

# SUMMER GROUPS FIELD TRIP GUIDE

Rock Ledge Ranch  
Historic Site

National Register  
of Historic Places

- ◇ **ENTRANCE & PARKING: 3105 Gateway Road.**  
*(at the entrance to the Garden of Gods, turn left)*
- ◇ The group leader will enter through the Admission Hut to report the number of youth and adults for admission.
- ◇ **Adult (18+) supervision is required at 1 adult per 10 youth.**
- ◇ Groups are expected to be broken into age groups, and assigned separate historic sites to rotate throughout during the visit.



**THIS IS AN  
OUTDOOR  
PROGRAM!**

***Please advise children and adults to dress in clothing, suitable for outdoor work, and changing weather conditions!***



**Safety and General Rules:**

1. Please advise attendees nothing may be removed from Rock Ledge Ranch Historic Site, including, but not limited to: flowers, rocks, plants, etc.
2. Keep all persons on marked trails only. Please prevent children from climbing fences, trees, buildings, structures or farm equipment.
3. No one may feed, handle, or pet any livestock or indigenous wildlife.



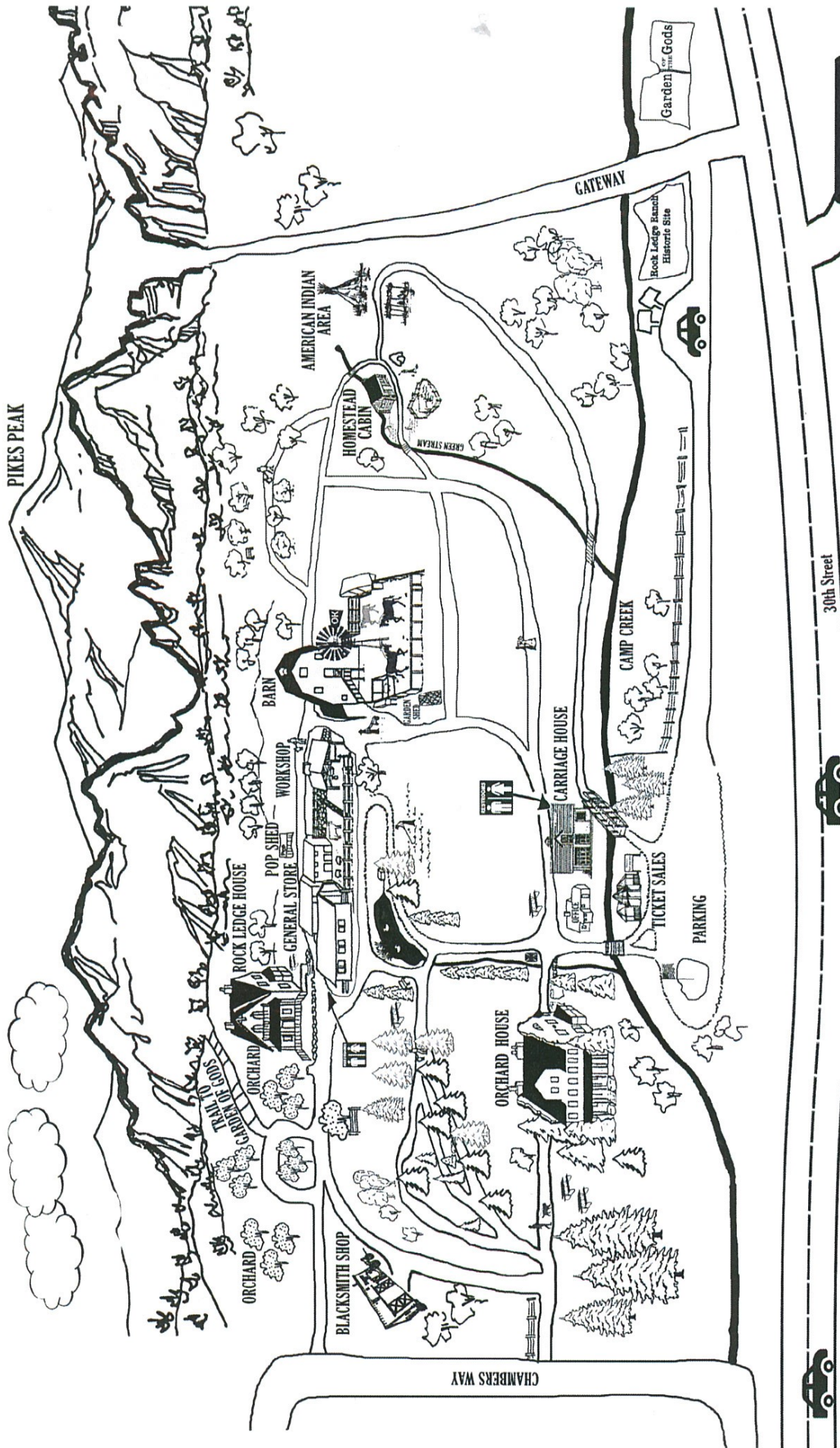
**RESTROOMS** & drinking fountains are located on the North side of the Carriage House and at the Studio.

**Group Rates (10+)**

Reservations Required  
For groups of 10 or more, call 719-578-6777 to schedule a reservation.

- Adults: \$4 each
- Teens/Seniors: \$4 each
- Children: \$3 each

Reservations are limited to:  
**either 10 a.m.—12:30 p.m.  
or 1—5 p.m.**



Garden of the Gods  
Visitor Center



parks · recreation · cultural services

**Living History Program: Wednesday—Saturday 10 a.m.—5 p.m.  
First Saturday in June—Third Saturday in August  
& Special Events throughout the year.**  
Visit [www.rockledgeranch.com](http://www.rockledgeranch.com) or 719-578-6777

Restrooms and drinking fountains are located at the Carriage House and the Studio Building.

**ROCK LEDGE RANCH**  
HISTORIC SITE

# Rock Ledge Ranch Historic Site Timeline

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**1775– 1800s:** The Ute people inhabited the area near Camp Creek

**1860s:** Westward expansion. Walter Galloway homesteaded on the Ranch land.

**1874-1900:** At the peak of the Victorian Era, the land was purchased from Galloway by the Chambers family, and the Rock Ledge House was built. They planted an apple and cherry tree orchard, farmed, and built a steam greenhouse.

In the 1860s, Colorado Springs became a popular destination for tuberculosis (TB) patients. Doctors recommended sunny, dry climate to cure the disease. The Chambers Family boarded some of these settlers.

**1900-1907:** General William Palmer purchased the estate from the Chambers Family, then commissioned Thomas MacLaren to architect the Orchard House. It was built for his sister-in-law and her husband, the Sclaters. The house was completed in 1907. After the death of General Palmer in 1909, the Sclaters relocated to England.

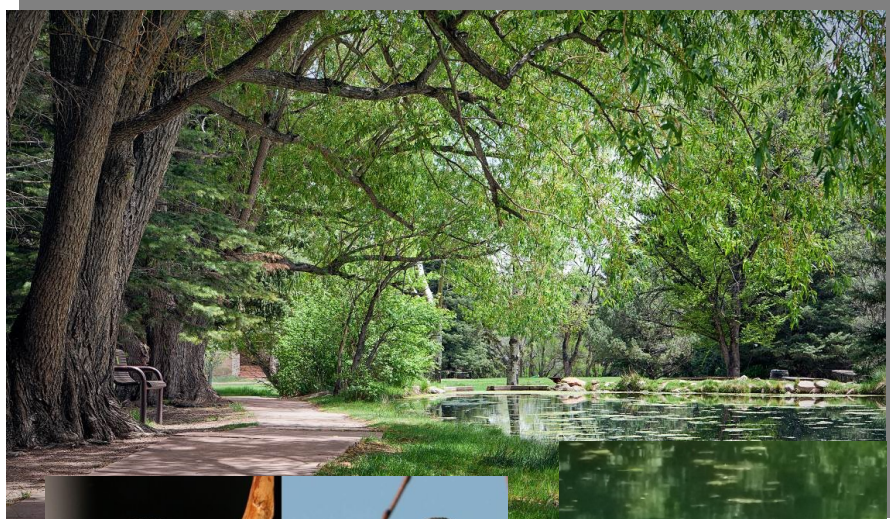
**Present Day:** The City of Colorado Springs Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department operates and maintains the Historic Site, offering historic tours during the summer and special events throughout the year.

# Rock Ledge Ranch Historic Site Activities

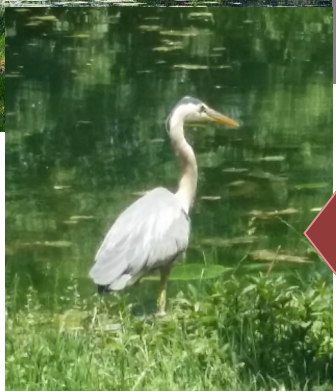


**Pond:** This man-made pond is fed by natural, underground springs. Many mammals, reptiles, amphibians, insects, and plants make their home here.

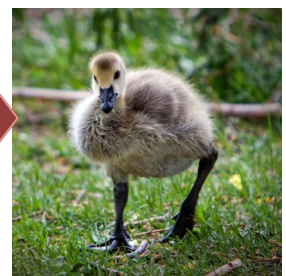
**How many can you find?**



- Turtle
- Frog
- Carp
- Muskrat
- Blue Gill
- Dragonfly
- Red Wing
- Canadian Goose
- Blackbird
- Blue Heron
- Squirrel
- Cat-Tail
- Mallard Duck
- Moss
- Bees



*Please do not feed the wildlife!*



How many trees can you identify around the pond?

- Pinion Pine
- Aspen
- Blue Spruce
- Cottonwood
- Thicket
- Silver Maple

Do you know the difference between a deciduous tree and an evergreen tree?



*In 1872, General Palmer brought in 600 Cottonwood trees from the Arkansas Valley to Colorado Springs!*



Merino



The Ranch is home to many different breeds of sheep. How many sheep live at the Ranch? \_\_\_\_\_  
A group of sheep is called a \_\_\_\_\_.

# Barnyard Buddies



**Punkin**

This windmill is a 1885-1914 Challenge "OK" Model . It can pump approximately 3 gallons a minute!

When the tail is perpendicular to the moving windmill blades, the pump is activated.



She's a Jersey cow. This breed is originally from the Channel Islands of Jersey, in the English Channel, and imported to the U.S.A. in the 18th Century.

***Did you know?*** Milking machines were invented in 1894. Before that, it would take one person one hour to milk 6 cows by hand!



English Shires are a breed of Draft Horse. Brought to the U.S.A. In the late 19th Century from Britain. Originally bred for knights, Shire horses were later used on farms to \_\_\_\_\_ the fields.



Chickens have 20-500 taste buds (depending on the breed). Humans have over 10,000 taste buds. *Can you spot the rooster in the corral?*

Pigs don't have sweat glands. They wallow in the mud to stay cool.  
***Did you know?*** Pigs can run up to 11.5 mph. That's a 7 minute mile!



# Rock Ledge House

This house was built in 1874-1875 for the Chambers family. It had no electricity.

Refrigerators had not been invented. To keep milk, eggs, fruit, and vegetables cool and fresh, the family kept them in a :

- A. Spring House
- B. Compost Pile
- C. Barn
- D. Root Cellar



When the health seekers came to Colorado Springs to take the “climate cure”, some rented a room in Rock Ledge House. These people often sat outside on the porch in the summer to breathe the dry, fresh air. How many porches does this house have? \_\_\_\_\_

See if you can locate the following things near the Rock Ledge House and Apple Orchard:

**Root Cellar**

**Smoke House**

**Clothes Line**



**This tree is around 145 years old!**

## **Reservoir**

Mr. Chambers built a reservoir using horsepower and manpower. He built it between the two big hills behind the Rock Ledge House. This reservoir held water for irrigating the apple and cherry orchards. The part of the reservoir that holds back water is called a \_\_\_\_\_.

The Chambers family raised hundreds of apple and cherry trees in this valley. Find one of their original apple trees in the big field East of the house. How is this tree different?

The Orchard House was built for General Palmer's sister-in-law and brother-in-law. It was designed to look like a home in Cape Town, South Africa. The year it was built can be seen on the south roof gable. The house was built in what year? \_ \_ \_ \_

## Orchard House



One type of coal was used to heat the stove for cooking; another type was used to heat the house. Both kinds were delivered to the house by horse-drawn wagon. Find the coal delivery chute door on the North side of the house. What is the patent date?

April 3, \_ \_ \_ \_

On the East side of the house is the "pergola" (a back porch with an open roof.) This kind of porch was popular in the early 1900s. It was designed to extend the house right out into the gardens. How many columns support the roof? \_\_\_\_\_

In 1907, the Sclater family had house-keepers and servants. Only the family and guests used the front door. Can you find the side entrance the housekeepers and servants would use?

Mr. Schlater traveled all around the world. His area of expertise is Ornithology, the study of \_\_\_\_\_.

**Did you know?** Colorado is home to more than 499 bird species!





# BLACKSMITH WORKSHOP



Sometimes, the Blacksmith would have a helper he is training. This helper is called an \_\_\_\_\_.

The Blacksmith Shop also houses the big farm tools from the rain and snow. Can you find:

**Dump Rake**  
**Walking Plow**  
**Garden Harrow**  
**Hay Loader**



In 1890, the average hourly wage for a Blacksmith was \$0.271

The average weekly wage for 60 hours a week: \$16.26 or \$65.04 a month!

Blacksmith's primary job was to:

- A. *Repair and replace equipment*
- B. *Make horseshoes*
- C. *Make hooks and nails*



The Blacksmith works the heated metal on an \_\_\_\_\_.

# Rock Ledge Ranch Bingo



**Other interesting items or people  
Found at the Ranch**


## 19th Century Games

### FOX-IN-THY-HOLE

One player is the “fox,” whose job it is to catch all of the other players, who are “chickens.” As soon as a chicken is caught, the fox takes him back to his den where he too becomes a fox. The last chicken to be caught becomes the fox in the next round.

### KING CAESAR

Hopping on one foot, the “King” must chase down all the other players and tap them on the head. As soon as they are hit, they become one of the King’s “Subjects” and can help him catch the rest of the players, but they too have to stand on one foot. The last player to be caught becomes the next King.

### BLIND MAN’S BLUFF

You will need: A blindfold of any sort One of the group is blinded and runs around to catch the others, who all try to keep out of his grasp. At the same time they go as near him as possible. If he tags someone, they must take the blind man’s place and wear the blindfold.

### HUNT THE SLIPPER

You will need: A slipper, shoe, thimble or marble All players but one are placed in a circle. The one remains outside to hunt the slipper—the slipper is passed rapidly from hand to hand in the inner circle. The hunter cannot judge where the slipper is because the players keep their hands moving all the time, as if they were passing it. The one whose hands it is caught in becomes the hunter. Some prefer playing this game with a thimble or marble because it is smaller. Anyone who drops the slipper in passing becomes the hunter.

### DUCKS THAT FLY

When the leader says “Ducks Fly,” and flaps his/her arms, all the players must flap their arms. The leader goes on to say, “Cats Meow,” with appropriate sounds or gesture, which must be imitated as above. He/she may continue, “Hens Cluck,” “Horses Trot,” and so on with appropriate gestures and sounds. When he/she chooses, he/she may substitute a false statement and motion, such as, “Cows Bark,” “Elephants Fly,” and so on. If the player imitates the false motion, he/she is penalized. If any player makes a false motion or sound at any time, he/she is out.

### BARNYARD

Each child is given the name of an animal with three children having the same name. No one is allowed to tell another which animal he/she is. At the signal, each child makes the noise of the animal that he/she has been given. The first group of three animals to find each other and sit down are winners.

### Have students make their own games.!

Students can learn a lot from making games on their own. They can find out about games that don’t require batteries or electricity, but there is some assembly required. Have students make and play different games in groups. A good way to do this is to have a limited number of items for a group and have them make a game from those items. Use pieces of wood, clay, string, paper, pencils, pieces of corn and/or other items they might use to create a game. Give them a time limit and be creative!

# Comparing 1895 to 2019 Prices

## The General Store

The old fashion General Store represented a communication hub for community members and provided many items that could not be easily made—even on a self-sufficient ranch. The prices? Steep for many back then:

<b>Colorado Springs Gazette Telegraphy, April 7, 1895</b>	<b><u>2019</u></b>
<i>W.F. McKeehan Grocer &amp; Produce Dealer</i>	
25 lb. Colorado Flour	\$18.04
1 dozen eggs	\$2.96
4 lb. Rice	\$5.98
Coffee (1 lb.)	\$9.99
New Orleans Molasses	\$23.99
(1 gal.)	
Pure Maple Syrup	\$38.60
(1 gal.)	
Single Wash Board	\$29.99
Gum Drops (1 lb.)	\$2.40

Rock Ledge  
Ranch  
Historic Site:  
View to the  
West  
1910-1930

