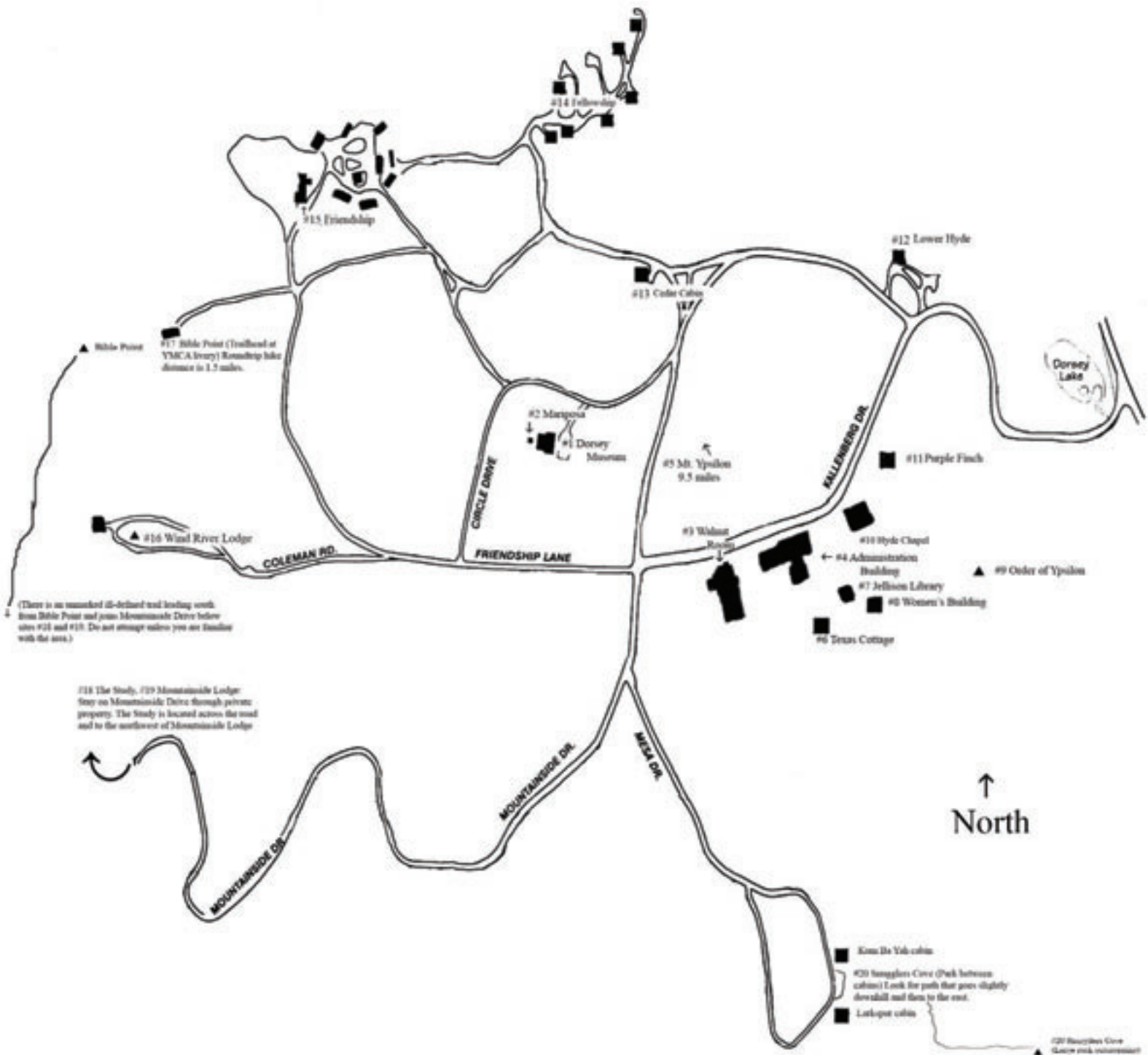


*A Trail Through Time -
A Self-Guided Historical Tour
of the
Estes Park Center*



Published by the Lula W. Dorsey Museum



General Information

We invite you to take this self-guided tour of historical places at the Estes Park Center. A tour of sites in the central campus (sites 1-16) is suitable for all ages. They are located along roads and sidewalks. You should allow about three hours for this shortened walk. The walk to all twenty sites is an enjoyable all-day outing perfect for getting acclimated to our high altitude. **During your tour, be aware that some of these buildings are guest accommodations and group meeting space. Please respect their privacy.**

You will find the ultraviolet light is much more intense than at lower elevations. Be sure to wear a hat and use sun screen. Take along some water to stay hydrated, which will help prevent altitude sickness. Walking also makes you hungry, so bring along a snack or picnic lunch. Binoculars, flower books, etcetera will add to your enjoyment.

The historic markers and this booklet were paid for by patrons of the Lula W. Dorsey Museum. To learn more about the history of the YMCA of the Rockies, purchase a copy of *YMCA of the Rockies - Reflections, Traditions and Vision* available at the Dorsey Museum and the General Store.

*Trail Through Time - Historical Tour
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#1 Lula W. Dorsey Museum: In 1924, the YMCA embarked on a major expansion of its facilities. This included an addition to the Wind River Lodge. When plans were announced to demolish the Lodge in 1977 to make way for the Ruesch Auditorium, Lula W. Dorsey contributed funds to save the 1924 portion of the Lodge for use as a museum. The museum was dedicated on July 29, 1979 and sits on the site of the 1908 and 1909 YMCA encampments.

#2 Mariposa Cabin: In 1905, the Estes Park Land and Investment Company expanded the Wind River Lodge resort by constructing additional tourist cottages. Mariposa was built from trees felled on the property and scrap lumber. The gable above the door has a distinctive Western Stick architectural style.

Mariposa was moved along with the Wind River Lodge to the corner of Kallenberg and Mountainside Drive in 1910. For the next six decades it served a variety of functions including: staff housing, barber and beauty shop, first aid station and museum. In 1977, it was moved to its present location behind the Lula W. Dorsey Museum.

#3 Dining Hall/Walnut Room: In 1909, co-founder of the YMCA of the Rockies Bruno Hobbs tragically drowned in Silver Bay, New York. The Estes Park Board of Directors resolved to raise \$20,000 for the Bruno Hobbs Memorial Auditorium. In the spring of 1911 with only \$2,500 in hand, they authorized construction of a hastily built gymnasium that became the core structure of the Walnut Room.



The gymnasium was converted into a Dining Hall in 1912. The "storm of the century" struck the Rocky Mountains in December of 1913, dumping seven feet of snow on Estes Park. The Dining Hall's roof and west wall collapsed. It was rebuilt in time for the summer of 1913.

The building was renamed the Walnut Room in the late 1940s. In the early 1950s, the Walnut Room's basement housed the craft shop and art studio. When the craft shop moved to the Longhouse, the space became a beauty shop.

In March 2003, another "storm of the century" struck Estes Park. At the YMCA, almost five feet of wet snow fell. A year later during a remodeling of the Walnut Room, cracked rafters indicated that the building nearly collapsed a second time.

#4 Dining and Social Hall/Administration Building: Original plans in 1909 called for a social hall and a separate dining hall. Economic reality forced the YMCA to combine the two.

The Y employed noted Colorado Springs architect Thomas P. Barber to design the building. He incorporated a popular style of architecture known as Western Stick. It employed a large sloping roof and a big porch. Large windows brought the majestic landscape inside the building. Details and decorations included balustrades and porch posts constructed of tree trunks and gables with stick latticework.

On March 17, 1910, the YMCA executed a contract for \$8,700 to construct the Dining and Social Hall. The dual purpose building quickly proved woefully inadequate. In 1912, the YMCA opened a separate dining hall and remodeled the Dining



and Social Hall into the Administration Building. A bathhouse was added to the back of the building in 1924. Three years later, the present interior pine support posts were added along with numerous taxi-dermy mounts.

With the post World War II Baby Boom in full swing, the Administration Building received a major renovation and addition in 1949. At that time, the knotty pine paneling was put up in the main room, and the Rustic Room was added onto the west end of the building. The Ad Building was winterized in 1977.

In 1993, the Ad Building received its last renovation. The old Rustic Room was demolished and a new west wing was added housing the General Store and restrooms. The remodeled building was rededicated on July 27, 1994. The project went smoothly except for one critical error. Without the Rustic Room, guests had no place to gather for ice cream. Guests raised such a ruckus that management opened the Rustic Café in 1995. The genius of Thomas P. Barber's 1910 design is still evident in the inviting porch facing the Mummy Range and the comfortable lounge recalling an earlier time.

#5 Mt. Ypsilon: This 13,514 foot peak dominates the view from the Administration Building porch. During the summer months, two ice-filled couloirs in the glaciated face of Mt. Ypsilon clearly spell out the letter Y. In 1887, the famous Colorado mountaineer Frederick P. Chapin and his wife were fishing on the banks of Wind River when she noticed the mountain's distinctive face. She told her husband, "Its name shall be Ypsilon Peak."

When the founders of the YMCA of the Rockies came to Estes Park, they could not have helped but notice the letter Y carved into its face. Lore has it that they said it was a sign from God that they should establish the YMCA under the countenance of this lofty peak.



#6 Texas Cottage: The lack of adequate meeting space plagued the YMCA Summer School from the outset. To resolve this issue, local YMCA Associations in Texas, Oklahoma, Nebraska, Arkansas, Kansas, and Colorado were asked to contribute funds to build classroom space.

In 1927, Henry Dorsey Sr. learned of the YMCA's need for classroom space. He felt the name "Texas," previously carried by one of the small meeting rooms, did not befit the great state of Texas. Consequently, he donated funds to build the biggest and best classroom space on the grounds, the Texas Cottage.

#7 Maude Jellison Library: The first library at the Estes Park Center was primarily comprised of a collection of YMCA publications and religious reference materials associated with the Summer School. In the mid-1920s, the Summer School library shared the building that housed the old Association Camp Post Office. When the Summer School failed as a result of the Great Depression, the library was discontinued.

During the ensuing decades, an informal lending library was started utilizing books on loan from the Colorado State Library. Without a central location, the books were scattered about in various locations.

In the early 1960s, management saw the need for a consolidated library. The Maude Jellison Library was opened in July 1964. YMCA summer staff Grace Penny assumed duties as librarian in 1970. Over the next twelve years, she and her staff transformed the library into an institution that rivaled many small-town libraries. Today the library contains 20,000 books.

#8 Women's Building: In the early days, wives of YMCA executives attending the Summer School established a Women's Institute. With meeting space at a premium, the wives were relegated to meeting in a corner of the noisy Administration Building.

In 1921, the Women's Auxiliary began raising funds to build their own building. Completed in 1924, the Women's Building was described as having "a large attractive stone fireplace, a grand piano, rustic furniture, heads and skins of wild animals and Indian rugs ..."



It was natural for the Women's Building and Auxiliary to become the focal point for child care and programming. By 1926, children were openly welcomed by the Conference. One publication stated, "bring them along ... nothing can possibly be finer for the children than two weeks in the mountains ..." The publication indicated there were limits stating, "Children are not expected nor permitted to run wild."

After struggling through the Great Depression, the Women's Auxiliary disbanded in August 1937. Today, the YMCA of the Rockies has the oldest continuously operated YMCA day camp in America.

#9 Order of Ypsilon: This spot commemorates the Order of Ypsilon founded by the YMCA Physical School at the Estes Park Center. Established by Dr. John Fuhrer, Walter J. Hakanson, Dr. Henry Kallenberg and faculty members of George Williams College, the Order's purpose was to help each member to renew hope and faith in their YMCA career.

The name was selected because of Mt. Ypsilon's symbolic meaning to the YMCA of the Rockies and the Y Movement. Initiation into the Order included reciting a pledge from memory, saying a prayer while kneeling on the concrete monument and placing a rock on the Pyramid of Fellowship. Over the years, the Order grew as new members were initiated.

On September 18, 2000, a group of forty men and women gathered at the YMCA of the Rockies to rededicate the site during a conference of North American Federation of YMCA Retirees.

#10 Assembly Hall/Hyde Chapel: In 1913, the YMCA built the Assembly Hall in conjunction with the Summer School. It served multiple uses including classroom, conference meeting space and program uses. On Sunday it became the Camp church. In 1918, the wings were added to the east and west sides of the building increasing its capacity by fifty percent.



During the winter and spring of 1956, the Assembly Hall received a major renovation that included a new chancel and bell tower. Henry Dorsey Jr. added his own touch by purchasing an antique school bell which he named "Duke." Renamed Hyde Memorial, the building continued to serve a multitude of uses including religious activities. In 1957, the Dannen Chapel was dedicated in memory of H.L. Dannen.

In 1994, the YMCA of the Rockies established a full-time chaplaincy program. Reverend Bill Huth set a goal to renovate Hyde Memorial and limit its use to religious activities and chaplaincy sponsored programs. Begun in November 1999, the renovation included new siding, insulation, windows and mechanical systems. The project was sufficiently completed in time for a June 2000 opening. The building was then rededicated and renamed Hyde Chapel.

#11 Purple Finch: Built circa 1905 by the Estes Park Land and Investment Company as tourist accommodations, it was originally located just above the present Coleman cabin. Designed in an artistic Western Stick architectural style, the cabin had porch posts and balustrades constructed from trees with the branches still attached. The cabin was sided and roofed with rough hewn slabs of pine with the bark intact.

The cabin was moved to its present location just east of Hyde Chapel in the spring of 1910. It served as the administrative offices for the YMCA in 1910 and 1911. In the spring of 1912, the Dining and Social Hall was remodeled to include administrative offices.

The cabin was then named Spruce and became staff and guest accommodations. Sometime during the early 1950s Spruce was renamed Purple Finch. In 1983, it converted to conference meeting space.

#12 Lower Hyde: A.A. Hyde experimented with menthol, Petrolatum, camphor and eucalyptus, eventually formulating Mentholatum. By 1898, the Mentholatum Company made Hyde tremendously affluent.



Order of Ypsilon watch fob.





Determined not to let the acquisition of wealth ruin his life, he began giving away up to 90% of his yearly income without regard to race, religion or nationality.

Hyde supported the YMCA by enthusiastically contributing to fund raising projects. To recognize Hyde's generosity, he was given the opportunity to purchase five acres at the entrance of the Y. In 1910 he built Lower Hyde. It became a gathering place not only for Hyde's family but for the many luminaries of the day who came to teach at the YMCA Summer School.

Hyde's greatest contribution came in 1934 when he purchased the Y's mortgage, preventing foreclosure. He asked neither how nor when he would be repaid.

Lower Hyde was inherited by Friends University and used for faculty retreats. In 1945, the YMCA purchased Lower Hyde and companion cabins. After the grounds were winterized in the 1950s, the cabin

became the Program Director's residence and the Camp's winter administration building. It is now guest accommodations.

#13 Cedar Cabin: This cabin, like Mariposa and Purple Finch cabins, was built as a part of the Wind River Lodge expansion in 1905. It is the only one of the Lodge buildings still in its original location. During the 1908 and 1909 YMCA encampments, it served as the cook's cabin. After the YMCA purchased the property in 1909, Cedar Cabin became conference accommodations for the YMCA Summer School. Sometime later it was remodeled into a family housekeeping cabin which it remains today.



#14 Fellowship Community House and cabins: A.A. Hyde believed that every person should have the opportunity to take advantage of the YMCA's inspirational and recreational opportunities. In 1921, he purchased seventy-eight acres and constructed Fellowship Community House. It had a communal living room and manager's quarters. Hyde also built six sleeping cabins: Onyx, Agate, Granite, Crystal, Quartz and Mica. Tent campers were welcome to use Fellowship Park for \$.50 per day. Everyone was welcome without regard to race or creed.



Rules were simple: use approved camp sites; build fires in designated spots; do not harass animals; do not pick flowers; conserve water; clean up after yourself; respect the environment, and fellow campers. Each day was closed by prayer in

Fellowship House at 9:00 p.m. The Fellowship Community was disbanded during the Great Depression, and facilities were converted to general guest accommodations.

#15 House of Friendship: Due to the success of Fellowship, A.A. Hyde built the House of Friendship in 1926. Like Fellowship, a large community house was the center of activities where communal cooking, eating and childcare took place. Campers pitched their tents to the south of Friendship.

With the growing affluence of the 1920s and affordable automobiles and improved roads, Americans saw cars as a means of recreational travel. Hyde capitalized on that trend by building two duplex cabins at Friendship. The cabins had sheltered parking for two automobiles in the center with a sleeping room at each end. Each room was equipped with a bed and gas burners for cooking. Campers were required to provide their own bedding and cooking utensils. There was also a campground for auto tourists.



#16 Site of the original Wind River Lodge: About 1900, Denver entrepreneur Guy Robert LaCoste homesteaded 360 acres that comprises the core campus of the Estes Park Center. He incorporated the Estes



Park Land and Investment Company in December 1901 and opened the Wind River Lodge in 1902.

In 1910, the YMCA moved the Lodge from this location to the corner of Kallenberg and Mountainside Drive. It was demolished in 1977 to make way for the Ruesch Auditorium.

In 1907, Guy LaCoste sold his interest in the Wind River Lodge. He continued his newspaper career and became involved in politics. He left Colorado for Salt Lake City after his involvement in the Ludlow Massacre in April 1914. He died destitute in 1934 after losing his fortune during the Great Depression. In 2002, his ashes were repatriated to this

site by the Lula W. Dorsey Museum with cooperation from his family.

Special Information for Sites 17, 18 and 19

Bible Point (#17) is a steep but short climb. The view is spectacular in all directions. This is a perfect place for a picnic. Please descend via the trail you came up. There is a trail that leads down and eastward from Bible Point. Do not use it since it crosses private property.

There is a faint unmarked trail leading south from Bible Point that will connect you with sites 18 and 19. If you are going to attempt to take this trail, be aware that while it is not difficult, it is easy to become disoriented. To find the trail, descend south to a saddle between Bible Point and the next "peak." Climb up a steep slope and join a road that will lead you to Mountainside Drive just below two stone pillars that mark the entrance to the Mountainside Lodge area.

A note about The John Timothy Stone Mountainside Christian Faith and Life Center: Please be especially respectful of YMCA members using this area. It is rented for weddings, receptions, conferences and family reunions. Please respect their privacy. Do not use the pavilion for your picnic or ask to go inside Mountainside Lodge.

The Study (#18) is located below the Lodge but is not visible from the road. Look for a small parking area to your right (west). The stone chimney is visible from the parking area. If you are driving, park there. If not in use by others, The Study has an especially beautiful view of Longs Peak and the Front Range and is perfect for a picnic.

#17 Bible Point: Other than Mt. Ypsilon, no other physical feature is more closely tied to the YMCA than Bible Point. Originally known as Buena Vista, the name was changed to Bible Point as a result of the tragic death of Edwin Bradt.

At age 12, Edwin spent a year with his family visiting missionaries in world famous places. He made his first visit to Estes Park in 1914. The adventuresome young man climbed several mountains, including Longs Peak. Returning to Estes Park in 1916, Edwin attended the YMCA Student Conference.

In June 1918, Edwin Bradt and a college friend left Chicago for Seattle to attend the wedding of Bradt's brother. In Nebraska, Edwin was killed in an automobile accident. At his father's request, the body was taken to the Estes Park Center



Near the grave, the Bradt family placed a mailbox containing a Bible and register for hikers. Over the years, the old name gradually faded away and was replaced with Bible Point. When visiting the site, it is traditional to place a cone from a nearby conifer on the grave.

#18 The Study: John Timothy Stone came to Estes Park in 1909 to speak at the Rocky Mountain YMCA Student Conference. About 1915, he built a log and stone cabin overlooking Glacier Basin and the Front Range. Simply named The Study, Dr. Stone used this place as a getaway from his busy life as minister at the Fourth Presbyterian Church of Chicago. At

The Study, he wrote numerous books, articles and sermons finding inspiration where men and mountains meet.

During the construction of Mountainside Lodge in 1919 and 1920, The Study served a dual purpose. By day it was a school for the construction foreman's children. At night, workers used it as a bunkhouse.

From 1935 to 1939, The Study and Mountainside were leased by Bertha Allsesbrook and operated as the Allesbrook Camp for Girls. In 1935, a spark from The Study's fireplace ignited a polar bear rug. Mrs. Allsebrook's wedding ring was lost in the fire and remained so despite a diligent search. As the decades passed, the diamond grew in size and importance until it reached gargantuan proportions in the minds of those telling the story, but as her daughter recalled, "The diamond was really quite small."

#19 John Timothy Stone's Mountainside Lodge: In late 1918 or early 1919, John Timothy Stone selected a large rock outcropping of native granite just east of his Study on which to build a summer home. He employed George Wiard as the construction foreman who moved his family on site.

Wiard hired stone mason Norman "Fogie" Fogelstadt who selected native gneiss from Emerald Mountain. The stone arch and fireplace in the living room are the work of this master stone mason. Likewise, logs for the lodge were harvested from the slopes of Emerald Mountain. Only doors, windows and flooring were purchased; everything else was milled on site.

Ready for the summer of 1920, the Lodge was a summer home for the Stone family and a gathering place for multitudes of friends, Presbyterian clergy and members of Fourth Presbyterian Church in Chicago. Mountainside quickly became a spiritual and social hub of the Y-Camp.

In 1924, Dr. Stone sold Mountainside Lodge and adjacent buildings to Benjamin Page, who converted the Lodge into a commercial hotel with the addition of a dining room. He also built a bunkhouse across the road from the Lodge and two cabins east of Mountainside. Though the Lodge passed through numerous owners during the ensuing decades, it remained essentially unchanged.

In 1956, the YMCA purchased the Lodge, 53 surrounding acres and five additional cabins for \$38,000. Within a short period, Mountainside Lodge was booked three years in advance for family reunions, conferences and church retreats.

Mountainside Lodge was closed to overnight use in September 1994. The Lodge was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2000. Shortly after Kent Meyer became President/CEO in November 2001, he assembled a team of Y staff to formulate a rehabilitation plan for Mountainside Lodge.

In January 2004, the Colorado State Historic Fund awarded a \$246,000 grant representing almost 45% of Mountainside Lodge's rehabilitation cost. On July 14, 2007, the John Timothy Stone Mountainside Christian Faith and Life Center was dedicated.

#20 Snuggler's Cove: In April 1995, a teacher accompanying an outdoor education group found a broken projectile point near this rock outcropping above Wind River. The Lula W. Dorsey Museum partnered with the University of Northern Colorado (UNC) and the Indian Peaks Chapter of the Colorado Archaeological Society (CAS) to conduct a professional investigation of the site.

An April 1996, surface collection and excavation yielded numerous artifacts. Projectile points and fragments provided diagnostic dates of 2000 to 4000 B.C. and 100 to 1400 A.D.

A similar site nearby was discovered by Dorsey Museum Director Jack Melton. A formal excavation yielded three carbon 14 dates. The top cultural layer that contained two projectile points, ceramics and other artifacts was dated 690 to 890 A.D. The next cultural unit was dated 550 to 660 A.D. The bottom level was dated at 265 to 290 A.D. Diagnostic dating of additional artifacts was 2000 to 4000 B.C. A trained eye can usually find some flakes from tool making. While the YMCA can not prevent you from removing these items, we ask that you leave them where they are.

Snuggler's Cove and adjacent sites were used during the fall and spring by small bands of Native Americans during their annual migrations in search for food. This site is culturally related to the Native American game drive complexes located on Flattop Mountain and Hidden Valley.

The earliest visitors to Snuggler's Cove were most likely the ancestors of the modern day Ute. Later inhabitants were probably Arapahoe.

