

WEST

Old Colorado City Historical Society

WORD

OCTOBER 1998

COLORADO SPRINGS 100 YEARS AGO

Author Judy Finley presents slide program on Colorado Springs in 1900 for our October 9th Meeting and Program. This month's program will be held at the History Center.

Judy Reid Finley is a second generation Colorado Springs native. Her own grandparents had arrived in the Pikes Peak region in 1901, and she grew up with many family stories about their early days here. Judy graduated Colorado Springs (now Palmer) High School and Colorado College and left the area for a while. She returned to the Pikes Peak area after her marriage to David Finley, a professor of Political Science at CC. While raising their three children, she also became a political activist, fighting for more parks and open space during a period of rapid community growth in the 1970's. This led to a six year term (1973-78) on Colorado Springs' Park and Recreation advisory Board and another six years on the City Planning Commission (1981-87). She is currently a member of a city planning task force that is overhauling development review procedures.

From 1975 to 1996 she was coordinator of historical photographs and oral collections in the Special Collections Department of the Tutt Library at Colorado College. Her contacts with people and the collections over the years developed her knowledge of regional history. She began to comb through old newspapers and

magazines, immersing herself in the chronicles of Colorado Springs during the height of the Cripple Creek gold boom and Colorado Springs' growth.

Finley wrote a series of articles for the Colorado College *Bulletin* and assisted in editing her father J. Juan Reid's book, *Colorado College: The First Century*. After his death, she edited and supervised publication of his memoir, *Growing Up in Colorado Springs, 1920-1930*. She self-published her own book, *Coming of Age in Colorado Springs, 1945-1955*, in 1994. This memoir of her teenage years sold well enough that she decided to retire from her job in order to devote more time to writing.

Judy grew curious about the Century Chest, a time capsule that now stands in the atrium of the Tutt Library awaiting its ceremonial opening at the beginning of the 21st Century. This led to her research and writing *Time Capsule 1900: Colorado Springs A Century Ago* which was published earlier this year. Her newest book evokes contrasts with daily life in the late 20th Century with a sense of curiosity about the contents of the Century Chest that the citizens of 1900 left for us to open at the end of the year 2000.

Time Capsule 1900: Colorado Springs A

JUDY REID FINLEY — OUR OCTOBER PROGRAM

Century Ago features eighty-nine rare historical photographs and a foldout map of the Pikes Peak region in 1900 to dramatically illustrate this chronicle of daily life in Colorado Springs. The 128-page, large format book also includes endnotes, index, and an extensive bibliography that points out further sources for those who want to learn more. Both readable and scholarly, it is a "benchmark" study of the year 1900 in Colorado Springs that will be of lasting value to future historians for comparing with the year 2000.

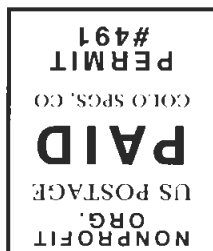
Time Capsule 1900 is available in the History Center Book & Gift Shop for \$17.95. OCCHS members receive a 10% discount. Judy will be available to sign copies of her book after her program.

We're trying something new this month holding our monthly meeting and program

at the History Center. Coffee, juice and other refreshments will be available beginning at 10:00 A.M. Judy Finley's program will begin at 11:00 A.M. following a short business meeting. Non-members are also welcome to attend.

The Old Colorado City History Center is located at 1 South 24th Street, at the corner of Pikes Peak Avenue and 24th Street. Parking is available in our parking lot on the south side of the History Center and along 24th Street and Pikes Peak Avenue. The Old Colorado City branch of the Pikes Peak Library District (1/2 block away on Pikes Peak Avenue - north of Bancroft Park) is allowing us to use their parking lot for this program.

Please call the Book & Gift Shop volunteer at 636-1225 if you plan to attend. Reservations are not necessary, but will help us know how many refreshments to purchase.



OLD COLORADO CITY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
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