

COLO RADO Heritage

The Magazine of History Colorado January/February 2014 \$4.95

Our Mountains

Warmer and Drier—and Key to Colorado's Future

The History Colorado Center Opens Its Second Phase with the Exhibit *Living West*

ALSO IN THIS ISSUE

- Living West Is Open!
- Winter Tours and Treks
- Programs for the Family

Edward C. Nichols
PRESIDENT AND CEO

History Colorado Center
1200 Broadway
Denver, Colorado 80203
303/HISTORY

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Colorado Heritage (ISSN 0272-9377), published by History Colorado, contains articles of broad general and educational interest that link the present to the past. *Heritage* is distributed bimonthly to History Colorado members, to libraries, and to institutions of higher learning. Manuscripts must be documented when submitted, and originals are retained in the Publications office. An Author's Guide is available; contact the Publications office. History Colorado disclaims responsibility for statements of fact or of opinion made by contributors.

Postage paid at Denver, Colorado

All History Colorado members receive *Colorado Heritage* as a benefit of membership. Individual subscriptions are available through the Membership office for \$40 per year (six issues).

For details about membership write to Membership Office, History Colorado Center, or email us at membership@state.co.us.

To purchase copies of this or other History Colorado or Colorado Historical Society publications, contact the Publications office at 303/866-4532 or publications@state.co.us.

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- A limited number of free pass(es) and discount tickets to the Georgetown Loop Historic Mining & Railroad Park®
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- Our monthly e-newsletter, *History Colorado NOW*
- Member-only discounts on tours, lectures, and History Colorado programs
- Invitations to exclusive member-only events
- 10% discount in museum stores and at the History Colorado Center's Rendezvous café
- Admission benefits at participating Time Traveler museums across the country
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- 10% discount at Smithsonian Museum stores, Smithsonian catalog, and SmithsonianStore.com
- Travel and study tour opportunities
- And more! See <https://affiliations.si.edu>



For a full listing of benefits and more about membership, visit www.HistoryColorado.org and click on "Membership."

LIVINGWEST

Living West is open! At the History Colorado Center

For the second exhibit phase of the History Colorado Center opening, explore the living dynamics between the people of Colorado and our state's extraordinary environment.

- Dust Bowl Theater
- Mesa Verde Collections
- Activities for You and Your Family
- And more!

Make a clothespin grasshopper and wear it to the History Colorado Center for **free kid's admission**, now through February 28, 2014. Find instructions on how to make it—along with lots of other crafts, recipes, and activities kids and parents can do together—in our online Living West Activity Book.

Find it at:

<http://www.historycoloradocenter.org/families/livingwest>



See page 4 for more about *Living West!*

Living West is presented in partnership with Denver Water with generous support from the Gates Family Foundation.



COLO RADO Heritage

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2014

This issue of Colorado Heritage is the third in a three-part series accompanying Living West, a new exhibit of the History Colorado Center. The editor thanks the lead content developers of the three sections of the exhibit, who served as co-editors for each of the three issues.

*September/October 2013, The Dust Bowl: B. Erin Cole
November/December 2013, The Mesa Verde Region: Sheila R. Goff
January/February 2014, Our Mountains: Liz Cook*

- I6** Living in the Mountains,
Living with Fire
- 24** Flooded with Opportunity:
The Power of Collaboration in the
Face of Disaster
Claire L. Lanier
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ON THE COVER

In the Living West exhibit, visitors tall and small find ways to explore what it means to be a steward of Colorado's mountains.

HISTORY COLORADO CENTER

1200 Broadway, Denver

Open: Monday through Saturday, 10 A.M. to 5 P.M.; Sunday, noon 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**BYERS-EVANS HOUSE MUSEUM**

1310 Bannock Street, Denver

Open: Daily, except Sunday, 10 A.M. to 4 P.M. Guided house tours from 10:30 A.M. to 3:30 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**EL PUEBLO HISTORY MUSEUM**

301 North Union, Pueblo

Open: Tuesday through Saturday, 10 A.M. 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**FORT GARLAND MUSEUM**

25 miles east of Alamosa off U.S. 160

Open: April–October, daily, 9 A.M. to 5 P.M. November–April, 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 ages 6–16, \$3.50. **719/379-3512**, www.FortGarlandMuseum.org**FORT VASQUEZ MUSEUM**

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

Open: Wednesday–Sunday, 10 A.M. to 4 P.M. Closes for the season on January 12.**Admission:** Members and children under 5 free; nonmembers \$2. **970/785-2832**, 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.**GRANT-HUMPHREYS MANSION**

770 Pennsylvania Street, Denver

Open: For rental events, including receptions, weddings, and business meetings.**303/894-2505**, www.GrantHumphreysMansion.org**HEALY HOUSE MUSEUM AND DEXTER CABIN**

912 Harrison Avenue, Leadville

Open: Daily 10 A.M. to 4:30 P.M. Last guided tour starts at 3:45. Closes for the season on October 6. 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**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: May 1–September 30, Monday–Saturday, 10 A.M. to 4 P.M. Closed on state holidays. October 1–April 30, hours subject to change. Free self-guided tours of garden and grounds, Monday–Saturday, 10 A.M. to 4 P.M. Baca House and Santa Fe Trail Museum available by appointment for groups of six or more. Bloom Mansion closed for restoration.**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**UTE INDIAN MUSEUM**

17253 Chipeta Road, Montrose

Open: January–June: Tuesday through Saturday, 9 A.M. to 4 P.M.

July–October: Monday through Saturday, 9 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.; Sunday, 11 A.M. to 4:30 P.M. November–December: Monday through Saturday, 9 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.

Admission: Members and children 6 and under free; nonmember adults \$4.50; seniors \$4; children ages 6–16, \$2. **970/249-3098**, www.UteIndianMuseum.org

From the PRESIDENT

As we embark on a new year, we're thrilled to see the new faces and new families discovering *Living West*, the core exhibit that inaugurates the second exhibit phase of the History Colorado Center in Denver. This immersive and interactive

experience shows audiences of all ages what it means to adapt to Colorado's challenging environment and, at the same time, to care for it. Stories of the ancestral Puebloans who made the Mesa Verde region their home and the Dust Bowl farmers who faced up to incredible odds in the 1930s can inform the ways we adapt today to a third kind of environment: our mountains, and the warmer, drier conditions they're experiencing.

Rich in audio, video, artifacts, and hands-on fun, *Living West* culminates years of work to bring these stories to life. Phase 2 of the History Colorado Center also brings a traveling exhibit we're excited to share with you. From the American Museum of Natural History, *Food: Our Global Kitchen* takes a rich and lively look at food around the world and through time. Featuring a test kitchen and a menu of our own special programs, *Food* opens on May 31.

With the new History Colorado Center, we committed to a multi-phase opening and are on schedule getting there, with many additions along the way. We've hosted traveling exhibits like *Thomas Jefferson's Bible* and *The American Soldier*, short-term exhibits like *LEGOrado* and *All Aboard Colorado!*, and enhanced speakers' programs, all while working to meet the major milestones of a multi-tiered opening. I'm proud of the efforts and achievements of this staff. And as always, none of the work that we do could happen without the tireless—and year-round—dedication of our volunteers. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank them, and to invite you to join their ranks.

All through the year, *Colorado Heritage*, www.HistoryColorado.org, Facebook, and Twitter are the places to watch for the programs, events, and exhibits we're bringing you and your family at the History Colorado Center and the regional sites of History Colorado. Be sure to visit our El Pueblo History Museum exhibit that has all of southern Colorado talking, *Children of Ludlow: Life in a Battle Zone, 1913–1914*.

If you've just received a gift membership to History Colorado—welcome! And if you're one of the loyal readers and museumgoers who renew year after year because you love Colorado history and the ways we bring it to life—thank you. We couldn't do it without your support.

Edward C. Nichols, President and CEO

New & On View

Pueblo

Children of Ludlow

El Pueblo History Museum

What was life like for the children who lived at the Ludlow tent colony during the Colorado Coal Strike? *Children of Ludlow*, a critically acclaimed new exhibit commemorating the hundredth anniversary of the Ludlow Massacre, presents the experiences of the children in this turbulent environment.

Children of Ludlow is sponsored by Black Hills Energy.



modern America. Honorable Mentions for the Josephine H. Miles Award include Historic Denver for its publication *Discovering Denver: Brick by Brick*, Salida Area Parks Open Space and Trails for saving the Hutchinson Homestead with its Hutchinson Homestead Preservation Project, and the Telluride Historical Museum for the exhibit *Powerful Current: Hydroelectricity in the San Juans*. The Chimney Rock Interpretive Association won the 2013 Caroline Bancroft Award for its three-year campaign that achieved the designation of Chimney Rock as a National Monument. Congratulations to all the winners for their work promoting and preserving Colorado history!

Denver

Kristen Hatgi Sink: *Flower Face*

Byers-Evans House Gallery

January 3 through February 28

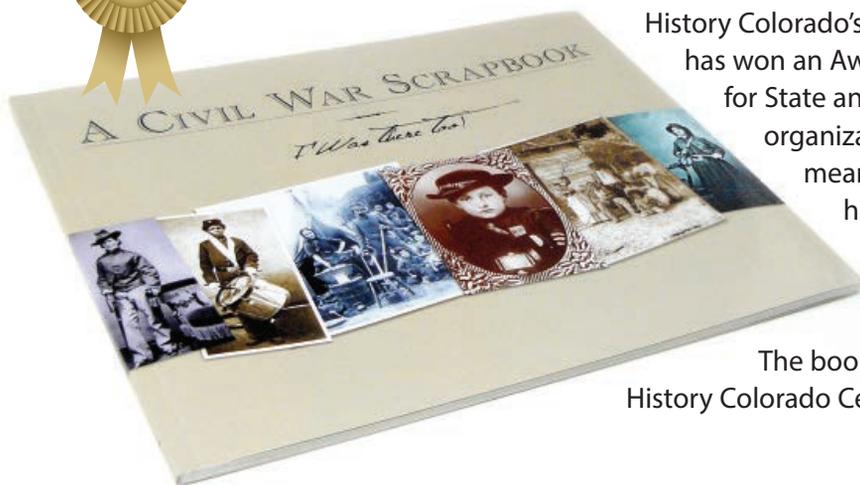
Artist Kristen Hatgi Sink combines color digital photography and nineteenth-century collodion wetplate process in the new exhibit *Flower Face*. Sink exquisitely blends portraits and floral still lifes to create uniquely beautiful and sometimes uneasy imagery.



The work of Kristen Hatgi Sink goes on view at the Byers-Evans House Gallery, January 3 through February 28.

2013 History Colorado Award Winners

History Colorado congratulates the winners of the 2013 History Colorado Awards. The Aspen Historical Society won this year's Josephine H. Miles Award for its exhibit *Seasons of the Nuche: Transitions of the Ute People*. The exhibit—on view through 2015—acknowledges the displacement of traditional Ute culture through loss of territory, language, and culture, and embraces the Ute position in



History Colorado's *A Civil War Scrapbook: I Was There Too!*

has won an Award of Merit from the American Association for State and Local History, the premier coalition of organizations who work to make the past more meaningful for all Americans. Enhanced with historical photos, maps, games, and quotes, *A Civil War Scrapbook* shares perspectives from children, minorities, women, and other lesser-known participants in the war.

The book is available from retailers like our own History Colorado Center gift shop, 303/866-4241.



A new core exhibit at the History Colorado Center—*Now open!*

Coloradans strive against the odds to thrive in the places they love. *Living West* explores the dynamics between the people of Colorado and their state’s extraordinary environment with three stories: the Mesa Verde region of 800 years ago, the southeastern plains during the Dust Bowl of the 1930s, and the Rocky Mountains today.

- See nearly 200 artifacts from our Mesa Verde collections
- Learn how ancient people lived in the Mesa Verde region and why they moved away
- Step into our Dust Bowl Theater and experience an epic dust storm
- Become a Great Depression farmer faced with environmental disaster: What would *you* do?
- Measure your own water and carbon footprints today
- Test your knowledge of Colorado’s mountains
- Find out what pine beetles, elk, pikas, and bears can all tell us about today’s conditions

Through interactives, artifacts, video, theater, and more, *Living West* offers new perspectives on the choices we face as we go on shaping Colorado’s landscape—and the very future of generations to come.

Living West is presented in partnership with Denver Water with generous support from the Gates Family Foundation.



Amache

Day of Remembrance History Colorado Center

After the attack on Pearl Harbor, Executive Order 9066 called for the forced removal of 120,000 people of Japanese heritage from the West Coast to internment camps—including one in Colorado called “Amache.” The decision was deemed “a military necessity,” but those affected were not charged with crimes or even given judicial hearings. The annual Day of Remembrance—held on or near February 19—commemorates the Japanese American internment during World War II.



Peter Trinh portrays the fictional Seiji in the one-man play Dust Storm on February 19.

Dust Storm

Wednesday, February 19, 7 P.M.

History Colorado is proud to partner with Theatre Esprite Asian to celebrate the Day of Remembrance. Join us for Rick Foster’s *Dust Storm*, a coming-of-age story about Seiji, a rebellious Japanese American youth interned during World War II. In this solo performance, Seiji experiences the shock, anger, and violence of forced relocation and imprisonment. Using the art of Chiura Obata—an interned U.S. citizen and artist of international renown—this performance illuminates a tragic period of American history through a powerful tale of hope and redemption.

Members \$8.50, nonmembers \$10

Day of Remembrance 2014

Sunday, February 16, 1 to 3 P.M.

History Colorado partners with the Japanese American Citizens League Mile-High Chapter to recognize the 72nd anniversary of the internment of Japanese Americans. The program features remarks by Dr. Patty Limerick of the University of Colorado and former internees. Refreshments served.

(Free and open to the public; reservations required. Call 303/866-2394)

Amache Online Exhibit

History Colorado is creating online exhibits for audiences who want to learn more about the stories featured in the History Colorado Center or who can’t visit the museum. Our online exhibits are rich in video, audio, historic images, and other primary source documents. We’re proud to share our first online exhibit, *Amache*. Find it at www.exhibits.historycolorado.org.



History Colorado’s online Amache exhibit combines a wealth of content.

Tours & Treks

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

Historic Fifteenth Street Walking Tour and House of Commons Tea

Friday, February 7, 2 to 5 P.M.

Stretch your legs and your imagination with a walking tour of one of Denver's oldest—and now trendiest—streets. See how this area has transformed. Afterwards, warm up with some tea! Lancashire lass Jessica Avery will be our hostess at this very British, and very good, tea shoppe.

Members \$42, nonmembers \$52

(Includes an assortment of finger sandwiches, miniature scones with jam, lemon curd with Devonshire cream, Scottish shortbread, petits fours, and tea.)

Denver Divinity Tour

Thursday, February 20, 10 A.M. to 3 P.M.

For African American History Month, join us for a tour of Montview Boulevard Presbyterian Church, the modern Shorter AME Church, and Zion Baptist to learn the stories from within this thread of Denver's rich cultural tapestry. At Montview, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., once spoke from the pulpit on the issues of the 1960s.

Members \$36, nonmembers \$46

(Includes bus transportation. We'll break for lunch, so please bring money for your meal.)

A Sweet Tour of Denver

Thursday, February 27, 10 A.M. to 3 P.M.

You don't need chutes or ladders to get to Denver's candylands. From the Golden Triangle to Arvada, we'll explore the homes of rich flavors and sumptuous indulgence. And no sugary tour would be complete without a stop at the Chocolate Crisis Center! More gastronomy than history, this tour will satisfy your senses.

Members \$36, nonmembers \$46

(Includes bus transportation. We'll break for lunch, so please bring money for your meal.)

An Irish Tour of Denver

Sunday, March 9, noon to 5 P.M.

Join Tom "Dr. Colorado" Noel and city auditor Dennis Gallagher for this annual tradition celebrating the Irish in Denver. After luscious libations, Irish food, and tall tales, we'll see landmarks like St. Patrick's Church and Sacred Heart—the city's oldest church in its original home. Enjoy

drive-by inspections of the Molly Brown House and more. You'll also have the opportunity to get your copy of *Irish Denver* personally inscribed by our hosts, the authors.

Members \$46, nonmembers \$56; *Irish Denver* \$22 *(Includes one drink ticket, a light lunch, and bus transportation.)*

Mesa Verde Trek

Friday, May 9, 5:30 P.M. to Monday, May 12, noon
Register by March 21!

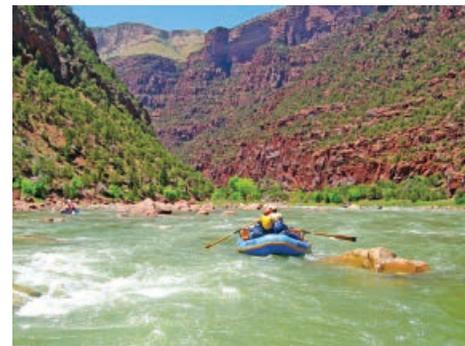
See Mesa Verde National Park—Colorado's only UNESCO World Heritage site—through the eyes of assistant state archaeologist Kevin Black. Mesa Verde has more than 4,000 archaeological sites, and we'll visit both mesa tops and cliff dwellings for a well-rounded view of ancient architecture and technology. We'll also hike to rock art panels and farming terraces and visit the Anasazi Heritage Center to see artifacts and learn more about ancestral Puebloan culture. Members \$450, nonmembers \$530 (single supplement \$150) *(Includes three nights' lodging, welcome dinner, entry fees, and guides. Please provide your own transportation throughout the tour. Space is limited.)*



Green River and Lodore Rafting Adventure

Thursday, August 14 to Sunday, August 17
Register by July 11!

History Colorado is proud to team up once again with Adrift Adventures to offer an amazing four-day whitewater rafting adventure on the Green River in Dinosaur National Monument and the Gates of Lodore. You'll find action, excitement, geology,



and the history of the Green River. Cavort with cowboys, outlaws, famous explorers and more! Explore it all alongside historian Dr. Andrew Gulliford, guest speaker from Fort Lewis College. Bring the kids and let's get wet! Members \$680, nonmembers \$730

(For more information or to reserve your space, call Adrift Adventures at 1-800-824-0150. Space is limited to 25.)

FAMILY FUN

Denver

**FREE PERFORMANCES
at the History Colorado Center!**

These are just highlights, and performances are subject to change, so check www.HistoryColoradoCenter.org for updates.

Free with admission.

JANUARY

January 4: **Flintknapper** Tim Boucher, 10 A.M. to 3 P.M.

January 11: **Lasso tricks** with Steve Cassatt, 11:30 A.M. and 1:30 P.M.

January 12: **Native American beadwork** with Angelique Acevedo-Barron, 12:30 to 2:30 P.M.

January 18: **Mountain man Doc Grizzly** shows off tools of the trade, 10:30 A.M. to 2 P.M.

January 20: **Buffalo soldier** Sergeant Jack Hackett, 11:30 A.M. to 1:30 P.M.

January 25: **Angel Vigil** tells stories and demonstrates lasso tricks, 11:30 A.M. and 1:30 P.M.

FEBRUARY

February 1: **Flintknapper** Tim Boucher, 10 A.M. to 3 P.M.

February 15: **Lasso tricks** with Steve Cassatt, 11:30 A.M. and 1:30 P.M.

February 16: **Japanese drumming by Taiko** with Toni, 12:30 P.M.

February 17: **Celebrate Presidents' Day with Thomas Jefferson**, 11:30 A.M. to 1:30 P.M.

February 22: **Buffalo soldier** Sergeant Jack Hackett, 11:30 A.M. to 1:30 P.M.

**BYOA (Bring Your Own Adult) WORKSHOPS
at the History Colorado Center**

Story Time

Wednesdays, January 8 and February 5, 9:30 A.M.—Bring the kids (age 2–5) to story time in our *Destination Colorado* exhibit and learn about farms, cowboys, and animals. We'll read a story and then have playtime in the exhibit before the museum opens.

Free with admission

Spring Break Workshops

Each workshop: member pair \$15, nonmember pair \$20 (\$10 each additional child)

Diorama-Rama

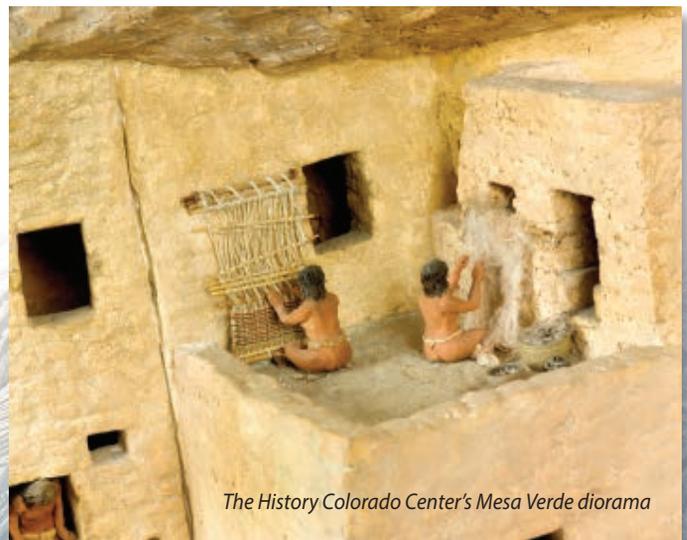
Mondays, March 24 or 31, 10 A.M. to noon—Learn about dioramas in the museum—and then make your own!

Day in Space

Wednesdays, March 26 or April 2, 10 A.M. to noon—Learn about outer space, taste astronaut ice cream, and make a paper airplane to rocket onto our Colorado map.

American Girl® Day

Fridays, March 28 or April 4, 10 A.M. to noon—Explore the history surrounding your American Girl® doll through artifact exploration, interactive exhibits, and crafts. Bring your doll and enjoy iced tea and snacks!



The History Colorado Center's Mesa Verde diorama

ADULT PROGRAMS

Denver

Flower Face Opening Reception

Byers-Evans House Museum
Friday, January 3, 5 to 9 P.M.

The Byers-Evans House hosts a free opening reception for Kristen Hatgi Sink's photography exhibit.

Valentine's Day Tour and Tea

Byers-Evans House Museum
Saturday, February 8, 1:30 P.M.

Enjoy a tour of the historic Byers-Evans House followed by tea sandwiches, scones, fresh fruit, and desserts at a special Valentine's Day tea.

Reservations required: 303/620-4933

Quality Hill Bridal Show

Grant-Humphreys Mansion
Sunday, January 26, 11 A.M. to 3 P.M.

Don't miss one of the finest bridal boutique events of the year. Meet Colorado's top wedding planners, DJs, photographers, caterers, bakers, and more!

Free admission!

Information: 303/946-4442



Meet Denver's wedding experts on January 26.

History Sleuths: Identifying Family Photographs

Monday, January 27, 1 to 4 P.M.—Do you have photos of family ancestors you can't identify? Don't know where or when a family photo album was put together? Become a history sleuth and learn how to identify people, events, places, and dates of photographs in this three-hour, hands-on workshop. Curator of Photography Megan Friedel and Library Director Laura Ruttum Senturia will teach you tricks for identifying photos. *(Limited to 20 people)*

Using the History Colorado Online Library Catalog

Thursday, February 6, 10:15 to 11:15 A.M.—The online catalog is the gateway to History Colorado's vast collection of resources—but finding what you need can be a challenge. What do you do when a search returns thousands of results—or none? Improve your search skills with Patrick Fraker. *(Limited to 12 people)*

COLORFUL COLORADO at the History Colorado Center

Members \$4, nonmembers \$5
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 registered participants and may be canceled if the minimum is not met 24 hours ahead of time. Early registration recommended!

Turbulence Before Takeoff: The Life and Times of Aviation Pioneer Marlon DeWitt Green

Friday, February 7, 1 to 2 P.M.—Unbelievable as it seems today, prior to the mid-1960s no African American pilots flew for major U.S. airlines. It took the indomitable will of Air Force pilot Marlon Green, sacrifice from his



LIBRARY PROGRAMS at the History Colorado Center

Stephen H. Hart Library & Research Center

Members \$4, nonmembers \$5

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

Read All About It: Newspaper Research at the Stephen H. Hart Library & Research Center

Saturday, January 18, 10:15 to 11:15 A.M.—History Colorado boasts the largest collection of Colorado newspapers. Historic newspapers are invaluable sources of information for historians, genealogists, or anyone who enjoys coming face to face with the past. Join reference librarian Sarah Gilmor to learn more about our newspaper collection and how best to use it in your own research. *(Limited to 15 people)*

family, the efforts of a tireless attorney, and a Supreme Court decision to end segregation in the nation's cockpits. Historian and author Flint Whitlock explores this compelling figure in modern aviation and civil rights history.

February is African American History Month!



FWD: Communities and the Environment

Join community leaders for five evenings of conversation, film, and theater about environmental justice in the Denver metro area.

\$5 per program (includes light refreshments) All programs start at 6 P.M.

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

Introducing FWD: Communities and the Environment

Monday, January 27—What is environmental justice? How are people in the Denver area working to ensure that communities have access to a clean and healthy environment,

and are equally responsible for its use? This opening panel is an opportunity to discuss many of the big issues in environmental justice and to share stories of grassroots action.

Case Study: Globeville

Monday, February 24—Low-income communities and communities of color often bear the negative impacts of transportation, manufacturing, and pollution. We'll explore the story of how Denver's Globeville neighborhood has been impacted by pollution and the construction of Interstate 70—and the ways Globeville neighbors have worked to ensure the healthy survival of their community.

Pueblo

El Pueblo History Museum

An Apache Diaspora and the History of the North

American West Lecture

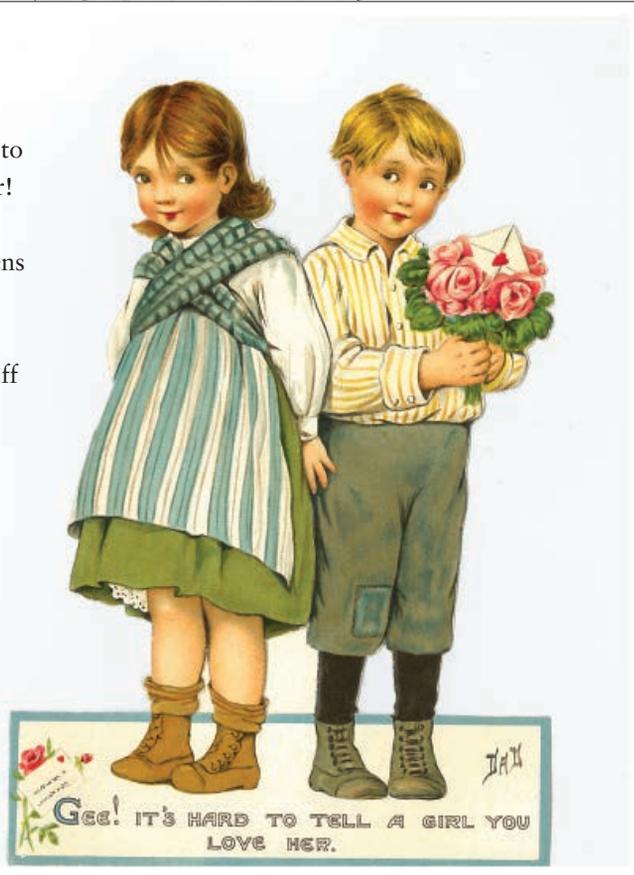
Thursday, February 20, 7 P.M.

Colorado State University professor Paul Conrad discusses the capture, enslavement, and displacement of Apache groups from early Spanish colonization through U.S. colonial settlement. Conrad is a historian of North American borderlands and author of the forthcoming *Captive Fates: Displaced Apache Indians in Colonial North America and the Caribbean*.

Love for the Ages: An Object Adventure

Tuesday, February 11, 1 to 2 P.M.—Love is in the air! History Colorado's collections embrace dozens of love stories from Coloradans throughout time. Join our library staff for a hands-on look at romantic items from our archives and artifacts, including love letters to Baby Doe Tabor, handmade Valentines, marriage proposals, and war letters home.

(Limited to 30 people; RSVP required)



Remembering Anne Evans

Friday, March 7, 1 to 2 P.M.—Anne Evans played a vital role in the rise of cultural institutions Coloradans take for granted today: the Denver Art Museum, the Denver Public Library, the Civic Center, and the Central City Opera House. How did she do it and what can we learn from her accomplishments? Join us for this presentation by Barbara Edwards Sternberg and Evelyn Waldron, coauthors of *Anne Evans: A Pioneer in Colorado's Cultural History—The Things That Last When Gold Is Gone*.

2013–14 Lecture Series

Colorado: Our Home

Colorado—the land we call home—has faced environmental conflicts, disasters, and sometimes triumphs. The 2013–14 lecture series delves into our interactions with the land and the way these experiences affect our relationships with each other.

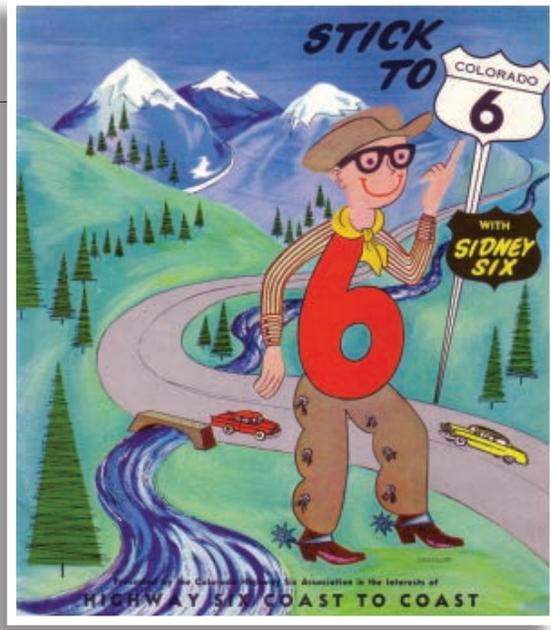
We'll commemorate the centennial of the Ludlow Massacre and discover the causes and consequences of activities at Rocky Flats. We'll also look at the environmental and political landscape of ski towns along I-70. Talks on John Frémont's exploration of Colorado and the history of mail delivery round out the series.

All lectures take place at 1 and 7 p.m. at the History Colorado Center, 1200 Broadway, Denver. Call 303/866-2394 for information. Sponsored by the Walter S. Rosenberry III Charitable Trust.

The Road to Vacationland, or How Colorado Ended Up with the World's Most Scenic Traffic Jams

Tuesday, January 21

It's hard to love Interstate 70, a highway that's mostly in the news for rock falls, snow closures, and endless debates over congestion. Follow I-70 back in time, though, and you'll see its role in the explosion of post–World War II recreational development, when faded mining towns and quiet ranching



valleys gave way to the motel clusters and ski resorts of a new mass outdoor leisure age. University of Denver historian Dr. William Philpott explains how tourism took shape along the path that's now I-70 and its implications for the landscapes and politics of our own time.

Rocky Flats: A Personal Story, a Community Story

Tuesday, February 18

From 1952 to 1992, the Rocky Flats nuclear weapons plant near Denver produced more than 70,000 plutonium pits for nuclear bombs. Local residents and workers at the plant were kept in the dark about radioactive contamination of the air, water, and soil until the Department of Energy conceded that Rocky Flats was the most contaminated site in the country. Join author Dr. Kristen Iversen of the University of Memphis as she shares her story of growing up near Rocky Flats, working at the installation, and the ten-year process of researching and writing her book *Full Body Burden: Growing Up in the Nuclear Shadow of Rocky Flats*.



Denver Water Teams with Forest Service to Protect Watershed

A caretaker at Denver Water's Cheesman Reservoir cuts a tree destroyed in the 2002 Hayman Fire.

Forest fires and beetle kill do much more than scar the landscape. They affect the quality of water you drink, and make it more expensive to treat and deliver that water.

That's why Denver Water and the Rocky Mountain Region of the U.S. Forest Service have established a partnership to improve forest and watershed conditions. Through this partnership, Denver Water plans to match the Forest Service's \$16.5 million investment, totaling \$33 million, toward forest treatment and watershed protection projects over a five-year period in priority watersheds critical to Denver Water's water supply.

Denver Water knows firsthand the debilitating consequences forest fires can have on a watershed. The 1996 Buffalo Creek Fire burned 11,900 acres. In 2002, the Hayman Fire charred another 138,000. The combination of these two fires, followed by rainstorms, resulted in more than 1 million cubic yards of sediment accumulating in Denver Water's Strontia Springs Reservoir. Increased sediment creates operational challenges, causes water quality issues, and clogs treatment plants.

"It's important for our water supply that we reduce the risk of catastrophic fires," says Don Kennedy, Denver Water's project manager. "We don't want to spend the kind of money we've had to in the past in dealing with the effects of the Hayman and Buffalo Creek fires." Following those fires, Denver Water has spent more than \$26 million on water treatment, sediment and debris removal, reclamation, and infrastructure projects.

Colorado's forests are critical to the water supply for tens of millions of Americans, billions of dollars of agricultural production, and vast economic activity from



California to the Mississippi River. Forest treatment and watershed protection, such as thinning, clearing, and creating fuel breaks, can help minimize impacts by reducing soil erosion and the risk of wildfires. Smaller, less severe fires also help reduce the amount of erosion and other impacts to the watershed.

Recent work in Denver's watershed includes land adjacent to Dillon Reservoir, which provides one-fourth of Denver's water supply. Crews have clear-cut lodgepole pines to mimic their natural regeneration pattern. After the dead and dying trees are removed, slash (limbs, needles, treetops) are left on the ground to help prevent erosion and provide microsites for seedlings and the next generation of forest. In recently harvested areas, seedlings have already started establishing themselves at a rate of 300 to 1,800 seedlings per acre.

So far more than 4,000 acres around Dillon Reservoir have been treated, and crews plan to move to other critical watersheds for Denver in 2014. For more about the partnership, visit www.denverwater.org/SupplyPlanning/WaterSupply/PartnershipUSFS.



Sapphire Point above Dillon Reservoir before it was treated for heavy beetle kill.

Living West, a major new interactive exhibit at the History Colorado Center, is presented in partnership with Denver Water.



The area after treatment, which will help prevent watershed damage in the event of a wildfire.

Calendar

JANUARY

3 Friday

FLOWER FACE OPENING
RECEPTION

Byers-Evans House Museum
See page 3.

18 Saturday

NEWSPAPER RESEARCH

History Colorado Center

See page 8.

21 Tuesday

THE ROAD TO VACATIONLAND

History Colorado Center

See page 10.

26 Sunday

QUALITY HILL BRIDAL SHOW

Grant-Humphreys Mansion

See page 8.

27 Monday

HISTORY SLEUTHS

History Colorado Center

See page 9.

INTRODUCING

FWD: COMMUNITIES AND
THE ENVIRONMENT

History Colorado Center

See page 9.

FEBRUARY

6 Thursday

USING THE ONLINE
LIBRARY CATALOG

History Colorado Center

See page 8.

7 Friday

AVIATION PIONEER

MARLON DEWITT GREEN

History Colorado Center

See page 8.

HISTORIC 15TH STREET

WALKING TOUR

See page 6.

8 Saturday

VALENTINE'S DAY TOUR
AND TEA

Byers-Evans House Museum

See page 8.

11 Tuesday

LOVE FOR THE AGES

History Colorado Center

See page 9.

16 Sunday

DAY OF REMEMBRANCE

History Colorado Center

See page 5.

18 Tuesday

ROCKY FLATS

History Colorado Center

See page 10.

19 Wednesday

DUST STORM PLAY

History Colorado Center

See page 5.

20 Thursday

AN APACHE DIASPORA

El Pueblo History Museum

See page 9.

DENVER DIVINITY TOUR

See page 6.

24 Monday

CASE STUDY: GLOBEVILLE

History Colorado Center

See page 9.

27 Thursday

A SWEET TOUR OF DENVER

See page 6.

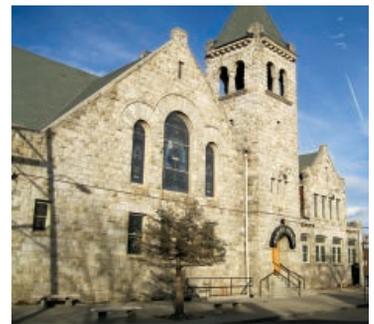
Repeated Events

STORY TIME

History Colorado Center,

January 8 and February 5

See page 7.



Top: Learn how to look at family photos through the eyes of a History Sleuth on January 27.

Right: Denver Divinity Tour



Historic Structures Restored at Amache

This past fall, the History Colorado State Historical Fund completed projects to restore the water tank and tower and reconstruct one of the guard towers once located at the Granada Relocation Center in Prowers County, Colorado. Better known as Amache, the center housed more than 7,300 Japanese Americans at its peak and comprised residential barracks, a hospital, a school, an administrative complex, the water tower, and eight guard towers. Amache closed in 1945, and the War Assets Administration disposed of the site's buildings and structures in 1947.

Amache's water tank was recently salvaged from a nearby ranch, where it was used to store water. Although it had been relocated, a large percentage of the wood components and hardware were in good condition, and contractors restored them to look and function as they did historically. Some pieces required repair, while others were reconstructed based on matching existing pieces. An analysis of the little paint that remained determined the historic paint colors and enabled restoration of the original paint scheme.

Because of the great significance of this property, ensuring historic authenticity of the structures was critical in the design, review, and construction phases, both to meet the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Restoration and Reconstruction and to enable visitors to accurately interpret the history of the resources.



None of Amache's eight guard towers have been found, but architects used historic photographs and archival research to design a historically accurate replica. They consulted a record that listed the materials and dimensions of the guard tower, along with a description of the rolled asphalt roof. The concrete pier foundations for both the water tower and guard tower

remained in their historic locations and needed little repair.

Due to the unique construction of both towers, consultants and contractors created highly detailed drawings to further ensure historic accuracy. Before moving the water tank to Amache, contractors performed preliminary restoration on the structure at a workshop in Fort Collins. Once at Amache, the water tower was assembled in three parts, each lifted by a crane and placed on top of the other. The culmination was the successful placement of the restored

tank on top of the tower.

Visitors to Amache can now see the restored water tank and rebuilt guard tower.

For more about Amache archaeological research, projects, and partners, visit www.amache.org.

See page 5 for Amache Day of Remembrance programs this February.

*Contractors: Wattle & Daub Contractors, with Don Emick
Architects: Scheuber+Darden Architects, A-E Design Associates*

Above: A view of Amache from its water tower when the camp was still active

Left: The reconstructed guard tower



New Listings

in the National Register of Historic Places and Colorado State Register of Historic Properties

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

National Register of Historic Places

Martha Weiser House

4020 N. 75th Street, Boulder County (5BL.11943)

In 1963 architect L. Gale Abels designed this outstanding Modern Contemporary-style residence for Martha Weiser and her husband. The low-pitched butterfly roof, visible roof beams, natural materials, interior courtyard, large windows, and sandstone outcropping site are all direct responses to the landscape.

Earl School

Address Restricted, Las Animas County (5LA.11864)

This 1909 one-room adobe school doubled as the only venue in the Earl area for social functions. Students from a

nearby African American farming colony, Hispanic students, and Euro-American students attended the school. The structure meets the requirements of the Multiple Property Documentation Form "Rural School Buildings in Colorado."

Colorado State Register of Historic Properties

Denver & Rio Grande Railroad Passenger Car #256

Cumbres & Toltec Scenic Railroad Yard, Antonito, Conejos County (5CN.1568)

This 1876 wood passenger car carried travelers on narrow gauge routes for sixty-six years before D&RG converted it into the Monarch Branch office in 1942. While D&RG's passenger coach fleet size peaked in 1883 at eighty-two cars, only thirteen pre-1884 coaches remain within the United States.



Martha Weiser House



Denver & Rio Grande
Passenger Car #256

**Willowcroft Manor
(Delisting)—State
Register listed in
1993**

3600 W. Bowles Avenue,
Littleton, Arapahoe
County (5AH.143)

Built in 1884, this was
one of the South Platte
River Valley’s earliest
and largest ranches.

Architect Robert S. Roeschlaub designed the two-story lava-stone Queen Anne residence. In April 2013 Taylor Morrison bought the property, planning to build patio homes and a large estate home; by June the manor was demolished.

**Cheyenne Mountain Zoo Carousel (Boundary
Amendment)—State Register listed in 1997**

4250 Cheyenne Mountain Zoo Road, Colorado Springs,
El Paso County (5EP.2699.1)

When designated, this Allan Herschell Ideal Two-Abreast
Carousel was sited at the north end of the zoo grounds.
It has since been moved to the grounds’ center—a setting
more in keeping with that at the time of nomination.

Good to Know

Properties listed in the National or State Register may be eligible for investment tax credits for approved rehabilitation projects. Listed properties may also be eligible to compete for History 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 May 30. For more information, call 303/866-3392.

Learn more about these and all National and State Register properties in Colorado by visiting the Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation at:

<http://www.historycolorado.org/oahp/listings-county>

Do you know this structure?

- | | | |
|-----------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| 1. Where is it? | 2. When was it built? | 3. What is it? |
| a) Genoa | a) 1915 | a) Water tank |
| b) Gill | b) 1923 | b) Round barn |
| c) Granada | c) 1936 | c) Grain bin |
| d) Granite | d) 1942 | d) Lookout tower |

Answers on page 32



LIVING IN THE MOUNTAINS, LIVING WITH FIRE

Wildfire History in Jefferson County

Courtesy of Historically Jeffco

Wildfires have been an ever-present danger to the citizens in the dry climate of Colorado and Jefferson County. Over time they have flared in all parts of the county, caused by lightning strikes, abandoned campfires, cigarettes thrown from vehicles, explosions, sparks from railroads, and more. Some, unfortunately, have been intentionally set. Historically, fires have occurred throughout the year, with major fires possible regardless of the date on the calendar. Realistically, every season has been fire season in Jeffco.

Some years and some seasons stand out, however. Even early in the year, 2012 appeared to be one of those for the Front Range and the state as a whole. Jeffco residents have learned that disasters come as triplets: drought leads to fire leads to floods. These three “brothers” have been regular visitors throughout our history.

*This page and facing:
Views of the Hayman Fire burn zone*



Fires become personal, with names that stick in our collective memory for decades: Buffalo Creek (1996), Hi Meadow (2000), Hayman (2002). Further afield, we remember Lefthand Canyon (1988), Black Tiger (1989), Storm King/South Canyon (1994), and Snaking (2002). Older fires slowly drift away as our memory moves on, but it is the job of historians to remember. What often goes unrecorded as responders deal with emergencies is what wildfire can mean to historic structures and historic preservation.

Jefferson County Wildfires

These wildfires struck Colorado between 1859 and 2012—in Jefferson County alone.

- 1859—Miners Fires (Upper Golden Gate Canyon)
- 1869—Jarvis Hall Fire (South Golden Valley)
- 1870—Turkey Creek Fire (Turkey Creek Canyon)
- 1874—Floyd Hill Fire (Floyd Hill)
- 1874—Beaver Brook Fire (Clear Creek Canyon)
- 1898—Crawford Gulch Fire
(Head of Crawford Gulch & Belcher Hill)
- 1901—Evergreen Pine Grove Fire
(Between Evergreen & Pine Grove)
- 1902—Buffalo Creek
- 1902—Foothills Fire
(Between Coal & Ralston Creeks)
- 1905—Clear Creek Canyon Fire
(Clear Creek Canyon)
- 1907—Leyden Fire (Leyden)
- 1908—Northeast Golden Fire
(Northeast Golden Valley)
- 1908—Deer Park Fire (Deer Park)
- 1908—Crossons Fire (Crossons)
- 1910—Coal Creek Fire I (Coal Creek Canyon)
- 1910—Carter Lake Fire (Standley Lake)
- 1910—Coal Creek Fire II (Coal Creek Canyon)
- 1919—Lookout Mountain Fire (Lookout Mountain)
- 1919—Creek Fire (Southern Jefferson County)
- 1920—Downes Fire (4 miles west of Evergreen)
- 1922—Gates Fire (Bear Creek Canyon)
- 1924—West of Evergreen and Conifer
- 1925—Moonshine Fire (Standley Lake)
- 1930—Watershed Fire (Beaver Brook)
- 1930—Funicular Fire (Lookout Mountain)
- 1976—North Table Mountain Fire
(North Table Mountain)
- 1977—5 miles north of Deckers

- 1978—Murphy Gulch Fire (West of Ken-Caryl)
- 1988—North Table Mountain Fire
- 1989—Mt. Falcon Park Fire
(Jefferson County Open Space)
- 1990—Buffalo Creek (10 acres and 4 homes)
- 1994—Roxborough Fire
- 1994—Dinosaur Ridge Hogback Fire
- 1996—Buffalo Creek Fire (Buffalo Creek)
- 2000—Red Rocks Fire (10 acres)
- 2000—Hi Meadow Fire (Park County border)
- 2002—Hayman Fire (Southwest Jefferson County)
- 2002—Blue Mountain Fire (North Jefferson County)



“A century of aggressive fire suppression, combined with cycles of drought and changing land management practices, has left many of Colorado’s forests unnaturally dense and ready to burn. At the same time, the state’s record-setting growth has driven nearly a million people into the forested foothills of the Front Range and along the West Slope and central mountains—the same landscapes that are at highest risk for large-scale fire. This movement of urban and suburban residents into the wildland-urban interface (WUI) significantly increases the values-at-risk from wildland fire—the most critical of these being human life.”

—Colorado Wildfire Mitigation Plan, 2010 Draft

“Warm winters, hot, dry summers, severe drought, insect and disease infestations, years of fire suppression, and growth in the wildland-urban interface continue to increase wildfire risk and the potential for catastrophic wildland fires in Colorado.”

—Colorado Wildfire Mitigation Plan, 2010 Draft

This page and facing:
Fighting the Snaking Fire in 2002



Jefferson County Wildfires (continued)

- 2002—Snaking Fire (Platte Canyon, Park County)
- 2002—Black Mountain Fire
- 2002—Fountain Gulch Fire
- 2002—Schoonover Fire (South Jefferson County)
- 2006—Pine Valley Fire
- 2006—Plainview Fire (North Jefferson County)
- 2006—Upper Bear Creek Fire
- 2006—Rocky Flats Fire
- 2008—Oxyoke Fire (South Jefferson County)
- 2010—Dakota Ridge Fire (Southeast of Morrison)
- 2010—Wadsworth Ridge Fire
- 2011—Indian Gulch Fire (Mt. Galbraith)
- 2012—Lower North Fork Fire
(Lower North Fork South Platte)

Data courtesy of the Jefferson County Historical Commission. The list is a work in progress, and the commission welcomes additions and clarifications at jeffcohistory@gmail.com or via comments at www.HistoricJeffco.org.

Jeffco's First Major Wildfire

By Richard Gardner

On March 26, 2012, the Lower North Fork fire claimed three lives in Jefferson County, those of Sam and Linda Lucas and Ann Appel, making it the first lethal wildfire in Jeffco in 152 years. It sadly brings back to attention the only previous lethal fire, which burned into the upper Golden Gate Canyon area in 1859. That wildfire also claimed three lives, three men who were miners, who didn't start the blaze but were quickly overtaken by it. In a grim irony, this fire

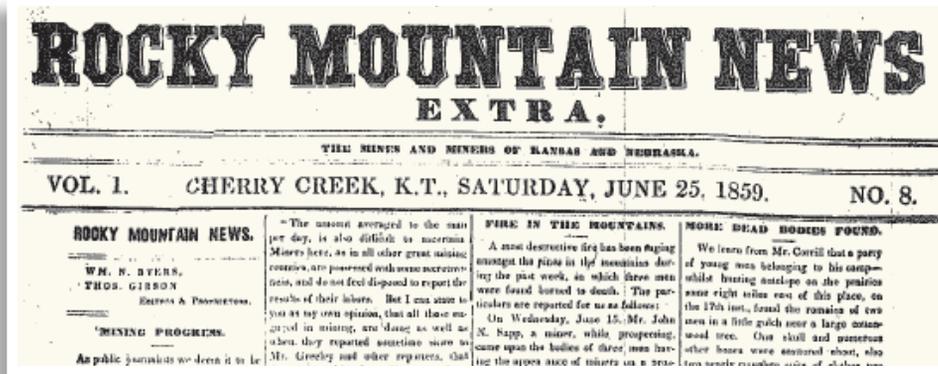
likely also started from a “prescribed” burn that got out of control, of another kind: Some early miners, all recent arrivals from the east not knowing the dangers of this dry climate, deliberately set fires to burn off underbrush while they were looking for gold.

A prospector along the original road to the gold fields encountered the miners’ remains eight miles east of “the mines,” that is, the Black Hawk–Central City area. This places the deaths in a ravine along Guy Gulch in the area

west of Booten Gulch and today’s Centennial House, within Jefferson County. Burned beyond recognition and without the aid of modern technology to identify them, they were given a proper burial at the place where they perished. Here is the *Rocky Mountain News* report provided by Capt. Richard Sopris, foreman of the investigating committee:

On Wednesday, June 15, Mr. John N. Sapp, a miner, while prospecting, came upon the bodies of three men having the appearance of miners on a prospecting tour, burned to death, their features so destroyed by fire, that even their own relatives could not have recognized them. Mr. Sapp, without removing the bodies or making any examination, returned to the mines, some eight miles, and reported the news of the sad discovery. The miners at once appointed a Committee or Jury to proceed to the place, accompanied by Mr. S., to examine the bodies and report the cause of their death. The Jury consisted of twelve men: Mr. R. Sopris, Dr. Joseph Casto, J. H. Turner, William C. Squires, Edward Thompson, Charles A. Walker, Thomas Robison, Thomas McDermit, James Addington, Argent Cansdell, Nelson Welker, and Marvin Welker. They were accompanied by the following who assisted in burying the bodies, etc.: P. S. Mathews, Nathan Welker, Norman Welker, T. J. Reel, B. F. Whitaker, James Bamneil, Wm. Atkin, Harmon Leply, and S. K. Forsythe.





Upon a careful examination of the bodies, no marks of personal violence being found, the decision of the Committee and all present was that they came to their death by being caught in a mountain fire of the most destructive character. The bodies were found laying on their faces with their heads up the mountain and but a few rods from each other on an old trail. At a short distance from them was found a pony and also a dog, supposed to be a pointer or greyhound, burned to death. In the vicinity of the dead bodies were found the following articles: Colt's eight inch revolver No. 5553; the clasp of a belt with letters U.S. raised; one dark knife; two tin gold pans, double runs; the barrel of a double barrel shot gun, fine London double twist and silver mounted; one rifle barrel, brass mounted, of large size; and one long handle shovel, No. 2, Ames; one pick of Simmonds' manufacture; one hatchet; remnants of blankets both white and blue; one tin camp kettle; one sheet iron dipper; one Spanish pack-saddle; one U.S. cartridge box; and various other articles such as miners outfit would consist of. On the trail, between the first two bodies, was found \$15.00 in gold coin and \$1.93 in silver coin. The articles found were brought in by the Committee, and deposited with Capt. R. Sopris, in Mountain City, to be exhibited to all who may wish to examine them, which, it is hoped, may lead to their identity.

In 1864 the Colorado Territorial government outlawed miners' fires of this kind, in the process expressing their wish that future offenders would be hung. Unfortunately, these three men remain unknown to this day. Reports varied to as many as 100 people dead, but Dr. Casto confirmed to the *News* in November that there were only these three. In the future, new evidence might be found to finally identify them, as even this report itself is a new piece of evidence that has very recently been rediscovered.

Sources: *John Gregory Country* by Charles and Mary Ramstetter, and the *Rocky Mountain News* issues of June 25, 1859, and November 10, 1859.

Historic Consequences of Early Fires

By Richard Gardner

There are accounts of other major wildfires in Clear Creek Canyon in the 1870s, as well as major wildfires in Clear Creek and Bear Creek Canyons in the early 1890s. Edward Berthoud concluded that the resulting vegetation loss contributed to the magnitude of the Great Flood of 1896 through both areas, and his conclusion probably would mean the same for Golden's flood of 1894. Combined with the Buffalo Creek flood of 1996, there have been twenty-three deaths by floods that experts have concluded were contributed to by wildfires—around two-thirds of Jefferson County's total of those lost in floods.

The following is a letter from Edward L. Berthoud, acting in his official capacity with the Colorado Forest Association, published in the *Colorado Transcript* (Golden) on August 12, 1896. In his letter, Berthoud foretold many of the concerns we still have today in regard to burn areas.

To Our Farmers

There is no disguising the fact the wholesale destruction of the former vast pine forests that clad the slopes of the mountains on Bear, Clear, Ralston and Boulder creeks, and the continuance of the wholesale destruction by saw-mills and by fires, and the utter and complete want of protection to the forests of our mountain reserves, is the immediate cause of the destructive floods which all these streams entail upon every one living near them, from the too abrupt and sudden drainage of large rain-storms on the denuded slopes and valleys of our mountain ranges. Accompanying this sudden effusion of water, where no forest area remains to absorb and slowly give them out is the denudation and loss of rich soil, which yearly strips our best mountain farms of millions of tons of rich earth, and leaves in the valleys, bare

Above: Page 1 of the fledgling Rocky Mountain News carried word of the fire that took three miners' lives.

rocks or else vast amounts of gravel and broken stone bars. It is a fact that no fit soil is left to nourish a new forest of coniferous or deciduous trees. To the farmers in the valleys of Clear and Bear creeks the floods of July 24, 25 and 26 are an object lesson of no uncertain measure, protect the forest of the central range, and you will have irrigation water in season. Let this measure go, in less than ten years you will have no water when required.

Jefferson County materials are adapted and reprinted, with permission, from *Historically Jeffco*, issue 33, 2012, published by the Jefferson County Historical Commission. Our thanks to Sally L. White of the commission. White and Margaret T. Chapman are co-editors of *Historically Jeffco*.

Colorado's Most Destructive Wildfires by Number of Homes Destroyed

1. Black Forest, Colorado Springs, 2013
—486 homes
2. Waldo Canyon, Colorado Springs, 2012
—347 homes
3. High Park, Larimer County, 2012
—256 homes
4. Fourmile Canyon, 2010
—169 homes
5. Hayman, 2002
—133 homes, 466 outbuildings
6. Iron Mountain, near Canon City, 2002
—100 homes, 100 outbuildings
7. Missionary Ridge, near Durango, 2002
—56 homes, 27 outbuildings

From the *Colorado Transcript* (Golden) of June 6, 1912:

TAKE ACTION TO PREVENT FOREST FIRES

Several serious and costly fires have occurred in Jefferson county during past years, which might have been prevented or checked with a little organized effort. In the future, however, according to action taken by the county commissioners at their meeting this week, the sheriff of the county or his deputies will be in charge of efforts for the prevention or control of forest fires. J. W. Benett, a special state forester, representing the state forestry bureau and the state board of agriculture, was here and took up the matter with members of the board and with Sheriff Dennis. The statutes of the state of Colorado provide that in the event of a fire breaking out the sheriff, under-sheriff or any deputy sheriff has the power to require the aid of any persons of their county as may be necessary to control or extinguish the fire. The clerk was instructed to notify all the deputies, that in case of forest fires breaking out in their territory, that shall at once take charge, notifying the sheriff if possible and getting such aid from citizens as shall be necessary.



Suppression efforts and aftermath of the Fourmile Canyon Fire in Boulder County, 2010

This page and facing: During and after the Fourmile Canyon Fire of 2010



**Colorado’s Most Destructive Wildfires
by Number of Homes Destroyed (continued)**

8. Hi Meadow, near Bailey, 2000
—58 structures
9. Black Tiger Gulch, 1989
—44 to 46 homes
10. Coal Seam, near Glenwood Springs, 2002
—29 houses, 14 outbuildings
11. Lower North Fork, near Conifer, 2012
—27 homes
12. Woodland Heights, Estes Park, 2012
—24 homes, four structures
13. Bobcat, Larimer County, 2000
—22 structures
14. Schoonover, Douglas County, 2002
—13 structures
15. Crystal, Larimer County, 2010
—13 homes
16. Buffalo Creek, Jefferson County, 1996
—12 structures
17. Million, near South Fork, 2002
—11 homes, 2 outbuildings
18. Olde Stage, Boulder County, 1990—10 homes

Sources: National Interagency Fire Center; Rocky Mountain Insurance Information Association; U.S. Forest Service; Colorado State Forest Service; Colorado Division Emergency Management.

Courtesy of *The Denver Post*. Compiled by Vickie Makings, Denver Post Research Library. Updated July 2013.

**Colorado’s Most Expensive Wildfires
in Terms of Insured Losses**

1. Waldo Canyon, Colorado Springs, 2012
—\$453.7 million
2. Black Forest, Colorado Springs, 2013
—\$292.8 million
3. Fourmile Canyon, near Boulder, 2010
—\$217 million
4. High Park, Fort Collins, 2012
—\$113.7 million
5. Hayman, 2002—
\$38.7 million (\$238 million in total damages and land rehabilitation costs)
6. Hi Meadow & Bobcat, 2000
—combined losses \$18.5 million
7. Missionary Ridge, near Durango, 2002
—\$17.7 million
8. Lower North Fork, near Conifer, 2012
—\$11 million
9. Black Tiger/Boulder Canyon, 1989
—\$10 million
10. Iron Mountain, Fremont County, 2002
—\$7.5 million
11. Coal Seam, Glenwood Springs, 2002
—\$6.4 million
12. Woodland Heights, Estes Park, 2012
—\$5 million (assessed value of homes only)
13. Olde Stage, Boulder County, 1990
—\$1.5 million

14. Buffalo Creek, Jefferson County, 1996
—over \$1 million

Sources: National Interagency Fire Center; Rocky Mountain Insurance Information Association; U.S. Forest Service; Colorado State Forest Service; Colorado Division Emergency Management.

Courtesy of *The Denver Post*. Compiled by Vickie Makings, Denver Post Research Library. Updated July 2013.



From the *Rocky Mountain News* of January 4, 2003:

Anatomy of a Monster

Hayman Fire perimeter growth, 2002

| Date | Acres |
|-----------------|---------|
| June 8 | 690 |
| June 9, 11 A.M. | 15,802 |
| June 9, 11 P.M. | 60,878 |
| June 10 | 86,725 |
| June 11 | 99,689 |
| June 12 | 104,638 |
| June 13 | 102,897 |
| June 14 | 100,186 |
| June 15 | 104,415 |
| June 16 | 114,674 |
| June 17 | 140,856 |
| June 18 | 137,762 |
| June 19 | 137,784 |

What's the worst fire in Colorado history? It depends on how you count, and when you ask.

In recent years, Colorado has experienced some of the most destructive wildfires on record. **The History Colorado Center's Living West exhibit** was developed, designed, and built over several years prior to its opening in November 2013, and during that time, the answer to the "worst" wildfire question changed with each new fire season.

In early 2012, when we began work on the interpretive panels and videos for the exhibit, the 2010 Fourmile Fire in Boulder County was the most destructive to human property, with 169 homes destroyed. By mid-summer, that number had been surpassed twice, first by the High Park Fire in Larimer County, and then by the Waldo Canyon Fire in Colorado Springs. In June 2013, we revised our "worst wildfire" panel again when the Black Forest Fire destroyed about 500 homes.

The *largest* wildfire in Colorado history remains the 2002 Hayman Fire at nearly 138,000 acres burned. The 2013 West Fork Complex, a group of three fires in southern Colorado, nearly broke that record—with a final tally of 109,000 acres.

Tragically, several recent fires have also included loss of human life, but none as deadly as the 1994 Storm King Fire near Glenwood Springs, when fourteen firefighters lost their lives. This story is memorialized on the Time Machines in the History Colorado Center's Anschutz Hamilton Hall.

This page and facing: After sustaining severe damage from the floods of September 2013, the historic Elkhorn Lodge in Estes Park received emergency grant funds from the History Colorado State Historical Fund.

FLOODED WITH OPPORTUNITY

The Power of Collaboration in the Face of Disaster

BY CLAIRE L. LANIER

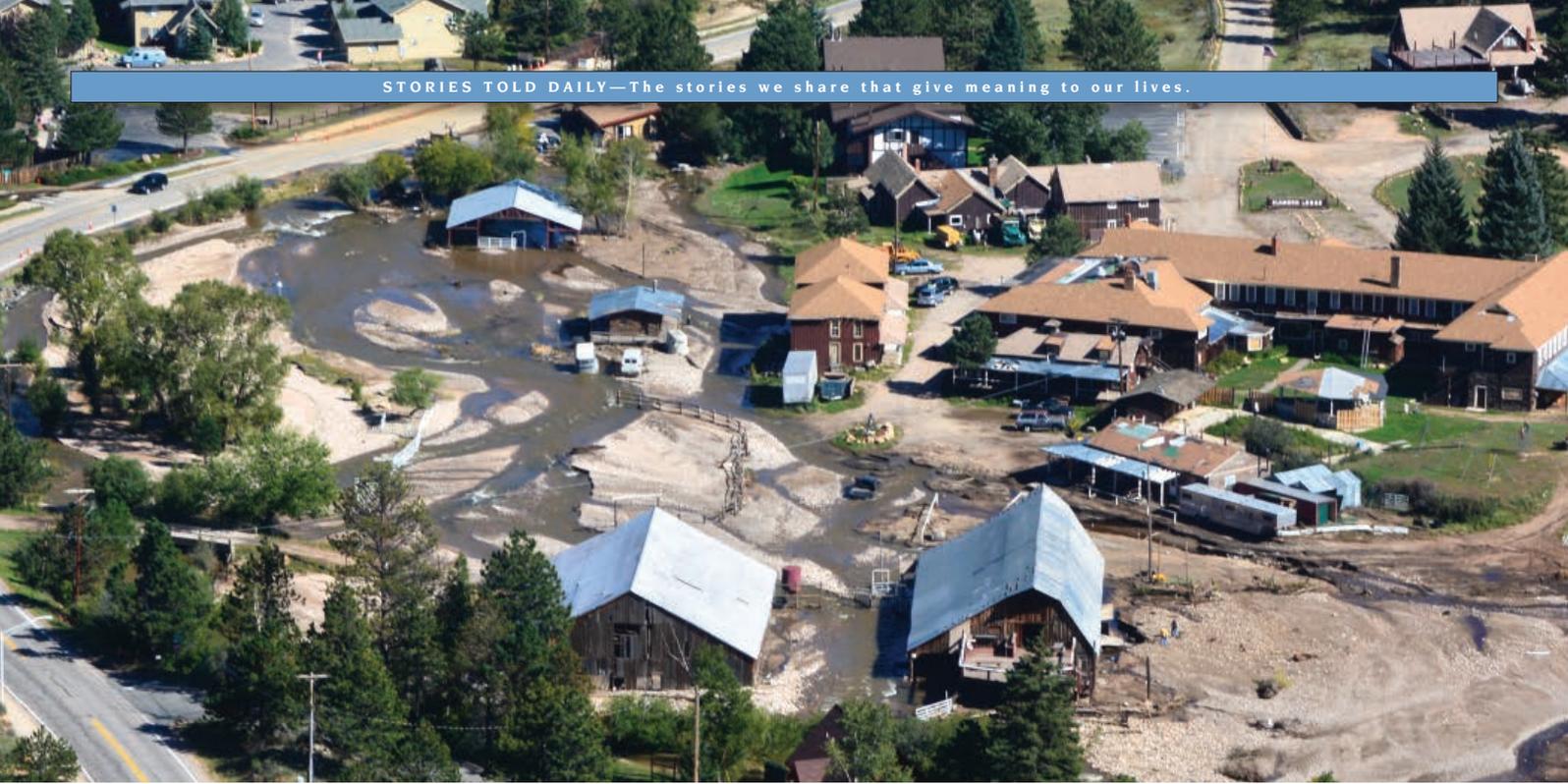
Grant Systems And Outreach Associate, History Colorado State Historical Fund

“There’s a river in my barns,” said the caller. I paused. “Excuse me?” “There is a river running right through the middle of my barns,” the caller repeated. I was shocked, but I knew he wasn’t exaggerating—I’d already seen too many devastating photos of flood damage from the storms on September 13 and 14, 2013—and I thought how strange it must have been to watch a raging current form on dry land, transforming two historic barns into seemingly floating wooden masses.

Calls like these to History Colorado were not unusual following the massive floods that left hundreds without power, heat, or road access and destroyed historic properties in Boulder and Larimer Counties. Perhaps the only narrow silver lining on an aggressive, cumulonimbus cloud is the partnerships that formed as a result of disaster response and the subsequent innovations that have emerged for future

disasters, which are setting a national model for recovery. An unprecedented modern disaster, the 2013 floods united History Colorado, local nonprofits, the state’s emergency networks, and countless federal agencies to swiftly assess and repair the damage to historic properties and local infrastructure.

History Colorado has been providing direct flood support through the State Historical Fund (SHF) emergency grant program, which provides funding for temporary stabilization of disaster-affected historic properties. Since September, SHF has funded emergency projects at the Elkhorn Lodge and the Baldpate Inn, both in Estes Park, and the Little Church in the Pines in Salina, where flooding destroyed literally half the foundation. SHF funded installation of support pads, steel posts, and wood cribbing under the crumbling church to ensure its survival. “The chapel was near destruction, and our stress was enormous,” says Marti Anderson of the



Little Church in the Pines, “but all that changed because the SHF grant application process was simple, the staff was compassionate, and the funds arrived quickly.”

At Baldpate Inn, the floods ravaged the inn’s foundation and roof. After unsuccessfully looking for funding from insurance and several federal agencies, owner Lois Smith had to close the inn during its most profitable season. “Everyone thinks damage is the problem, but it’s the financial piece that really makes you worry. It seemed like every door was smashed shut,” says Smith, “so History Colorado was a breath of fresh air. I can’t tell you what an emotional uplift it was to receive the grant.”

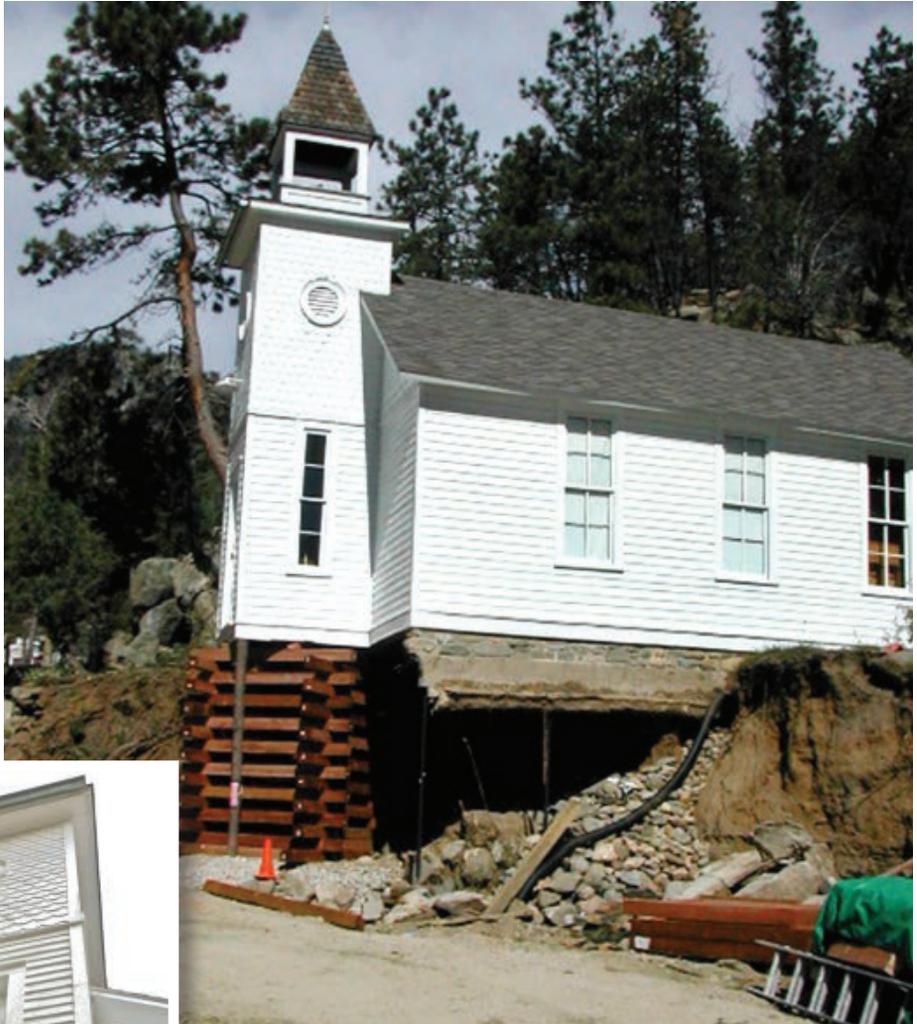
Though Baldpate is an ineligible applicant—SHF cannot directly fund private businesses—Colorado Preservation, Inc., a Denver-based preservation nonprofit, offered to serve as grant recipient on behalf of the inn, affording Baldpate a financial opportunity it otherwise would have missed.

Leading other recovery efforts at History Colorado is Dan Corson, Intergovernmental Services Director. Corson’s team upholds Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, which requires federal agencies to consult with the State Historic Preservation Office before performing work that may affect historic properties. During flood response, when numerous federal programs are working with historic homeowners, this process can get complicated.



*Early days at the Baldpate Inn.
Photo by Charles Mace.*

“One issue has been interpreting emergency provisions of different agencies because not all are the same,” says Corson. “We work primarily with FEMA, USDA Forest Service, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Colorado Department of Transportation, and the Federal Highway Administration, and each has its own jurisdiction, but often they overlap, which can cause confusion.” As a direct result of the September Colorado floods, FEMA has initiated the Disaster Unified Response Team (DURT) in an effort to streamline the recovery process and avoid duplicate efforts. Proactive measures such as these will create a model for how agencies throughout the country can work together on future disasters.



This page and facing: State Historical Fund emergency dollars enabled stabilization of Salina's historic Little Church in the Pines after floodwaters ripped away half the foundation.

National Trust for Historic Preservation’s Western Field Office. “Many areas were immediately aware of the needs for their historic properties. But in other regions, the response was, ‘I don’t know if we have any historic resources,’ so the floods revealed the need to encourage stronger local preservation efforts.”

History Colorado has been working with the relatively new Colorado Cultural and Historic Resources Alliance (CCAHR), a network of local, state, and national organizations that assist cultural and historic resources in Colorado during disasters. “CCAHR brings a team to the State Emergency Operations Center to identify resources in jeopardy, share the information on our listserv, and locate subject matter experts,” says Leslie Williams, co-founder and co-chair of CCAHR. “We worked with Colorado Preservation, Inc. to locate an engineer; we worked with the U.S. Department

Externally, History Colorado has been working with several national and local organizations, such as the National Trust for Historic Preservation. “The good news is that Coloradans have learned to build on high ground, so fewer historic properties were affected,” says Amy Webb of the

of the Interior to find a post-and-beam construction expert from the National Park Service; we worked with FEMA and their environmental officer to coordinate volunteer efforts.”

Moreover, CCAHRA has trained community members to assess historic properties and recommend what might be improved to better withstand a disaster. “It’s really put people on the front lines of their community,” says CCAHRA’s Dana Echohawk. CCAHRA in its sheer existence demonstrates what collaboration can achieve immediately following a disaster, both for historic properties and for individuals.

Similarly, one of the more comprehensive collaborations born of the floods is the emergency Colorado Preserve America Youth Summit to be held in January. A nationally recognized program, the Youth Summit challenges middle and high school students to find creative methods to boost heritage tourism, economic development, and community involvement through historic preservation in Colorado communities. The SHF-funded program in January will unite History Colorado, Colorado Preservation, Inc., the National Trust for Historic Preservation, CCAHRA, and other local organizations that will connect students to post-flood issues. “Many youth across the state know little about the damage,” says Legacy High School senior Simon Hafner, a

Youth Summit alumnus. “And we are even less knowledgeable about the emergency response. All in all, we are not accustomed to large-scale flooding, so this is a teachable moment for youth preservationists in Colorado.”

The partnerships that formed as a result of the September floods are setting a precedent for disaster assistance and revealing how local, state, and federal collaboration presents opportunities that will only enhance our recovery capabilities in the future.

When the owner of the Elkhorn Lodge told me about the river running through the barns, I reflected on what “place” really means. I thought about how long those barns had been there and how many harsh rains they’d already withstood. I thought about how all the owners and employees of the lodge over the years might have looked at those old barns with affection and comfort; how they might have thought of them as *their* barns, and no one else’s. I thought about how our historic places make us feel proud of who we are and what we do in our communities.

Then I remembered that it’s only together that we can save places; I got back to work. “I’m so sorry, sir. How can we help?”





OUR CHANGING M

Living West, the History Colorado Center’s newest exhibit, explores how our mountains are changing today.

Mountain towns like Breckenridge were once campsites for Ute people who hunted here. Then miners and ranchers settled in and changed the landscape. Now, a growing ski industry and the flood of people visiting and living in our high country have transformed the mountains again. More people and a changing climate have created a watershed moment in Colorado history.

Historical Perspectives from a “New Local”

As you enter *Living West*, you encounter three videos with personal perspectives on Colorado’s land and the choices we make to live here. Larissa O’Neil presents the perspective of a “new local” to Colorado’s mountains. Originally from Iowa, O’Neil ventured west to go to Colorado College, and she’s never left the state. She’s lived in Breckenridge since 2006, where she now serves as the executive director of the Breckenridge Heritage Alliance. O’Neil shared some of her thoughts on the changes she sees in her mountain community.

What brought you to Breckenridge?

I was drawn for the access year round to the outdoors. I can ski and hike just out of my back door. I love being surrounded by the mountains, and having access to such a special place. I also love the feeling of community. The first time I came to Breckenridge, my main memory was walking down Main Street, and appreciating the small-town feeling that you have here.

As someone who tells the history of Breckenridge, what changes over time are most interesting to you?

To me the most striking thing is the dredgeboat mining, which completely changed parts of the landscape. They moved parts of Main Street for the dredging, and it completely changed the Blue River. Those decisions made in the early 1900s continue to affect us today. Another big change is the ski industry. A lot of old-timers thought skiing wasn’t going to catch on, and that ultimately Breckenridge would revert back to mining. But now, there are 1.6 million skiers here each season, and it’s really transformed the community.

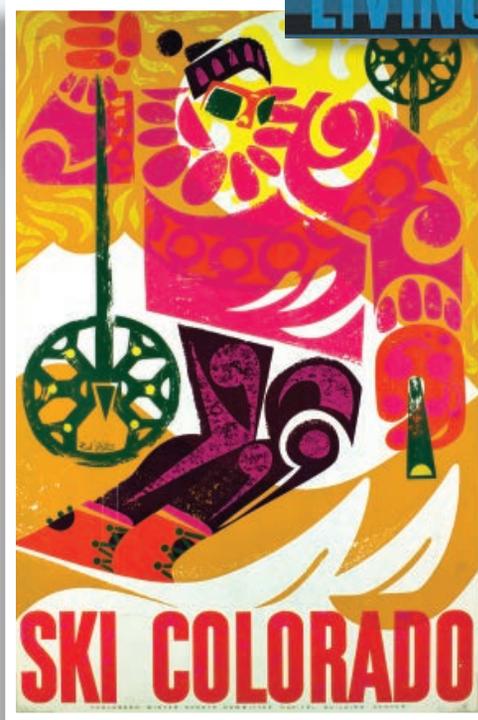
What changes have you seen or experienced since you came to Breckenridge?

I've been here seven years, and I consider myself a "new local." It's remarkable, the changes we've seen in just seven years. It's busier; more people are coming to Breckenridge every year. The ski area has expanded, and there's a new gondola that's changed how people access the mountain and town. There are more high rises and more second homes in and around town.

What are the changes people are talking about?

The town is becoming a year-round destination. Longtime locals tell me: "It used to be in summer you could shoot a gun down Main Street," but these last summers, it's been busier than it was in the winter. Longtime locals will also say that you can't walk down the street and know everyone the way you used to. On the plus side, we have a new hospital in Frisco. Before that you had to go to Fairplay or Leadville.

LIVING WEST



Posters helped promote Colorado's ski industry as it grew in the twentieth century. Several of these posters are on display in Living West.



MOUNTAINS

What other changes are people noticing?

The pine beetle epidemic spread so quickly, and to witness the changes to the trees was really dramatic. In 2012, the water levels of Dillon Reservoir were lower than I've ever seen them before, and the droughts we've been having more and more frequently are more and more of a concern. People are talking a lot about water rights, and the town having enough water to maintain what we have. There's a lot of discussion about what we can do as a community to be as sustainable as possible and to help those visiting to be sustainable as well. Things like how to use transportation effectively, or adding solar energy even in the historic district, and how it can be complementary to historic preservation.

Students at Keystone Science School explore the future of our mountains by studying and debating issues such as water use, wildlife management, mining, and recreation.

The Summit Café in Living West recreates the experience of a mountain coffee shop. History Colorado staff used elements of different buildings in Breckenridge's Historic District in the design of the café.



From peaks to plains, Colorado uses mountain snowpack for water. This interactive exhibit in Living West demonstrates that a lot of snow contains just a little water.



Because of warmer winters, pine beetles reproduce more often and live longer. They do more damage than ever before in forests made up of old, same-age trees, stressed by drought.

Living West is presented in partnership with Denver Water with generous support from the Gates Family Foundation.





Colorado is getting hotter and drier.

Colorado's average temperature has gone up about 2°F in the past thirty years. That may not seem like a lot, but it makes a difference, especially in the mountains. Scientists say the trend will continue.

Living West explores the impact of hotter, longer summers and warmer, shorter winters on the Colorado mountains, from the recent pine beetle epidemic and record fire seasons, to the impact on wildlife like pikas and black bears.

Enos Mills, one of the founders of Rocky Mountain National Park, wrote about pikas in *The Rocky Mountain Wonderland*, published in 1915:

In slide rock and in bouldery moraines up as high as thirteen thousand feet, one finds the pika, or cony . . . Like the beaver he each autumn lays up supplies for winter. Hay is his harvest. This hay is frequently placed in conical piles in the shelter of shelving rocks. These piles are sometimes two feet in diameter. His haymaking is done with much hurry. After quickly biting off a number of plants or grasses, he commonly seizes these by their ends and simply scampers for the harvest pile. Quickly thrusting them in, he hurries away for more. . . . He has a squeaky whistle and a birdlike call, each of which it is difficult to describe. He is a tailless little fellow, and has round ratlike ears; is dark gray above and whitish beneath. In appearance he reminds one of a small guinea-pig, or a young rabbit.

“The one thing we need to be aware of with the pika is that it’s somewhat a canary in the coalmine. It’s raising the flag that says, “Hey guys, we’ve got a concern here.” While the loss of the pika isn’t going to affect our everyday lives, the things that are leading to the loss of the pika, for example loss of snowpack, is something that directly affects our water sources. So it’s really an indicator, saying “Hey, the watersheds could be in trouble,” for example. So it’s something we need to monitor, to be careful [of], to keep an eye on, especially in those locations that may be getting hotter or drier.”

—Liesl Erb, Ph.D. candidate, Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, University of Colorado at Boulder

Tiny pikas depend on a thick snowpack to survive cold winters and they overheat easily in warm weather. So in Colorado they make their homes only at high altitudes.



As the mountains get hotter and drier, one tiny Colorado native thrives: the mountain pine beetle.

Do you know this structure?

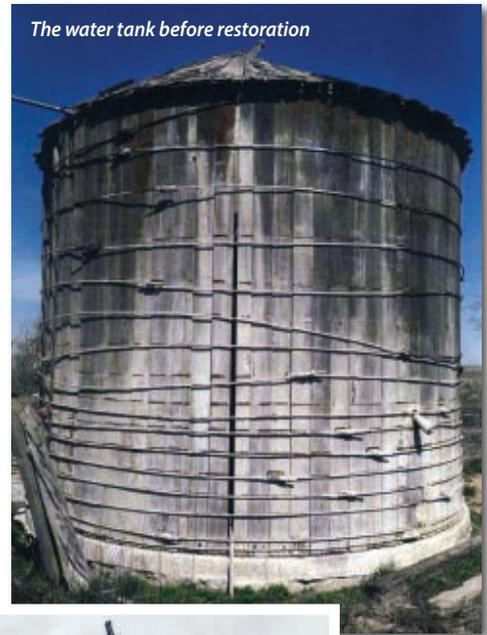
Continued from page 15

Answers: c) Granada relocation center, d) 1942, a) Water tank

On February 19, 1942, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed Executive Order 9066, authorizing the U.S. military to create zones from which “any and all persons” could be excluded. The military removed more than 110,000 Japanese Americans—both immigrants and U.S. citizens—from their West Coast homes and businesses and sent them to ten hastily created relocation centers across the country. The Granada War Relocation Center (commonly known as Amache) opened outside of Granada, Colorado, in August 1942 and operated until October 1945. At its peak, 7,318 Japanese Americans—two-thirds of them American citizens—were detained there.

In 1947 the War Assets Administration began disposing of Amache’s buildings and structures, selling most of what remained to individuals and companies in the area. The water tank and tower found a new home at a ranch twenty miles south of Amache. Only foundations, trees planted by internees, former garden sites, roads, and a cemetery remained at the site until 2010, when the current ranch owner donated the water tank to the Amache Preservation Society.

The water tank and tower were restored and reconstructed in 2012 and returned to Amache. The site was listed in the National Register in 1994 and became a National Historic Landmark in 2006. For more information about Amache, visit www.amache.org.



The water tank before restoration



See page 5 for Amache Day of Remembrance programs this February.

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