

The Camera & Clipboard

Historical & Architectural Survey Newsletter



OFFICE of ARCHAEOLOGY and HISTORIC PRESERVATION
COLORADO HISTORICAL SOCIETY



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BEST PRACTICE COMMITTEE TO HOST TOUR AT CPI CONFERENCE

Four members of the historical & architectural survey Best Practice Committee (BPC) will be acting as tour guides for a CPI Conference session entitled, "What Happens in the Field, Stays in the Field- A Behind the Scenes Tour of Historical & Architectural Surveys." The tour will be held on Thursday, February 4 from 2:15 to 5:00. The target audience for this session includes members of historic preservation commissions, representatives from local communities, students, and other survey novices interested in knowing what happens when surveyors hit the field. Based upon case studies along the South Broadway corridor and in West Washington Park, participants will grapple with determining appropriate survey area boundaries and discerning architectural changes.

If you are interested in gaining greater insight into the goals, tasks, and challenges of historical & architectural survey fieldwork, be sure to choose this tour on your CPI Conference registration form. Remember, there is an extra cost of \$25 (to cover the cost of the bus, driver, and gasoline) for this tour session.

The deadline for registration is Monday, February 1, 2010 (see <http://www.coloradopreservation.org> for more information).

PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE STUDENTS SURVEY HOMES IN WEST WASHINGTON PARK

Eleven brave souls have enrolled in the Practical Experience course, part of the SHF-funded Historical & Architectural Survey Training Initiative (HASTI). These students are all graduates of one of the introductory classes offered in Fall 2008 and Spring 2009 where participants completed a single Architectural Inventory Form (#1403). During the ongoing course the students are working in twos or threes to complete ten survey forms each and to prepare a survey report as a group. The duos and trios are intensively surveying selected blocks on South Emerson, South Logan, South Pearl, and South Pennsylvania in the West Washington Park neighborhood. These survey areas were chosen based upon the high priority blocks identified during a 2002 SHF-funded reconnaissance survey of a 900-acre portion of West Washington Park.

The goal of the Practical Experience class is to offer the eleven surveyors-in-training with hands-on experience more closely mimicking a 'real' historical & architectural survey project. To provide them with an opportunity to participate in the crucial final step of sharing project results, the students also will present their findings at a public meeting to be held on Saturday, May 22. The location has yet to be determined, so watch this space for both more details and a call for RSVPs in the April issue.

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 strictly prohibit unlawful discrimination in departmental Federally-assisted programs on 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

Awarded, ongoing, and completed grant-funded historical & architectural surveys listed below:

Certified Local Government Projects

Ongoing:

Aurora – Comprehensive Reconnaissance Survey of Hoffman Heights subdivision – Hoehn Architects

Boulder County – Intensive Survey of forty-five properties in Wondervu - Historitecture

Breckenridge - Intensive Survey of forty properties within the National Register Historic District - Cultural Resource Historians

Loveland – Intensive Survey of sixty scattered resources within the city limits - Cultural Resource Historians

Pueblo – Intensive Survey of forty-three properties in East Side neighborhood - Historitecture

Steamboat Springs – Intensive Survey of thirty sites within “Old Town” - Cultural Resource Historians

State Historical Fund Projects

Awarded:

Town of Telluride - Intensive Resurvey of selected sites within National Historic Landmark district

Ongoing:

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

Boulder – Comprehensive Reconnaissance and Selective Intensive Survey (105 sites) within ten postwar residential subdivisions – TEC, inc.

Carbondale – Intensive Survey of twenty residential sites – Reid Architects

Colorado School of Mines – Intensive Survey of twenty-three buildings on campus – Preservation Partnership

Douglas County – Context development and Selective Intensive Survey (twelve related sites) - URS

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

Erie – Selective Intensive Survey of twenty-three sites within town limits - Front Range Research Associates

Fort Collins – Selective Intensive Survey of sixty-two sites built from 1945 to 1967- Historitecture

Genoa – Intensive Survey of forty sites as part of Small Town Survey Initiative – Front Range Research Associates

Historic Denver, Inc. – Reconnaissance and Selective Intensive Survey (thirty-five sites) within Kountze Heights neighborhood in the Denver Highlands - Front Range Research Associates

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

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

Lamar - Intensive Survey of eighty-three sites in downtown - Hoehn Architects

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

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

Park County – Selective Reconnaissance and Intensive Survey (ten sites) along Tarryall Road – Front Range Research Associates

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

Windsor – Intensive Survey of forty-five sites in commercial downtown – Historitecture

CONTEXT UPDATE: COMPLETED

Grain Elevator Reconnaissance Survey and Historic Context Study: Colorado Eastern Plains



The Bartlett Elevator in Walsh (Baca County). See <http://www.cudenver.edu/Academics/Colleges/ArchitecturePlan-ning/discover/centers/CenterPreservationResearch> for more details



NEW TERM ADDED TO LEXICON: HOLLOW CLAY TILE

By Joe Saldibar, Architectural Services Coordinator

Usually *The Camera & Clipboard* includes new architectural styles or building types as Lexicon terms (see Googie beginning on next page). However, this piece is devoted to a new External Wall Material: Hollow Clay Tile. This term is a new category in Table 2 of the Lexicon and is meant for use in Field 17 of the Architectural Inventory Form.

Hollow Clay Tile (HCT) is a building product that can be used for either interior or exterior applications. It is made by exposing a clay block to extremely high temperatures until all of the water in the clay is burned off in a process known as vitrification. The resulting product is extremely hard, inert, and waterproof. As with some bricks and concrete blocks, the internal gap or space (the hollow inner portion of the clay tile) not only decreases weight, making the firing process easier, but also provides superior insulation.

HCTs can be left unglazed, but it was common to glaze them using a simple salt-based additive introduced during the firing process. This glaze gives the tile a slightly shiny and rippled finish. Colors vary from product to product and from clay source to clay source, but browns, reddish-browns, and reddish-yellows were standard.

HCTs come in several different forms:

- **Structural blocks** can be used either as stand-alone building materials similar to concrete blocks or as facing for other building materials such as concrete or brick. Such HCTs are molded into many different shapes, including specially shaped units for corners, window surrounds, and decorative trim. Buildings made from this material were touted in period advertisements (from ca. 1910 to 1930) as fireproof, low-maintenance, and durable. Structural blocks usually are glazed on both sides, although some manufacturers scored the interior surface to provide anchor points for applied plaster. Some architects working in the Brutalist style favored salt-glazed structural blocks as a “warmer” alternative to the style’s typical rough/bare concrete exterior.



Curved block HCT silo at Shannon Farm in Lafayette (5BL.7260)

- **Furring blocks** are thin and form an attached, tile-like outer covering that increases the fire rating for brick walls. Furring blocks usually are left unglazed and have deep grooves on their outer surface to allow for plaster or stucco application. Furring blocks are used in commercial buildings, warehouses, parking garages, theaters, and other places where fire prevention is a major concern.
- Researchers at Iowa State University developed the **curved block** in the 1910s for use in grain silos. The water-, vermin-, and fireproof nature of these HCTs made this material far superior to either wood staves or bricks for grain storage structures. Curved blocks are nearly always glazed both inside and out. Silos made of curved block HCTs were very popular throughout the United States until lower cost steel emerged in the 1960s as the material of choice.

Print an updated Lexicon for your copy of A Field Guide to Colorado’s Historic Architecture and Engineering, at <http://coloradohistory-oahp.org/guides/fieldguide/fieldindex.htm>



Home Builders Catalog for Hollow Clay Tile products, ca.1920. From Google images



NEW ARCHITECTURAL STYLES AND TYPES: GOOGIE

From the "Bastien's Restaurant" National Register of Historic Places nomination form, May 2009. Prepared by Tom & Laurie Simmons, Front Range Research Associates, Inc.

Car-oriented restaurant architecture that developed in California, especially in Los Angeles after World War I, served as the forerunner of the Googie style, also called Doo Wop or Coffee Shop Modern. Although simple roadside drive-in stands offering a few items were found throughout the nation, in California they evolved into more complex facilities designed to attract and serve larger numbers of car-driving customers.

As construction resumed after World War II, Americans embraced modern design, new products and technologies, and an optimistic attitude about the future. Atomic power, plastics, air and space transportation, and television were among the influences on postwar restaurant architecture. A new type of free-standing building emerged, one that featured indoor customer seating at counters and tables, often in addition to drive-up service. The new restaurants lured diners with their casual atmospheres, attractive prices, fast and friendly service, and menus offering a range of familiar food.

The architecture incorporated bright colors, dramatic forms, neon lights, and contrasting materials. An ample parking lot encouraged patrons to leave their cars and enter the well-illuminated restaurants. Douglas Haskell, writing in the February 1952 issue of *House & Home*, first coined the term "Googie" for the new architecture, a label derived from architect John Lautner's 1949 design for a coffee house of that name in Los Angeles. Lautner, a pioneer of modern coffee shop architecture who apprenticed with Frank Lloyd Wright at Taliesin, employed elements that became basics of Googie style design, including distinctive roof lines, integrated sign pylons, little distinction between indoors and out, and the many contrasting modern materials.

The Googie theme was expressed in features such as an interesting roof with cantilevers, upslopes, angled overhangs, exposed trusses, a folded plate or concrete shell; bursts of color; glass, concrete, and aggregate walls; wide overhangs and canopies; and prominent signage. Extensive use of motifs such as boomerangs, diagonals, starbursts, dingbats, and free forms; materials such as plastic, metal, and flag-crete; and tapering pylons also identified this style. Interior design helped to express the style, emphasizing the material and function of each element. The treatment of ceilings, walls, lighting, and other elements coordinated with the exterior. The building, with its unconventional roof forms and neon signage, became the advertisement for the business within, calling out to customers in their automobiles.



Local architect Bernard N. Cahlander designed the 1958 Bastien's Restaurant, easily classified as Googie with its distinctive folded plate roof, ample parking, and neon sign.

In the late 1960s a shift to preferences for restaurants employing more traditional themes and materials led designers away from the Googie style. The eye-catching features favored during the 1950s and 1960s gave way to a desire to conform and harmonize. Some critics began to find

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GOOGIE, CONTINUED

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the flamboyant designs of past years clashing and chaotic, especially when the country's outlook became more somber and its focus shifted more fully to issues such as civil rights and Vietnam.

Common elements:

- dramatic roof forms, including folded plate and butterfly
- multiple contrasting modern materials
- neon lights
- bright colors
- tall neon signs or integrated sign pylons
- large plate glass windows
- blurring of distinction between inside and outside
- parking area



As the most intact White Spot Restaurant remaining in Denver, the building exhibits many of the key elements of the Googie style: dramatic roof, neon lights, bright colors on the interior, and large plate glass windows. Famed firm Armet and Davis of Los Angeles designed at least seven White Spots between 1961 and 1969, using three design prototypes.

To update your copy of A Field Guide to Colorado's Historic Architecture and Engineering, go to <http://coloradohistory-oahp.org/guides/fieldguide/fieldindex.htm> and print the new Googie entry and an updated version of the Table of Contents for your binder.

HANDY WEBSITES

www.facebook.com/pages/PreservationDirectory.com/182062916596 - PreservationDirectory.com, a leading online resource for historic preservation and cultural resource management, has launched a companion page on Facebook. The purpose of this social networking tool is to disseminate historic preservation-related news, policy alerts, relevant job postings, and photos of historic places. To celebrate the launch of this new endeavor the founders of PreservationDirectory.com have added hundreds of photos from their personal archives-- favorite shots of buildings, roadside attractions, and other cultural sites from travels across North America-- to the new group page. However, they are seeking additional photos from the public for this architectural photo gallery.

So, get connected and let all those FB-ers see Colorado's wonderful resources.

<http://sarantakes.blogspot.com> - A recent posting on the H-Net listserv recommended the blog, "In the Service of Clio." The individual running this site is Nicholas Evan Sarantakes, a professor of strategy at the Naval War College.

The blog is intended for grad students and newly minted Ph.D.s, but may be of interest to others too since it includes discussion about career management issues related to scholarly work as historians. The blog often features guest contributions from other historians and is currently running a series of essays from history Ph.D.s who are using their degrees outside of the normal history department where everyone expects to find employment immediately after grad school. These essays have included topics like teaching at the service academies, working at community colleges, and being a historian for the U.S. government.



PROJECT SUCCESS: PUEBLO EAST SIDE CONTEXT

The tendency at the end of any grant-funded survey or context project-- whether you are the consultant who completed the work, the grant recipient who has a new product to use or the staff people who invested a great deal of time and effort in providing feedback and advice during the course of the project-- is to breathe a huge sigh of relief, regroup, and then move on to the next item on your ever-growing to do list. However, we need to take the time to celebrate the successes, especially when the products created prove able to inspire, inform or educate the general public. The historic context document entitled *A Place Set Apart: The History and Architecture of Pueblo's East Side Neighborhood* which Jeffrey DeHerrera and Adam Thomas of Historitecture completed in July 2009 with funding from a Certified Local Government (CLG) grant represents such a success story.

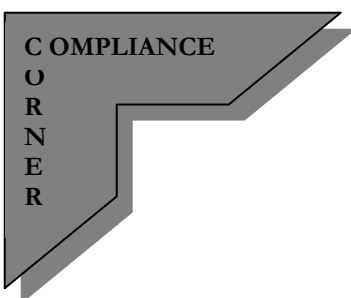
The separation between the East Side and the rest of Pueblo represented an overarching theme of the historic context, with the authors exploring the geographic, economic, cultural, and historic reasons this pattern developed and, to a certain extent, exists to the present day. Even before the final document was available to the public, this context received rave reviews in the local press. The *Pueblo Chieftain* featured three articles about the context in the June 28, 2009, edition. Beyond this newspaper coverage, the context also proved popular with city officials. Local planner Wade Broadhead was pleasantly surprised when a city councilmen requested extra copies of the completed context to share with the elementary schools in his ward. This action pre-empted Broadhead and the Historic Preservation Commission's plan to provide local schools with copies of the context document and historic images of their schools as part of the grant project. The document also received praise from staff in the Pueblo Housing Authority who anticipate using the context when preparing the necessary paperwork for Section 106 review of demolitions and other blight removal activities. Paula Quinn, a history teacher at East High School in Pueblo, requested multiple copies of the document in order to develop a community history curriculum for students at the school.

Quinn's request meant a great deal to the context's principal author. Thomas remarked: "Nothing is more satisfying in my career than knowing that my work is being used--especially in the classroom. So often my research and writing is merely seen as compliance, filed away somewhere and never seen again. It is a great credit to the City of Pueblo and residents of the East Side that they have recognized the usefulness of understanding their history in preparing for the future." Broadhead concurred with Thomas' feelings, anticipating Historic Preservation Commission involvement with delivering this new East Side curriculum and, perhaps, providing "some avenues of community service time for graduating seniors."

While this extremely positive community feedback represents a success for the context, Broadhead was savvy to take advantage of the momentum from the completed project. The city received a second CLG grant and has hired Historitecture to complete a selective intensive survey on Pueblo's East Side. The ongoing documentation will record forty-three resources, including a number which are prime candidates for local landmark designation. Kudos to everyone involved in the context project.

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Do you have a survey success story you would like to share with the readers of The Camera & Clipboard? Submit your article or just provide the crucial details to Mary Therese Anstey.



The Compliance Corner column is on a one-issue hiatus. It will return in the April *Camera & Clipboard*. If you have specific compliance-related questions or issues which you feel would make good articles in this section of the newsletter, do not hesitate to contact Amy Pallante, Section 106 Compliance Manager, directly at amy.pallante@chs.state.co.us or 303-866-4678.





**ASK THE
STAFF
by Les S.
Moore**

Dear Les: I am a consultant and recently received comments from one of your staff members after she reviewed the final draft forms and draft survey report for a grant-funded project. My client is afraid if I do not make all the changes noted in the memo, the city's reputation as a grant recipient will be tarnished. Does he

have reason to worry?

**Sincerely,
Worried in Wolcott**

Dear Worried:

There is a clear difference between a grant recipient's reputation and a consultant's performance. Staff associated with both CLG and SHF grant programs admire grant recipients' desire to adhere to the staff suggestions and to make the final products as close to perfect as possible. However, it is important to realize the nature of the staff review process.

Many of the items staff note in memos are suggestions or details for the consultant to ponder. In order to make intentions about required changes as clear as possible, staff involved with CLG-funded survey projects have introduced a staff review coversheet which details the corrections which must, might or could be made. Must means those changes are required. Could classifies changes to greatly improve the quality and usefulness of the product. These are strongly recommended, but if they are not made the product still will be accepted as an adequate submission. If time or budget constraints do not allow for could items to be corrected in the current project, they should be addressed in future surveys. Might is used with suggestions for fine-tuning and creating a stand-out product.

A grant recipient's track record with the funding agency is only in jeopardy if staff determine the final products are unacceptable. In other words, if the consultant fails to make the 'must' changes and the client does not assure these changes were made. The best advice: if you are uncertain, ask. Staff is here to help and enjoy working with both grant recipients and consultants to create the best survey products possible.

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