



# THE PRESERVATION PULSE

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## From NPF's Executive Director Dr. Figanbaum

As summer kicks off, I'm energized by the momentum we've built and excited about what lies ahead in preservation. In May, Preserve Nevada unveiled its 2025 list of the state's Most Endangered Historic Places—a strong reminder of the importance of our preservation efforts. Sites like the Huntridge Theater, La Concha Motel,

and Reno's Bethel AME Church tell stories that deserve to be preserved and shared.

At NPF, we've been committed to telling those stories—often by walking them. Our neighborhood walking tours, especially in places like the Historic Huntridge District, offer people a direct connection to the architecture, culture, and community that have shaped Las Vegas. We believe preservation isn't just about saving buildings—it's about deepening

our sense of place and strengthening community identity.

Don't forget, **Oral History Happy Hour** is this Friday! We'll be talking about growing up in Las Vegas, so bring your best stories—and maybe a friend or two. And in August, get ready for our **80s Mall Wall** walking tour at the Boulevard Mall. Bust out the neon, tease that hair, and let's take a stroll through the history of malls, Vegas-style.

Thank you for being part of this work.

## PRESERVATION SPOTLIGHT

### Preserve Nevada Releases 2025 List of Nevada's Most Endangered Historic Places

In recognition of Historic Preservation Month, Preserve Nevada unveiled its 2025 list of the state's most endangered historic places—highlighting eleven irreplaceable sites at risk of being lost to neglect, development, or underfunding. This year's list features significant landmarks such as the La Concha Motel and the Huntridge and Lear Theaters, along with culturally important sites like Reno's Bethel AME Church, Sparks' 1904 machine shop, and the Nishikida Laundry in Gardnerville. Also included are Hannah's Cabin at Lake Tahoe, the Nevada Northern Railway Depot in Ely, and endangered frontier cemeteries across the state. Broader preservation challenges—such as the deterioration of historic school buildings, the fading of Basque arborglyphs, and the continued decline of Nevada's historical markers—are also addressed. These places represent vital stories from Nevada's past, including Black, Japanese-American, and immigrant histories. Preserve Nevada urges community members, officials, and advocates to help protect these threatened places before they disappear. To view the full list, visit [2025 Preserve Nevada's 11 Most Endangered List](#).



# NPF'S LEGACY: PAST PROJECTS



At NPF, we believe the best way to experience Las Vegas history is by walking it. Since day one, our walking tours have brought the stories of our city's neighborhoods to life—block by block. One of our favorites is the Historic Huntridge District walking tour, where we explore Las Vegas'

very first tract-home subdivision, built during World War II to house defense workers. Along the way, you'll spot mid-century gems like Transitional Ranches and Streamline Moderne beauties, and hear how architecture, community planning, and even

military history helped shape the city we know today. Walking these streets and sharing the stories behind the buildings, NPF helps tell Las Vegas' history and shows how preservation can bring people together and strengthen our community.

## UPCOMING PROGRAMMING

**Don't Forget—This Friday!  
Oral History Happy Hour  
Returns**

**Friday, June 27, 2025 at 5PM \$20**

Tickets at [nevadapreservation.org](http://nevadapreservation.org)

This month, we're diving into what it was like to grow up in Las Vegas! Your ticket includes one complimentary drink, and Happy Hour food and cocktails will be available for purchase. We'll end the night with an open mic. Bring your best Vegas memory to share and then stick around for cocktails, conversation, and community.





# VOLUNTEER HIGHLIGHT



Rachael's roots run deep in the Las Vegas Valley—born at Sunrise Hospital, her family spans generations of locals. Her grandfather owned Main Street Auto Sales in the '60s and '70s, and her maternal grandmother was UNLV's first female graphic designer. After years of dreaming, Rachael found herself living in the Huntridge neighborhood, raising her children in a home filled with mid-century charm and neighborhood magic.

When COVID-19 closed her longtime hair salon, Rachael decided to follow her passion for history and went back to school. In 2022, her friend Doris invited Rachael to lead a walking tour for the Nevada Preservation Foundation—and that marked the beginning of her journey with NPF. "The Huntridge Theater was my haunt as a teenager, and at the time, I was literally living in its shadow," she says. "Talk about a full-circle moment."

Though she briefly moved to Oklahoma for a Craftsman dream, Las Vegas pulled her back. Today, she and her husband are restoring a 1963 Palmer & Krisel in Paradise Palms. "As we hurtle into the future a mile a minute," Rachael says, "I'm just hoping to help preserve a little history along the way. Holy cannolis, I wouldn't have it any other way."

## A LOOK AHEAD



### COMING IN AUGUST: 80s Mall Wall Walking Tour at the Boulevard Mall

Join us for a guided walking tour inside the Boulevard Mall, Nevada's first indoor, climate-controlled shopping center. Discover how this iconic space shaped Las Vegas' suburban growth and 1980s retail culture—and don't forget to wear your best 1980s outfit for a stroll through the mall!