### PUTTING HISTORY TO WORK

#### PART 1 — BASICS OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION



Jim Bertolini, Historian June 26, 2018 Nevada Preservation Foundation



## Topics for Today

The Basics of the National Historic Preservation Act

- Surveying Historic Properties
- Preservation Planning
- National Register of Historic Places
- Caring for Historic Properties: Treatment and Rehab

What's your historic place?

## What is Preservation?

Maintaining communities

■ Managing Change

Connecting withPlace



Harrison's Guest House, Las Vegas

## Why Preserve It?



Sense of Place

Community Identity



#### **Economic or Environmental Value**



Others?



## Preservation & Social Sustainability

- Community Identity
- Sense of Place

Supporting placemaking at the local level

CommunityStewardship



Riverside Hotel, Reno

## Preservation & Economic Sustainability

- Promotes local job growth
- Promotes local investment & stable economies

Financial incentive programs where applicable



**US Post Office - Reno Main** 

### Preservation & Environmental Sustainability

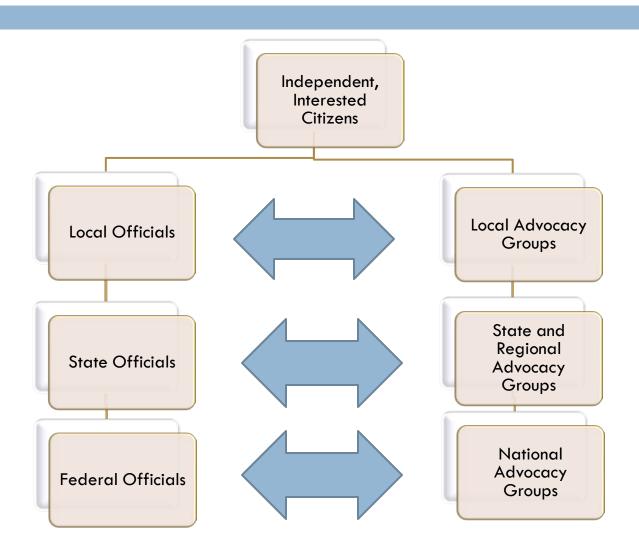


Mackay School of Mines, UNR Campus, Reno

- Conserving our largest consumer product: buildings
- Walkable / bikable communities

Built-in energy
 performance in buildings
 constructed before 1950

## Who Preserves it?



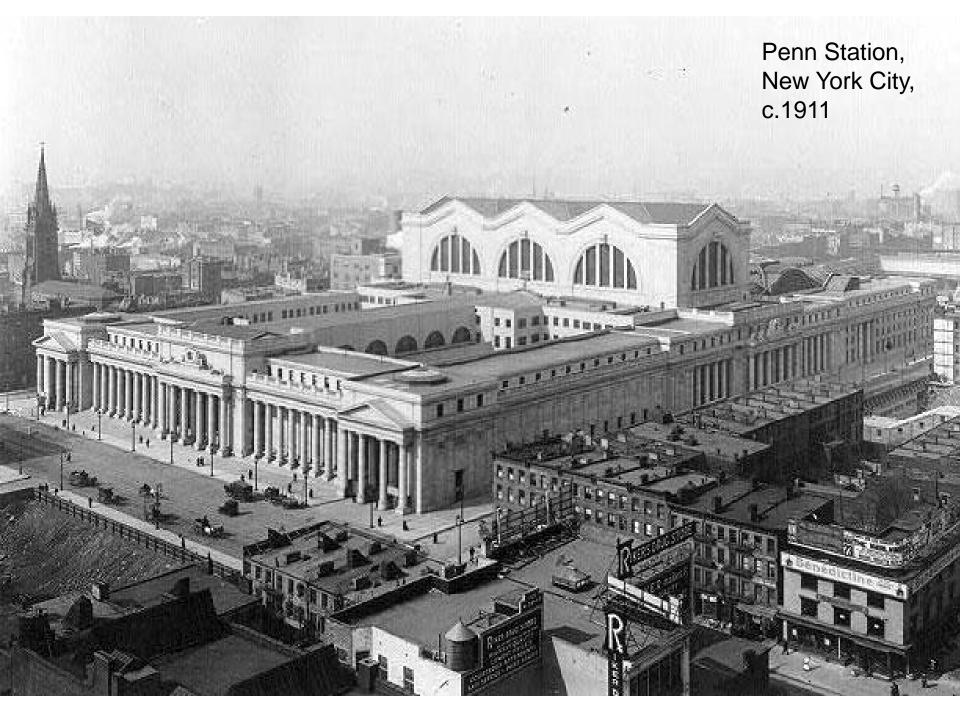
#### Where did Preservation Come From?



- □ 1853 Mount Vernon Ladies' Association
- □ 1906 Antiquities Act
- □ 1916 National Park Service Organic Act



- □ 1933 Historic American Building Survey
- 1935 National Historic Sites Act
- 1949 National Trust for Historic Preservation









Claiborne Avenue, New Orleans, 1947 (Charles L. Franck Studio Collection)



Claiborne Avenue @ Laharpe in 2014 (Christine Carlo).



North Clairborne Avenue, New Orleans in 1966 vs. 2014 (Louisiana Division/City Archives, New Orleans Public Library / Google Earth)

#### 1966: Building a National Preservation Framework

Losses of historic neighborhoods and downtowns

- Grassroots movement
- 1966 National Historic
   Preservation Act



Robert Utley at the Denver "New Preservation" conference in 1968.







#### The NHPA: National Framework

- State Historic PreservationOffices
- Historic Preservation Fund
- Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
- National Park Service







#### **Review & Compliance**

National Historic Preservation Act(NHPA):
Sections 106 & 110
State Preservation Laws:
Burials & Covenants

#### **Grants & Aid**

Historic Preservation Fund (HPF)
Commission for Cultural Centers and
Historic Preservation (CCCHP)
Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credits



#### Survey & Planning

Nevada Cultural Resource Information
System (NVCRIS)

National Register of Historic Place (NRHP)

State Register of Historic Places (SRHP)

#### Outreach

Nevada Site Stewardship Program (NSSP)
Certified Local Governments (CLG)

#### PRESERVATION AS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

#### WHY DO IT?



11th Street in East Ely

## Preservation's Role in Economic Development: Reduced Costs





- Building Conservation
  - Avoid long-term financial waste in demolition and new construction
  - Keeps square footage available for housing and businesses
- Historic District Density
  - Higher tax revenue per square foot for local governments
  - Reduces infrastructure demand per building (lower costs for everyone)

## Preservation's Role in Economic Development: Job Growth and Small Business Incubation

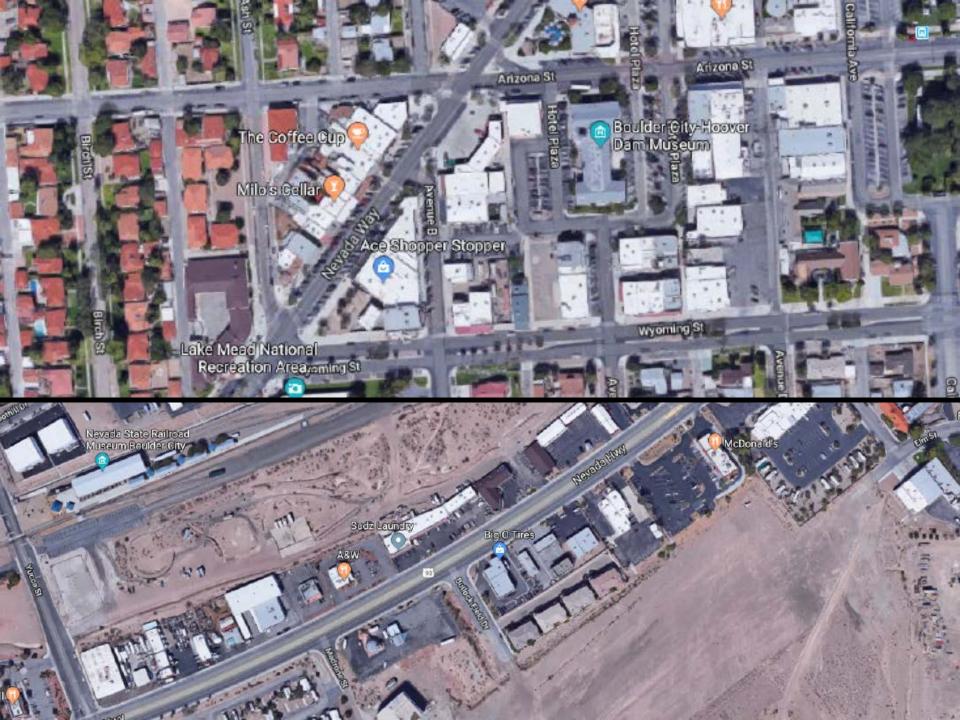
- Reduce Capital Costs for Small Businesses
  - Building already there
  - Smaller, adaptable floor space
  - Leverage incentives
- Job Growth
  - Maintenance vs. new construction
  - Skilled labor
  - Local economic circulation



## Preservation's Role in Economic Development: Heritage Tourism

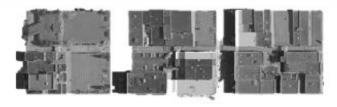


- Authentic spaces
  - Telling real stories in real places
  - Marketing assist (heritage businesses and crossadvertising)
- Locals and tourists
- Part of Nevada's outdoor recreation economy



## NINE DOWNTOWN BLOCKS 16 taxable acres

## SHOPPING MALL 23 taxable acres



Net Value Per Acre

\$1,310,830









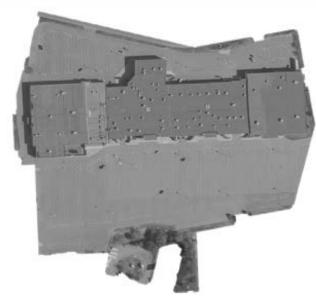




Net Value Per Acre

\$281,128

2014 taxable values from Brainerd, MN



DO THE MATH



## Preservation's Role in Economic Development: Financial Incentives



- Federal
  - 20% rehabilitation tax credit
  - Grants (public or non-profit)
- State
  - CCCHP Grants
- Local
  - Open Space Assessment (NRS 361a)

## Common Threats to Historic Buildings

- Neglect
- Lack of Awareness
- Lack of finances
- Planning & Zoning
  - International Existing Building Code not adopted
  - Minimum parking standards





## Preservation as Economic Development

#### Nationwide Economic Impacts of Federal Tax Incentives in FY2017

- 1,035 certified projects(1 in Nevada)
- Leveraged over \$5.82
   billion in private
   investments
   (\$1.15 million in NV)
- Created an estimated106,846 jobs(21 jobs in NV)
- \$1 million median QRE (Qualified Recoverable Expenses)
- 160,058 Low- and Moderate-income housing units created.

#### SHPO's current emphasis

- Commercial survey and designation of downtown/commercial districts
- Access to 20% federal tax incentives for income-producing properties



Reese-Johnson-Virgin House, Genoa

Late 2016 Project

\$1.15 million QRE

Now the Pink House, a café and deli in downtown Genoa

### Preservation Tax Credits - Details

Requirements:

- Property must be listed in the National Register of Historic Places (individual or district)
- New use must be income-producing (commercial, office, rental residential, etc.)

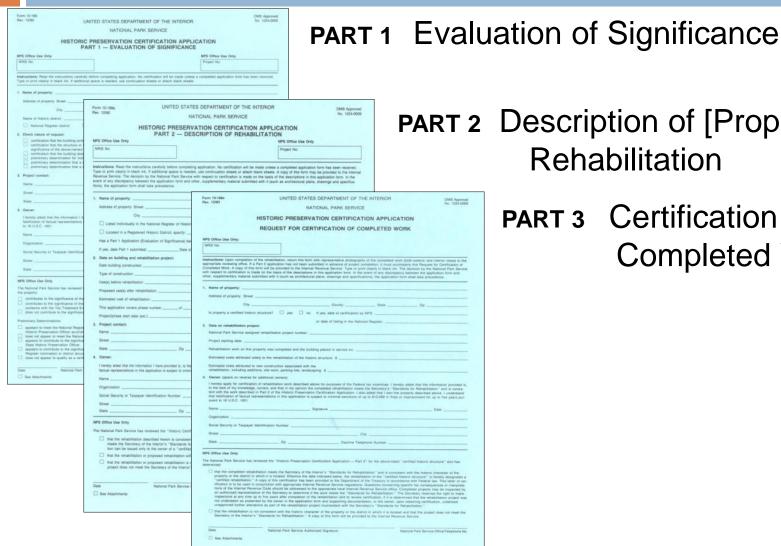
Project must demonstrate that it meets SOI Standardsfor Rehabilitation

## Preservation Tax Credit - Tips

- □ From SHPO & NPS
  - □ Talk to a tax professional before starting
  - Hire contractors with experience with the SOI Standards for Rehabilitation
  - Contact the SHPO <u>early</u> in your planning process

- □ From an applicant (Pink House)
  - Take lots of photos and keep them organized
  - NPS has strict guidelines but has room to negotiate

## Preservation Tax Credits – 3-part application



PART 2 Description of [Proposed] Rehabilitation

> PART 3 Certification of Completed Work

# Preservation Tax Credits – How does the process work?

Applicant completes materials (often with consultants)



Submits application to State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO)



National Park Service receives application from SHPO, makes final certification decision, notifies applicant

## Other Preservation-Possible Tools

- Governor's Office of Economic Development
  - Nevada Main Street
    - Historic preservation is one of the central tenets of this program



CDBG Grants

### Examples of Success – The Mizpah Hotel



Privately-funded rehabilitation

Property retains NRHP listing

Vibrant downtown business

### Examples of Success – Nevada Northern Railway

- Museum / heritage tourism draw
- Major attraction for White Pine County
  - **2017** 
    - \$4.3 million in revenue in White Pine County
- Grant support
  - CCCHP





### Examples of Success – The Pink House



Reese-Johnson-VirginHouse in Genoa

Secured 20%Rehabilitation tax credit

Small business and anchor for downtown