

## Hunting Lodge Camp Profile

**Name of Camp:** Hunting Lodge

**Time Period:** 1941

**Camp Theme:** Hunting Lodge on Philmont Ranch at end of Philips Family era

**Significance in American and Local History:** See Historical Background Sections

### Characters.

Employees of the Phillips Ranch, government hunters, trappers employed by the ranch, guests of the Phillips family are the inspirations for these. Adapt the places that these characters come from to your own experience and what is logical for who they are.

**Taylor Lee.** Her/his job was working with the livestock operation to make sure that the Angus seedstock bulls that the Phillips Ranch bought were returned to the Leanin 'C Livestock Co. in Littleton, Colorado, in good condition next fall -- as per Waite Philip's orders.

**Will/Willa James.** A bronc rider, writer and sketch artist who is making drawings of the landscape including vegetation and wildlife in the area surrounding Hunting Lodge so that Waite has an accurate account of what he is gifting to the Boy Scouts.

**J. D. Smiley.** An attorney working out the legal side of gifting the land to the Boy Scouts. S/he is also a hunter, has been a frequent guest at Hunting Lodge with an official Philmont hunting permit.

**Buckshot Hawkins.** A government mountain lion hunter who is controlling the mountain lion population in the area to protect the ranch livestock. He is also knowledgeable about trapping.

**Dr. Lily/Lyle Burch.** A wildlife researcher and botanist assisting Mr. James in plant and animal identification. Books on mammals and birds are appropriate props that can be used to answer questions from the campers.

**Rush/Rachel Owens.** A journalist from Chicago (or chose another city that you are familiar with) who is here to gather information for an article on Waite Phillips. S/he is a avid outdoorsperson who like to build fires..

### Historical Background of Camp and Philmont.

"Early inhabitants in the area were the Ute Indians. There are large blazes on old Ponderosa Pines at the Hunting Lodge. One theory is that the blazes were made when the Indians took bark for medicinal uses. Others speculate the blazes were navigational or territory marks. It is likely the Jicarilla Apaches also roamed the area. Mountain men like Kit Carson, Lewis H. Garrard, and others once lived and traveled in the region and may have explored the beautiful valley.

The area up Cimarroncito Creek to the west was the location of the Contention Mine and the notorious Charlie Cyphers for whom the present Cyphers Mine camp is named.

Early cattlemen most likely discovered the lush meadows in the beautiful area known as Hidden Valley on the ridge to the east of the present Cimarroncito Camp. These may have included Lucien Maxwell, George Webster, and of course Waite Phillips. ...

...We have a photo taken at the Hunting Lodge in July, 1939 which shows the Hunting Lodge, a saddle shed with an overhang, and an old cabin. Chope Phillips said he thought the old cow camp cabin was probably built by Mr. George Webster as he remembered it being there when the Hunting Lodge was built by his father, Waite Phillips in about 1926. ... Chope said the saddle shed was built by Waite Phillips around 1926. It was razed at some later date.

The *Philmont Ranch Guest Permit*, used prior to Boy Scouts ownership, lists abundant species of large and small game. The permit was discovered in the Villa Philmonte Archives and is mentioned in some Waite Phillips correspondence to Ranch Management. Waite was concerned

with poachers and instructed the cowboys and ranch hands to check the permits of anyone they encountered in the backcountry.

In his book *Magic Mountains*, Minor Huffman reports how a famous explorer, writer, and photographer named Osa Johnson came to Philmont to kill a problem lion near Cimarroncito. Chope Phillips indicated his father would let the Government lion hunters stay in the Hunting Lodge while they attempted to control the population of lions. Chope said his father loved to come up to the Lodge and “chew the fat” with the hunters.

Waite Phillips loved hunting. From Waite’s Diary for November, 1930, we find Waite and his associate Gillette Hill from Tulsa spent a number of days at the ranch and did a lot of hunting. Here is a quote from the Diary: “**Monday:** Gillette, Bob, and myself rode from Cimarron Cita Narrows past Hunting Lodge to turkey patch. Gillette killed two turkeys. We then rode thru Sawmill Creek country over Ute Park Pass where Gillette shot at two different bucks without touching them. Then up on Deer Lake Mesa where we saw fresh deer, turkey and lion tracks--- Down trail east end Mesa to reservoir, saw plenty deer coming down.”

...During visits to the Hunting Lodge during June and July, 2000, Chope Phillips said the Hunting Lodge was used mostly for picnics and day outings by the family and many friends and not much for extended stays. Chope did mention that Waite always brought the cook when they went to the backcountry cabins. We have some excellent photographs taken July 15, 1940 at the Hunting Lodge. It was a good sized group and Waite, Genevieve, Helen Jane, Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Phillips and others were present.”

### ***The Phillips Hunting Lodge at Cimarroncito – Little Wild One!***

By J. Glenn Cummings, May 9, 2002

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### **Recent Past:**

**1922** -- Ramon and Gertrude Abreu sell their homestead and ranch to Waite Phillips.

**1922** -- Waite Phillips purchased the Urraca and Rayado Tracts from George Webster (42,000 acres for \$150,000) as well as the Ramon Abreu Ranch and Homestead.

**1926** -- Waite and Genevieve Phillips built the Villa Philbrook in Tulsa, the Villa Philmonte at Philmont Ranch, and four backcountry lodges on Philmont, including Cimarroncito (now known as Hunting) Lodge, an enlargement of the Rayado Lodge and additional buildings at Fish Camp.

**1927** – Villa Philmonte is completed and Waite and Genevieve host his brothers and families at Philmont Ranch for the formal opening of their new home, often called "the big house" by employees.

**1927** – Waite and Genevieve Phillips host Vice President Charles G. Dawes, Mrs. Dawes and their son Dana and a large party at Villa Philmonte and Rayado Lodge. This is Fish Camp's interpretative time period and event.

### **Present Time at Hunting Lodge.**

It is the summer before the Phillips family gives this area over to the Boy Scouts of America, and the gifting is already in progress. The characters there are aware of this and would be there to facilitate it in some way.

It is also important to note what is going on nationally and internationally at this time. Europe has been at war for two years with North African and Asian theatres. There is definitely a concern that the United States will be drawn into that conflict. London is being bombed regularly. Little is known or publicized about the "Holocaust" as we know it today, but many are aware of Hitler's fascist policies. Many do not want another foreign war after WWI (The Great War) and still remember its devastation to fathers, uncles, etc. There is a definite uneasiness in the air, in the newspapers, and on the radio.

## Future Developments.

"Waite and Genevieve Phillips gave the Boy Scouts of America the second gift in late 1941, the Hunting Lodge was included. The scouts apparently quickly saw the potential for the Cimarroncito area. There are drawings on file at the ranch which illustrate extensive facilities and campsites over a large area of the valley from the Hunting Lodge to the present Cito Camp location. This included campsites, kitchens, latrines, showers, and service buildings. Waite Phillips was interested in how the scouts used the area as long as he lived as evidenced by correspondence with ranch management.

... Wayne Pruitt was a wrangler for the month of July, 1945 and remembers seven Horse Department Staffers stayed in the Hunting Lodge. Wayne said Cito was the Horse Training Camp and that campers took day rides from Cito. He remembered Doug English from *Boys Life* visited Philmont in 1946 and wrote an article about Horsemanship and Wayne's picture was in articles in Sept and Oct, 1949

...Chope also vividly remembered getting a call from Philmont in 1978 asking him to lead a bear hunt so a Remington Arms salesman could shoot a bear with the newest Remington Rifle. Chope said the hunt originated at the Hunting Lodge on May 1, 1978 with horses and dogs brought up. He said there was an exciting chase and a bear was treed. It had turned very cold and started snowing heavily. In fact, the snow was so heavy the Remington man could not see through his scope to shoot the bear, and "I had to loan him my open-sight Winchester 30-30 to shoot that bear." Cummings article. Ibid. See the entire article for more stories and interviews on Hunting Lodge history.

## Costumes and Appearance.

The interps for this camp have an "Indiana Jones" look about them. Tailored, "safari looks" in general. See photo models for ideas.

**Women:** Mid-calf gored and "A Line" skirts made from khaki, corduroy or twill. Tailored shirts or blouses with collars and long sleeves. Variety of solid colors: white, beige, light blue, khaki, beiges, browns .. avoid black .. subtle plaids and prints, okay. Jodhpur riding pants in khaki or twill. Khaki slacks, chinos look. Leather belts, western or plain in design. High topped riding boots (both eastern and western were used), high top lace up boots, roper type plain toe boots. Leather or cloth plain or conservative pattern western cut sleeveless vests; vest sweaters. Three quarter length Mackinaw Coats of canvas or khaki twill; safari jackets in khaki; men's style tailored "blazer" jackets.

Accessories include: Hats are a necessity to look right: broad brimmed in felt or canvas or straw. Leather riding and/or work gloves, belts, handkerchiefs, scarves (large square silk, "wild rags"). Very little jewelry should be worn ... wedding rings and watches only. Bring socks.

Appearance: Neat, clean and orderly. Hairstyles would be simple. Long hair pulled back into a bun or in a tail at the back of the neck or cut short in the bobbed fashion. No obviously dyed, colored hair or "spiked" hair.

**Men:** Tailored. long sleeve shirts (that we might think of as "dress" shirts, with collars, not buttoned down though. Variety of solid colors white, beige, or light blue, browns, red. Jodhpur riding pants in khaki or twill. Khaki trousers, "chinos" look. High topped riding boots (eastern and western), high top lace up boots, roper type plain toe boots. Some vests and sweaters, plain wool. Leather belts, western or plain in design. Three quarter length Mackinaw Coats of canvas or khaki twill. Khaki, or twill sport coats in dark or neutral colors, tweeds, herringbones, etc. And, "safari" jackets.

Accessories include: Hats are a necessity: Stetsons, Fedora, Open Road, driver or golf caps, gloves, belts. Handkerchiefs, white or solid colors, bandanas, fancy silk scarves (wild rags) ; Pocket watches; Socks.

**Appearance:** Neat, clean and orderly also as much as possible; dirty only as activities have made you; buildings, porches, tools, etc. in order; hairstyles of the period were short -- to the ears and above nape of the neck -- without "buzzed" or shaved areas. No obviously dyed hair colors.

**Language.**

Standard American English appropriate to the character and his/her origins.

**Props.** Each character would have specific props that the staff person portraying him/her can bring -- sketch book, bird/mammal reference, attorney's briefcase, etc.

Tools and equipment for program activities.

**Activities.**

Lodge visit; Trapping/hunting talk; Pitching horseshoes; Biscuits, marshmallows, kettle corn; Possible evening program of stories, songs, etc. -- not necessarily every evening -- formal or informal in nature

**Staff Roles and Responsibilities as Historical Interpreters.**

Greeting crews -- In character, first person interp

Check-in -- Out of character, third person interp

Lodge visit -- In character

Leaders of the activities listed above -- In or out of character as feasible.

Evening program -- In character as much as possible.

**Campers' Roles.**

Visitors passing through

**Positive Values to the Depicted at Hunting Lodge.**

- Generosity and hospitality of the Phillips family
- Cooperation of the characters as guests and extension of hospitality to campers
- Love of outdoors, its flora and fauna.
- Appreciation of the skills of former guests, builders, hunter/trappers, and the Phillips family.

**References and Research.**

*Beyond the Hills: The Journey of Waite Phillips.* By Michael Wallis

*Philmont: A History of New Mexico's Cimarron Country.* By Lawrence R.

Murphy

*Out in God's Country: A History of Colfax Country, New Mexico.* By Lawrence R.

Murphy

**Articles.**

*The Phillips Hunting Lodge at Cimarroncito -- Little Wild One!*

An article by J. Glenn Cummings, May 9, 2002

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*The story of The Philmont Hymn from an Interview with John B. Westfall.* By J. Glenn Cummings and Linda R. Cummings, Hunting Lodge CD and ACD, 00, 01, and 02. , March 27, 2002.