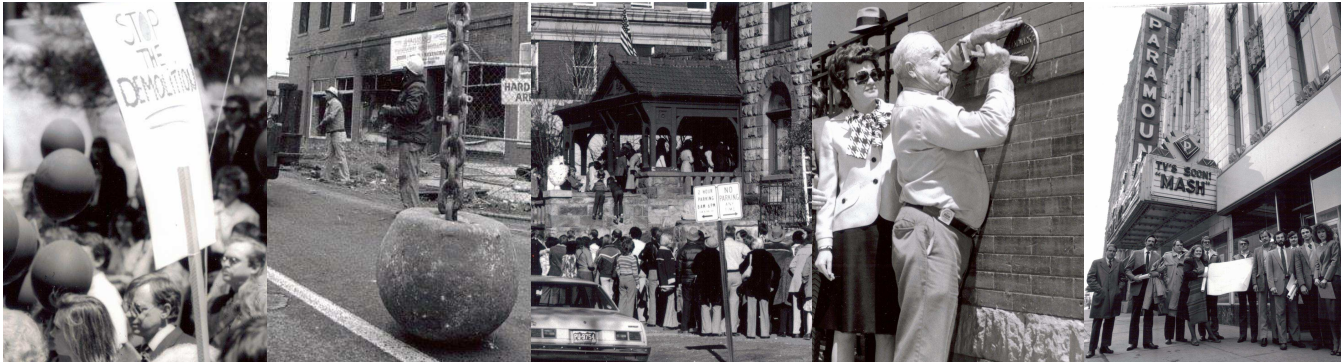




forty years of preservation

1970-2010

Contact: Heather Quiroga
Communications Director, Historic Denver, Inc.
hquiroga@historicdenver.org 303.534.5288 x 5



**Historic Denver Celebrates 40 Years with Concurrent Exhibits
Pieces Of Our Past Opens May 19, 2010
Central Denver Public Library and Molly Brown House Museum**

Historic Denver –*Pieces Of Our Past*, a two-part exhibit developed by Historic Denver, Inc. in celebration of the organization's 40th anniversary, opens May 19, 2010 at the Central Denver Public Library and the Molly Brown House Museum.

Can you imagine Denver without the Molly Brown House Museum, D & F Tower, the LoDo Historic District or the Paramount Theater? For 40 years preservation has been an important Denver movement led by the citizen-driven non-profit Historic Denver, Inc. Founded in 1970 to save the Molly Brown House from deterioration and demolition, Historic Denver has spent four decades saving places that matter; protecting and preserving a city that respects its history as it faces the future.

Historic Denver's new two-part *Pieces Of Our Past* exhibit examines Denver's preservation story by showcasing the physical artifacts of Denver's most iconic buildings and telling the stories - successes and losses - that define the city's preservation past.

One portion of the *Pieces Of Our Past* exhibit will be located in the Western History Reading Room on the 5th floor of the Central Denver Public Library. The space is accessible to the public during all regular library hours and there is no charge. This exhibit tells the city's story in an unusually tangible way, showcasing a carefully preserved door from the demolished Denver Theater, remnants of the lost Zeckendorf Plaza, a grand torchiere from the renowned Tabor Opera House and many other rarely viewed pieces of Denver's architectural past.

As part of the library exhibit, recently opened archival collections of well-known Denver architects, including Jacques Benedict (Central Bank Building), Theodore Boal (Grant-Humphries Mansion), and Robert Roeschlaub (Dora Moore School), will also be on display. These collections are being carefully preserved by the Library's Western History and Genealogy Department with support from the Colorado State Historical Fund.

Simultaneously, a second portion of the *Pieces Of Our Past* exhibit at Historic Denver's flagship property, the Molly Brown House Museum, will document the story of the landmark's transition from run-down apartment home to an opulent portal into Victorian-era Denver. The exhibit showcases how the 1889 home of Margaret Brown was almost lost in the 1970s when across Denver iconic mansions, department stores and even entire neighborhoods fell victim to the wrecking ball. It takes visitors from the time when Denverites formed Historic Denver to save the property, through its painstaking rehabilitation, to today when the property stands proud as one of the best small museums in the region. Original wall-paper, roof tiles, and hidden architectural secrets of behind-the-scenes preservation are included.

Pieces Of Our Past at the Molly Brown House Museum is included with general museum admission of \$8 for adults, \$6 for seniors over 65 and \$4 for kids 6-12 years old. Museum tours run Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. and Sundays from 12 noon – 4 p.m. In June, July and August the Museum is also open Mondays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information call (303) 832-4092 ext. 16 or visit www.mollybrown.org

In conjunction with the *Pieces Of Our Past* exhibits, Historic Denver is hosting Night & Day in Historic Denver August 6-7. **Night in Historic Denver** is a time-traveling gala honoring 40 years of preservation with progressively-themed music, food and cocktails to match each of four decades – the 1970s, 80s, 90s and 2000s. The party will be held in the historic St. Cajetan's Church on the Auraria Campus. Tickets cost \$40 for Historic Denver members and \$50 for non-members and are available at www.historicdenver.org or 303.534.5288 x. 6.

Day in Historic Denver is a family-friendly outdoor event on the grassy plaza of the Auraria Campus' 9th Street Historic Park – an entire block of 19th century homes saved by Historic Denver. Part carnival, part concert and part time-travel to a century-old Denver, the event will feature beer booths, grilled food, tours of Auraria Park's incredibly restored dwellings, historically-costumed characters and *Titanic* fun for kids. A diversity of live music throughout the day will make this an unforgettable family event, with a line-up that includes strolling mariachis, the Uptown Relics String Band and the Queen City Jazz Band. Day in Historic Denver begins at 2 p.m. and closes at 9 p.m. on Saturday, August 7. Admission is free, with tickets available for food, beverages and some activities.

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About Historic Denver

Formed in 1970, Historic Denver is one of the nation's premiere historic preservation organizations. Our focus is to preserve, advocate and educate about the places that matter to our community. As an organization we provide resources, educational programming and technical assistance for those who own or live in historic structures, as well as promote the value of our cultural heritage as a key element of economic growth, community revitalization and sustainability. We do this through a series of successful programs:

- The operation of the **Molly Brown House Museum**, which serves 45,000 visitors and school children each year
- **Denver Story Trek**, our heritage tourism initiative that draws out the special stories of Denver's buildings and shares them in free, cell-phone platform
- The **Partners in the Field Initiative**, which provides resources, educational activities and technical assistance to the owners of historic structures in central Denver and the historic first-ring suburbs.
- The **Sacred Landmarks** program, dedicated to working with churches, synagogues and temples to complete necessary stewardship projects that prolong the life and use of the structure.