



YOUTH ACTIVITY PACKET

Rock Ledge Ranch
Historic Site

National Register
of Historic Places



BEFORE YOU ARRIVE

ENTRANCE AND PARKING

3105 Gateway Road

From 30th Street, turn west at the entrance to Garden of the Gods and take an immediate left into the overflow parking lot. Keep driving south until you see the flagpole and entrance to Rock Ledge Ranch Historic Site.

THIS IS AN OUTDOOR PROGRAM

*Please dress in
suitable clothing for
changing weather
conditions in the
outdoors!*

VISITING THE RANCH

While we encourage you to visit the Ranch during our Summer Living History Program to get the full experience of what life was like during different periods of Colorado history, you are welcome to fill out this activity packet during a walk around the Ranch any time of year. Being able to enjoy this activity packet is not reliant upon the historic sites being open. The grounds are free and open to the public year-round every day from sunrise to sunset.



Restrooms and drinking fountains are located on the north side of the Carriage House

SAFETY AND RULES

1. Please do not remove anything from the Ranch including, but not limited to: flowers, rocks, plants, etc.
2. Stay on marked trails at all times. Please prevent children from climbing fences, trees, buildings, structures, and farm equipment.
3. Please do not feed or pet livestock or handle indigenous wildlife.

HISTORY

The Ute people are the original residents of Colorado. Prior to acquiring horses, the Utes lived off the land and established a unique relationship with their ecosystem. They traveled and camped in familiar sites and used well-established routes such as the Ute Trail.



At the peak of the Victorian Era, the Chambers family purchased the homestead from Mr. Galloway and built Rock Ledge House. They planted an apple and cherry orchard, farmed the land, and built a greenhouse. In the 1880s, Colorado Springs became a popular destination for tuberculosis (TB) patients. The Chambers family boarded some of these patients in their home.



1775-1835



1867-1874

The Homestead Act prompted European settlement in the area just after the Civil War. Scottish immigrant Walter Galloway homesteaded here in 1867, growing buckwheat on his 160-acre plot and working as a day laborer in nearby Colorado City (whose population at the time was just 81).

1874-1900



1900-1910

General William Jackson Palmer purchased the estate from the Chambers family and commissioned local architect Thomas MacLaren to design the Orchard House. It was built for his sister-in-law and her husband, Mr. Sclater and was completed in 1907. After the death of General Palmer in 1909, the Sclaters relocated to England.



SCAVENGER HUNT BY THE 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 CARP BLUE GILL RED WING BLACKBIRD BLUE HERON
MUSKRAT DRAGONFLY CANADIAN GOOSE SQUIRREL
MALLARD DUCK FROG BEES CATTAIL MOSS



Do you know the difference between a deciduous tree and a coniferous tree?

Deciduous trees lose their leaves each fall.
Coniferous trees are green all year long.
Describe some other differences that you see!

The pond is home to a number of different trees. *How many trees can you identify around the pond?*

PINION PINE BLUE SPRUCE SILVER MAPLE
WILLOW ASPEN COTTONWOOD



BARNYARD BUDDIES

FUN ANIMAL FACTS

English Shires are a breed of draft horse brought to the U.S. In the late 19th century from Britain. Originally bred for knights, shire horses were later used on farms to _____ the fields.



Chickens lay different color eggs, depending on their breed. Some lay dark red, pale green, or even light blue colored eggs. Can you spot the rooster in the corral?



Jersey cows are named after the island of Jersey in the English Channel where they originate. They were imported to America in the 18th Century. The average Jersey cow can produce up to six gallons of milk per day. Did you know that before milking machines were invented in 1894, it would take one person an hour to milk six cows by hand!



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



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



This 1885-1914 Challenge "OK" Model windmill can pump approximately 3 gallons per minute. You can tell the windmill is pumping water when the tail is perpendicular to the windmill blades.



ROCK LEDGE HOUSE 1874-1900

Built in 1874-1875 by the Chambers family, Rock Ledge House had no electricity and refrigerators had not yet 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

See if you can locate the following things near Rock Ledge House and the apple orchard:

ROOT CELLAR SMOKE HOUSE
CLOTHES LINE



When the health seekers came to Colorado Springs to take the “climate cure”, some rented rooms 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? _____



Mr. Chambers built a reservoir using horsepower and manpower. He built it between the two big hills behind 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 grew 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 from those in the nearby orchard?

ORCHARD HOUSE 1900-1910

The Orchard House was built for General Palmer's sister and brother-in-law. It was designed to look like a home in Cape Town, South Africa. Find the south roof gable to learn in what year the house was built:

Coal was delivered to the house by horse drawn wagon. Find a coal delivery chute door on the North side of the house. What is the patent date? April 3, _____



Mr. Sclater traveled all around the world. His area of expertise was *ornithology*, the study of _____. Did you know that Colorado is home to over 500 bird species?



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 employed house-keepers and servants. Only the family and guests used the front door. Can you find the side entrance used by housekeepers and servants?





BLACKSMITH WORKSHOP



The Blacksmith was a crucial member of society in the late 1800s. He made nails, hinges, chains, horseshoes, and other hardware and repaired farm tools and equipment.

The Blacksmith Shop houses the big farm tools. Can you find them?

GARDEN HARROW DUMP RAKE
HAY LOADER WALKING PLOW

A blacksmith's primary job was to:

- A. Repair and replace equipment
- B. Make horseshoes
- C. Make hooks and nails
- D. All of the above

Sometimes the blacksmith would train someone to help him in the blacksmith's shop. This helper is called an

_____.

The blacksmith works heated metal on an

_____.

In 1890, the average hourly wage for a blacksmith was 27 cents. The average wage for 60 hours a week was \$16.26 per week or \$65.04 per month! Multiply that by twelve to find out how much he could make in a year:
 $\$65.04 \times 12 = \$$ _____





PRICES: THEN AND NOW

The old-fashioned General Store represented a communication hub for community members and provided them with many items that could not be easily made—even on a self-sufficient ranch. The prices were steep for many people back then. Imagine how expensive today’s prices would have seemed to them!

COLORADO SPRINGS GAZETTE TELEGRAPHY APRIL 7, 1895

W.F. McKeehan, Grocer and Produce Dealer

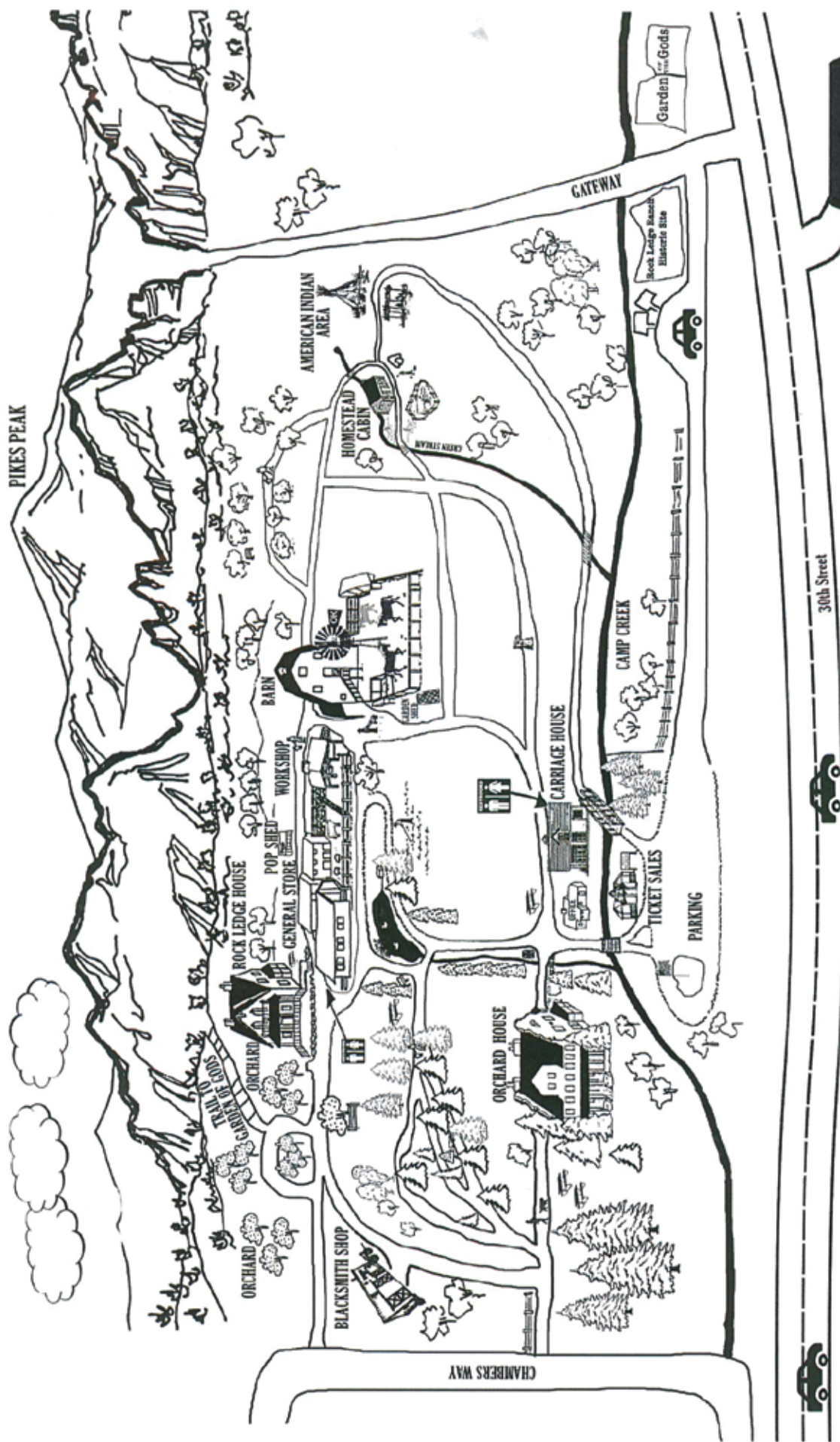
25 lb. Colorado Flour	\$0.40
1 dozen eggs	\$0.12-.50
4 lb. Rice	\$0.25
Coffee (1 lb.)	\$0.15
Molasses (1 gal.)	\$0.60
Maple Syrup (1 gal.)	\$1.20
Single Wash Board	\$0.25
Gum Drops (1 lb.)	\$0.10

TODAY’S PRICES

King Soopers City Market

25 lb. Flour	\$69.89
1 dozen eggs	\$2.49
4 lb. Rice	\$5.40
Coffee (1 lb.)	\$8.39
Molasses (1 gal.)	\$8.29
Maple Syrup (1gal.)	\$7.89
Single Wash Board	\$29.99
Gum Drops (1 lb.)	\$2.40





ROCK LEDGE RANCH HISTORIC SITE

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 or 719-578-6777

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



parks · recreation · cultural services