
HISTORIC DENVER NEWS

EST. 1970 * VOLUME 51 * NUMBER 4 * FALL 2022



The American Woodmen's Life Building at 21st and Downing streets was designed by Denver architect Gordon White. It was built in 1950 and became a Denver Landmark in 2009. The American Woodmen was a fraternal society that provided home mortgages and life insurance to African Americans.

A LIFETIME OF LEGACY FOR 2022 AWARD WINNERS

by Leah M. Charney, Historic Denver News Managing Editor

What is legacy? That question was top of mind during the selection of this year's award winners, who will be honored at the upcoming 52nd Annual Dinner & Awards Program on October 13, 2022 at The Brown Palace.

Three individuals were selected for our highest honors: Former Sen. Polly Baca has devoted many years to civic life in all its forms; Dr. Renee Cousins King has shown initiative, creativity, and commitment in preserving the history, culture, and architecture of Denver; and Dennis Humphries, the recipient of our Keystone Award, has made significant contributions to historic preservation throughout his career.

These three honorees fully embody the concept of legacy.

Polly Baca's accomplishments are that of a woman who would be first to open doors, but wouldn't be the last to walk through them. She was elected to the Colorado House of Representatives in 1974 and was the first woman of color to chair the House Democratic Caucus. She became the first woman of color to serve in the Colorado State Senate beginning in 1978, where she also chaired the Senate Democratic Caucus — the first Latina in any state to serve in leadership in both branches of a state legislature.

Polly was shaped by experiences facing racism when she was growing up in the Northern Colorado communities of Greeley and greater Weld County. Her parents both came from Spanish families who first set foot in the Americas in 1598. But even

though they'd been "American" for hundreds of years, her family was forced to sit in the segregated section of the church on Sundays.

She was introduced to politics as a college student during the 1960 "Viva Kennedy" campaign to elect John F. Kennedy. Her activism only grew during the Chicano and Civil Rights movements of the 1960s. With a career that has spanned positions in politics, work with the United Farm Workers and the Democratic Party, and national service under three presidents, Polly's heart still belongs to Colorado and to effecting change for low-income communities of color.

Polly was selected to receive Historic Denver's Molly Brown Award, created to honor the women embodying Margaret Brown's spirit today. Polly has devoted years of her life to civic engagement, to helping women gain power through their voice and their vote, and to improving the lives of women and girls. She also sees historic preservation as "one of the keys to preserving our democracy, because it is the stories that are told through the buildings that gives us an idea of where we've been."

That ethos — that buildings can be keepers of our stories — aligns with Historic Denver's ongoing work in the community and our continued commitment to uncover new and diverse stories within the walls of our own Molly Brown House Museum. Legacies, after all, are often bigger than one person or one building.

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Current Issues

A Letter From Our Leadership Team

As chair of the Historic Denver Board of Trustees, I am excited to provide you with a year in review in this final issue of Historic Denver News for 2022.

Though the COVID 19 pandemic presented unprecedented challenges not seen in our 52 years as an organization, we were able to continue our mission and emerged with our Historic Denver family stronger, more flexible, and focused. Even through the times we had to close the museum and advocate remotely, the Molly Brown House Museum remains the cornerstone of Historic Denver and serves as a catalyst for preservation throughout the region. Thanks in large part to our supporters like you, we continue to celebrate recent accomplishments.

Our Molly Brown House Museum's *Heroine of Titanic* exhibit thrilled audiences with artifacts including the Egyptian ushabti Margaret gave to the captain of the Carpathia, and the binnacle from Olympic, Titanic's sister ship. These artifacts represent a huge undertaking to secure loans from other institutions across the U.S. on display at the museum for the first time.

The focus of our preservation efforts continue to be fueled by community conversations. During the 50 Actions for 50 Places campaign, people across Denver told us which places mattered most to them and why. The response was incredible and further demonstrates that Denverites care about our heritage, our places, and the stories that make Denver Denver.

Recent 50 Actions accomplishments include community organizing in Elyria and West Colfax, the first steps toward viable preservation efforts, and an upcoming vote by City Council to decide on landmarking the Irving P. Andrews house. We also supported the Welton Street Cafe, a community gathering place and one of just a handful of Black-owned businesses left on the Welton Street corridor in Five Points, with securing \$40,000 in funding from the National Trust for Historic Preservation's Backing Historic Small Restaurants Grant Program. Be sure to stop in for a good comfort meal and visit with the Dickerson family!

Our Discover Denver team continues their work and is busy surveying structures and collecting stories from community members in the Westwood neighborhood in southwest Denver. They will next focus their efforts in the Five Points, Whittier, Clayton, and Skyland neighborhoods, all areas with important African American cultural heritage.

Other recent accomplishments include working with the La Alma Lincoln Park community to win Denver City Council's unanimous approval in designating by ordinance the La Alma Lincoln Park Historic Cultural District as a district for preservation. The designation has received national attention, including recognition from the National Trust for Historic Preservation and the National Alliance of Preservation Commissions.

After 19 years with Historic Denver, including 14 as executive director, Annie Levinsky stepped down to join History Colorado as Chief of Staff. As a leading voice for preservation in the region, Annie led Historic Denver in successfully advocating for the preservation of hundreds of buildings that hold a special place in the hearts of Denver communities, including historic districts and individual landmarks. Although we were sad to see Annie go, it was a great opportunity for her, and she is not far away. We will continue to collaborate on our preservation efforts.

The Board of Trustees began the transition plan with Annie before her departure, and she was invaluable in giving advice and staying engaged through her last day. Once again, our staff and the board have stepped up over the past several months to keep things moving seamlessly. We engaged an executive recruiter and she first interviewed Annie, staff, the board, community, past board members, and our supporters for insight and advice as we entered our next leadership chapter. She then cast a wide net in the preservation and museum communities. The Executive Transition Team has been impressed by the caliber of candidates who have responded.

Our future CEO & President will inherit a thriving organization with these recent achievements and ongoing programs that connect Historic Denver to the community.

I am looking forward to seeing familiar faces at our 52nd Annual Dinner & Awards Program on October 13th at The Brown Palace. I am always awed and inspired by our individual leadership award winners and the project awards that demonstrate how historic buildings are relevant and infinitely adaptable in a changing world. And if everything goes as planned, I will be introducing you to Historic Denver's new President and CEO.

See you at The Brown!

John R Lucero
Chair, Historic Denver Board of Trustees



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1420 Ogden Street
Denver, CO 80218
303.534.5288
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1340 Pennsylvania St.
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Unless otherwise noted, all photographs were taken by Jay Homstad.



Culture for all.



Dr. Renee Cousins King now owns the Alta Cousins Terrace, named for her beloved grandmother, and fully refurbished it in 2011.

A LIFETIME OF LEGACY FOR 2022 AWARD WINNERS

That's certainly the case for Dr. Renee Cousins King, or "Dr. Renee" to her patients, who is the third generation of a legendary Denver family. Dr. Renee was called to the healing work of medicine and became a pediatrician, first studying at Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and then a two-year residency at Johns Hopkins before returning home to serve her community. She is an associate clinical professor of pediatrics, an award-winning educator of medical students, and an accidental preservationist.

Dr. Renee's grandfather, Charles L. Cousins, first moved to Colorado to work as a Pullman porter. He and his wife, Alta, began buying (and later building) property; her father later expanded on what they built. But Dr. Renee was decades into her own career in medicine before her first forays into real estate.

When her father died in 2009, Dr. Renee inherited 28 of his properties, including several along the bustling business corridor of Welton Street. Within a few short years, she began restoration on the Alta Cousins Terrace, an 8-unit row of townhouses originally built in 1905. The handsome red brick building on the southeast corner of Welton and 26th streets features elements of the Classical Revival and Italianate styles, including triangular pediments and decorative brackets. It's a special property for several reasons, including that it's named for Dr. Renee's grandmother.

"I didn't go into property ownership and redevelopment because I wanted to change careers or become a businesswoman," said Dr. Renee, who nonetheless embraced the challenge. "Cultural history and community continuity are meaningful to me."

Dr. Renee has also made substantial financial contributions to the ongoing restoration work occurring at the Black American West Museum & Heritage Center (BAMWHC), located in the historic former home of Colorado's first licensed African-American woman doctor, Dr. Justina Ford. Thanks to the BAMWHC, the Alta Cousins Terrace, and other spaces like them, many Denverites now know a little bit of the story of these Black women who shaped Denver in countless ways. Or, as Dr. Renee says: "Historic buildings bring legacy to life."

Dr. Renee Cousins King is this year's Ann Love Award. The distinction is named for the former First Lady of Colorado who, when she heard that the certain home of an unsinkable broad named Brown was under threat, embraced preservation and rallied a city to save it.



The Black American West Museum & Heritage Center showcases the accomplishments and history of African Americans throughout the West. The museum is located in the former home of Dr. Justina Ford and was saved from demolition by Historic Denver. It is nearing completion of a multi-year restoration of both the interior and exterior.

Like the awards named for Historic Denver foremothers, our Keystone Award is also about the legacy of spirit. It is presented annually to an individual whose life's work supports preservation for the people of Denver. This year's winner, Dennis Humphries, has been a leading architect and preservationist in the city for nearly 40 years.

When he started out, Dennis may not have imagined he would go on to design 125 libraries or serve three terms on Denver's Landmark Preservation Commission (LPC). During his time there, including a longtime stint as LPC chair, Dennis oversaw the creation of new historic districts, individual landmarks, and the assurance that future citizens would be able to understand Denver's past while enjoying its present. His passion for preservation and work on many civic buildings led him to initiate the Denver Architecture Foundation and also to serve on Historic Denver's Board of Trustees for six years.

Over his career, Dennis has guided the rehabilitation of several notable historic structures, including the McNichols Civic Center Building, a Neoclassical-style former Carnegie Library situated at the northern edge of Civic Center Park. Other impressive feats include the restoration of the gold-leafed Colorado State Capitol dome and the Streamline Moderne American Woodmen Building in the Whittier neighborhood, where his firm had its offices for nearly 10 years. Dennis isn't satisfied to stop with structures, however, and has also mentored and trained a number of architects in preservation work.

Polly Baca, Dr. Renee Cousins King, and Dennis Humphries have each had an impact on Denver as we know it. Their contributions will be celebrated when more than 400 of Denver's civic and business leaders, design professionals, respected craftsmen, and local advocates gather to celebrate our city's heritage and built environment.

We hope you'll join us at the Annual Dinner & Awards Program on October 13. Each year, we begin the evening by taking over the Grand Lobby of Denver's iconic Brown Palace Hotel for our cocktail hour. This rare honor, in such a stunning historic setting, brings together those most passionate about preserving our city's unique identity and diverse stories. And yes, legacy, too. 🌿

STAFF SPOTLIGHT: MIKE ERICKSON



We are pleased to welcome — or welcome back! — Mike Erickson (he/him) to the Historic Denver team as the new Volunteer and Event Coordinator, based out of the Molly Brown House Museum. Mike joins us from the Center for Colorado Women's History, formerly the Byers-Evans House Museum, where he worked as Education Coordinator. Before that, Mike was an intern and part-time staff member at the Molly Brown House Museum from 2014 to 2017.

During his time with History Colorado, Mike worked with staff and volunteers on revising tours and programming as the Byers-Evans House Museum focus shifted in 2018 from Byers and Evans family history

to broader Colorado women's history. Mike collaborated on several initiatives, including the Bold Women Change History Lecture Series, the Barbara Sudler Awards, which recognizes female authors writing about the American West, and the events and programs surrounding the centennial of the 19th Amendment. Yearlong exhibits at the Center for Colorado Women's History highlighted a number of topics including exhibits like Women/Work/Justice, which examined women's access to labor in Colorado, and More Than Place: Colorado, Women, & Land which examined the influence women had on Colorado's land before and after the Homestead Act.

Events and programming coordination requires flexibility and Mike always prioritizes volunteer participation and guest experience, whether it be in person or participating and supporting programming online. He is happy to be back at Historic Denver and the Molly Brown House Museum in such an important role to the organization.

Mike grew up in Eastern North Dakota and found a passion for our local history upon moving to historic Capitol Hill in 2013. Denver quickly became home and he now lives in the Golden Triangle neighborhood with his partner and their golden retriever, Molly. When Mike is not engaging with volunteers or patrons of Historic Denver, he can be found gardening on his balcony or searching throughout the state for the next best hot springs. He graduated from MSU Denver with a degree in history focusing on the American West, largely crediting the stories of Margaret Tobin Brown as an influence on his career path. Mike feels there is always more to learn and his passion to share the stories of Denver's historic built environment will further guide him in his role as Volunteer and Event Coordinator. 🌿

MOLLY BROWN HOUSE MUSEUM



Photo: Taylor Herbst

Hannah Bachus, a University of Colorado Boulder student, recently wrapped up her 10-week paid internship for Historic Denver. The Molly Brown House Museum was honored to host Hannah as part of the Diversity in the Arts (DITA) Internship Program. Hannah, who is visually-impaired, welcomed visitors, wrote donor thank you letters, and also created the Colorado Day Scavenger Hunt in partnership with the Governor's Residence Preservation Fund.

Hannah's final project was conducting research about one of the authors featured in this year's Victorian Horrors — Denver author Mary Coyle Chase, who lived at 532 W. 4th Avenue in the Baker neighborhood. Victorian Horrors will take place on October 14-16, 20-22, and 27-29, with an accessibility-friendly, in-person performance on October 16 at 4pm.

Actors and an ASL interpreter will perform five chilling tales for guests in an ADA-accessible room. For those who prefer to stay at home and watch from behind a pillow, we offer a video option featuring the same five stories from the same fear-inducing actors. At \$20 per family, this makes for a fun watch party option! **Tickets are available at MollyBrown.org.**

MARY COYLE CHASE

by Hannah Lauren Bachus, Diversity in the Arts Intern

Mary Coyle, later Mary Coyle Chase, was born to Irish immigrant parents in Denver, Colorado, on February 25, 1907. Her parents came out West seeking wealth but, after her father landed a job as a salesman for a flour mill, Coyle Chase grew up as part of Denver's lower middle-class. From a young age, she developed a passion for reading, writing, and storytelling. She grew up surrounded by the folktales and lore from her Irish family, which would heavily influence the stories she created later in life.

Coyle Chase proved herself to be a talented student after graduating from West High School at the age of 15. Between 1922 and 1923, she attended both the University of Denver and the University of Colorado Boulder, but left school before she could complete a degree to work as a reporter for the Rocky Mountain News. While working there, Coyle Chase cultivated her skills in journalism by reporting on a wide variety of topics. She had quite a flair for the dramatic and was known around the office as an imaginative, witty, and prank-loving woman. It was here that Coyle Chase met her husband, Robert Lamont Chase, a fellow reporter who would go on to be the paper's managing editor.

After her departure from the Rocky Mountain News, Coyle Chase turned her attention towards two things: raising her children and focusing on personal writing projects. She dabbled in freelance writing and began her career as a playwright during these years. Coyle Chase channeled her Irish upbringing, unpleasant college experiences, and journalistic skills into all the plays she wrote. Her first produced work, *Me Third*, appeared on Broadway but did not achieve even a fraction of the success that her most popular work, *Harvey*, saw.

Written amidst the early years of the Second World War, *Harvey* was Coyle Chase's response to the devastated people she saw around her and an attempt to bring joy back to their lives after having lost so much. Coyle Chase was fortunate to see the success of her work when *Harvey* won a Pulitzer Prize in 1945 and was made into a movie in 1950 starring James Stewart. Chase wrote numerous plays in the two decades that followed, though none of them achieved the same level of success. She then transitioned into writing stories and plays for children.

Coyle Chase was an active member in Denver society, lending her support and expertise to such organizations as the Bonfils Theater, the Denver Center for the Performing Arts, and the Dramatists Guild. Her success as a writer and activist was widely recognized across Denver both during her life and following her death. In 1947, the University of Denver awarded her an honorary doctorate degree. Coyle Chase was also given a lifetime membership to the Denver Woman's Press Club. She died in Denver in 1981 and is buried at Crown Hill Cemetery in Wheat Ridge.

The mission of Diversity in the Arts is to create a pipeline of leaders in the arts who will represent communities of color and other populations generally underrepresented in Colorado's arts organizations and to normalize equity and diversity within these organizations. ☘



Historic preservation and sustainability are natural partners. The preservation and reuse of existing buildings and retrofitting them to be "green" reaches for new heights of fiscal and environmental responsibility.

Daria Castiglione



CASTLE LION DEVELOPMENT, LLC
303.587.5471
Daria@CastleLionDevelopment.com
1251 Pennsylvania St, #2
Denver, CO 80203



Daria Castiglione

Castle Lion Development, LLC
Historic Preservationist • General Contractor • Certified Passive House Tradesperson

DISCOVER DENVER

SHOSHONE STREET BUILDING FIRST CHURCH IN COLORADO FOR QUAKERS AND UKRAINIAN CATHOLICS

by Kerry Baldwin, Research & Evaluation Coordinator for Discover Denver, with research from Suzanne LaViolette, Discover Denver Volunteer



The Transfiguration of Our Lord Ukrainian Catholic Church building, located on the corner of 41st and Shoshone Street in the Sunnyside neighborhood, has a long and fascinating history. The building has had two long-time owners — the Society of Friends, also known as Quakers, and Ukrainian Catholics. This church was the first in Colorado for both religious groups. Starting in 1890, a group of Friends in Denver started meeting for worship. In 1898, the North Denver Friends Church bought two lots in Sunnyside and built a one-story, vaulted-ceiling church. Newspapers reported that the “substantial brick building... well lighted with electricity” would accommodate 300 people.

The first pastor, George D. Weeks, also worked as a teacher at nearby Bryant School. In 1927, pastor Charles A. Mott made the news when he commented on a controversy surrounding women not wearing hosiery when out in public. “There is nothing immoral about legs,” he asserted. Pastor Cecil E. Hinshaw was pastor in the 1930s. After leaving Denver, he had a high-profile and controversial national role in the Quaker community. While president of William Penn University, Hinshaw recruited Black students and professors and Japanese youth whose parents had been sent to U.S. concentration camps. He also allowed female students to wear slacks. Hinshaw later joined the American Friends Service Committee and returned to Denver to organize a local chapter; American Friends Service Committee Denver is now located next door to Historic Denver in the Emerson School building.

The early 1950s marked a period of rapid growth for the organization, likely the reason the Friends built a new church and sold the Shoshone Street building in 1954. By 1951, about 200 Ukrainians had moved to Denver, a small sliver of the four million Ukrainians who became displaced persons because of World War II. Father Dmytro Blazejowsky started holding two masses a month in St. Joseph’s Polish Church in Globeville for the Ukrainian Catholics in Denver, but the congregation quickly raised enough money to purchase the Quaker church in 1954. The first mass in the new Transfiguration of Our Lord Church was in December of that year.

One of the congregants, carpenter Joseph Motnyk, converted the interior of the church from Quaker to Ukrainian Catholic, including carving a wooden altar and tabernacle. The tabernacle was a miniature replica of St. Andrews, a baroque Ukrainian Orthodox church built in Kyiv in the mid-1700s. Motnyk had had a harrowing time during WWII, conscripted to work as a carpenter by the Russians and then forced to dig trenches by the Germans. He escaped by disguising himself in a German military uniform, surrendering to American forces, and then walked 500 miles to Austria where he found the rest of his family in 1945. They applied for admission to the U.S. and came to Colorado.

The church’s second pastor, Father Paul Small, was credited with transforming the Denver parish into one of the leading Ukrainian parishes in the West during his 25-year tenure. He and his wife, Lubomyra, lived in the diocese-owned bungalow next door to the Shoshone church, where he also fed feral cats in the alley. After he died, parishioners and priests lined the curb along Shoshone Street awaiting the hearse. Witnesses reported that suddenly “rough-looking alley cats began running from all directions with their tails straight up in the air. These creatures that would never come near a human lined up in a single row at the curbside beside the priests and began to wail... These homeless creatures came by to pay their respects and lament the passing of the kind soul that fed them.”



The North Denver Friends Church before it was transformed into Transfiguration of Our Lord Ukrainian Catholic Church. Photo: Denver Public Library



Transfiguration of Our Lord Ukrainian Catholic Church at the corner of 41st and Shoshone today. Photo: Kerry Baldwin

Improvements were made to the church building as the congregation grew. In 1966, they held a dedication to mark completion of a new meeting hall. They also remodeled the exterior with a new brick facade and architectural details common to baroque style Ukrainian churches, including parapets and gold dome-topped finials. By 1988, Transfiguration’s parish was described by Father Stephen Chmilar as a “commuter parish,” with congregants traveling from Fort Collins and Colorado Springs. By the early 2000s, the congregation was struggling. A Denver Post story about older parishioners teaching children how to etch Easter eggs, mentioned that the church’s pews held no children some Sundays. Father Valeriy Kandyuk, also a Ukrainian immigrant, continues to hold services at the church for congregants. ✿



HISTORIC DENVER WALKING TOURS

DID YOU KNOW WE OFFER PRIVATE TOURS?

This year we’ve introduced incoming college students, alumni groups, and at least one group of conference goers, among others, to historic places throughout the city. Gather your group and keep us in mind for your next team-building, active adults group, homeschool outing or whatever else strikes your fancy. History-themed birthday party? We’re in!

We’re also taking advantage of Colorado’s 300 days of sunshine and extending the season for our popular walking tours. Public and private tours are still going on throughout the fall, including the holiday favorite Sunset Tower Tours at the Daniels and Fisher Clocktower across multiple dates in December.

CONTACT Alison Salutz at asalutz@historicdenver.org or 303-534-5288 ext. 24 to learn more.

WANT TO BE A HISTORIC DENVER DOCENT?

Interview this fall to become a walking tour guide. Training takes place on Saturdays over the winter. Guides of all ages, genders, backgrounds, and physical abilities encouraged to apply! Tours are typically 90 minutes long and many take place along flat routes that are friendly to walk or roll.

Contact Alison or submit an interest form on the Support Us section of the Historic Denver website: historicdenver.org/support-us/volunteer

Photo: Scott Dressel-Martin

PRESERVATION BRIEFS



The Cadillac Lofts building was constructed in 1921 and became one of the first residential adaptive reuse projects in the Golden Triangle neighborhood in the 1980s.

CADILLAC LOFTS IS NEWEST DENVER LANDMARK

by Annie Levinsky, former Executive Director

In celebration of its 100-year anniversary, the owners of the Cadillac Lofts building at 1090 Cherokee in the Golden Triangle neighborhood spent the past year preparing an application for local landmark status. With Historic Denver’s technical assistance and research by consultant Kristi Miniello, the storied structure was presented to Denver City Council in August and approved as Denver’s newest landmark. It is now one of only a few protected buildings in Golden Triangle, where many structures have been lost over the decades and where surface parking lots are fast-transforming into apartment buildings.

While its early history is distinctly automotive, the Fisher & Fisher-designed structure has a pioneering residential past of its own. In the 1980s, the property became an early adaptive reuse project — the work of developer Mickey Zeppelin, who is known for seeing the potential of quirky existing structures. The building transformed from its original use into popular residential condos that demonstrate how old buildings can serve new purposes and avoid the environmental impacts of scrape-and-build.

For a building with a history rooted in car-culture, it’s an impressive evolution. Constructed for the Cadillac Automobile Company in 1921, it was closely associated with the one-time Automobile Row, located nearby on Broadway. Known as the Cadillac Service Building, it was state-of-the-art and offered a comprehensive menu for Cadillac customers, including a service salesroom and departments for quick service, repairs, painting, and trimming. And it was a short, convenient drive from neighborhoods like Denver Country Club, where Cadillac owners dominated.

In addition to customer amenities, the building was designed to improve the working conditions of employees by providing a club room, lunchroom with cafeteria style meals, and a library stocked with technical books. Every work stall had an outside exhaust pipe so gas fumes wouldn’t fill the interior and there was even a building-wide vacuum cleaning system.

Once one of the largest buildings in the neighborhood, ensconced by one- and two-story homes and commercial blocks, Cadillac Lofts is now surrounded by buildings as tall as 30 stories, with nearby cranes indicating the continued vertical climb of the neighborhood. The landmark designation ensures the history and evolution of the neighborhood is not forgotten and is a case study in how old buildings can continue to be a part of our changing city.

PARK HILL CHURCH WRAPPING UP STATE HISTORICAL FUND PROJECT



Deterioration of the plaster and windows in the hallway at Miller Center.



The flat plaster and windows in Miller Center hallway after restoration. Photos: Shannon Stage

by Shannon Stage, Manager of Grants and Preservation Services

After two years, restoration to windows and plaster at the Miller Center at Montview Boulevard Presbyterian Church in Park Hill is nearing completion. Miller Center, located at 4800-4850 E Montview Blvd, represents one of the oldest parts of the church campus, erected in 1918. The church has a storied history, including a 1964 visit by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., attended by an estimated 3,000 people.

Thanks to a \$100,000 grant from the State Historical Fund (SHF), the Miller Center tower windows, original to the building, and the decorative and flat plaster work in the theater and hallway both underwent restoration. Though most SHF grants require nonprofit owners to contribute at least 25% of the project costs, the church put in a full 50% in matching funds, which further ensured project success. The SHF grant also enabled stabilization and restoration of the Miller Center’s entry stairs. Miller Center has been used since 1958 for community purposes, such as theater, performance, and meeting space. This restoration, part of the larger rehabilitation of Montview Boulevard Presbyterian Church, has now brought Miller Center back to full public use once again. ❁



52ND ANNUAL DINNER & AWARDS PROGRAM

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2022

BROWN PALACE HOTEL

COCKTAIL HOUR – 5PM DINNER & AWARDS PROGRAM – 7PM

HISTORIC DENVER'S 52ND ANNUAL DINNER & AWARDS PROGRAM on October 13, 2022 at The Brown Palace honors individuals and projects that anchor our city's culture and provide for a vibrant future. Dennis Humphries will be honored with the Keystone Award for lifetime achievement in historic preservation; Dr. Renee Cousins King will receive the Ann Love Award, which honors those who embody the spirit of one of Historic Denver's founders, former Colorado First Lady Ann Love; and Polly Baca will be honored with the Molly Brown Award, created to honor a woman who demonstrates Margaret Brown's commitment to community. Community Preservation Awards will be given to Denver Art Museum, Colburn Hotel, Emily Griffith Opportunity School/Slate Hotel, and Pancratia Hall. Our newest award, the Remix Award, bestowed for a project that successfully blends a historic building with a new development, goes to Benzina Italian restaurant for the clever preservation and adaptive reuse of a mid-century modern muffler shop on East Colfax.

As of press time, some tickets were still available. Reserve yours today, while they last!

KEYSTONE AWARD

This Historic Denver Award was created to honor people who have made significant contributions over their lifetime to historic preservation in Denver.

Dennis Humphries



Architect Dennis Humphries "sort of fell into preservation by accident." Humphries, who co-founded Humphries Poli Architects in 1994 (it merged with the international design firm RATIO in 2019), had a number of clients who didn't initially understand the value and potential for development in older buildings.

Humphries first developed a love for architecture while growing up in the Midwest. Over the span of his 40-year career, he's become a regionally recognized architect. Locally, he has guided the rehabilitation of such city landmarks as the dome on the Colorado State Capitol and the Streamline Moderne-style American Woodmen Life Building, where Humphries Poli had their offices for many years. Humphries was also instrumental in the renovation of the McNichols Building in the Civic Center Historic District.

He "believes a public building must represent a community, not simply exist within it," so it's no surprise that Humphries has been the principal author for more than 125 public library commissions, more than any other architect in Colorado!

In addition to serving the community through purposeful design, he's served as the longtime chair of the Denver Landmark Commission; founded the Denver Architecture Foundation, where he started Doors Open Denver; was Vice President of Denver's Civic Center Conservancy; and served on Historic Denver's Board of Trustees for six years, including serving as the Vice Chair of the Capital Campaign. Humphries is currently serving on the State Historical Fund Advisory Board and also continues to work professionally as Consulting Principal at RATIO, where he has trained many young architects in the principles of preservation work.

ANN LOVE AWARD

The Ann Love Award was established to honor individuals who may not consider themselves traditional preservationists but have shown initiative, creativity, and commitment in preserving the history, culture and architecture of Denver. The award is named for former Colorado First Lady Ann Love, a founder of Historic Denver.

Dr. Renee Cousins King



Family and community roots run deep for Dr. Renee Cousins King, a retired pediatrician with continued connection to Denver's Five Points neighborhood. Many buildings along Welton Street bear the Cousins family name, including Charles R. Cousins Plaza, located outside the Blair-Caldwell African-American Research Library, and the Alta Cousins Terrace apartment building.

Dr. Cousins King's grandfather, Charles L. Cousins, moved to Denver in 1909 and, along with his wife, Alta, began building both existing buildings and erecting new structures throughout Denver's "Harlem of the West." Though his son and Dr. Cousins King's father, Charles R. Cousins, developed his own career as a successful real estate magnate and Black entrepreneur, Dr. Cousins King initially followed a different path and went into medicine. Dr. Cousins King attended medical school at the Mayo Clinic, followed by a two-year residency at Johns Hopkins in Baltimore before eventually returning to Denver.

Upon his death in 2009, her father bequeathed nearly a dozen properties to Dr. Cousins King, including the Arcade building (now home to Rosenberg's Bagels). In 2011, Dr. Cousins King oversaw a complete restoration of the Alta Cousins Terrace at 26th & Welton. The 1905 Classical Revival-style building was named for her grandmother after Charles R. Cousins purchased it in 1924.

Not only is Dr. Cousins King an owner of historic properties, but also an ardent supporter of historic places. This support includes substantial contributions toward renovation projects at the Black American West Museum, which is located in the former home of a pioneering physician and important community figure: Dr. Justina Ford, Colorado's first licensed African-American woman doctor.



MOLLY BROWN AWARD

The Molly Brown Award was created to honor women who live in Margaret “Molly” Brown’s spirit today by devoting many years to civic life in all its forms, actively engaging themselves in politics, philanthropy, arts and cultural endeavors and historic preservation.

POLLY BACA



Though they were the descendants of Hispaño colonists who first came to the Americas in the 1600s, one of Polly Baca’s earliest memories is her family being asked to sit at the back or the side of the church on Sundays. Former State Senator Baca was born on a farm in Weld County, grew up in Northern Colorado, and discovered her love of leadership and politics while attending Colorado State University in Fort Collins. Owing to those early memories of segregation, she has made it

a mission throughout her life to change how people treat Mexican-Americans, Latinos, and other Hispanic peoples.

Following graduation, Baca went on to work for Bobby Kennedy during his presidential campaign and was there the night he was assassinated. She worked with and marched alongside Cesar Chavez and attended the 1963 March on Washington with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. She worked as a public information officer for President Lyndon Johnson, as the regional coordinator for President Jimmy Carter’s failed 1980 re-election campaign, and as both Special Assistant for Consumer Affairs and Director of the United States Office of Consumer Affairs under President Bill Clinton.

Baca was the first Latina elected to the Colorado State House and Colorado State Senate. She founded the Latin American Research and Service Agency (LARASA) in 1964 “to lead and influence change to improve the quality of life for Latinos through advocacy, capacity building, and education.” Baca recently participated in *Girls on the Run*, a documentary about women of color running for office, part of which was filmed at the Molly Brown House Museum. She currently runs her own consulting firm, advising on such issues as diversity, government relations, leadership and political campaigns.

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION AWARDS

The Community Preservation Awards are given annually to a handful of projects, institutions and individuals that have made an exceptional contribution to the preservation of Denver’s heritage. These projects exemplify high quality restoration, the careful consideration of the city’s historic fabric and a commitment to community. The winners of these awards are essential to Historic Denver’s mission and the organization takes great pride in recognizing those who assist us in enhancing Denver’s built environment.

DENVER ART MUSEUM MARTIN BUILDING PROJECT

100 W. 14TH AVE PKWY.



In preparation for the 50th birthday of the iconic building designed in 1971 by Gio Ponti, the Denver Art Museum (DAM) undertook a multi-year restoration. When it reopened in 2021, the structure known to some as the Ponti Building and officially as the North Building, was renamed the Lanny & Sharon Martin Building in honor of the donors who provided the first \$25 million toward renovation efforts. The Martin Building’s

restoration included careful treatment of the more than 1 million glass tiles that cover the building and give its unique sheen. The DAM received special permission from Corning to use the file of their patented design to produce 17,000 new tiles to replace any tiles that had fallen off the building over the years. The building is Ponti’s only North American work and is located in the Civic Center Historic District.

COLBURN HOTEL

980 GRANT ST.



The Colburn Hotel is perhaps most famous for its association with Jack Kerouac. It was designed by William Bowman and opened as a residential hotel in 1928. The building has been low-income housing — particularly serving those that had experienced homelessness — for decades. In 2018, after Gorman Associates bought the building, they continued that commitment and invested in major infrastructure upgrades to ensure the building remained viable and livable. They nominated the

building to the National Register of Historic Places and used historic preservation tax credits to help finance the rehabilitation. Work was completed in 2020 and residents were not displaced during construction.

THE SLATE DENVER, TAPESTRY COLLECTION BY HILTON™ AT EMILY’S ALLEY

1250 WELTON ST.



The 140,000-square-foot Emily Griffith Opportunity School (also known as the Emily Griffith Technical College) has been transformed into The Slate Hotel. Mortenson and 4240 Architecture worked as the design-build team for Stonebridge Companies as they redeveloped the historic site into a mixed-use property. The school, which operated at 1250 Welton St. between 1926 and 2015, was designated a Denver Landmark in

2016 as a result of Historic Denver’s advocacy, which enabled the project to access Historic Preservation Tax Credits. In addition to the 250-key hotel, the project also reuses buildings on the Glenarm side of the block for retail and office spaces, supporting about 37,500 square feet of mixed-use space.

PANCRATIA HALL LOFTS

3144 W. FRANCES WALSH PL.



Once a vacant classroom and dormitory building at the Loretto Heights campus in southwest Denver, Pancratia Hall Lofts is an excellent example of adaptive reuse conversion. The Pancratia Hall building, originally completed in 1930, now provides 74 affordable family apartment units. Units range from studios to 4-bedrooms to serve households earning up to 80% area-median income (AMI). The building, which is on the National Register of Historic Places and is now a

Denver Landmark, utilized Low-Income Housing Tax Credits, in combination with State and Federal Historic Tax Credits, and soft funding from the City of Denver, State of Colorado, DHA, CHFA, and Westside Investment Partners. The building’s design combines historic preservation with full modernization, preserving all the key architectural details while prioritizing residents and making it state of the art, sustainable, and energy efficient.

REMIX AWARD WINNER

BENZINA

4839 E COLFAX AVE.



A former muffler and brake repair shop, owner Brad Anderson spent three years transforming the auto-oriented, three-bay building into a restaurant. Benzina, which means gasoline in Italian, is situated along the edge of the Park Hill neighborhood. Anderson reused the protruding triangular awning of the mid-century building to create a unique al fresco dining space. The garage bays open to merge the indoors and outdoors along a section of East Colfax that is walkable, community-oriented,

and home to a large swath of small businesses. 🌱



The Wellshire Inn was initially built as part of a private golf course but both the Inn and the course have open to the public since the 1930s. Photo: Michael Flowers

by Michael Flowers, Director of Preservation Action

In 2021, Denverites nominated dozens of sites for Historic Denver's 50 Actions for 50 Places. The campaign is designed to identify the places our communities cannot imagine Denver without, especially those that have been under-recognized in the past and those that reflect the full depth and diversity in our city's story. After the submission period, the list was narrowed to 50 sites for which we've been actively working with community members and property owners to develop preservation actions of all kinds, from research projects, to interpretive plans, to publicity efforts, to local and National Register designation applications. As actions get underway or are completed, we'll report the news in these pages and on our social media accounts.

WHAT'S THE STORY WITH THE WELLSHIRE INN?

The Wellshire Inn, pictured above, was designed by G. Meredith Musick and the Tudor style structure was completed in 1927. It was designed to operate as the clubhouse for the Wellshire Golf Course, which was opened just a year earlier. The course was designed by renowned golf course architect Donald Ross and was privately owned at first. In 1936, both the golf course land and associated buildings were sold to the City and County of Denver, and have remained a public golf course since. In addition to serving the golf course at the Golfer's Pub and Patio, The Wellshire Inn provides rental space for events, golf-related or otherwise, and weddings. As part of our action, we researched the Inn to determine its eligibility to be included in any local, state, or national nominations. Next steps are still being determined.

NEW LIBRARY NAMED FOR DENVER'S "NON-STARVING ARTIST," BOB RAGLAND

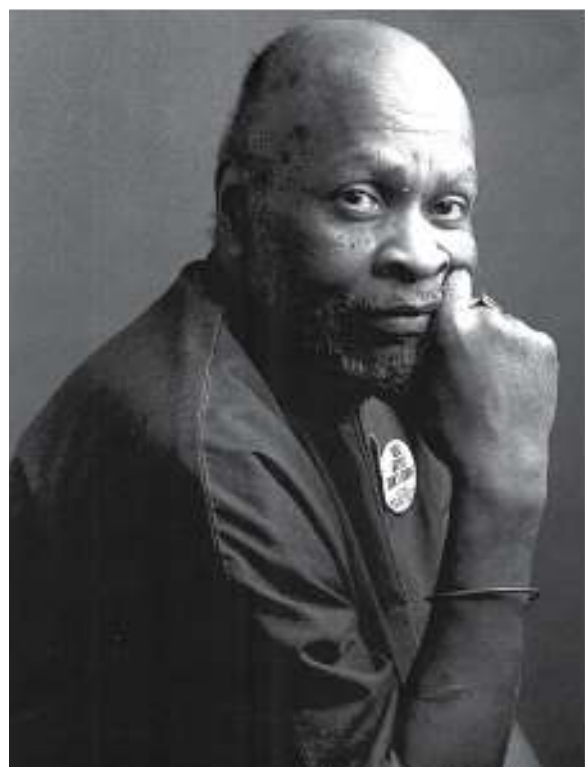


Photo: Denver Public Library

This was the home and studio of famed Denver artist Bob Ragland, who was well known in Denver's arts community. One of his paintings was presented to the White House and then-President Jimmy Carter and a 2016 portrait of Ragland is on display at the Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery. Ragland's works can be seen locally at the Kirkland Museum Fine and Decorative Art and at the Ford-Warren Branch Library near his home in Whittier. In addition to creating numerous works, he was a mentor and career coach for artists where he championed the "non-starving artist" program, educating artists on how their artwork could provide for their livelihood.

Following his death in April 2021, Ragland's legacy lives on through his artwork, the artists he influenced, and now the newest Denver Public Library branch in RiNo ArtPark in Five Points, which was renamed the Bob Ragland Branch Library earlier this year. We are thrilled to see Ragland receiving citywide attention once again and look forward to leveraging this energy into support around Mr. Ragland's longtime Denver home.



Photo: Courtesy Paul Christopher Cloyd

DO YOU KNOW THE HISTORIC ELITCH GARDENS CAROUSEL HOUSE?

One of the remaining elements of the original Elitch Gardens still pays homage to the history of Denver's amusement park industry. Perhaps not as well-known as the Historic Elitch Theater, the Historic Elitch Carousel House stands near 38th and Tennyson in Northwest Denver. The dome was erected in 1926 for a new carousel and the original carousel was moved to Burlington, on the Eastern Plains. The Carousel House is one of the few remaining pieces of the original Elitch Gardens and its twelve-sided shape, bell roof, colonnaded cupola, and arched dormers make it easily recognizable. Though the original 1905 carousel is nominated to the National Register of Historic Places, neither this structure nor the carousel it once housed — located near the entry of the current Elitch Gardens — have been designated at the National, State, or Local level.

Staff continues to develop a suitable action for this site and its unique stories. We hope to recognize and bring awareness to this historic place, which may involve designation, collecting memories and photos, or making more citizens aware of this cultural treasure.

WHATLEY CHAPEL ADDED TO DENVER SCHOOL OF THE ARTS CAMPUS



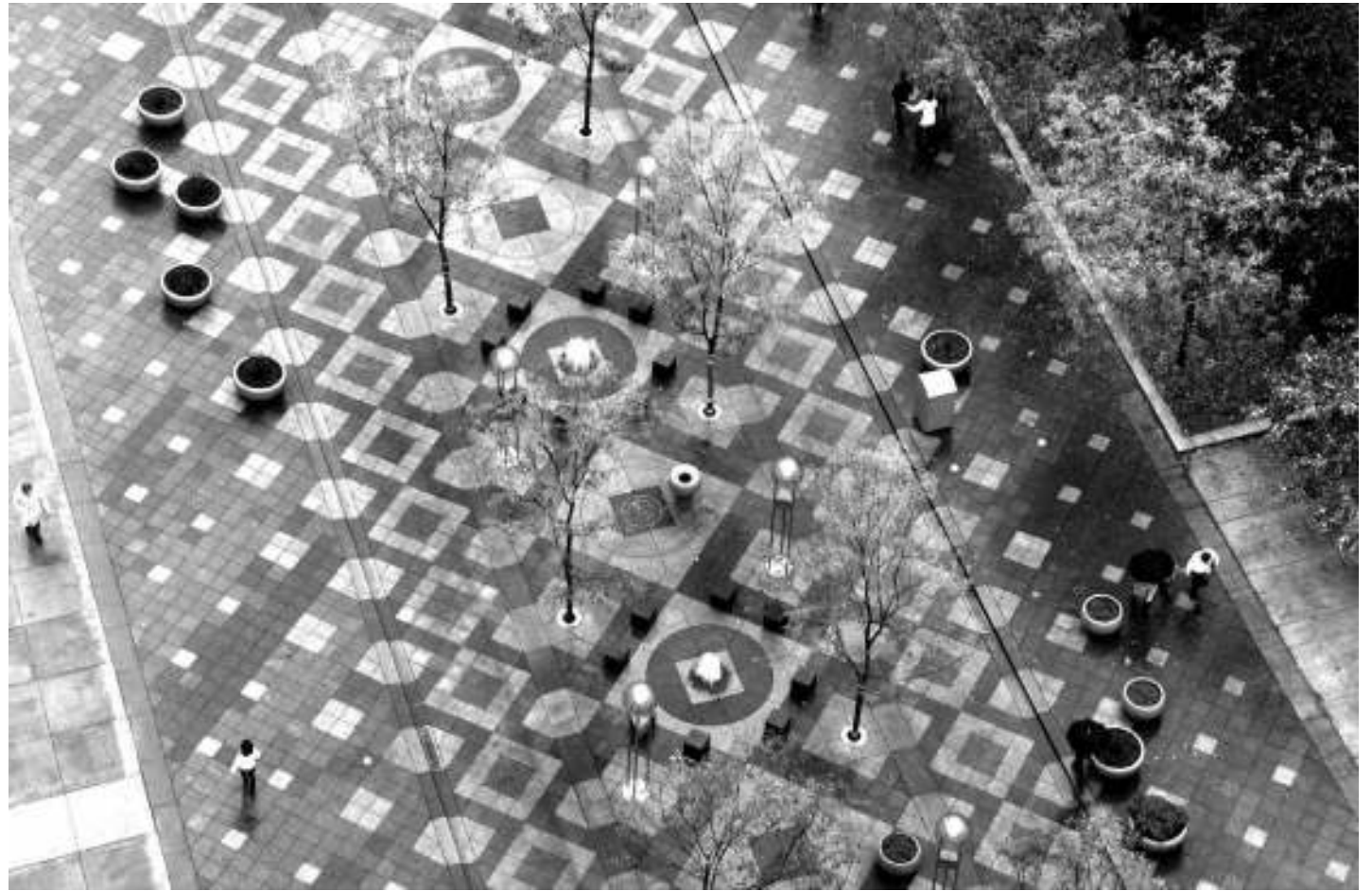
Whatley Chapel was built to serve the students at the Colorado Women's College in 1962. Designed by Stanley Morse in the Formalist style, the chapel features 39 stained glass windows. Colorado Women's College merged with Denver University in 1982, and then Johnson and Wales took over the campus in 2001. Currently the Whatley Chapel is owned by

Denver Public Schools and will soon be incorporated into the Denver School of the Arts, a comprehensive arts magnet school for middle and high school students.

One goal of the 50 Actions campaign was to highlight and make projects like this more visible. This building will be re-used thanks to Denver Public Schools and will continue to serve the Denver community as it has for 60 years.✿

**OPINION:
CHANGES TO
16TH STREET MALL
A GREAT LOSS**

This aerial image, taken shortly after the construction of the 16th Street Mall, shows the distinct pattern as designed by Pei Cobb Freed & Partners.



by Richard L. von Lührte, special to Historic Denver News

The 16th Street Mall was initially a consolation prize, gifted by the Urban Mass Transit Administration (UMTA, now the Federal Transit Administration) after Denver did not receive funding for a light rail system in the mid 1970's. The UMTA instead supported pouring millions of dollars into the local bus network, under the requisite that Denver was to build a transit mall, one of only two in the country. (The other was built in Minneapolis).

I was the project manager when the Mall, designed by internationally renowned architect I.M. Pei, launched as a signature public project for the city, with its distinctive pattern, inspired by Navajo rugs and rattlesnake skin.

The Mall, from its inception, was less for pedestrians and more a right-of-way for free shuttles, designed for 20,000 people per hour to travel in energy-efficient electric buses. By the time Downtown Denver Partnership and RTD engaged in a plan to update the Mall, the transitway was carrying over 80,000 people and the small buses had been replaced by oversized vehicles that exacerbated wear and tear on the pavers lining the Mall, with annual maintenance reported by RTD estimated at \$1 million per year.

It is ironic that a project designed primarily as a free bus route succeeded so greatly that it was dying from overuse.

In America, our solution to problems is often to throw away and start over. New is trumpeted as better and we're told it is worth the cost to completely rebuild. Yet in cities across Europe and the Middle East, roads that have been there since the Romans remain and follow the same routes as historical figures on the very stones they walked on over 2000 years ago.

But that is not the case for the 16th Street Mall, even though it has become the lifeline and defining iconic feature of Downtown Denver. It is the most visited destination of any for countless visitors and for our residents, and also one of the most important projects by I.M. Pei's office, with significant contributions from Henry Cobb and landscape architect Laurie Olin as well. Pei started his career in Denver, with such signature projects as Mile High Center and the Zeckendorf Plaza, before William Zeckendorf became his patron and whisked him off to New York City to become one of the greatest architects of the 20th century. And the Mall has become the centerpiece for the remaining retail in downtown, which was terribly depleted due to both population loss resulting from trends such as white flight, shopping mall developments, and urban renewal actions in the mid-20th century.

The Mall was not only eligible for the National Register of Historic Places, but the Urban Land Institute (ULI) called it "public art of the highest international quality."

For many of us, the saga of the \$200 million redevelopment of the Mall, now under construction, goes back more than a decade and through multiple rounds of task forces. In every case, when the task force recommendations to rehabilitate, rather than remove and rebuild, were made the entities that oversee the Mall reconvened yet another task force until they got the answers they sought.

Historic Denver tirelessly advocated for the Mall's historical and design significance, resulting finally in an agreement to support reconstruction as long as the three defining elements of the I.M. Pei design were retained: the iconic paving pattern featuring three-color granite blocks; the tree canopy for the entire length of the Mall; and the original light fixtures.

So, why is Historic Denver following the Mall so closely as it is constructed, and why are there so many remaining concerns? Primarily, both the City of Denver and RTD continue to retreat from the very design decisions Historic Denver deemed critical. The pattern of the granite pavers has not been adhered to, putting an end to the intricate and intentional design inspired by and specific to the West. The transit lanes and sidewalks will be installed differently, introducing pavers the size of standard bricks, despite serious



Information about construction, including the new paving stones that are about 1/10th of the size of the previous ones, is located on the corner of 16th and Welton streets. Photo: Leah Charney

questions about whether the installation of these smaller pavers will be functionally or aesthetically successful or wear well over time. Ultimately, this loss of integrity, growing with each new adjustment to the design commitments, amounts to the loss of a masterpiece.

In addition, it was our understanding that the existing larger pavers would purposefully be reused in various new applications. Instead, they have been summarily bulldozed into rubble, with the only known reuse being crushed roadbed. These paving stones, which could have been laid on each cross street to support design integrity and also offered up for community use, are instead being demolished, destroying several hundred thousand square feet of granite that embodies millennia of carbon. Historic Denver has long preached that the most sustainable building is one that exists today, and, in this time of climate change, these pavers should have been repurposed in countless ways.

Though some elements will be retained — namely the use of granite, the replanting of trees, and the reinstallation of light fixtures remanufactured but with updated technology — these are cold comfort when there remain so many issues and the loss of a truly unique public work. Even viewing the mockup on display at 16th and Welton streets makes the complete inconsistencies of pattern, color, and construction technique between what was promised and what the original design was abundantly clear.

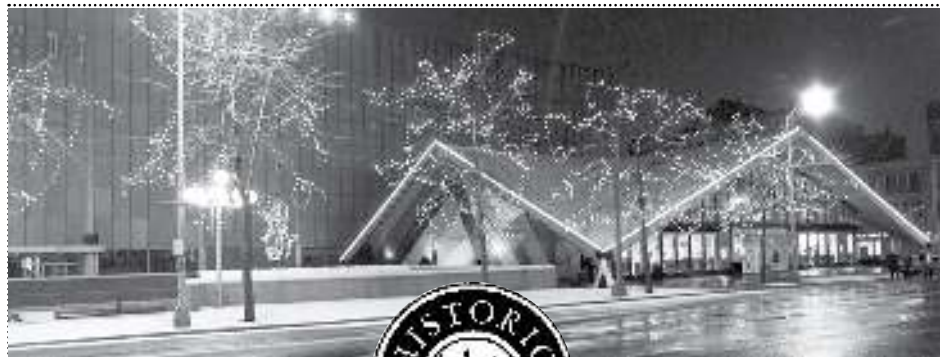
To this end, we continue to ask the city to revisit the new basketweave pattern made of smaller pavers, as well as color differences and pattern inconsistencies between the transit way pavers and the pedestrian zone pavers. We also continue to request that the old pavers be reused in a sustainable manner. No matter the outcome, we feel it is in the public's best interest — and in the spirit of preservation and sustainability — that we keep fighting until the last paver is installed. ❁

Richard L. von Lührte is a retired architect and an AIA Fellow, the highest membership honor bestowed by the American Institute of Architects. He is a member of Historic Denver's Board of Trustees and chair of the Historic Denver Board Preservation Advocacy Committee.

Thank You

New and Renewing Members July 1, 2022 - September 19, 2022

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

To purchase tickets to upcoming events visit:
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COMMUNITY BOOK CLUB
 Sunday, October 2 • 12:30-2pm • Free
 Virtual or in-person at the Center for Colorado Women's History

Join fellow book and history-lovers in a spirited discussion of *Hearts West: True Stories of Mail-Order Brides on the Frontier* by Chris Enss.

ANNUAL DINNER & AWARDS PROGRAM
 Thursday, October 13 • 5-9pm • The Brown Palace Hotel • \$195 Individual • \$250 Patron • Sponsorships Starting at \$3,000
 Back at The Brown Palace for the 52nd time, Historic Denver will celebrate the individuals and preservation projects that make historic places succeed in the 21st century. The evening includes a popular cocktail hour, followed by a three-course dinner, award presentation, and live auction.

VICTORIAN HORRORS
 October 14, 15, 16, 20, 21, 22, 27, 28, 29 • Timed ticketed entry between 6-9pm
 Molly Brown House Museum
 \$19 Member • \$22 Non-Member
 Virtual option available for \$20 per family
 In its 29th year, Gothic horror tales by well-known but long-gone authors are told throughout the house as portrayed by acclaimed local actors. This year's offerings include stories from the likes of H.G. Wells, Ambrose Bierce, and Edgar Allan Poe alongside the local spirit of Mary Coyle Chase.

NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM
 Saturday, November 5 • 5-10pm
 Molly Brown House Museum • Free
 Explore the home of Titanic heroine Margaret "Molly" Brown at your own pace while museum docents share their favorite stories about Denver's unsinkable Brown family - a story that leads from gold to the most infamous ocean disaster, from Paris opera houses to a run for the US Senate!

EMPOWERED BY PLACE: THE GOLDA MEIR HOUSE MUSEUM
 Wednesday, November 2 • 7-8:30pm
 Virtual • Free
 Join us for a fascinating conversation with Lena Fishman, Executive Director of the Golda Meir House Museum. Fishman will explore the historical moment during which Golda Meir is in Denver, and how her experiences here shaped her political outlook. Golda went on to become the fourth Prime Minister of Israel and the western world's first woman to be democratically elected to lead a country. We will also discuss the preservation of the home in the 1980s, as well as an exciting look at the work that has happened in the past year to reinterpret the site and increase public access.

SALON SERIES: WOMEN & THE VOTE: 2022 MIDTERMS RECAP
 Thursday, November 10 • 7-8:30pm
 Virtual • Free, donations appreciated
 These salons are an opportunity to come together and construct a safe space in which we use Margaret Brown's story as a historical place marker to find examples from the past of people's resilience and creativity when faced with challenges and adversity. Let's tally up and unpack how women candidates fared in the 2022 midterm elections!

1340 PENN: MURDER IN DENVER
 Thursday, November 17 • 7-9pm • Virtual
 \$15 Member • \$17 Non-Member
 Murder, chaos, mayhem...but who's to blame? Detective Sam Howe is on the case, but he'll need your help — and his trusty scrapbooks — to find the culprit.

ART ON PENN: A CLOSER VIEW – SUMI-E
 Thursday, December 1 • 5-7pm
 Molly Brown House Museum
 \$20 Member • \$25 Non-Member
 Sumi-e is the ancient art of Japanese ink painting. Sumi-e captures, in a pure and simple way, the timeless beauty of the natural world. Margaret and J.J. Brown traveled to Japan several times and brought back artifacts, some of which are still in the house today. We will be taking a closer look at the Sumi-e art form and virtually travel with Margaret to view the art of Japan through her eyes. We will also create our own beautiful bamboo scroll paintings.

ORGAN TOUR
 Saturday, December 3 • 9:30am-12:30pm
 Various Locations • \$20 Member • \$25 Non-Member
 Every year Historic Denver partners with the American Guild of Organists Denver Rocky Mountain Chapter to present a morning of history, architecture, and beautiful organ music. This year we will visit three churches. At each site we will hear about the history and architecture of the church, as well as be delighted by live organ music.

COMMUNITY BOOK CLUB
 Sunday, December 4 • Time • Virtual or in-person at the Center for Colorado Women's History • Free
 Join fellow book and history-lovers in a spirited discussion of *Pulling Harvey Out of Her Hat: The Story of Mary Coyle Chase* by Mimi Pockross.

SUNSET TOWER TOURS
 December 4, 11, 18 • 4-5pm • Daniels and Fisher Clock Tower • \$17 Member • \$20 Non-Member
 Experience the holiday lights at sunset from the vantage point of Denver's 1911 skyscraper, the Daniels and Fisher Clock Tower. This guided tour will include history of the tower, as well as views from the 20th floor balcony.


COLORADO GIVES DAY
 Tuesday, December 6
 Schedule your Colorado Gives Day donation starting November 1 at coloradogives.org to give where you live!

REALTOR SEMINAR: UNDERSTANDING & SELLING DENVER'S HISTORIC HOMES
 Wednesday, December 7 • 12-4:30pm
 Virtual • \$55 Member • \$70 Non-Member
 This popular 3-credit course covers 150 years of Denver architecture, an exploration of the various types of historic protections, maintenance pointers for homeowners, and sales tips. We are offering the course virtually; in order to join us and receive all 3 of the education credits you must have video capability and remain present for the entirety of class.


YULETIDE TEA
 December 10 and December 17 • 1pm and 3pm • Molly Brown House Museum • \$36 Member • \$40 Non-Member
 Create holiday memories at the Molly Brown House Museum with our Yuletide Teas! Make us a part of your family's holiday traditions as together you explore the holiday decorations and enjoy delicious yuletide treats with a hot cup of tea in our tearoom. Suggested for ages 6 and up. Our Yuletide Teas take place on the 3rd floor of the museum, which is only accessible via stairs.

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