

Refurbishment Projects for Adoption

- Paint for exterior trim & porch..... \$700
- Paint for interior floors & stairs..... \$700
- Replace gutters & downspouts..... \$2,000
- Materials for repairing screens, windows & doors \$1,500
- Materials for replacement of “historical” cedar roof..... \$6,500
- Gravel for new pathways around the house \$1,500
- Materials for repair of log outbuildings \$1,500
- Decomposing toilet facility..... \$30,000

Enhancement Projects for Adoption

- Solar electrical power installation \$5,000
- New interior interpretive signs..... \$1,500
- New exterior interpretive signs..... \$1,500
- Digital A/V displays & equipment..... \$1,200
- Antique furnishings..... \$2,500

To make a contribution, please check off which project you would like to adopt or support with a partial contribution. If you provide your name, address and email address, we will keep you updated on our progress:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

email: _____

Amount Donated _____

To donate, please send this form and your check payable to:

Friends of Roxborough State Park
4751 E. Roxborough Drive
Littleton, Colorado 80125

Questions: Call the park at 303-973-3959

To donate via credit card please scan this QR Code:



Welcome to the Persse Place

In 1903, Henry Persse built the stone house as a gracious home and gathering place. Today, park volunteers carry on the tradition of entertaining visitors at Henry Persse’s place. However, the stone house and outbuildings are in need of some refurbishment and preservation. Please consider “adopting” a project on Henry Persse’s “Wish List.” Estimates are provided to identify the funds needed for each part of the project. The cost estimates are for materials only as labor will be provided by volunteers.



Roxborough State Park’s 50th Anniversary

Roxborough State Park will celebrate its 50th Anniversary in 2025. We are striving to accomplish Henry Persse’s Wish List projects in 2024 to commemorate this milestone.

The Roxborough Volunteers will also expand upon the educational programs offered at the site. To do so, Henry Persse’s “Wish List” also offers education enhancement projects for adoption.

Henry Persse's World

The lands making up Roxborough State Park have been the home of native peoples for over 15,000 years. The Mouache Band of Ute Indians consider this land part of their original territory. The Ute, Cheyenne and Arapahoe lived and hunted here until their final removal in the 1880s.

Homesteaders came into this area, one of whom was Dennis Cooper, who acquired the land from the federal government. A prominent rock formation, near the location of the Persse home, was viewed by the homesteaders as a likeness of George Washington so they called this area Washington Park. The earlier Indigenous peoples viewed this formation as a sacred chief.

Investors bought out many of the early homesteaders with plans to build a reservoir among the rock formations. Henry Persse acquired this land through default on a loan and renamed it Roxborough after his family's ancestral home in Galway, Ireland.



Henry Persse had plans to develop a resort at Roxborough. He invited many well known Denverites to visit his home among the red rocks. He hosted picnics and local school outings here. Henry Persse held the mineral rights to the local clay and silica resources which he leased to the nearby Silicated Brick and Clay Company.

While plans for the resort died with Henry in 1918, his son John, lived in the stone house until 1937. The home and the surrounding lands were acquired by the Helmer family whose ranch grew to over 3,000 acres. The State of Colorado purchased 500 acres in 1975, as the core of Roxborough State Park. The Henry Persse Stone House was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1983.

Henry Persse's Wish List

120 Years Ago Henry had a Vision.

Now his House Needs our Help.

From 1904 to 1918, Henry Persse shared the beauty of Roxborough with all who journeyed here. For the last 40 years, his 1903 stone home has been a centerpiece for many of the interpretive programs conducted by Roxborough volunteers.



Now, you can help the Roxborough Volunteers carry on the tradition by "adopting" a project from Henry Persse's Wish List and making a financial donation to help maintain the site and expand educational programming.

