



THE PRESERVATION PULSE

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From NPF's Executive Director
Dr. Figanbaum

Home + History Las Vegas 2026 was an incredible way to bring awareness and appreciation to the history of Southern Nevada while kicking off Historic Preservation Month in May. Over the course of the festival, we welcomed our largest audiences yet into historic neighborhoods,

homes, and spaces—each one telling a story about Las Vegas's past and its future. From walking and bus tours to educational programming with community members and homeowners, the weekend reflected the depth of connection people feel to the places that shape Southern Nevada.

What stood out most was the energy and care behind it all—our volunteers,

partners, and homeowners who opened their doors and shared their stories so generously. Home + History is more than a festival; it's a celebration of community, preservation, and the belief that these places are worth understanding and protecting.

We look forward to continuing this momentum— so mark your calendars now for **Home + History Las Vegas 2027, April 15–18, 2027!**

PRESERVATION SPOTLIGHT

Home + History Las Vegas 2026 was a resounding success! The festival kicked off with the lively **Bootleggers in the Garden** fundraiser, followed by a memorable evening at the **Morelli House** featuring stories from the Molasky family. Thank you again to AIA Las Vegas for opening the house and providing UNLV students with a valuable opportunity to learn.

Friday brought a full lineup of waking tours, bike tours, and educational programs, along with a standout **Oral History Happy Hour**. Saturday continued the momentum with a **Henderson Historical Society** bus tour, including rare access inside the historic BMI plant, and the crowd-favorite **1984: Revenge of the Yuppies party**.

The weekend concluded with the beloved **Vintage Vegas Home Tour**, where homeowners and volunteers once again created an engaging and meaningful experience for all.

A special thank you to our volunteers, partners, and supporters who made this year's festival unforgettable.



I've been attending Nevada Preservation Foundation's Home + History Tours for the better part of a decade, drawn in by my appreciation for Las Vegas history and mid-century design. This year, I stepped behind the scenes as a volunteer, and it changed my experience entirely.

Across the weekend, I floated between roles. Each stop offered a different lens into the work that goes into preserving these spaces and into the people who make it happen.

What stood out most was the orchestration behind it all. Amanda's volunteer leadership set the tone: clear, organized and empowering. Paige shaped the full production; the framework, managing the moving pieces, and ensuring that everything flowed seamlessly while feeling intentional.

By the end of the weekend, the takeaway was simple. The people behind NPF care deeply about this work. The research is thorough, the storytelling is sharp and the execution is thoughtful. More than that, they make room for others to be part of it.

Volunteering with NPF offered a new perspective. One that made the event feel more personal, more connected and more lasting.

— Nicole, first-time Home + History Volunteer

HERITAGE HIGHLIGHTS: BOULDER CITY CONSIDERS HISTORIC MOTEL DISTRICT

In Boulder City, a stretch of roadside motels tells a story that once unfolded one car at a time, with travelers heading toward Hoover Dam, California or a new start in Southern Nevada. Built between the 1930s and 1980s along Nevada Way, these modest properties served as a first stop, a resting point, and, for many, an introduction to the region. Today, that legacy is being acknowledged through a proposal to create a historic motel district that would formally recognize their role in shaping the city's identity.

The Boulder City Historic Preservation Commission has voted to move forward with drafting a plan for the district, which would include several of the town's vintage motor lodges. The designation

would highlight their connection to early automobile tourism and the growth that followed, while also opening the door to preservation incentives and increased visibility for these properties.



If approved by the City Council, the district would provide a framework for maintaining these properties while encouraging thoughtful investment and long-term

stewardship. It is a recognition that preservation can extend beyond landmark buildings to include the everyday places that shaped how people moved through and experienced a region.

The effort arrives alongside Boulder City's ongoing commitment to celebrating its past, including its annual Historic Preservation Day on May 9, which highlights the people, places and stories that continue to define the community. Together, these efforts highlight a practical approach to preservation, focusing not just on individual buildings, but on the corridors and businesses that have shaped Boulder City today. Read more about the proposed district in the [Review-Journal](#).

By Nicole Cormier



Despite the challenges and loss experienced along Las Vegas's Fremont East, there is still time to preserve the legacy of Southern Nevada's historic motels. Even when buildings are gone, the stories and memories tied to these places can—and should—be documented and shared, ensuring they are not forgotten.



UPCOMING PROGRAMMING

Helldorado Parade

Saturday, May 9 from 10am to noon in downtown Las Vegas

Join the Helldorado Parade and celebrate Las Vegas history with Nevada Preservation Foundation as we hit the streets in true vintage style! Come cheer us on, soak in the community spirit, and get a sneak peek at what's ahead—including Home + History Las Vegas, returning April 15–18, 2027.

Don't miss the fun—check out parade details and plan your spot along the route!



A LOOK AHEAD

June is heating up with our **Sunset McNeil Walking Tour!**

Kick things off with a poolside vibe or a refreshing cocktail before we stroll through one of Las Vegas's most charming historic neighborhoods. This BYOB walking tour is the perfect way to sip, explore, and soak in the stories of McNeil under the evening sky. Tickets coming soon.

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