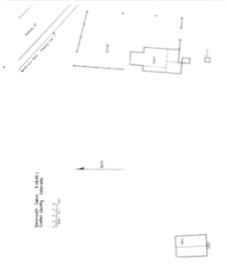


Teacher Resource Set

Title	Kennicott Cabin
Developed by	Josephine Wade, Social Studies Teacher, Bell Middle School
Grade Level	4-8
Essential Questions	<p>How do historic places connect us to the past and help us understand the present?</p> <p>What makes people leave one place and go to another? What do they take with them? What do they leave behind?</p> <p>What factors are considered when migrating? How have economic incentives played a part in Colorado’s migration?</p> <p>Why did people like the Kennicotts come to Colorado? Why do people continue to come to the Centennial State?</p>
Contextual Paragraph	<p>The Kennicott Cabin is a log house located north of Westcliffe, Colorado. Frank Kennicott, one of the first settlers in the Wet Mountain Valley, constructed the cabin in 1869. Frank and George Kennicott came to Colorado from Illinois, because they were suffering from tuberculosis. Colorado attracted many tuberculars, because it was believed that the climate, dry air and sunshine could cure the disease. (See “Tuberculosis” article and Teacher Resource Set in the Colorado Encyclopedia http://www.coloradoencyclopedia.org) When they recovered, they established a 160-acre homestead in the valley and soon invested in the cattle and freight business.</p> <p>The Kennicott Cabin is considered a rare example of a two-story log house, because it was built before 1870. Another distinctive feature of the house is it was built in an Eastern log cabin style with a rectangular plan and side-facing gable roof, which reflected the Kennicott’s Illinois heritage; uncommon in the west. The Kennicott’s family lived in the log cabin until 1892 when they bought the adjacent ranch and moved into a bigger house on that property. In 1910, Frank Kennicott’s first daughter, Mary Louise Thorpe Kennicott, moved into the cabin with her two young sons after her husband Lou Comstock died of tuberculosis. The brothers, Walter and John, lived in the cabin in its mostly original condition until their deaths in 1990. Ownership of the cabin was passed to their cousin Gertrude Schooley.</p> <p>In 1988, the Kennicott Ranch was recognized as a Colorado Centennial Farm for its continuous use as a working ranch owned by the same family for 100 years, and in 1997, the cabin was listed in the National Register of Historic Places.</p>

Teacher Resource Set

Resource Set					
Kennicott Cabin c. 2012	Westcliffe, CO c. 1950 - 1960	Log house built in 1869 by Frank Langdon Kennicott	Kennicott Cabin c. 1889	Privy	Hand-drawn site plan
The Kennicott Cabin north of Westcliffe still looks much as it did when Frank Kennicott built it in 1869-70.	Panoramic view of Westcliffe, CO. Note distance from mountain to the built environment.	View of the Kennicott home in Westcliffe, CO. It shows the log cabin and the log house. The one-story addition, not original to 1869, later burned down.	The cabin is associated with the early settlement of the Wet Mountain Valley. The picture was taken twenty years after the cabin was built.	The west side of the privy was taken with the camera facing east.	This to-scale sketched site map of the Kennicott Cabin and other ranch buildings as they are situated to Colorado Highway 69 is located in the Nomination form.
The cabin remains wholly unchanged since its construction in the late 1860s	Incorporated November 21, 1887, Westcliffe today offers a variety of year round recreational activities and easy access to Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument and the Great Sand Dunes National Park.	A discussion of the difference between a log cabin and a log house can be found in the Preservation Connection section below.	The cabin is a rare surviving example of two-story log construction.	Located to the south of the main house, the privy is rectangular in plan with vertical board siding.	Property resources listed include the cabin, shed, privy and corral fence.
					

Teacher Resource Set

http://coloradoencyclopedia.org/image/kennicott-cabin-today	http://digital.denverlibrary.org/cdm/singleitem/collection/p15330coll22/id/13356/rec/2	http://digital.denverlibrary.org/cdm/ref/collectio/p15330coll21/id/13656	http://www.historycolorado.org/archaeologists/custer-county#westcliffe	https://npgallery.nps.gov/NRHP/AssetDetail?assetID=5e99dad5946-485f-8cd4-02f49eff68c3	https://npgallery.nps.gov/NRHP/GetAsset/5e99dad5946-485f-8cd4-02f49eff68c3/?branding=NRHP
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National Register Nomination Form. February 4, 1997	East side of the Kennicott cabin	South side of the Kennicott cabin	North side of the Kennicott cabin	West view of shed	Close up of the notching used on the northeast corner of Kennicott cabin
Nomination forms contain a wealth of information that can be used as a resource when teaching not only about the cabin but life in the Wet Mountain area in the early 1900s.	The cabin has two east facing centrally located entrance doors.	View of the chimney located on the south side of the cabin.	The north side of the cabin – opposite the fireplace on the south side – illustrates the placement of windows.	The shed gives the appearance of a series of buildings constructed together. It is a large building with an irregular plan and multiple shed roofs. See photo #6	The cabin is constructed of round, peeled logs with a variety of simply executed corner joints that include dovetail, square, and saddle notching.
Kennicott Cabin was nominated for its architectural and engineering significance for its time, as well as exploration and settlement.	One door is paneled and the other is glazed and paneled. These are the only openings on this façade.	Kennicott cabin is a rare example of two story log construction. It reflects the eastern tradition of building not commonly found in the west.	Another example of the unique construction of the Kennicott cabin.	The central portion is open. Hinge marks indicate that at one time there were doors. Corral fence can be seen to the left in the original photo.	Although the logs were left round, the interior surfaces were hewn flat.

Teacher Resource Set

<p>UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE National Register of Historic Places Registration Form</p> <p>1. Name of Property Historic name: James W. Wells Cabin other name(s) number: Colorado, Cabin 130846.1</p> <p>2. Location street & number: 83181 Colorado Highway 88 city or town: 80838/88 state: Colorado county: Clear Fork County</p> <p>3. State/Federal Agency Certification State Historic Preservation Officer: [Signature] National Park Service: [Signature]</p> <p>4. National Park Service Certification I hereby certify that the property is: [] entired in the National Register [] a contributing property to a National Register historic district [] a contributing property to a National Register historic district and also a National Historic Landmark</p>					
<p>https://npgallery.nps.gov/NRHP/AssetDetail?assetID=5e99dadc-5946-485f-8cd4-02f49eff68c3</p>	<p>https://npgallery.nps.gov/NRHP/AssetDetail?assetID=5e99dadc-5946-485f-8cd4-02f49eff68c3</p>	<p>https://npgallery.nps.gov/NRHP/AssetDetail?assetID=5e99dadc-5946-485f-8cd4-02f49eff68c3</p>	<p>https://npgallery.nps.gov/NRHP/AssetDetail?assetID=5e99dadc-5946-485f-8cd4-02f49eff68c3</p>	<p>https://npgallery.nps.gov/NRHP/AssetDetail?assetID=5e99dadc-5946-485f-8cd4-02f49eff68c3</p>	<p>https://npgallery.nps.gov/NRHP/AssetDetail?assetID=5e99dadc-5946-485f-8cd4-02f49eff68c3</p>

Foundations Annotations

Curriculum Connections

History

Geography

Curriculum Standards

CO History Standard 1: The historical eras, individuals, groups, ideas, and themes in Colorado history and their relationships to key events in the United States. (Fourth Grade)

- a. Analyze various eras in Colorado history and the relationship between these eras and eras in United States history, and the changes in Colorado over time.

CO Geography Standard 2: Use several types of geographic tools to answer questions about the geography of Colorado. (Fourth Grade)

- a. Answer questions about Colorado regions using maps and other geographic tools.
- d. Illustrate, using geographic tools, how places in Colorado have changed and developed over time due to human activity.

Content and Thinking Objectives

Students will be able to:

- analyze various eras in Colorado history and describe the relationship between these eras and how Colorado has changed over time.
- describe the impact of cultural diffusion in Colorado and compare architectural buildings of 19th c. Colorado with modernity.
- use geographic tools to describe how places in Colorado have changed and developed over time due to human activity.

Inquiry Questions, Activities and Strategies**Inquiry Questions**

In what ways have geographic, cultural, and technological changes influenced Colorado today?

How have various individuals, groups, and ideas affected the development of Colorado?

Inquiry Activities

Ask students to compare/contrast the city of Westcliff geographically from the 1880s to current day.

Using the primary source set, ask students to write down the things they observe in the images and the questions that arise.

Ask students why, despite cultural diffusion, the cabin remained without technological advances such as plumbing and electricity as they research and analyze the development of Westcliffe from past to present day.

Ask students to research Western cabin architecture and compare and contrast Eastern and Western cabin styles. Hypothesize why they may differ.

Assessment Strategies

Depending upon how one uses the resources and which standards are chosen, assessment can take many forms. For example:

CO Geography Standard 2 (a) (Fourth Grade) Write a paragraph describing the impact of cultural diffusion from the style of the cabin.

CO Geography Standard 2 (d) (Fourth Grade) Research and create a project that addresses the first settlers to Colorado, what influenced their migration, and the resources that were available to them as they settled into Colorado.

Other Resources**Web Resources**

Denver Public Library – Western History Division: <http://digital.denverlibrary.org>

History Colorado: <http://www.historycolorado.org>

Colorado Encyclopedia Homepage: <http://coloradoencyclopedia.org>

Colorado Encyclopedia Kennicott Cabin: <https://coloradoencyclopedia.org/article/kennicott-cabin>

National Register of Historic Places Homepage: <https://www.nps.gov/nr/>

National Register Kennicott Cabin Nomination: <https://npgallery.nps.gov/NRHP/GetAsset/5e99dadc-5946-485f-8cd4-02f49eff68c3/?branding=NRHP>

Secondary Sources

Joanne West Dodds, *Custer County: Mountains, Mines and Ranches* (Denver: Colorado Endowment for the Humanities, 1992).

Irene Francis and Charles Proctor, "Kennicott Cabin," National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (July 12, 1996).

Gayle Turk, *Wet Mountain Valley* (Colorado Springs: Little London Press, 1975).

Mary Wilson, "Log Cabin Studies," *Cultural Resource Report No. 9*, USDA Forest Service Intermountain Region, Ogden, UT, 1984.

Preservation Connection

The Kennicott Cabin is actually classified as a log house according to Mary Wilson in her article on Log Cabins. (See Secondary Sources) She notes that log cabins in the United State have generally been described as side-gabled with a fireplace centered along a gabled wall. This description is valid for cabins constructed in much of the eastern part of this country. These cabins from the Mid-Atlantic region would spread to the Midwest and eventually typify the "American log cabin." Characteristics included side facing gables (the door in a wall running parallel to the ridgepole), dimensions of front and rear walls exceeding those of the side walls, and an external chimney in the center of one gable end. The Kennicott Cabin is an example of this type of construction. Kennicott's roots in Illinois could explain his reliance on this building form.

While the Kennicott Cabin reflects the eastern building tradition, it is not typical of the log construction found in the Western United States. The typical western log cabin is a front-gabled building with the doorway moved from under eaves to the gabled end. There is often no chimney, as the fireplace is replaced by a stove and the most distinctive feature is the forward extension of the gabled roof to form a covered porch or work area.

Not only is the cabin's use of east coast antecedents unusual; the building's two-story height is also uncharacteristic. Two-story log houses are rarely found in Colorado. What determines the Kennicott "cabin" as a "house" is that although the exterior walls remain rounded logs, the logs on the interior have been hewed and covered with muslin and wall paper of the era.

Preservation Inquiry Questions

What merits the cabin's inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places? Based on the National Register criteria, why is it significant?

How can living conditions be understood by viewing the cabin structure paired with the geological conditions of the natural environment?

How can the Kennicott Cabin continue to tell the story of Colorado's past, present, and into the future?

What does the Kennicott Cabin reveal about Colorado heritage? Consider the longevity of the original structure, despite the absence of modern plumbing and technology – how did the structure benefit the inhabitants?

Why is it important to preserve historic buildings such as the Kennicott Cabin?

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