

April 2009 + Number 23

# SPRING SURVEY SHORT COURSE UNDERWAY

The second of two introductory survey classes being held as part of the SHF-funded Historical & Architectural Survey Training Initiative (HASTI) started on Saturday, March 28<sup>th</sup>. Like the first short course, the class meets for four-hour sessions on four Saturdays and all participants will complete an Architectural Inventory Form for a single non-surveyed resource in the City of Denver. Individual class sessions include a mix of presentations; guest speakers; and activities providing the students practice with surveyrelated skills such as completing architectural descriptions, determining locational information, and writing strong Statements of Significance.

This class differs slightly from the fall offering based upon lessons learned from that experience. The total class enrollment for the spring course is slightly higher. The first class experienced slight attrition, so a total of 22 students were recruited for the spring offering. The individuals taking the second introductory class represent a wide cross-section of backgrounds, with a total of 13 currently enrolled in degree programs in Architecture, Urban Planning, History, Public History/ Historic Preservation, and Landscape Architecture at diverse institutions such as Colorado Mountain College, University of Colorado-Denver, and Colorado State University in both Fort Collins and Pueblo. The remainder of the participants are preservation professionals (including a number of representatives from local governments) and avocational historians. Based upon fall participant feedback, the second short course includes an onsite orientation from Reference Librarian Bruce Hanson for the Western History/ Genealogy Department at Denver Public Library about researching historic buildings. A final key change for the spring class: a small group of students taking the survey course to fulfill a class project requirement for a course at UCD have researched the survey area and will present this information to their fellow participants in the survey course, assisting with both orientation to the area and determination of historic district potential. The Spring Short Course survey area is located along Tennyson Street between 39<sup>th</sup> and 41<sup>st</sup> avenues and students will document commercial resources. Both short courses have concentrated upon commercial properties. However, the chosen sites for the spring course should be slightly easier to research since the Tennyson strip features fewer House with Commercial Addition properties, a dominant building type in the fall survey area along West 32<sup>nd</sup> Avenue between Meade and Julian.

The short courses have proven more popular than expected, with more applicants interested in participating than space available for the spring class. Once the Practical Experience component of HASTI (students work in pairs to complete both forms and a survey report for 20 resources) is complete staff will analyze the appropriate direction for future survey education and training. So, watch this space and contact Mary Therese Anstey if you would be interested in having your name placed on the growing waiting list for future introduction to survey classes.

The activity that is the subject of this material has been financed in part with Federal funds from the National Historic Preservation Act, administered by the National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior. However, the contents and opinions do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of the U.S. Department of the Interior, nor does the mention of trade names or commercial products constitute an endorsement or recommendations by the Department of the Interior or the Society. Regulations of the U.S. Department of the Interior or the Interior or the Society. Regulations of the U.S. Department of the Interior or the Interior or the basis of race, color, national origin, age or handicap. Any person who believes he or she has been discriminated against in any program, activity, or facility operated by a recipient of Federal assistance should write to: Director, Equal Opportunity Program. U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 1849 C Street, Washington, D.C. 20240.

These activities are also partially funded by the State Historical Fund, a program of the Colorado Historical Society.

# GRANT-FUNDED SURVEYS UPDATE

Each issue of *The Camera & Clipboard* lists all of the awarded, ongoing, and completed grant-funded historical & architectural surveys. The list below features status changes over the past three months.

#### <u>Certified Local Government Projects</u> Awarded★:

*Aurora* – Comprehensive Reconnaissance Survey of Hoffman Heights subdivision

Boulder County – Selective Intensive Survey of 45 properties in Wondervu

*Breckenridge* - Intensive Survey of 40 properties along Harris and High Streets within the National Register Historic District

*Loveland* – Selective Intensive Survey of 60 scattered resources within the city limits

*Pueblo* – Selective Intensive Survey of 43 properties in East Side neighborhood

Steamboat Springs – Selective Intensive Survey of 30 properties within "Old Town"

### Ongoing:

*Greeley* - Intensive Survey of 50 homes between 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> Streets and 6<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Avenues- Kelly Courkamp

*Littleton* - Reconnaissance Survey of 83 houses in Arapaho Hills subdivision- Diane Wray Tomasso

Steamboat Springs – Intensive Survey of 50 properties within "Old Town"- Cultural Resource Historians

*Westminster* – Intensive Survey of 30 scattered rural sites in Jefferson County- Dawn Bunyak

# State Historical Fund Projects Awarded:

*Town of Erie* – Selective Intensive Survey of 23 buildings within town limits

### Ongoing:

Bayfield – Intensive Survey of 30 sites in commercial downtown - Nik Kendziorski

*Boulder* – Comprehensive Reconnaissance and Selective Intensive Survey (104 sites) within 10 postwar residential subdivisions – TEC, inc.

Broomfield – Selective Reconnaissance and Intensive Survey (38 buildings) – SWCA

*Carbondale* – Intensive Survey of 20 Residential properties – Reid Architects

Colorado School of Mines – Intensive Survey of

23 buildings on campus – Preservation Partnership

*Eastern Plains* – Selective Reconnaissance and Intensive Survey (40 sites) in Baca and Phillips Counties – Colorado Preservation, Inc.

*Fort Collins* – Selective Intensive Survey of 62 sites related to commercial and residential development from 1945 to 1967 – Historitecture

*Fort Lupton* – Intensive Survey of at least 90 sites in commercial downtown – Tatanka Historical Associates

*Genoa* - Intensive Survey of 40 sites as part of Small Town Survey Initiative – Front Range Research Associates

*Gilpin County* – Reconnaissance and Selective Intensive Survey (90 sites) in communities near the Moffat Tunnel - SWCA

*Hinsdale County* – Intensive Survey of at least 30 sites - Preservation Publishing

*Historic Denver, Inc.* – Reconnaissance and Selective Intensive Survey (35 sites) within Kountze Heights neighborhood - Front Range Research Associates

*Kiowa County* – Countywide Reconnaissance and Selective Intensive Survey (up to 50 sites) in three towns – Front Range Research Associates

La Plata County – Comprehensive Reconnaissance and Selective Intensive Survey of 100 sites – Cultural Resource Planning

Larimer County – Intensive Survey of at least 85 sites in the Town of Bellvue – Tatanka Historical Associates

*Meeker* - Intensive Survey of at least 30 sites as part of Small Town Survey Initiative – Reid Architects

*New Deal, Phase III* – Intensive Survey in 11 remaining counties – Colorado Preservation, Inc.

*Routt County* – Intensive Survey of 26 sites in the Town of Hayden – Mountain Architecture Design Group

Silverton – Intensive Survey of at least 225 sites within National Historic Landmark boundaries -Silverton Restoration Consulting

*Windsor* – Intensive Survey of 45 sites in commercial downtown – Historitecture

★- NOTE: At the time this issue of the newsletter went to press, the federal budget and exact HPF allocation had yet to be finalized. All CLG awards noted are contingent upon available federal funds.

THE CAMERA & CLIPBOARD

# SURVEY, SUSTAINABILITY, AND SHF APPLICATIONS

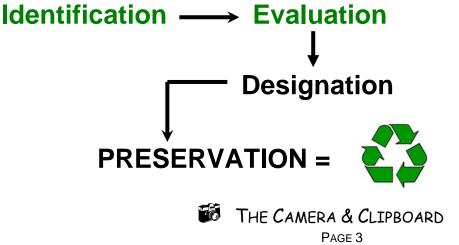
The April 1 State Historical Fund (SHF) grant application deadline marked the debut of a new application format. Most of the questions asked of applicants are similar to those which have appeared in the previous grant application. However, survey staff received questions about a new section related to sustainability. Section F of the new application states: "Explain how this project uses historic preservation methods that contribute to a more sustainable future for our environment. This category indicates the importance of preservation and sustainability to the project. (0-10 points)"

The link between sustainability and bricks and mortar projects seems pretty obvious. For example, projects which propose to restore historic wood windows rather than install vinyl replacements represent a much more environmentally-sensitive approach. Individuals applying to SHF for funding to complete Acquisition & Development (A & D) projects were able to adequately address the Section F question regarding sustainability by quoting the conventional wisdom, "The greenest building is an existing building" and elaborating with project-specific details about exactly how the historic fabric was to be treated. But communities interested in completing historical & architectural surveys were confused exactly how to address the sustainability of their proposed projects.

SHF Outreach and Survey staff encouraged applicants to think broadly rather than too specifically. The response for Section F need not address issues such as the use of a Prius Hybrid for reconnaissance survey fieldwork or a commitment to submit all drafts electronically and all final products in a two-sided format in order to avoid killing innocent trees. Instead, the way to develop a competitive response for Section F of the application is to consider the link between survey and preservation and then to explain why preservation is sustainable.

The figure below was designed to explain this basic argument. In this diagram, Identification and Evaluation represent the two information-gathering steps which comprise the survey process. A survey involves identifying resources ("This is a Craftsman Bungalow, that is a Late Nineteenth Century Commercial building") and then evaluating them ("So what? Why is the surveyed resource important? Is it eligible to the National Register, State Register or as a local landmark?"). The survey process allows for designation of eligible sites and within that nomination there are more details about the character-defining features of the resource and why the property is significant. For the SHF program there is a direct link between designation and preservation, since in order to complete physical work on a property the resource must be listed. The details in the nomination will guide the preservation work, with competitive applications proposing to follow the Secretary of Interior's Standards and restoring or retaining the characterdefining features which allow the designated property to convey its significance. At this point in the diagram and your justification for the sustainability in the grant application, you can return to the argument cited above about the greenest building being an existing building.

In summary, survey projects are sustainable because they gather the information necessary to preserve historic resources and preservation is inherently green because it advocates reuse and repair rather than replacement. Such sensitive, green treatments would not be possible without the crucial data collected



during an historical & architectural survey.

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Thinking of applying for SHF grant funding to complete an historical & architectural survey? Remember SHF staff offer assistance with project planning and will gladly review draft grant applications, offering advice to make your submission as competitive as possible. C O M P L I A N C E O

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This page of the newsletter normally deals exclusively with historical & architectural resources. So, file this column under, "now for something completely different." The newest OAHP compliance manager, Shina duVall, addresses defining the Area of Potential Effects from an archaeologist's perspective.

highlighting how this approach is similar to and different from how architectural historians address the built environment.

## AREA OF POTENTIAL EFFECTS (APE) IN AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL SETTING

by Shina duVall, Section 106 Compliance Manager for Archaeology

My colleague Amy Pallante covered the topic of Areas of Potential Effect (APE) in previous columns. It is defined in the Section 106 regulations as "the geographic area or areas within which an undertaking may directly or indirectly cause alterations in the character or use of historic properties, if any such properties exist. The area of potential effects is influenced by the scale and nature of an undertaking and may be different for different kinds of effects caused by the undertaking." The lead agency, in consultation with our office and other parties, defines the APE before any identification efforts take place.

In many ways, defining an APE for a project with potential to affect archaeological resources is not much different from a project with potential to affect historic architectural resources. Here are some key items to consider:

- Do not limit the archaeological APE to the project footprint/area of direct ground disturbance. While there are typical APEs for certain types of projects-- 40-acre block for a well pad or 300foot buffer for linear resource-- our office cautions against applying these rules universally and advises considering the effect upon any historic property instead of a predefined physical distance from the main project.
- 2. Understand the project's geographical and topographical setting plus its soils and vegetation. The probability of finding evidence of human activities is greater in certain areas (e.g., near water, on south-facing slopes of less than 30-degrees). Also, certain vegetation and soil types contribute to the likelihood that cultural material will be visible and/or well-preserved.
- 3. Visualize the archaeological APE on both horizontal and vertical planes, including known or hypothetical depth of cultural deposits.
- 4. Consider the surrounding cultural landscape. A cultural landscape is a geographic area that includes cultural and natural resources associated with an historic event, activity, person or group of people. Examining cultural landscapes reveals our relationship with the land over time. An APE should consider these wider implications and not simply a discrete site boundary or loci of sites.
- 5. Do not overlook the potential presence of traditional cultural properties (TCPs). A TCP is a property associated with cultural practices or beliefs of a living community. TCPs are rooted in the community's history and are important in maintaining the continuing cultural identity of the community. For example, a trail, hunting area or hunting ground might be considered a TCP. Knowledge about such sites only can be attained through consultation with Tribes and other individuals or groups with ties to the project area.
- 6. Think about land use (both past and present), but generally not land ownership. The statutory language urges consideration of all areas where an undertaking may directly or indirectly cause alterations in the character or use of historic properties but makes no distinctions based on land ownership.

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## ARCHAEOLOGICAL APES Continued from page 4

- 7. Remember indirect impacts such as visual intrusions and vibrations may be just as important for archaeological resources as they would be for architectural resources. For example, vibration resulting from construction activities may adversely affect a standing archaeological feature like the remains of a habitation wall.
- 8. Take into consideration cumulative impacts, especially increased access to a particular area, which may lead to intentional vandalism or inadvertent destruction of archaeological sites.
- 9. As with the built environment, do not bisect a site boundary. In other words, an undertaking cannot affect part of a site. An effect to part of a site is an effect to the site as a whole.
- 10. Be open to modifications of the APE as previously-unknown archaeological resources are identified.

I hope you have enjoyed this "glimpse behind the curtain" of how APEs are defined for archaeological compliance projects. Amy Pallante will be returning to this space in future issues of the newsletter to continue her discussion of compliance topics associated with historical & architectural resources. However, I may be contributing columns in the future as a change of pace or as particularly interesting archaeological issues arise.

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Shina duVall joined the Intergovernmental Services Unit within OAHP in May 2008, replacing Greg Wolff as the Section 106 Compliance Manager for Archaeology. She earned a BA in Anthropology from Metropolitan State College and an MA in Anthropology from the University of Colorado at Denver. She possesses prior experience in private sector cultural resource management work: performing research, conducting/supervising surveys, evaluating properties, writing reports, and assessing effects for a variety of projects. For this reason she has particular understanding of both the plight and the pleasures of CRM professionals. Shina also teaches Anthropology at Metro. She strives for open and straightforward communication leading to the protection of historic properties and amicable consensus among all involved. She can be reached at <u>shina.duvall@chs.state.co.us</u> or 303-866-4674.



# Two New Members Now On Board

The Best Practice Committee is pleased to welcome two new members: Gail Keeley and Janet Ore.

Gail will be filling the Compliance Consultant representative position which Jason Marmor previously held. Gail is President/ Owner of Hermsen Consultants and has 35 years experience in land use, historical, and environmental planning. She has worked on historical and environmental analyses for numerous transportation improvement projects,

including Denver Union Station, RTD's Southwest Corridor Light Rail to Littleton, CDOT's TREX, and the I-70 / E-470 interchange.

Janet is filling a new Preservation Education role on the BPC. Last year the Committee decided to shift the Federal agency role vacancy to an individual with a background in education, hoping this new individual will provide the necessary advice to Mary Therese Anstey as she works on not only the Historical & Architectural Survey Training Initiative (HASTI) but also future educational efforts to improve the overall quality of survey products. Janet is an Associate Professor of History at Colorado State University-Fort Collins where she teaches courses in American Architectural History and Modern America. She earned her Ph.D. from the University of Utah and has a keen interest in vernacular historic architecture. Janet also serves on both the Fort Collins Historic Preservation Commission and the National and State Register Review Boards.

The terms of both new members expire in July 2012. They join the nine existing BPC members who represent local governments, a state agency, grant-funded survey consultants, and OAHP staff.

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ASK THE STAFF by Les S. Moore

#### Dear Les:

I recently started a new career as a survey consultant and have a few questions regarding the USGS maps required with each survey form. Could you please clarify why the topographical maps need to be at 1:24,000 scale? Also, how can I make sure the maps I submit are at the correct scale?

Adrift in Acequia

#### Dear Adrift:

Welcome to the survey profession. In answer to your first question, OAHP requires a standard map for plotting all cultural resources; the standard used is the 7.5 minute USGS quadrangle map. All 7.5 minute maps are at a scale of 1:24,000. Using maps at this scale helps determine the locational information required for Field 9 on the #1403- Architectural Inventory Form. It also assists OAHP staff when the cultural resources are entered into the Geographical Information System (GIS). Finally, when maps are at the 1:24,000 scale, an accurate description of the location (including four quarter sections or quarter quarters) can be given for the Public Land Survey System (PLSS) notation and that information can be verified by our office.

To answer your second question, there are several ways to make sure the USGS maps submitted with your survey forms are at the correct scale. Your first option is to copy the guadrangle map where your site is located; just remember to copy the map at 100 percent. Another appropriate method is to scan (at 100 percent) the area where the site is located from the quadrangle map, and then paste the image into a Word document. Care should be taken when pasting to keep the scanned image the same size as it was when scanned. Sometimes when pasting an image into a Word document, the scale may be altered if you have formatted images to fit the page. A final method for obtaining maps at the appropriate scale involves creating a map using GIS with a layout template for maps set at a 1:24,000 scale.

#### Historical & Architectural Survey OAHP Staff Support

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Happy mapping.

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