

953 Redstone Drive – Rossland - Trail Country Club Clubhouse



Rosslund - Trail Country Club Clubhouse 2014

Heritage Register – Building

- 1) **Historical Name:** Rossland-Trail Country Club Clubhouse
- 2) **Common Name:** Redstone Resort Clubhouse
- 3) **Address:** 953 Redstone Drive
- 4) **Date of Construction:** 1926/27
- 5) **Design, Style, Architecture, Architect:** Traditional Log Cabin

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Description:

The Rossland-Trail Country Club Clubhouse is a rectangular log structure situated in an alpine valley overlooking the well-manicured greens of Redstone Golf Course. Designed in a traditional log cabin style, the building features horizontal log walls, saddle-notched corners, large field-stoned chimney and a cedar shake roof with deep overhangs. Located on the original site of the Endersby Ranch, the building is bounded in the north by Hwy 3B and Redstone Drive, in the east by the Rossland-Trail Wagon Road-Dewdney Trail and the Rail Grade in the south and west. The designation is confined to the footprint of the building.

Heritage Value:

The Rossland-Trail Country Club Clubhouse is valued for its early role in the social and recreational development of the communities of Rossland and Trail. The oldest clubhouse in the West Kootenays and the oldest remaining one in the entire Kootenay region, the clubhouse has been in active use since 1927. With its rustic log construction, generous proportions and fieldstone stone fireplace, the building is an important reminder of the central role that social and recreational activities have played and continue to play in the area.

The community values the Rossland-Trail Country Club Clubhouse for its rustic appearance, its unchanged relationship to the site and views of the hilly open green space of the golf course and surrounding alpine valley. It is a familiar landmark to residents, visitors and golf enthusiasts.

In 1922, the Rossland-Trail golf course was originally located on the former Floyd Ranch near Water Hole corner on the highway 3B across from the Milk Creek Dairy. After experiencing poor playing conditions and lack of water supply, the club relocated closer to Rossland, to its present location on the old Endersby Ranch. The Endersby Ranch was acquired by the CM&S Company, a mining company still in operation today (Teck Trail Operations), who leased the land to the club and assisted in laying out the course and constructing the clubhouse. Original cost of the clubhouse and course layout was approximately \$8,000 and the total length of the nine-hole course was 2,300 yards.

In 2008, the golf course was expanded to an 18 hole golf course under the direction of renowned golf architect Les Furber.

Character-Defining Elements:

- Traditional log technology and the use of local natural building materials evident in the horizontal log construction with saddle-notched corners, and large field stone chimney.
- A utilitarian simple rectangular structure, with low-pitched cedar shake roof and roofline with large overhanging eaves.
- Its overall rustic aesthetic complements the picturesque grounds, which include the hilly manicured greens of the Redstone Golf Course and a contrasting backdrop of an alpine valley.
- Plaque located by the front entrance identifies it as one of Rossland's significant historic buildings.



Rosslard-Trail Country Club Clubhouse



Rosslard-Trail Country Club 1948

History

First Clubhouse and Grounds (1922-1926)

Originally formed in 1922, the 40 acre Rossland -Trail Country Club was first located at the former Floyd Ranch near the “water hole” on the Rossland-Trail hill, across from the Milk Creek Dairy. Consisting of a 5-hole course, the site was purchased by the Consolidated Mining and Smelting Company (CM&S Company) and was intended to be used for social and recreation reprieve for its employees and business associates.

The Rossland Miner reported on May 11, 1922 that this first clubhouse “will be modern in every respect, with a large lounging room, verandah about the entire building, ladies and gentlemen’s restrooms and buffet appointments, as well as lockers for the golf and tennis players.” The main room was 20’ x 30’ in size, well lit, and contained a large open fireplace. The club premises had electric lighting and water was

piped in for clubhouse and course maintenance use. The official grand opening occurred on June 22, 1922 and was celebrated by an afternoon tea and evening dance.

After only four years of use, poor playing conditions due to a lack of water supply, club members voted on Sept. 9, 1926 to relocate the course closer to Rossland, to its present location on the old Endersby Ranch (owned by the CM&S Company).

Current Clubhouse (1927-present)

Construction and layout of the new clubhouse and grounds began almost immediately after the club vote and on Oct. 7, 1926, The *Rossland Miner* reported the cost estimate to be approximately \$8,000 and the course would be 2,300 yards in length.

By July 14, 1927, the clubhouse was still in construction and was reported to be a rustic log design. By the following spring, on April 21, 1928 the clubhouse and grounds celebrated its grand opening. The *Rossland Miner* reported more than two hundred people attended the celebration and noted the clubhouse was constructed of native timber from the nearby mountains. Additionally, the reporter observed the clubhouse included

“a large sitting room and old-fashioned stone fireplace, a large verandah overlooking the nine-hole golf course.” Especially recognized was the stone fireplace that contained “in the upper panel of the fire place is a square arranged entirely of the ore from the big Sullivan lead-zinc-silver mine of the CM&S Company.”

According to R. Keane, the dining room was first managed by Mrs. Donaldson between 1927-1932.

Course History

In 1926 Bill Dunbar, a surveyor for the CM&S Company laid out the course. The first greens keeper was Bill Donaldson from 1927 to 1932. Roy Stone, a golf course designer, began managing the Rossland course in 1937 and during the Second World War, volunteers had to manage the course.

The rope tow on the fifth fairway was installed shortly after the war (approx. 1946) and Harold Shannon was reported to complete the electric wiring.

The small cabin near the ninth green is reported to be originally a way station on the Dewdney Trail and has been used by various groups, including the Trail Ski Club.

In June 2004, Rossland Property Investments Ltd. purchased 554.5 acres of land from Teck Cominco which included the historic Rossland Golf course and surrounding lands. This was the start of Redstone Resort. Robert Felsch and Cary Fisher purchased the property just outside Rossland in 2005. They partnered with renowned Canadian golf course architect Les Furber to build 18 completely new holes. Felsch and Fisher updated the original clubhouse, added the practice area, then constructed, single family homes and duplexes developing the area into a sought after subdivision.