

Annual Report 2020

Ken-Caryl Ranch Historical Society

The Ken-Caryl Ranch Historical Society (KCRHS) is a standing committee of the Ken-Caryl Ranch Master Association. There are 22 KCRHS members and this report summarizes our activities and accomplishments for 2020, and identifies anticipated challenges as well as aspirations for the year ahead.

Leadership

The committee did not have a quorum present at its January meeting, so election of officers for 2020 was deferred until the March meeting. At the March meeting, Jim Antes was elected chairperson, Guy Fasson as vice-chairperson, Marilyn Elrod as treasurer, and Stephanie Berg as secretary. Partway through the year, Guy Fasson needed to step back from active involvement in the committee for health reasons, so Vinny Badolato was selected as vice-chairperson, a position he had previously held.

Meetings

KCRHS met bi-monthly, at 1 PM on the 2nd Wednesday of January, March, May, July, September, and November. We met quarterly for many years, but we decided that in 2018 and again in 2019 and 2020 we would meet bi-monthly, for two main reasons: (1) the increased amount of topics to discuss; and (2) the desire to discuss aspects of the history of Ken-Caryl Ranch as well as transact business. The January, May, and September meetings emphasized discussions of Ken-Caryl Ranch history and the other three meetings involved our ongoing business. The topics we discussed about Ranch history that went beyond our regular projects were:

- January: Recent archaeological finds on the Ranch, and the process of making an i-movie
- May: Virtual tours of the kiln and the possible North Ranch grave site
- September: Viewing the Johns-Manville video “Soaring with Eagles”, and a primer on accessing property information on the Jefferson County web site

The January and March meetings were held in person at the Ranch House and the remaining meetings were held virtually using Zoom because of the pandemic.

Award

We were very pleased and honored to be awarded the Norm and Ethyl Meyer Award for Historic Preservation from the Jefferson County Historical Commission. In a published statement the Historical Commission stated that KCRHS received the award “...for its dedication to preserving and promoting the history of the notable Ken-Caryl Ranch...” Specifically mentioned by the Commission were the five National Register sites on the Ranch, a current archaeological investigation, communication about KCR history with Ranch residents, and efforts to preserve the Bradford Apple Orchard. The award was presented at a ceremony at the

Bradford-Perley House on October 10. The ceremony was recorded and may be viewed on YouTube <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ptW57Emuc8s> .



KCRHS members at the award ceremony.

Accomplishments

KCRHS members volunteer to work on different projects or areas of responsibility. What follows is a list of accomplishments attained in 2020 on those projects, presented in alphabetical order of the project title. Despite the constraints imposed by the pandemic we are proud to identify the following:

1. Apple Orchard. (Mark Rieger, coordinator)
 - a. 2020 was a difficult year for the Bradford Perley Orchard. Minimal blossoms were seen in the spring and the trees produced approximately 70 apples across just a few trees.
 - b. Bees were observed in the Bradford Perley Apple Orchard early in the season.
 - c. We regret to report that one of the 2012 grafted trees died and two of the newly planted 2019 trees are potentially at risk.
 - d. We attempted to replace the fencing around the 2010 and 2012 trees in order to provide more room to grow, but after hours of trying to dig out the fence posts, we determined that was not possible. Instead volunteer Tim Berg trimmed the 2010 and 2012 trees, which will help the trees grow. In addition, we expanded the fencing as much as possible within the limits of the existing fence posts.
 - e. We also cleared some of the dead branches from the 1860s trees and the Open Space Maintenance Team assisted with the clearing of the branches.
 - f. We submitted a request to extend a water pipe and faucet to the Apple Orchard, but that was deemed to be infeasible and undesirable and was denied. The Metro District Parks Department has committed to watering the 2010, 2012 and 2019 trees utilizing their water truck year round.
 - g. The Open Space Ranger Maintenance Staff did another fantastic job cutting the grass to beautifully display the new, old and downed trees and stumps in the Bradford Perley Apple Orchard. Thanks to all KCR Historical Society Members, the KC Conservation Club, KCRMA Open Space, and MD Parks for their work to maintain the orchard.



Volunteer Tim Berg assists in trimming the apple trees.

2. Archaeology and Paleontology. (Jack Warner, coordinator)
 - a. We provided ongoing support KCRHS archaeology including tours, answering community questions, policy formulation, and artifact analysis.
 - b. Jack Warner authored a 5-part series of articles for *Life at Ken-Caryl* on KCR archaeology and life over the past 15,000 years.
 - c. The Massey Draw Foothills investigation was our major 2020 KCRHS archaeology effort. We presented the project to scientifically research the Massey Draw Foothills Site to various KCR management groups, planned the work, recruited Metro State and then the professional archaeology firm, ERO, coordinated the funding, and coordinated the KCRHS and CAS dig volunteers. The team conducted the scientific survey, shovel testing, and dig, plus the protection of the remaining site in early October. The findings of ancient use of the site were significant and further work on this project will continue.
 - d. The Historic Display case at the Ranch House was updated.
 - e. We represented KCR at Roxborough State Park International Archaeology Day and formulated two associated archaeology tours at KCR, one of archaeological site Bradford II and the other of the Bradford-Perley House.



KCRHS members Marilyn Elrod and Lois Claggett assist in the investigation of the Massey Draw Foothills Site, screening for artifacts.

3. Archives. (Marilyn Elrod and Pat Badolato, coordinators)

- a. We continued organizing new photos into the photo books and recording the photos into the master database.
- b. We continued organizing new historical documents into the file cabinets and recording them into the master database.
- c. We continued viewing and organizing old slides and recording them into the master database.
- d. We continued viewing and organizing VHS tapes and recording them into the master database.
- e. We continued organizing loose items on shelves and in the file cabinets and recording them into the master database.
- f. Because of Covid-19, less was done on organizing the pictures moved from the basement. They were moved into another area in the room, but nothing was decided about where to place them, therefore they were not placed into a master database.
- g. We continued organizing and labeling boxes on the shelves, placing individual inventory lists in each box and keeping a master list of the contents.
- h. We organized and labeled the second map cabinet and recorded the contents into a master database.
- i. We labeled additional file cabinet drawers.
- j. Clippings of historical interest were copied onto acid-free paper.

4. Bradford-Perley House and Garden. (Leslie Miller, coordinator)

- a. The garden was maintained during the growing season, following a regular watering schedule. The garden will now be easier to water, due to the new waterline to the Bradford-Perley house!
- b. The new southwest corner garden was started, with additional plants planned next year.
- c. We raked leaves from the interior of the house. We continue to monitor the cottonwood trees to ensure that they pose no risk to the house.



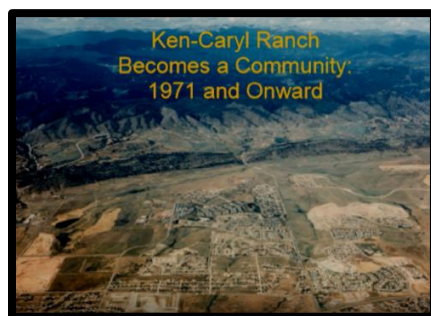
A view of the Bradford-Perley House garden, along the fence at the front of the house. Photo taken June 2020.

5. Bradford-Perley House Maintenance and Bond Beam Protection. (Jim Antes, coordinator)
- a. Last year rust was discovered on the lintels of some of the Bradford-Perley House windows. A painter was hired to remove the rust and paint the lintels.
 - b. The stonework on the House is still in need of maintenance and repair. We learned last year from two estimates that we do not have the funds to hire the work to be done. We secured the services of consultant Natalie Lord to assist us in writing a grant to the State Historical Fund. However, because of the pandemic, the funds available in the Fund were reduced and procedures for grant proposals were changed. Upon advice of the consultant we decided not to seek SHF funding this year.
 - c. Thanks to the support of the Master Association we have been able to accumulate an additional \$5000 annually in a Bradford-Perley House Preservation Fund as well as retain unspent moneys from the prior year. This will aid long-term in maintaining the House and in the near-term to provide required matching funds for a planned 2021 SHF grant proposal.
 - d. We learned of cracks in the concrete bond beam at the top of the walls in 2019 and in October of that year we installed crack gauges on several cracks, with the intent to assess any changes in 2020. Former Master Association Executive Director Chris Pacetti helped us examine the gauges in October of this year and we learned that the cracks have not grown. This is good news and we may need only to monitor any changes over time. We also applied caulking to some of the cracks. We intend to examine the bond beam again in 2021.



Chris Pacetti applies caulking to cracks in the bond beam.

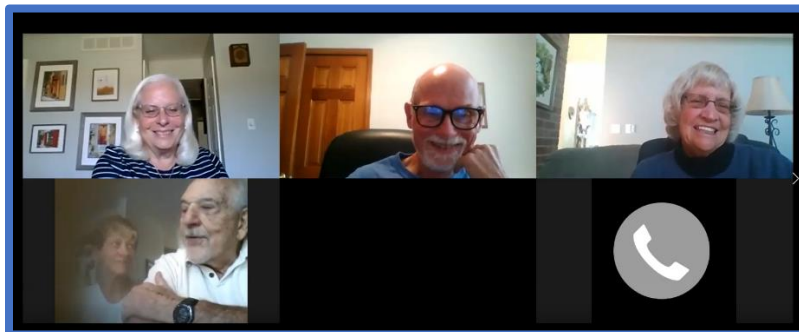
6. Field Trips. (Pat Badolato, coordinator)
Unfortunately, our trip planning goals for 2020 were unable to be accomplished due to the pandemic, as the Jefferson County Historical Commission's annual Historical Symposium in spring was canceled, and our outing to Staunton State Park had to be canceled because the visitor center was closed due to the pandemic. Therefore the JeffCo historical display inside, along with a presentation by Jefferson County Historical Commission member and liaison, Bonnie Scudder, could not be accomplished.
7. Possible Grave Site. (Leslie Miller, coordinator) We have been informed by an anthropologist at DU that there is a need to prove that someone lived close to the site, before any investigation can be done to move the project forward. We also learned that the technology for scanning the site remotely does not detect bone and this probably would not be decisive in determining if it is a grave. A “test dig” could be performed to get an indication of what is buried. Members will consider at the March 2021 meeting whether anything further should be done at the site.
8. Historic Site Documentation. (Vinny Badolato, coordinator)
 - a. 2020 started with 37 sites on the list of KCR Historical Sites. The coordinates for 16 sites were recorded prior to the start of 2020. Our goal was to record the coordinates to as many sites as possible in 2020.
 - b. During 2020 an additional 23 sites were added to the KCR Historical Sites bringing the total to 60 sites to be identified.
 - c. In 2020, the coordinates for 34 sites were recorded bringing the total of 50 sites with coordinates. There are now a remaining total of 10 sites that require coordinates.
9. iMovies. (Mary Antes, coordinator)
 - a. A new video about the development era on the Ranch has been completed, and now appears in the history section of the KCR website.
 - b. Suggestions for new imovies include the story of the development of the Ken-Caryl schools, the history of the history committee, and the Murphy Gulch Fire. Asking the KCR community for ideas is also being considered.
 - c. Corrections to the Shaffer Era i-movie were accomplished.
 - d. In March an additional 100 copies of the KCRHS brochure were printed for use at the Ranch House. (Monitoring the brochure was assigned to this committee.)



Title photo from the new Community Development imovie.

10. Kiln Stabilization. (Jim Antes, coordinator) This project continues on hold while we are focusing attention on maintenance of the Bradford-Perley House. We have requested an estimate to perform the stabilization work so that we have an idea of the possible cost, but we have not heard back from the company.
11. Open Space Committee Liaison. (Vinny Badolato) KCRHS has a liaison to the Open Space Committee (OSC) who attends every OSC meeting and answers questions and offers input relating to open space projects that have possible impact on historic sites.
12. Oral Histories. (Marilyn Elrod and Linda Omdahl, coordinators)
Covid-19 has affected having personal interviews most of the time during 2020. However, two oral history interviews were conducted:
- September 2020 – Personal interview with Ed Dornfeld
 - November 2020 – Zoom interview with Larry and Marsha Macro
- In addition, we continued maintaining the Oral History binders

Screen shot of Macro
interview on Zoom



13. Photography. (Pat Badolato) Member Pat Badolato continues to document KCRHS events with photographs. The photos are being saved for the KCRHS archives.
14. Public Programs and Publicity. (Stephanie Berg, coordinator)
- a. Articles in *Life at Ken-Caryl*
- February 19, 2020, "National Register Sites Poster on Display," Jim Antes
 - March 4, 2020, "Community Invited to Shaffer Barn Event Celebration Event"
 - March 18, 2020, "Community Invited to Shaffer Barn Event Celebration Event"
 - May 13, 2020, "Part 1: The Prehistoric People of Ken-Caryl Ranch," Jack Warner
 - May 27, 2020, "Part 2: The Prehistoric People of Ken-Caryl Ranch 15,500-5,000 Years Ago," Jack Warner
 - June 10, 2020, "Part 3: The Prehistoric People of Ken-Caryl Ranch 2,000-500 Years Ago," Jack Warner
 - June 24, 2020, "The Prehistoric People of Ken-Caryl Ranch 5,000-2,000 Years Ago," Jack Warner

- June 24, 2020, "Ken-Caryl Ranch Historical Society Receives Award for Preservation Efforts"
 - June 24, 2020, "Picture This!," Photos of the Bradford-Perley House garden in full bloom, Mary Everson
 - July 8, 2020, "Conclusion: The Prehistoric People of Ken-Caryl Ranch 15,500-500 Years Ago," Jack Warner
 - October 28, 2020, "Ken-Caryl Ranch Historical Society Awarded the Norm and Ethyl Meyer Award for Preservation Efforts"
 - October 28, 2020, "Jerry Jones Elected to Historical Society Hall of Fame"
 - November 25, 2020, "Meet Ed Dornfeld: An Oral History," Linda Omdahl
 - December 9, 2020, "Ken-Caryl Ranch Historical Society Produces 50th Anniversary Commemorative Video," Mary Antes
 - December 23, 2020, "Jim and Mary Up the 'Antes' When it Comes to KCR Preservation Efforts"
- b. Other media
- March 30, 2020 Issue of Ken-Caryl E-News, "Historical Society Videos Offer Stay-At-Home Entertainment"
 - July 23, 2020 issue of *Jeffco Transcript*, "Ken-Caryl Ranch Historical Society Recognized by County," Joseph Rios
 - Posted August 5, 2020, *Englewood Herald*, "Ken-Caryl Historical Society Honored," Joseph Rios
 - Issue 41, 2020 *Historically Jeffco*, p. 63, "Ken-Caryl Ranch Historical Society Norm and Ethyl Meyer Award for Historic Preservation in Jefferson County"
 - You Tube Video <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ptW57Emuc8s> Ken-Caryl Ranch Historical Society receiving Meyer Award at the Bradford-Perley House in October, 2020
 - December 20, 2020 Issue of Ken-Caryl E-News, "Historical Society 50th Anniversary Video Celebrates Community"

Portion of article about KCRHS in the July 23, 2020 issue of the *Jeffco Transcript*.



15. Shaffer Barn National Register Nomination. (Jim Antes, coordinator) A public celebration was scheduled for March 26 to recognize the listing of the Shaffer Barn on the National Register of Historic Places. The event was cancelled because of the coronavirus pandemic.

16. Signage. (Jim Antes, coordinator)

- a. The vendor was not able to provide a free sample of the sign that offers extra UV protection. Thus two Shaffer barn signs were made using the old process and installed, one near the barn parking lot and the other along the Brannon-Gearhart path.
- b. The next sign will describe the history of the Tinker Shaffer Reservoir, now the Tinker Shaffer open space. Research on its history is underway and not yet complete.

17. Tours. (Stephanie Berg, coordinator)

Community tours were hampered by the closing of the elementary schools due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The school tours that had been planned in the spring were canceled. We were able to provide a limited number of tours, however:

- On September 19 Jim Antes gave a tour of the Bradford-Perley House to a Cub Scout den and their leaders.
- On International Archaeology Day, October 17. Jack Warner gave tours of the Bradford II archaeological site and Jim and Mary Antes gave tours of the Bradford-Perley House.



KCRHS member Jack Warner giving a tour of the Bradford II archaeological site on International Archaeology Day October 17.

Financial Summary

Project	Income	Expense	Total
2020 Annual Budget			
Annual allocation			\$7000.00
Donation	\$200.00		
Archives		\$39.95	
Name badges and plaques		\$119.53	
Signs		\$354.46	
TOTALS	\$200.00	\$513.94	\$6686.06
Bradford-Perley House Preservation Fund			
Annual allocation			\$5000.00
2020 donation	\$50.00		
2019 MA allocation	\$5000.00		
Carry forward from 2019	\$4485.00		
2019 donations	\$540.00		
Painting of lintels		\$850.00	
Caulking for bond beam		\$16.01	
TOTALS	\$10,075.00	\$866.01	\$14,208.99
Balance with KCR Foundation			\$9859.00
Anticipated expense—archaeological investigation of Massey Draw Foothills site		\$6600.00	

Appreciation

2020 has been an extremely challenging year for everyone, KCRHS included. Many of our members are in the vulnerable category and needed to be in stay-at-home mode since March. Yet many of our projects proceeded either through remote work or by taking necessary precautions. So, I greatly appreciate that our members stepped up to ensure that work on our projects continued.

In addition, our work has been greatly aided by others who offered support and encouragement in multiple ways. Specifically, we offer our heartfelt thanks to:

- MA Executive Director Victoria DeSair. It's hard to imagine a more challenging year to begin her tenure as the Executive Director. Yet, from our perspective, she handled the challenge with skill, strength, and grace. She has always been available to respond to questions and offer a listening ear. She is a steady source of support and encouragement for our work.

- Scotty Martin, Chair of the MA Board of Directors. Scotty has been the Board liaison to KCRHS this year and has become deeply familiar with the work that we do through his regular participation in our meetings and assistance on some of our projects. His enthusiasm for our work is palpable and he has been a vocal advocate for us with the Board.
- Allison Hefner, Communications Associate and *Life at Ken-Caryl* Editor. Allison has enthusiastically helped us communicate our projects and activities to the community through many articles in *Life at Ken-Caryl* and notifications via E-News.
- Other Ranch House staff, including Communications Coordinator Kristen Peterka and Finance Manager Anne Husted. Kristen and Anne have responded skillfully and cordially to our communication and finance issues.
- Parks Director Pat Malloy, who has ensured that the trees at the Bradford Orchard are regularly watered. He also arranged for extending a water line to the Bradford-Perley House so that our garden committee can more easily keep the garden beautiful during the growing season.
- Open Space Manager Sean Warren, Ranger Peter Marozas, Ranger Mike Ryan, and other Ranger staff for being so willing to help us on a variety of projects. Given their work throughout the Ranch they are a key source of information about potential issues regarding historic sites on the Ranch. We greatly value their readiness to consult KCRHS when these sites might be impacted.
- Members of the Open Space Committee and Master Association Board of Directors for their willingness to listen to our interests and concerns and respond with sensitivity. We sincerely appreciate the allocation of funds by the MA Board for our projects and for the accumulating Bradford-Perley House Preservation Fund.

Looking Ahead

As with most people worldwide, we are looking forward to 2021 as a year where the pandemic is under control and individuals may safely participate in public gatherings. Until that occurs we will continue to meet via Zoom and be cautious in our projects to do the work safely. We are proud of what we have accomplished in 2020 and to have received recognition from the Jefferson County Historical Commission with the Meyer Award for our work. We have made great progress toward our project goals this year and are now setting new goals for 2021.

During the coming year a key goal is to receive funding from the State Historical Fund to perform needed repairs to the stonework on the Bradford-Perley House.

In prior years we have seriously considered acquiring enhanced security measures at the Bradford-Perley House because of instances of vandalism and intrusion inside the protective fence. That was again a consideration this year and we were pleased to learn that a security system approved by the MA Board for the Bradford Pool area will also provide a measure of security for the Bradford-Perley House.

The possible work to stabilize the kiln has now been deferred for two years because of what we considered to be more urgent matters (plus the failure to receive a professional

estimate of the work to be done, despite our request). It is likely that kiln stabilization efforts will again be deferred in 2021 with our focus and financial resources devoted to work on the Bradford-Perley House.

We are looking forward to receiving the results of the archaeological investigation of the Massey Draw Foothills site. We anticipate receiving those findings in the first half of 2021. It is possible that the results will lead to additional work at the site.

We are excited about the opportunities that await our attention in 2021 as we continue our efforts investigating the rich history of Ken-Caryl Ranch and sharing that history with the community.

Respectfully submitted,
Jim Antes
Chairperson, KCRHS