

Mountains/Plains Office

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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

Engaging Young Professionals

On February 3, at 5:01pm, Historic Denver, the National Trust for Historic Preservation, and event co-chairs Holly Kylberg and Tom Lorz, kicked off the first *One Past 5 - A Young Professionals Historic Happy Hour* on the top five floors of the iconic Daniels & Fisher (D&F) Tower in downtown Denver. The event provided an exciting opportunity for 200 young professionals between the ages of 21 and 40 to network and explore one of Denver's most visible yet hidden icons. It also set the stage for a new young professionals group dedicated to learning about the history and architecture of metropolitan Denver.

One Past 5 is premised on the notion that preservation may not be a hot button issue for younger people. To engage this important demographic group, Historic Denver and the Mountains/Plains Office partnered on this unique outreach effort. *One Past 5* will provide a series of networking events, each in a different, historic place.

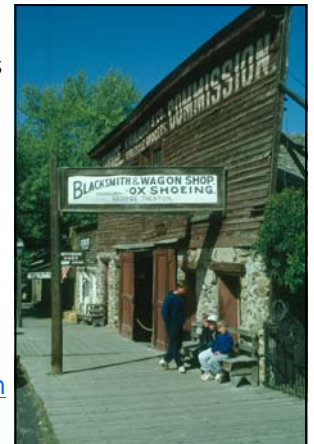


Photo by Hans Osheim

The next event will be held during the spring in a mid-century modern landmark. If the next happy hour is anything like the D&F Tower event, we can expect broad sponsorship and sold out tickets. Look for event information on Historic Denver's website at www.historicdenver.org and the *One Past 5* Facebook page. Any young professionals interested and/or curious about historic preservation are encouraged to attend.

Heritage Travel Gains Momentum

Heritage Travel, Inc., a comprehensive, online resource for heritage travelers and historic destinations will launch in April. Nationally known destinations like Colonial Williamsburg and Mount Vernon have already signed up. The Mountains/Plains Office is working hard to ensure historic and cultural icons in the region are part of this new online resource. So far we have 11 including Virginia and Nevada Cities in Montana, Fort Garland in Colorado, the Little Snake River Museum in Savery, Wyoming, and the Willa Cather House in Red Cloud, Nebraska. Want to join these destinations? Visit www.HeritageTravelinc.com or contact Heritage Travel, Inc., at 202-588-6200, 877-588-5511 or Heritage_Travel@nthp.org. Rates increase after March 15th.



Virginia City, MT
A Heritage Travel Partner

New Staff Join Mountains/Plains Office

In October, Rebecca Schwendler joined the Mountains/Plains Office as a public lands advocate and archaeologist. Rebecca is advocating for preservation of cultural resources in the West, including Utah's Cedar Mesa and New Mexico's Mt. Taylor, while using her archaeological knowledge and outreach skills to develop community support for saving these places. Rebecca came to the Trust after working for a private environmental consulting firm. In addition, Ti Hays has relocated from the Trust's DC Headquarters to the Mountains/Plains Office and will continue in his role as Public Lands Counsel and full-time Public Lands Program team member.



A Report from the Field

In early January, Rebecca traveled to southeastern Utah to meet some of the area's key players for cultural resource preservation and to see what she could see on the ground between patches of snow. Local archaeologists gave her informative tours of a variety of archaeological sites in Bluff and on Cedar Mesa, from



rock art panels to artifact scatters to masonry pueblos. (*Edge of Cedars Pueblo pictured on left.*) In addition, she discussed sustainable development and appropriate visitation with some county employees and members of local organizations. From BLM archaeologists, she learned firsthand about some of the challenges to managing the abundant cultural resources in the area. Rebecca's on-going goal is to develop relationships with members of these and other stakeholder groups, including community members, recreationists, off-road vehicle users, and educators, to foster grassroots stewardship of cultural resources on Cedar Mesa and in the surrounding region. She is looking forward to another trip to the area in the spring.

Heritage Nebraska Launched

After many years of fits and starts, Nebraska finally has a statewide historic preservation organization to call its own. Building upon the successful Nebraska Main Street program, Heritage Nebraska has taken off at a whirlwind pace. With the technical assistance and support of the Mountains/Plains Office, in the past year the board of Nebraska Main Street agreed to expand their mission to include the traditional functions of a statewide preservation organization, changed their name to Heritage Nebraska, formed a new board and committees, and developed bylaws. In addition, they applied for 501(c)(3) status and held "listening sessions" across the state to learn what constituents hoped to gain from a statewide preservation organization. This month, Heritage Nebraska learned they were one of two nonprofit preservation groups in the region to receive a Partners in the Field grant from the National Trust.

In May 2009, Heritage Nebraska holds its first statewide preservation conference that will include an announcement of Fading Treasures and Hidden Treasures to highlight threatened properties and off-the-beaten path destinations and a program showcasing historic theaters. We welcome Heritage Nebraska as the tenth statewide and local partner in our region.

Second Year of Partners in the Field Underway

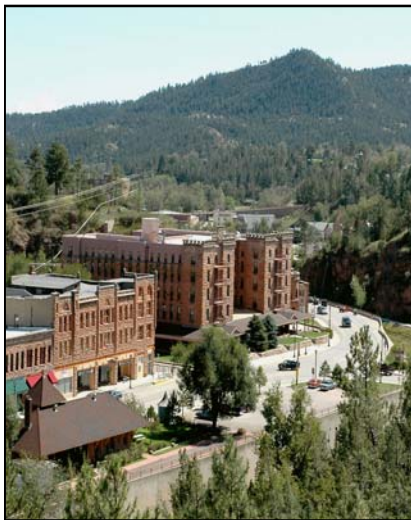
Two organizations recently joined the *Partners in the Field* program. Through a generous gift from the Robert W. Wilson Charitable Trust, the program is expanding the delivery of preservation services across the country. *Partners in the Field* provides matching funds to help state and local preservation partners enhance their capacity to provide preservation services to a broader group of constituents. Heritage Nebraska will place two-part time staff in the eastern and western parts of the state, while the Utah Heritage Foundation will put a staff person in southern Utah. The grants allow both organizations to provide information to local communities about preservation and advocate to save threatened places. The Montana Preservation Alliance and Historic Denver received Partners in the Field grants in 2008.

Downtown Colorado, Inc.

Colorado is one of seven states in the country where the state Main Street Coordinating program is housed in a non-profit organization. Downtown Colorado, Inc. (formerly known as the Colorado Community Revitalization Association) provides services to eight designated Main street communities in Colorado: Arvada, Berthoud, Brush, Granby, Greeley, Lake City, Monte Vista and Steamboat Springs (shown in both photos). In addition, DCI provides technical assistance to traditional commercial districts throughout the state, including downtown assessment teams. In recent years, DCI has struggled to sustain its funding base and maintain a consistent level of service with only one full-time staff person. The National Main Street Center recognizes



the essential role that state Main Street coordinating organizations like DCI play in building stronger networks of successful downtown revitalization programs. Late last year, staff from the National Main Street Center traveled to Colorado and provided a strategic assessment of DCI's organizational structure, programs and services. This site visit provided valuable insight into the need to balance services with staff capacity, identified opportunities for partnerships with other state agencies and recommended priorities for board member involvement. Mountains/Plains Office staff participated in the assessment as well and will be working with the dedicated DCI board and staff to implement the recommendations of the assessment.



Visit Hot Springs, South Dakota A 2009 Dozen Distinctive Destination

Each year since 2000, the National Trust has selected 12 vacation destinations across the United States that offer an authentic visitor experience by combining dynamic downtowns, cultural diversity, attractive architecture, cultural landscapes and a strong commitment to historic preservation and revitalization. This year, Hot Springs, the small bustling town that serves as a gateway to the unexpected treasures of the southern Black Hills in South Dakota, becomes one of those destinations.

Less than an hour from Mt. Rushmore, Hot Springs is famous for its healing waters, impressive collection of pink sandstone buildings, scenic beauty and excess of natural and cultural resources. For more than a century, Hot Springs has welcomed visitors who have come to enjoy the warm waters of Evans Plunge, the oldest tourist attraction in the region. From the Wild Horse Sanctuary to the Mammoth Site to Wind Cave National Park to Native American ceremonial sites, Hot Springs has something for everyone. To find out more, visit the [Hot Springs Chamber of Commerce](#).



Photo courtesy of Hot Springs Chamber of Commerce

Nominate a Project for a National Trust Honor Award

Each year the National Trust for Historic Preservation celebrates the best of preservation by presenting National Preservation Awards to individuals and organizations whose contributions demonstrate excellence in historic preservation. The National Trust for Historic Preservation is now accepting nominations for the 2009 National Preservation Honor Awards. The coveted annual awards recognize singular success in preserving, rehabilitating, restoring or interpreting America's architectural and cultural heritage. Winners will be announced at the 2009 National Preservation Conference in Nashville, TN, which will run from October 13-17, 2009.

We invite you to nominate a deserving individual, organization, agency, or project for a National Preservation Award. The postmark deadline for all nominations, including the Louise du Pont Crowninshield Award, Trustees' Awards, Advisory Council for Historic Preservation and HUD Awards, and National Preservation Honor Awards, is March 2, 2009. Those nominations not selected to receive a Trustees', ACHP, or HUD Award will automatically be considered for an Honor Award. Use the link below to access the link on our website to download the nomination form: www.preservationnation.org/take-action/awards/. The form can be completed electronically but must be submitted by mail.

Preservation Leadership Training Comes to Mountains/Plains Region

Preservation Leadership Training (PLT) is an intensive one-week experience tailored to respond to the needs of state and local preservation organizations and agencies. Participants receive hands on training in successful advocacy, leadership and organizational development, while learning about current preservation practices, issues and action strategies.

The PLT will be held June 20-27 in Deadwood, South Dakota and is co-sponsored by the South Dakota State Historical Society and the City of Deadwood.

Steeped in western lore, Deadwood was incorporated in 1876 following a gold rush. The city is nestled in the Black Hills of western South Dakota. Figures like Calamity Jane, Wyatt Earp and "Wild Bill" Hickok were well-known in Deadwood as the town developed into a regional center of commerce. In 1989, limited stakes gambling was authorized, providing funds for historic preservation projects in the community and across the state. Deadwood is a National Historic Landmark and there are many rehabilitated historic buildings throughout the vibrant downtown.



Downtown Deadwood

PLT is aimed at staff and volunteer leaders of private, nonprofit preservation organizations, staff of state and local government agencies, members or staff of commissions, and others who are in a position to influence preservation activities in their communities. The faculty is drawn from national, state and local experts in preservation and organizational development, giving participants a balanced national perspective and a network of regional and local resources for the future. Issues relevant to the host city and region are addressed through a hands-on project.

The tuition for the program is \$450, which includes a one-year membership in the National Trust Forum. Applicants who individually or through their sponsoring organization are members of National Trust Forum are eligible for a discounted tuition of \$350. An additional meal assessment fee is charged for group catering. Limited scholarships are available.

Apply online by March 31: www.preservationnation.org/resources/training/plt/plt-application.html