

1. Title / Content Area:	Denver Mountain Parks: Echo Lake Park
2. Historic Site:	Echo Lake Park
3. Developed by:	Century Middle School Educators
4. Grade Level and Standards:	<p><i>Grade Level:</i> 3rd – 5th</p> <p><i>Standards:</i> Colorado Social Studies Standards 1-4</p> <p><i>Prepared Graduate Competencies:</i></p> <p>Content in this Document Based Question (DBQ) link to Prepared Graduate Competencies in the Colorado Academic Standards</p> <p>3rd : PGC 1-5, 7</p> <p>4th : PGC 1-5, 7</p> <p>5th : PGC 1-5, 7</p>
5. Assessment Question:	Why is the lodge at Echo Lake significant historically and architecturally, and why is it important today?
6. Contextual Paragraph	<p>Echo Lake Park was established in 1921 but the idea for the park was first coined in 1901 as the National Park and Wilderness movements were just beginning in the United States. The park was designed as part of an extension of the Denver Mountain Parks project which followed the Olmsted plan already in place for the parks. In 1916, trails in the wilderness area were developed by the National Park Service to allow public access and recreation. In 1921, as a result of a Supreme Court decision that allowed cities to condemn property outside of their normal jurisdiction, Denver acquired 600 acres in the area which included the lake.</p> <p>In 1926, Jules Jacques Benoit Benedict designed a lodge in the Mountain Rustic Style which incorporated local stone and wood, and reflected the mountain landscape and setting. An ice house was also built in the same style in 1926, and later the Civilian Conservation Corps constructed both a stone pavilion and a rectangular shaped stone concession stand as part of the park complex. All of the buildings above contribute to the National Register of Historic Places listing and are still used in some format today.</p>



Contextual Paragraph (Continued)	<p>Listed in the National Register of Historic Places as a historic district in February of 1995, Echo Lake Park is significant in two criterion. Under criterion A in the National Register of Historic Places, the park showcases the importance of tourism and recreation through city planning and development. The park was created as an extension of the Olmsted Plan for Denver Mountain Parks and reflected both the City Beautiful Movement and the National Park movement. Additionally, the creation of the park was during a time period when citizens had access to automobiles and other modes of transportation, and were looking for opportunities to travel outside of Denver into the Rocky Mountains. With the development of the Denver Mountain Park System, and Echo Lake Park as well as others, city planners, leaders, businessmen and community groups were providing a means for tourism and recreation adjacent to Denver.</p> <p>Echo Lake Park is also significant under National Register criterion C for architecture. The buildings on site which include a lodge designed by Jules Jacques Benois Benedict in the Mountain Rustic Style, use local materials such as stone and wood and reflect the mountain setting and landscape.</p> <p>For more information, the National Register Listing can be found here: https://npgallery.nps.gov/NRHP/AssetDetail/24bbd578-5143-4fba-8900-6455d51b4d72?branding=NRHP or in the COMPASS system maintained by the Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation at History Colorado. You can find more</p>	

	information about COMPASS here: https://www.historycolorado.org/compass-information .	
--	--	--

Document Based Question (DBQ)

Document Set

Echo Lake Lodge



https://echolakelodgeco.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/07/DSC_0056-e1405274475458.jpg

GUIDING QUESTIONS:

1. What materials are used in the construction of this building?
2. What are the unique architectural features of this building?
3. How does this building blend into the landscape / setting in which it is placed?
4. When you first look at this building, how does it make you feel?
5. Why would someone want to visit this building?
6. Why would it be important to have a building like this in a park in Colorado?
7. Who would use a building like this in the past? How would someone use it today?

Echo Lake Park Concession Stand

GUIDING QUESTIONS:



<https://npgallery.nps.gov/NRHP/AssetDetail/24bbd578-5143-4fba-8900-6455d51b4d72?branding=NRH>

[P](#)

1. What type of setting is this building in?
2. What materials are used in the construction of this building?
3. How does the construction of this building compare with the construction of the main lodge?
4. Why would it be important to have a building such as this in a park?
5. Would a building like this still be useful today as visitors come to the park? How can it still be used?

Denver Mountain Parks
Colorado Encyclopedia Entry



<https://coloradoencyclopedia.org/article/denver-mountains-in-parks>

GUIDING QUESTIONS:

1. Why was John Brisben Walker interested in creating parks outside of Denver?
2. Why would the people of Denver be interested in parks like Echo Lake?
3. Are the parks still used today? How?
4. Parks have both land and buildings to manage. How do the buildings at a park contribute to the overall park experience?

Jules Jacques Benois Benedict
City of Littleton Website Entry

GUIDING QUESTIONS:



1. Who is Jules Jacques Benois Benedict?
2. What lasting impact did he have on Colorado as a whole?
3. What are some of the buildings he created in Colorado?
4. Why do you expect he want to create and design buildings for a park?

<https://www.littletongov.org/my-littleton/littleton-history/biographies/benedict>

Assessment Question

How do historic buildings in our parks contribute to the experience of a Colorado visitor.

Response