



LOIS CUNIFF LINDSTROM KENNEDY

Teacher, Historian, Writer

After attending Trinidad Junior College in 1940-42 Lois taught in a one-room school west of Trinidad. Later she taught in Lamar, Colorado Springs, Pueblo and first grade at Secrest Elementary School in Jefferson County until her retirement in 1985. She received the Distinguished Teacher Award in 1984.

Lois is the Historian of Arvada. She is respected for her insistence on accuracy in the documentation of historical topics. While enrolled in a Masters level history course in 1971 she discovered information on the Lewis Ralston gold discovery of 1850. After meticulous research she wrote an application for state recognition. The first application was rejected so she wrote another. One December 1, 1995 the Colorado Historical Society placed the Lewis Ralston discovery site of June 22, 1850 on the Colorado Register of Historic Places - the first documented gold find in the state.

In 1972 she founded and was elected the first president of the Arvada Historical Society. She and others wrote an application that placed the Arvada Flour Mill on the National Register in 1975. She and her husband applied for grants and recruited volunteers to restore the mill which opened as a Museum in 1980. In 1973 Lois chaired the Arvada Cultural Committee which insured the passing of a \$3.6 million bond issue to establish the Arvada Center for the Arts & Humanities. She chaired the Society committee which mounted the first Museum at the Center and she has devoted many volunteer hours to the Museum. She has written historical books, pageants, plays and pamphlets including the history of Jefferson County Schools - A Tribute to Education.

Lois provides positive leadership for her projects. She was elected to the Jefferson County Hall of Fame in 2003.