

# COLO Heritage

The Magazine of History Colorado

July August 2016

## Why We Preserve

Celebrating 50 Years of  
the National Historic  
Preservation Act

### ALSO IN THIS ISSUE

- Women's Work in a Utopian Colony
- The Georgetown Loop Railroad Season
- A New Lecture Series Begins Soon
- Summer Programs Around the State



### History Colorado Center

1200 Broadway  
Denver, Colorado 80203  
303/HISTORY

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#### MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

##### *Individual \$65* (1 adult)

1 membership card, 1 guest ticket, 1 Georgetown Loop Railroad® ticket

##### *Senior Individual \$60* (1 adult, age 65+)

1 membership card, 1 guest ticket, 1 Georgetown Loop Railroad® ticket

##### **NEW! Dual \$75** (2 adults or 1 adult and 1 guest)

2 membership cards, 2 guest tickets, 2 Georgetown Loop Railroad® tickets

##### **NEW! Senior Dual \$70** (2 adults age 65+ or 1 senior and 1 guest)

2 membership cards, 2 guest tickets, 2 Georgetown Loop Railroad® tickets

##### **NEW! Grandparent \$80** (2 adults, up to 4 grandchildren under 18)

2 membership cards, 2 guest tickets, 2 Georgetown Loop Railroad® tickets

##### *Family \$85* (2 adults, children under 18)

2 membership cards, 2 guest tickets, 2 Georgetown Loop Railroad® tickets

##### *Explorer \$150* (2 adults, children or grandchildren under 18, 2 guests)

2 membership cards, 4 guest tickets, 4 Georgetown Loop Railroad® tickets

##### *Centennial \$300* (2 adults, children or grandchildren under 18, 4 guests)

2 membership cards, 6 guest tickets, 6 Georgetown Loop Railroad® tickets

*Members at these Giving Society levels receive the VIP experience!*

##### *Historian \$500* (2 adults, children or grandchildren under 18, 6 guests)

2 membership cards, 8 guest tickets, 8 Georgetown Loop Railroad® tickets, 2 lecture tickets

##### *Bancroft \$1,000* (2 adults, children or grandchildren under 18, 6 guests)

2 membership cards, 10 guest tickets, 8 Georgetown Loop Railroad® tickets, 4 lecture tickets, exclusive events, recognition in Annual Report and Donor Wall, private collections tours, concierge service, Smithsonian Affiliates benefits\*

##### **NEW! Pioneer \$3,000** (2 adults, children or grandchildren under 18, 6 guests)

2 membership cards, 12 guest tickets, 12 Georgetown Loop Railroad® tickets, 6 lecture tickets, exclusive events, recognition in Annual Report and Donor Wall, private collections tours, concierge service, Smithsonian Affiliates benefits\*, access to museum leadership

##### **NEW! Visionary \$10,000** (2 adults, children or grandchildren under 18, 6 guests)

2 membership cards, 14 guest tickets, 14 Georgetown Loop Railroad® tickets,

10 lecture tickets, exclusive events, recognition in Annual Report and Donor Wall, private collections tours, concierge service, Smithsonian Affiliates benefits\*, access to museum leadership

\*History Colorado is a Smithsonian Affiliations member. Join or renew at Bancroft or above and receive:

- One year of *Smithsonian* magazine
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- Travel and study tour opportunities
- And more! See <https://affiliations.si.edu>



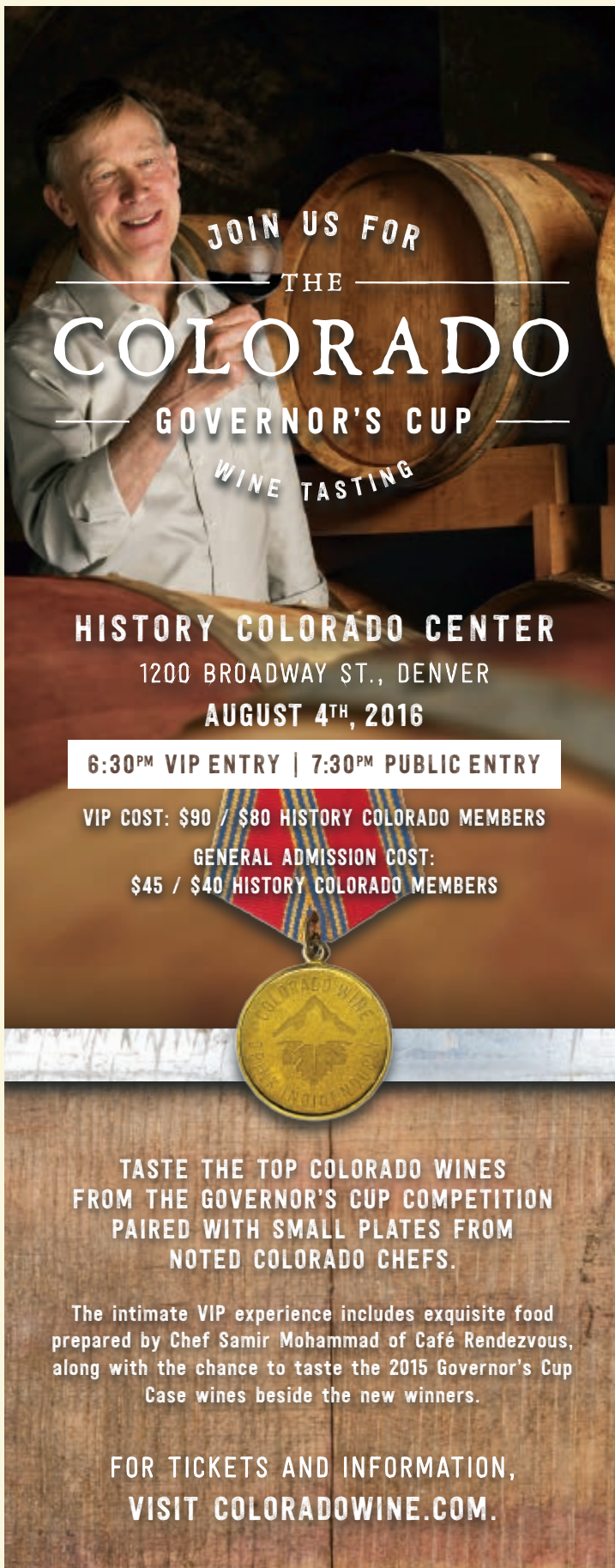
Smithsonian Affiliations  
Membership Program

#### ALL MEMBERS ENJOY THESE PRIVILEGES FOR 12 FULL MONTHS

- Unlimited free admission to the History Colorado Center
- Unlimited free admission to History Colorado museums and historic sites statewide
- First access and free admission to traveling exhibits
- Free and discounted train rides and mine tours at Georgetown Loop Historic Mining & Railroad Park®
- Exclusive invitations to member events, programs and previews
- One-year subscription to the award-winning *Colorado Heritage*
- Discounts on popular history lectures, tours, treks and events
- Special opportunities to see History Colorado collections and artifacts
- 10% discount in History Colorado museum gift shops
- 10% discount in History Colorado Center's Café Rendezvous
- Discounts on research and photo services in Stephen H. Hart Library & Research Center
- Benefits and privileges at Time Travelers® museums and historical sites nationwide

# COLORADO Heritage

JULY/AUGUST 2016



JOIN US FOR  
THE  
**COLORADO**  
GOVERNOR'S CUP  
WINE TASTING

**HISTORY COLORADO CENTER**  
1200 BROADWAY ST., DENVER  
AUGUST 4<sup>TH</sup>, 2016

**6:30PM VIP ENTRY | 7:30PM PUBLIC ENTRY**

VIP COST: \$90 / \$80 HISTORY COLORADO MEMBERS  
GENERAL ADMISSION COST:  
\$45 / \$40 HISTORY COLORADO MEMBERS

**TASTE THE TOP COLORADO WINES  
FROM THE GOVERNOR'S CUP COMPETITION  
PAIRED WITH SMALL PLATES FROM  
NOTED COLORADO CHEFS.**

The intimate VIP experience includes exquisite food prepared by Chef Samir Mohammad of Café Rendezvous, along with the chance to taste the 2015 Governor's Cup Case wines beside the new winners.

**FOR TICKETS AND INFORMATION,  
VISIT COLORADOWINE.COM.**

**I4** Preservation Now

**I6** Why We Preserve:  
Fifty Years of the National Historic  
Preservation Act  
*Steve Turner*

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How the Women of the Colorado  
Cooperative Company Sought Utopia  
by Doing What They'd Always Done  
*Jason L. Hanson*

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### ON THE COVER

Built in 1905, the Kit Carson County Carousel in Burlington is a rare wooden carousel still in use and delighting riders in eastern Colorado. Around the state and the nation, caring communities just like Burlington are bringing in added economic vitality thanks to the work of historic preservationists, who celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of the National Historic Preservation Act this year. See page 16.

*All images are from the collections of History Colorado unless otherwise noted.*

**HISTORY COLORADO CENTER**

1200 Broadway, Denver

**Open:** Daily, 10 A.M. to 5 P.M.

**Admission:** Members free; nonmember adults \$12; seniors and students \$10; children \$8; children 5 and under free. **303/HISTORY**, [www.HistoryColoradoCenter.org](http://www.HistoryColoradoCenter.org)

**Admission:** Members free; nonmember adults \$12; seniors and students \$10; children \$8; children 5 and under free. **303/HISTORY**, [www.HistoryColoradoCenter.org](http://www.HistoryColoradoCenter.org)

**BYERS-EVANS HOUSE MUSEUM**

1310 Bannock Street, Denver

**Open:** Gallery and Gift Shop open daily, except Sunday, 10 A.M. to 4 P.M. House on view by tour only, 10:30 A.M. to 2:30 P.M.

**Admission:** Members free; nonmember adults \$6; seniors and students (with ID) \$5; children (6–12) \$4. Group tours available. **303/620-4933**, [www.ByersEvansHouseMuseum.org](http://www.ByersEvansHouseMuseum.org)

**EL PUEBLO HISTORY MUSEUM**

301 North Union, Pueblo

**Open:** Open Monday through Saturday, 10 A.M. to 4 P.M. Sunday, noon to 4 P.M.

**Admission:** Members free; nonmember adults \$5; seniors, children 6–12, and students with ID \$4; children 5 and under free; children 12 and under free on Saturdays. **719/583-0453**, [www.ElPuebloHistoryMuseum.org](http://www.ElPuebloHistoryMuseum.org)

**FORT GARLAND MUSEUM AND CULTURAL CENTER**

25 miles east of Alamosa off U.S. 160

**Open:** January–March, by appointment only. April–September, daily, 9 A.M. to 5 P.M. October–December, Wednesday through Saturday, 10 A.M. to 4 P.M.; closed Sunday, Monday and Tuesday.

**Admission:** Members free; nonmember adults \$5; seniors \$4.50; children (6–16), \$3.50. **719/379-3512**, [www.FortGarlandMuseum.org](http://www.FortGarlandMuseum.org)

**FORT VASQUEZ MUSEUM**

13412 U.S. 85, Platteville; 35 miles north of downtown Denver

**Opens for the season on March 2.**

**Open:** Wednesday through Sunday, 10 A.M. to 4 P.M. April–September, daily, 10 A.M. to 4 P.M. To schedule tours, call 303/866-4591.

**Admission:** Members and children under 5 free; nonmember adults \$3; seniors \$2.50; students (6–16) \$2. **970/785-2832**, [www.FortVasquezMuseum.org](http://www.FortVasquezMuseum.org)

**GEORGETOWN LOOP HISTORIC MINING & RAILROAD PARK®**

Georgetown/Silver Plume I-70 exits

Call **1-888/456-6777** for reservations or visit [www.georgetownlooprr.com](http://www.georgetownlooprr.com).

**GRANT-HUMPHREYS MANSION**

770 Pennsylvania Street, Denver

**Open:** For rental events, including receptions, weddings, and business meetings. **303/894-2505**, [www.GrantHumphreysMansion.org](http://www.GrantHumphreysMansion.org)

**HEALY HOUSE MUSEUM AND DEXTER CABIN**

912 Harrison Avenue, Leadville

**Open:** Daily, May through October, 10 A.M. to 4:30 P.M. Group tours (20+) can be arranged in winter (depending on availability) with reservation.

**Admission:** Members free; nonmember adults \$6; seniors \$5.50; children (6–16) \$4.50; children 5 and under free. **719/486-0487**, [www.HealyHouseMuseum.org](http://www.HealyHouseMuseum.org)

**PIKE'S STOCKADE**

Six miles east of La Jara, near Sanford, Colorado, just off Highway 136

**Open:** Memorial Day to October 1, or by appointment.

**TRINIDAD HISTORY MUSEUM**

312 East Main Street, Trinidad

**Open:** Tuesday–Saturday, 10 A.M.–4 P.M.; May 18–September 30, Tuesday–Friday, 10 A.M. to 4 P.M. Closed on state holidays. Free self-guided tours of garden and grounds, Monday–Saturday, 10 A.M. to 4 P.M. Baca House, Bloom Mansion and Santa Fe Trail Museum available by appointment for groups of six or more.

**Admission:** Members free. Nonmember ticket options for Historic Homes Guided Tours, Santa Fe Trail Museum self-guided tours, Friday Heritage Garden Tours, and combination tickets at adult, senior, and child rates. Children 5 and under free. **719/846-7217**, [www.TrinidadHistoryMuseum.org](http://www.TrinidadHistoryMuseum.org)

**UTE INDIAN MUSEUM**

17253 Chipeta Road, Montrose

**Closed for expansion**

Open in temporary office space, Montrose Visitor Center, 170 S. Cascade **970/249-3098**, [www.UteIndianMuseum.org](http://www.UteIndianMuseum.org)



*From the*  
**CHAIR**

I'm delighted to announce that History Colorado's board of directors, after a thorough national search, has selected interim leader Steve Turner as the organization's new executive director.

Turner has led our organization since last August following the retirement of Ed Nichols. And while we were impressed with the more than 100 other applicants, we agreed unanimously that Steve is far and away the most qualified for the role. He has lived and breathed our mission for the past eight years, gaining respect from colleagues and partners along the way. He has demonstrated his skill at managing large government agencies and executing a strategic vision in a way that brings people and partners together.

Turner has worked with History Colorado since 2008, leading the State Historical Fund and the Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation. He administered more than \$91 million in preservation grants in that time while helping to lead an effort to expand the state's preservation tax credit, which has been instrumental in preserving historic assets across the state.

As Gov. John Hickenlooper says, "Steve is a champion of preserving Colorado's history and a highly effective executive uniquely suited to lead History Colorado. Under his direction, the organization has strengthened finances and relationships with key partners while staying true to its mission. We look forward to supporting him as he takes History Colorado to the next level."

Turner has worked closely with the board to implement our plan to ensure History Colorado's long-term financial stability and continued execution of the organization's mission. We went from a projected \$2 million deficit for fiscal year 2016 to a balanced budget for 2017 with a plan to build on our cash reserves—that in and of itself is a great achievement. To do it in a way that maintains every core function and service while enhancing our connection to our eight Community Museums—that is nothing short of remarkable.

Ongoing strategic efforts include the development of a new five-year exhibit plan for the History Colorado Center, a plan that will utilize the organization's vast collection to broaden the center's audience appeal. At the same time, we'll strengthen connections to communities across Colorado by working with the Community Museums.

As a champion for that statewide strategic vision, a preservationist who knows Colorado inside out, and a nationally recognized advocate for history, Steve Turner stands out as the most qualified leader to spearhead this all-important next phase in the life of History Colorado.

Ann A. Pritzlaff, Chair, Board of Directors

# New & On View

## Denver

History Colorado Center (unless otherwise noted)

### *Awkward Family Photos* and *By Their Hats, Horses, and Homes, We Shall Know Them*

On view through January 8, 2017

You've seen them on AwkwardFamilyPhotos.com, on Facebook and in your own family's albums—those pictures that just scream *awkward*! Now, the *Awkward Family Photos* exhibit has come to Denver to showcase these perfectly imperfect memories.

The exhibit, set in your family's living room complete with floral-pattern couches and ceramic cats, includes more than 200 classic Awkward Family Photos and hilarious "behind the awkwardness" stories from the actual families. You can even step into the story and take your own awkward photo in the DIY photo studio.

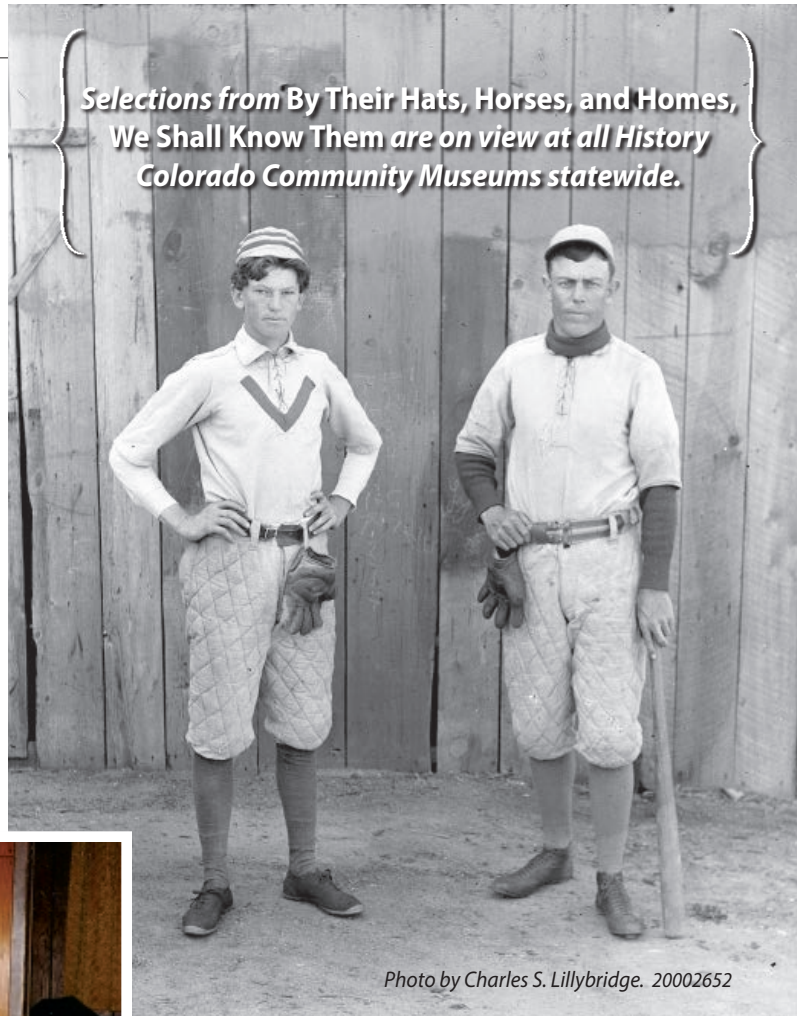
Joining *Awkward Family Photos* is History Colorado's original exhibit *By Their Hats, Horses, and Homes, We Shall Know Them*.

This complementary exhibit features a historic photography studio re-creation, a case of historic cameras and artifacts, and images from the vast collections of Colorado's historic photographs.

### Spread the Awkward!



Do you have awkward family moments of your own that you'd like to share? We're here to help! Dig through your scrapbooks and boxes to find that quintessential captured moment from your family history. We'll be sharing the photos on our social media platforms and on digital screens in the *Awkward Family Photos* exhibit. To join the fun, please send your photos to [dcm@historycolorado.org](mailto:dcm@historycolorado.org).



*Selections from By Their Hats, Horses, and Homes, We Shall Know Them are on view at all History Colorado Community Museums statewide.*

Photo by Charles S. Lillybridge. 20002652

Courtesy Awkward Family Photos  
AFP exhibition © 2014 Awkward Family, LLC. All rights reserved.

Below: Mr. Jordan's cabin.  
Photo by Eugenia Kennicott. 20007991





## Expanded Bent's Fort Exhibit Opens

In partnership with the Cheyenne and Arapaho tribes, the History Colorado Center's *Bent's Fort* exhibit has been updated with expanded content and artifacts from the collection. Fifteen Plains Indian objects have been added, including a saddle and saddle blanket, cradleboard, moccasins, a rifle, tomahawk and more. On loan from the National Park Service is an 1840s grain bin that belonged to the Bent family. We've added eleven new items to the "touch table," a seating area with the video *From Bent's Fort to Sand Creek*, and greater background about the events leading up to the Sand Creek Massacre. Part of the *Colorado Stories* suite of exhibits, *Bent's Fort* is on view anytime the History Colorado Center is open.

## Kids Free Summer

The History Colorado Center joins all six History Colorado Community Museums in offering FREE admission to youth 18 and under, every day through Labor Day. Remember: As a member, you get free admission to all of History Colorado's museums, year-round. But now's the time to tell your friends to explore their inner history buff and bring the whole family!

**Note:** *Georgetown Loop Railroad® is not part of this offer. Not valid for school, camp or group visits. Two free kids per paying adult. Not valid with any other offers. Kids Free Summer at the History Colorado Center is made possible through the generous support of Joan Prusse and Bob Musgraves.*

History Colorado on the Web	
HistoryColorado.org	
<b>Blogs</b>	historycolorado.org/blogs
Social Media	
<b>Facebook</b> <small>facebook.com/HistoryColorado</small>	<b>Twitter</b> <small>twitter.com/HistoryColorado</small>
<b>Pinterest</b> <small>pinterest.com/HistoryColorado</small>	<b>Instagram</b> <small>instagram.com/HistoryColorado</small>

## Make History with Your Next Event

Did you know that members get a 10% discount on a regularly priced room rental? Consider the History Colorado Center and our Community Museums as a unique setting for your next event.

- History Colorado Center, Denver
- Byers-Evans House Museum, Denver
- El Pueblo History Museum, Pueblo
- Trinidad History Museum, Trinidad
- Fort Garland Museum & Cultural Center, Fort Garland
- Healy House Museum, Leadville

## Amache Project Open House

Saturday, July 9, 8 A.M. to 5 P.M.  
Amache Museum in Granada

The University of Denver's Amache Project researches, interprets and preserves the tangible history of Amache, one of ten World War II-era Japanese American internment camps. This summer, DU will lead a month of field research at Amache and the Amache Museum in Granada, Colorado. Learn about the project at an all-day open house.

8 A.M. to 1 P.M.—Watch archaeologists uncover the history of Amache. Take a tour, learn about site survey and watch active excavations.

1 to 5 P.M.—Visit the Amache Museum. See new exhibits and collections, and identify objects in the field lab.

Information and directions: [portfolio.du.edu/amache](http://portfolio.du.edu/amache)

**FREE!**

## Centennial Farms Awards Ceremony

Friday, August 26, 4 P.M.

In the Colorado Pavilion at the Colorado State Fair

1001 Beulah Avenue in Pueblo

[HistoryColorado.org/oaahp/centennial-farms](http://HistoryColorado.org/oaahp/centennial-farms)

One hundred years. Five hundred farms.

Thirty years of honoring Colorado's

farming families. Join the History

Colorado State Historical Fund for the

30th Centennial

Farms awards

ceremony at the

Colorado State Fair. The ceremony

honors families who've worked the

same farm for 100 years or more.

This is an opportunity to recognize

these families and their work as critical

for Colorado's agricultural heritage,

economy, culture and shared history.

For more about the Colorado State Fair,

visit [ColoradoStateFair.com](http://ColoradoStateFair.com).



## Connecting to Artifacts

Excited about History Colorado's collections? Don't forget there are many ways to see our artifacts, including members-only behind-the-scenes tours and by visiting our Stephen H. Hart Library & Research Center! For a schedule of upcoming tours, see page 6. To browse the collection from home, search [h-co.org/collections](http://h-co.org/collections). And to learn even more about our artifacts, visit the Stephen H. Hart Library & Research Center, Wednesday through Saturday, 10 A.M. to 2 P.M. And remember: members get discounts on every photo order in the library.



## Calling All Armchair Historians and Lovers of History Books!

Follow History Colorado on the new social media platform Litsy! We review Colorado history books and biographies in 300 characters or less. We'll also share treasures from our collection and upcoming author talks at the History Colorado museums. iOS users, download the app and search for "History Colorado." Android and web users, hang in there! They're working on developing a version for you, too.

## Ute Indian Museum Expansion Update

External construction at the Ute Indian Museum expansion in Montrose is almost complete! Cranes will soon lift sixteen white pine timbers to create the structure at the front of the museum. And, there's much work to do inside the museum before it opens in June 2017.



One of the most exciting aspects of exhibit development is choosing the artifacts. Among History Colorado's Ute collections are items of intricate beadwork—pouches, dresses, shirts, belts, charms, cradleboards and moccasins. The collection ranges from artifacts used in everyday life, such as bows and arrows and basketry, to beautiful hide paintings depicting the Bear Dance, Sun Dance and creation stories.

One of the collections once belonged to Thomas S. McKee, who was born in Kentucky, trained as a photographer and worked as a railroad messenger. McKee moved to Montrose and in the early 1900s started documenting the daily life of

Ute people, befriending them in the process. Another collection came to us from the grand-nephew of Indian agent Joseph O. Smith. Still another major collection was donated by the wife of Southern Ute leader Edward Bent Box, Sr., a religious and political leader. The collection includes items he used in the Bear Dance and Sun Dance and others used in his work as a tribal council member.

Even more artifacts will be selected in consultation with the three Ute tribes. To keep your eye on Ute Indian Museum developments, see the plans and view some of the artifacts, check out our blog at [historycolorado.org/blogs/](http://historycolorado.org/blogs/).

## Call for Nominations 2016 History Project Awards



Do you know local historians who deserve recognition? Have you or your organization worked on a historical project? Submit a nomination for the Josephine H. Miles or Caroline Bancroft History Awards!

Every year, History Colorado gives two cash awards to individuals, organizations or museums in Colorado that have made a major contribution in the past year (July 1, 2015 to August 31, 2016) to the advancement of Colorado history. The Caroline Bancroft Award is given for history projects in communities with a population of less than 50,000. The Josephine H. Miles History Award may go to a project in any size community. Nominations must be postmarked by August 31. For more information, email [elisa.phelps@state.co.us](mailto:elisa.phelps@state.co.us) or call 303/866-3688.

## Hot Sulphur Springs Club Garners Award

Featured as the cover story in our March/April 2016 issue, the Hot Sulphur Springs Winter Sports Club has won the 2016 Top of the Hill Award for its contributions to skiing in Colorado. The award will be presented at the annual Colorado Ski & Snowboard Hall of Fame Induction Gala on Saturday, October 1, at the Vail Marriot Mountain Resort & Spa.

**A Correction:** The essay "A Modest Proposal in Hot Sulphur Springs: John Peyer Brings Competitive Skiing to Colorado," in our March/April 2016 issue, should have included the following citation: Grand Beginnings: A Life Is Grand Collection, by Mister V ([arborstore.storenvy.com](http://arborstore.storenvy.com)).



**FAMILY FUN**

**Denver**

**First Wednesday Preschool Story Time**

History Colorado Center  
 Wednesdays, July 6 and August 3, 9:30 to 10 A.M.  
 Bring the kids (ages 2–5) to story time. We’ll read stories and then have playtime in the exhibit before the museum opens. Free with admission!

**Junior Museum Camp**

*Limited spots still available! Sign up today!*

History Colorado Center  
 July 11–15  
 Come discover Colorado through excursions and explorations that bring stories to life. This fun-filled weeklong camp is designed for students entering grades 2–5. Visit [h-co.org/juniorcamp](http://h-co.org/juniorcamp) or call 303/866-2394. Members \$250

**Colorado Day**

Monday, August 1  
 In honor of Colorado’s 140th birthday, History Colorado museums will be FREE to the public on August 1st to celebrate Colorado’s wild, colorful, historical, traditional and modern culture. Stop by the History Colorado Center to experience fun Colorado-centered activities and see highlights from History Colorado’s collection. All-day festivities include an indoor/outdoor farmers market featuring local farms and Colorado Proud products, adobe brick making, mining for gold with the Georgetown Loop Railroad®, chalk art and meeting alpacas. Throughout the day will be performances and presentations from Top Hogs, the Denver Broncos Junior Cheerleaders, Molly Brown, the Rocky Mountain Children’s Choir and more.



**FAMILY FUN ACTIVITIES at the History Colorado Center!**

These are just highlights, and performances are subject to change, so check [HistoryColoradoCenter.org](http://HistoryColoradoCenter.org) for updates. Free with admission.

**MUSEUM THEATER AND PERFORMANCES**

***Native American Beading Demonstration***

Friday, July 8, and Saturday, August 27, 11:30 A.M. to 1:30 P.M.—Angelique Acevedo-Barron demonstrates Native American beadwork.

***Balkanika Dancers***

Saturdays, July 9 and August 6, 11:30 A.M. and 1:30 P.M.—Balkanika Folk Dancers perform dances and songs from the Balkans, Bulgaria, Romania and Moldova.

***The Life of a Mountain Man***

Thursday, July 14, and Saturday, August 13, 10:30 A.M. to 2:30 P.M.—Ever wonder how the mountain men lived? Doc Grizzly tells us how he got things done in the 1830s.

***Meet Molly Brown***

Friday, July 15, 12:30 to 3:30 P.M.—Meet Molly Brown, Colorado’s heroine from the *Titanic*.

***Colorado Conservatory of Dance***

Friday, July 22, 1:30 to 2 P.M.—Colorado Conservatory dancers perform a piece inspired by the *Awkward Family Photos* exhibit.

***Rocky Mountain Rainbeaus Square Dancers***

Saturday, July 23, 11:30 A.M. and 1 P.M.—The Rocky Mountain Rainbeaus perform high-energy square dances.

***Arcinda Dance Performance***

Saturday, August 20, 11:30 A.M. to noon—Arcinda performs dances and songs of Indonesia.



**Members’ Behind-the-Scenes Collection Tours!**

History Colorado Center  
 Third Tuesdays, August 16 and November 15, 1 to 1:30 P.M.  
 Ever wonder what happens behind the scenes at the museum? Join us to learn how History Colorado’s collections are stored and cared for. Visit rarely seen storage and processing spaces and get an up-close-and-personal view of artifacts. Preregister for this exclusive opportunity! Make a day of it and enjoy the daily lunch special in Café Rendezvous. *(Limited to 12 people)*  
 Free for members! Register at [h-co.org/BTSmay](http://h-co.org/BTSmay).



## Georgetown

### The Georgetown Loop Railroad® Season

Members Tickets go fast, so make your reservations early. Call 1-888-456-6777 or go to [georgetownlooprr.com](http://georgetownlooprr.com). Remember: History Colorado members get free tickets in a quantity based on their membership level.

#### Everett Mine Tour

This long-closed mine is now open! See how mining was done in the 1880s, and learn to pan for real gold that you get to keep. This adventure includes a train ride, gold panning and a mine tour. *Daily through September 5; weekends only September 6–25.*



Courtesy Kyle Banister

#### Hike and Ride in the Park

Bask in the beauty of the forest! This trail adventure includes a guided hike, gold panning, mine tour, hot-dog lunch and a ride back to Silver Plume. Sections of the hike are steep, so protective footwear and appropriate clothing are needed. *Departs from Silver Plume; weekends only.*

#### Wine and Cheese Train

Join trained professionals to learn about the history of winemaking in Colorado in our beautiful parlor cars. *Silver Plume departures at 6 P.M. on July 16, August 6, August 20, September 10, and October 1. Adults 21+ only.*

#### Beer and Brats Train

Some say the second thing the miners in Colorado did after finding gold was to build a brewery. Learn where the first of the breweries were built and enjoy the fruits of Colorado's modern beer industry. *Silver Plume departures at 6 P.M. on July 9, July 30, August 27, September 3, September 17 and October 8. Adults 21+ only.*

#### Georgetown Loop Buffalo Bill Daze

Meet characters from the 1880s on the train, including Buffalo Bill and Annie Oakley. *August 26–28.*

#### Speakeasy Trains

New for 2016 is a series of special evenings of premium liquor tasting. Handcrafted bourbons and tequilas from Colorado go head-to-head with the best of Kentucky and Mexico. *Silver Plume departures at 6 P.M. on July 23 (bourbon), August 13 (tequila) and September 24 (bourbon). Adults 21+ only.*

#### Fall Colors Trains

Enjoy one of the most beautiful times in the Rockies, when the gold leaves of the aspens sparkle among forest greens of spruce, pine and fir. *Trains are usually scheduled the last two weeks of September and first two weeks of October.*

#### Pumpkin Fest Trains

Free pumpkins for everyone! Enjoy our haunted railcar museum, with face painting and goodies for the little ones. *Departs from Silver Plume the first two weekends of October.*

#### Oktoberfest Trains

Enjoy our enclosed heated coaches, free Colorado microbrew beer for adults (root beer for the kids) and free bratwurst or hot dog for all riders. *Offered the last three weekends of October.*

#### Santa's North Pole Adventure Train

Join Santa and his helpers aboard our heated and decorated coaches, mid-November through December 24. Cocoa, candy canes, cookies and gifts for everyone! After the 25th, Santa will be back, passing out goodies to the little ones through January 1.

#### Santa's Lighted Forest Trains

Take a break from your holiday shopping and experience a beautiful ride through the forest—alive with lights—above Georgetown. *Offered evenings in November and December.*

## Fort Garland

Fort Garland Museum and Cultural Center

### Dog Days at Fort Garland

Saturday, August 13, 10 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.

Join us for a day of dog agility demonstrations, a pet parade, best dressed dog contest and more. If your dog is not used to other dogs or people, please leave them at home. All dogs must be on a leash.

Members free, nonmembers \$5 (seniors \$4.50, children \$3.50)

## Platteville

Fort Vasquez Museum

### Folk Songs with Dan Blegen

Saturday, July 16, 6:30 to 8:30 P.M.

Colorado author and musician Dan Blegen performs folk songs in a sing-along atmosphere.

Members \$14, nonmembers \$15 (ages 6–16, \$5)

## Traders Market

Saturdays, September 10 and 24, October 8 and 22, 7 A.M. to 5 P.M.

Vendors are invited to sell their wares at a series of all-day markets. Information: 303/866-4591.

## ADULT PROGRAMS

### Denver

#### Art Tours of the Byers-Evans House

Byers-Evans House Museum

Fridays, July 29 and August 26, noon to 1 P.M.

Anne Evans worked tirelessly to support art and artists in early Denver. Take a closer look at the fine art she and her family collected and created. Highlights include reliefs, leather tooling and landscape and portrait paintings.

Members free, nonmembers \$6 (seniors \$5, students/children \$4)

#### SPARK! Cultural Programming for People with Memory Loss

History Colorado Center

Mondays, August 22 and November 14, 2 to 3:30 P.M.

In partnership with the Alzheimer's Association, SPARK! programs invite people with early to mid-stage memory loss and their care partners to enjoy interactive experiences in a welcoming environment. Trained educators lead participants in lively discussion, social engagement and hands-on multisensory activities. Enjoy a guided tour through the most beloved exhibits at the History Colorado Center.

Free (*Space limited*)

RSVP required: 303/813-1669



#### COLLECTIONS & LIBRARY PROGRAMS at the History Colorado Center

Stephen H. Hart Library & Research Center

Members \$4, nonmembers \$5 (unless otherwise noted)

RSVP required. Call 303/866-2394, or register online!

*All programs require a minimum number of registered participants and may be canceled if the minimum is not met 48 hours ahead of time. Early registration recommended!*

#### FREE!

*Collections Close-Ups: Herndon Davis paintings*

Monday, August 8, noon to 1 P.M.—Herndon Davis's artwork depicts some of Colorado's most colorful personalities and events. Stop by for an up-close view of original Davis paintings from History Colorado's collection.

#### COLORFUL COLORADO at the History Colorado Center

Members \$4, nonmembers \$5 (unless otherwise noted)

Meet Colorado authors, History Colorado curators and others.

Call 303/866-2394 to reserve your spot, or register online!

*All programs require a minimum number of participants and may be canceled if the minimum is not met 48 hours ahead of time. Early registration recommended!*

#### *Why Do They Call This Town "Parachute"?*

*The Stories Behind Interesting Place Names in Colorado*

Monday, July 11, 1 to 2 P.M.—Join Ed Weising for an illustrated talk that will inform and amuse you. Learn the history of place names like "Rifle," "Bonanza," "Saguache" and "Hoehne." Gold hunters far from the "civilized" East let their fancies run free as they named their new habitations. Some, like Bonanza, reflected what folks found—or hoped to find. Others honor founders or significant people, like Ouray, Palmer Lake and Greeley. From playing fair in Fairplay to hunting for Hygiene, it's one not to miss!

#### *Preserving Denver's Street Car History*

Monday, July 25, 1 to 2 P.M.—Explore how Denver's streetcar systems grew up with the city. Join Denver Trolley heritage streetcar volunteer Eric Weisman and see how the past repeats itself, as some of the growth of today's light rail system parallels that of the early 1900s. We'll look at the past and glimpse a possible future as we learn how people get around the city.

#### *Herndon Davis: Painting Colorado History*

Monday, August 8, 1 to 2 P.M.—Authors Craig Leavitt and Tom "Dr. Colorado" Noel discuss their new book about the artist best known for his "Face on the Barroom Floor" in Central City. An accomplished illustrator back East, Davis settled in Colorado and painted portraits of prominent Coloradans and watercolors of Colorado's most beloved landmarks.

#### *Our National Pastime in the Centennial State*

Monday, August 22, 1 to 2 P.M.—What do the Colorado Springs Millionaires, the Greeley Calamites, the Leadville Blues and the Denver Denvers all have in common? Baseball! Over 154 years ago, settlers brought not only their hopes of finding gold, but the sport of baseball as well. Historian Roger Hadix presents a baseball history as colorful as our state.

### Fort Garland

Fort Garland Museum and Cultural Center

#### Tour of Fort Massachusetts and Tom Tobin's Grave

Saturday, July 16, 8 A.M. to 1 P.M.

Dr. Richard Goddard leads a tour of Fort Massachusetts and the grave of mountain man Tom Tobin. We'll meet at the entrance of Fort Garland, then carpool to the sites. Please wear hiking boots and bring a lunch.

Tickets: \$20—Reservations required: 719/379-3512

# Tours & Treks

*Take a Guided Trip Into the Past (To register call 303/866-2394)*

## Go Greeley: A History Tour by Bus

Tuesday, July 26, 9 A.M. to 5 P.M.

Greeley was founded as a Utopian ideal on the high, pure plains of the world—where the literal elevation would translate into elevated minds and mores. It didn't quite work out that way, but Greeley still offers a lot to lift one's mood. Join us on this tour of some forgotten highlights in this city just off the beaten path—from the outdoor pedestrian mall to museums of the pioneer West. You might end up thinking a bit of Utopia was achieved after all!

Members \$64, nonmembers \$80

*(Includes bus transportation, all guides and admissions. Lunch on your own in downtown Greeley.)*

## Urban Suburban: Denver's Stapleton Neighborhood

Friday, August 12, 10 A.M. to 3 P.M.

With the dawning of the 1900s, the world looked to the skies, and Stapleton Airport was where Denver entered the national and international stage on the wings of mighty flying machines. Changes in technology and the cityscape eventually brought Stapleton to its knees, but the area has been reborn. We'll explore the myriad stories of the past, prosperity of the present and glimmers of change for the future.

Members \$39, nonmembers \$50

*(Includes bus transportation and a break for lunch on your own dime.)*



*A Fair to Remember:  
Pueblo and the State Fair*

## Paddles Up! Gunnison River Canoe Trek

Friday, August 19 to Sunday, August 21

### Register by August 1

History Colorado teams up with Centennial Canoe Outfitters for a trip through a wild, remote area with fascinating history. As you journey along the Gunnison, Dr. Andrew Gulliford of Fort Lewis College shares stories of the colorful characters who helped shape the western landscape. There will be time for day hikes to see Ute rock art and majestic walls of red sandstone. The river is gentle, with occasional small rapids. Camping along the river's banks and exploring a deep box canyon will leave you in awe.

Members \$409, nonmembers \$469, children 6–12 \$339

*Space is limited. Information and reservations:  
Centennial Canoe Outfitters, 1-877-353-1850.*

## A Fair to Remember: Pueblo and the State Fair

Tuesday, August 30, 8 A.M. to 6 P.M.

Time to jaunt south to see what the spellbinding city of Pueblo has to offer. From the beautiful riverwalk to Pueblo's historic, century-old carousel, this city has something for everyone—and was proclaimed "America's Home of Heroes" by Congress for its number of Medal of Honor recipients. This is also your chance to spend time at our 147-year-old State Fair and celebrate Colorado's Centennial Farms program. Come taste the delights of the season.

Members \$64, nonmembers \$80

*(Includes bus transportation, guides, admissions and a break for lunch on your own dime.)*

## Chicano Murals of Denver

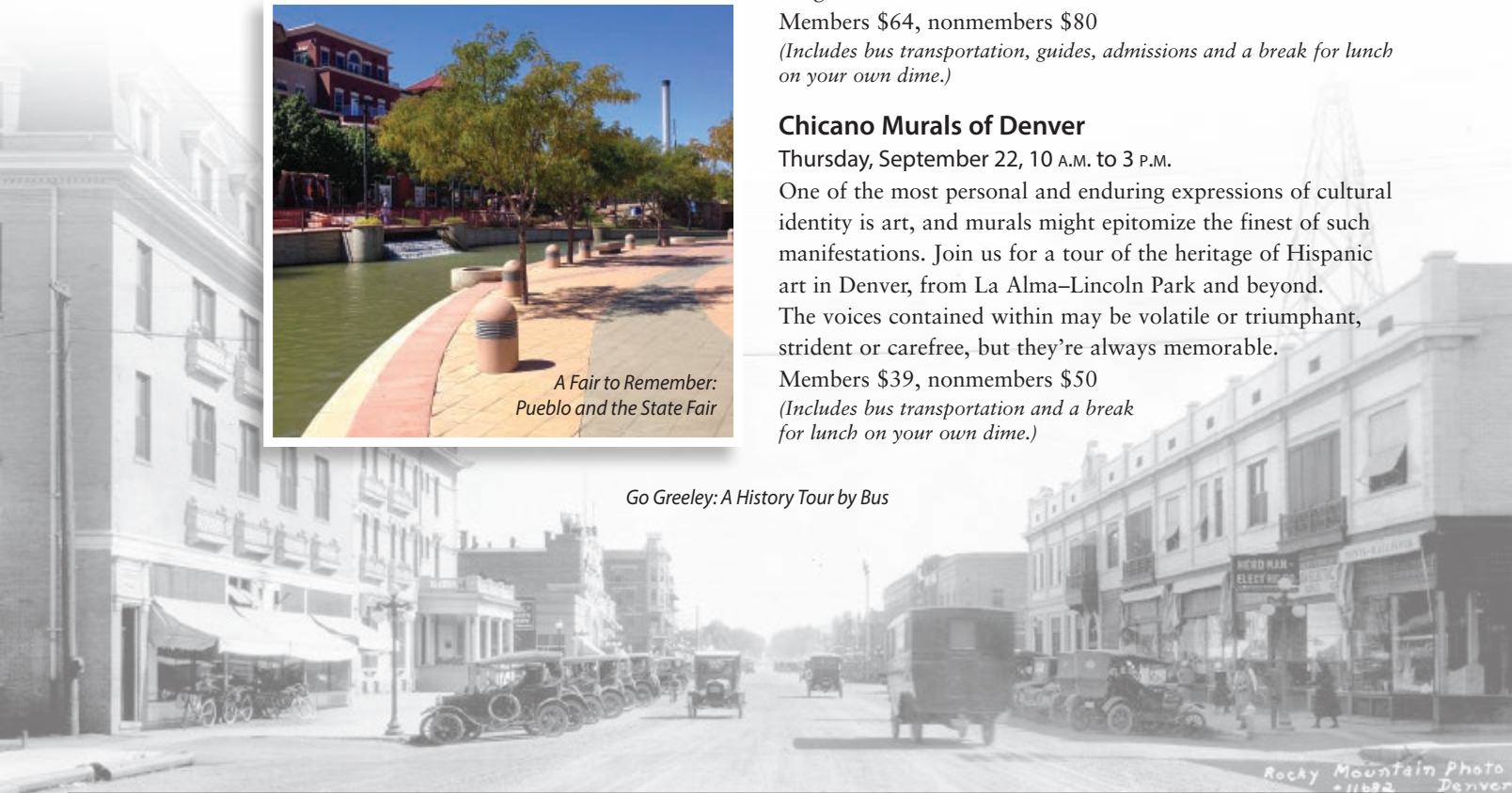
Thursday, September 22, 10 A.M. to 3 P.M.

One of the most personal and enduring expressions of cultural identity is art, and murals might epitomize the finest of such manifestations. Join us for a tour of the heritage of Hispanic art in Denver, from La Alma–Lincoln Park and beyond. The voices contained within may be volatile or triumphant, strident or carefree, but they're always memorable.

Members \$39, nonmembers \$50

*(Includes bus transportation and a break for lunch on your own dime.)*

*Go Greeley: A History Tour by Bus*



*Rocky Mountain Photo  
#1182 Denver*

2016–17 Lecture Series

## *By the People: The Making of Colorado, Past and Present*

Colorado has stories to tell—some from the long-ago past and others more recent. What do these tales of yesteryear mean to us living in the 21st century? We'll tease out this knowledge as well as the wonder that those who came before us felt as they peered out across the magnificent landscape we call home. These stories—some tragic, some heroic, some nearly unimaginable—all came to pass *by the people* like you and me

Join us for another great season with a lineup of nationally recognized scholars, authors and historians. In September, we open with a look at Doc Holliday and his time in Colorado. In light of election season, we've added two lectures focusing on Colorado's place in presidential election years. The land we call home has changed tremendously over the past 10,000 years, so we'll compare then with now and boggle your mind (camels in Boulder County??). Our special Smithsonian lecture looks into iconic places across the country, including our own Mesa Verde. We'll round out the season with Buffalo Soldiers and Denver's preservation icon Dana Crawford.

Members, watch for a brochure in the mail in August, with details about registration.

History Colorado Center  
Mondays at 1 and 7 P.M.

Members \$8.50, nonmembers \$10, students (with ID) \$6.50  
Information: 303/866-2394

Sponsored by the Walter S. Rosenberry III Charitable Trust

### **Doc Holliday's Colorado Career**

September 19

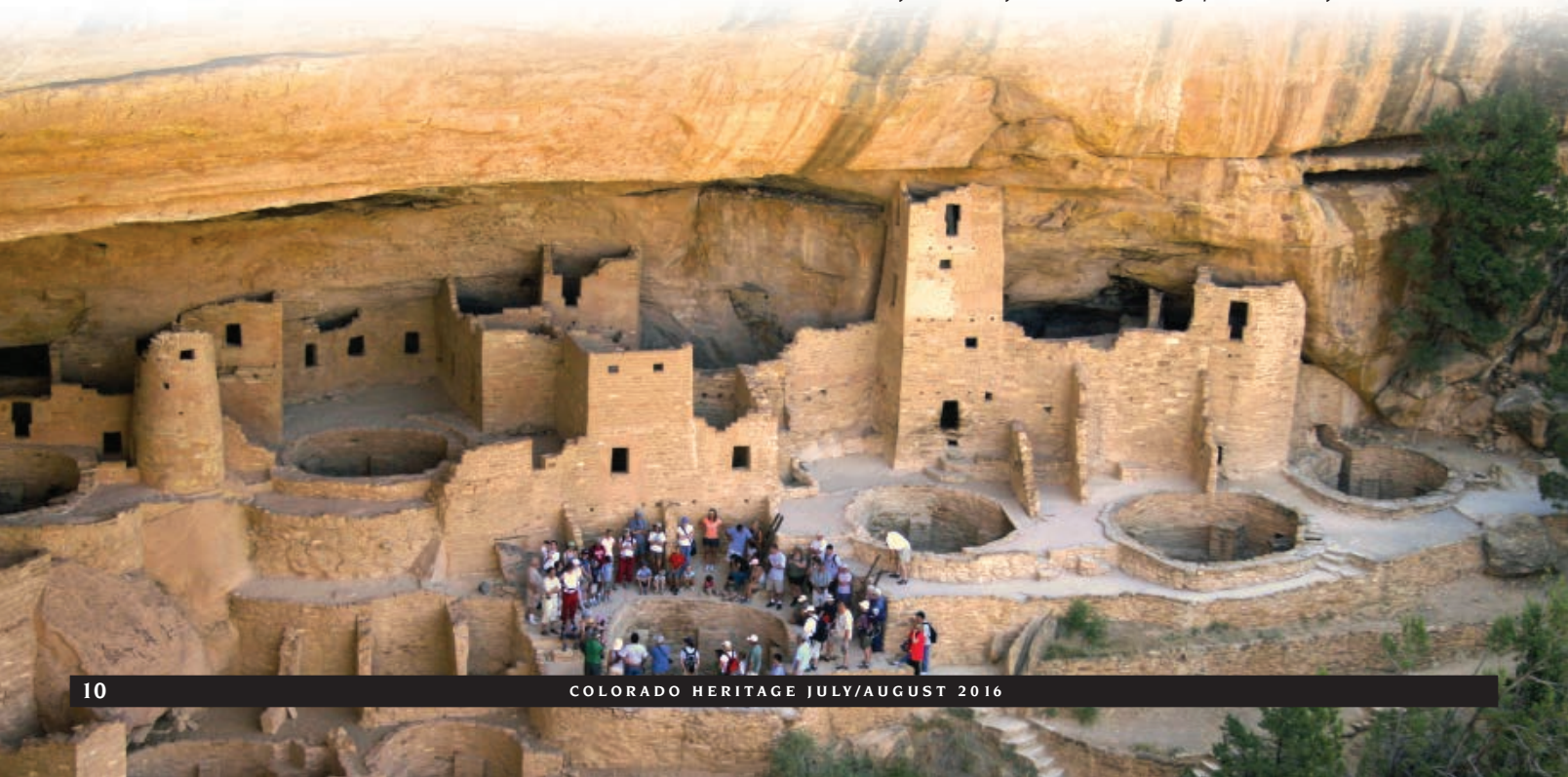
His name conjures the Wild West and a shootout at the OK Corral. But the real Doc Holliday spent more time in Colorado than anywhere else in the West, and more time in Denver than Tombstone. In fact, it was in Colorado that he became a celebrity, generating news stories across the country and coining a legal term: *Hollidaying*. From the Mile High City of Denver to the Cloud City of Leadville, from Pueblo to Trinidad, from Silverton and Salida to Glenwood Springs, join Victoria Wilcox, author of *Southern Son: The Saga of Doc Holliday*, to learn about the people and places in the real world of the legendary Doc Holliday.

### **Denver's Anti-Chinese Riot and American Politics**

October 17

Gilded Age Denver was a boomtown. And, it was a powder keg waiting to explode. The Anti-Chinese Riot of 1880 was sparked by resentment of the Chinese immigrants who'd crossed the Pacific and journeyed overland in response to an expanding labor market. Happening just two days before a national election, it decisively undercut the nation's promise of equal rights after the Civil War—and had repercussions well into the next century. Join Dr. Liping Zhu of Eastern Washington University, author of *The Road to Chinese Exclusion*, as he relates how mobs ransacked Denver's Chinatown while other citizens took pains to protect their Asian neighbors.

*Mesa Verde National Park is one of 50 Great American Places featured on January 16. Courtesy IstockPhoto/Photographer PhotoTerry.*





The ghost town of St. Elmo is among the sites explored on March 20. Courtesy William Wyckoff.

### **Making Sense of Colorado's Purple Politics**

November 21

Survey after survey reveals that many Coloradans find the U.S. government too big, too wasteful and too intrusive. Yet Colorado is arguably one of the most federally subsidized states in the Union, with forests, national parks, military bases and research labs enjoying government largesse. Dr. Thomas Cronin of Colorado College, author of *Colorado Politics and Policy*, shows how the state—in many ways a template of the deeply contrary politics of the nation—puts political power into the hands of an ever more polarized electorate. Learn about Colorado's major election trends and public policy challenges, and this distinctively purple state's unique political history.

### **50 Great American Places: Essential Historic Sites Across the U.S.**

January 16

From Massachusetts to Florida, from Washington, D.C., to Hawaii, *50 Great American Places* takes readers on a journey through American history. Sharing the inside stories of sites as old as Mesa Verde and Cahokia and as recently transformed as Silicon Valley and the Presidio of San Francisco, each essay provides historical and geographical context for these sites. Public historian Dr. Brent Glass, former director of the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of American History, connects places, people and events to reveal a national narrative that is often surprising, sometimes tragic and always engaging.

### **Trails of the Buffalo Soldiers: Roads to Equality**

February 20

From the American Revolution to the present day, African Americans have stepped forward in their nation's defense. Now, more than 150 years after Congress authorized blacks to serve in the Regular Army, peer into the eyes of formerly enslaved men who bravely bought their freedom on bloody Civil War battlefields—then trekked westward to Fort Garland

and pursued Pancho Villa into Mexico. Historian Dr. John Langellier brings new vitality to a stirring subject, emphasizing the role of these “buffalo soldiers” in opening the West.

### **Exploring Colorado and the American West: Creating a Field Guide to the Regional Landscape**

March 20

A journey to Colorado's high-country ghost towns, suburban strip malls or quiet farming communities reveals a complex region and a fascinating landscape steeped in history—and rapidly changing in the twenty-first century. What can we learn about the future of the place we call home? Montana State University geographer and photographer Dr. William Wyckoff, author of *How to Read the American West*, explores the joys and challenges of creating a guide to contemporary Colorado and the larger West.

### **Unearthed: Ancient Life in the Boulder Valley**

April 17

The discovery of a cache of stone tools from the late Pleistocene is a very rare event. The fact that they were found in a modern development within a contemporary city makes it extraordinary. Join Dr. Doug Bamforth of the University of Colorado Boulder as he explores this amazing collection of more than 80 stone tools—the Mahaffy Cache—found in a Boulder backyard and featured in an exhibit at CU's Natural History Museum.

### **Dana Crawford: 50 Years Saving the Soul of a City**

May 15

In 1965, Dana Crawford convinced some wealthy investors to buy a block of wobbly buildings on Jack Kerouac's Skid Row, which she renovated into Larimer Square. Fifty years later, it's still one of Denver's most popular destinations. Crawford's passion for preservation and for giving old buildings new economic life has become a catalyst throughout the city. Crawford biographer and Pulitzer Prize winner Mike McPhee shares how a woman unrivaled in courage, style and grace has resurrected the soul of the Mile High City.

## Give the Gift of Membership!



A History Colorado membership is a gift that can be used all year long. As a special thank-you to our members, enjoy a **20% discount on NEW gift memberships** between now and August 30. With the beautiful History Colorado Center in downtown Denver and eight museums and historic sites just an adventure away, a History Colorado membership will get your loved one out exploring the history of our great state.

The new member will enjoy these privileges for a full year:

- Unlimited free admission to the History Colorado Center
- Unlimited free admission to History Colorado Community Museums statewide
- *Colorado Heritage* magazine
- Free behind-the-scenes tours
- First access to exhibits at Members-Only Previews
- Discounts on lectures, tours and gift shop and café purchases
- And much more!

To ensure mail delivery in time for the occasion, purchase ten days in advance at 303/866-3639, or come in to the History Colorado Center.

### Do We Owe You a "Thank You"?

History Colorado created Society 1879 to honor those who remember us in their estate plans. These gifts help preserve Colorado's historical treasures for future generations. As much as we enjoy saying "thank you," we realize that many of you prefer to remain anonymous. Every year nonprofit organizations receive more estate gifts from people who did not share their intentions in advance than from those who did. The challenge is never getting the chance to say thanks. So if you've remembered History Colorado in your estate plans, please know that we're grateful—now and in the future, and whether or not you decide to share the news.

If you have any questions about Society 1879, contact Rebecca Olchawa Barker at [rebecca.olchawa-barker@state.co.us](mailto:rebecca.olchawa-barker@state.co.us) or 303/866-4845. All inquiries are strictly confidential.



## Janis Falkenberg, a True Friend

BY KEITH SCHRUM,  
SENIOR CURATOR  
OF ARCHIVES



History Colorado recently lost a longtime friend. Janis Falkenberg passed away on May 20, but her contribution and presence remain throughout our organization. Janis was part of History Colorado for more than fifty years, serving as president of the volunteers and as the first female chair of the Board of Directors (1988–90). She and husband Bill were generous contributors to several exhibitions and building projects, among them *Italians of Denver* and *Tribal Paths* as well as the Stephen H. Hart Library & Research Center and the *Make History Colorado!* campaign. But, this is only part of the story.

Janis believed in the value of the museum's collection and in providing service to its care and access. For nearly twenty years, I had the privilege of working with her in Archives, where I knew her as a volunteer and historian. She enjoyed research and problem-solving—such as how to organize a volume of disarrayed material, make sense of its contents, and identify stories within—and any collection assignment suited her because first and foremost she wanted to help History Colorado.

When you have an opportunity, please visit the Stephen H. Hart Library & Research Center, where you'll find the reading room named in Janis's honor. The Falkenberg family suggests that memorial gifts be given to the Colorado Historical Foundation.

### We Couldn't Do It Without You!

On behalf of the board and staff at History Colorado, thank you for your commitment to our mission. June 30 marked the end of our fiscal year, and we remain grateful for the support we receive from our many donors and members. Friends like you help us preserve the history of our state for present and future generations.

# Calendar

## JULY

### 9 Saturday

AMACHE PROJECT OPEN HOUSE  
See page 4.

### 11 Monday

STORIES BEHIND PLACE NAMES  
IN COLORADO  
History Colorado Center  
See page 8.

### 16 Saturday

FOLK SONGS WITH DAN BLEGEN  
Fort Vasquez Museum  
See page 7.

TOUR OF FORT MASSACHUSETTS  
AND TOBIN'S GRAVE  
See page 8.

### 25 Monday

PRESERVING DENVER'S  
STREET CAR HISTORY  
History Colorado Center  
See page 8.

### 26 Tuesday

GO GREELEY: HISTORY TOUR  
BY BUS  
See page 9.

## AUGUST

### 1 Monday

COLORADO DAY CELEBRATION  
History Colorado Museums  
See page 6.

### 8 Monday

HERNDON DAVIS: PAINTING  
COLORADO HISTORY  
History Colorado Center  
See page 8.

COLLECTIONS CLOSE-UPS:  
HERNDON DAVIS  
History Colorado Center  
See page 8.

### 12 Friday

DENVER'S STAPLETON  
NEIGHBORHOOD  
See page 9.

### 13 Saturday

DOG DAYS AT FORT GARLAND  
Fort Garland Museum and  
Cultural Center  
See page 7.

### 16 Tuesday

MEMBERS' BEHIND-THE-SCENES  
COLLECTION TOUR  
History Colorado Center  
See page 6.

### 19 Friday

GUNNISON RIVER CANOE TREK  
See page 9.

### 22 Monday

SPARK! FOR PEOPLE WITH  
MEMORY LOSS  
History Colorado Center  
See page 8.

OUR NATIONAL PASTIME  
History Colorado Center  
See page 8.

### 26 Friday

CENTENNIAL FARMS AWARDS  
See page 4.

### 30 Tuesday

PUEBLO AND THE STATE FAIR  
See page 9.

## Repeated Events

JUNIOR MUSEUM CAMP  
History Colorado Center  
July 11–15  
See page 6.

ART TOURS  
Byers-Evans House Museum  
July 29 and August 26  
See page 8.

FIRST WEDNESDAY PRESCHOOL  
STORY TIME  
History Colorado Center  
Wednesdays, July 6 and August 3  
See page 6.

GEORGETOWN LOOP®  
WINE AND CHEESE TRAIN  
Saturdays, July 16, August 6 and 20  
See page 7.

GEORGETOWN LOOP®  
BEER AND BRATS TRAIN  
Saturdays, July 9 and 30, August 27  
See page 7.

GEORGETOWN LOOP®  
BUFFALO BILL DAZE  
August 26–28  
See page 7.

GEORGETOWN LOOP®  
SPEAKEASY TRAINS  
July 23 and August 13  
See page 7.

*The Georgetown Loop Historic Mining & Railroad Park® season is under way! See page 7.*



# Colorado Students Mark a Preservation Milestone

BY MICHELLE PEARSON, 7TH GRADE INDIVIDUALS & SOCIETIES TEACHER,  
CENTURY MIDDLE SCHOOL, COLORADO TEACHER OF THE YEAR 2011



This year, we celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 as we honor historic sites across the country. Historic preservationists are engaging a new generation of preservationists, archaeologists, planners, architects, and like-minded citizens for the next fifty years of preservation in America. Colorado celebrates Archaeology and Historic Preservation Month in May,

and this year the celebration garnered a special honor from Governor Hickenlooper. With assistance from students in the Colorado Preserve America Youth Summit, his office issued a proclamation recognizing the national Preservation50 initiative, the 100th anniversary of our national parks, and Colorado's work with archaeology and historic preservation. Additionally, students from Adams 12 school district worked with legislators to craft a resolution—passed in the Senate and House during the 2016 session—honoring the Historic Preservation Act and Preservation50.

History Colorado was celebrating at the same time! To simultaneously honor the centennial of our national parks and the fiftieth anniversary of the National Historic Preservation Act, History Colorado's Preservation and Education programs partnered with National Park Trips Media, Xanterra Parks & Resorts, Visit Estes Park, the U.S. Forest Service, the National Park Service, and other state and national partners for a youth stewardship program at the History Colorado Center in May. The event brought more than 500 students and teachers to the center for a hands-on learning experience about our national parks, using the theme of this year's Archaeology and Historic Preservation Month, "Participate in Preservation."

They engaged in stewardship curriculum that embraced the history and purpose of America's national parks and the ways we can preserve and protect them for the future. Students took part in interactive sessions and learning stations set up around the center—in the *We ♥ Rocky Mountain National Park* exhibit and in core exhibits like *Living West*, which tells stories of Mesa Verde and Colorado archaeology; *Colorado Stories*, which features Bent's Fort and hard-rock mining; and *Denver A to Z*, which highlights the state's capital city.

Thanks to support from our partners, we were able to give the students a learning experience that shapes their vision of the world and a memory that will remain in their lives. The program successfully engaged students in historic preservation activities and expanded the accessibility of educational strategies and tools to support teachers' efforts in heritage and preservation education—which can bolster local preservation values through an understanding of our historic and natural places. "I know that our national parks are important places, but I now know that it is up to our generation to help preserve them in the future," said one of the students. "Until today, I thought other people had to do that. I now know it is time for me to act, and time for my generation to make a difference for historic places and our state and national parks. The time is now, and we can make a difference."





## New Listings

### *In the National Register of Historic Places*

The National Register of Historic Places is the official list of the nation’s historic places worthy of preservation.

### Colorado Sanitary Canning Factory

Brighton

This 1908 factory served as a canning company in its early years, but was more significant for housing German prisoners of war during World War II in 1945. It is also a good example of local ornamental concrete block construction applied to an early twentieth-century manufacturing building. The building meets the requirements for listing under the Multiple Property Documentation Form “Ornamental Concrete Block Buildings in Colorado, 1900–1940,” under the associated property type Ornamental Concrete Block Commercial/Industrial Buildings.

### Cortez High School

Cortez

The Cortez High School, later known as the Calkins School, was built in three phases (1909, 1924, 1935), reflecting the community’s growing population as well as periods of public investment in education in Montezuma County. The Works Progress Administration funded the 1935 expansion, replicating original details such as the arched entrance while modestly restyling the building—resulting in a more simple design common to WPA projects. In addition to its important role in local education, the school building is important as a local example of the WPA Rustic Style.

### Guiraud–McDowell Ranch

Garro vicinity

The Guiraud family established the Guiraud-McDowell Ranch in 1862 and quickly made it one of South Park’s preeminent ranch operations. After her husband Adolphe’s death in 1875, Marie Guiraud continued to grow ranch operations, taking advantage of the arrival of the railroad in Park County by platting the nearby town of Garro. In 1943, James McDowell, Sr.,



*Guiraud–McDowell Ranch*

bought the ranch and began a major rebuilding and modernization effort, reflecting evolving trends in stock raising. The ranch illustrates the history of agriculture in Park County from the early settlement of the region in the 1860s through the mid-twentieth century.

### Western Hotel

Glenwood Springs

This building dates to about 1887 with its start as a one-story restaurant. Between 1907 and 1912 two large additions created a two-story building with a saloon occupying it until Prohibition, when it became a soda bottling shop and grocery store. It operated as the Western Hotel beginning around 1925. It served as a working-class hotel through 2012; the same family has owned it since 1941.

### Good to Know

National or State Register listed properties may be eligible for investment tax credits for approved rehabilitation projects. Listed properties may also be eligible to compete for Colorado State Historical Fund grants. These grants may be used for acquisition and development, education, and survey and planning projects. The next nomination submission deadline is October 3. For information, call 303/866-3392.

For more about these and all National and State Register properties in Colorado, visit [historycolorado.org/oaHP/national-state-registers](http://historycolorado.org/oaHP/national-state-registers).



### *Do you know this building?*

1. Where is it?
  - a) Julesburg
  - b) Keenesburg
  - c) Phippsburg
  - d) Wattenburg
2. When was it built?
  - a) 1904
  - b) 1919
  - c) 1927
  - d) 1936
3. What was its original use?
  - a) Newspaper office
  - b) Hotel
  - c) Saloon and gaming hall
  - d) Movie theater

Answers on page 32

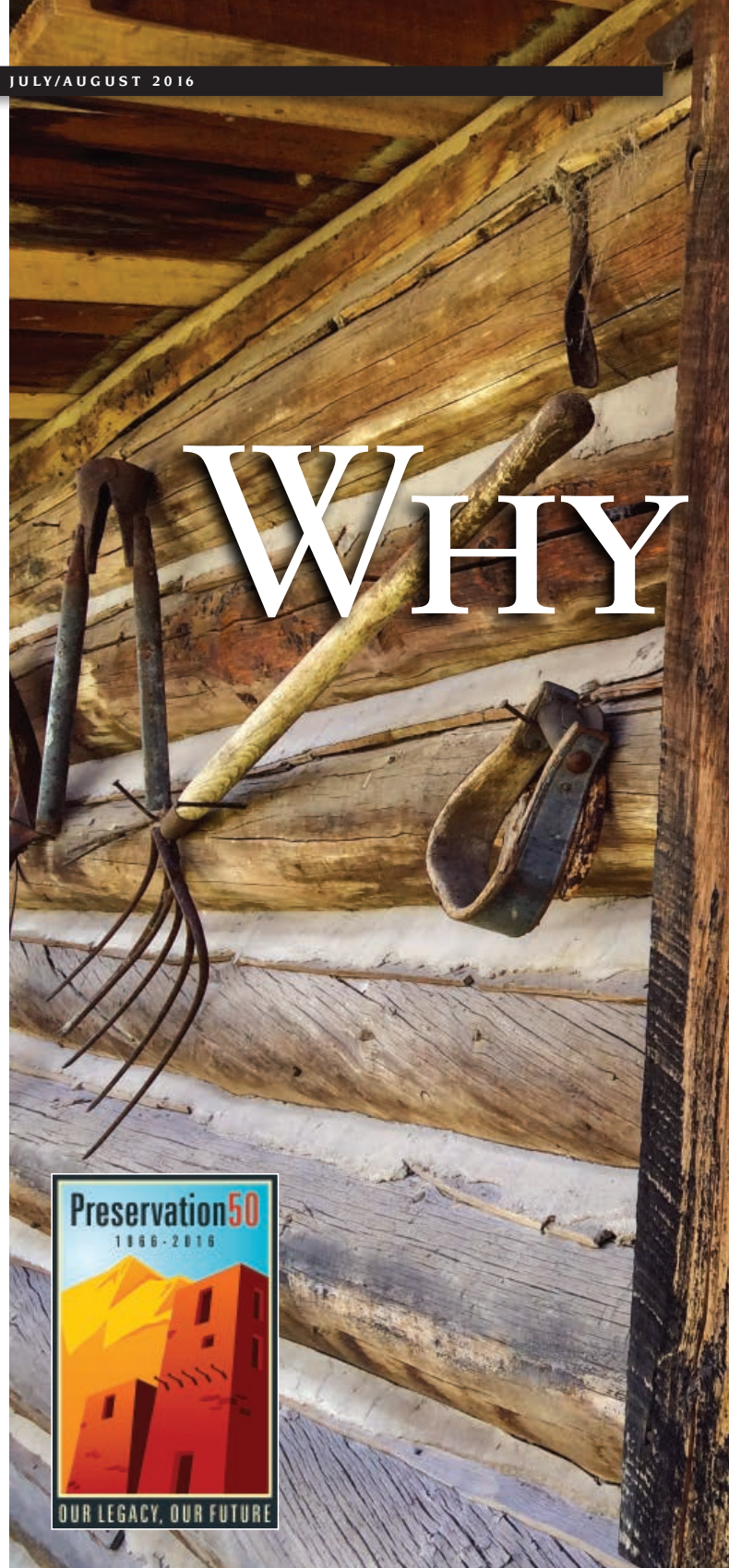
**T**his October marks the fiftieth anniversary of the National Historic Preservation Act. For preservationists, architects, historians, and communities alike, the act is a landmark piece of legislation that changed the scope, course, and public understanding of historic preservation. But those not familiar with historic preservation might wonder: why did we need the act in the first place? And is it still relevant?

My answer is, unequivocally, yes. But we can only understand the National Historic Preservation Act's importance when we realize how much we've lost, how much we've saved, and how much we have yet to preserve.

**A**fter the Second World War, the nation's built environment was radically changing. Technological progress, urban redevelopment, suburban growth and sprawl, the construction of the National Highway System, and rampant demolition of the established built environment—including private, commercial, and public buildings—all threatened America's underappreciated historic and cultural resources.

A variety of political, social, and cultural issues were driving shifts in population and demographics, and it was only inevitable that the established built environment had to change, too, and not always for the better. How many historic treasures—much more than “old buildings”—were lost in the post-war years? How many vital, physical connections to our past were knocked down during this period of rapid change?

It was the destruction of so much so quickly that helped set the stage for national-level concern for the historic built environment. By 1966, preservation had become a national topic, with community, state, and national leaders as advocates—from mayors to First Lady Lady Bird Johnson. But a national consensus on preservation didn't just sprout up



overnight. The post-war period helped clarify the need for a national preservation act, but preservation in the United States started well before 1966.

One of the first documented acts of preservation dates to 1850 and the home of General George Washington.

# WE PRESERVE

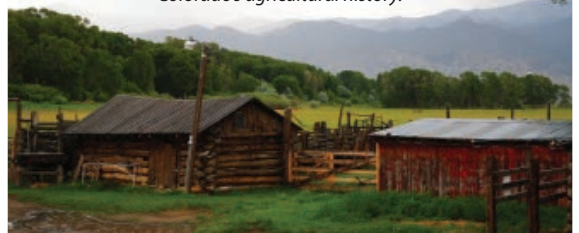
## *Fifty Years of the National Historic Preservation Act*

BY STEVE TURNER, AIA  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND  
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER

His home at Mount Vernon was considered something of a national attraction for citizens and foreign visitors alike—despite its neglected condition. When local developers sought to turn the property into a hotel, Ann Pamela Cunningham of South Carolina organized the Mount Vernon Ladies'

*Photos courtesy Hutchinson Homestead & Learning Center.*

*In Chaffee County, the Hutchinson Ranch—settled in 1867 and still ranched by the Hutchinsons—is a Centennial Farm, meaning it's been in the same family for 100 years or more. The site generates revenue as an event space and is home to guided tours and education programs about Colorado's agricultural history.*



Association of the Union to raise funds to buy, maintain, and preserve the historic property. The ladies traveled from state to state, raising the necessary funds to buy the home within five years. It was this private effort—national in scope—that helped set the standard for successful American preservation efforts.

Cunningham’s preservation movement was echoed when other grassroots groups set out to save historic resources. But it wasn’t until the early twentieth century, with the efforts of groups like William Sumner Appleton’s Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities (now Historic New England) and the Essex Institute, that preservation began to emphasize architectural and stylistic—not just historical—significance.

Around the nation, private local and regional groups started defending their historic and architectural resources. By 1949, the challenges of post-war changes to the built environment spurred the creation of the National Council, which grew out of the National Park Service. On October 26, 1949, President Truman signed the bill that chartered the National Trust for Historic Preservation of the United States.

It was this organization—working with the preservation-minded Lady Bird Johnson—that published *With Heritage So Rich*, a book that led to the passage of the National Historic Preservation Act in 1966. This law, along with the Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties, has guided the legal and operational aspects of American preservation ever since.

Just as stewardship of environmental resources gained greater prominence in post-war America, so too did consideration of our historic and architectural resources. Concerns about the impact of our society on the natural environment mirrored concerns about our built environment.

Prior to the act, many irreplaceable historic resources were disregarded and destroyed. But since its passage, preservation concerns must be given equal consideration during development and construction.

The National Historic Preservation Act also created the National Register of Historic Places, a register useful not only for the federal government’s planning and development purposes, but also for the cultural and historical knowledge of private citizens. Additionally, economic tools such as tax credits and grants for preservation work owe their existence to the act—billions of dollars dedicated to preservation that otherwise never would have been available.

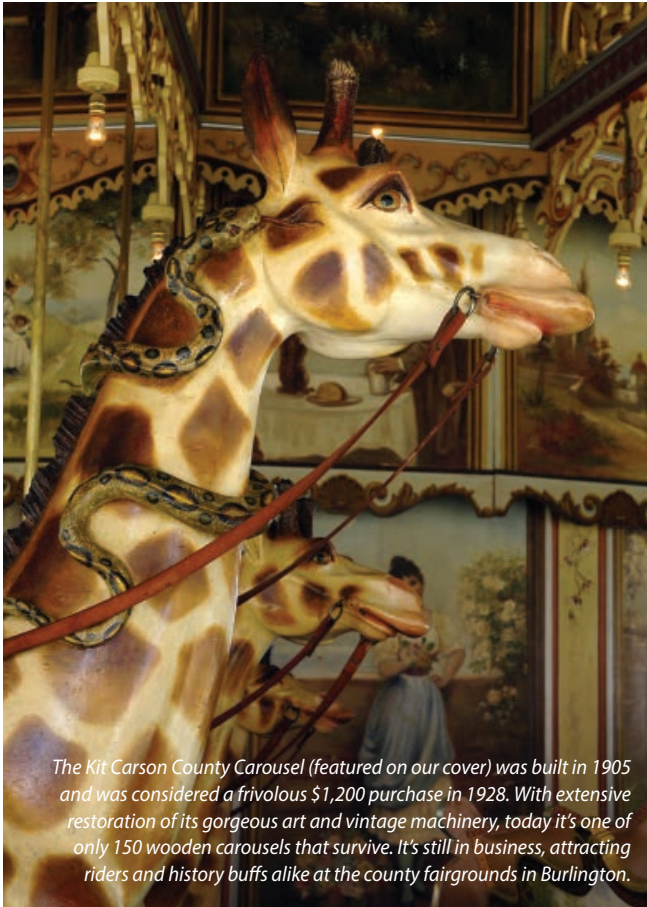
**S**o why, exactly, is preservation still relevant fifty years after the passage of the National Historic Preservation Act? The answer is as varied and unique as the individual preservationists across the country. At the annual Colorado Preserve America Youth Summit, students are posed with a seemingly simple challenge: describe the essence of preservation using only one word. They all come up with different answers—which is an effective illustration of the myriad reasons that we, as individuals and as a nation, engage in preservation.

For me, preservation is important for three primary reasons. First, it can be a key aspect of environmental sustainability. Preserving buildings, rather than demolishing them and building anew, saves valuable natural resources. The Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties also emphasize using techniques and materials that increase energy efficiency. While this process must be undertaken with great care not to impact the resource’s character-defining features, reducing energy consumption is a worthy goal.



*The City of Aspen has committed itself to preservation and is using an innovative planning mechanism that provides incentives for its citizens to maintain its important Midcentury Modern architecture, among other historic and cultural features.*

*Photos courtesy City of Aspen.*



*The Kit Carson County Carousel (featured on our cover) was built in 1905 and was considered a frivolous \$1,200 purchase in 1928. With extensive restoration of its gorgeous art and vintage machinery, today it's one of only 150 wooden carousels that survive. It's still in business, attracting riders and history buffs alike at the county fairgrounds in Burlington.*



*Photos courtesy Kit Carson County Carousel Association.*

Preservation also contributes to economic and cultural development. As Jane Jacobs points out in *The Death and Life of Great American Cities*, communities need a mix of buildings, old and new, in order to have places with diversity in affordability, availability, and utility. Buildings preserved from earlier eras tend to be less expensive, and companies with new ideas tend to find homes in old places.

Finally—and perhaps most importantly—preservation offers a tangible, physical connection to our past. A historic place enables people to gain perspective on their own role in the continuum of history, and in the greater human endeavor.

Ultimately, my answer is unique to me. But I have seen the reality of preservation's environmental, economic, and personal impact right here in Colorado. The Centennial State is a national leader when it comes to preservation due to the diligence and passion of our preservationists and communities.

In the wake of the mining industry collapse in Silverton, economic opportunity was scant. And yet, because of the preservation of its historic downtown and train, Silverton is now a center for tourism. Elsewhere, preservation in

Routt County is ensuring that its agricultural and historic character is not forgotten. Even now, preservation efforts are underway for ranches, cabins, a schoolhouse, and a fire lookout tower at Hahn's Peak.

The Dolores Archaeological Project was, at its launch, the largest archaeological cultural resource management project ever conducted, and it's led to the preservation of many sites north of Mesa Verde. The project also led to the creation of the Anasazi Heritage Center. Just west of the project, the creation of the Canyons of the Ancients National Monument preserved the largest concentration of archaeological sites in the United States, with more than 6,000 Ancestral Puebloan sites discovered.

The Sand Creek Massacre of 1864 represented a dark turning point in U.S.–Native American relations, devastating Cheyenne and Arapaho family and social structures and sparking years of war throughout the central plains. The site's preservation and designation as a National Historic Site has helped yield vital information supporting oral tradition and historical documentation related to the battle.

The historic Georgetown School was built in 1874 and is probably the oldest brick school building still standing in Colorado. Although it changed hands—and suffered extensive damage—over the years, it's now the Georgetown Heritage Center and houses the local history archive, a cultural arts program, and music and drama performance space.

Since 1908, the Montezuma Valley National Bank building in historic Cortez has served as home to a bakery, drug store, grocery store, butcher shop, and now KSJD Dryland Community Radio. Preservation efforts—including funding from the History Colorado State Historical Fund—have kept the building standing as a center of commerce and culture.

As shown by these Colorado preservation efforts and the others featured in these pages—and countless more projects like them—preservation is directly tied to cultural and economic opportunity. Communities are reinventing themselves economically and being sustained by preserving their past.

But economic and environmental concerns are not the only rationales for preservation. History is never truly finished—it’s constantly being created, manifesting out of the raw experience and influence of the past. Understanding this, preservationists and communities alike can identify those places that represent more contemporary—yet no less valuable—aspects of historic significance. As we mark the fiftieth anniversary of the National Historic Preservation Act, there’s no better time to reflect and improve upon our preservation practices and focus.

**A**s our nation changes and our demographic makeup shifts—or is more broadly acknowledged in the shared space of national identity—preservation must also keep up with the times. Preservation activities have often underrepresented

the historic resources of our Hispanic, Asian or Pan-Pacific Islander, LGBTQ, Native American, African American, and other minority communities. What stories, struggles, triumphs, and history are we losing because we’ve not always applied our focus on preservation evenly? When one group’s legacy is lost, we are all diminished.

The National Historic Preservation Act represented a shift in national priorities—born out of the local and regional efforts of inspired individuals and private groups—and has had a profound impact that goes beyond abstract historical or architectural importance. It has helped guide us and given us the tools to reflect, to consider our past, and to help us see where we’re going. From Washington’s home at Mount Vernon to the local resources of Colorado communities, preservation has helped us define who we are.

By preserving our important places, we see ourselves in relation to those places, in relation to time, to history, and to each other. In these places, we see the past. We feel the present. We glimpse the future.

Through the lens of preservation, we see ourselves.

*In Denver, the iconic 102-year-old Union Station represents both the past and the opportunity of the future of Colorado’s capital. It’s still a transportation hub, and now it’s been transformed into an essential Denver destination, with shopping, dining, and special events.*

*Photo courtesy Steve Grinstead.*





The Kress Cinema & Lounge in Greeley was built as a department store in 1929, but thanks to innovative adaptive reuse, moviegoers can catch a flick and enjoy a drink within its original Art Deco architecture and under its decorative plaster ceilings.

Photos courtesy Dana Milner.



Photo courtesy Ron Thompson.

# WOMEN'S WORK IN UTOPIA

*How the Women of the Colorado Cooperative Company Sought Utopia by Doing What They'd Always Done*

BY JASON L. HANSON



*In auditoriums and Chautauquas throughout the Midwest and eastern United States during 1895 and 1896, as economic depression battered the nation, a suffragist and Populist orator named Annie Diggs told of a triumphant quest: “For nearly two years I have been searching for the most desirable location upon which to uprear—not an experiment—but a successful colonistic enterprise.” She paused just a beat before revealing her good news. “I have found the place, or rather it was found for me, by the Colorado Co-operative Colony.”*

*Above: Mrs. Zatterstrom (second from left, pictured with Minnie Chamberlain, Wilhelmena Jacobsen Hamilton, and Anna Heilman) arrived at the colony in 1900 and later provided recollections of family life and women's work there. Courtesy Rimrocker Historical Society.*

Diggs went on to tell the inspiring tale of a small group of idealists willing to risk all for a chance at utopia among the arid mountains of southwestern Colorado. The year before at Tabeguache (pronounced “Tab-ah-watch”) Park, on a spectacular but desiccated mesa rising 300 feet above the San Miguel River in Montrose County, these intrepid colonists had planted the beginnings of their cooperative society. All they needed now to make their dream a reality was water. But to get water from the river up to the Tabeguache would require a ditch taken out fifteen miles upstream from the mesa.

It would be no mean feat, Diggs admitted, to build a ditch so far over such rugged country, traversing canyons and etching it into cliff faces. With only hand- and horse-powered tools, it was indeed a monumental task. In fact, Diggs freely allowed that such a difficult job may be impossible for one person—unless that person was a wealthy capitalist who saw an opportunity to make profit. But the men and women of the Colorado Cooperative Company would have nothing to do with such capitalists. They intended to dig the ditch themselves.

The people of the CC Company (as it was popularly called) credited Annie Diggs with recruiting a number of new members to their ranks. To reinforce her efforts, the company also published *The Altrurian*, a nationally distributed newspaper that urged readers to “Investigate, Immigrate, Irrigate, Co-operate.” The paper was published regularly from 1895 to 1901, first in Denver, then in the





*The Colorado Cooperative Company chronicled its efforts in the nationally distributed paper The Altrurian.*

# THE ALTRURIAN.

Vol. 5.

PINON, COLO., WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 1898.

LAWS OF APPROBATION.

with land and water united. We will, in time, add from five to ten thousand citizens to the State of

it shall be submitted to a vote of the people. If a certain majority vote in favor of the law the legis-

principles in his interest him in the and render their

nearby town of Naturita, and finally at Pinon, the temporary town that was the hub of operations along the San Miguel River. Its pages shared news of the colony and progress on the ditch with the majority of members who had not yet moved to “the front,” as the ditch-digging camps were collectively called.

The pages of *The Altrurian* chronicle one of the most successful and enduring utopian enterprises undertaken in the American West after the Civil War. With great grit and determination, the men and women of the Colorado Cooperative Company did eventually bring water to Tabeguache Park and there founded the present-day town of Nucla. While the majority of utopian colonies established during this period withered and died under the intense western sun, the CC Company worked cooperatively to establish a town that would secure its members against the cruel vagaries of capitalism. The company eschewed the grander but less fruitful utopian efforts to remake society along humanist, religious, or sexual lines. Theirs was a pragmatic ideal.

Women who moved to Pinon or one of its satellite camps found that utopian ideals of cooperation did not necessarily translate into more equal roles. Although the company promised equal work for equal pay, hired a noted suffragist as its primary spokesperson, and incorporated in a state that had recently enfranchised women, the visionaries of the CC Company were not explicitly out to transform relationships between men and women. Questions of gender equality were subsumed beneath the all-important goal of finishing the ditch.

The Colorado Cooperative Company was dreamed up in 1894 by a group of people disillusioned with the cutthroat competition and class-based hierarchies of capitalism, a system that seemed to be collapsing in upon itself during the financial panic that had begun the year before.

In February, six men and one woman met in Denver and incorporated the company and issued one thousand shares of stock at \$100 each. While the colony would attract many of its members from the middle and lower economic classes, these seven founders were prominent and politically connected Coloradans, including two state senators, a judge, and several other high-ranking state officials. Far from a group of poor ne'er-do-wells looking for a refuge from hard times, the organizers of the enterprise were ambitious, intelligent, and opinionated people intent upon grappling with some of the most intriguing social and economic theories of the day.

At the end of the Articles of Incorporation, the founding members appended a Declaration of Principles. It was not a legal document but rather an articulation of the better world

*The Colorado Cooperative Company building in 2010.  
Photo by the author.*



these men and woman sought. It is a brief, stirring document, radiating the conviction that new starts were granted to those who sought them. In it, the founders clearly laid out the case for the Colorado Cooperative Company: the capitalism of the day unfairly stacked opportunity in favor of a few while leaving “honest men and women” to scrimp and scramble for an elusive “comfortable living,” but “a system of co-operation with a company or community of men and women who have covenanted with each other to live in strict obedience to laws conceived in kindness and based upon equity” promised to harmonize the economic system and “give the best opportunity to develop all that is good and noble in humanity.” The company founders focused on creating economic equality, assuming that “equality in all matters pertaining to ‘life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness’” would follow.

Despite this soaring sales pitch, a cooperative economic system was not an easy sell. “At that time,” recalled company member Leonard Zatterstrom, whose family moved to the colony in 1900 when he was a teenager, “the word ‘cooperative’ was a dirty word associated with Socialism and Communism.” Although the founding documents enshrined the principle of private land ownership, and the company actually expelled ten members agitating for collective land ownership in May 1896, many nearby residents still viewed the colony with suspicion. Such fears were unwarranted, though, according to Zatterstrom: “the C.C. Co. was and is a corporation and the word cooperative applied only to building and maintaining the ditch.” After the ditch was complete, members envisioned a town with a central business district and individually owned plots surrounding the site.

No matter the label, the economic system that company members staked their utopian dreams on was not by any stretch revolutionary. Work was for wages, home ownership and a comfortable living was the goal, and men and women continued to do the jobs they were accustomed to. Only now, they would do them “cooperatively.” Perhaps a visiting reporter got closest to the truth when he described the company’s economic system as “conservative socialism.”

In the summer of 1894, the company founders sent B. L. Smith out in search of a place to plant their new home. They envisioned a town of a thousand like-minded residents, each owning forty acres with which to support the community’s needs and perhaps conduct a little commerce with nearby settlements (mostly mining camps). This meant that Smith had to find an unclaimed but not-too-isolated site larger than 40,000 acres. And if they wanted to file their claim under the

Desert Land Act of 1877 (their best bet at this late stage in the homesteading game), which allowed individuals to claim up to 640 acres at \$1.25 per acre provided they could bring water to the land, they had to arrange sufficient irrigation before they could receive a patent, so the tract had to be near a reliable source of water on terrain felicitous to ditch building. Land ownership would be private, a condition designed to encourage settlement, but individuals and families would cooperate on ditch construction and maintenance as well as other communal needs.

Smith headed west, trespassing on what were still Ute lands across the Uncompahgre Plateau nearly to the Utah state line before he found his promised land: Tabeguache Park, a broad, gently sloping mesa above the San Miguel River with panoramic mountain vistas. It was a magnificent laboratory for their utopian experiment, and Smith moved his family to the sun-drenched mesa in the fall of 1894. By the following summer, most of the company’s twenty members had joined him and filed the first land claims in the park. Initially, most made their homes in the relative comforts of Naturita, a post office and stage station not five miles southwest at the foot of the mesa.

From this base camp they set themselves to the work of making their new world, planting crops and surveying the fifteen-mile ditch that would bring water to the community’s fields. After two years of preparation, in 1896 they established the settlement of Pinon on the remains of a placer mining camp on the Montrose road where Cottonwood Creek feeds into the San Miguel and, at long last, broke ground on the ditch. As work got underway, Pinon quickly grew to include more than fifty rough wooden buildings, including a company office, commissary, print shop, post office, elementary school, public library, carpenter shop, icehouse, barn and livery, bunkhouses, and an assembly hall known as the Beehive.

The difficulty and preeminent importance of building the ditch meant that most men’s work was directed toward that end, either as part of the ditch-digging crew or at the sawmill cutting lumber for the flumes and trestles. The few men who didn’t work on the ditch pursued traditionally male jobs such as tending the fields (growing beans and a patch of vegetables) or keeping shop in the colony’s commissary. From the beginning, the company’s policy was that “the road for one who will not work will be a hard one to travel, and usually very short.” This often meant that women worked outside the home too, and with most men engaged on the ditch, most of the necessary functions of community fell to women. Referred to in earnest as “auxiliary ditch workers,”



The O. G. Dining Rooms at "Ocean Grove" near Pinon, shown in 1897, cautioned its clientele: "Ladies without bloomers not allowed at the beach" and "Tourists without baggage must pay in advance." Courtesy Rimrocker Historical Society.

the other camps, now numbering more than 300, moved to their land claims on the Tabeguache. There they established a new town that they named "Nucla," an expression of their hope that one day it would be the nucleus of a new cooperative society on the arid slopes of southwestern Colorado.

Life was not all work at Pinon, and residents came together at the Beehive for relaxation and enjoyment. Ellen Zatterstrom Peterson, who spent her childhood at Pinon and much of her adult life in Nucla, reminisced that "The Colony . . . was the center of more cultural activities than generally went with pioneer life. The co-operative project had attracted an unusual group including men and women of talent in music, art, and drama." Residents fondly recalled evenings spent at home-grown plays and boisterous Saturday evening dances—at one

the women of Pinon and the surrounding camps worked to support the men out doing the "real" work of the colony.

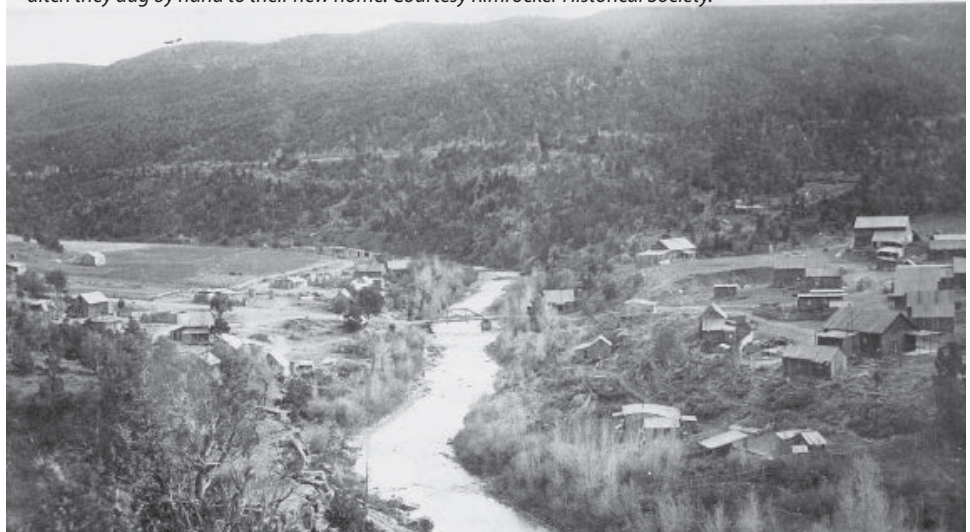
Working year-round with six to several dozen men at a time, the members of the CC Company dug, blasted, scraped, flumed, and trestled the ditch up from the riverbed for the next eight years. It was a monumental undertaking that demanded grit and resolution as well as world-class technical achievements: The wooden trestle across the ravine at Cottonwood Creek spanned 840 feet and rose 108 feet above the creek bed, believed at the time to be the longest and tallest elevated irrigation flume on earth.

As the ditch progressed at an agonizingly slow pace, community cohesion broke down. Heated disputes about private ownership and company business procedures, always exacerbated by constant financial troubles, threatened to halt the ditch or dissolve the company altogether. As the *Denver Times* noted in a 1900 headline, sometimes "Cooperation Is Not Harmonious." But through each argument and across several canyons the workers persevered, and in July 1904, ten years since the route had first been surveyed, water flowed to the eastern end of the park. The residents of Pinon and



such dance in November 1902, the Pinonites danced the night away "until the breakfast bell at 6:30 A.M." It was such a party that the colony members felt obliged to explain

The colony established the town of Pinon in 1896 along the San Miguel River—the source of the fifteen-mile ditch they dug by hand to their new home. Courtesy Rimrocker Historical Society.



An early Nucla streetscape. Courtesy Rimrocker Historical Society.



Pinon, -0- Colo.

**PHOTO-GRAPHS.**

Giving one a better idea of work actually done than any verbal description.

1. Pinon, looking west, winter.
2. Pinon, looking down river.
3. Pinon boarding house.
4. San Miguel river, looking up stream.
5. Winter at Pinon, looking N.
6. Bean ranch crowd.
7. Trestle work.
8. Scraper gang, May '98.
9. Headgate party, May '98.
10. Dinner on flume-bed.
11. Chikoot before blasting.
12. Chikoot after blasting.
13. Blacksmith shop at Chikoot.
14. Heaviest work on flume-bed.
15. Heavy rock work.
16. Point of the Winds.
17. Ditch crew, Feb. 98.
18. Headgate camp.
19. Road from mill to headgate.
20. "Wolf Den," on the Park.

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that "Our visitors undoubtedly think we dance all the time over here, but we don't—we build ditches, most of the time, although we did have three dances last week."

**F**rom the words of women and men who wrote for the company paper, *The Altrurian*, a picture emerges of women's experi-

ence in Pinon. In November 1897, a letter to the editor urged the election of more women to the board of directors. The anonymous author suggested, in strangely accusatory fashion, that despite their equal vote in the company and full franchise in Colorado, "It may be that women do not

want to be members of the Board" and would prefer to "lay the burden of the management of the affairs of the Colony upon the men." Yet even if it were so, the letter writer concluded, the onus was on fair-minded and understanding men to nominate and elect one or more women to the board.

A subtler but more revealing illumination of women's role in the colony appeared in *The Altrurian* during the first week of August in 1898. In that edition, readers might have chuckled (or groaned) at the following joke:

Lady co-operator—I think men used to marry younger than they do now, don't you?

Gentleman co-operator—Yes; but women were willing to wash dishes and cook then.

This bit of humor suggests that women of the colony were less likely to perform traditionally female housekeeping chores. Yet alongside this anecdote—in the adjoining column—astute readers may have noted a different story told by brief reports in the "Colony Notes":

"Mrs. Wartner went to the [camp at the] headgate Saturday to take Miss Miller's place in the kitchen."

“Miss Mina Johnson and Miss Matie Brooks have charge of the bakery at this writing. Who’s next?”

“Mrs. Robinson has organized a sewing class and has been giving children instructions in the use of the needle.”

These contradictory messages show the tension that characterized the status and role of women in this utopian experiment. Despite their purported resistance to traditional women’s work, in both private and public spheres the ladies of the company apparently did most of the cooking, baking, teaching, sewing, and a number of other jobs as it worked to establish itself on the arid mesas of Colorado’s Western Slope.

The work the women did at home was not significantly different—except perhaps more difficult—than that of women living a long way from utopia. In the unpainted rough wood-plank residences of the camps, the lady of the house was charged with making it look like a home. Longtime colony resident Sarah Chamberlain explained the homemaking process: “After the carpenters are through, the lady of the house goes in with all the newspapers she can find, papers the walls and covers the ceiling with muslin, put curtains at the windows, pictures on the walls, and the home made furniture makes the house complete, cozy, and comfortable.”

A few women, unable to stand the thought of rereading the same issues of *The Altrurian* every day, splurged for wallpaper. “It cracked, but it did look clean and nice,” remembered Leah Vestal, who moved to Pinon in 1900 at age nine. One reporter visiting in 1903, upon seeing what passed for good housekeeping in camp, tactfully described the buildings of Pinon as being of “a somewhat temporary character.” Nonetheless, he generously reported that the women’s homemaking efforts provided “evidence of taste and culture, and doubtless when settlers build permanent houses they will be substantial and attractive.”

Of course, it wasn’t enough to simply decorate. Women devoted long hours to keeping their homes and their clothing clean. Kate Sly did her cleaning on Mondays, rising at 5 A.M. to light the coal oven and heat the water for washing. She washed everything using a bar of yellow soap and a copper washboard, boiling the whites in the soap to keep them bright and starching the finery. Items that needed ironing (and for Kate Sly that meant sheets, dishtowels, and men’s socks in addition to the usual shirts and dresses) were pressed beneath a “sadirion,” a bulky triangular contraption that earned its name by its propensity to burn the user. After the wash was hung out, she concluded her routine by mopping the floors with the soapy water from the boiler tubs. Mending the

holes in her sons’ pants (which they managed to wear out despite the protective buttons she sewed onto their knees) or darning socks could wait until evening.

It was an arduous routine. Yet far from resenting her chores, it was a point of pride for Kate Sly to be the first woman in camp with her wash on the line every Monday morning. Women who didn’t have their wash out before noon, or those who waited until later in the week to do it, were subject to disapproving looks and headshaking from their neighbors. On the other hand, the woman with the whitest linens on the line was openly admired.

In addition to keeping house, women were responsible for their families’ meals. They shopped for food and other provisions at the company commissary, using coupons representing unapplied water and stock credits. Allotments of items like butter, lard, milk, and meat were small, but women politely jockeyed to get a choice share, especially the best cut of beef on the rare occasions when it was available. It was a point of honor to take only what was due; several women remembered that trying to get more than your share was the “unpardonable sin” of camp life. Portions were sometimes meager but usually adequate—no one starved at Pinon, although tables were scantily spread at times—and Alice Douglass of the Saw Mill camp wrote to her sister that “with a few dollars cash for fruit and the like” to supplement the rations, “I can provide for my table healthfully, though not sumptuously.”

One provision that everyone nearly always got their share of was beans. The company used its precious cash to buy only staples such as flour, salt, oatmeal, and salt pork, relying almost entirely on what food it could raise. And beans were grown abundantly around Pinon. Vegetables from the community garden added some variety, but beans were such a mainstay that the workers nicknamed them “ditchbuilders.” Women had to be creative to relieve the mealtime monotony, and they served “baked beans, stewed beans, bean steak, bean salad, bean soup, and even bean loaf.”

On top of their responsibilities at home, the women of the Colorado Cooperative Company were expected—or at least given strong incentive—to work outside the home. Wages were 20 cents an hour (raised to 25 cents by 1905), regardless of the job performed or who performed it, with half applied against the purchase of land and the accompanying water rights in the completed ditch, and the rest credited toward the purchase of a share of stock. Only workers earned credits to apply toward their future home

or their present needs, and both men and women assumed that women's work in the colony's public sphere would be an extension of their work at home.

The most visible places in which women worked outside of the home were the boardinghouses. Women took charge of these dwellings that single men called home and performed the same sort of housekeeping, cooking, and cleaning duties that they did for their own families. LaVonne Garber Walker, a child when her mother ran one of Pinon's boardinghouses, remembers the high turnover rate among matrons due to the fact that, as she mildly put it, "it was not a very desirable job." In fact, it was so strenuous and disagreeable that it broke Garber's health.

But boardinghouse work was the primary option for women who wished to earn labor credits. In an 1898 survey, all the women but one listed on the company payroll worked as cooks. Women at the boardinghouse often worked fifteen-hour days that began at 5 A.M., yet rather than an hourly wage they were paid a below-scale salary of \$2 a day in credits (fifteen hours working on the ditch in 1898 would have earned \$3). The bulk of their time was spent cooking. Working from the same limited pantry as the rest of the colony, they faced the added challenges of shopping and preparing food en masse for diners who were often less than sympathetic about the repetitive menu and the cost of providing it (although complaints seem to have been curtailed by a rule that he who complained did the dishes).

The women of the company did sometimes set limits on which types of work they were willing to do. In June 1898, the male editor of *The Altrurian* noted that while washing beans, the women of Pinon (the "auxiliary ditch workers," as he called them) had failed to discuss a proposal to start a public laundry. He urged them to take up the consideration soon, for the sake of the colony's single men, who were having difficulty finding someone to do their wash (there is no indication whether the editor was among these unfortunates). Furthermore, he suggested that the laundry promised to benefit the women by creating "one branch of industry which would open to the ladies of the camp opportunities for accumulating credits, and in a much easier way than that now in vogue [cleaning beans]." The following year, two women finally responded agreeably to the editor's call, although they cast doubt upon its necessity by claiming that many women were already voluntarily doing what they could to "help these men out of their dilemma." They also made sure to correct the editor's misperceptions of the work and its benefits for women, explaining that laundry "has always

been considered woman's hardest task, and which some of them had not been accustomed to doing even for themselves, previous to this."

Men like the editor assumed that all women did laundry and would not find significant hardship in performing their work for a wider public. But not every woman in the camp had the same passion for white sheets as Kate Sly—especially other people's white sheets. Although the ladies finally agreed to operate a public laundry, the single men of Pinon never saw it completed. Men and lumber were devoted entirely to the ditch and, conveniently perhaps, neither could be spared to build the women's structure. In February 1900 the women announced that they would rather have a loom and, unless there were objections (there were none voiced publicly), they would transfer the money subscribed for the laundry into the new loom fund.

In addition to these public extensions of their housekeeping duties, women did all of the teaching in the colony's schools and organized community entertainments. Piece-mealed together during the first several years of the colony, in later years the organization of these responsibilities was facilitated by the formation of a Women's Club. The club held its first meeting in Pinon (satellite camps were encouraged to start their own branches) in January 1899, a little more than a year after an anonymous letter writer in *The Altrurian* had urged women to capitalize on their civic and economic equality by asserting themselves in the governance of the company. Although they encountered some initial resistance from some of the colony's men, including one board member who suspected "some scheme at the bottom of that Women's Club," in only a couple of years the club was among the most industrious and productive aspects of the colony, boasting an impressive list of accomplishments and ambitious plans for the future.

The club immediately assumed operation of the boardinghouses, with Sarah Chamberlain serving the first six-month tour as matron, "thereby solving that problem." The women raised funds by selling everything from homemade candies, ice cream, and lemonade to decorative ornaments, quilts, and rugs at the annual Fourth of July celebration and other events put on by the club. With the proceeds they bought two cows to increase the colony's milk supply, plants for the community garden (strawberries and other pie plants, asparagus, rhubarb, horseradish, and more), an ice cream freezer, a carpet loom, an organ, and a clubhouse complete with meeting, bed, and loom rooms. In addition to coordinating teachers for the town school, they ran a kindergarten

and a girls' industrial school that taught skills like sewing and quilt and rug making.

Perhaps the most important aspect of the Women's Club was its goal to instruct members in parliamentary rules. As the club grew more established, women's names began to appear more often in the transcripts of company meetings and in elected positions within the company. While a handful of women were elected to midlevel positions such as company treasurer before the formation of the Women's Club, their political prominence notably increased after it was established. Whether there is a direct correlation between the two is impossible to say with certainty, but it does appear that the Women's Club, with its stated aim of helping women learn to navigate the rules of the political system, facilitated greater engagement of women with the power structure. And such gains were neither temporary nor enough. "The Club is here to stay," wrote one member to *The Altrurian* in 1901, "and with more workers and united effort our possibilities for the future are almost unlimited."

The women do not like pioneer life as well as the men do," Alice Douglass wrote to her sister in September 1899. The activities of the Women's Club may have made life more tolerable, but even with the social, economic, and political satisfactions it provided, life in Pinon and the satellite camps still left much to be desired. Although the members of the Colorado Cooperative Company had come

to the Tabeguache to build a sanctuary from the corrosive effects of the modern economy, many still missed the comforts of home. Most women had come to the colony from cities a long way removed from the cooperative. Some were not used to doing their own laundry (no matter what the editor of *The Altrurian* assumed). Some resented the newspaper that passed for décor on their walls. The difficulties of ordering every necessary item from a catalog was grating on women used to doing their own shopping. Others missed simple conveniences like electric lights. Undoubtedly most missed the variety and available abundance of a grocer's produce stand. "It was pretty much of a hardship on the womenfolk, the way they had to live," recalled Leah Vestal Weimer. "The womenfolk would get blue and discouraged more than the men in the early days."

During her first summer at the colony, disappointments mounted for Mrs. Zatterstrom, who had arrived with her husband and children Minnie, Leonard, and Ellen in 1900. Mice ruined fabric and other dry goods before she could use it, the family's meager ration of milk was tainted by manure, termites infested her new home, and she and her children came down with typhoid fever. It was easy to feel homesick. She, like many women in the colony, had left behind friends, family, and a relatively secure life (she and her husband had owned a 200-acre farm free of debt in Minnesota) to risk all on a precarious dream of utopia. "In her bluer moments," Ellen remembered, her mother would steal away "to a group

*The town of Nucla in 2010. Photo by the author.*



of pines nearby where she could cry in solitude and renew her courage.”

Mrs. Zatterstrom’s neighbors offered her encouragement but very little sympathy—they were all in the same situation. Alice Douglass was among her neighbors at the Saw Mill camp, and she voiced the sentiments of many when she insisted, “It isn’t any worse than I expected. I don’t see how we can expect city life on the frontier. I believe it is better to pioneer collectively than to do as they used to do.” And if the cooperative structure of the colony meant that a few items were in short supply, there were also some welcome absences, namely “the rent man, the coal man, the gas man, the butcher, the baker, and candlestick maker showing their smiling faces at the end of every month and presenting their respective bills.”

Alice Douglass exemplifies the faith that the majority of members had that the Colorado Cooperative Company’s economic scheme would eventually cultivate a utopian society on the arid Western Slope. The men and women of this particular utopia believed that social equality would flow from economic reform, and they appear to have been content to maintain their familiar roles and social norms as long as they were working collectively toward that goal.

Even when work on the ditch slowed to a crawl, no colonist, man or woman, publicly advocated that women should pick up a shovel and lend a hand. Similarly, even as they resisted the creation of a public laundry and suffered the burdens of the boardinghouse, no woman went so far as to suggest publicly that men should do their wash or housekeeping. For these women and men engaged in carving their dreams for a better life out of the dusty rocks of western Colorado, pursuing greater gender equality or other social reforms without a more equitable economic foundation was like planting an orchard without water to irrigate.

#### For Further Reading

*The Altrurian* is the most complete source on the Colorado Cooperative Company’s daily life. Of the 135 editions published between 1895 and 1901, eighty-five are available in History Colorado’s Stephen H. Hart Library & Research Center, with most of the missing issues falling between mid-1895 and late 1897. Of those missing issues, all but three are at the Kansas State Historical Society in Topeka. Ellen Z. Peterson, who lived in the colony as a child, recorded

her memories in *The Spell of the Tabeguache* (Denver: Sage Books, 1956) and narrated its creation in “Origin of the Town of Nucla,” *The Colorado Magazine* 26, no. 4 (1949): 252–8. Marie Templeton recorded oral histories from the area’s earliest residents, including colonists, in *The Visionaries: First and Second Generation of the Pinon, Ute, and Nucla Areas* (Nucla: Rimrocker Historical Society, 1998) and *Naturita, Colorado: Where Past Meets Future* (Nucla: Rimrocker Historical Society, 2002).

The most comprehensive look at the company is Pamela J. Clark’s “A Study of *The Altrurian* Newspaper and Its Attempts to Establish or Reinforce Community Core Values in the Cooperative Colony Established by the Colorado Cooperative Company at Nucla, Colorado, from 1895 to 1901” (PhD diss., University of Wyoming, 2001). She extended her research with Michael Clark in “The Colorado Co-operative Colony: The Brook Farm of the West,” *Communal Societies* 25 (2005): 75–90. Several authors profiled the company as part of the region’s broader history, including Wilson Rockwell in *Uncompahgre Country* (Denver: Sage Books, 1965) and Evelyn Joan Brown in “Early History of Montrose County, Colorado, and Its Settlement Years, 1880–1910” (MA thesis, Western State College of Colorado, 1987). H. Roger Grant examined the colony within a national context in “Blueprints for Co-operative Communities: The Labor Exchange and the Colorado Cooperative Company,” *Journal of the West* 13, no. 3 (1974): 74–82, and “The New Communitarianism: The Case of Three Intentional Colonies, 1895–1905,” *Indiana Social Studies Quarterly* 30, no. 1 (1977): 59–71. Agnes W. Spring highlighted the failure of the “socialist colony” in “Experiment in Utopia,” *Rocky Mountain Empire Magazine*, in *The Denver Post* (May 1, 1949). Duane D. Mercer provided an overview in “The Colorado Co-operative Company, 1894–1904,” *The Colorado Magazine* 44, no. 4 (1967): 293–306. Francis M. Croke provided a longer overview in “A History of the Colorado Co-operative Colony: And of the Town of Nucla” (Gunnison: 197–; typescript at Stephen H. Hart Library & Research Center).

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**JASON L. HANSON** pursues his own formulation of utopia as a member of the research faculty at the Center of the American West at the University of Colorado at Boulder and as the deputy state historian at History Colorado.



## Navigating the Legacies of Colorado Canals

BY KATIE ARNTZEN,  
SECTION 106 COMPLIANCE MANAGER

Given Colorado's semiarid climate, access to water has always shaped communities' growth. Natural waterways were the first places people settled; once those naturally irrigated areas were homesteaded, later settlers had to rely on manmade irrigation systems. Ditches proliferated in the 1860s after the population boom of the state's gold rush. These "pioneer ditches" were either dug by hand or gouged out by horse-drawn Fresno scrapers to create simple linear dirt depressions. Then, gravity took over to move the water through them.

You likely live near some form of irrigation; you might even have a sprinkler system to irrigate your yard. Many historic Colorado homes still irrigate their yards with water from pioneer ditches. You might not recognize these historic ditches in your neighborhood because they're often updated and maintained for water conservation and safety. Many ditches are altered to prevent water loss by evaporation and absorption into the ground; common alterations are concrete lining or piping. Covering ditches also prevents people and pollutants from falling in.

At History Colorado we talk with communities about how to preserve historic resources that could be eligible for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. The National Historic Preservation Act has a section devoted to this conversation: Section 106. Through the Section 106 process, federal agencies consult with the State Historic Preservation Office (within the History Colorado Center), local governments, and other parties to consider how their projects may affect significant historic resources, like ditches and canals. The conversations weigh

the needs of the proposed project and the resource in order to achieve the best possible outcome for both. Section 106 doesn't stop projects; it creates a conversation and time frame for the federal agency to consider all of the options before making a decision.

As communities grow, land-use needs change, and to fill those needs new buildings may go up on former agricultural fields. Often, new development can harmoniously coexist with historic ditches. But, sometimes a ditch may be rerouted or piped in order for a project to move forward. If leaving a ditch in place is impossible, they may be documented with narrative history reports, photos, and maps. History Colorado's Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation files the reports for future researchers. Currently, the office holds more than 300 such reports on ditches and canals.

In addition to archival documentation, Section 106 projects may include public interpretation—anything from an interpretive sign to a website. To learn more about our historic ditches, check out the Boulder Ditch Project website at [bcn.boulder.co.us/basin/ditchproject/](http://bcn.boulder.co.us/basin/ditchproject/).

Archaeologists recorded a segment of the Colorado Cooperative Ditch at Nucla, Colorado, in 2008, archiving their findings for generations of researchers to come. The Colorado Cooperative Ditch segment at Nucla is archived as site 5MN.9090. Files for it and more than 168,000 other Colorado archaeological and paleontological sites, buildings, and structures are stored at the Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation. History Colorado volunteers and staff are scanning these files to make them more accessible for research.

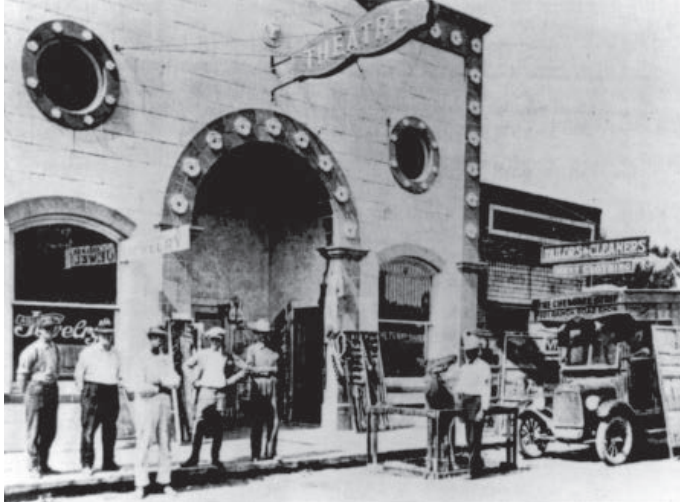
*A man works on a ditch headgate. 10046581*

## Do you know this building?

Continued from page 15

BY HEATHER PETERSON,  
NATIONAL AND STATE REGISTER HISTORIAN

Answers: a) Julesburg, b) 1919, d) Movie theater



Movie theaters transformed entertainment, becoming major attractions across the country after 1910. Previously churches, schools, town halls, and even courthouses served as venues for gramophone programs, concerts, dramas, and magic lantern slide shows, with many people only hearing about “moving” pictures. Although local contractor Albert Elton Lanning intended Julesburg’s Hippodrome Theatre to host various community events, he built it primarily for silent moving pictures in 1919. When completed, the Exotic Revival-style building with a terra-cotta front offered 584 upholstered chairs on the main floor and balcony, a stage, an orchestra pit, performers’ dressing rooms, and a fireproof lead-lined projection booth.

Admission in 1923 was 25 cents for adults and 10 cents for children. Popcorn was 5 cents. If you couldn’t pay, the manager wrote your name in a “charge book.” Even when an account remained unpaid, management never denied a patron from seeing a movie. Pianists earned a dollar a night providing accompaniment to the silent movies. Two turntables replaced the live music in 1929 when the theater screened its first “talkie.” After sound was recorded directly onto the picture films, the Hippodrome replaced the turntables with a new sound system around 1935.

The Hippodrome survived three small fires in the 1920s and a tornado in 1947. With its original pre-neon sign still intact and the terra-cotta floral light sockets accenting the arched entrance and front, the theater is among Colorado’s oldest movie houses still operating. The balcony now serves as event space and a digital system replaced the carbon arc projector system, but area residents and businesses still enjoy movies and events at today’s Hippodrome Arts Center. The building was listed in the State Register of Historic Properties in 1999.

Who’d have imagined that a party trick would lead to a best-selling book, a popular movie, and a national controversy? But that’s what happened in the 1950s in Pueblo, Colorado. Virginia Tighe, a young housewife, was suffering from allergies and incessant sneezing when she and her husband met amateur hypnotist Morey Bernstein at a party. Morey told Virginia he could help if she’d let him put her under hypnosis. Then, he’d introduce the power of suggestion to override Virginia’s overactive nose.

Virginia turned out to be a very good subject for hypnosis. She not only went into a hypnotic state easily, she went in deeper than any of Morey’s other subjects. The sneezing was waylaid and Virginia was grateful. Morey wondered if it was possible to regress a person back before the time of their birth. Do people have any memories prior to their present life?

He talked Virginia and her husband into letting him try to regress Virginia back to her earliest memories to find out the answer. The details that emerged from those six sessions were of a young Irish girl who told Morey her name was Bridey Murphy, born in Ireland in 1798. Soon, a full account of Bridey’s life unfolded—names of businesses and places her family knew, life with her husband, and how she died at 66 after breaking her hip in a fall.

Morey convinced Virginia to grant permission for her story to be told. In 1956 both the Hollywood movie and the book came out. *In Search of Bridey Murphy* sold over a million copies its first year. The funny thing was, Virginia didn’t personally believe in reincarnation. And America was hotly divided: those with strong religious convictions firmly believed there was no such thing, while the freethinkers embraced what appeared to be proof that reincarnation existed.

## HISTORY

## Mystery

an occasional  
series of historical  
oddities

Bridey Murphy—  
The Question of Reincarnation

BY PATTY MAHER

So did Virginia’s regression through hypnosis prove reincarnation to be real? Not in this case. It was found that what she experienced was *cryptomnesia*, a type of plagiarism—a forgotten memory that returns and is thought to be new or original. As it turned out, Virginia, when she was quite small, lived with her aunt and uncle in Chicago. Her favorite neighbor across the street had told stories of her own life growing up in Ireland. The neighbor’s name was Bridie Murphy Corkell, and it was her stories and details that Virginia recalled while hypnotized.

One wonders, had Virginia known what she was getting into when Morey said he could help with her allergies, would she have chosen to keep sneezing instead?

*Is there a Colorado history mystery you want to know more about? Contact [patty\\_maher@yahoo.com](mailto:patty_maher@yahoo.com) and it may be featured in this column. Check out Patty’s book *Colorado’s History Mysteries* at [pandinipress.com](http://pandinipress.com).*

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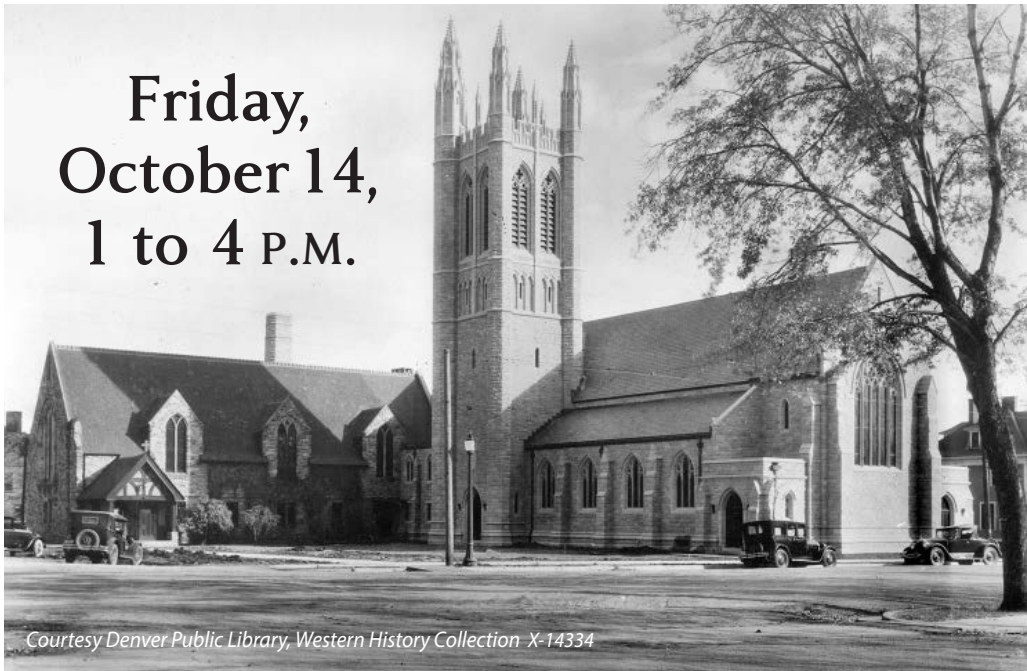
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**Friday,  
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**Members \$29 nonmembers \$40**

Provide your own transportation to starting point. To register call 303/866-2394.

The music lover in you has been waiting all year, and here it is at last: our 7th Annual Organ Crawl! This year we'll head south to Colorado Springs, where the well-to-do showed off the richness of their devotion in monumental buildings and even more monumental organs. These instruments are certain to take your breath away, even as they fill your ears and mind with musical joy. Including First United Methodist, with the largest organ in the city, we'll stroll from site to site, admiring the architecture and artistry on this aural extravaganza. Bach would approve!