

**Mountains/Plains Office**

535 16th Street, Suite 750

Denver, CO 80202

P: 303-623-1504

F: 303-623-1508

mpro@nthp.org

Serving CO, KS, MT, NE, ND, SD, UT, WY

**Staff**

**Barbara H. Pahl**, *Director*

**Jim Lindberg**, *Director of  
Preservation Initiatives & Rural  
Heritage Coordinator*

**Amy Cole**, *Senior Program Officer &  
Regional Attorney*

**Jenny Buddenborg**, *Program Officer*

**Rebecca Schwendler**, *Public Lands  
Advocate*

**Ti Hays**, *Public Lands Counsel*

**Kristine Mauch**, *Business Manager*

**Verna Romero**, *Program Assistant*

**Michelle Chichester**, *Web  
Coordinator*

**Advisors**

CO: David Cohen & Sally Hopper

KS: Vance Kelley & Daniel Serda

MT: Mary Oliver & Bob Hawks

NE: Doug Duey & DiAnna Schimek

ND: Donald Haugen & Amy  
Sakariassen

SD: Albert M. LeBeau, III  
Steve McCarthy

UT: Frank Pignanelli  
Don Stromquist

WY: Kurt Dubbe  
Alvin Wiederspahn

At-Large: Franky Jackson (ND)

**Statewide & Local Partners**

Colorado Preservation, Inc.

Heritage Nebraska

Historic Boulder

Historic Denver, Inc.

Historic Georgetown, Inc.

Kansas Preservation Alliance

Montana Preservation Alliance

Park City Hist. Soc. & Museum

Preservation North Dakota

Utah Heritage Foundation

**State Main Street Programs**

Downtown Colorado, Inc.

Kansas Main Street Program

Montana Main Street Program

Nebraska Main Street Program

Wyoming Main Street

**Chimney Rock National Monument In Development**

The National Trust for Historic Preservation believes that Colorado's Chimney Rock Archaeological Area is arguably the most important cultural site managed by the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) and is worthy of national monument designation. This month, National Trust President Richard Moe, Vice-President for Public Policy Emily Wadhams, Mountains/Plains Office Director Barb Pahl and Trustee Emeritus Rob White met at Chimney Rock with congressional staff from Senator Bennet and Udall's offices and Congressman Salazar's office, Forest Service leadership and state and local leaders to develop support for seeking this significant designation.



Exhibiting many of the features that earned New Mexico's Chaco Canyon, a World Heritage Listing, Chimney Rock was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1970. Between A.D. 925 and 1125, the ancestors of modern Pueblo Indians occupied the surrounding lands, and the site remains of cultural significance to many descendant tribes. Hundreds of cultural elements surround Chimney Rock's soaring twin rock spires, including the Great House Pueblo. Chimney Rock is the most northeasterly and highest (7,600 feet) Chacoan site known. Every 18.6 years the moon, as seen from the Great House Pueblo, rises between the rock spires during an event known as the Northern Lunar Standstill.



National monument designation would be a win-win for this nationally important cultural site, the community, tribes and the public. A designation would attract public attention and increase heritage tourism to Archuleta County and the Four Corners area. Historically, national monument designations also have brought increased federal funding and resources, thereby providing for higher quality visitor facilities, more interpretation, better public education and improved site stabilization. In the coming months, the President's Office, Mountains/Plains Office and Public Policy Department will be actively pursuing this important designation in cooperation with our partners.

To learn more about the site or to plan a visit, go to:  
<http://www.chimneyrockco.org/mainnew.htm>

## Preservation Leadership Training in Deadwood, SD

Forty people with diverse preservation backgrounds representing 21 states came together in Deadwood, South Dakota in mid-June to experience seven days of intensive [Preservation Leadership Training \(PLT\)](#). PLT is the only continuing education program in the United States that equips developing preservation leaders with the skills, knowledge and confidence to make a significant impact in their organizations and communities. Since PLT was launched in 1990, more than 900 state and local leaders have participated in 27 PLTs in locations across the country.

Working with staff from National Trust headquarters, the city of Deadwood and the South Dakota State Historic Preservation Office, Mountains/Plains staff assisted in the planning and facilitation of what is fondly referred to as “preservation boot camp.”

By applying the lessons learned during the week to real problems, Deadwood participants were divided into teams to develop proposals that outlined viable reuses for three projects in Deadwood: the C.B.&Q. Engine House and the vacant upper floor levels of the Fairmont Hotel & Oyster Bay and the Lucky Nugget Gaming Hall. At the end of the week, these proposals were shared with the public in a community presentation. In several host communities, including Fort Collins, Colorado, team projects have been a critical factor in saving endangered historic sites.

Dr. Rebecca Schwendler, Public Lands Advocate in the Mountains/Plains Office, participated in the Deadwood PLT and had this to say: “PLT was great! Through the workshop speakers, the group project, and our wonderful hosts at the Martin & Mason Hotel, I learned an incredible amount about all aspects of historic preservation. Now I feel more skilled and confident in my historic preservation work for the National Trust and advocacy in my own community.”



*PLT participants take part in a group exercise during the Community Leadership session.*

## Diversity Scholars Heading to Nashville

Since 1992, the [Diversity Scholarship Program \(DSP\)](#) has provided financial assistance to more than 1,100 individuals from diverse racial, ethnic, economic and cultural backgrounds. The goal of DSP is to increase the diversity of participants at the annual National Preservation Conference and in the preservation movement. The program provides financial assistance to approximately 60 community leaders and preservationists to attend the conference. Through interactive sessions, presentations, informal gatherings, and tours of the host city and surrounding areas, participants learn the necessary tools to strengthen their commitment and effectiveness in preserving historic places and revitalizing communities.

We would like to give a hearty congratulations to the three Diversity Scholars from the Mountains/Plains Region who will be attending the 2009 National Preservation Conference in Nashville, Tennessee this fall:

**Karen Brown-Gerdine**, Five Points Historic Association, Denver, CO

**Jonas Landes**, Colorado Preservation, Inc., Denver, CO

**Rick Wallace**, Heritage Nebraska, Lincoln, NE



*2008 Diversity Scholars  
Tulsa National Preservation Conference*

## Public Gets First Look at New Denver Zoning Code

After more than three years of preparation, Denver's first new zoning code since 1956 is now available for public review. Preservationists, neighborhood advocates and others have been anxiously awaiting the release of the draft code, which they hope will encourage conservation of existing structures as well as new construction that is more compatible with historic patterns. Jim Lindberg, Director of Preservation Initiatives for the Mountains/Plains Office, has been representing preservation interests on the Zoning Code



Photos courtesy of Denver Community Planning and Development Dept.

Task Force since 2006. Trustee Peter Grant and staff from Historic Denver, Inc. and Colorado Preservation, Inc. were among hundreds of citizens who gathered in meetings around the city last month to review and comment on the new code.

Denver's new zoning code uses a "context-sensitive, form-based approach." As opposed to the 1956 code, which divided the city into separate districts according to use, this new approach recognizes that many of the city's most valued neighborhoods contain a rich mix of uses, with embedded small commercial districts and a diversity of housing types and forms. The new code offers a larger menu of zoning district choices to better match these existing, historic patterns of development. Denver preservationists believe that this will help encourage the conservation of neighborhood character and diversity.

In addition, the new code places greater emphasis on regulating the specific forms of structures that are allowed in each new zone district. For example, the new code distinguishes between "urban" and "suburban" house forms and offers several "Main Street" commercial zones to fit better with existing, pedestrian-oriented shopping districts. Additional public meetings on the draft code are being held in August and throughout the fall, so there is still time for preservationists and others to make their voices heard. For more information about the new Denver code and a schedule of upcoming public meetings, go to: [www.newcodedenver.org](http://www.newcodedenver.org)



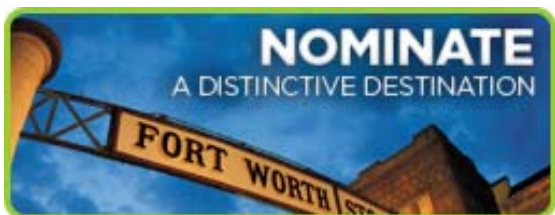
## Fresh Information on [www.PreservationNation.org](http://www.PreservationNation.org)

New content and a more reader-friendly format greets visitors to the Public Lands Program section of [www.PreservationNation.org](http://www.PreservationNation.org). There are updated case studies, new project information about the White Grass Dude Ranch in Wyoming and Colorado's Chimney Rock, and information about the NPS Second Century Commission. In addition, the MPO home page is also being revamped to include regional news feeds, fun photo trivia, and a one-stop shop for regional funding and preservation contacts. All of the PreservationNation.org landing pages will eventually have this pleasing new format.



This fall, look for a new landing page featuring Native American preservation issues, people and activities that will be managed by the MPO.

## Nominate Your Community as a Distinctive Place in America!



The 2010 Dozen Distinctive Destinations nomination materials are now available. The deadline to apply is **September 1, 2009**. [Nominate](#) your community and be recognized as one of the most distinctive places in America!

## National Trust Participates in the 12<sup>th</sup> Conference on National Scenic and Historic Trails

In July, Public Lands Advocate Dr. Rebecca Schwendler represented the National Trust at the 12<sup>th</sup> Conference on National Scenic and Historic Trails in Missoula, Montana. Attendees represented each unit of the National Trails System, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), U.S. Forest Service (USFS), National Park Service, Federal Highway Administration, and various Native American tribes, universities and interested organizations. Conference participants spent one day performing service projects and listening to presentations at Travelers' Rest State Park, the location of Lewis and Clark's 1805 and 1806 camps. Travelers' Rest was included on the National Trust's 11 Most Endangered Historic Places List in 1999 and the Mountains/Plains Office played a key role in resolving the threats and securing its future as a Montana State Park.

The next two days were filled with presentations and workshops. Joel Holtrop, Deputy Chief of the USFS, and Carl Rountree, Director of the BLM's National Landscape Conservation System and Community Partnerships, were among guest speakers. By invitation from Gary Werner of the Partnership for the National Trails System, Rebecca gave a PowerPoint presentation on National Trust activities and the potential benefits of Trust and trails partnerships. The National Trust anticipates developing strong and fruitful relationships with trails organizations to promote the preservation of these linear cultural landscapes on federal public lands.



Above: Loren Flynn, Executive Director of Travelers' Rest State Park, describes how archaeologists verified the location of Lewis and Clark's 1906 camp, shown in the background.

## New Faces in the Region

The MPO welcomed its first At-Large Advisor, Franky Jackson of North Dakota. Franky, a member of the Sisseton-Wahpeton Tribe of South Dakota served as their Tribal Historic Preservation Officer and a Tribal Liaison/Cultural Resource Specialist at SWCA Environmental Consultants. He has worked in cultural resource management and as a tribal liaison with tribes from the Dakotas, Montana and across the West and Plains. He has experience working with both the built and natural environments, with particular expertise in regulatory compliance and Native American consultation.

As part of *Partners In the Field*, Heritage Nebraska has hired two preservation field staffers to assist groups and individuals in their efforts to save historic places and revitalize communities. Laurie Richards of Lincoln and Gene Morris of McCook will begin their new half-time jobs this month, providing information services; technical assistance; program review and input; and identification of emerging issues. Morris is currently the part-time Executive Director of the Fox Theater in McCook, the retired publisher of the McCook Gazette and the author of three books on McCook's history. Richards is currently the State Film Officer in the Nebraska Department of Economic Development, a part-time job.

Jaime Tuchman is working with the MPO as a summer legal intern focused on public lands issues. A native of Florida, she is a student at Tulane Law School in New Orleans where she also received her undergraduate degrees in psychology and philosophy in 2007. As a New Orleanian, she has followed the Charity Hospital plan and supports the rehabilitation of the building where her dad once worked.

Earlier in the summer she worked for Environment California in San Francisco on legislative issues including a solar hot water heater rebate system. She is enjoying her time in Denver which has given her a chance to take up some western activities like rafting, hiking and camping.

