Dodge Lodge, CO

October 15 - 25, 2015

Project Partner: National Parks Service and the Mt. Evans Outdoor Education Laboratory School

History: The Mt. Evans Outdoor Education Laboratory School is located at the historic Dodge Ranch, ten miles southwest of Evergreen, Colorado. It has been designated by the National Park Service as a National Education Landmark. The property evolved from a homestead, into an elegant summer home, and later into a tourist-oriented ranch. After its sale in 1961 to the Jefferson County School District, it was converted to an outdoor education facility. This use continues to the present day.

The property is comprised of twelve historic buildings and eleven non-historic buildings. The most prominent structure on site, Dodge Lodge, was constructed between 1904 and 1907 by Clarence and Regina Dodge. Clarence Dodge was an international level tennis player who was active in community affairs, published the Colorado Springs Gazette, was elected to the Colorado House of Representatives, Chairman of the International YMCA, and president of the Community Chest. The Dodge family developed the property into their summer residence. Dodge Lodge was constructed
with wood from a local mill and included a stone fireplace in every room, many of which are still in existence.

After the property was purchased by the Jefferson County School District, it was remodeled and expanded into an in-residence outdoor education laboratory school. Today, the school serves sixth-graders throughout the entire Jefferson County system. Every school in the District sends its sixth-graders for one week during the school year. The students, and their teachers, live on-site for a week, participating in a curriculum of environmental studies, ecology, wildlife, geology, history and astronomy.

**Scope of Work:** Volunteers worked with Project Supervisor Chris Frank to learn how to:

- Seal the south elevation of Dodge Lodge: scrape, sand, clean and seal this portion of the building
- Repair/replace board and batten siding
- Install metal flashing
- Replace trim board
- Rehabilitate windows
- Rehabilitate doors
- Repair logs