



Englewood Historic Preservation Society

Preserving Englewood Colorado History

NEWSLETTER VOL.5 NO 12 AUGUST 2017
EHPS ~ 1000 Englewood Parkway ~ Englewood, Colorado 80110

Doug Cohn & Dave Paschal - Editors
Lindsey Runyan - Graphic Design

Upcoming Events

August 13th - Sunday

Join EHPS and David Forsyth in touring Lakeside Amusement Park from 5:00-7:00 pm. Get an insider tour of the Park from a historic researcher's perspective. Please RSVP to CJ Cullinan at 720-556-6770 by July 31st. Bus transport for a fee or carpool will be arranged. Entrance fee is \$3. If you are into the rides, plan to drive separately. There are \$25 unlimited ride tickets or \$.50 coupons available for individual rides that will require 1-6 coupons depending on your ride choice.

EHPS LECTURE SERIES:

All lectures, unless otherwise noted take place the last Monday of the month at 2 locations. **FIRST:** 2:30 pm at the Englewood Public Library. **SECOND:** 6:30 pm at the BOB, Brew on Broadway, 3445 S. Broadway.

August 28th - Monday

General Iron Works, Part Two with Roger Kinney.

September 25th - Monday

Englewood Speedway - Richard Burton

October 7th - Saturday

History Camp Colorado, see back page

October 30th - Monday

Where Waters Converge; Part Two with Jack Maness.

ANNUAL Meeting

EHPS held our annual meeting at the Twin Dragon Restaurant on July 15th. Elections were held for officers. Paul Skizinski was elected Vice President, CJ Cullinan was elected Secretary, Pat Lamoe and Lindsey Runyan elected as Board Members. We reviewed the financial statements and 2018 budget. We are short of our projections because of a shortfall of membership renewals this past year. Please renew your membership today! Your contributions help us to continue our mission and to keep providing our members and the public with amazing programming. We want to thank so many of you for all the generous donations we've received both monetary and in precious historical artifacts! Your support is greatly appreciated! Thank you!

SPECIAL Thank You!

NEW & RENEWING MEMBERS

MELINDA ELSWICK

Thank you for your support and for helping us to continue our mission!

Contact Us:

HistoricEnglewood.org
contact@historicenglewood.org

303-242-3257

Please like us on facebook!

OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Matt Crabtree
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Doug Cohn
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Englewood Historic Preservation Society Mission

To Preserve and share Englewood's history.

DID YOU KNOW? The Englewood City Ditch



The gold rush started here in Englewood in the summer of 1858. Within a year, 100,000 people had flooded into the Denver area. They started businesses and planted farms. Denver was a dry and dusty place. Water was needed on the flat lands above the river. That was the reason for the ditch. It originally went by several names: Big Ditch, Platte Ditch, Platte Canal or Smith's Ditch, but was renamed City Ditch by 1882.

It begun in 1860 by the Capital Hydraulic Company, but was laid out without sufficient drop, and work stopped in 1861. Denver businessman John W. Smith revived the project, working with surveyor Richard S. Little (for whom Littleton is named). Little and his wife homesteaded on a 120-acre tract lying on the South Platte River seven miles south of Denver.

Smith and Little relocated the ditch headgate and enlarged its channel. When they finished in 1867, the ditch was more than twenty miles long and able to irrigate thousands of acres of benchland (ranchland? Farms? Or define benchlands?) becoming an early demonstration that Colorado agriculture could extend beyond the river bottoms. In order to water benchlands above a river valley, a canal needed to leave the stream above the land to be irrigated,



often many miles upstream.

John Smith owned a large farm where Washington Park is now. Smith Lake is named for him. The ditch was used to irrigate his farm. It supplied water to Capitol Hill and eventually to Denver City Park. Dug entirely by hand, the completed ditch was more than 27 miles long.

The City Ditch was called an engineering marvel for its use of gravity alone to carry water from the Platte River northward, and became a hub for off shoot ditches that attracted newcomers and broadened the "greening" for miles to the west and east.

The City Ditch in the Denver area is one of more than 20,000 irrigation ditches and canals in Colorado. Only a few are as old as City Ditch. The ditch originates where Chatfield Reservoir is now and carries the waters of the South Platte River through Englewood and Denver. It fills the two lakes in Washington Park in Denver, and then makes its way to fill the lake in City Park.

Little and partner John G. Lilley went on to establish the Rough and Ready Mill in 1867 to process grain from South Platte River Valley Ranches. Seven and a half miles of the ditch are in Englewood. ~ Doug Cohn

KEY SAVINGS B-DAY

In 1967, a new Savings & Loan building opened on South Broadway during a period of unprecedented growth and prosperity in Englewood. The work of architect Charles Deaton, it was an exciting experiment in futurist design. Today, the former Key Savings remains a prominent and beloved landmark, defining downtown Englewood to the entire Denver Metro area. Last year, it was formally listed as a National, Colorado and Englewood historic landmark. Situated at a scenic location along the beautiful Little Dry Creek Greenway, Key Savings is now the centerpiece of a new generation of downtown redevelopment.

EHPS is joining with Community Banks of Colorado (the current owner of the Key Savings building), the Museum of Outdoor Arts (MOA) and the Englewood Chamber of Commerce, among others, to celebrate the 50th birthday of Key Savings.

On Thursday, September 7, the historic bank will be open to visitors and well-wishers, who are then invited to take the Art Shuttle to Englewood City Hall, where the Museum of Outdoor Arts is featuring the exhibit "Charles Deaton: The Sculptured Buildings." The event includes a new MOA video presentation in which Deaton discusses his design of Key Savings, his own house above I-70 in Genesee and the former Wyoming State Bank in Casper.

Please plan to attend! If you'd like to assist with the event, please call CJ Cullinan to volunteer.

DUES Are Due!

*Please renew your membership
in our society!*

*You can use the form in this
newsletter or go to our website*

THANK YOU!

OTHER EHPS NEWS

The first Englewood Historic Preservation Commission members were confirmed at the City Council meeting on July 17! Their first meeting is August 16.

We received a donation of papers and artifacts from the Altenbach family. If anyone can help us put together the Altenbach story, we would like your help! We have the opportunity to place some historic stories and pictures in the Altenbach and Anderson rooms in the library.

We have an opportunity to help create a museum display in the new Police building. We have been invited to help tell the history of the police department in Englewood. There will be a museum wall in the main waiting area. If you have information or would be willing to share any stories or artifacts, please contact us.

We are creating a walking/driving tour brochure to introduce everyone to the

history of our city. We are currently creating a list of historic locations. Please give us ideas on special places.

We have had a number of people contact us asking questions about how to find out the history of their homes and neighborhoods. Those who have been around for a while could really help us. Do you remember the Whitaker farm



history camp

COLORADO 2017

SPEND A SATURDAY WITH SOME OF THE MOST INTERESTING PEOPLE IN HISTORY.

GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO PRESENT & TO
ENGAGE WITH HISTORY PROFESSIONALS
AS WELL AS ARDENT AMATEURS.

10.07.17

on the
campus of


RED ROCKS
COMMUNITY COLLEGE



FIND OUT MORE AT

HISTORYCAMP.ORG/COLORADO

I had a great time at History Camp Colorado. I very much enjoyed meeting so many history enthusiasts and learning about a diversity of history topics.

Steve Friesen, Director,
Buffalo Bill Museum and
Grave

What a fun time! The format was unique having passionate people talk about specific subjects whether or not they were history teachers. The amateurs did well as did the professionals. I am already making plans to attend the next one.

Doug Cohn, Englewood Historic
Preservation Society

WHAT WILL YOU Discover?

Join Us! IN A HISTORY MAKING ADVENTURE!

We have a broad-based mission, including the restoration and preservation of historic buildings, accepting, cataloging and displaying donated artifacts, recording, transcribing and publishing the oral history of Englewood and its residents, providing interesting and educational lectures each month on historical subjects, and reaching out to our local schools to assist with instilling a love of history in the students.

SHOW YOUR SUPPORT AS A MEMBER, A VOLUNTEER, AND AN ADVOCATE!

We welcome new members at all levels of involvement: positions of leadership, administration, committee chairs and volunteers, or simply furthering our mission by supporting us with your annual dues.

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MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

We are a 501c3 non-profit organization. Dues and other contributions are tax deductible.

Annual membership rates include: Individual \$20, Family \$35.

Name _____ Date _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

New Member Renewing Member \$ _____ check enclosed to:

ENGLEWOOD HISTORIC PRESERVATION SOCIETY
EHPS c/o Englewood Library ~ 1000 Englewood Parkway ~ Englewood, Colorado 80151