Women of Roxborough

1858 — Colorado Gold Rush

1861 — Civil War 1861-65

1862 — **Homestead Act**
Battle of Glorietta Pass

1893 — **Women's Suffrage Colorado**
First by election
Financial Panic/Depression

1903 — Land development & acquisition begins

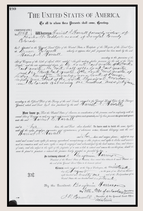
1970 — Helmers sold land to developer

1975 — Roxborough State Park

"Need women to civilize the West with higher sense of morality."

"100,000 women received land in their own right, paying taxes and paving the way for women's suffrage in 1893"

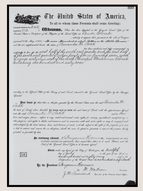
Women Pioneers & Homesteaders



Harriet Harsell
Land Patent 1888

Harriett received her patent in 1888 after paying $200 cash.

Her log house was 16' x 18', well built, and 'comfortably furnished.'



Amanda Todd
Land Patent 1889

Amanda Todd received her land patent in 1889 and was one of several homesteaders who lost their land when Congress passed the Forest Reserve Act of 1892.

Rhoda Cusenbary
Land Patent 1926

Rhoda received her land patent in 1926 and built a new homestead, known as 'Denver View'. She later sold the home to Ada Jean Thiel, better known as Mountain Jeannie.

Elizabeth Sobey was granted a Land Patent in 1890. Elizabeth also ran the boarding house at the brick factory in Silica.

Farmers

Educators

Landowners

Nurses

Community Builders

Cooks

Day in the Life

Dress & Fix Hair
Clean & Sweep House

Make Breakfast
Feed & Water Animals
Canning & Preserving
Educating Children

Make Lunch
Sewing & Mending

Make Dinner

Prayers & Bed

Homesteader Biscuit Recipe

2 cups flour
1 Tbsp. baking soda
¼ cup lard
¾ cup buttermilk

Mix dry ingredients. Add lard then milk. Shape and cook in Dutch oven or on griddle.

Grandmother Helmer, Mary Lou, Mel Head & Sniffles

Campbell Family
circa 1890

Viola Helmer, Dorothy Rosendale, George & Agnes Helmer at the National Western Stockyards

William & Rebecca Waterhouse
circa 1915

Mary Helmer
Land Owner
1863-1950

Roxborough Park School

Women of Roxborough State Park

Susan Trumble
Roxborough State Park Manager
1980-2003

Doris Cruze (right)
Volunteer Naturalist
Initiated Bird Hikes
1982-Present

Ann Bonnell (Left)
Volunteer/Visitor Center Supervisor
1976-2023

Day in the Life

Land Negotiation
Trail Design
Construction
Geological Survey
Archeology Survey
Plant & Bird Identification
Restoration of Buildings
Roads and Facilities

Mountain Jeannie
Local Legend/ Land Owner
1906-1987

Vickey Trammell
Volunteer Naturalist
1st Parkwide Plant Survey
1982-2017

Susan Dunn
Friends Program Manager
1997-Present

Angel Tobin
Volunteer/Interpretive Services Manager
2001-2022