Cultural Landscapes in the Western United States

A Workshop Cosponsored by the Colorado Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation and the U.S. National Park Service
Trinity United Methodist Church
Denver, Colorado
October 4 – 5, 2011
Cultural Landscapes in the Western United States

Part 1 of 9
Protecting Cultural Landscapes

This is an automated presentation of the speakers’ PowerPoint slides with their notes if provided and some video (mostly from the second day) of the presentations. Due to the file size of the October 4 & 5, 2011 presentations the workshop has been uploaded in nine thematic segments. The viewer can pause, advance forward or return to any slide by clicking on the index at any time.
**Segment 1: Protecting Cultural Landscapes**

1. Overview of Cultural Landscapes and the National Register  
   Barbara Wyatt  
   National Park Service
2. Section 106 Compliance and Cultural Landscapes  
   Amy Pallante  
   CO SHPO
3. Threats to Cultural Landscapes, The National Trust as a Landscape Advocate  
   Rebecca Schwendler  
   NTHP

**Segment 2: Linear Landscapes**

4. The Work of the National Trails Office  
   Michael Elliot  
   National Park Service

**Segment 3: The Hispanic/ Latino Landscape Legacy**

5. An Overview of Hispanic American/ Latino Landscapes  
   Maria Mondragon-Valdez  
   Valdez & Associates
6. Cultural Landscapes Barrio Logan, San Diego, California  
   Melanie Lytle  
   URS Corporation

**Segment 4: Nominating Designed Landscapes to The National Register**

7. Denver Civic Center  
   Tina Bishop  
   Mundus Bishop Design, Inc.
8 & 9. CCC Landscapes  
   Ann Komara  
   University Colorado Denver

**Segment 5: Innovations in Landscape Surveys**

10. Historic American Landscape Survey (HALS)  
    Ann Mullins  
    WJM Design
11. BLM Landscape Inventory Initiatives  
    Don Bruns  
    Bureau Land Management
12. Cultural Landscape Inventory  
    Roberta Young  
    National Park Service
Cultural Landscapes in the Western United States

Steve Turner, Director State Historical Fund/CO Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer workshop introduction

Terry Knight, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer, Ute Mountain Tribe of the Ute Mountain Reservation, Colorado, New Mexico & Utah (Ute Mountain Ute) presented the invocation

Lynn Willcockson, Trinity United Methodist Church provided the facility host welcome

Ed Nichols, CO State Historic Preservation Officer, President History Colorado workshop welcome
8:30 Welcome, Trinity United Methodist Church and Edward Nichols, Colorado SHPO

8:45 Segment 1: Protecting Cultural Landscapes

1. Overview of Cultural Landscapes and the National Register
   Barbara Wyatt (NPS)

2. Section 106 Compliance and Cultural Landscapes,
   Amy Pallante (CO SHPO)

3. Threats to Cultural Landscapes, The National Trust as a Landscape Advocate - Rebecca Schwendler (NTHP)
Cultural Landscapes in the Western United States

Barbara Wyatt
National Park Service

Protecting Cultural Properties

OVERVIEW OF CULTURAL LANDSCAPES AND THE NATIONAL REGISTER
Overview
Cultural Landscapes in the West and the National Register

Cultural Landscapes in the Western United States Workshop
Denver, Colorado
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Western landscapes are iconic among the nation’s landscapes. They are celebrated and referenced in many cultural expressions, including . . .
Paintings

Riders at Sunset, E. Martin Hennings
Among the Sierra Nevada, California
Albert Bierstadt
Photography

Ansel Adams
El Capitan, Merced River, Clouds
Fiction

Tony Hillerman
Dance Hall of the Dead

Louis L’Amour
May There Be a Road

Wallace Stegner
The Big Rock Candy Mountain

Willa Cather
My Antonia

Cormac McCarthy
The Border Trilogy

Leslie Marmon Silko
Gardens in the Dunes

Larry McMurtry
Lonesome Dove

Zane Gray
Riders of the Purple Sage

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA
Don’t Fence Me In
I want to ride to the ridge where the west
commences
And gaze at the moon till I lose my senses
And I can't look at hovels and I can't
stand fences
Don't fence me in.

Back in the Saddle Again
I'm back in the saddle again,
out where a friend is a friend,
Where the long horn cattle feed
on the lonely jimson weed
I'm back in the saddle again.

Tumbling
Tumbleweeds
See them tumbling down
Pledging their love to the ground
Lonely but free I'll be found
Drifting along with the tumbling tumbleweeds.

Memories of Old Santa Fe
As blue shadows fall
Across the canyon wall
The cattle are quiet and still
Dusty, sore and tired
I build myself a fire
As a full moon
Peaks over the hills.

Song
EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA
Poetry

Poetry of the American West
A Columbia Anthology

Experience Your America
YOUR FAVORITE WESTERN STAR IS LOADIN' HIS PISTOLS...
for a gal in distress...
a cowboy in danger...
a killer in hiding!

GEOE AUTRY
BARBARA LORRIS
LA DiDIE
ROBERT SMYTHE

CHILL WILLS
JACK HOLT
RUSSELL ARMSTRONG
ROBERT SHAYNE

FORBIDDEN"!
LOADED PISTOLS
"CHAMPION"
"HER"!

LOADED PISTOLS
LOADED PISTOLS
CHASED CORN
WIFE THE BLOW IS ON
THE EAGLE
"BOY FROM TEXAS"
"PRETTY MARY"
Hi ho, Silver, away!

Television and Radio

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA
Which States?
Western Physiographic Divisions

**Interior Plains** – part of the interior continental US; includes much of the Great Plains.

**Rocky Mountain System** - one branch of the Cordilleran system - far inland in the western states.

**Intermontane Plateaus** - divided into the Columbia Plateau, the Colorado Plateau, and the Basin and Range Province (includes Grand Canyon, Great Basin, Death Valley).

**Pacific Mountain System** - the coastal mountain ranges and features in the west coast of the U.S.
Western Watersheds- Simplified

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA
Landscape Terminology for the National Register
Rural Historic Landscapes

A geographical area that historically has been used by people, or shaped or modified by human activity, occupancy, or intervention, and . . .

Grouse Creek Valley, Utah
that possesses a significant concentration, linkage, or continuity of areas of land use, vegetation, buildings and structures, roads and waterways, and natural features.

Las Trampas, New Mexico, NHL
Designed Historic Landscapes

Steedman Estate
Santa Barbara, California
fountain and fern garden
Lockwood de Forest III,
Landscape Architect

A landscape that has significance as a design or work of art that was consciously designed and laid out by a master gardener, landscape architect, architect, or horticulturalist to a design principle, or by an owner or other amateur using a recognized style or tradition, in response or reaction to a recognized style or tradition; or . . .
that has a historic association with a significant person, trend, event, etc. in landscape gardening or landscape architecture;
... or

Heritage Park Plaza
Fort Worth, Texas
Designed by Lawrence Halprin
Photo courtesy of Historic Fort Worth, Inc.

... that has a significant relationship to the theory or practice of landscape architecture.
Some Types of Designed Landscapes

Small Scale
- Gardens
- Courtyards
- Small parks
- Grounds
- Squares and plazas
- Small cemeteries

Large Scale
- Subdivisions
- Large parks
- Boulevards
- Campuses

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA
Landscape Features

Natural features

Human-made features

Prehistoric and historic archeology (remnants of occupation)
Natural Features

- Terrain, including slopes and elevation
- Vegetation
- Hydrology
- Soil and geology
- Views and vistas to and from the site
Human-made and human-endowed features: spatial patterns, land uses, and cultural traditions

- Buildings and structures
- Divisions and barriers: Fences, walls, hedge rows
- Circulation systems: roads, trails, railroad corridors
- Water features: fountains, pools
- Outdoor rooms and spaces: patios, courtyards, plazas, and...
Other human-made/endowed features:

- Artistic works and other objects: statuary, murals, mazes, topiary, markers
- Ornamental vegetation: planting beds, allees of trees
- Functional vegetation: crops, orchards, pastures
- Intangible cultural values
- Site plans

South Pass trail marker on the Oregon Trail
Historic and Prehistoric Archeology

Archeological sites
Ruins
Landscape disturbance

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA
Designed historic landscapes and Rural historic landscapes are classified as:

- Sites
- or
- Districts

The National Register recognizes 5 property types: Buildings, structures, sites, objects, and districts.
Site or District?

Sites
- Battlefields
- Historic events
- Cemeteries
- Garden
- Land areas with cultural significance

Districts
- Large farms
- Ranches
- Parks
- Irrigation systems
- Transportation networks

Complexity usually determines whether designation as a site or district is appropriate.
Settings are important to all nominations.
Western Landscapes and the National Register

Linear Resources/Corridors
Battlefields
Ranches
TCPs
Designed landscapes
National Register Numbers
12 Western States

Corridors: 176
(roads, trails, routes, highways, parkways, canals)

Battlefields: 73

Ranches: 395

TCPs (including known DOEs): 40

Mining related: 249

Parks: 821
Issues to consider for all types of sites and districts with a landscape significance:

• Finding and articulating significance
• Establishing a context
• Determining boundaries
• Assessing integrity (location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, association)
Linear Resources/Corridors

Listed in NR in 1973 as a district (64 miles long)
Criteria A and C: Commerce, Transportation, and Engineering

Denver and Rio Grande Western Railroad, New Mexico
Green River, Wyoming, Cattle Drift

Photo courtesy BLM
Route 66 in Oklahoma
Bridgeport Hill to Hydro Segment

Bridgeport Bridge, 100’ span pony truss, under construction

Listed in NR as a district in 2004
Criteria A and C: Transportation and Engineering
1926-1954, POS
Local significance

Photo courtesy Oklahoma DOT
Historic Resources of the Bozeman Trail in Wyoming, Multiple Property Documentation Form
Battlefields

Listed as a site in 1972
Criterion A, Military
1876, POS

Rosebud Battlefield/Where the Girl Saved Her Brother, Big Horn County, Montana
Glorieta Pass Battlefield
Listed in NR 1966 as a site
Criterion A, Military
1862, POS
Ranches
Canoa Ranch Rural Historic Landscape
Arizona

• Listed as a district in 2007
• Criteria A and C, Agriculture and Architecture
• POS, 1821-1951
• Local significance
• 4,960 acres
Canoa Ranch
Dorris Ranch, Oregon

Listed as a district in 1988

Criteria A and B, Agriculture and George A. Dorris

State significance

109 acres

POS, 1892-1936
McIntyre Ranch, Colorado

Listed in 2008 as a site

Criteria C and D, Archeology, Social History, Agriculture, Architecture

POS 1880-1912

Local significance

14.2 acres
David Shirk Ranch
Lake County, Oregon

• Listed as district in 2009
• Criteria A and C, Agriculture and Architecture
• POS 1881-1914
• Statewide significance

14.5 acres
Traditional Cultural Places

Bear Butte, Montana

Listed in 1973 as a site

Criteria A and D: Transportation, Religion, Military, Aboriginal prehistory, and history

7,916 acres
Sweet Grass Hills, Montana

Determined eligible 1992 by the Keeper

Criteria A, B, and C, Ethnic Heritage and Native American Religion

Discontiguous district
Designed Historic Landscapes
Platt National Park, Oklahoma

- Designated NHL district in 2010
- NHL Criteria 1 and 4 (A and C)
- 1933-40, POS
- 848 acres
Steedman Estate, California
Ralph T. Stevens, landscape architect
Steedman Estate

- Designated NHL in 2008 as a district
- NHL Criterion 4 (NR C)
- POS 19222-1940
- 11 acres

Pepper Tree Fountain and Fern Garden
Lockwood de Forest III

Cactus Garden
Will Rogers Park
Garden and Arboretum

• Listed in 2005 as a district
• Criteria A and C
• Landscape Architecture and Community Planning and Development
• POS, 1933-1954
• 32 acres

Photo courtesy City of Oklahoma City
Issues
Landscapes in SHPO Surveys

- Many do not have survey forms that include landscape terminology and description.
- Many do not require settings to be described
- Inventories may be difficult to search for landscape significance.
- Status of HALS survey in the state may be unknown.
Evaluating Historic Landscapes

- Know how to identify and “read” landscape characteristics.
- Develop historic contexts or multiple property nomination forms for various types of landscapes.
- Understand how to research the history of a landscape.
Sample Multiple Property Nominations for Landscape Resources

- New Deal Resources on Colorado’s Eastern Plains
- Denver Mountain Parks MPDF
- Denver Park and Parkway System MPDF
- Historic Farms and Ranches of Weld County, CO
- Historic Ranching Resources of South Park, CO
- Agricultural Resources of Boulder County, CO
- Santa Fe Trail MPDF (to be updated by KS SHPO)
Evaluation Challenges

- Determining significance
- Establishing context
- Assessing integrity
- Establishing boundaries
- Dealing with modern landscapes
- Dealing with redundant landscapes
Cultural Landscapes in the Western United States

Colorado State Historic Preservation Office
Amy Pallante

Protecting Cultural Properties

SECTION 106
COMPLIANCE AND CULTURAL LANDSCAPES
Section 106 Compliance and Cultural Landscapes

Cultural Landscapes

In the Western United States

HISTORY Colorado

OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION
GENERAL GUIDELINES
FOR
IDENTIFYING AND EVALUATING
HISTORIC LANDSCAPES

ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAM
CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA
February 1999

From 2003 to 2009, the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) and the Regional Transportation District (RTD), in partnership with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), studied multi-modal transportation improvements for the U.S. 36 corridor between Denver and Boulder in the U.S. 36 Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).
US 36 and Post World War II Development

• Complicated consultations between CDOT and SHPO on identification and evaluation of Post World War II subdivision within Area of Potential Effects for US 36.
  – Issue of addressing the larger question of Post World War II development as a designed landscape.

• In order to better consult on identification and National Register evaluation of Post World War II development as a designed landscape, CDOT and FHWA hired a consultant to complete a Multiple Property Document Form for Post World War II subdivisions.
G. Geographical Data

This MPDF covers that portion of the five-county Denver region (Adams, Broomfield, Arapahoe, and Jefferson counties and the City and County of Denver) lying within the Colorado Department of Transportation Region 8 boundary (indicated by the thick gray line on the map below). The boundary captures nearly all of the region’s 1940-65 subdivision growth.

Figure G1. The geographic coverage of the MPDF corresponds to the boundary of CDOT Region 8. SOURCE: CDOT geographic information system data formatted by Front Range Research Associates, Inc.
Identification and Evaluation

- In April 2011 the Historic Residential Subdivisions of Metropolitan Denver 1940-1965 Multiple Property Documentation Form was listed to the National Register of Historic Places.
  - Includes: developmental history, associated property types, and registration requirements.
  - CDOT will use this document to aid in identification and evaluation during current and future transportation projects.
Section 106 Mitigation and Landscapes

- To resolve adverse effects to historic properties on the US 36 project, CDOT proposed creative mitigation to document and educate the public through a book about the significant irrigation landscape of the project area.
“Digging the Old West uses the land between the cities of Denver and Boulder to tell the story of a constructed landscape. The development of irrigation ditches, canals, and water networks in this particular area provides insight into the significance of waterworks to the overall western landscape.”

The final publication is expected October 2011.
Section 106 Mitigation and Landscape

- CDOT/FHWA project to mitigate I-70 rockfall within the Georgetown-Silver Plume National Historic Landmark District.
  - Nationally significant historic district including a mining landscape.
  - Both towns utilize historic landscape and setting for Heritage Tourism.
    - Georgetown Loop
Section 106 Mitigation and Landscapes

I-70 Rockfall Mitigation resulting in visual adverse effect to Georgetown-Silver Plume National Historic Landmark District.
Section 106 Mitigation and Landscapes
Section 106 Mitigation and Landscapes

• To feature the important setting and mining landscape of the Georgetown-Silver Plume National Historic Landmark District, CDOT produced a short film featuring rockfall mitigation within the historic setting and mining landscape of Georgetown and Silver Plume.
Cultural Landscapes in the Western United States

National Trust for Historic Places
Rebecca Schwendler

Protecting Cultural Landscapes

THREATS TO CULTURAL LANDSCAPES, THE NATIONAL TRUST AS A LANDSCAPE ADVOCATE
Threats to Cultural Landscapes:
The National Trust as a Landscape Advocate

Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation
Cultural Landscapes Workshop

Dr. Rebecca Schwendler | October 4, 2011
National Trust for Historic Preservation

Basics
• Non-profit membership organization
• Headquartered in Washington, D.C.
• Provide leadership, education, advocacy, and resources
• Help people save the historic and cultural places that matter to them

History
• 1949: Created by President Harry Truman
  • support the preservation of historic buildings and neighborhoods
• 1998: End of Federal financial support

Public Lands Program
• 2008: Created from a previous initiative
• Advocates for preservation of cultural resources on federal public lands
Public Lands Program

- Work with diverse partners
  - agencies, SHPOs & THPOs, ACHP, preservationists, conservationists, recreationists, Tribes, and more
- Encourage better agency land use decisions
- Ensure adherence to cultural resource laws
- Promote responsible recreation and development
- Address cultural landscapes, not just individual sites
What’s in a Cultural Landscape?

- Historic buildings
- Prehistoric and historic trails
- Traditional cultural properties
- Native American sacred sites
- Archaeological sites
- Natural Features
- Viewsheds
- Names
- Graves
- Plants
- Animals
“…the people here at Acoma still mark the passages of time by the movement of the sun, moon and stars. Long ago, our Puebloan ancestors noted the changing of the seasons, by capturing the shadows of the sun on markers etched into stone…Many of these markers still remain today…Much like the treasured historic buildings of the East Coast, these places are reminders of our past, our collective history…We keep alive the rich history of these places that matter so that future generations will come to understand and appreciate their significance and preserve them for all to enjoy. “

-Theresa Pasqual, Member of Pueblo of Acoma, Director of Acoma’s Historic Preservation Office, and National Trust Advisor in a blog written for the National Trust on Jan. 12, 2010
Mountain Meadows Massacre Cultural Landscape

“The Mountain Meadows Massacre and its aftermath was carried out in such a way that the *entire valley* is a cemetery…This valley is a sacred, hallowed and precious area. It must *NEVER* be desecrated and encroached upon by mankind in the name of ‘progress’…This valley has been left virgin landscape for over 150 years, because of the events that happened here, and this must never be taken away.”

-Patty Norris, President of the Mountain Meadows Massacre Descendants, in a letter to the Fillmore BLM Field Office on Aug. 17, 2010 relating to the proposed Sigurd to Red Butte transmission line project
“It is difficult for me to describe to you what I consider to be my cultural values that involve my memories, my emotions, my family history, our traditions of five generations of working and playing in these valleys [in eastern Nevada], words are not adequate to convey the size and depth of the cultural impacts a solar project would have on my cultural values.”

- Connie Simkins, long-time secretary of Nevada’s N4 Grazing Board, during public comments on the BLM’s draft Solar PEIS in Caliente, NV on Feb. 17, 2011
Themes in Cultural Landscapes

- Time depth
- Inter-related constituent resources
- Connection between place and cosmology
- Connection between place and family
- Importance of place for teaching and learning
- Place as memorial
- Continuing modern human use

Cedar Mesa, UT
Potential Threats
Direct Impacts

• Physical damage or destruction
• Visual disruption

Artist’s rendering of proposed Ivanpah solar project, Mojave Desert, CA
Indirect Impacts

- Increased erosion
- Increased public visitation and potential for looting
- Noise, light pollution, reflections, flickers, air pollution

ATV tracks at the proposed Solar II project site, Imperial Valley, CA
Examples of Landscape Preservation Advocacy

Archaeological Landscapes
• Canyons of the Ancients National Monument, CO
• Cedar Mesa, UT
• Greater Chacoan Landscape, NM
• Nine Mile Canyon, UT

Linear Landscapes
• El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro NHT, NM
• Martin’s Cove, WY
• Mountain Meadows Massacre Site, UT
• Santa Fe NHT, CO
• South Pass, WY
• Juan Bautista de Anza NHT, CA

Traditional Cultural Landscapes
• Badger-Two Medicine, MT
• Sweet Grass Hills, MT
• Mount Graham, AZ
• Mount Taylor, NM
• San Francisco Peaks, AZ
• Zuni Salt Lake, NM
Greater Chacoan Landscape, NM

Resources
• World Heritage archaeological sites
• Prehistoric roads
• Shrines
• Significant natural features
• Traditional cultural use areas

Threats
• Oil and gas development
• Infrastructure development

Advocacy Activities
• 2003: Commented on Farmington FO RMP
• 2010: Consulting party for O&G development
• 2011: Talking to BLM about:
  • Master Leasing Plan
  • Visual resources assessments
  • Nomination of NRHDs, NHLDs, or TCPs
South Pass, WY

Resources
• Emigrant trails
• 19th century mining town
• Prehistoric archaeological sites
• Native American sacred sites

Threats
• Natural gas pipeline requiring rock blasting and trenching
• Gold exploration
• Wind energy

Advocacy Activities
• 1995: 11 Most Endangered Historic Place
• Challenged construction of natural gas pipeline
• 2004: Commented on EA for placer gold exploration project
• Consulting party under Sec 106 of NHPA for placer gold project
• 2010: Continued partnership with other advocacy groups
• 2011: Commenting on adjacent Lander FO RMP revisions
Badger – Two Medicine, MT

Resources
• NRHP-eligible Traditional Cultural District
• Prehistoric archaeological sites

Threats
• Oil and gas development
• Motorized recreation and travel

Advocacy Activities
• 2002: Consulting party for review of permit to drill
• Supported Blackfeet Nation’s request for re-evaluation of TCD area
• 2009: Encouraged USFS to restrict vehicle access
• 2010: Filed amicus brief supporting USFS’ travel plan
• 2011: Will likely file another amicus brief in December
How to Protect Cultural Landscapes

Stay Informed
• Federal Register TOC for NEPA-related Notices of Intent and Availability
• Request notification from agencies about projects

Make Friends
• Agencies, ACHP
• SHPOs, THPOs
• Tribes
• Traditional and “non-traditional” partners

Get Involved
• Comment on NEPA processes
  • Scoping, drafts, finals of EAs, EISs
• Become consulting party pursuant to Section 106 of the NHPA
• If necessary, take legal action
Employ Laws for Preservation

Antiquities Act of 1906, as amended
• National Monuments

Historic Sites Act of 1935, as amended
• National Historic Landmarks
• Historic American Buildings Survey

Archaeological Resources Protection Act of 1979, as amended
• Survey Lands
Some Advocacy Goals

Know the Landscape
• Understand its components
• Tell its story
• Nominate it for designation
• Identify threats and solutions

Set Standards
• Elevate recognition and protection of landscapes
  • Develop alternatives to “flag-and-avoid” archaeology
• Identify effective mitigation strategies
  • After avoidance: no surface occupancy, strict visual stipulations, off-site land purchases, ethnographic studies, interpretation and education
• Advocate for standards for GIS viewshed analyses
  • Use these to protect landscapes
Thank You and Good Luck!

Comb Ridge and the San Juan River, UT
Contact Information

Dr. Rebecca Schwendler
rebecca_schwendler@nthp.org
http://www.preservationnation.org/issues/public-lands

National Trust for Historic Preservation
535 16th St., Ste 750
Denver, CO 80026
303-623-1504
www.preservationnation.org