

Tarryall-Cline Ranch placed on most endangered places list

By Walter L. Newton Editor | Posted: Thursday, February 8, 2018 2:00 pm

In the recent issue of Colorado Most Endangered Places Program newsletter, published by Colorado Preservations, Inc., the progress on preservation of the Terryall-Cline Ranch was featured.

The ranch and its main building, on the west side of the highway, sits between Jefferson and Como on U.S. Highway 285 and stands out like a silent sentinel, exposed to the raw weather that exists in the South Park meadow.

Park County Commissioner Dick Elsner commented on the CPI's inclusion of the Cline Ranch as part of its preservation program.

"Park County is pleased with the decision to include the Cline Ranch buildings in Colorado Preservation Inc.'s list of most endangered places. Anyone who drives along U.S. 285 can't help but notice the unique building on the west side of the highway between Jefferson and Como," Elsner said.

According to the newsletter, "The main ranch house was built in 1928 by the ranch owner, Foster Cline, Sr., a prominent Denver attorney. Cline was the deputy district attorney in Denver from 1913 to 1917 and again from 1925- 1929 and was later the regional administrator for the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission."

Park County recently purchased 1,635 acres of the ranch, which includes the main buildings. The purchase was accomplished with funding sources from Great Outdoors Colorado, the Colorado Habitat Stamp Program and the Park County Land and Water Trust Fund.

The CPI newsletter explained the current condition of the property and some of the processes needed to preserve the site.

"A Historic Structure Assessment was completed for the property in 2011, and the main ranch house was noted to be in extremely poor condition, both inside and outside, due to age, poor drainage, lack of occupation and maintenance since its abandonment, and general exposure to the extreme weather elements present in Park County. The initial goals for the ranch house include stabilization and protection from the elements and potential vandalism, followed by the development of partnerships to identify uses for the building that would complement the goals of the South Park National Heritage Area."

Elsner believes sites like this are an integral part of the history of Park County, and should be preserved.



Tarryall-Cline Ranch

Photo courtesy of Colorado Preservation, Inc.

“The ranch house was built almost 100 years ago, and the chance to raise awareness concerning its needs for restoration to preserve it as an important part of Park County history cannot be underestimated. We hope we can make the buildings a key part of the South Park National Heritage Area, and an integral part of the Cline Ranch State Wildlife area,” Elsner said.