

WINTER

The town of Winter Park was first settled in 1923 as a construction camp during the building of the Moffat Tunnel. Since this is the west portal of the tunnel, the camp was known, of course, as West Portal. The abandoned construction camp was bought by the City of Denver in 1939 for development into a winter recreation area. Winter Park (so named because it was a winter park for the City of Denver) was officially opened on January 28, 1940, with a half-mile-long rope tow and a one-dollar lift ticket.

The town, first known as Hideaway Park and later changed to Winter Park to help publicize the ski area, straddles Hwy 40 with restaurants, service stations and ski shops. It is a community with access to incredible recreational opportunities, both winter and summer. Located close to Winter Park Resort, the area around town has spectacular mountains with miles of winter cross-country skiing trails, summer mountain biking trails, snowcovered alpine meadows for snowshoeing or flower-covered alpine meadows for summer hiking. In the town itself are many more shops, restaurants and galleries than when the first rope tow went up the mountain and skiing meant soft, leather lace-up boots, cable bindings and wooden skis.



Construction By: PAT RUPERT



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> P.O. Box 3043 Winter Park, CO 80482 ph: (970) 726-8180

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