



COLORADO PRESERVATION, INC.

September 2019 Newsletter

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The intrigue of the picture above made it a perfect lead for our September newsletter. Within the framing of an open door and a simple window, one can almost feel the cool breeze of a storm blowing in, hear the rustling of leaves twisting on their branches, and sense the excitement of future opportunities brewing at Buffalo Peaks Ranch, otherwise known as the Rocky Mountain Land Library. CPI Board Members and staff had the good fortune of spending a weekend in Park County to gain inspiration from the great work happening under the direction of Andrew Spencer (Executive Director, Dept. of Heritage & Tourism), Jeannie Andrusin (Projects & Grants Manager), and Jon Grams (Preservationist II). Heritage is certainly at the forefront of this Certified Local Government as demonstrated in the South Park Heritage Area and projects like the Paris Mill and Tarryall-Cline Ranch. Just outside of town, the creative vision of Jeff Lee and Ann Marie Martin is exhibited in the [Rocky Mountain Land Library](#). If you have not had the chance to explore Park County lately, I encourage you to make the trip!

Our September newsletter provides you with a first look at our 2020 conference and other items happening across the state. One item I want to note is our call for regional advocates. As many of you know, advocacy comes in many forms and anyone can become an advocate for historic preservation. Advocacy extends beyond national issues to state and local items that require monitoring and action. Having a network of advocates identified in each legislative district is important so that we can act when critical issues come up. Over the next year, CPI will be working with our partners to build this network and keep you connected to issues important to all of us. We are looking for individuals like yourself who are interested in representing your community. More information will be forthcoming in future newsletters and during our conference in January, so stay tuned – but please be in touch if you are interested in learning more and would like to sign up for this effort.

For our Past, Present, and Future,



Jennifer Orrigo Charles
Executive Director





Early Bird Registration is Open!

Colorado Preservation, Inc (CPI) is proud to present the 2020 Saving Places® Conference, a dynamic four-day event featuring high-quality educational content and networking opportunities for individuals, organizations, and communities working with historic and cultural places.

Last year, the conference brought together over 800 individuals from across the state and 19 states around the country. This year, you can expect engaging content from over 100 speakers, 80 sessions, **roundtable discussions (NEW for 2020)**, workshops, and tours. Sessions range from beginner to advanced content with AIA, AIA HSW, APA, and Educator credits available.

Roundtables Discussions

CPI is working with the conference planning committee to develop a series of roundtable discussions as a featured way to engage and network with experts and conference attendees. We selected 10 topics we feel are truly relevant to our conference attendees and will be scheduled across the entire conference. Be sure to join us to talk shop with experts and your peers:

- Volunteer and Youth Corps in Historic Preservation
- Working with Developers
- Preservation Trades Groups

- Design Review
- How Do I Start a Career in Preservation?
- Taking a Project from Start to Finish
- Certified Local Governments – Hot Topics
- Reactivating Spaces
- Advocacy and Community Engagement
- Controversial Designations

[Saving Places® 2020: a Focus on the Future](#)

Wednesday – Saturday
 January 29 – February 1, 2020
 Sheraton Downtown Denver Hotel
 I.M. Pei Tower



[Check our website](#) for more information about the conference, registration fees, and a preliminary schedule. Register today for the best value as a CPI member.

SPONSORS

Presenting Sponsors of Saving Places Conference:



COLORADO PRESERVATION, INC.



This project is paid for in part by a History Colorado State Historical Fund grant.



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Interested in sponsoring or exhibiting at the Saving Places conference?

[Click here for more information.](#)

[Please be in touch!](#)

Colorado Preservation & Advocacy



Since the 2019 legislative session ended on May 3rd, the legislature has stayed busy convening 23 different legislative interim committees dealing with issues from reviewing Colorado's tax credits to energy policy in the state. Although a non-election year, there were recall efforts launched against five democrat state legislators and the Governor as a response to their perceived overreach during the 2019 legislative session. Three of the legislative recalls failed, one resulted in the legislator resigning, and the fifth against Senate President Leroy Garcia is

still in full swing. The effort to recall Governor Polis was also unsuccessful. As summer turns to fall, legislators are beginning to develop their bill ideas for the 2020 session. On November 1, Governor Polis will unveil his FY 2020-2021 budget requests and shortly after, the Joint Budget Committee will begin the process of meeting with each state agency to review their budget requests and start to prepare for the upcoming session.

This November, Colorado voters will also have an opportunity to vote on two statewide ballot measures, Proposition CC and Proposition DD. Proposition CC will ask the Colorado voters if they can keep taxpayer refunds that occur under the Tax Payer Bill of Rights (TABOR). The excess funds will be distributed to transportation, K-12 education, and higher education. It did come to light in the last week that Proposition CC will have an unintended impact on the conservation easement program. Under state law when a TABOR refund is likely to occur, a state income tax

credit for the donation of a conservation easement becomes partially refundable. That can be up to \$50,000 per taxpayer. However, since Proposition CC cancels TABOR refunds, it also cancels refunds of the tax credits tied to the easements. This was not contemplated by the proponents of the measure or advocates. Proposition DD will allow a 10% tax on sports betting proceeds. HB19-1327, which passed during the last legislative session, allows facilities where limited gaming currently occurs to apply for a sports betting license. If the ballot measure is successful, most of the new tax revenue would fund implementation of the Colorado Water Plan. However, six percent of the revenue will be held out off the top to create a hold harmless fund to which the State Historical Fund, Colorado Community College System, cities and counties as well as horse racers may apply if these recipients of current gaming revenues see a decline in their funding

In the preservation space it has been quiet under the gold dome. The preservation community has closely monitored the work of the Tax Expenditure Evaluation Interim Study Committee which is reviewing all the state's tax credits based on when they will expire. This year, the interim committee looked at the old historic preservation tax credit which will go away at the end of 2019. As part of this process, the preservation community provided legislators with detailed information about the success of the new tax credit and conveyed our support of allowing the old tax credit to expire. The auditor is expected to review the current residential and commercial historic preservation tax credit in 2022. Most preservation efforts this summer have focused on putting together the framework for the 2020 Colorado State Preservation Plan. Throughout the fall, History Colorado will host meetings throughout the state to gather feedback about what important issues should be part of Colorado's next preservation plan. If you'd like to be part of any of the public meetings or would like additional information about the Colorado State Preservation Plan please reach out to Erica Duvic at Erica.duvic@state.co.us.



Endangered Places Program - On the Road!

September has been an extremely busy month for the Endangered Places Program, with three regional nomination review meetings and several site visits squeezed in between. The regional review meetings are when reviewers discuss their site visits, review scoresheets, and discuss recommendations for nominated sites to Colorado's Most Endangered Places. The meetings were held in Leadville, Alamosa and Greeley. CPI is grateful to the local organizations that hosted the review sessions, including the Healy House and Cabin (Leadville), Salazar Rio

Grande Del Norte Center at Adams State University (Alamosa), and the Greeley History Museum (Greeley). These reviews are leading up to the annual “Big Monday” meeting, at which reviewers from across the state will come together to discuss the nominations and try to reach consensus about which sites to recommend to the CPI Board of Directors for 2020 listing.

While in Alamosa, Kim Grant, the EPP director also visited the Lafayette Head House and Compound, one of the nominations that came in from the region. Prior to the Leadville review meeting, a site visit was also made to near the High Altitude Observatory nomination location and another site visit and terrific tour was provided at the Tabor Opera House, listed as one of Colorado’s Most Endangered Places in 2016. Preceding the Alamosa review meeting, the EPP Director traveled to Montrose to provide grants and fundraising training to VISTA volunteers working in Colorado cities under the direction of



Downtown Colorado, Inc., and provided information on historic preservation projects and financing to Urban Renewal Authority directors and local government officials from the Western Slope. Several Endangered Places sites were highlighted during this symposium event.



In between the site visits, the CPI Board held a terrific meeting in Park County, which included visits to the Rocky Mountain Land Library southeast of Fairplay and to the Paris Mill near Alma. The Mill tour was provided by Park County staff and contractor representatives, who shared the significant progress toward rehabilitation that has occurred at this

large, complex mining site, which was listed on Colorado’s Most Endangered Places in 2004. A reception was also held for the board at the beautifully

rehabilitated old Park County Courthouse in Fairplay.

Stayed tuned as the EPP nomination process moves forward toward the announcement of the newly listed 2020 sites at the [Saving Places Conference](#) in late January in Denver!

UPCOMING Events

National Trust for Historic Preservation Conference

[PastForwardConference.org](#) // October 10-12 // Denver, CO

PastForward is just around the corner, and we can't wait to see everyone there! Lots of information about the event is now online. Square away your registration, sign up for updates, including how to livestream select programming for free, at [PastForwardConference.org](#).



History Camp

[Registration is open](#) // November 2 // Littleton, CO

