



# THE PRESERVATION PULSE

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From NPF's Executive Director  
Dr. Figanbaum

July has been full of great preservation wins! From Reno's brand-new historical markers to the exciting growth of our educational programs here at NPF. It's in the buildings we pass every day, the neighborhoods we live in, and the stories we continue to share.

We're keeping that energy going with programs like our *Seeing Stars* bike tour and the upcoming *Mall Walk Through the Eras*. These events celebrate the people and places that make Nevada's past worth preserving and help us imagine a future that honors that legacy.

Thanks for being part of this journey with us. Let's keep moving history forward—one story, one building, and one neighborhood at a time.



## PRESERVATION SPOTLIGHT

The City of Reno has installed seven new historical markers as part of its ongoing Historic Preservation Program, which began in 1993 to recognize and protect sites that reflect the city's history. Supported by a Nevada Humanities grant and contributions from Mayor Hillary Schieve and Councilmember Naomi Duerr, the project highlights places that have shaped Reno's community. The new markers were selected by the city's Historical Resources Commission and honor locations that reflect major themes in Reno's growth, architecture, and cultural life:

- **California Building** (Idlewild Park): 1963, designed in the international style by Robert Langdon. Built for the 1927 Transcontinental Highways Exposition to showcase California industries.
- **Chinatown site** (Lake Street): Commemorates the early Chinese immigrant community that settled in Reno beginning in the 1860s.
- **Washoe County Courthouse** (Court Street): Expanded in 1911 by Frederic DeLongchamps, incorporating the original 1873 courthouse.
- **Lear Theater** (Riverside Drive): Originally a Neoclassical Revival church designed by Paul Revere Williams in 1939.
- **Douglas Alley** (N. Virginia Street): A remaining stretch of a once-vibrant alley lined with gambling clubs, cafés, and speakeasies.
- **Former First National Bank Building** (now City Hall): Reno's tallest building when it opened in

A new map and guide to all of Reno's historical markers is now available at the McKinley Arts and Culture Center, Reno City Hall, and on the City's Historic Markers webpage. The city plans to add more historical markers as additional funding becomes available.

Douglas Alley Photo: Special Collections, University of Nevada, Reno Libraries



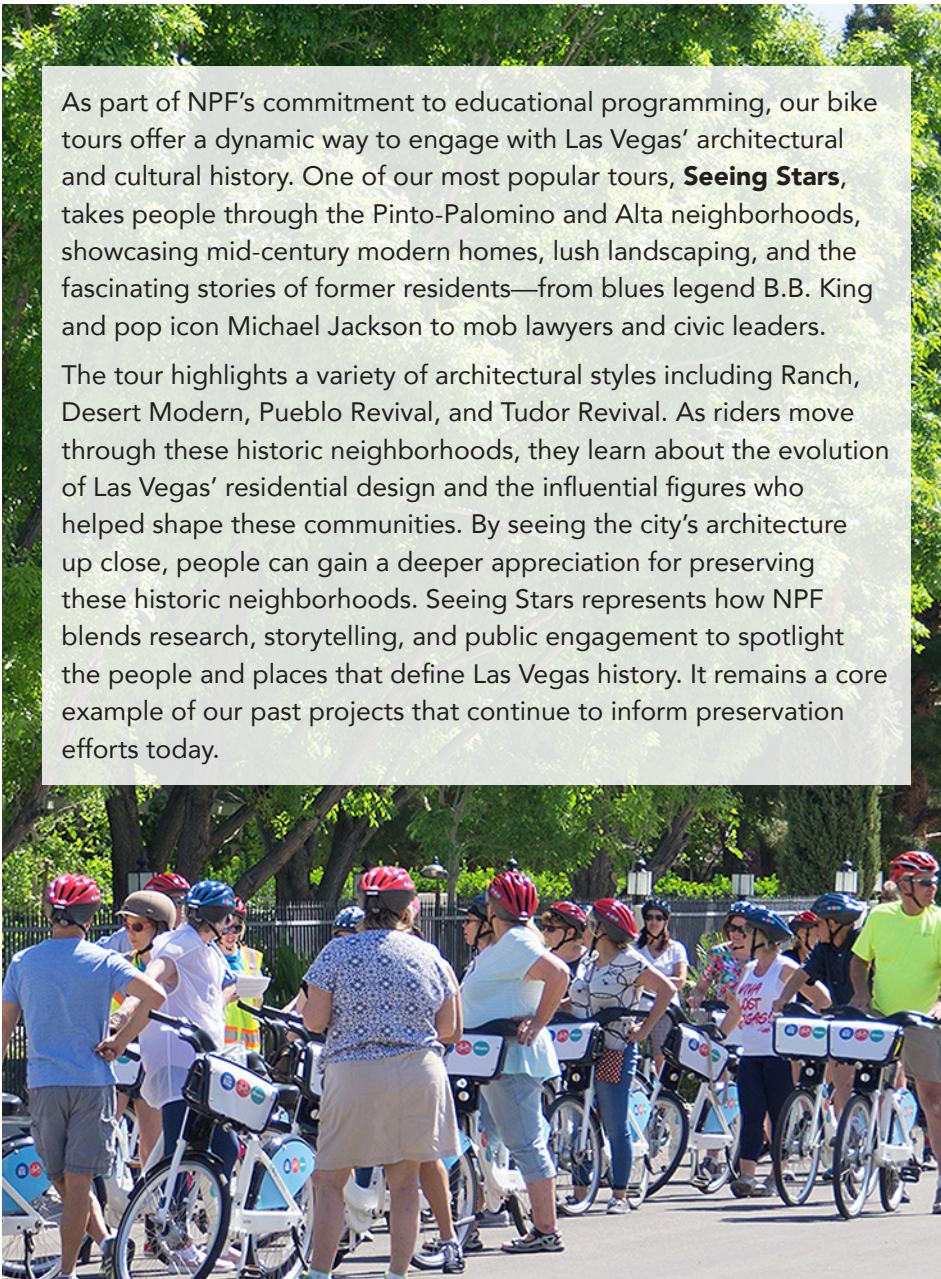
In other preservation news, the **Burlesque Hall of Fame** paused museum operations indefinitely beginning July 20, 2025, as ongoing economic and political challenges had significantly affected visitation and funding. While the physical museum is going on hiatus, the organization remains committed to its mission.

The Weekender, School of Striptease, and public programs will continue, and the collection will be safeguarded as BHoF focuses on long-term sustainability and strategic partnerships for the future. If you'd like to support, you can donate online at <https://burlesquehall.com/support/donate/>

## NPF'S LEGACY: PAST PROJECTS & RESEARCH

As part of NPF's commitment to educational programming, our bike tours offer a dynamic way to engage with Las Vegas' architectural and cultural history. One of our most popular tours, **Seeing Stars**, takes people through the Pinto-Palomino and Alta neighborhoods, showcasing mid-century modern homes, lush landscaping, and the fascinating stories of former residents—from blues legend B.B. King and pop icon Michael Jackson to mob lawyers and civic leaders.

The tour highlights a variety of architectural styles including Ranch, Desert Modern, Pueblo Revival, and Tudor Revival. As riders move through these historic neighborhoods, they learn about the evolution of Las Vegas' residential design and the influential figures who helped shape these communities. By seeing the city's architecture up close, people can gain a deeper appreciation for preserving these historic neighborhoods. Seeing Stars represents how NPF blends research, storytelling, and public engagement to spotlight the people and places that define Las Vegas history. It remains a core example of our past projects that continue to inform preservation efforts today.



### UPCOMING PROGRAMMING

#### Mall Walk Through the Eras: Boulevard Mall

Saturday, August 16, 10am  
\$25

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



Put on your leg warmers, lace up your Nike sneakers, frost your hair with Aqua-Net, and join NPF for a "Mall Walk Through the Eras" at the Boulevard Mall! You'll feel the burn as we stroll through time, from 1968—when Nevada's first climate-controlled indoor mall opened—through its wild rise in the 1970s, the iconic 1980s mall heyday, 1990s expansion, and its transformation in the early 2010s into a vibrant hub of cultures and education. We won't be power walking, so leave the sweatbands at home, but we'd love to see you rock your favorite mall-era fashions!



# VOLUNTEER HIGHLIGHT

John is a Las Vegas native with a deep appreciation for the city's unique design history and architectural character. Living in different parts of the country gave him a greater perspective on just how distinct Las Vegas truly is—its bold approach to space, experience, and style ultimately inspired his career in interior architecture.

His passion for museums, art, and historic preservation led him to get involved with the Nevada Preservation Foundation. "I love that we have an organization advocating for the preservation of this history and architecture," John says. "It's exciting to help share these unique design perspectives through community education."

Outside of work, you'll often find John hiking at Red Rock Canyon, paddleboarding at Lake Mead, or cycling through downtown and the Arts District—frequently blending his love for design and local history by volunteering with NPF's bike and walking tours.



## A LOOK AHEAD

### COMING IN SEPTEMBER:

#### Paradise Palms Bike Tour

🚲 This September, NPF is teaming up with RTC once again for a guided bike tour through Paradise Palms — Las Vegas' legendary mid-century modern neighborhood! Join us as we cruise past stunning homes designed by famed architects Palmer and Krisel, spot former celebrity residences, and take a close-up look at the bold lines and timeless charm of classic mid-century architecture. This September, NPF is teaming up with RTC once again for a guided bike tour through Paradise Palms — Las Vegas' legendary mid-century modern neighborhood! Join us as we cruise past stunning homes designed by famed architects Palmer and Krisel, spot former celebrity residences, and take a close-up look at the bold lines and timeless charm of classic mid-century architecture.



Photo: Laurie Rogers