



The caricatures on the walls were done by Phillips' friend, John T. McCutcheon, well-known cartoonist of the Chicago Tribune.

Leading through the door on the west wall is the Trapper's Closet where Phillips stored guns, fishing equipment, and riding equipment with which to outfit his guests during their visits.

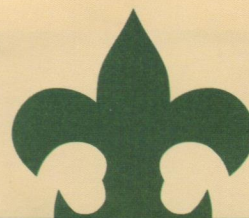
Dedication Plaque

*The Philtower Building * The Philmont Scout Ranch*

These properties are donated and dedicated to the Boy Scouts of America for the purpose of perpetuating faith - self reliance - integrity - freedom. Principles used to build this great country by the American pioneer.

So that these future citizens may through thoughtful adult guidance and by the inspiration of nature visualize and form a code of living to diligently maintain these high ideals and our proper destiny.

*Waite Phillips
December 31, 1941*



VILLA PHILMONTE



Philmont Scout Ranch

Boy Scouts of America

Cimarron, New Mexico



WAITE PHILLIPS

Waite Phillips gave 127,395 acres of his vast Philmont Ranch near Cimarron, New Mexico to the Boy Scouts of America in two gifts, one in 1938 and one in 1941. Developed as a wilderness camping area for Boy Scouts and Explorers, the property was named Philmont Scout Ranch and has since hosted more than 715,000 participants in backpacking and horseback riding expeditions.

Phillips was born on a small farm in Iowa in

1883. After completing his education, he joined his brothers in their Oklahoma oil business. In 1914 he organized his own oil company in Tulsa and sold it in 1925 for 25 million dollars.



Genevieve Phillips

The Philmont Ranch was started by Phillips in 1922. He derived the name from his own name and the Spanish word for mountain, "monte". The ranch encompassed more than 300,000 acres of mountain and plains range land and ran over 3,000 head of cattle.

In the summer of 1925, Phillips and his wife, Genevieve, embarked on a Mediterranean cruise to gather architectural ideas for their residence on the ranch, the Villa Philmonte. Designed in the Spanish Mediterranean style, it was completed in 1927. It was home to the Phillipses during their vacations to the ranch each summer. The majority of the furnishings were acquired by the family during a 1926 trip to Europe.

The Villa and the ranch headquarters were included in Phillips' gift to the BSA in 1941. Surrounding the "Big House" today are the facilities of the Philmont Training Center where each summer Scouters from across the nation participate in training courses. The Villa has been restored to the time of Phillips' ownership and is maintained as a memorial to his generosity and foresight.

GAZEBO

The octagonal gazebo between the Villa and Training Center assembly hall was the southern-most extension of the Phillips home. The assembly hall, dining rooms, and surrounding buildings were constructed by the BSA in the early 1950s as the headquarters of the Philmont Training Center. Additional housing and educational facilities were built in the 1990s as the Training Center evolved into a year-round facility.

Over the gazebo fireplace is a plaque which bears the words spoken by Waite Phillips when he dedicated Philmont to the Scouting movement in 1941 (See back cover.) Waite Phillips' Philtower building in Tulsa, Oklahoma was included in the gift of land as an endowment.

GUEST HOUSE AND COURTYARD

The guest house behind the Villa was built to accommodate friends and business associates when they came to visit the family at the ranch.

The tiles found in the walkways of the breezeway and guest house were designed by Phillips to depict the ranch's brand, horses, cows and other southwestern motifs. All other tiles found in the courtyard and in the house were purchased in Europe.

Painted on the ceiling of the breezeway are the initials of the Phillips family members, WP for Waite Phillips, GEP for his wife Genevieve Elliott, HJP for his daughter Helen Jane, and EP for his son Elliott.



The Villa's swimming pool was located east of the courtyard. Indicated by a boundary of light green tile, it was filled in by the BSA in the early 1950s and became a flower garden.

LIVING ROOM

Above the living room fireplace hangs a collection of weaponry obtained by Phillips during his travels in Europe. Wood for the fireplace was stored in the 16th century wooden chest located on the west wall.

The ceiling beams in the living room were painted by a New York artist who also did the decorative painting found elsewhere in the home. The pattern is repeated on every fourth beam and also on the piano.

The Knabe piano was custom built for the Phillipses especially for the Villa living room. It is equipped with a player mechanism. The rolls were kept in the cabinet located nearby on the east wall.



The hand-blocked, linen drapes have the ranch's cow brand, the UU Bar, worked into the design.

BREAKFAST ROOM

Originally the main entrance to the Villa, the breakfast room was later adapted as the family's private dining area when they were not entertaining guests.

Located in the corner is a Russian samovar for making tea and above the corner fireplace is the ranch's cattle brand.

DINING ROOM

Sixteen people could be seated around the table in the Villa's dining room. The chairs are covered in hand-tooled Moroccan leather.

The coffered ceiling was decorated by the same artist who painted the beams of the living room.



The coat-of-arms above the fireplace was purchased by the Phillipses in Europe. The VP in the mantel piece stands for Villa Philmont. The fire screen, andirons, light fixtures and other ironwork found in the dining room and throughout the Villa were designed and made by a blacksmith employed by Mr. Phillips.

The paintings hanging on the north wall are of Charles Beaubien and his wife, Paulita. Beaubien and Guadalupe Miranda were recipients of an 1841 Mexican Land Grant of which Philmont is a part. Beaubien's son-in-law, Lucien Maxwell, colonized the grant at Rayado in 1848 and eventually came to own the entire tract of almost two million acres.



UPSTAIRS

Above the landing of the stairs is a three-section window depicting traders traveling the Santa Fe Trail.

Directly at the head of the stairs is the library with a porthole window that looks upon Philmont's mountainous backcountry.

Down the hall to the south is the master bedroom. The Phillipses had separate dressing rooms. The bathroom shower has seven water nozzles and a thermometer for temperature control. Recessed heat lamps warmed the air and floor tiles in front of the shower.

NEW MEXICO ROOM

The main entrance to the Villa was downstairs through the door leading onto the auto court. The hallway is decorated with Indian artifacts collected by Phillips.



The ceiling of the New Mexico room features various styles of beam (viga) construction characteristic of homes built by the Hispanic settlers and Pueblo Indians of the Southwest. The room is likewise furnished with pots, blankets, and other artifacts of Hispanic and Indian origin.

Along the walls are photographs of guests who had visited the Phillipses at the ranch including Will Rogers, Wiley Post, and Vice-President Charles Dawes. Other photos show his favorite backcountry hideaway, the Rayado Lodge.

TROPHY ROOM

One of the most popular rooms for visitors is the Trophy Room which served as Phillips' den and office. Mounted on the walls are the heads of large game animals indigenous to the Philmont area dominated by a bison that hangs above the fireplace. It came from the herd that Phillips introduced to Philmont and later gave to the Boy Scouts with his gift of the ranch.