

STAKEHOLDERS	6 - 7
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	8 - 15
INTRODUCTION	16 - 23
INTERPRETIVE PROCESS	24 - 69
INTERPRETIVE PLANNING	24
MANAGEMENT OVERVIEW	24 - 27
MARKET ANALYSIS	28 - 29
MESSAGE	30 - 47
UNIVERSAL STORY	30 - 31
INTERNATIONAL: World War	32
NATIONAL: Preparing for War	33
COLORADO: Convergence of Forces	34
REGIONAL: Proving Ground	35
CAMP HALE/ BASE CAMP	36
A River Channeled/ A River Restored	36 - 37
Camaraderie and Teamwork	38 - 39
Individual Experience of War	40 - 43
AFTER THE WAR: Elevating Recreation	44 - 47
MECHANICS/ STORY EXPERIENCE	48 - 63
MEDIA / COMMUNICATING STORY	64 - 69
Media Kit-of-Parts	64 - 65
Media Chart	66 - 67
Pictorial Camp Hale Photo Timeline	68 - 69
APPENDIX	70 - 99
Supporting Images	72 - 91
Existing Interpretation	92 - 93
Meeting Notes	94 - 99

A SKI GLOSSARY

Bindings:

A masochistic leather device which assures that no matter how many times your ski turns around, your ankle will turn with it.

Controlled Skiing:

Pretty much a contradiction in terms. The only control you have over skiing is when you walk by a pair of skis in a sporting goods store and buy a bowling ball instead.

Crouch:

A stance for getting as close to the ground as possible without tobogganing. The more experienced the skier, the lower the crouch; he knows what's coming.

Expert:

A skier who, when you see him coming, has already passed you.

Gelandesprung:

A system for getting you safely over everything except the top strand of a barbed-wire fence.

Instructor:

A Dartmouth man who falls down only when no one is looking.

Parka:

A light, closely knit garment that keeps snow from getting out, once it has got in.

Schuss:

To shoot a hill straight. Introduced by the Germans some years ago to get rid of as many American youths as possible before the war started.

Skins:

Something that can be attached to the bottom of skis to permit you to go up grades you won't dare come down.

Ski Poles:

Props to keep you from falling down. The trouble is that you have only two of them, and there are at least four directions in which you can fall.

Telemark:

One way of making a turn in deep snow. A much surer way is to sit down and get up facing the direction you want to go.

Unbreakable Crust:

A person who discourses for fifteen minutes on the merits of various ski waxes, and then borrows your last hunk of paraffin.

—David H. Beetle

Camp Hale Ski-Zette January 21, 1944
Saturday Evening Post, copyright 1944,
The Curtis Publishing Company:



Dave Christie and Nancy Kramer (far right), descendants of 10th Mountain Division soldiers, at the base of Chicago Ridge above Vance's Hut, joined by ROTC team, unit leader and family members, the group salutes the 10th with a field medic flag brought home from Italy by Nancy Kramer's father, William "Ropesole" Robertson, 87G, Medic.

STAKEHOLDERS

In February 2016, a dedicated group of stakeholders from the: 10th Mountain Division Foundation, National Forest Foundation, National Park Service, White River National Forest, Colorado Historical Society, State Historic Preservation Office, the Office of Senator Michael Bennet, and Vet Voice Foundation, met to share their knowledge and insights, and to give guidance to the interpretive priorities and stories for Camp Hale and the Eagle River Headwaters.

Later, in July 2016 Stakeholders and Collaborative Partners from the *Camp Hale and Eagle River Headwaters Restoration Project: Collaborative Recommendations for Restoration and Management* met to review this interpretive plan and critique it in terms of meeting the Restoration and Management Plan recommendation to: highlight *“the rich history of the area, including its geologic formation and natural ecosystems, use by native people and early settlers, and its military use.*

Gary Burton
10th Mountain Division Foundation
Consolidate legacy to make it accessible to more and more people.

“...During restoration, place interpretive signs to tell the story.”

Nancy Kramer
10th Mountain Division Foundation
“As a descendant: I feel compelled to carry on the story.”

David Little
10th Mountain Division Foundation
“Camp Hale offers the opportunity to: Ski in the footsteps of the 10th Mountain Division.”

Ben Dodge
10th Mountain Division Hut Association
“Place interpretive signs on hut to hut trails.”

Spencer Plumb
National Forest Foundation

Marcus Selig
National Forest Foundation

Christy Dickenson
National Park Service
“Interpretation as preservation of historic precedent.”

Shirl Kasper
National Park Service
“As a National Historic Landmark—tell the story of Camp Hale, World War II, and the ski industry.”

Noah Koerper
Senator Bennett Office

Garett Reppenhagen
Vet Voice Foundation
“Involve today’s vets in perpetuating legacy.”

Andrea Brogan
White River National Forest
“Camp Hale is well-loved by the public as a recreational destination.”

Donna Graham
White River National Forest
“Tie Top of the Rockies Scenic Byway to the interpretive story.”

Matt Klein
White River National Forest

Jennifer Bryan
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Interpretive Plan prepared by:
Noble Erickson Inc
Root House Studio

What do audiences seek to experience?

“They seek background, the history behind an object, event or practice. They seek connections between their interests and bigger picture issues. They want the chance to build and expand on what they know or on their previous experience.”

Why do people value resources?

“They are special places that give us the chance to connect with things bigger than ourselves.”

National Park Service

Rich in resources, the Colorado mountain terrain of the Eagle River region has attracted people for millennia: Ute people sheltered along the waterways and hunted elk, mountain bison, and mule deer in summer; later, miners arrived seeking gold, mining towns were established, and roadways and railways were built to transport the region’s gold and timber resources. Fortuitously, in 1891, the White River Plateau Timberland Reserve, precursor of the White River National Forest, was set aside by President Benjamin Harrison.

Covering more than 1.1 million acres, the Reserve was the first in Colorado and second in the nation. An Act of Congress in 1905, reclassified the “forest reserve” to “national forest” and proclaimed that its resources were not locked up for a distant future, but were to be managed for many purposes—timber, recreation, grazing, hunting, and fishing.

In the early 1900s, resources were harnessed for growing produce and grazing sheep.

Then, in 1942, during a time of world war, the region’s high altitude environment and “white gold” or snow was commandeered for the war effort—the Eagle River was channeled, the valley leveled, and a temporary mountain troop training camp, the size of 1940s Boulder, was built in just seven months. From 1942 to late 1944, when the 10th Mountain Division left for Camp Swift in Texas before shipping out to Italy, Camp Hale and the surrounding Rocky Mountains honed men for combat.

In addition to the 10th Mountain Division, for nine months, beginning in 1942, the *Norwegian Avengers* trained at Camp Hale. “The unit was in the field three to four days a week...trained with skis and three types of snowshoes for different conditions, and the

new T15 light cargo carrier, universally called the ‘Weasel.’ ...Some innovations were made by members of the Battalion...First was a mount made for a heavy machine from two skis—a mount from which the gun could be placed into immediate action. Second, a three-ski sled for litter bearers. This difficult training hinted at the battalions future deployment, a possible invasion of Norway from the north. The battalions excellent performance in training would serve as a blueprint for other units to follow.”

http://www.99battalion.org/index_files/training.htm

Upon the departure of 10th Mountain Division in 1944, Camp Hale was dismantled and the barracks, buildings, and materials were shipped to Fort Carson for reuse. But, Camp Hale and the region’s use as a mountain troop training base did not end with the dismantling. In 1951, the Korean War generated the organization

of the Mountain and Cold Weather Training Command at Camp Hale from 1951 to 1958. Jamesway huts—a portable, easy-to-assemble version of the Quonset hut occupied the grided streets of Camp Hale, planes landed on the valley floor, and the remaining Field House sometimes served as a hangar. From 1959 through 1965, the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) secretly trained Tibetan soldiers at Camp Hale. The camp was “deactivated” again in 1965. Control of the land was returned to the Forest Service in 1966. (Limited military use still continues in the area today.)

At the end of World War II, the 10th Mountain Division was deactivated in August of 1945, but in 1985, the 10th Mountain Division (Light Infantry) was officially reactivated at Fort Drum, New York. The Division deploys to a wide range of worldwide infantry-intensive missions.

Today, the war effort “interventions” at Camp Hale, which re-shaped the valley, channeled the Eagle River, and affected the ecosystem, are being assessed in order to restore the health of the valley, and to enhance the experience of visitors. The river will be “unchanneled” in an effort to restore its meandering course and to re-establish the valley’s riparian habitat. (Cleanup of munitions used in military training maneuvers throughout the region has been an ongoing since Camp Hale was deactivated.)

At Camp Hale on Memorial Day 2016, Senator Michael Bennet announced plans to further protect the storied mountain training center.

Camp Hale, already on the National Register of Historic Places, is slated to be the nation’s

first National Historic Landscape, “honoring its legacy with interpretive and educational elements, while maintaining the area’s diverse recreational amenities and uses and protecting it from future development.”

...“Bennet’s not-yet-formalized bill to protect Camp Hale will be part of a larger public lands proposal planned as a companion to Representative Jared Polis’ Continental Divide and Recreation Act. Polis’ act grows Colorado’s wilderness lands in the central Rockies while enhancing recreational opportunities with multi-use Recreation Management Areas.”*

* Jason Blevins, Denver Post: *Bennet’s plan for Camp Hale celebrates 10th Mountain Division legacy, protects recreation—10th Mountain veterans who trained at Camp Hale went on to create the U.S. ski industry*



Camp Hale in the 1950s during CIA training of Tibetan forces



Norwegian Artillery donning 90 pound rucksacks with snowshoes at Camp Hale, 1943

Provoking awareness and participation in the multifaceted stories of Camp Hale and the Eagle River Headwaters is the express purpose of the Camp Hale and Eagle River Headwaters Interpretive Plan. Awareness and participation will lead to the preservation of the legacy of the 10th Mountain Division. (While the historical presence of the Ute people, explorers, and settlers in the area is important, their stories do not contribute to the most significant and tangible story of this region.)

As the story of the nature of place converging with the nature of time and human nature, the course of the—Eagle River headwaters, White River National Forest, and Camp Hale, the 10th Mountain Division home—flow seamlessly into one story:

During a time of world war, Colorado's Eagle River was channeled to create a base camp for training a fighting force of soldiers; the surrounding high altitude terrain was used as a proving ground for the tools of war and as a testing ground for the honing of mountain troops. The repercussions in the valley of the stories of the individual soldiers of the 10th Mountain Division are still tangible in the landscape—and relevant to today's recreational and heritage visitors.

Focusing on these far-reaching, multifaceted stories of Camp Hale, the Interpretive Planning Process is organized under one overarching universal theme:

Your course at Camp Hale converges with the sacrifice and contribution of the 10th Mountain soldier—and powers your experience here.

Six pertinent storylines, rooted in this overarching theme are given depth by the 10th Mountain Division's Individual Experience of War—Building a Specialized Mountain Force:

- International—World War
- National—Preparing for War
- Colorado—Convergence of Forces
- Regional—Proving Ground
- Camp Hale—Training Ground
- After the War—Elevating Recreation

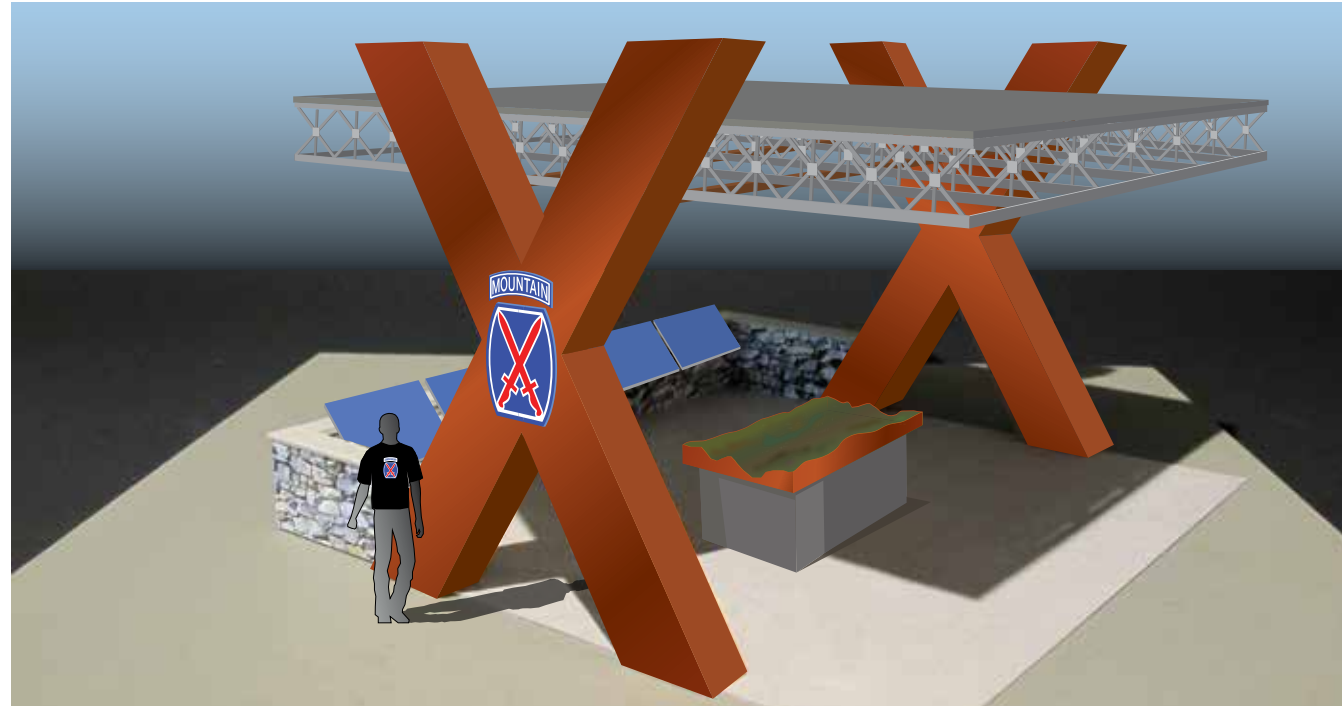
To provoke participation and understanding, these storylines will be translated into a timeline, reading from current time back to the building of Camp Hale and the channeling of the Eagle River, and be told through first-hand accounts/ quotes of 10th Mountain soldiers.



Interpretation will occur in “Experience Zones” and “Gateways” which create transition zones for visitors. These gateways will be beacons in the environment and feature Corten steel, Roman numeral “ten” sculptures, which support a truss canopy to shelter people and interpretive media.

The Timeline Pavilion—Camp Hale’s primary experience zone—located at the entry, will include: a timeline to give context to the 10th Mountain Division story, and three-dimensional topographic bronze map to orient visitors to the region and the scale of the reach of the 10th Mountain soldier. This map will feature Camp Hale and show the course of the Trooper Traverse and D-Series as a “touchstone” for awareness and to further the sustainability of the legacy of the 10th Mountain Division.

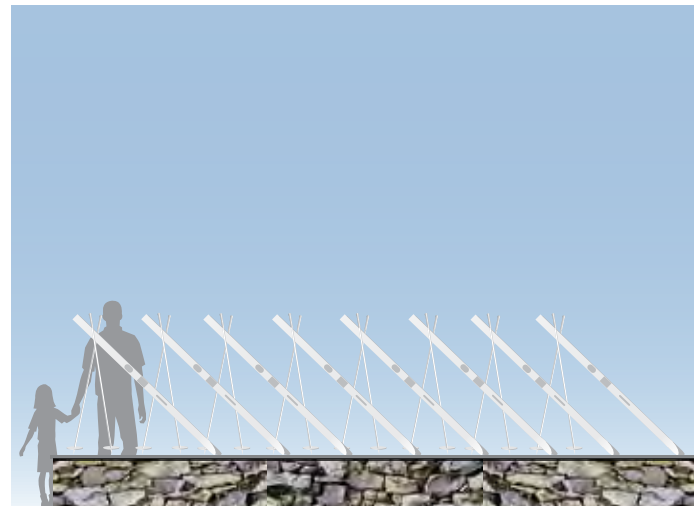
The location and types of interpretive media are designed to celebrate the 10th Mountain Division by providing visitors with context and experience environments which incorporate the few remaining artifacts and bring focus to the surrounding mountain terrain as proving and training grounds. The intent of all media is to provoke visitors to participate in the landscape as stewards of the Camp Hale and the 10th Mountain soldier legacy.



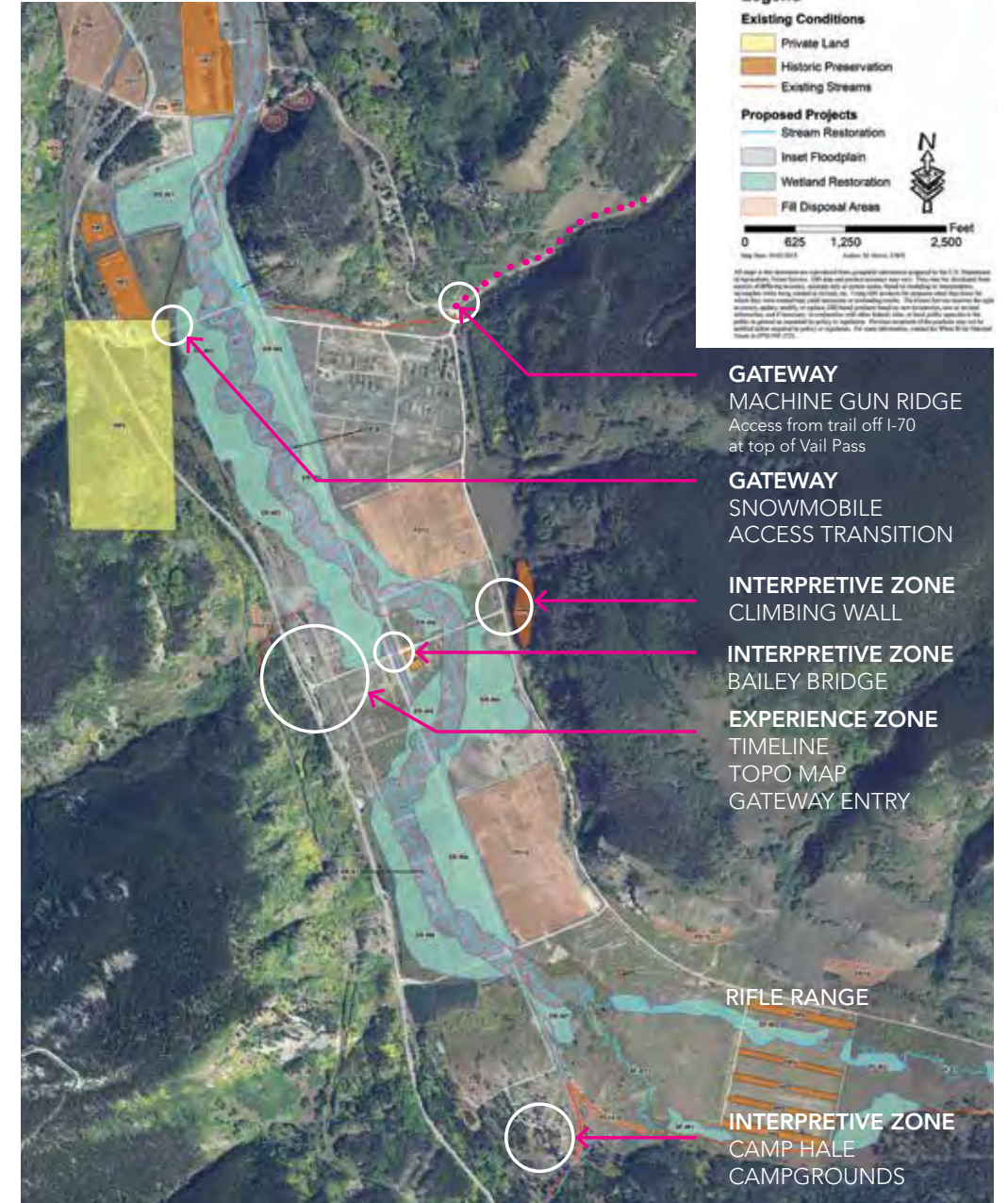
Timeline Pavilion



Three-dimensional bronze topo map examples



10th Mountain Division ski sculpture



Eagle River Headwaters proposed restoration map: Interpretive experience zone locations

Present

Limited military use still continues in the area.

In 1985, the 10th Mountain Division (Light Infantry) was officially reactivated at Fort Drum, New York. The Division deploys to a wide range of worldwide infantry-intensive missions.

Today, the war effort “interventions” at Camp Hale, which re-shaped the valley, channeled the Eagle River, and affected the ecosystem, are being assessed in order to restore the health of the valley, and to enhance the experience of visitors.

The river will be “unchanneled” in an effort to restore its meandering course and to re-establish the valley’s riparian habitat. (Cleanup of munitions used in military training maneuvers throughout the region has been an ongoing since Camp Hale was deactivated.)

Camp Hale, already on the National Register of Historic Places, is slated to be the nation’s first National Historic Landscape, “honoring its legacy with interpretive and educational elements, while maintaining the area’s diverse recreational amenities and uses and protecting it from future development.”

CAMP HALE TIMELINE



Company F, 86th Regiment on Riva Ridge, Italy, DPL

1950s – 1960s

Upon the departure of 10th Mountain Division in 1944, Camp Hale was dismantled and the barracks, buildings, and materials were shipped to Fort Carson for reuse.

Camp Hale and the region’s use as a mountain troop training base did not end with dismantling.

In 1951, the Korean War generated organization of the Mountain and Cold Weather Training Command at Camp Hale from 1951 to 1958.

From 1959 through 1965, the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) secretly trained Tibetan soldiers at Camp Hale.

The camp was “deactivated” again in 1965. Control of the lands was returned to the Forest Service in 1966.

1945*

THEATERS OF WAR

April 30 Hitler commits suicide in his Berlin bunker

May 2
German High Command accepts terms and surrenders German troops in Italy to the Allies
General Hays heads the Allied representatives in the formal surrender

May 7
Germans surrender unconditionally in Europe to Allies

July 18
World’s first atomic explosion at Alamogordo, New Mexico

August Atomic bomb hits Hiroshima August 6

Atomic bomb dropped on Nagasaki August 9

Japanese sue for peace August 10

Japan surrenders August 14

ALLIED FORCES

10 TH MOUNTAIN DIVISION

Winter
86th ski patrols search trail up Riva Ridge from which Germans can direct artillery fire on troops all around Mt. Belvedere, Jan. 8; 85th and 87th disembark at Naples; go by rail, landing craft and ship to Livorno, Jan. 13; 86th patrol finds first trail to the top of Riva Ridge; retreats under fire, Jan.15; 85th and 87th regiments enter the front lines in mountain village lying 60 miles northwest of Florence, Jan. 20; 86th patrols finish mapping five trails for the attack up Riva Ridge, Jan. 22; 85th and 87th relieve 86th, allowing 86th to train in rock-climbing in a quarry at Lucca, Jan. 30

February
Men of 85th move up to positions at Querciola at the foot of Mt. Belvedere, readying to take the mountain once Riva Ridge is secured, Feb. 13; 86th makes aerial reconnaissance flight over Riva Ridge preparatory to attack, Feb. 15; Companies A, B, C and D comprising the entire 1st Battalion 86th plus F Company 2nd Battalion—900 men total— move at night into hiding places at the base of Riva Ridge, Feb. 17; Starting to climb at 7 pm; 86th men arrive on top to force Germans off Riva Ridge; bombarded by artillery as counter-attack begins, Feb. 18; Remaining units of 85th, 86th & 87th move into hiding positions at base of Mt. Belvedere/Mt. Gorgolesco Ridge, while 86th



Final tally of 10th casualties: 4,154 wounded, 969 killed in just under four months (114 per day) of battle; 3% of 188,746 Allied casualties during 21 month Italian campaign beginning in August 1943



holds German counter-attack on Riva Ridge. 85th & 87th attack up Mt. Belvedere, 11pm relying on grenades and bayonets to avoid shooting each other [and giving away position], Feb. 19; By 9am, the 85th & 87th drive Germans off Mt. Belvedere and await counter-attacks, Feb. 20; 2nd Battalion, 85th attacks Mt. della Torraccia, peak east of Mt. Belvedere, Feb. 21; Mt. della Torraccia taken by 3rd Battalion, 86th completes initial breakthrough of the Ghengis Khan Line, Feb. 24

March - April
85th takes Mt. della Spe, sets up spring offensive March 5; 10th spring offensive open with attacks from Mt. della Spe, takes Hills 909 & 913 incurring greatest casualties in a single day (553 men, Lt. Robert Dole was among wounded, April 14; 10th breaks out of the Apennines into the Po River Valley April 20; 10th leads Allied advance across Po River, April 22; German emissaries meet Allied officials near Naples to negotiate surrender of German troops in Italy, April 29

End of War
SS Marine Fox leaves Naples carrying 10th Mountain Division to US, slated for combat in the Pacific July 30; docks in NY City August 11
10th Mountain deactivates at Camp Carson August 30

1944

January
Allies land at Anzio south of Rome; pinned down and take heavy losses

June
Allies reach Rome June 4, 1944

Allies launch successful invasion of Europe on Normandy beaches; 10th invasion of Norway canceled June 6, 1944

After retaking most of Pacific from Japanese, U.S. bombs island of Kyushu

March
44-day D-Series maneuvers at Camp Hale involve all three regiments, 10,000-men, March 24

April
Possibility of Camp Hale mountain troops invading Norway

June
10th Light (Alpine) Infantry Division leaves Camp Hale for Camp Swift in Texas for basic infantry training and addition of heavy weapons units, preparatory to fighting as regular infantry, June 20; dismantling of Camp Hale begins

July
Gen. Mark Clark requests 10th to help his 5th Army break out of Apennines, preventing Germans from setting up a final redoubt, Fortress Europa, Italy

November
Division designated 10th Mountain Division, adds a rocker over the division patch saying “Mountain” first such designation in military history; Nov. 7, 10th Assist. C. Robinson Duff arrives in Naples to plan for landing of the

* Source: A 10th Mountain Timeline, Ski Heritage, Fall 1995

[This original timeline] “was prepared with the help of 10th Mountain veterans George Earle, John Imbrie and Bob Parker and was initially adapted from the 10th Mountain Resource Center’s timeline. The 10th Mountain Division Resource Center is the official 10th archive, a joint effort by Colorado Historical Society and the Denver Public Library under Barbara Walton, founded in 1987 as a repository for letters, manuscripts and photographs. The 10th Mountain Division Foundation contributes financial support to the Center.”

1944 continued

September
Allies penetrate Gothic Line north of Florence; stopped short of Mt. Belvedere, which anchors a new defensive line called the Ghengis Khan Line

10th Mountain November 17; Brig. General Hays takes command of the 10th at Camp Swift, November 23; Allied battalions capture Mt. Belvedere; after five days of fighting, Germans retake peak, Nov. 24; Last units of 86th entrain at Camp Swift for Camp Patrick Henry (VA), and embarkation Nov. 28

December
First 10th Mountain troops arrive Naples, Dec. 3; 86th embarks from Norfolk VA, Dec. 10; 85th & 87th leave Camp Swift for Camp Patrick Henry, Dec. 21; 86th disembarks at Naples, Dec. 23; 86th leaves for Lucca region south of Mt. Belvedere, Dec. 25; 86th suffers first casualties at Querciola, near the base of Mt. Belvedere

1943

January 1943
Germans fail to capture Stalingrad, tide turns against Germany/Hitler in Russia

February
U.S. retakes Guadalcanal from the Japanese
May
U.S. Army dislodges 2,600 Japanese on Attu in the Aleutians; suffer heavy losses in mountain terrain
July
British and U.S. troops invade Sicily
August
Allied Forces invade toe of Italy; German forces in Italy fight on
September
5th Army invades Salerno Italy, incurs heavy losses

Winter
87th Infantry builds 600-man companies at Camp Hale as cadres for future 86th Regiment; Warner Bros shoots *Mountain Fighters* docudrama

February
Battalion size war games on Homestead Peak are marred by faulty leadership and sub-zero blizzards

March - May
NSPS authorized to send volunteers directly to induction center with orders to report Camp Hale; Mountain Fighters produces surge of volunteers, May

June
87th Infantry leaves Camp Hale for Fort Ord (CA) to train in amphibious warfare to retake Kiska, June 11

July
Mountain Training Center absorbed in the 10th Light (Alpine) Infantry Division (patch of crossed red bayonets on a blue powder keg; 85th Infantry Regiment activated at Camp Hale, July 15; 87th Regiment bound for Kiska, July 27

August
87th and other units land on Kiska (Japanese have left). Men mistakenly fire on each other in fog killing 11 soldiers; the 87th first combat deaths, August 15

December
87th leaves Kiska for Camp Hale

1942

January
Japanese take Manila and Philippines
February
Japanese take Singapore
May
Japanese complete conquest of Burma
June
Japanese bomb Aleutians to distract US forces from the invasion steaming toward Midway Island June 3, 1942; Japanese occupy Attu and Kiska June 7

June
US Naval Air Force destroy enough Japanese ships headed for Midway to force Japanese fleet to retreat, June 5

Winter
War Department authorizes NSPS to recruit directly for 87th Mountain; train at Paradise Lodge, Mt Rainier

April
Army begins construction of Camp Hale at Pando on the D&RG Railroad at 9,200 feet

May
Two-week expedition from Ft Lewis makes first winter ascent of Mt. Rainier to test equipment

June
2nd Battalion of the 87th forms at Ft. Lewis, June 7

August
Transfer of Mountain Training Center (MTC) to Camp Carson in Colorado Springs

November 16, 1942
MTC command moves to Camp Hale

December
Press releases, press tours, radio programs increases volunteers; 99th Battalion (native Norwegians) arrives at Camp Hale to train for Norway invasion; a contingency plan in case invasion of Continent falters, Dec17; National Ski Patrol System requested to supply 2,000 men in three months to Camp Hale, Dec. 29; 1st & 2nd Battalion of 87t arrives Camp Hale, Dec. 31

1941

April
Germans use mountain troops to invade Yugoslavia
June
Germany invades Russia
December 7, 1941
Japanese bomb Naval Base at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii
Germany and Italy declare war on the US

US declares war on Japan



Winter
6th Division soldiers at Ft Leonard Wood, MO get ski training at Ft. Warren, WY

41st Division Ski Patrol forms at Fort Lewis, trains at Mt Rainier

February
26th Infantry Regiment of the 1st Division at Fort Devens MA sends 1000 men to learn to ski at Lake Placid NY

44th Division Ski Patrol trains at Old Forge NY; 15th Infantry Ski Patrol circumnavigates Mt. Rainier; 41st Division Ski Patrol taken on two-week hike of the Olympics, WA

April
Ski equipment tested in Sierra

October
General Marshall authorizes the 1st Battalion of the 87th Mountain Infantry Regiment at Ft. Lewis, WA



November
1st Battalion of the 87th Mountain Infantry Regiment forms at Ft. Lewis with 12 officers and an enlisted man, November 15

December
General Marshall authorizes NSPS to assist in winter training of select unit; December 5, US Army activates a full mountain division, December 7

1940 -1939

1939
Germany invades Poland (three trained mountain divisions included)
April 1940
Germans invade Norway and Denmark
May 1940
Germans invade France, Belgium, and Holland
June 1940
France capitulates, Germany invades Romania

1939
Finnish ski troops hold invading Russian troops at bay; Britain and France declare war

April 1940
British troops routed by Germans at Narvik (mountainous Norwegian coast)

September 1940
Neutral US supplies Britain with 50 destroyers

Marshall tells Dole some divisions will have cold weather training in the coming winter

October
US institutes first peacetime draft for military service

December
War Department directs five Army division commanders to initiate selective ski training

2nd Infantry Regiment of the 5th Division trains 1,000 men to ski at Camp McCoy, Wisconsin

15th Infantry Ski Patrol formed at Fort Lewis, Washington

May
Charles Minot Dole founder of National Ski Patrol System and Roger Langley National Ski Association form Volunteer National Winter Defense Committee which offers Secretary of War Stimson the NSPS network to recruit skiers for mountain warfare

July
Dole (NSPS) write Army Chief of Staff George Marshall and President Roosevelt urging the establishment of mountain fighting units



Rock traverse at Camp Hale, DPL: TMD-704

What do audiences seek to experience?

“They seek background, the history behind an object, event or practice. They seek connections between their interests and bigger picture issues. They want the chance to build and expand on what they know or on their previous experience.”

Why do people value resources?

“They are special places that give us the chance to connect with things bigger than ourselves.”

National Park Service

Key Elements of Interpretation

To create a lasting connection between the visitor and the story of Camp Hale, five areas of interpretation are addressed in this Interpretive Plan:

Management: *What is the interpretive purpose?*
Define the mission, vision, goals, and objectives of the interpretation at Camp Hale.

Markets: *Who is the audience?*
Understand and address the audience with interpretation which is relevant to visitors.

Message: *What is the story?*
Identify key messages to best satisfy visitor interests and address management goals.

Mechanics: *Where is the story best told?*
Determine appropriate locations for integrating messages within Camp Hale and the region.

Media: *How is the message communicated?*
Engage diverse, multi-generational audiences through appropriate message applications.

MANAGEMENT: Interpretive purpose?

With the input of stakeholders and evaluation of their individual missions and expressed priorities for interpretation at Camp Hale, the interpretive Mission, Vision, Goals and Objectives were synthesized:

Mission:
Provoke engagement and participation at Camp Hale and the Eagle River Headwaters region through compelling 10th Mountain Division interpretation.

Vision:
Create an interpretive transition into Camp Hale as a "launch point" for recreational, heritage, and student visitors.

Goals:

- Engage visitors in understanding the region's significance in the context of the sacrifices, accomplishments, and contributions of the men of the 10th Mountain Division.
- Invite visitors to participate in the 10th Mountain Division's life-long love of the Colorado mountains and the legacy they left in outdoor sport.
- Connect visitors to recreational opportunities at Camp Hale, and surrounding hut trails.

Objectives:

Create a new model through cooperative partnerships in order to provide:

- Fundraising
- Implementation
- Ongoing Oversight, Maintenance, and Repair

Managing Partners:

Given the complexity of the Eagle River restoration and the desire to preserve the legacy of the 10th Mountain Division, managing partnerships are being forged between the National Forest Foundation and 10th Mountain Division Foundation for the purpose of capital and endowment fundraising for the implementation of this plan.

Representatives from both organizations are working to establish a capital and endowment campaign that includes project costs, timelines, roles and responsibilities for both capital construction and ongoing oversight of assets. This long range planning effort is imperative to the overall success of future Camp Hale and Eagle River Headwaters interpretation.

Ongoing Management for Interpretation and Media:

Ideally, for Camp Hale interpretation, the 10th Mountain Division Foundation, would be the Managing Partner responsible for fiduciary oversight of the post construction maintenance and repair endowment. (The 10th Mountain Division Foundation currently provides fiduciary oversight for the maintenance and repair of the 10th Mountain Division Memorial on Tennessee Pass).

Managing partners will be diligent in their ongoing assessment of future fundraising opportunities to assist with new project development and marketing, and to assure that funding is available to sustain the repair and maintenance endowment.

MARKETS: Who is the audience?

The best way to experience the story of the 10th Mountain Division is to engage visitors in experiencing the environment of Camp Hale and the White River National Forest. Interpretation must address this “power of place” and appeal to the interests of multi-generational and diverse audiences:

Recreational Audience:

For the visitor with the perception of Camp Hale as a *high altitude recreational mecca*, the interpretation will challenge users to assess how they measure up to the abilities of the 10th Mountain soldiers in the actual environment where they trained.

Cultural Heritage Audience:

Cultural heritage interests, which range from passive engagement to a range of exploratory levels—will be addressed with a timeline and topographical map of the region showing the range of the testing and proving grounds of Camp Hale.

Future Audience/Visitors

To broaden audience awareness of Camp Hale’s national significance, consider:

- Developing a teaching site for elementary, middle, high school, and college students.
- Utilizing the skills of vets/military historians.

MESSAGE: What is the story?

The interpretive message must focus on the stories which are best told on in the environment where 14,000 men trained as an elite force of mountain soldiers. It is a story which cannot be told in a museum—for only in experiencing the scale and power of place can the story of the 10th Mountain Division be fully understood.

Like any good story, the story of Camp Hale must be made relevant to today’s audiences through storytelling which defines the: situation, obstacles, and resolutions of individual men and companies who trained for and fought in World War II.

The most powerful way of telling this story is through quotes and biographies which feature the sacrifices and contributions of individual 10th Mountain soldiers.

MECHANICS: Where is the story best told?

Placing oneself in the environment where the 10th lived, trained, and formed connections to the Colorado mountains, creates the setting for a compelling experience.

Visitor progression to, into, and through Camp Hale as:

Awareness:

How do visitors find Camp Hale?

“Gateway” structures which create a sense of arrival and transition zone into Camp Hale.

Introduction:

How do you welcome visitors?

Interpretive pavilions or “experience zones” welcome visitors and provoke participation.

Invitation:

How do you orient visitors?

A timeline and three-dimensional topo map of Camp Hale and the surrounding peaks and locations of the Trooper Traverse and D-Series will engage visitors in exploring the 10th Mountain Division story.

Participation:

How do visitors “measure up?”

The gateways and trailmarker/ beacons seen from the pavilions serve to entice visitors to explore the valley and experience Camp Hale and the Eagle River valley.

MEDIA: How is the story communicated?

To meet the interpretive mission, vision, and goals, the pavilions, gateways, trailmarkers, and experiences will be supported by other means of storytelling to get people to Camp Hale and engage them onsite. These include a digital and print “kit-of-parts” consisting of:

- Maps
- Timeline
- Website
- Video
- Apps
- Itineraries
- Brochure/ Walking Tour Guides/ Flyers
- Interpreters/ Guided Tours
- School Curriculum

“Interpretation attempts to communicate in a thought-provoking way to an audience that’s completely free to ignore it”

Sam H. Ham



Camp Hale winter view

2016 Interpretive Planning Process

In 2011, the National Forest Foundation, in partnership with the U.S. Forest Service, identified Camp Hale and the Eagle River headwaters area as a *Treasured Landscapes* and initiated a multi-year conservation campaign to restore the area and enhance its ability to satisfy a multitude of functions.

As part of the current interpretive planning process for Camp Hale and the Eagle River Headwaters, the mission, vision, and goals of key stakeholders were evaluated in order to ensure the interpretive plan integrates and furthers the interests of the: *National Forest Foundation, Treasured Landscapes, the 10th Mountain Division Foundation, and the 10th Mountain Division Hut Association.*

Additionally, the Colorado Ski & Snowboard Museum in Vail interprets the legacy of the 10th Mountain Division through exhibits, events, video, and website—their mission is included to ensure Camp Hale interpretation expands the story without redundancy.

Potential partners, whose missions align with stakeholder priorities, were also evaluated: *10th Mountain Division Descendants, Inc., National Association of the 10th Mountain Division, Top of the Rockies Scenic Byway, the Colorado Trail Association, Walking Mountains Science Center, HistoriCorps, and Veterans of Foreign Wars.* Consideration was also given to exploring partnering with Eagle River Historical Society, Colorado Mountain College, Nova Guides, the City of Leadville, and Climax Molybdenum: Freeport McMoRan Co.

In charting a path forward, evaluation of these organizations leads to defining the purpose of interpretation at Camp Hale, and will be used to critique the effectiveness of the interpretive message and potential media applications proposed in this Plan.



Mule trenches Camp Hale, DPL TMD-703

Interpretation is a communication process that forges intellectual and emotional connections between the interests of the visitor and the meaning of the resource.

National Association for Interpretation

National Forest Foundation and *Treasured Landscapes*

Mission:

Bring people together to restore and enhance our National Forests and Grasslands.

Chartered by Congress, the National Forest Foundation (NFF) was created in 1993. With millions of acres in need of restoration and millions of people unaware of how National Forests enrich their lives, the NFF set forth on a campaign of restoration.

Goals to Revitalize Our Forests and Strengthen Our Natural Connection include:

- Implement stewardship projects that nurture more resilient forest ecosystems.
- Restore landscapes damaged by wildfire, insects, disease and natural disasters to provide scenic, watershed, wildlife and carbon sequestration benefits.
- Invest in the strength of communities of interest and communities of place, helping people convert their passion for forests into meaningful, sustainable conservation actions.
- Help the American public fully understand, savor and appreciate all that our National Forests have to offer building lasting connections with the lands that give us clean air and water, diversity of life, and fulfilling outdoor recreation opportunities.

Camp Hale / Eagle River Headwaters Restoration Project

Mission:

The NFF led a multi-year, community-based planning effort that created a collaborative plan for restoring the Eagle River's natural stream meanders and reestablishing a floodplain that supports functioning riparian and wetland ecosystems. In total, the plan proposes to restore approximately 270 acres of wetlands and five miles of stream channel.

The Plan also calls for the enhancement of the area's campgrounds, trailheads, and other recreation infrastructure. Furthermore, the Plan envisions the development and implementation of an historic interpretation Plan that describes the area's rich history and outdoor recreation opportunities.

Vision / Goals

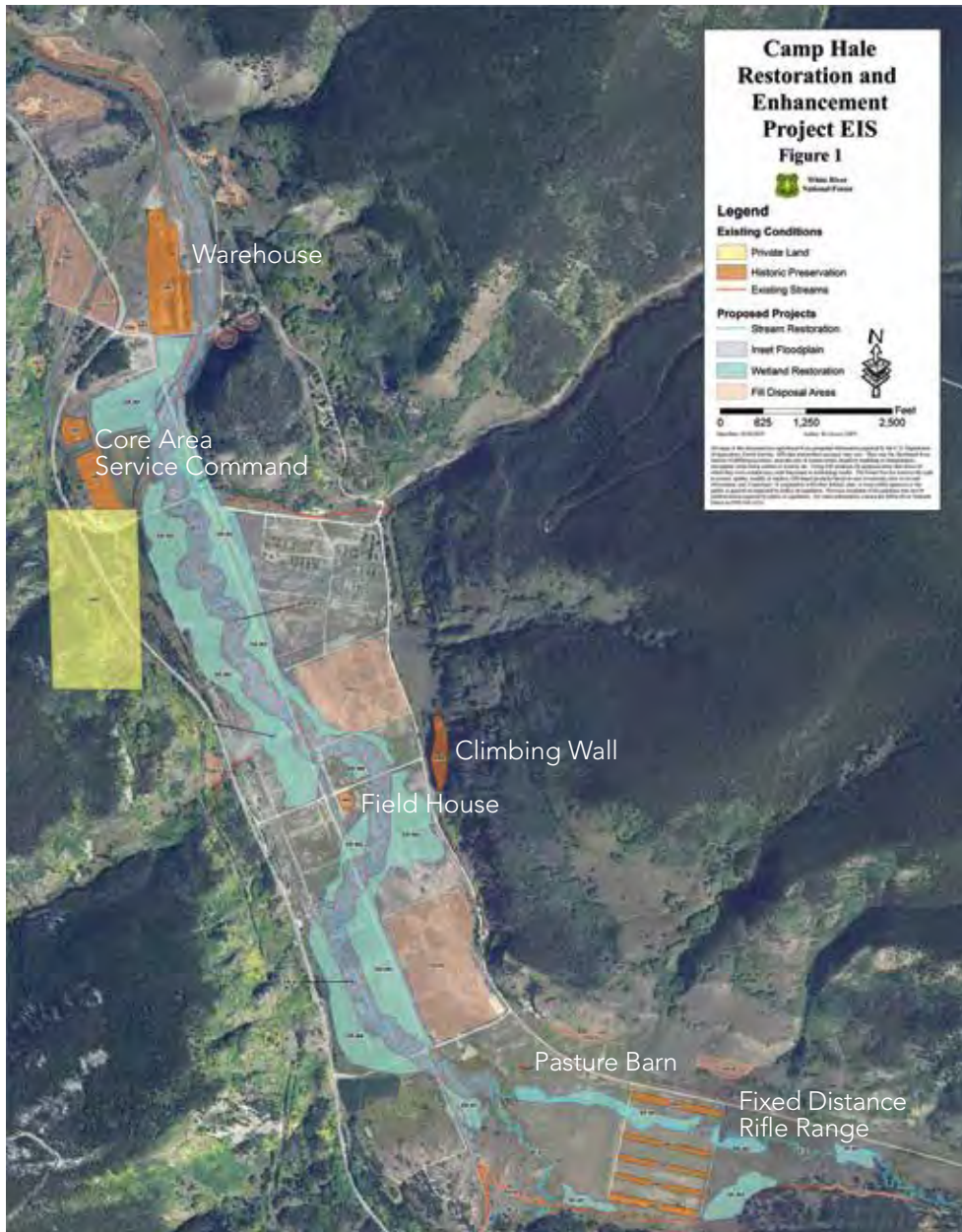
The shared vision identifies desired conditions and recommends specific actions for achieving those desired conditions:

- **River and aquatic health**—Return the Eagle River to conditions that are more akin to their pre-Camp Hale morphology and enhance the river's aquatic habitat.
- **Riparian and wetland areas**—Restore, enhance, and create riparian and wetland areas throughout the valley floor.

- **Recreation opportunities**—Maintain and improve all existing summer and winter recreational opportunities in the Camp Hale/Eagle River headwaters area.
- **Historic interpretation**—Honor the history of the project area by interpreting existing structures/relics and history through a comprehensive interpretive process/plan.

The Collaborative Partners identified the area's geologic formation, its native ecosystems, its use by native people and early settlers, its military use, the legacy created by the soldiers that trained at Camp Hale, and the story of this Group's restoration efforts.

Specific relics and structures were called out to be retained: fixed-distance berms and ammo depots of the rifle range, any remnants of the Nazi Village or infiltration course, and the Field House and, additionally, a recognizable portion of the existing linear stream channel. Partners also wished to ensure a filled, flat portion of the central valley floor (primarily in the central area of the Camp surrounding the former Camp Hale headquarters) be left undisturbed, allowing visitors to reflect upon the footprint and scale of the historic military installation. Additionally, the climbing wall and avenues and housing structure remnants remaining should be highlighted.



10th Mountain Division Foundation

Mission

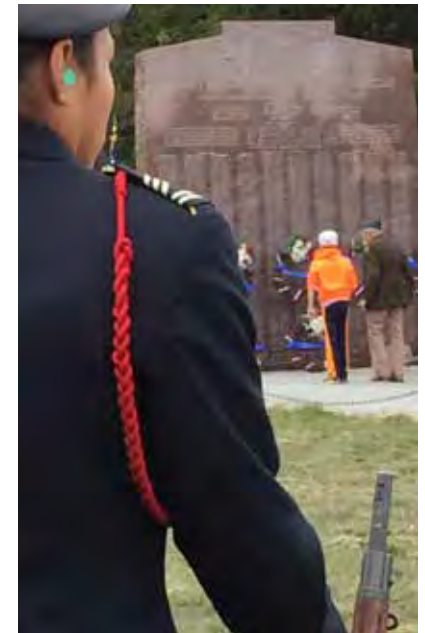
Honor and perpetuate:

- The legacy of WWII 10th Mountain Division.
- The memory of the soldiers who served with it the ideals for which they lived and died.

Vision

Develop, encourage and support good works, educational programs and other activities that:

- Promote widespread awareness of sacrifices, accomplishments and contributions of the 10th Mountain Division, and its broader membership.
- Foster the spirit of the 10th Mountain Division in future generations by:
 - Building individual character/comradeship.
 - Strengthening community responsibility.
 - Encouraging successor organizations.
 - Celebrating the spirit of the 10th, their connection with the mountains, and their love of the outdoor environment.



Memorial Day 2016 at Tennessee Pass

10th Mountain Division Hut Association

A nonprofit corporation, "10th Mountain" was formed in the early 1980s by several Aspen skiers, including 10th Mountain Division veteran Fritz Benedict, who cherished the perfect ski touring between Vail and Aspen. From the start the group set their sights on a trail with closely spaced huts, all accessible via intermediate ski touring trails.

A system of 34 backcountry huts in Colorado connected by 350 miles of suggested routes provide a unique opportunity for backcountry skiing, mountain biking, or hiking while staying in secure, comfortable shelter.

Our name honors the men of 10th Mountain Division of the U.S. Army, who trained during World War II at Camp Hale in central Colorado. Hut visitors share the special spirit of these individuals, especially their pursuit of excellence, self reliance, and love of the outdoors.



10th Mountain Division Trails



10th Mountain Division Hut: Summer



10th Mountain Division Hut: Winter

The Colorado Ski & Snowboard Museum

Vision:

Dedicated to preserve, honor and communicate the legacy of skiing and snowboarding in Colorado.

New museum exhibits will include:

- The 10th Mountain Division
The soldiers of the 10th Mountain Division, who trained in Colorado during World War II, are the cornerstones of the Colorado ski industry and their story will be the centerpiece of the new Museum.

Education:

- School visits and storytelling
- Conducting educational tours and giving presentations allow us to reach out to school classrooms and other groups. (10th Mountain Division veteran Sandy Treat gives first hand accounts of his comrades in arms. The film "Climb to Glory" is shown daily.

CSSM Audiovisual Tour App

Launched in early 2016, this self-guided tour app, developed by Museality, is a simple, easy-to-use multi-media app for iPhones and iPads. It includes an audio tour and photos not seen in the Museum for a deeper immersion into Colorado sports history.



Rendering of new Colorado Ski and Snowboard Museum interior

New exhibits include:

- Exhibit 1: Minnie Dole
- Exhibit 2–4: Recruitment, Camp Hale, and Shipping Out.
- Exhibit 5: The Mountain Warrior
- Exhibit 6–10: German's Controlling High Ground, Riva Ridge, Mt Belvedere/Map of Italy, Italian Campaign and Souvenirs of War, Legacy of the 10th Mountain Division.

10th Mountain Division Descendants

Mission

To preserve the legacy of the 10th Mountain Division and to give support to the veterans, wives and widows of the Division.

National Association of the 10th Mountain Division

Mission:

The Association exists to preserve and enhance the legacy of the 10th Mountain Division for future generations.

Membership includes:

- Veterans
- Special (wives/husbands)
- Descendants
- Honorary (extreme interest, loyalty, support)

As a member of the veterans' community, I care about the protection of America's public lands. These are the lands we love and swore to defend.

A growing number of veterans are using the outdoors to help heal from the trauma of war. Our public lands and waters also inspire us to overcome physical injuries. These are the places we take our friends and families when we want to reconnect after long deployments overseas.

Garret Reppenhagen Stakeholder

Top of the Rockies Scenic Byway*

The length of the byway is 115 miles long and takes approximately three hours to drive.

From the discovery of gold in the area in 1860, to the rise and fall of mining & railroad boom towns, to the brave men of World War II's 10th Mountain Division who trained at Camp Hale, this region is rich in Colorado History and is a must- see destination for history buffs.

The National Scenic Byways Program is part of the U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration. National Scenic Byways are recognized based on one or more archaeological, cultural, historic, natural, recreational and scenic qualities.

**While not currently a stakeholder, it would be good to involve Top of the Rockies Scenic Byways and to supply brochures and web links to appeal to this visitor audience.*

The Colorado Trail Foundation

Mission:

To provide and to maintain, through voluntary and public involvement, and in cooperation with the USDA Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management, a linear, non-motorized, sustainable, recreation trail between Denver and Durango. Provide multi-day, inspirational, and educational values keyed to the diverse, high mountain, natural environment.

Vision:

- Preserve the sense of community associated with the unique, high altitude experience achieved by participation in trail activities.
- To support environmental education, to be a place for healing and self renewal, and facilitate an appreciation for the value of natural systems.
- To support multiple use, non motorized, family recreation.

Walking Mountains Science Center

Rivers flow. Trees stretch. Mountains walk. Revolving and evolving, the earth and all of its creatures are in a constant state of movement and change. And we are a part of this natural world.

Mission:

To awaken a sense of wonder and inspire environmental stewardship and sustainability through natural science education.

School Programs:

Working in conjunction with the local school district and private schools, serve every child in Eagle County through natural science programs that take place in nature.

Community Programs:

Courses—from films and speaker series events to Science Behind classes and astronomy.

Graduate Programs and Internships:

Expand experience through graduate studies and internships which create/teach courses that connect people to the natural world.

Our educational programs engage experiential learning—techniques that foster critical thinking, and teach the scientific method through the gathering of data.

HistoriCorps*

A nonprofit organization modeled after community service programs such as the Civilian Conservation Corps and AmeriCorps. HistoriCorps provides volunteers, students and veterans of all skill levels with a hands-on experience preserving historic structures on public lands across America. Volunteers and students work with HistoriCorps field staff to learn preservation skills and put those skills to work saving historic places that have fallen into disrepair. www.HistoriCorps.org

*Through a partnership formed by Colorado Preservation, Inc., the United States Forest Service, and Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado, HistoriCorps works to increase the capacity to achieve preservation projects.

Veterans of Foreign Wars

Besides helping fund the creation of the Vietnam, Korean War, World War II and Women in Military Service memorials, the VFW in 2005 became the first veterans' organization to contribute to building the new Disabled Veterans for Life Memorial, which opened in November 2010.

Annually, the nearly 1.7 million members of the VFW and its Auxiliaries contribute more than 8.6 million hours of volunteerism in the community, including participation in Make A Difference Day and National Volunteer Week.

INTEGRATED STAKEHOLDER MISSIONS

Of the missions, visions, and goals defined by stakeholders, six speak to interpreting the power of place at Camp Hale and the Eagle River Headwaters:

- ① Help the American public fully understand, savor and appreciate all that our National Forests have to offer, building lasting connections/fulfilling outdoor recreation opportunities.
- ② Maintain and improve all existing summer and winter recreational opportunities in the Camp Hale/ Eagle River headwaters area.
- ③ Honor the history of the project area by interpreting existing structures/relics and history through a comprehensive interpretive process and plan.
- ④ Promote widespread awareness of sacrifices, accomplishments and contributions of 10th Mountain Division.
- ⑤ Foster the spirit of the 10th Mountain Division in future generations, especially the pursuit of excellence, self-reliance, and love of the outdoors.
- ⑥ Provide volunteers, students and veterans of all skill levels with hands-on experience preserving historic structures on public lands across America.

Through interpretation, understanding; through understanding, appreciation; through appreciation, protection

Tilden Freeman

Key Elements of Interpretation

To provoke a lasting connection between the visitor and the story of Camp Hale, five areas of interpretation will be addressed:

Management: *What is the interpretive purpose?*

Define the mission, vision, and goals of the interpretation at Camp Hale.

Markets: *Who is the audience?*

Understand and address the audience the interpretation is intended to serve.

Message: *What is the story?*

Identify key messages to best satisfy visitor interests, and address management goals.

Mechanics: *Where is the story best told?*

Determine appropriate locations for integrating messages with the resource.

Media: *How is the message communicated?*

Telling the story to diverse, multi-generational audiences through appropriate applications.

MANAGEMENT

Mission, Vision, and Goals

With the input of stakeholders and evaluation of their individual missions and expressed priorities for interpretation at Camp Hale, the interpretive Mission, Vision, Goals, and Objectives were synthesized:

Mission:

Provoke engagement and participation at Camp Hale and the Eagle River Headwaters region through compelling 10th Mountain Division interpretation.

Vision:

Create an interpretive transition into Camp Hale as a "launch point" for recreational, heritage, and student visitors.

Goals:

- Engage visitors in understanding the region's significance in the context of the sacrifices, accomplishments, and contributions of the men of the 10th Mountain Division.
- Invite visitors to participate in the 10th Mountain Division's life-long love of the Colorado mountains and the legacy they left in outdoor sport.
- Connect visitors to recreational opportunities at Camp Hale, and surrounding hut trails.



Eagle River Headwaters area and training grounds for 10th Mountain Division (View accessible from Machine Gun Ridge on Resolution Road)

Objectives

Management Objectives:

Create a new model through cooperative partnerships in order to provide:

- Fundraising
- Implementation
- Ongoing Oversight, Maintenance, and Repair

Managing Partners:

Given the complexity of the Eagle River restoration and the desire to preserve the legacy of the 10th Mountain Division, it will be necessary to formalize partnerships between national and regional stakeholders.

Project Implementation/Capital Investment:

The first step in developing these managing partnerships will be to forge an ongoing relationship between the National Forest Foundation and 10th Mountain Division Foundation for the purpose of capital and endowment fundraising prior to the implementation of the plan.

Representatives will establish a capital and endowment campaign that includes project costs, timelines, roles and responsibilities for both capital construction and ongoing oversight of assets. A strategic goal will be to customize projects to potential funders' missions, areas of interest and willingness to contribute capital, endowment, or a

combination of funds. This long range planning effort is imperative to the overall success of the Camp Hale and restoration interpretive projects.

Potential Funding Sources:

The National Forest Foundation and the 10th Mountain Division Foundation will, in partnership, research funding partners whose priorities align with education, conservation, and preservation with a specific interest in the story of Camp Hale. Examples of potential partners include:

- History Colorado, State Historical Fund
- Gates Foundation/ Gates Frontiers Fund
- 10th Mountain Division Foundation Legacy Program Grant
- National Trust for Historic Preservation Grant Program
- Private individuals and corporate entities (ski, outdoor recreation, and equipment industries) with a keen interest in the 10th Mountain Division and Camp Hale story. This research should include identifying relevant military units and associations for inclusion in partnerships.
- Community and Family Foundations vested in preserving regional cultural and heritage assets.

Ongoing Management for Interpretation and Media:

Ideally, for Camp Hale interpretation and media, the 10th Mountain Division Foundation would be the Managing Partner responsible for fiduciary oversight of the post construction maintenance and repair endowment.

Managing partners will be diligent in their ongoing assessment of future fundraising opportunities to assist with new project development and marketing, and to assure that an adequate level of funding is available to sustain this repair and maintenance endowment.

Interpretive Objectives:

- Through enhanced interpretive experiences, engage current and new audience groups in the legacy of Camp Hale.
- Integrate the Eagle River valley and region into the Camp Hale interpretive storyline.

Marketing Objectives:

- Increase visitor awareness of Camp Hale as a heritage destination through targeted interpretive media and promotion.
- Continue and create new partnerships to leverage marketing opportunities and promote the Camp Hale experience.

Potential Funding Sources

Research funding partners whose priorities align with education, conservation, and preservation. Pursue conversations with:

- The Gates Foundation/Gates Frontier
- Freeport-McMoRan Social Investment*
- HlStoriCorps

*Lee Rimel (from the Stakeholder Group is familiar with this CIF)

Gates Foundation/ Gates Frontier

"Appreciation and conservation of Colorado's natural beauty, resources, and opportunities for outdoor recreation is fundamental to the quality of life and the economy of the state. Funding in this area also supports the Foundation's interests in youth, health, education, leadership, and community revitalization."

"The Foundation supports capital projects that

- *Invest in land and water protection that safeguards important natural resources, habitat, and the health of natural systems.*
- *Help preserve the state's ranching and agricultural legacy and encourage smart land use patterns.*
- *Construct and improve urban and mountain parks and open space for public recreation and access.*
- *Maintain the state's urban and mountain trail systems.*

- *Provide recreation, environmental education & leadership opportunities for young people.*
- *Encourage the spirit of scientific inquiry as well as the preservation of natural habitat.*

In addition, "Gates has a history of supporting historic preservation projects. Increasingly, the Foundation is focusing on preservation projects where the ultimate use serves community needs (relevant to Foundation's mission). Note that a project is much more compelling if the facility will be accessible to the community and/or will be used to provide programs for local residents."

Contact:
Gates Family Foundation
1390 Lawrence Street, #400
Denver, Colorado 80204-2081
T303.722.1881
info@gatesfamilytrust.org

also see:
grantsoffice.com/GrantDetails.aspx?gid=9372

Freeport-McMoRan Social Investment*

The foundation supports programs designed to ensure resources are used to address high-priority needs and community development. Special emphasis is directed toward programs designed to address education and training; economic and community development; community safety, health, and wellness; the environment; and cultural heritage and the arts.

Through Community Investment Funds, (CIF) the foundation supports programs designed to promote local capacity-building, community development, and sustainability. The CIFs are governed by community representatives who cultivate and address projects that serve priority needs of the community and the foundation funds those projects that have a positive, sustainable impact. CIFs are limited to Globe, Graham County, Greenlee County, Green Valley, Miami, and Sahuarita AZ, **Climax Area, CO**, and Grant County, NM.

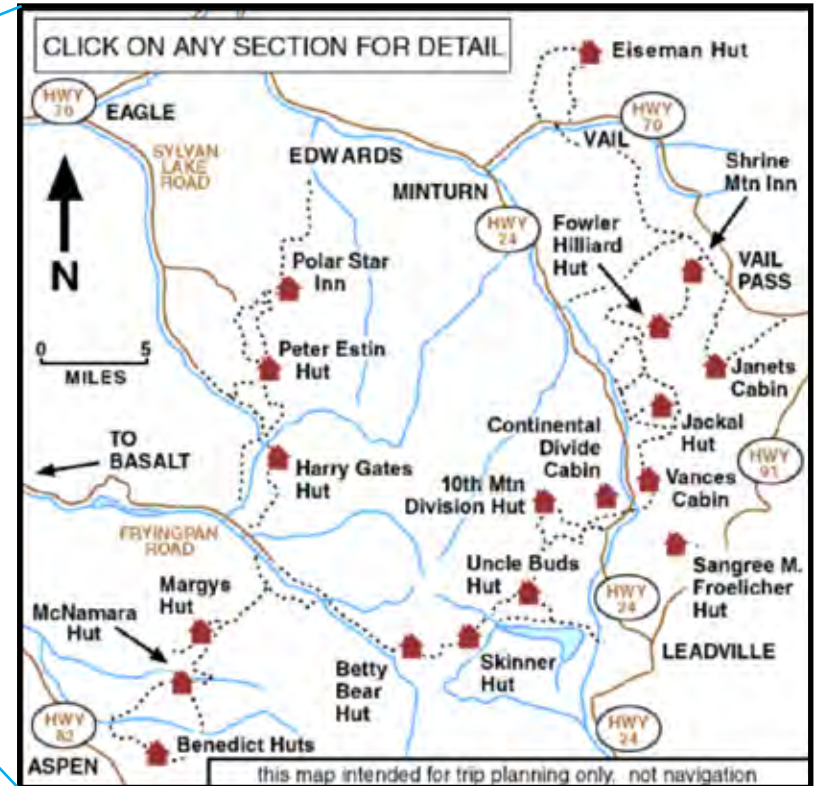
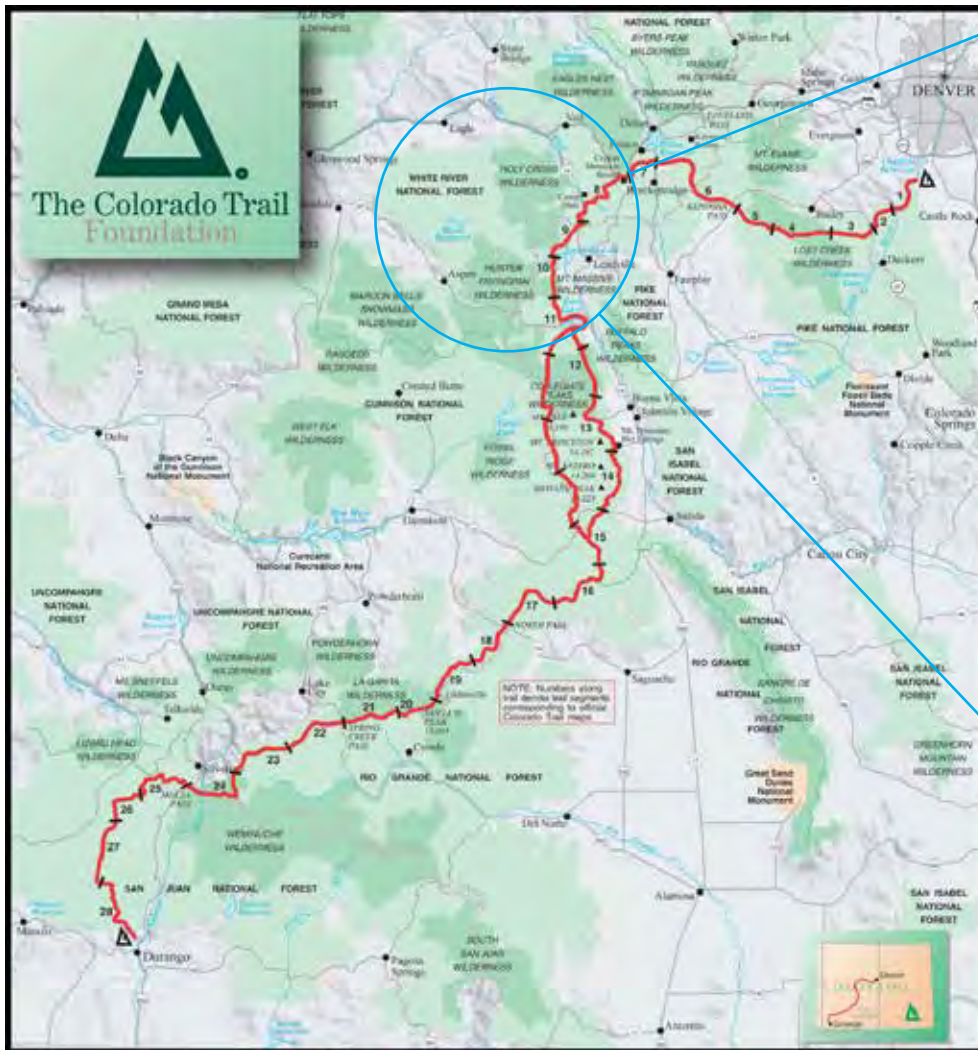
Community Investment Fund Locations

Application Window: Sept 15 – Dec 15
Application Status Notification: May 1

Contact:
333 N. Central Ave.
Phoenix, AZ United States 85004-2189
T: 602.366.8116
www.freeportinmycommunity.com



INTERPRETIVE PROCESS



10th Mountain Division Hut Map

MARKET ANALYSIS

Who is the audience the interpretation must reach and engage?

Camp Hale is a well known all-season Colorado recreation area. Visitor interest centers on camping, hunting, fishing, rock climbing, mountain biking, hiking, jeeping, off-highway vehicle (OHV) riding, snowmobiling, dog sledding, and backcountry skiing.

There are trailheads for the Colorado Trail and for several of the 10th Mountain Division backcountry huts.

Demographically, visitor familiarity with and knowledge of Camp Hale ranges from direct experience by the 10th Mountain Division veterans and their descendants and families to people coming for seasonal recreational opportunities in White River National Forest.

To be relevant, given this diversity of visitors, interpretative messaging and media must engage people in exploratory experiences—both passive and participatory—of the Eagle River valley and the 10th Mountain Division.

Future Audience/Visitors

To broaden audience awareness of Camp Hale's national significance, consider:

- Developing a teaching site for elementary, middle, high school, and college students.
- Utilizing the skills of vets/military historians.
- Partnering with Morale Welfare & Recreation. (MWR at Fort Carson which organizes trips/outings and provides high quality recreation opportunities and community support for service members and their families.)

STRATEGIC CONSIDERATIONS

With the intent of stimulating participation in the environment of Camp Hale and the White River National Forest as the best way to experience the story of the 10th Mountain Division, the interpretation must address the "power of place" and appeal to the interests of multi-generational and diverse audiences:

Recreational Audience:

For the visitor with the perception of Camp Hale as a *high altitude recreational mecca*, the interpretive concept of the "power of place" will address this groups' use of the region's outdoor opportunities as a measure of personal ability.

Cultural Heritage Audience:

This same interpretive concept also addresses cultural heritage interests, which range from passive engagement to a range of exploratory levels with the strategic placement of interpretive media and trailmarkers within the boundaries of Camp Hale and at trailheads and overlooks on the trails leading to 10th Mountain Division Huts.

Inherent within this interpretative concept is also the ability to convey:

- The Eagle River's significance in the valley and the benefit of restoring riparian habitat in order to enhance recreational value.

We are like dwarfs sitting on the shoulders of giants. We see more, and things that are more distant, than they did, not because our sight is superior or because we are taller than they, but because they raise us up, and by their great stature add to ours.

John of Salisbury, *Metalogicon*

Successful interpretation must synthesize the complex scope of message storylines—international, national, regional, Camp Hale, and the individual experiences of the 10th Mountain Division soldiers into one inclusive overarching theme. In exploring this universal theme, which will integrate the past, present, and future of the Eagle River headwaters area and the legacy of Camp Hale, the concept of “the elemental forces of nature converging” vaults to the top.

As the story of the nature of place converging with the nature of time and human nature, the convergence of seemingly parallel tracks—Eagle River headwaters, White River National Forest, and Camp Hale, the home of the 10th Mountain Division—flow into one story: During a time of world war, the Eagle River was channeled to create a base camp for

training a fighting force of soldiers; the surrounding high altitude terrain was used as a proving ground for the tools of war and as a testing ground for the honing of mountain troops. The repercussions in the valley of the Eagle River headwaters, White River National Forest and the lives of the individual soldiers of the 10th Mountain are still tangible in the landscape—and relevant to recreational and heritage visitors today.

The elemental forces at play:

- Nature of time
- Nature of place
- Nature of man

As a story of the nature of time, the narrative is inclusive of nature’s reclaiming of existing structures and relics in the valley as well as the passing of a generation—the loss of first hand

experience and knowledge—but also the relevance of their memories and legacy to next generations.

Ultimately, this universal theme should promote understanding and awareness on a personal level for each Camp Hale visitor. This can only be accomplished through an interpretive theme that is relevant to the visitor and brings them into the story with the word “you.”



"Thought provoking themes have two essential features:

- 1. Motivate the audience to process it by connecting to things that matter to them; that are relevant to them.*
- 2. Be perceived by the audience to be easy to understand and process."*

Sam H. Ham—*Interpretation: Making a Difference*

"When a theme is relevant to its audience and easy to process, it's likely to provoke thought."

"When you insert the personal word "you" into a theme, you start a conversation with your audience."

Sam H. Ham—*Interpretation: Making a Difference*

STRATEGIC CONSIDERATION

Overarching Theme

Your course at Camp Hale converges with the sacrifice and contribution of the 10th Mountain soldier—and powers your experience here.

As a metaphor, "course and convergence" and the relevancy of the sacrifice and contribution of the 10th Mountain soldier to their experience of Camp Hale. This overarching theme also moves seamlessly across the storylines of the soldiers individual accomplishments, the testing of their mettle in training, in waging war, and upon return, in creating the skiing and outdoor sport industry.

The concept of "setting course" whether snowmobiling or cross-country skiing or even people driving or walking into the valley speaks to the individual visitor

As a metaphor, "course and convergence" and the relevancy of the sacrifice and contribution of the 10th Mountain soldier to their experience of Camp Hale.

This overarching theme also moves seamlessly across the storylines of the soldiers individual accomplishments, the testing of their mettle in training, in waging war, and upon return, in creating the skiing and outdoor sport industry.



INTERPRETIVE PROCESS

Like any good story, interpretation engages audiences by defining the situation, obstacles, and resolution.

Without a doubt, for the men of the 10th Mountain Division at Camp Hale, the story defines an individual and a collective call to duty—volunteering to hone their skills, both physically and mentally, in preparation for mountain warfare; then in the arena of war, overcoming obstacles and tragedy (1000 killed in action; 4,154 wounded) to defeat the Nazis in the Italian Apennine Mountains; and help effect the end of WWII.

This narrative also applies to the engineering/ building crews, who channeled a river and transformed the Eagle River valley to prepare soldiers for war. It also resonates with ramifications for telling the current story of the Eagle River valley restoration.

Inherent in this story is the need to tell it through first-hand accounts/ quotes from the men of the 10th Mountain—to tell it in their words and experiences.

The interpretive message must focus on the stories which are best told on the actual site where 14,000 men trained. While visitors of the Colorado Ski and Snowboard Museum may experience many aspects of the legacy of the 10th Mountain Division, Camp Hale is the only place to experience the environment and terrain which shaped and forged men into mountain soldiers.

The story of Camp Hale has global reach yet is, foremost, a Colorado story. Written within the context of world war, the United States' involvement in war, and training for winter warfare in the mountains of Colorado and the Eagle River valley, this story is revealed, ultimately, by the individual experiences of the men of the 10th Mountain Division:

- INTERNATIONAL: World War
- NATIONAL: Preparing for war
- REGIONAL: Proving ground for war
- COLORADO: Convergence of forces
- CAMP HALE / BASE CAMP:
 - A river channeled for war/ A river restored for recreation
 - Camaraderie and Teamwork
- INDIVIDUAL EXPERIENCE OF WAR
 - Building a specialized fighting force
- AFTER THE WAR: Elevating recreation

The global reach of world war begins in 1939 with the German invasion of Poland—three trained mountain divisions participated in the invasion. Russia invades Finland but Finnish ski troops hold the invading troops at bay. As German aggression progresses across Europe, Britain and France are forced to declare war on Germany.

“[Hitler’s] action shows convincingly that there is no chance of expecting that this man will ever give up his practice of using force to gain his will. He can only be stopped by force.

We and France are today...going to the aid of Poland, who is so bravely resisting this wicked and unprovoked attack upon her people. We have a clear conscience. We have done all that any country could do to establish peace. The situation in which no word given by Germany’s ruler could be trusted and no people or country could feel itself safe has become intolerable.

Neville Chamberlain, British Prime Minister

Universal Storyline:

- War
- Trepidation

“America’s isolation from war ended on December 7, 1941, when Japan staged a surprise attack on American military installations in the Pacific.”

“...The United States faced a mammoth job in December 1941. Ill-equipped and wounded, the nation was at war with three formidable adversaries. It had to prepare to fight on two distant and very different fronts, Europe and the Pacific.”

The National WWII Museum
December 7, 1941: A Day That Will Live in Infamy
<http://www.nationalww2museum.org>

NATIONAL / AMERICAN STORY

PREPARING FOR WAR

The United States entered the war after Pearl Harbor is attacked by Japan in 1941. The US is forced to gear up for war under the uncertainty of a German invasion on American soil at the Canadian border. Minnie Dole begins to push for a mountain troop division for national security and the European war arena.

"As the United Nations prepares to move with increasing strength on every side of the Axis powers, we must meet all the extremes that nature and geography present. The United States Army is working at every one of these barriers...be it across water, through the air, in the desert or, in our case here in the Rockies through blizzards and over crags that mountains put in our way."

Brig. Gen. Onslow S. Rolfe, *The Army Hour*, Jan. 17, 1943

Universal Storyline:

- Vision
- Necessity
- Ingenuity

"...Events began shaping back in 1938 when I was given the responsibility of organizing the National Ski Patrol System (NSPS). By the winter of 1939 it had been accomplished in skeletal but working form...one night Alec Bright of Boston, Roger Langley and I were together...and the discussion led to the phenomenal job the Finns were doing on the Karelian Isthmus in crucifying the Russians. A perfect example of men fighting in an environment with which they were entirely at home and for which they were trained. It occurred to us that United States was the plum that Germany really had her eyes on; that our country is under snow a good portion of the years and that our army had been a tropical army since Valley Forge with all high ranking officers indoctrinated in that type of fighting. Thinking only in terms of defense of this country, it became an obsession with me."

"...In early October of 1941 the blow fell. Johnny Walker phoned and stated that someone between G3 and the top had relegated the whole problem of training

in mountain and winter warfare to the file for secondary consideration and if anything was to be done to save it, it must be done at once. This called for drastic action. In more or less fear and trembling, we drafted a resolution to General Marshall with copies to President and Colonel Stimpson."

"The pitch was:

1. That our northern boundaries are under snow at least four months of the year.
2. That many countries in which fighting either offensive or defensive was then taking place were under snow.
3. That Germany had 14 trained mountain divisions.
4. That we didn't feel there was anyone clairvoyant enough to foresee where or at what time of year we might be called upon to fight in the offensive or defense.
5. Our Army was maneuvering extensively in the deep south at the hottest season of the year."

[The letter] "...perhaps helped, for it arrived simultaneously with a report from one of our attaches in the embassy in Rome

detailing the debacle of the Italian winter campaign in Albania: '10,000 troops frozen to death, 25,000 dead, if a global war is contemplated or envisioned, men must be trained in mountain and winter warfare and time is of the essence as these troops cannot be trained over night.' The 87th came into being just 22 days before Pearl Harbor."

"In the meantime the Germans rolled to within 11 miles of Moscow when the first blizzard blew down from the north and the Russians put winter to work as an ally. Plans to expand the 87th to a division were in embryo. The War Department was looking for a site. Their need was mountains, a trunk highway, railroad and one and one-half million gallons of water a day. They chose Pando, Colorado. We argued against it due to the altitude but the die was cast."

Minot Minnie Dole, *10th Mountain Division*, Wallace I. Bardeen, October 1941 (pages 49-53)

INTERPRETIVE PROCESS

Colorado is a uniquely resource-rich state where geography, climate, elevation, and accessibility to water, roadways, and railroad converged to create an ideal testing ground for mountain troop training and proving ground for developing winter warfare equipment:

- 9,200' elevation
- Continental Divide/Eagle River valley
- Extreme climate/snowfall

"...We've got the best men...the best equipment...and up here in the Rockies, the best possible countryside. Remember, the fighting mountaineer has a double enemy...the Axis powers and the elements. He has to fight for his existence as well as against the fascists...he's going to carry out our motto: 'We conquer mountains and men.'"

Brigadier General Onslow S. Rolfe, *The Army Hour*, January 17, 1943

Universal Storylines:

- Ruggedness
- Opportunity

COLORADO CONVERGENCE OF FORCES

"Colorado offered three attractive choices: Aspen, on a beat-up branch railroad line; Wheeler, eighteen miles from the nearest railroad; and Pando, a whistle stop on the main line of the Denver & Rio Grande Railroad, subsequently dubbed the *Dirty, Rugged and Greasy* by resident ski troopers."

"At 9,400 feet above sea level, surrounded by rugged mountains and bisected by a cold stream known as the Eagle River, Camp Hale had a summer daytime temperature that rarely rose much above seventy degrees, winter brought snowfall that averaged twelve feet in depth and mountain temperatures that plunged to fifty degrees below zero."

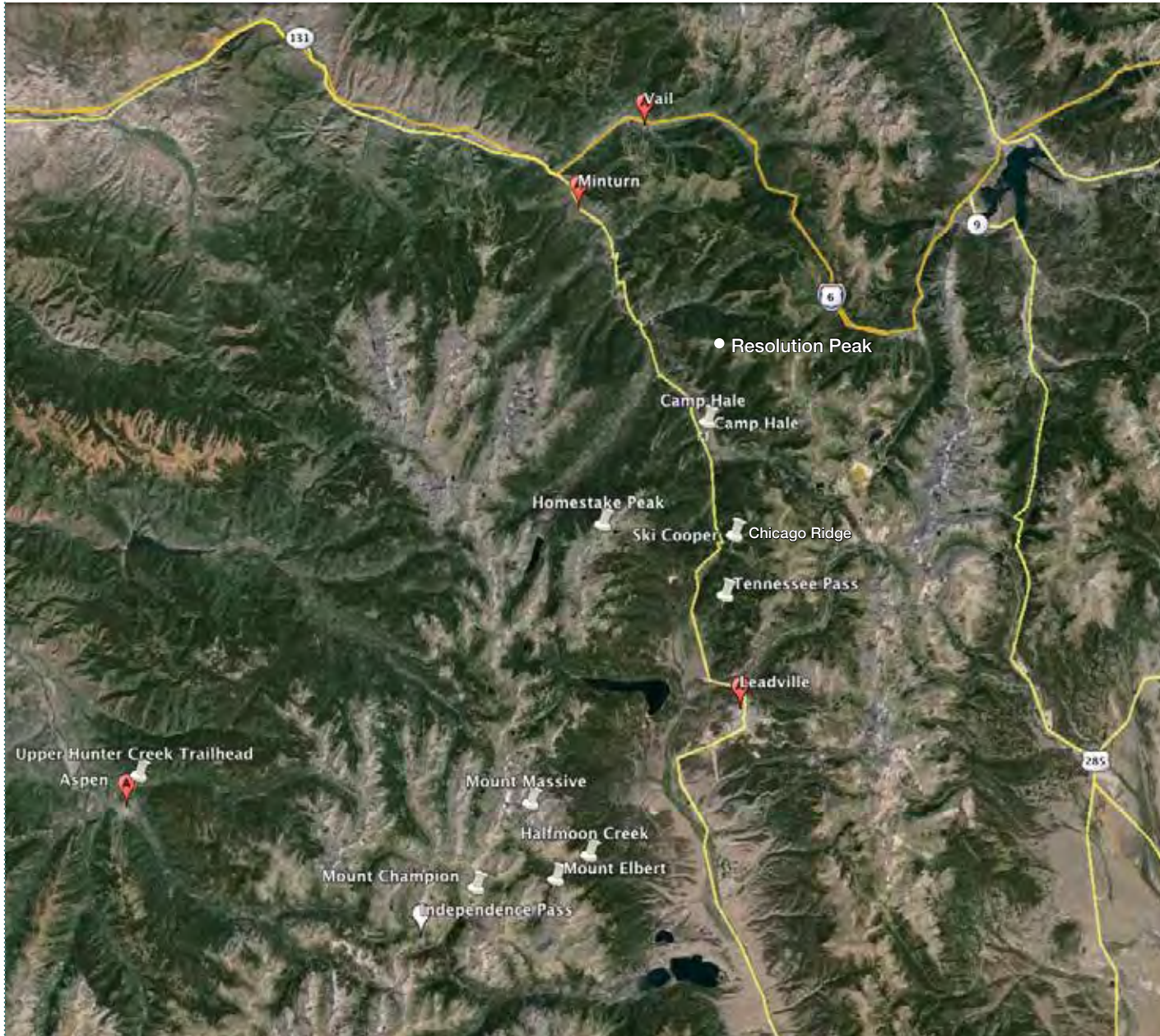
10th Mountain Division History, Thomas R. Brooks cited in *10th Mountain Division*, Wallace I. Bardeen



DPL: TMD-478



REGIONAL / MOUNTAIN TOPOGRAPHY
PROVING GROUND



Terrain conducive to preparing soldiers for warfare* in:

- Mountain terrain
 - > Mount Massive
 - > Homestake Peak
 - > Resolution Peak
 - > Mount Champion
 - > Mount Elbert
 - > Chicago Ridge
 - > Machine Gun Ridge

*Today, the same features make the region a recreational mecca.

"This is the Mountain Training Center, far up in the Rockies of Colorado astride the Continental Divide. This is Camp Hale, where rugged peaks and heavy snow provide the ideal terrain for training another of the Army's new and special kind of troops. This is no Lake Placid, no Sun Valley...it's a tough and practical installation where skis and sleds and mules and toboggans all fit with military tactics."

Capt. Joseph Thompson, The Army Hour, Jan.17, 1943

Universal Storylines:

- Endurance
- Mental toughness
- Innovation
- Testing limits
- Survival

INTERPRETIVE PROCESS

MESSAGE / UNIVERSAL STORY

- Constructed: 1942, built in seven months between April to November along a six mile reach of the Eagle River; officially opened on November 16, 1942.
- Deactivated 1945 (many of the facilities of Camp Hale were dismantled).
- **National Register of Historic Places 1992**
- Small city: 1022 buildings.
- Forest Service took over administration in 1966.

“World War II veterans initially bristled at ecological restoration, fearing it would erase too much of Camp Hale. The 10th Mountain Division’s representative, Gary Burton, part of a 40-member planning group, conferred with veterans nationwide.”

*“‘Some just wanted the land left alone,’ Burton said. ‘But most said, ‘It has performed its function for us. Let’s preserve our history, but let’s also put it back into some form of ecological function.’”**

Universal Storylines:

- Ingenuity

CAMP HALE / BASE CAMP
A RIVER CHANNELED / A RIVER RESTORED

“TENNESSEE PASS—Federal land managers have embarked on a \$30 million project to remake a Colorado mountain valley that during World War II was transformed into an elite military training base.”

“The ecological restoration along headwaters of the Eagle River—home of the famed 10th Mountain Division—would require scooping out millions of tons of gravel and sand to turn a straightened waterway back into a river that curves through a floodplain.”

“It would mean yanking nonnative thistles and other invaders across 2,000 acres, re-contouring and re-vegetating with native flowers and willows.”

“‘A lot of our pristine headwaters in Colorado have had impacts. This is an opportunity to restore the ecosystem in an area that has historic value—and make it better,’ said Marcus Selig, regional director of the National Forest Foundation, which led creation of a 50-page master plan. ‘Our

goal is to put the area on a trajectory to be natural. We’ll engineer the floodplain. We’ll design it so that high flows in spring can restore a balance.’”

“But historic preservation of scattered concrete foundations of the Army base looms as a hurdle. And water pressures complicate restoration. Colorado Springs and Aurora own rights to groundwater under the headwaters, within a 30,700-acre watershed, and to snowmelt trickling down surrounding rocky peaks.”

“A project proposal put forth this month by the U.S. Forest Service preserves the option of cities drilling into a re-engineered valley to reach groundwater and building a reservoir above wetlands to supply residents along Colorado’s increasingly populated Front Range.”*

*Bruce Finley, *The Denver Post*: \$30 million may flow into Mountain Valley restoration project (03/29/2015)

CAMP HALE / BASE CAMP
A RIVER CHANNELED / A RIVER RESTORED



Pando Constructors: Camp Hale Cantonment, Pando, Colorado, Site Plan DPL: CG4314 .C164 1942 .P3

"The main area of Camp Hale was laid out in a grid. Three major roads ran roughly north-south through the valley and were labeled A, B, and C. Twenty-one cross streets ran roughly east-west across the valley and were labeled 1st through 21st streets."

"From November 1942 until the 10th vacated the camp in June 1944 the facilities consisted of 1,022 buildings and structures including barracks, administrative stables, a vet clinic, a hospital, and a field house."

Camp Hale National Historic Site Dedication [USFS Brochure]



Camp Hale construction, USFS photo

INTERPRETIVE PROCESS

MESSAGE / UNIVERSAL STORY

Camp Hale: Intentionally built as a temporary “base camp” during a time of world war with the express purpose of training a tightly knit mountain fighting force. The “close quarters” of Camp Hale were designed to effect the camaraderie and teamwork needed for survival in the arena of war.

It is the only site in US developed for winter warfare training; it was integral to the success of troops in Italy.

“The comradeship and fellowship we had in the 10th Mountain Division certainly was wonderful; and I can say even being a naturalized citizen, that I was accepted as a full fledged American; and I never got any bad reaction that ‘I came from the other side.’”

Herbert Schneider
86th/ Intelligence Recon

Universal Storylines:

- Camaraderie
- Teamwork
- Trust
- Dedication

CAMP HALE / BASE CAMP
CAMARADERIE AND TEAMWORK

“Upon their arrival at the training camps, inductees were stripped of the freedom and individuality they had enjoyed as civilians.”

“They had to adapt to an entirely new way of living, one that involved routine inspections and strict military conduct, as well as rigorous physical and combat training. They were given identical haircuts, uniforms, and equipment, and were assigned to spartan barracks that afforded no privacy and little room for personal possessions.”



Snow Weasel and troops, DPL: TMD-613

The National WWII Museum
<http://www.nationalww2museum.org>
December 7, 1941: A Day That Will Live in Infamy

CAMP HALE / BASE CAMP CAMARADERIE AND TEAMWORK

DAILY TRAINING—5 Day Week

0600 Reveille
0630 Formation—roll call, sick call, orders of the day, calisthenics
0700 Breakfast (hot or cold C/K rations)

Training schedule included the following repeatedly:

- 0800 - 1200 Tactical exercises with tests—squad, section, platoon use of terrain militarily
- Ski training with tests
 - Snowshoe training with tests
 - Care and cleaning of weapons and all equipment used with inspection
 - Manual of Arms
 - Rock climbing and obstacle courses
 - Bayonet drill
 - Marches with full or combat packs—infantry pace was 2.5 miles per hour with minute breaks each hour, 2-4 hours in length
 - Bivouacs—2 - 5 nights in length
 - Map reading with field test
 - Cleaning barracks
 - Mule training —harnessing and packing
 - Weasel training—handling and towing
 - Live firing—all weapons on ranges and over troops
 - Parades—National holidays, visiting dignitaries
 - Manual of skis
 - Inspection—individual/barracks
 - Guard duty—daily and nightly
 - Medical training—wounds, bandaging, morphine use, evacuation, transfusion
- 1200 - 1300 Noon meal (hot or cold)
1300 - 1700 As above
1700 - 1800 Clean up
1800 - 1900 Evening meal (hot or cold)
1900 - 2200 Free time
2200 - 0600 TAPS Lights out-in the sack

Training schedules came from Battalion Headquarters, posted in Company Orderly Room and barracks; KP detail posted in barracks. Latrine duty announced daily. Three day weekend passes available to all ranks every other weekend at Camp Hale.

William R. "Sarge" Brown L/86 [*Commemorative Book*, page 52]



Ski Training, DPL: TMD-389



Camp Hale Mess Hall, DPL TMD-807

INTERPRETIVE PROCESS

MESSAGE / UNIVERSAL STORY

INDIVIDUAL EXPERIENCE OF WAR
BUILDING A SPECIALIZED FIGHTING FORCE

During a time of world war, training at Camp Hale pushed men to their limits in order to prepare them for war.

The surrounding mountain terrain became a proving ground for equipment and a testing ground for men. Two notable maneuvers illustrate the tenacity and courage of the men of the 10th Mountain Division:

Trooper Traverse:
D-Series

"Up Half Moon Creek between Mt. Elbert and Mt. Massive to Mt. Champion, then bearing right and climbing and skiing on high ridges most of the time. For two days after leaving Half Moon Drainage, I doubt we were under 12,000 feet at all."

Trooper Traverse-1944
First person account: Richard Rocker

Universal Storylines:

- Courage
- Perseverance
- Sacrifice
- Endurance
- Adaptability



DPL: TMD-478



DPL: TMD-777

INDIVIDUAL EXPERIENCE OF WAR
BUILDING A SPECIALIZED FIGHTING FORCE

TROOPER TRAVERSE

February 21-24, 1944

40-mile direct route to Aspen

"It began as a postscript to a rigorous training regimen, a weekend cruise that would be potentially hazardous, fun and instructional, all at the same time. Called the Trooper Traverse, two different ski treks from Leadville to Aspen, one in 1943 and the other in 1944, were viewed as tests for the men of the 10th Mountain Division of the U.S. Army and their equipment. Starting in 1942, some 11,000 men trained at Camp Hale near Leadville, just over the Williams Mountains range from Aspen, awaiting their date with destiny in the mountains of northern Italy near the end of World War II."

"Fit and eager from their training at Camp Hale, the troopers were always ready for some diversionary exercise to complement their training. Little did they know that their four-day treks to Aspen would one day become the template for a system of high-country ski huts sprinkled throughout the Central Rocky Mountains."

"According to a firsthand account of the 1944 Traverse by 10th Mountain vet Richard Rucker, the *'objective was to put training and experience to the test in route finding, group cooperation, safety, self-sufficiency, etc.'* Ralph Ball, now 87 and a veteran of the 1943 Traverse, when asked this week why the exercise took place, replied, *'I guess they were testing our equipment' as well as the mettle of the men.*"

"Both groups of men—32 troopers in 1943, 33 in 1944—started up Half Moon Gulch near the crossroads of Malta, southwest of Leadville, following the draw between Colorado's two tallest peaks, Mounts Elbert and Massive. Ball, interviewed at his home in Carbondale, reported 10 inches of new powder on the trail, forcing the troopers in a 'fair-for-all' rhythm—one trooper breaking trail for 50 yards or so, then pulling to the side and falling in at the back of the line, so the man at the front was always fairly fresh. 'We carried no weapons, but the packs were probably 50-60 pounds without them,' wrote Rucker, although Ball said that on the earlier

Traverse many of the hardier men were hauling 90-pound rucksacks in keeping with the 10th Mountain Division anthem and tradition. The routes both groups followed kept them above timberline for much of the trek, meaning 12,000 feet or higher. Ball reported that the first trek ran into no bad weather at all, and during certain stretches the troopers wore nothing but T-shirts on top. Nights were spent in tents, though one of the groups is believed to have stayed in an old miner's cabin encountered on the way."

"As for the terrain, Ball wrote in his own story about the Traverse, snow-savvy troopers, especially Austrian-born Sepp Frolich, 'an experienced mountaineer,' were called upon to pick the best route to avoid avalanches. During the second Traverse, Rucker reported, the group approached the forbidding peaks of the Williams Mountains on the third day, when it was getting late. The wind was rising, and snow was beginning to fall. Worried about getting caught in the open by an approaching storm, the

group risked topping a high ridge and dropping down the steep Trooper Couloir on the other side. 'We were lucky,' he wrote. 'Everybody, even our best skiers, cautiously side-stepped down the first narrow pitch, then made cautious traverses and kick turns. The snow was too crusty to allow any decent turns—no one really enjoyed it as skiing, but everyone made it safely out of the gully,' and into the upper reaches of the Hunter Creek Valley."

"Camping in falling snow overnight, the troopers made the easy glide into Aspen on the fourth day, Rucker wrote. 'There was just time for a traditional Aspen Crud at the Jerome Bar before a truck arrived to take us back to Cooper Hill in time for supper,' he concluded. Local freelance writer Lou Dawson, who has written about the Trooper Traverse and 10th Mountain Division, said an Aspen Crud is equal parts bourbon and vanilla ice cream, mixed in a blender - and that it remains a specialty of the bartenders at the Jerome Bar."

The Aspen Times: Trooper Traverse - the original 'hut trip'—John Colson

D-SERIES

"War games are designed to test a division's capabilities. Observers from high command descend; umpires make their calls. Pass the test, and the division is, so to speak, certified as operational, combat ready. Movement overseas follows. That, at least, was the expectation of the ski troops...as they wound slowly out of Camp Hale on March 24, 1944, up Tennessee Pass Road in to the snow-covered 11,000-foot mountains beyond."

"On the first nights, temperatures ran down to 35 degrees below. The snow was two to ten feet deep with drifts ranging in places from forty to fifty feet deep. Fires were not permitted during tactical maneuvers. Radio batteries froze; equipment became brittle and broke. Artillery was packed in on mules often floundering up to their bellies in the snow. Mortars were put on toboggans drawn by skiers. Weasels threw their treads, tipped over on the hillsides."

"Some troopers caught pneumonia and were brought out on toboggans. One night, more than one hundred cases of frostbite had to be evacuated. Later, when the snow storms cleared up, men were snow-blinded, blindfolded and sent back to hospital. On Easter Sunday, close to the end of the series, the weather warmed up while the troopers were maneuvering on the slopes of 12,142-foot Ptarmigan. Then, a wet, heavy snow fell, soaking weary soldiers to the bone. When temperatures dropped, clothes froze. Supply vehicles could not reach the snowbound mountain troopers. Food ran short, still weary troopers slogged on."

"All the while, field problems had to be solved, patrols run to seek information about the "enemy" and mock battles won. On April 15th, the exhausted 10th mountaineers made their way back to camp to hot showers and hot food."

"Many felt as one soldier put it, 'If we can survive this (D-Series), we can survive anything.'"

"...Observers from the Army Ground Forces gave the Division good marks for its D-Series performance. Troopers had demonstrated their ability to operate at extreme altitude, terrain, and weather. But not all were so sanguine. Lieutenant Monty Atwater complained to Minnie Dole: 'A lot of our best skiers, who have been in the Army long enough to know better, still haven't got it through their heads that, from a military standpoint, skis are a means of taking firepower to places you can't take it on foot. No more, no less. It's a sad commentary on two winters of work that we still can't take out a unit the size of a battalion or regiment and move it over the snow the way it should be done.'"

10th Mountain Division, Wallace I. Barkeen (page 24)

INDIVIDUAL EXPERIENCE OF WAR
BUILDING A SPECIALIZED FIGHTING FORCE



D-Series maneuvers, Cooper Hill, DPL: TMD-791



D-Series maneuvers, TMD-481



D-Series maneuvers, TMD-482

INTERPRETIVE PROCESS

MESSAGE / UNIVERSAL STORY

The story of the men of the 10th Mountain Division does not stop with the war's end. For many, Camp Hale created a life-long love for and connection to the Colorado mountains, which translates to the visitor experience of Camp Hale and the Eagle River headwaters.

"It's the year 2000. We're at 12,400 feet elevation on a 40-mile ski mountaineering and backcountry skiing trip from Leadville, Colorado to Aspen, retracing the steps of thirty-three 10th Mountain Division soldiers who skied this same traverse in 1944. They were training for World War II ... While it probably did not occur to the soldiers just how ahead of the time their journey was (they had greater things on their minds) their "trooper traverse" ended up being one of the most forward-thinking and aggressive ski traverses ever done in North American mountaineering."

WildSnow.com blogger Lou Dawson | June 18, 2001

Universal Storyline:

- Visionary
- Change Maker

AFTER THE WAR
ELEVATING RECREATION



Rock climbing at Homestake area, DPL: TMD-412

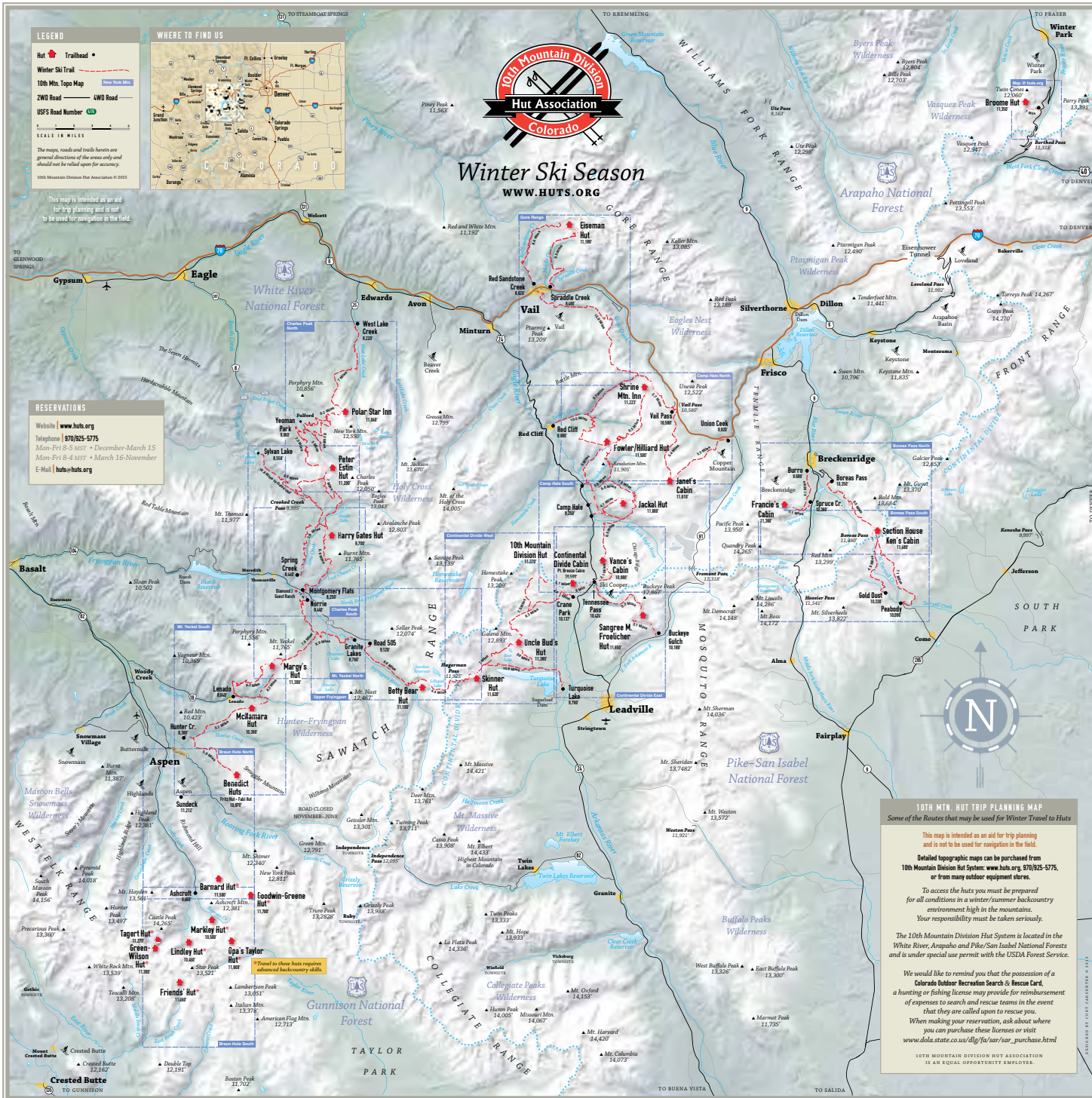


Snow shoeing maneuvers, DPL TMD-803



Colorado Hut Trip

INTERPRETIVE PROCESS



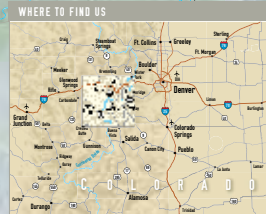
LEGEND

- Hut
- Trailhead
- Winter Ski Trail
- 10th Mtn. Topo Map
- 2WD Road
- LWD Road
- USFS Road Number

SCALE IN MILES

The maps, roads and trails herein are general directions of the areas only and should not be relied upon for accuracy. © 2015 10th Mountain Division Hut Association

This map is intended as an aid for trip planning and is not to be used for navigation in the field.



Winter Ski Season
WWW.HUTS.ORG

RESERVATIONS

Website | www.huts.org
 Telephone | 970/825-5775
 Mon-Fri 8:30AM - 12:00PM • December-March 15
 Mon-Fri 8-4 MST • March 16-November
 E-Mail | huts@huts.org

10TH MTN. HUT TRIP PLANNING MAP
 Some of the Routes that may be used for Winter Travel to Huts

This map is intended as an aid for trip planning and is not to be used for navigation in the field.

Detailed topographic maps can be purchased from 10th Mountain Division Hut System: www.huts.org, 970/825-5775, or from many outdoor equipment stores.

To access the huts you must be prepared for all conditions in a winter/summer backcountry environment high in the mountains. Your responsibility must be taken seriously.

The 10th Mountain Division Hut System is located in the White River, Arapaho and Pike/San Isabel National Forests and is under special use permit with the USDA Forest Service.

We would like to remind you that the possession of a Colorado Outdoor Recreation Search & Rescue Card, a hunting or fishing license may provide for reimbursement of expenses to search and rescue teams in the event that they are called upon to rescue you. When making your reservation, ask about where you can purchase these licenses or visit www.hola.state.co.us/ifg/fu/sar/purchase.html

10TH MOUNTAIN DIVISION HUT ASSOCIATION IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER.

INTERPRETIVE PROCESS

Where is the story best told?
 Being in the actual landscape and “base camp” or home of the 10th Mountain Division offers opportunities within Camp Hale and hut trail systems for a level of interpretation not available in museum environments. Placing oneself in the environment where the 10th lived, trained, and formed connections to the Colorado mountains, creates the setting for a participatory experience.

Interpretation at Camp Hale must reflect this power of place to provoke understanding and individual connection to Camp Hale and the Eagle River headwaters region.

To reach all levels of audience interest and knowledge from passive to participatory, there must be a hierarchy of “experience zones” within the Camp Hale boundaries and in the hut trails radiating outward from the 10th Mountain Division base camp.

The intent of interpretation at Camp Hale is to engage participation in the environment for all visitor groups. This can be accomplished through orientation and wayfinding gateways, pavilions, trailmarkers, experience zones, and landscape beacons.

If you imagine visitor progression to, into, and through Camp Hale as Awareness, Introduction, Invitation, and Participation, you have the mechanics of determining where the story is best told:

Awareness:

How do visitors find Camp Hale?

“Gateway” structures which create a sense of arrival and transition at Camp Hale.

Introduction:

How do you welcome visitors?

Interpretive pavilions—“Experience Zones” which welcome visitors and invite them into the 10th Mountain story.

Invitation:

How do you orient visitors?

Highlight a three-dimensional topographic map of Camp Hale showing the 1,022 buildings and the corresponding function of the structures as well as the surrounding peaks and paths of the Trooper Traverse and D-Series. The bronze map would give visitors a sense of the scale of the training and proving grounds. Boundaries set by the US Army for the 10th Mountain Division area of operations could also be delineated on the map.

The map “buildings” could be simple replicas or abstract shapes. The intent is to orient the visitor to the scope and scale of Camp Hale as a small city of activity during global war.



DPL: TMD-574



DPL: TMD-754



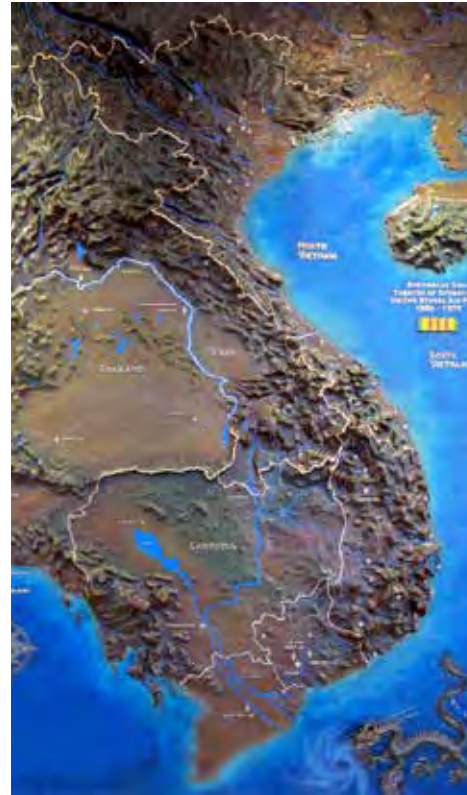
DPL: TMD-753

MECHANICS / STORY EXPERIENCES

Because little evidence of the structures remain, locations of buildings in the actual environment would be called out with “beacons” viewable from the interpretive experience zones area and denoted on the 3-D map. Ideally, these zones would be covered and located on an elevated viewing platform so the topo map and the corresponding landscape beacons are viewable in winter—and not covered by snow/ snow-plowed piles—and would afford shaded interpretation for visitors in summer.



3-D topo map with buildings



Bronze 3-D topo map with numbering system



Interpretive panel idea for trail system vantage points, showing past and restoration illustration

Participation:

How do visitors “measure up?”

The landscape beacons seen from the experience zones would serve to entice visitors out into the valley to explore Camp Hale and the Eagle River as well as vantage points like Machine Gun Ridge.

Interpretive itineraries for hikes, cross-country, and snowmobile trails with time and difficulty levels could provoke visitors to further experience the legacy of Camp Hale.

Interpretive trailmarkers in the valley and on trails would be a way for visitors to measure their outdoor skills with those of the 10th Mountain Division.

Trailmarkers could be placed at vantage points within Camp Hale—as captured in historical photos—and allow people to understand how the valley has been altered for war and restored for ecological function and recreation.

INTERPRETIVE PROCESS

STRATEGIC CONSIDERATION

In combination with interp. panels/zones:

- Integrate interpretation with the Colorado Trail/Continental Divide Trail as well as in 10th Mountain backcountry huts—specifically: Fowler-Hillard, Jackal Hut and 10th Mountain Division Hut.
- Integrate Camp Hale interpretation with Tennessee Pass Memorial: From Camp Hale direct people to the Memorial and interpretative kiosk, and from Tennessee Pass Memorial to Camp Hale with maps and itineraries as well as integrated interpretive messages/ storylines.
- Partner with Colorado Snow & Snowboard Museum (CSSM) for visitors to download podcasts, PDF maps and itineraries for Camp Hale. Develop content for new CSSM Audiovisual Tour Work with the (Reciprocate with messages to go to the museum on Camp Hale interp.)

- Investigate ability/timing for wireless service to the valley.
- Include "QR code stations" to allow cell phone download/view of specific location information along a tour trail or path.
- Develop some type of coin or symbol to earn at Camp Hale that gets you into the Colorado Ski & Snowboard Museum or Ski Cooper.
- Investigate the possibility of a solar kiosk to house exhibits and create a "warming house" feel for visitors.
- Build vault toilet at entry near interpretive experience zone.
- Pair interpretive trailmarkers with hands-on experiences e.g. 6'-9" to 7'-6" skis, a radio phone relay to talk with visitors at interpretive beacons, packing a (fiberglass) mule, "driving" a snow weasel.



Place snow weasel on-site



Field radio telephone example for trailmarkers

- Consider reintroducing a historically accurate Camp Hale barrack building to house exhibits. The National Park Service has created an interpretive plan for WWII barracks:

NPS: Principles of Standardized Plans*

"The army's two construction divisions, the Quartermaster General and the Army Corps of Engineers, established five principles to guide mobilization construction plans: speed, simplicity, conservation of materials, flexibility and safety. Using these principles, the construction divisions drew up standard building plans for simple wood-frame structures; the buildings were made with inexpensive and prefabricated materials and could be constructed in assembly-line fashion. The standard plans were bundled into construction packages that could meet the needs

of a 125-man company, complete with barracks (with central heating, interior showers and latrines), mess halls, and recreation buildings and supply buildings." (Considering working with HistoriCorps and veterans.)

*<https://www.nps.gov/goga/learn/historyculture/world-war-ii-temporary-construction.htm>

Contact HistoriCorps a nonprofit organization that provides volunteers, students and veterans of all skill levels with a hands-on experience preserving historic structures on public lands across America. Volunteers and students work with HistoriCorps field staff to learn preservation skills and put those skills to work saving historic places that have fallen into disrepair. (This would be an excellent way of involving Vet Voice Foundation the evolution of Camp Hale. (Discuss with Fort Carson and stakeholder Garrett Reppenagan. www.HistoriCorps.org)



Camp Hale barracks, DPL: TMD-731



DPL: TMD-748



Rock climbers, DPL: TMD-772



Trooper Traverse from Leadville to Aspen, DPL: TMD-476



DPL: TMD-539

STRATEGIC CONSIDERATIONS

Kid's Interpretive Loop Trail:

A loop trail starting/ending in the parking area draws visitors into the Camp Hale landscape and features interactive/hands on experiences designed to challenge and evoke the spirit of the 10th Mountain Division and life at Camp Hale.

The purpose of this experience is "to bridge time" in the footsteps/experiences of the of the men of the 10th and engage kids/visitors in understanding the training mindset as mountain soldiers prepared for war. To essentially ask the question: *What did soldiers, many of them in their late teens to early twenties, envision in their foreseeable future?*

Where possible, the "challenge stops" are made from natural materials (boulders, logs, etc). They are designed for kids, but chances are visitors of all ages will be tempted by the challenges. [Route for the trail and order of challenges will need to be based on final restoration plan.]

Experience Zones:

Training/D-series/Extreme Training

Challenge: Boot Camp—Oversized stopwatch mounted to a sign or post (simple mechanical) and a few downed logs w/ "boot camp" challenge instruction. One person directed to be the "Drill Sargent" who poses a fitness challenge and times his/her group. (There could be a card dispenser or flip up on an interpretive panel that reveals the challenge (e.g. Drop and give me X push ups, jump over the log for 30 seconds, balance on one leg on the log for 15 seconds; jump back and forth over this log for 30 seconds; you have one minute to run to that tree and back as fast as you can carrying this rock)

Camaraderie (14,000 soldiers all different backgrounds working together)

Challenge: March—Footprints of booted soldiers in the ground. Instruct them to line up shoulder to shoulder and march in unison. Identify a place for them to march to— Field House foundation—and then turn-around and return.

Harsh Winter Snow + Altitude

Challenge: Snow Stake Steps. 10' high marker with a log steps in front of it rising from 1' to 6' tall. Demonstrate that at Camp Hale in the middle of winter snow drifts could get from 8-10' high.

Challenge: Jump up and down off the smallest step 14 times. Reveal the elevations the soldiers trained at—9,000' at Camp Hale to 14,000+ on the peaks.

A Proving Ground/Training in the Rockies

Challenge: Summit Scramble. Stack boulders so people can scramble up to get a better view of the surrounding landscape (only a few feet higher than the trail). On top of the pile a mountain view finder focuses on surrounding landscape and maneuver routes: Chicago Ridge, Troopers Traverse.

Love of the Mountains / Nature /

Challenge: Look!—Look up, look down, look far away, etc - Whats most impressive to you about the Camp Hale setting? Take a photo and tag it #CampHale

Survival Skills: snow caves, sleeping on pine boughs, what to do with your boots over night?; 10th soldiers as highly trained—predecessors to today's "special forces"

Challenge: Mission—Sneak over to X and do Y...(depends on location). Or build a shelter with materials you find close by, then remove all trace of your shelter so enemy can't track you.

Artillery / Shooting Range

Challenge: Target—Some kind of "target" (e.g. tree, actual bulls eye target) and pile of river rocks (actually let the kids throw rocks based on rules and try to hit a target.

Mess Hall: Soldiers consumed 4,500-6,000 calories a day—burning calories like crazy carrying the 90 pound rucksacks.

Challenge: Carry—Move a few logs and stumps (spruce/pine logs); challenge them to team up and carry/move the logs (carry them, roll them) either a certain distance or arrange them into a shape.

Gateways / Beacons / Zones:
 Playing upon the 10th Mountain Division "crossed bayonets" and the graphic impact of the Roman numeral "ten," create beacons in the landscape for orientation and wayfinding.

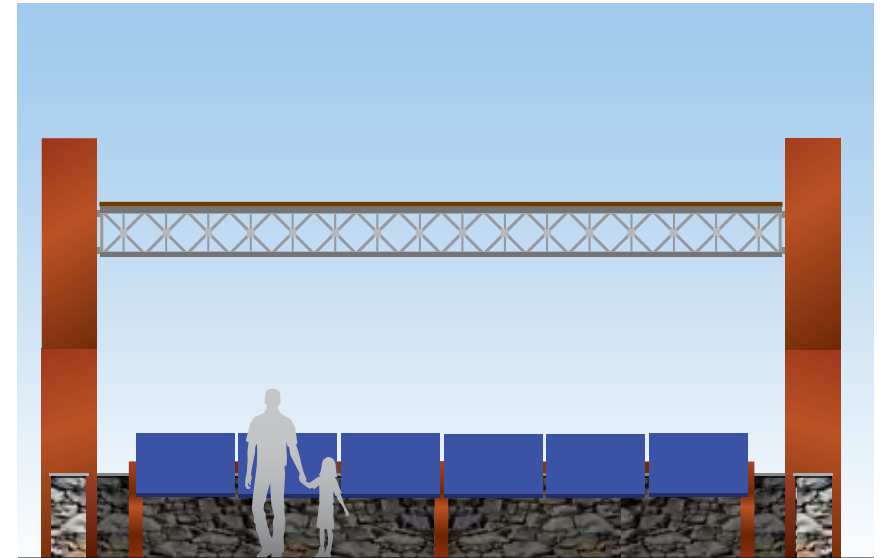
The "ten" structures create a "kit-of-parts" that can be adapted, resized, and reconfigured for multiple uses.

Fieldstone walls built from on-site remnants from restoration form the gateways and interpretive panel structure. The use of the truss shelter (fabricated to carry the same "x" forms as the existing Bailey bridge provide shelter for the timeline and 3-D map of Camp Hale and the region).

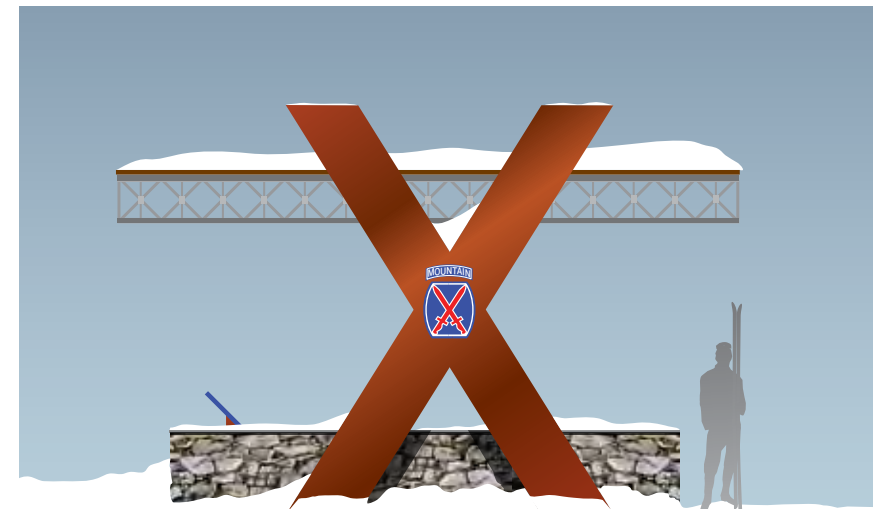
This shelter structure, located at **1** on the map, would be visible from Hwy 24, and offers an ideal location to interpret the *International: World War* and *National: Preparing for War* through *After the War: Elevating Recreation* storylines on a timeline. A bronze topographical map of Camp Hale and the region would interpret *Colorado: Convergence of Forces*, *Regional: Proving Grounds*, and *Camp Hale: Testing Grounds*.



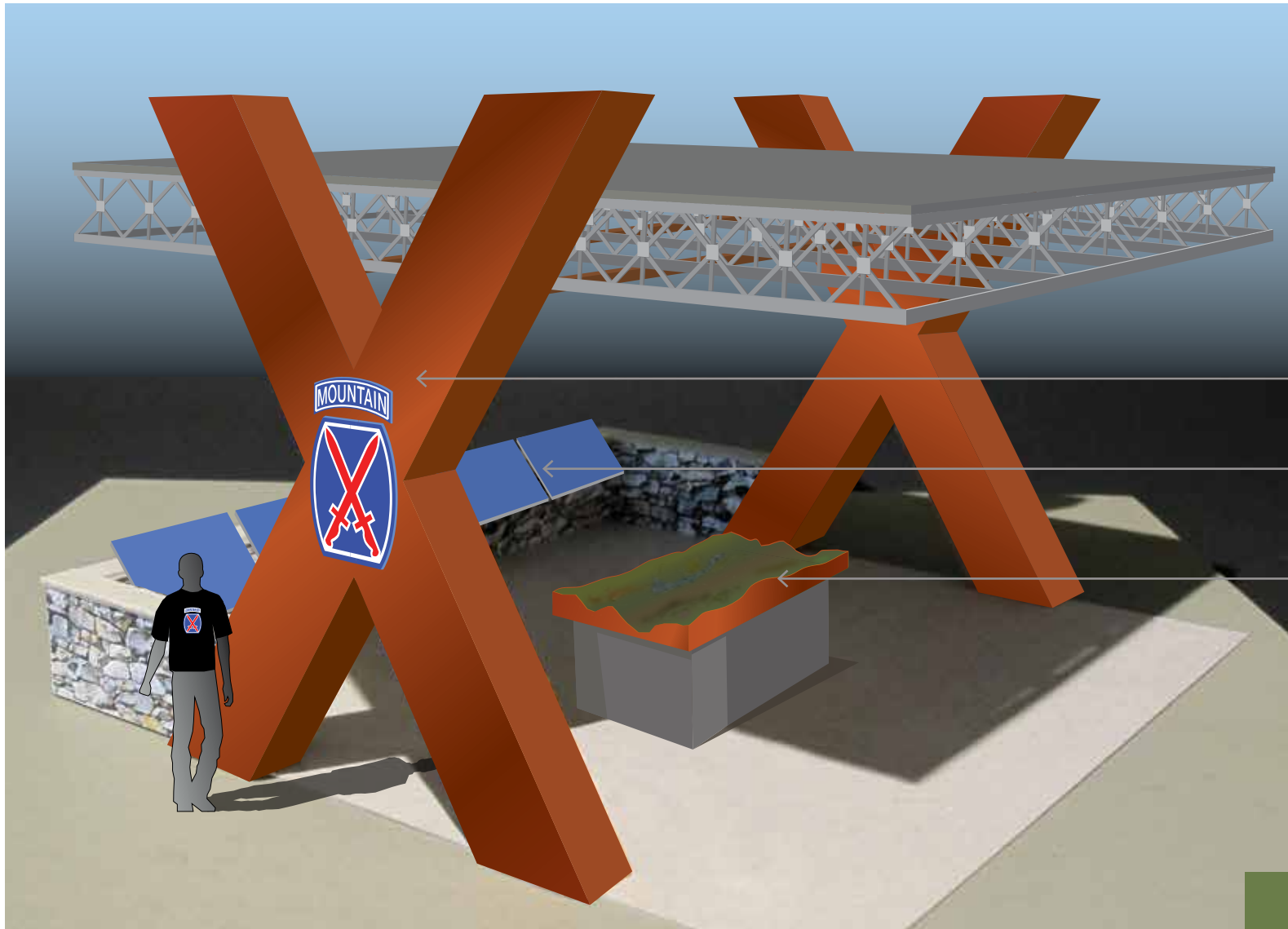
Consider partnering with Xcel Energy to develop a snowmelt system at the Timeline Pavilion to insure the interpretive experience is accessible during winter season when recreational users—snowmobilers and cross-country skiers are visiting Camp Hale.



Front Elevation: Timeline Pavilion




Side elevation: Timeline Pavilion




- TIMELINE PAVILION
- ← Roman numeral "ten" forms fabricated from Corten steel.
 - ← Timeline of Camp Hale, the 10th Mountain Division, sacrifices and in Italy, and contributions after war.
 - ← 3-D bronze topo map of Camp Hale and the region.

INTERPRETIVE PROCESS

Interpretive Panels
 Potential flexible layout for graphics, images, and interpretive content using the crossed bayonets of the 10th Mountain Division logo.





SCALING NEW HEIGHTS




"Up Half Moon Creek between Mt. Elbert and Mt. Massive to Mt. Champion, then bearing right and climbing and skiing on high ridges most of the time. For two days after leaving Half Moon Drainage, I doubt we were under 12,000 feet at all."

Trooper Traverse-1944
First person account: Richard Rocker








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STRATEGIC CONSIDERATIONS

10th Mountain Division skis supported by crossed ski poles possess a sculptural, "monumental" quality which could be incorporated as a defining feature at Camp Hale. The skis, at 6'-9" to 7'-6" offer an evocative way of defining a:

- Platoon 15-30
- Company 80-150
- Battalion 300-800
- Regiment 2,000-4,000

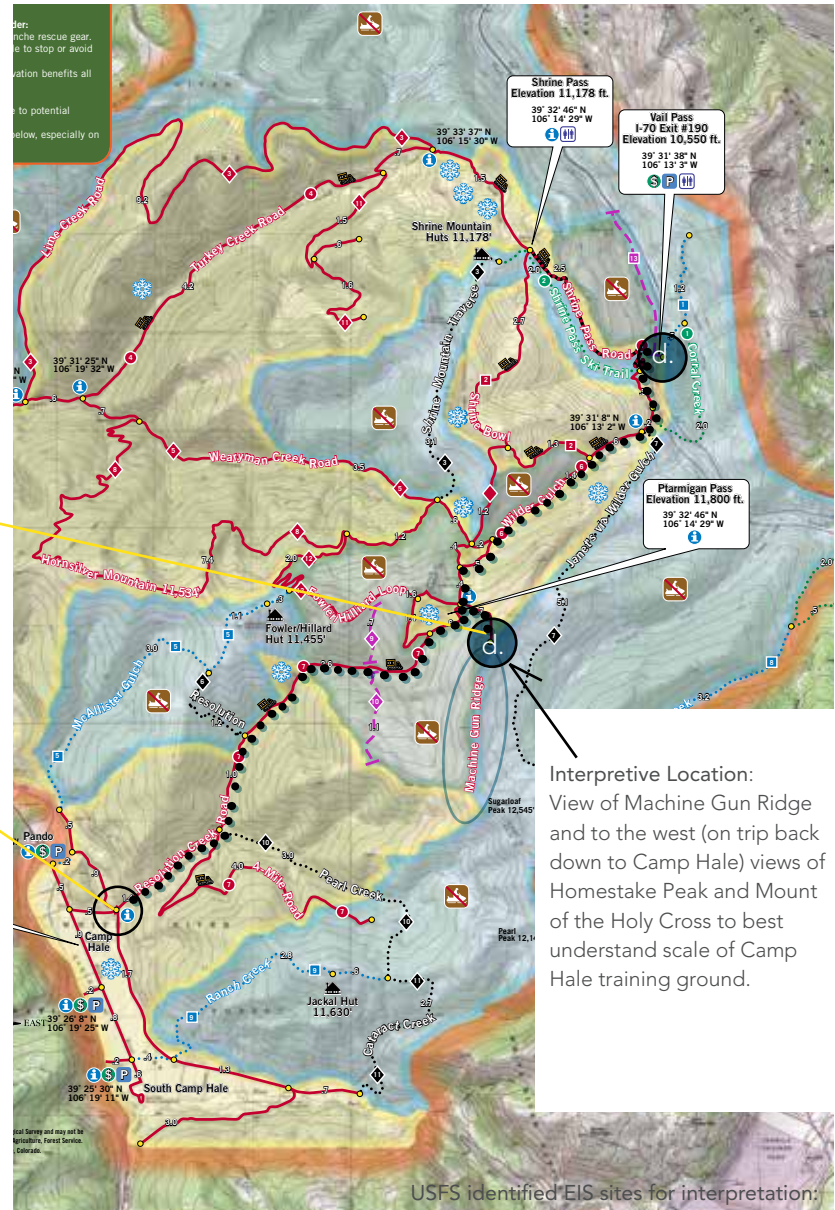
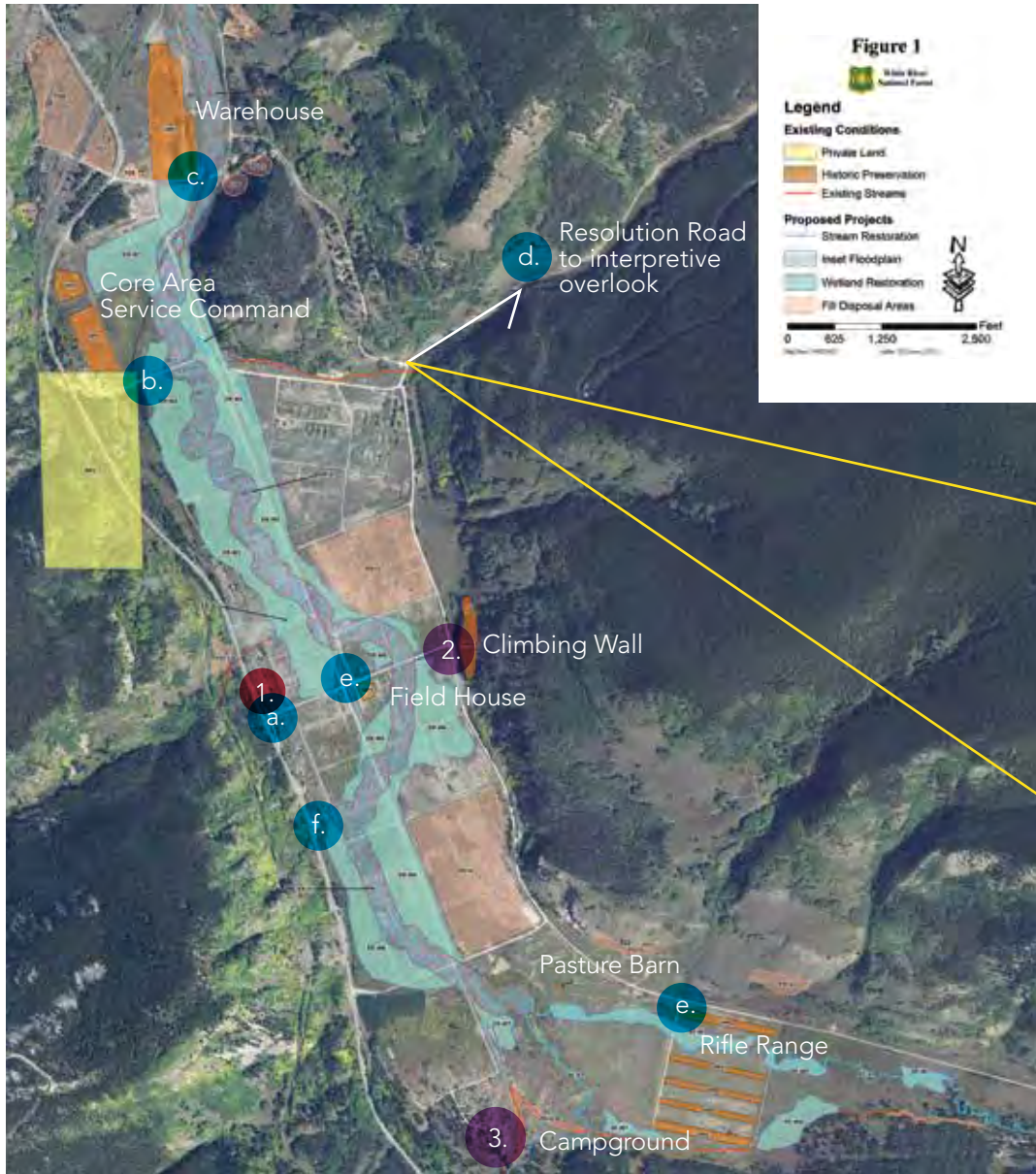
Or—

- Men to a barracks 63

Consider engraving these "sculptures" with individual veteran's names and ranks (and home towns). The engraved skis could be a fundraising opportunity to further ongoing interpretation / restoration at Camp Hale.



Ski training, 87th Regiment, DPL: TMD-390



USFS identified EIS sites for interpretation:

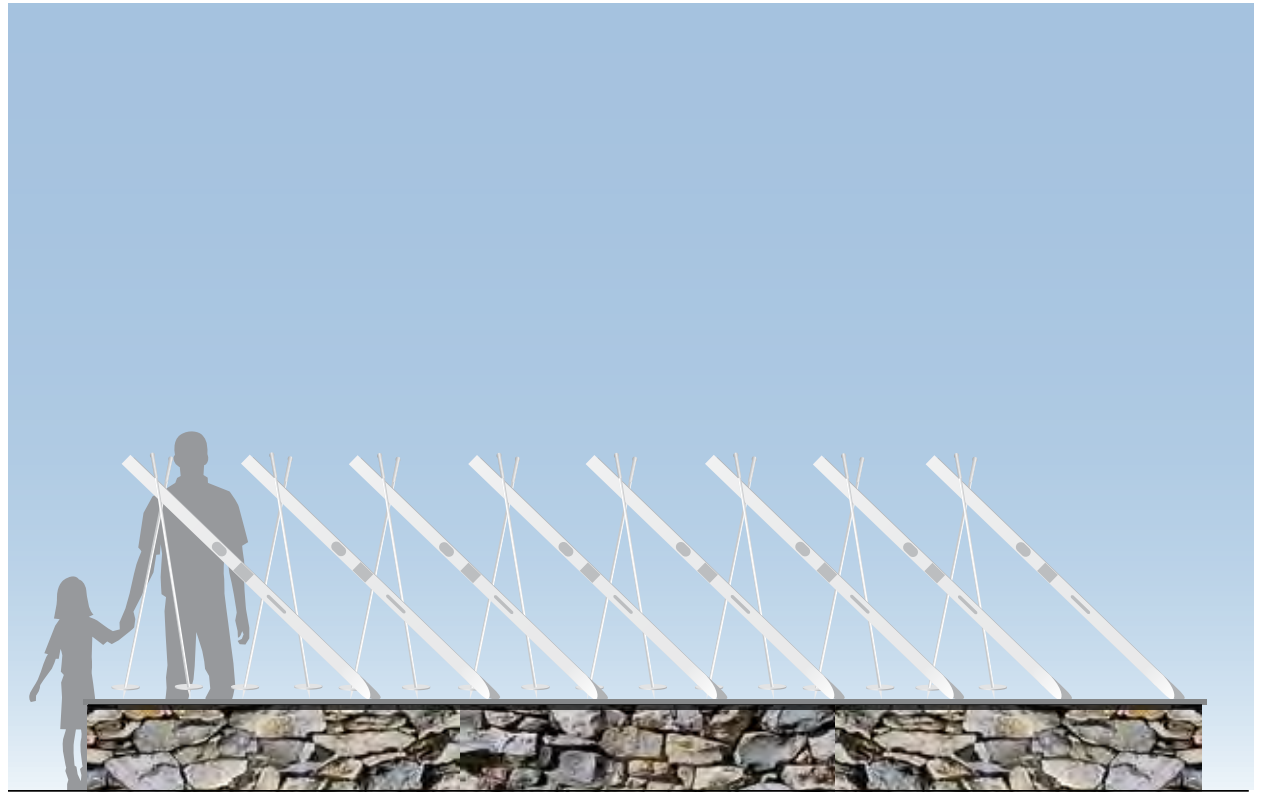
Interpretive Site Consideration:

- a. Gateway/Transition Zone
- c. [Currently inaccessible]
- e. Rifle Range/Training Grounds Interp
- f. Eagle River Interp (existing pull out)
- b. Gateway/Transition Zone
- d. Machine Gun Ridge interpretive overlook
- 1. Timeline Pavillion
- 2. Rock Climbing Wall/ Training Grounds Interp
- 3. Campground/Training Grounds Interp panels



Ski Sculpture:

Location at **1.** or **2.** or **a.** **b.** **f.**



Ski sculpture with 10th Mountain soldier names; remnants from river restoration in field stone walls.

Bridge Overlook:

Consider using the structural details of the Bailey Bridge, which spans the channeled Eagle River, in a pedestrian overlook at the current trailmarker turnout (denoted on the map as location **f**).

The "bridge" could display interpretive panels on the railings and/ or be expanded in height (as demonstrated in Illustration A) to carry a partial roof.

Consider enlisting the Army Corps of Engineers to construct "bridge railings" and overlook span.

This location and structure would be ideal for telling the Eagle River story: *A River Channeled for War, A River Restored for Ecological Function and Recreation.*

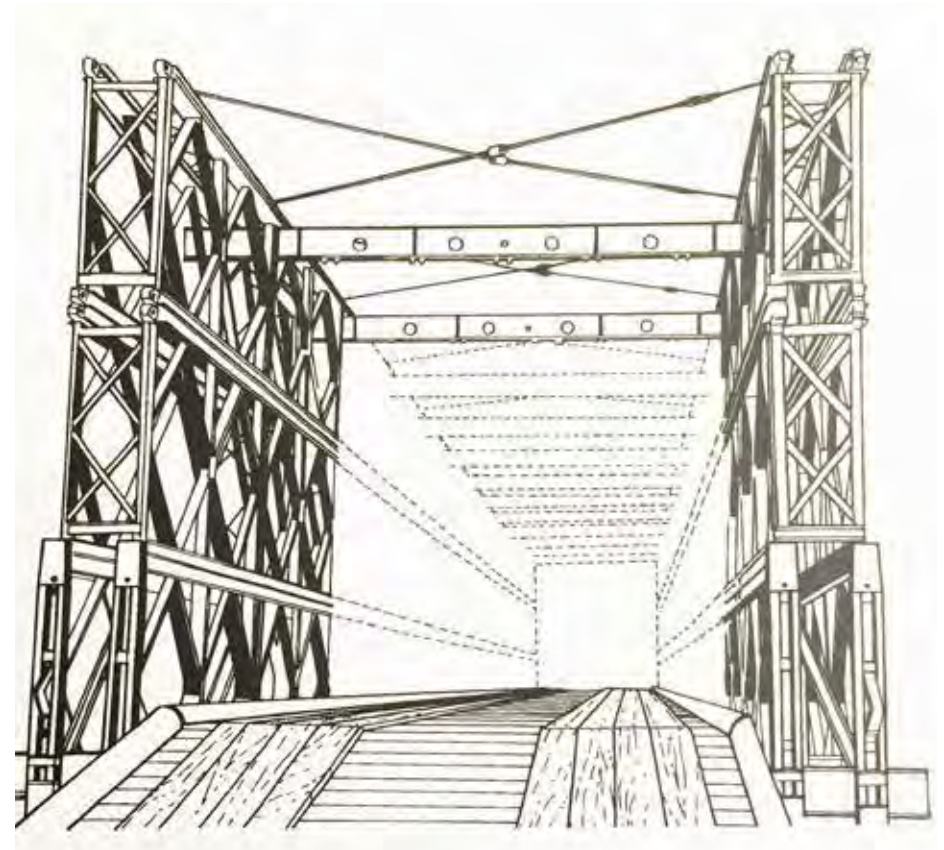
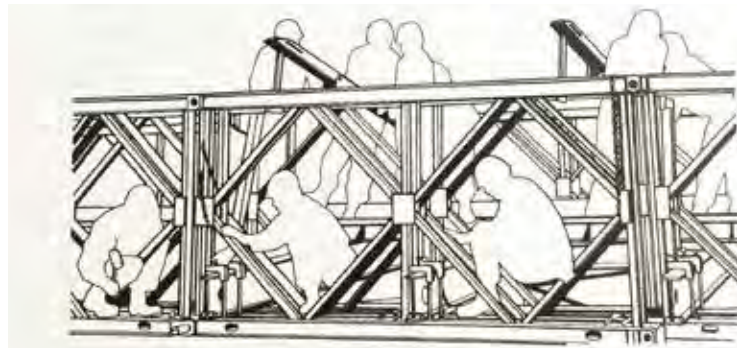


Illustration A: Three tiered bridge





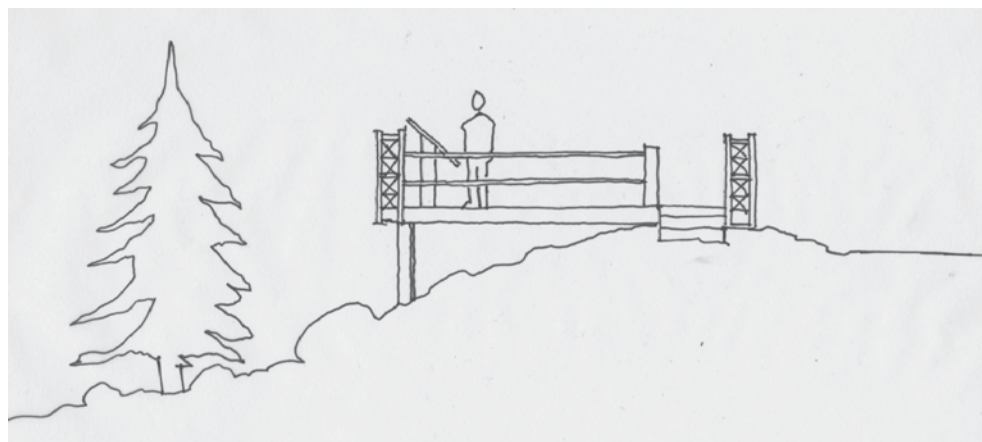
DPL: TMD-549

Experimental wooden bridge built by the Tenth Mountain Division, Engineering Battalion at Camp Hale Colorado.



Tramway on Riva Ridge, Italy, DPL: TMD-390

Tramway built by the Tenth Mountain Division, 126th Mountain Engineers, Company D in nine hours using supplies including wire cable 1-inch in diameter. The carriage was capable of carrying loads of up to 350 pounds. The tramway was used to evacuate casualties quickly; it made its 1600 feet trip in four minutes.

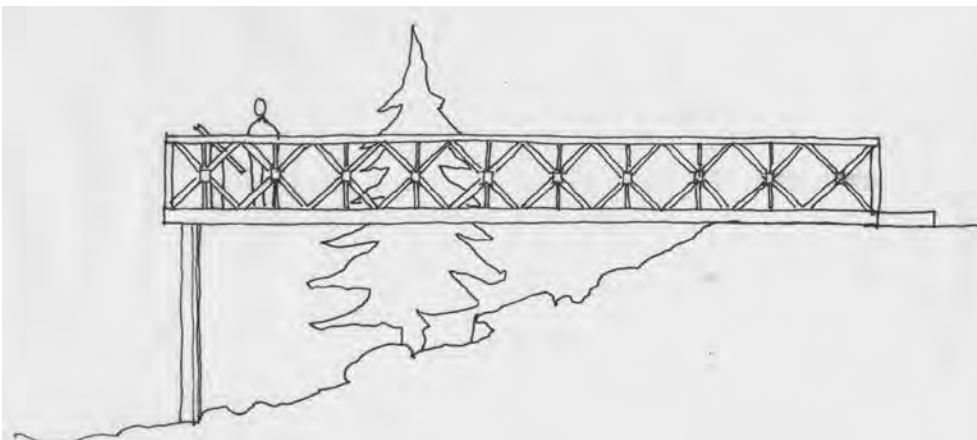


Bridge railing display interpretive panels as part of the Overlook. (Note Roman numeral "X" in middle ground at Climbing Wall.)

Bridge structure details used to create Viewing Platform overlooking Eagle River valley.



Alternative orientation of re-purposed bridge Overlook.



Alternative orientation of existing bridge structure re-purposed as Viewing Platform overlooking Eagle River valley.

Given the diverse Camp Hale audience—recreational, heritage, and students, the interpretive message must be adapted to a wide range of media. This range of media makes “telling the full story” of Camp Hale and the Eagle River Headwaters more feasible—as a website and timeline could be inclusive of the region's uses before and after Camp Hale. To meet the interpretive mission, vision, and goals, the media elements and on-site experiences must be supported by other means of storytelling, which get people to the site. These include a digital and print “kit-of-parts:”

- Maps
- Timeline
- Website
- Video
- Apps
- Itineraries
- Brochure/ Walking Tour Guides/ Flyers
- Interpreters/ Guided Tours
- School Curriculum

Currently, the Camp Hale and 10th Mountain Division story is told in a variety of places, with varying levels of depth. The full story of Camp Hale and its role as “base camp and home” to the 10th Mountain Division is not accessible at one site. A Google search for 10th Mountain Division brings up Wikipedia, The National Association of the 10th Mountain Division, Inc., Fort Drum, (Divisionmountain.org), and most helpful: 10th Mountain Division | Camp Hale | MSU Denver.

A search for Camp Hale brings up the website: camphale.org which primarily speaks to the work being done to address potentially hazardous military munitions in the Camp Hale project area remaining from past military training. Online there are links to:

- Camp Hale Location Map
- White River National Forest Camp Hale East Fork Campground
- U.S. Forest Service Campgrounds in area
- Western History and Genealogy: DPL

A Camp Hale interpretive website, developed in conjunction with the 10th Mountain Division Foundation, would be a complete resource of interpretation, and visitation for all identified audiences, and utilize the full kit-of-parts from mapping to timeline, and video to apps, and tours to school curriculum. Consider approaching the Denver Public Library Western History/Genealogy to house this timeline.

With a robust kit-of-parts, linking to existing websites like the White River National Forest, 10th Mountain Division Foundation, 10th Mountain Division Hut Association and the Colorado Ski and Snowboard Museum as well as the Top of the Rockies Scenic Byway and Colorado Trail sites, would make the story accessible to a range of visitors. Further, application of the Camp Hale interpretive storylines to existing US Forest Service flyers and brochures as well as printed guides for snowmobile tour guides, would be an effective way of impacting recreational visitors as well as desired new visitor audiences.

For consideration:

- Feature quotes from men of the 10th Mountain Division on all interpretive panels to tell the story "in their words."
- To give the visitor context for the contributions and legacy of the 10th Mountain Division, develop a layered timeline with international, national, regional, Camp Hale and the individual stories. Inclusion of dates on the timeline would give visitors the opportunity to "put themselves in the 10th Mountain Division experience" at whatever time of year they visit.
- Use a "SUPERimpose" plugin from AudioTrails (www.audiotrails.co.uk) to open a historical photograph and using a smart phone compare and contrast with current scene.

- Create trail maps to get people up to vantage points seen in photos. • Develop a series of Camp Hale "info graphics" to show sheer number of men, mules, etc. as well as elevations of surrounding peaks.
- Investigate ability/timing of wireless service coming to the valley.
- Investigate partnering with the Denver Public Library/Western and Genealogy to host searchable website with timeline and veteran stories (like the Southeast Asia Memorial Pavilion model.)

SUPERimpose

Benefits:

- Brings archive photos to life
- Adds a wow-factor
- Encourages deeper exploration of your site

Our **SUPERimpose** plugin is a simple form of Augmented Reality. Open old photographs, illustrations, reconstruction drawings etc into the device's camera and use the fade bar to contrast and compare.

NEW! take a screenshot of your cross-fade image and share it (iOS only). Watch how it works at <http://youtu.be/jxBv1DAan1I>

Trails

Providing visitors with a choice of **Walking Trails** will allow them to savour the highlights of your project area. Each walking trail is layered over the map and route directions are provided. As Places of Interest are reached the content triggers automatically.

NEW! Interactive waypoints pins display walking directions as visitors view the route map (image right).

INTERPRETIVE PROCESS

MEDIA CHART	MAPS	TIMELINE	ENTRY GATEWAY	ENTRY KIOSK	TRAILMARKERS	BEACONS	EXPERIENCE ZONES	TOPO MAP
① Help the American public fully understand, savor and appreciate all that our National Forests have to offer, building lasting connections... fulfilling recreation opportunities.	✘			✘				✘
② Maintain and improve all existing summer and winter recreational opportunities in the Camp Hale/ Eagle River headwaters area.	✘			✘	✘	✘	✘	✘
③ Honor the history of the project area by interpreting existing structures/ relics and history through a comprehensive interpretive process and plan.	✘			✘	✘		✘	✘
④ Promote widespread awareness of sacrifices, accomplishments, and contributions of 10th Mountain.		✘		✘	✘	✘	✘	✘
⑤ Foster the spirit of the 10th Mountain Division in future generations, especially the pursuit of excellence, self-reliance, and love of the outdoors.		✘			✘	✘	✘	✘
⑥ Provide volunteers, students and veterans of all skill levels with hands-on experience preserving historic structures on public lands across America.			✘				✘	

	WEBSITE	VIDEO	APP	ITINERARIES	BROCHURE	WALKING GUIDE	GUIDED TOURS	SCHOOL CURRICULUM
① Help the American public fully understand, savor and appreciate all that our National Forests have to offer, building lasting connections... fulfilling recreation opportunities.	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×
② Maintain and improve all existing summer and winter recreational opportunities in the Camp Hale/ Eagle River headwaters area.	×	×		×	×	×	×	
③ Honor the history of the project area by interpreting existing structures/ relics and history through a comprehensive interpretive process and plan	×			×	×			
④ Promote widespread awareness of sacrifices, accomplishments, and contributions of 10th Mountain.	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×
⑤ Foster the spirit of the 10th Mountain Division in future generations, especially the pursuit of excellence, self-reliance, and love of the outdoors.	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×
⑥ Provide volunteers, students and veterans of all skill levels with hands-on experience preserving historic structures on public lands across America.								×

Camp Hale Visual Timeline



New river channel, 1942, DPL TMD-591



Camp Hale Eagle River Channel, DPL: Z-5343



Camp Hale Eagle River channel bridge, DPL: TMD-805



View of Camp Hale, 1943-1944 DPL: TMD-743



Camp Hale with view of mule barn and passing train, 1943-1944, DPL: TMD-717



View of Camp Hale dismantled- 1965, DPL: TMD-770



Camp Hale during construction, 1942, DPL: TMD-588



Camp Hale construction, 1942, DPL: Z-5343



Camp Hale 1965, Collection of David R. Witte, World War II at Camp Hale: Blazing a New Trail in the Rockies



Camp Hale in the 1950s during CIA training of Tibetan forces.

APPENDIX

DPL: Western History Genealogy–
Camp Hale Photos

Existing Interpretation

02/08/2016 – Meeting Notes

Trooper Traverse



Trooper Traverse from Leadville to Aspen, February 1944, DPL: TMD-471



DPL: TMD-478



Ski troopers above Camp Hale, DPL TMD-777



Ascending, DPL TMD-804



DPL: TMD-476



DPL: TMD-475



10th Mountain soldiers reach the top of the Continental Divide during their 1944 ski traverse from Leadville to Aspen, Colorado.

Photo: Ralph Ball collection

Trooper Traverse, Ralph Ball Collection



Spring 1944, D Series, TMD-481



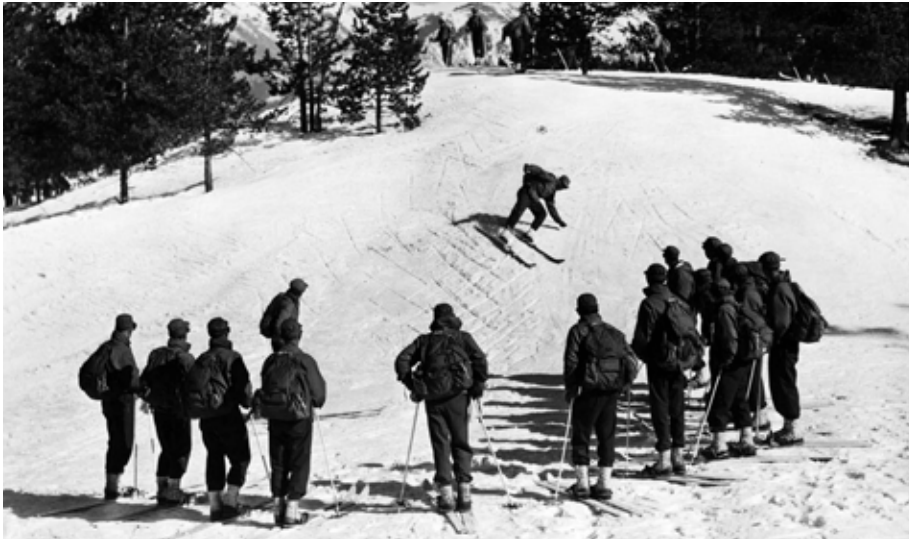
Spring 1944, D Series, TMD-482



Spring 1944, D Series, TMD-791



Spring 1944, D Series, Hugh Evans, TMD-432



Ski training, DPL TMD-388



Ski training, 87th, DPL TMD-389



Twelve 87th Mountain Infantry Regiment in winter camouflage uniforms and carrying knapsacks and rifles
DPL: TMD-948



Snow weasel, DPL: TMD-572



Mountain tents at Camp Hale, DPL: TMD-539



Snow Weasel and troops, DPL: TMD-613



Ski training on Eagle Ridge, TMD-387



10th Mountain troops in whites, DPL: TMD-469



Still from 1943 documentary, Mountain Fighters, filmed at Camp Hale



Snow shoe training (353a)



Spring 1944, D Series



Winter whites, DPL TMD-469



Ski troopers with skis in knapsack



Pyramid Peak near Aspen, Aspen Historical Society



Field radio telephone, DPL: TMD-637



Camp Hale panorama, DPL: Z-5





Camp Hale Mess Hall, DPL TMD-807



Camp Hale, view of Rifle Range and Chicago Ridge,
1943-1944, DPL: TMD-570



Rock climbers, DPL: TMD-772



Rock traverse at Camp Hale, DPL: TMD-498



Rock traverse at Camp Hale, DPL: TMD-704



Rock climbers, DPL: TMD-412



Rock climber Joe Stettner, 1943, DPL: TMD-496



Mountain obstacle course, 1943, TMD-603



Mule trenches Camp Hale, DPL TMD-703



Mule School, DPL: TMD-521



Mule packing school, DPL: TMD-798



New river channel, 1942, DPL TMD-591



New river channel, DPL: Z-589



Camp Hale during construction, 1942, DPL: TMD-588



Camp Hale during construction, 1942, DPL: TMD-590



Camp Hale construction, 1942, DPL: Z-5343



Camp Hale Eagle River Channel, DPL: Z-5343



Camp Hale Eagle River channel bridge, DPL: TMD-805



Camp Hale, DPL: TMD-538



Camp Hale/Formation parade, DPL: TMD-744



View of Camp Hale, 1943-1944 DPL: TMD-743



Camp Hale with view of mule barns and passing train, 1943-1944, DPL: TMD-717



Camp Hale dismantled- 1945, DPL: TMD-768



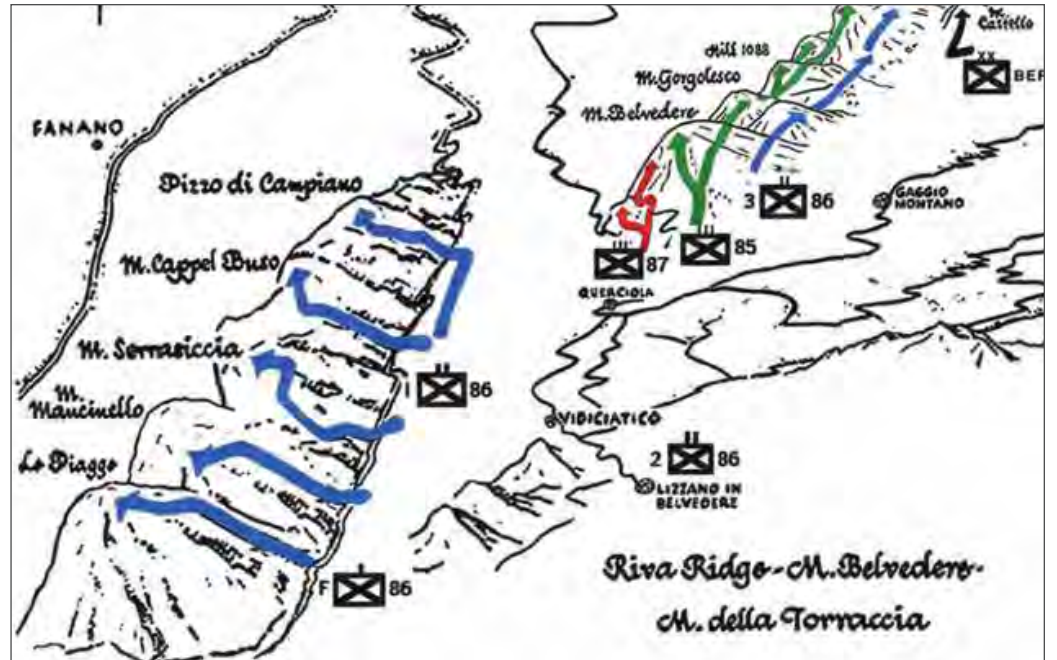
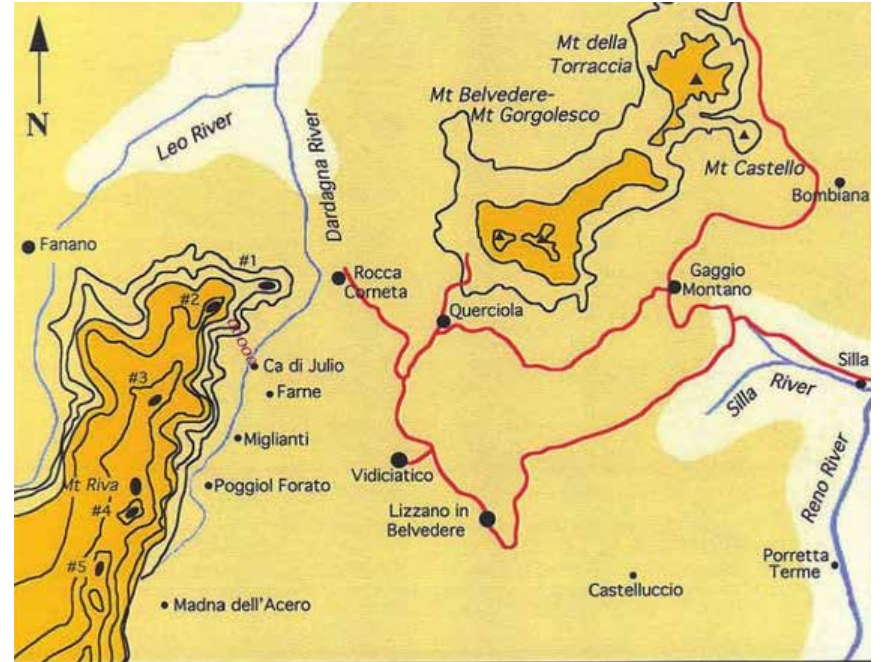
View of Camp Hale dismantled- 1965, DPL: TMD-770

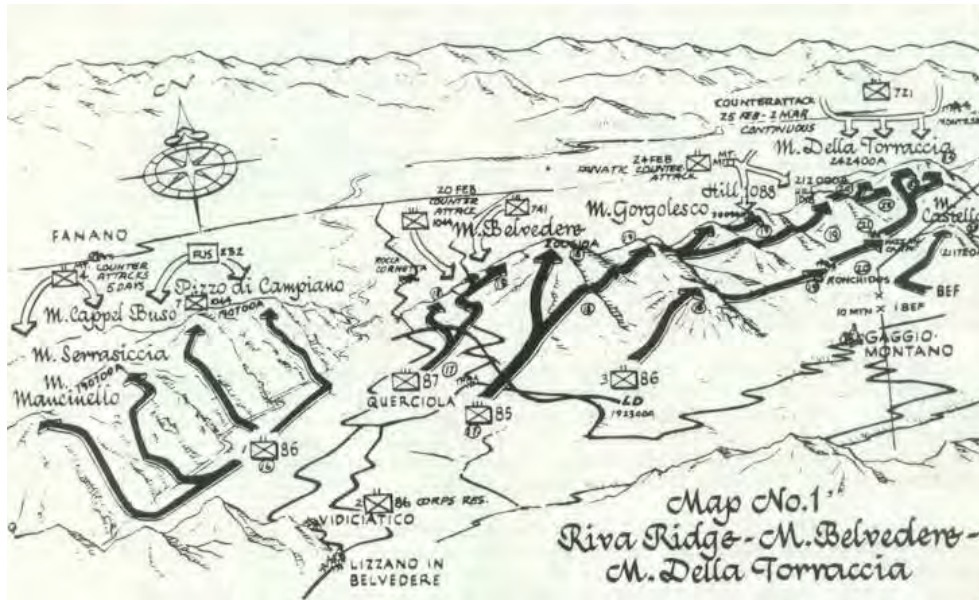


Camp Hale 1965, Collection of David R. Witte, World War II
at Camp Hale: Blazing a New Trail in the Rockies



Company F, 86th Regiment on Riva Ridge, DPL



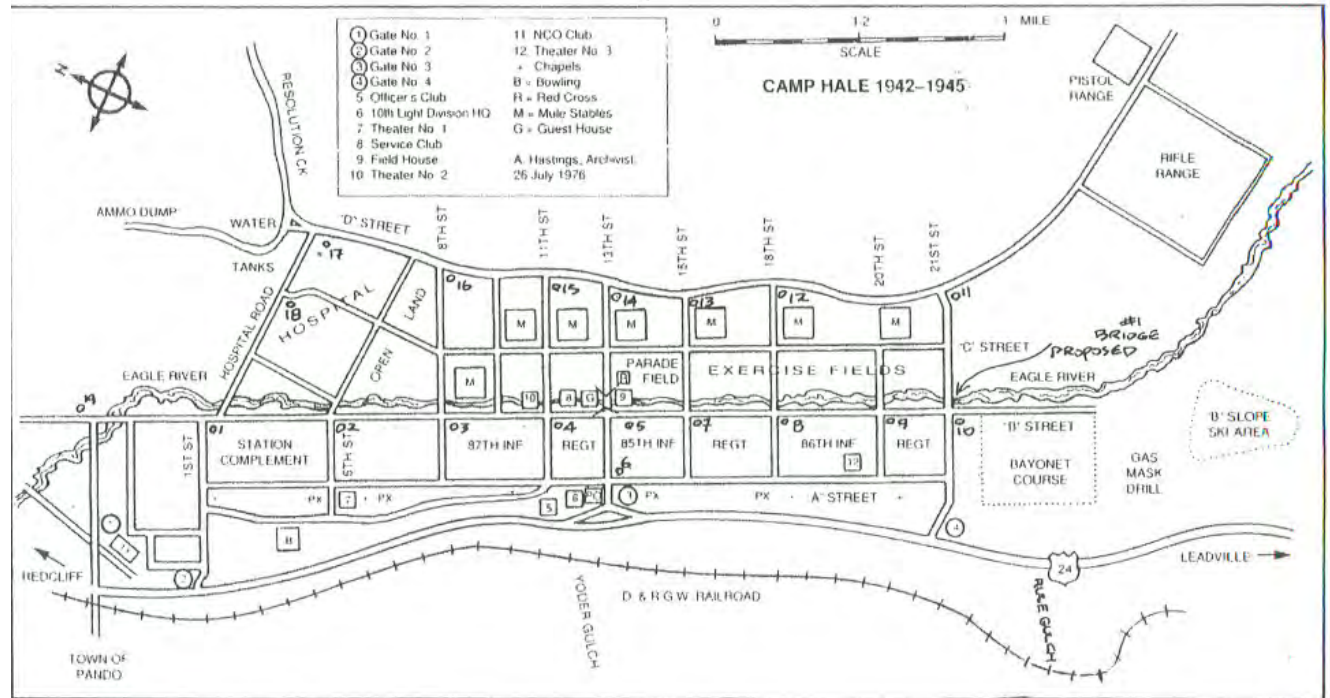


EXISTING INTERPRETATION

What is the purpose of Interpretation?

The existing Camp Hale Self-Guided Walking Tour succeeds in that interpretive trailmarkers serve to get people out into the landscape but the storyline lacks a universal interpretive theme which integrates the message to make it relevant to the visitor on a personal level.

1. Camp Hale Construction
2. The Viking Battalion at Camp Hale
3. Entertainment at Camp Hale
4. Skiing at Camp Hale
5. Marksmanship at Camp Hale
6. The Army Mule and Camp Hale
7. Rock Training at Camp Hale
8. The Special Vehicles of Camp Hale
9. The Women of Camp Hale
10. The Pando Ranger Station and US Forest Service at Camp Hale



#1-19 EAGLE SCOUT SIGN PROJECT
 YELLOW = CURRENT "AUTO TOUR" ROUTES
 X 2ND BRIDGE LOCATION PROPOSED ON 13TH STREET



"THE SKI TROOPER"
 1941 — 1946
 "He will become an eagle among the clouds for all time. Created for the men of the 10th Mountain Division Mountain Division and the battles they fought. Kiska, The Aleutian Islands 1943; Italy from the Apennines to the Alps 1945."
 Dedicated: November 1977, Vail Colorado
 Colorado artist: Scott Stearman



"THE SKI TROOPER"
 Created from the same mold as the Vail Trooper, the 13-ft tall bronze 10th Mountain soldier stands at the base of Stowe Resort, Vermont.



Welcome to Your National Forest

A History of the  

10th Mountain Division

Origins: 1941-1944

 When Charles Moore "Moose" Cook, head of the National Ski Patrol System, heard how his mountain Forest troops needed a larger division for mountain or winter combat in the east, the nation became involved in the European war. After producing the War Department into forming a unit of ski troops in late 1941, he received authorization to use the National Ski Patrol as an official training agency.

Charles Moore, 1941

Originally an airborne unit, the only army accepted applicants who had three letters of recommendation were usually ski, mountain climbing, or possessed the ability to survive in a harsh environment. Many alpine, Olympic athletes, and forest-born skiers were among the first to join.

 As the fighting grew bitter, training at Ft. Peck, Westport, was permanent facility for them was being built. About 100 miles north of where you are standing is a site called "Camp Hope" where Gen. Irving H. Cole, formerly Soviet-American War leader, and became home for nearly 15,000 soldiers and 5,000 pack mules and horses.

1944

In early 1944 after 30 months of training at Camp Hale, the division had part in the "G Series" - training in mountain and high-altitude combat.

 While training supplies, Army mules were used to transport supplies.



A History of the  

10th Mountain Division

Post War: 1945-Present

The 10th was not built away from enemy mountainous territory during World War II. Many of its members participated in high-altitude operations in Europe, Korea, and Vietnam. Since the Cold War, the 10th has been a professional division, trained to fight in any environment.

 Not surprisingly, many contributed to the growth of skiing as a recreational American pastime. The Colorado Skiing of the 1920s, 1930s, and 1940s were largely started by 10th Mountain Division soldiers. In fact, the first ski resort in the United States was built by a 10th Mountain Division soldier.

 Over the years, the division has participated in a number of operations. The 10th Mountain Division was the first to be deployed to the Korean Peninsula in 1950, followed by the Vietnam War. The 10th Mountain Division was the first to be deployed to the Persian Gulf in 1990, followed by the Balkans in 1995, and the War in Afghanistan in 2001. The 10th Mountain Division is currently serving in Afghanistan.

1985: The Rebirth of the 10th Mountain Division — the Legend Continues

In 1985, after 40 years of service, the 10th was reactivated by the 10th Mountain Division Eagle Troop. The reactivation of the 10th Mountain Division was a result of the efforts of the 10th Mountain Division Eagle Troop. The 10th Mountain Division is currently serving in Afghanistan.

 The 10th Mountain Division is currently serving in Afghanistan.

 The 10th Mountain Division is currently serving in Afghanistan.

MEETING NOTES:
02/08/2016

10th Mtn Division Foundation: Preserve the legacy of the vets; make history accessible to more people; less than 400 left from the WW2 era. A potential funder.

Goals for the Project:

- Tell the story of transformation of Camp Hale
- It's a very well-loved spot; it's a destination
- National Historic Landmark designation (WW2 and ski history)

National Forest Foundation & Treasured Landscapes Program (from Marcus):

NFF's Project Goals:

- Work with local community to identify a shared vision for the site and then help raise funding to the implementation vision.
- Mitigate impacts to the historic fabric with this interpretive plan
- Two treasured Landscapes identified in CO: Hayman Fire and Camp Hale

Restoration Project Scope:

- 200-300-acre wetland restoration & 5 miles of stream restoration
- EIS almost final/waiting on specialist report
- Field inventories started last year—interrupted due to finding hazardous materials
- Army Corps, CDPHE working w/ FS to clean up the asbestos and unexploded ordinance
- Spring of 2017—break ground on the restoration project (best case scenario) [possibly, begin the implementation of the interp infrastructure, too]

[Veterans Perspective on Restoration: some wanted it left the way it was/preserved to the

degree possible. However, the majority felt it served its purpose, and now it's time for it to return to more like what it was; sensitive and supportive of restoring ecological systems. (why FS plans to keep portions of the ditch)]

Site Specific Stories | Special and Distinct Qualities | Themes

Long History Human Uses:

How the Pando Valley has affected human uses over time:

- Archaic sites (surface materials) - utilized for big game hunting;
- Transformed into an agricultural landscape;
- Because of its accessibility the RR built in the valley;
- Then recognized as a convenient place for training by the military because of its landscape/setting;
- Today used by sheep herders, hunters, motorized, skiing and other recreationalists
- Current project to restore some of the natural hydrological process of the valley

Related subtopics/storylines:

- Competing Uses: water conduit - water delivery - water interests; sheep grazing; recreation; wildlife restoration and habitat; land of intersecting uses and conflicts; motorized

Engineering: The military's creation of the training camp in the Pando Valley

- Moving of 5 million of cubic fill;

- Terra forming; re-shaping of environment to make it usable to the military - from a wetland valley to military reservation
- All happened in the span of 9 months;
- Engineering marvel;
- 1942 construction dollars vs today's price for such earth moving;
- Could interpret in the restored stream bed area - explain impact in 1942 and resiliency of nature, effort to restore it today;

Soldiers' Experience / Physical Demands / Training: Physical demands on the soldiers were intense; many were from the flatlands and brought to 10,000 ft and a hostile environment;

- Camp Hale is not a friendly environment - extreme; 8-10' drifts
- D-Series
- Why bother to build here; what they were expected to train for?
- Climbing Wall - training facility now a climbing/recreation destination
- B-slope - the first bunny slope (Cooper Hill developed as a military ski area and the predecessor of commercial skiing in Colorado)
- Training extreme - what can a soldier go through;
- Tools
- Residential skiers - what it'd be like to ski and perform there
- Soldiers introduction to the camp and their experiences
- Social Side: 14000 soldiers from a wide

variety of incomes and experiences

- Survival Skills: snow caves, sleeping on pine boughs, what to do with your boots over night

Related subtopics/storylines:

- Troopers Traverse: Trek over to Aspen; is also well documented - and an extreme skiing group wants to replicate it (ridge run in the summer and x-country ; been an individual pursuit "Trooper's Traverse"; Lou Dawson did a nice piece on the Trooper's Traverse
- Ongoing Military Training: Still used as an active military training area (on occasion):
- CIA trained some 1958-63 Tibetan fighters;
- Korean war training;
- Recreation Facility: for Fort Carson soldiers
- Interest in training from Fort Carson - mostly army; sometimes bring in unit
- CO National Guard; US Army still uses if for high altitude training; acclimation before deployment to Afghanistan
- Ranger District receives request from military all the time - there is a basic guidelines for what FS is OK with the military doing (avoid avian practices; live fire activities or carrying weapons).
- Ranger District recently approved - winter mountaineering training, ice climbing for special forces group; appealing for the harsh conditions and also tie to the heritage and military pride

- Demoralizing/Redemption: The threat of not going to war - after 2 years of training, they wanted to go to war to fight.
- Took the guys to camp Swift Texas (outside of Austin) - a demoralizing move;
- Guys started bailing from the unit in 1944; they were talking about sending them out into the theater as infantry - just to fill in;
- Politics around where to fit them in and whether or not to deploy them;
- Italian Front - Gothic Line
- Prove themselves over there

What Makes Camp Hale Unique?

- Elevation. Opportunity to train in extreme in conditions. More extreme than anything they'd face in Europe
- Finns were skiers; Germans were the mountaineers - yet the US created a winter, mountain training environment more extreme than these two military groups were trained in
- Winter warfare - just one special units
- Altitude 9000-14000 range of elevation
- Extremes of terrain
- Climate (snow 6-8months of the year)
- Topography - climbing walls
- Cultural/transportation - access to rail road
- Unoccupied
- Began construction in a site in Yellowstone (ES problems, trumpeter swans stopped)

National Military History: such a unique military site; only high-altitude, winter training site in the US

- Today the 10th Mountain Division Lite trains in New York
- Started in New York
- Initially selected a site in Yellowstone but found an endangered species and had to stop development

Recruitment / Voluntary Service:

- Who were they looking to recruit? Ivy League, money, educated recruits who knew how to ski at first
- Where did the soldiers come from?

Entrepreneurial Spirit / Impact on the Ski

and Outdoor Recreation Industries: conquer this terrain you can conquer anything; if you can lead soldiers here who have never been on skis, you can be a business leader; they were set apart by their experience

- Nike; tied to how they were recruited -;
- Bob Dole - Kansas farm kid;
- Bowerman - founder of Nike;
- Growing the ski industry -
- National Ski Patrol;
- Outward Bound
- NOLs,
- Keep coming back to the mountains - connected to the mountains - love for the mountains - and passion for the outdoors;

Experimentation / Development of Equipment:

Weasel, sleeping bags - down bags were prototyped, skis (metal edge skis); back-packing equipment; single burner gas stove; layering; clothing; post war ski clothing; ski boots - high tech; mountain climbing gear

- climbing rope - synthetic, 7/16s; mountain howitzer (packable, and portable); first combination skis = alpine + nordic modes

- 1952 expedition up everest was using army surplus equipment
- Beyond Ski Industry - 10th Mtn soldiers were instrumental in spawning the Outdoor Recreation Industry
- Outdoor Recreation was a survival skill before WW2 - 10th Mtn had fun with it
- Really deep love of the mountains that they wanted to pass on
- Mountain Rations - what they consumed; required to 4500-6000 calories a day; then had to devise a ration that would accomplish that
- Unique place to develop gear / Winter Lab / Experimental Area - selected experienced men

Camaraderie: brotherhood; shared hardship, so specialized;

- World largest ski club - 14000;
- They were doing something that no one else was doing in the military; other
- Obstacles and challenges; one upping each other on how hard it was; that's what builds the brotherhoods and connections
- They stayed together as a unit - trained and fought together; deployed as a unit (military seems to be going back to this system)

Success in Combat: tell the story —their success stemmed from their training

- Hill behind the climbing wall was similar topography to Riva Ridge
- Battle was a pivotal in that it shortened the war

Archeology: Archaic People; prehistory of the camp

- High altitude prehistoric sites (which are fairly rare - similar sites were found on Vail Pass)
- 7000 years ago - archaic periods
- Different hunting techniques - darts (bow-arrow came later)
- Following migration patterns - summer time use

Military "Badassness" / Special Forces:

When the German General army surrender, he asked to surrender to the 10th Mtn Division - they were the only unit that he'd come up against the only troop that could compete with his mountain troops; appalled that they were American troops.

- Today: special units are small units - this was essentially special units, but huge at 14,000 men - unheard of them and unheard of then
- Mountain operations - return to what is being done with VT /CO National Guard designating mountain operations units.

Geology / Geography / Place Names:

- Colorado Trail
- Continental Divide

- Chicago Ridge
- Troopers Traverse

Setting / Characteristic of the Camp Hale landscape: resulting in different land uses — from archaic people following the wildlife migration; to railroad running through the valley; to lending itself as a training ground for the military; to opportunity for wetland restoration

OTHER THEMES - IDEAS

- Transportation: Located there because of the rail road
- Survival
- Experimental Area
- Irving Hale: Named after him; Colorado Militia General Hale deployed to the Philippines;
- Fun Facts - munitions; publicity
- Wetlands Restoration
- Animals at Camp Hale: mule
- Women at Camp Hale
- Civilians at Camp Hale

How do we want people to connect emotionally with Camp Hale?

- Most dads wouldn't talk about it - got to talking when they got together with their alumni association
- Grew up with the legend
- Battlefield tours in Italy with kids
- "90lbs Rucksack" - every 10th kid knows the words

- Finding out about the story was not easy as a kid - there would be hints.
- 87th trained on Rainer - was recruited, trained on Rainier, Mt Hood
- Really deep love of the mountains that they wanted to pass on
- Opportunity to recreate this part of the life that was such a big part in their lives
- Felt compelled to carry on this story that they never told fully (this legend)
- Special forces back then - one of the few elite groups; learned appreciation for the other special forces
- Italian Towns - consider them as liberators; parties for them; parade in Belvedere

Future Audience/Visitors - What type of people visit the museum vs what type of people visit the site?

- Interest in transforming the demographic of the visitor to Camp Hale - broaden the audience -
- Its a nationally significant story (broader appeal than to drivers by and those interested in local history local history).
- It's the best place to tell 10th Mtn History.

Target Audiences:

- Teaching Site / Students - elementary, college, out of state, military/Colorado/; Could be a regional draw (even as far as from the metro area as a site to learn about Colorado History - silver boom, WW2, RR, prehistory)

- Vets - [10th Mountain Light - reconstituted in 1985; train in Fort Drum in New York]
- Military historians
- Morale Welfare & Recreation (MWR): - organize trips and outings; outdoor recreational center @ Fort Carson;
- Lesson: management of cultural and natural resource management; multiple; CSU Natural Resource Collaboration program comes

Existing Visitors

- Recreation Uses: cross country skiers, snowmobilers, Vail Pass Winter Recreation Area (fee site); hikers, OHV/ATV/Moto/UTV, (travel management plan - motor vehicle use maps show where motorized uses are permitted; designated routes); rock climbers; wildlife viewing - mountain lion encounters; mountain biking; fishing (outfitters, personal); hut users (winter and summer); through hikers on the CT and CDT ; hunters; camping (campground, dispersed, group campground); dog sled-ding; metal detecting (not good - artifact hunting - illegal); target practice; Camp Jeep (don't doing it anymore - they were camping everywhere - FS wanted to pare down the dispersed camping because of environmental damage)
- Sheep grazing
- School groups - use the huts
- Military training
- Guided Tours (by NOVA guides): summer

and winter motorized uses; guided tours and rentals

- National register designation plaque at the main gate (on a rock)
- CT & CDT
- Where are they coming from? NOVA guides picks people up from Vail;
- Small group of military historians
- Drive bys / Scenic Byway - Route 24
- Maybe Outward Bound out of Leadville
- Existing Events:
 - National Boy Scout Jamboree (polar club)
 - Youth World Fly Fishing (adults next year)
 - Courage Classic
 - Memorial Day ceremonies up at Tennessee Pass memorial
 - History Colorado - occasionally leads tours (Flint)
 - Veterans organizations occasionally lead tours
 - David leads living history

Future Visitor/Interpretive Experiences | Ideas for How to Tell the Story / Interpretive Media

- Walking Tours: Army calls David Little's walking tour a "Staff Ride" - story of a soldier's experience of the site. 15 Points [from David's tour - he'll be sending more research]
- Pre-war - native American, silver, steam, ice
- Snow, rocks rail
- Draining the swamp
- What was there
- Ski training (snowshoe training, summer)

- Full swing - getting ready for war
- D-series / freezing your ass off
- Shipping out - emptying the camp
- Norwegians, POW, (who else was there)
- Shutting the camp down (German POWs; took from ag industries to do demolition)
- Post war Use - 38th infantry, Tibetans CIA
- Army turns over the FS - in 1960s
- FS campground hosts (well-educated about camp hale and sometimes organize speakers)
- FS ranger? Interpretive guides?
- Oral history of the camp
- Walking tour
- Visitor center was ruled out (too expensive, keep simple and self-sustaining; consider restroom/kiosk/centralized)
- Tap into resources that are using the 10th brand: Distillery, ski companies, license plate (refer them to camp hale to use more - foundation can help with this)
- Statue by the covered bridge in Vail
- New maps for Vail could have Camp Hale info
- Arapahoe Basin (existing FS partner)
- Ski Cooper (they have the memorial at Tennessee Pass that directs to)
- 10th Mountain Experience (map it out - tie together the sites)
- Digital Preservation - digitally reconstruct the site (but no cell service on site); maybe a download station; they are bringing cell to Red Cliff (and there may be a relay

station on ; NFF could maybe bring in the Discovery Channel could help ;

- Audio Tour
- Website - There's one out there that pertains to munitions removal project (camphale.org); interactive
- Mobile App
- Issue with funding - its harder to fund the maintenance (than the implementation)

Potential Partners

- CO Ski and Snowboard Museum - not too much cross promotion now; check final plans; interest in more of a link;
- NOVA Guides: One of larger permittees—the outfitter Could be a partner in the storytelling: Nova Guides (good to contact). Outfitter access could be more restricted in the future since some roads will be controlled and people will be funneled to
- Tribal Consultation: its in development; still working on the inventories; introductions to the tribes have been made, but findings not shared
- Eagle County Historical Society - interested in having tours; maybe a partner
- Colorado Mountain College
- Ski Museum
- Vail Resorts - potential partner
- Climax Mine -
- Scenic Byway group

- Vets potential source of volunteers

Questions:

- Period of Significance for the Site: Nomination states it as ??; what is there; what isn't; what is going to be left?
- NHL Nomination? Typically completed by contractors for ~\$43k. Usually takes 1-3 years. NPS will lead the effort. At this point its been deemed eligible, but they have not started the NHL nomination process.

