Cultural Landscapes: Scenic and Then Some

SPEAKERS

Ekaterini “Kat” Vlahos
University of Colorado, Denver

Ogden Driskill
Rancher and board member, Wyoming Stock Growers Agricultural Land Trust

MODERATOR

Jim Lindberg
National Trust for Historic Preservation

Rocky Mountain Land Use Institute
20th Anniversary Conference
March 4, 2011
I. What is a cultural landscape?
II. Conservation through continued use
Cultural Landscapes: Scenic and then Some Rocky Mountain Land Use Institute

Aerial view of Canyon Wind Winery, Palisade, Colorado

http://bigpictureagriculture
The Problem

Disappearance of our rural cultural landscapes
Why is this important?

- Loss of open space
- Loss of a part of our history
- Loss of a quality and way of Life
- Loss of scenic and working landscapes
- Loss of local jobs and community businesses
No Farms No Food™

www.farmland.org
American Farmland Trust
1-800-431-1499
Develop a process of understanding

Identify, document, interpret and organize resources to guide conservation of rural cultural landscapes working.
Routt County
Keeping working landscapes in the hands of the rancher

Hayden Ranch
Working landscape is transitioned to an educational use

Medano Zapata Ranch
Ranch is transitioned to a non-profit conservation organization
A cultural landscape shows the interaction and relationship of people and place over time.

*Preservation Brief #36: Protecting Cultural Landscapes, National Park Service (1994)*
How do we identify critical components of a cultural landscape?
NATIONAL REGISTER BULLETIN

Guidelines for Evaluating and Documenting Rural Historic Landscapes

Technical information on the National Register of Historic Places: survey, evaluation, registration, and preservation of cultural resources

U.S. Department of the Interior
National Park Service
Cultural Resources
National Register, History and Education
Processes

• Land uses and activities
• Patterns of spatial organization
• Response to the natural environment
• Cultural traditions
Land Uses and Activities

All historic photos copyright Linger Family Photo Collection, Aurora, Colorado
Circulation Networks
Patterns of Spatial Organization
Response to the Natural Environment
Cultural Traditions
**Physical Components**

Vegetation Related to Land Use
Topography
Demarcations
View sheds
Water features
Boundary
Buildings, Structures, and Objects
Small-scale elements
Case Study • Routt County
Working Partners

Historic Routt County!
Individual Ranchers and Property Owners
City of Steamboat Springs
Yampa Valley Land Trust
Community Agriculture Alliance
Who is funding the project?

- Colorado State Historical Fund
- DOLA
- City of Steamboat Springs
- University of Colorado Denver
- Private Donors
Developers at the Door, Ranchers Round Up Support
## Private Ranch Sales Over 400 Acres Between 1990-2001

### Summary of Owners

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Acres</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Acres</td>
<td>243,331</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traditional Rancher</td>
<td>17,520</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Part-Time Ranchers</td>
<td>2,072</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amenity Buyer</td>
<td>156,203</td>
<td>64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Developers</td>
<td>17,716</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investors</td>
<td>25,802</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corporations</td>
<td>14,292</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conservation Orgs</td>
<td>1,281</td>
<td>1% +</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>2,809</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unclassified</td>
<td>5,636</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Report Developed by William Travis, University of Colorado, Hannah Gosnell, Center of the American West
Process: Identify the community stakeholders
Key property owners selected throughout the county
Identify properties for survey
Identify the survey team
Develop historic context
Develop documentation
Local Designation
Case Study • Medano-Zapata Ranch
Who is funding the project?

- The Nature Conservancy
- Colorado State Historical Fund
- UCD, College of Architecture and Planning
- Private Donors
Prepare a Long-Range Plan

Developed by Jackie Powell

**SIGNIFICANCE**
- **What** are the resources we’re concerned about?
- **Why** are they important?

**PURPOSE**
- **Why** is this project compatible with the TNC mission?
- **Where** is the geographic area of this project?
- **Who** are the participants and partners in this effort?

**VISION**
- **What** future do we desire for these resources?

**GOALS**
- **What** do we want to accomplish over the next 5 to 10 years?

**OBJECTIVES**
- **How** do we move toward those goals within the next 2 to 3 years?

**IMPLEMENTATION PLAN**
- Selected action items arranged in priority sequence, with who, what, when, how, and how much.

**ACTION ITEMS**
- **How** do we attain our objectives?

**OPPORTUNITIES & CHALLENGES**
- **What** will help us reach our goals and objectives?
- **What** will be an obstacle to reaching them?
Case Study • Hayden Ranch
Partners

Lake County Open Space Initiative
Colorado Mountain College
Colorado Preservation, Inc.
Colorado Center for Community Development
Who is funding the project?

- Colorado Preservation, Inc
- Colorado State Historical Fund
- UCD, College of Architecture and Planning
Leadville banks collapsed under the weight of the gold standard. “Historic Leadville in Rare Photographs and Drawings, 1997.”

1890's: Silver sinks 1939 1956 2008
Hayden Ranch Site Plan

Project Manager: Judith Bergquist
Prepared By: Melissa Franconaro
Mark Sullivan
Eric Parano
Project Contacts: Colorado Preservation Inc.
Colorado Mountain College

December 2004

EXISTING BUILDINGS
1. Ranch / Bunk House
2. Large Barn
3. Ranch House
4. Chicken Coop
5. Chicken Coop and Rabbit Coop
6. Hen House / Tack Room
7. Storage Shed
8. Garage
9. Garage / Storage
10. Barn / Manger
11. Horse Barn
12. Icehouse
13. Povy
14. Log Cabin
15. Workshop
16. Administrative Building
17. Industrial Building
18. Horse
19. Mobile Home

ZONE 1: PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION WITHIN HISTORIC OR IMPORTANCE OF FARM TO THE COMMUNITY

ZONE 2: PREPARED CONSTRUCTION WITHIN 200 FEET OF EXISTING STRUCTURES

ZONE 3: NEW STRUCTURES

ZONE 4: OPEN SPACE

Potential site for new building on former footprint as determined by further study

North

to scale

POTENTIAL ELEMENTS

Parking
Paths
Solar Power Structures
Solar Cells
Wind Power
Outdoor Event Space
Gravel or Pervious Pavement
Auto Circulation
Signage
DESIGN DEVELOPMENT
The only proper way to learn about and understand the landscape is to live in it, look at it, think about it, explore it, ask questions about it, contemplate it, and speculate about it. It emphasizes things anyone can see, the vernacular, common, ordinary, everyday things of the people who live on the land, because these things make the landscape what it is.  

_John Fraser Hart_
Campstool Ranch
Devil’s Tower
Basin Ranch
Elk Mountain

Vickers Complex
Elk Mountain
Brush Creek Ranch
North Platte River Valley
Clarendon Ranch
Bighorn Mountains
Padlock Ranch
Tongue River Valley
Shepperson Ranch
Greybull River
Switchback Ranch
Absoraka Mountains
Sommers-Grindstone Ranch
Green River Valley
Sommers-Grindstone Ranch
Hovendick Ranch
Popo Agie River Valley

Wyoming Stock Growers Agricultural Land Trust

www.wsgalt.org