

STATE HISTORY 2009 ANNUAL REPORT



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Mission: Preserving and sharing the past for the present and future.

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Introduction

State History seeks to preserve and share the past in order to make Utah a better place—in the present and future:

- To make communities better places—places where people feel at home and grounded in heritage.
- To strengthen rural Utah through heritage tourism and, through a strong economy, provide opportunities for families to thrive.
- To foster individual learning, understanding, and excitement about their place in the panorama of history.
- To benefit decision-makers with knowledge from the past as they plan for the future.
- To provide professional tools and assistance to agencies and local governments to help them do their jobs more efficiently.
- To further understanding and cooperation between Utah's various groups.
- To preserve knowledge and resources for future generations.

State History's professional staff, with specialties in history, library and archives, historic preservation, archaeology, community heritage, federal and state laws, and information delivery work for these outcomes. The following report provides highlights on these activities. *Note: Items marked with an asterisk* are Balanced Scorecard measures.*

Information Delivery

Web Site

We completed a major renovation of our website, including design, structure, content, and applications. The project came in ahead of schedule and under budget. Since completion, the site has been regularly updated (at least twice monthly) with new information. We continue to add new applications to make research easier.

Outcome: Customers find information more efficiently through improved design, main page, navigation, search features, and databases. The information is easier to understand.

BSC Measure:

- 2,085,319 customers visited Division web sites. (FY08 baseline: 1,568,786)

Digitization

We secured multiple long-term partnerships for digitization, storage, and collection management.

We digitized all of State History's publications (47,611 pages), 28,000 historic photographs, and all of the National Register nominations.

All of the Division's maps (1,452 USGS quadrangles), with archaeological site and project locations, have been scanned and the data converted to GIS format for use by agency archaeologists and private consultants.

In cooperation with Data Transfer Solutions, we are finalizing version 2.0 of a cultural resources information web application, which will include historic preservation information.

Outcomes: Customers no longer have to search paper maps on file at State History; the database should reflect a 25-40% savings in research costs for customers—as well as substantial cost savings for taxpayers.

BSC Measures:

- Images online: 39,303 (FY08 baseline: 24,166)
- Cemetery records online: 559,452 (FY08 baseline: 556,153)
- Archaeological GIS site records online: 88,686 (FY08 baseline: 69,788)
- Archaeological GIS project records online: 52,403 (FY08 baseline: 37,248)
- National Register historic property records online: 1,452 (FY08 baseline: 0)
- Digitized publication pages online: 47,611 (FY08 baseline: 100)

Cultural Resource Preservation

Historic Buildings—Technical Assistance and Training

Staff assisted several agencies and governments with building renovations. Staff also trained officials and citizens in historic preservation issues. A few examples:

- Fisher Mansion, Salt Lake City: Gave technical assistance on Request for Proposal documents.
- Casino Star Theater, Gunnison: Advised on repair of water-damaged and repair of damaged decorative plaster features.
- Hurricane Library/City Hall: Advised on new roof, gutter system, and repair glazing in existing steel window sash.
- John Hutchings Museum, Lehi: Advised on stucco repairs and exterior painting.
- Peteeetneet Academy, Payson: Advised on repair and refinishing of maple floors throughout the building.
- Richfield Carnegie Library: Advised on rehabilitation of original plaster ceiling, installation of historically appropriate light fixtures, and upgrade of windows.
- Box Elder Courthouse, Brigham City: Advised on exterior decorative metal repair and n scheme and historically appropriate interior remodeling.
- Carriage House, Governor's Mansion, Salt Lake City: Consulted on use and renovation.
- Enola Gay Hangar, Wendover: Assisted Wendover Airbase in applying for and receiving a \$440,000 Save Americas Treasures Grant for the stabilization of the Enola Gay Hangar.
- Traditional Building Skills Institute: Taught classes on building codes, ADA rules, preservation skills and philosophy.
- Utah building inspectors: Provided ½ day training.
- Avenues Community Council: Provided training on seismic safety.
- Utah Heritage Foundation: partnered to train CLGs at the historic preservation conference in May.

Outcomes: Staff assistance led to cost-savings and better projects for agencies.

Historic Buildings—National Register and Tax Credits

Among the properties listed this year on the National Register of Historic Places was the Forest Dale Historic District, which includes 250 buildings.

In calendar year 2008, 133 state historic preservation tax projects were either in progress or approved. These totaled an investment of \$13,188,589. During this same period there were 15 federal tax projects, with an investment of \$36,252,714.

A few examples include:

- Avalon Hotel, Helper—and affordable housing project in cooperation with Housing and Community Development.
- Boyden Block, Coalville
- American Can Company, Ogden..
- Walker Center, SLC
- Smith Apartments, SLC (two separate buildings and separate projects)

Outcomes: Investments in rehabilitation employed local labor, used local materials, and multiplied within the economy. Renovation resulted in the preservation of “embodied energy” and fewer materials being sent to the dump.

Archaeology

Staff helped record archaeological sites in Desolation Canyon with the Colorado Plateau Archaeological Alliance, BLM, and the Wilderness Society. Staff assisted the Utah Statewide Archaeological Society in recording rock art in Jukebox Cave.

Grants

\$103,000 in matching grants to CLGs helped communities preserve their historic buildings for community development and improvement.

In cooperation with the Utah Humanities Council, State History awarded eight oral history grants, matched by \$85,711, and received 145 completed oral histories.

BSC measure:

Stimulated \$72,398 in matching funds through grants to archaeological projects.

Compliance

In accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 and Utah Code Annotated 9-8-404 require federal and state agencies (or projects using federal or state funds) to take into account how their expenditures and undertakings will affect cultural resources, including prehistoric and historic resources.

State History SHPO staff reviews and comments on the agencies’ findings regarding their effects on cultural resources. By law, SHPO has 30 days to respond to agencies’ requests for comments. However, the average response time is 10 days. This prompt response expedites projects, saving time and money for agencies and developers. State History reviewed more than 2,000 compliance cases during the year.

State History also works with agencies and developers to help them devise mitigation plans, if needed.

Programmatic Agreements and Memoranda of Understanding help facilitate cultural management for agencies, streamlining the process. This year, State History helped create and signed four PAs and 10 MOAs.

Key compliance cases include Recapture Wash, Comb Wash, Kern River 3, West Tavaputs Plateau, Parley's Nature Park, SLC Library/Leonardo, Gardner Mill and TRAX, Fairview Community Center, Permanent Community Impact Board MOA, Rail Right of Way MOA, and more.

Outcomes: Staff's professional, prompt assistance fostered efficiency and cost-savings for agencies, as well as resulting in the preservation or documentation of valuable cultural resources.

Research resources

State History signed an MOU with State Archives regarding the joint Research Center. A designated team also did significant work on a collecting policy for research collections. With an appropriation from the legislature, State History installed new shelving for the basement photograph and manuscript rooms. Significant work was done with the online catalog and cataloging procedures to conform to best practices and professional standards.

Outcomes: Fragile, irreplaceable historic glass negatives have been protected.

Measures:

- 20 photograph collections accepted
- 153 photograph collections processed, adding 65 linear feet to holdings
- 12 manuscript collections accepted
- 8 manuscript collections processed, adding 35 linear feet to holdings
- Polk City Directories cataloged for Salt Lake City, Ogden, Provo, Logan, and Cedar City

BSC Measures:

- 11,318 patrons served by the Research Center (FY08 baseline: 13,600)
- 62,815 items in online catalog (FY08 baseline: 62,257)

Human Remains

State History was contacted 89 times concerning human remains—by state and federal agencies, law enforcement, the press, and the public—and accessioned 44 sets of human remains. Most of these came from the Office of the Medical Examiner. Staff responded to four discoveries of human remains and recovered the remains.

Staff completed several reports on the remains under the Division's care and participated in the first repatriation of human remains to a tribe, delivering the remains to the Kanosh band of Paiutes. Currently, staff is re-analyzing human remains recovered at Five-Finger Ridge and from "Deadman Cave."

Staff initiated a series of trainings for agencies, law enforcement, the public, and professional archaeologists. With this training, agencies who find human remains understand that they can turn to State History, which has the legal authority and resources to respond, recover, and analyze the remains, and work them into the NAGPRA process. More often, law enforcement agencies now contact State History rather than removing remains themselves.

Outcomes: Agencies and individuals who find or are called in about human remains are saved time and expense, while the remains are professionally analyzed in preparation for repatriation.

Public Understanding and Involvement with History

Utah Historical Quarterly

Staff published four issues of the *Utah Historical Quarterly*

BSC Measure:

2,453 members in the Utah State Historical Society (FY08 baseline: 2,756)

Events

State History sponsored its Annual Conference and Prehistory Week, as well as a lecture on Scots in Utah and a symposium on Helen Papanikolas.

BSC measure:

2,453 customers participated in Division events (FY08 baseline: 9,148. This number is artificially large due to the "Quarter" event held at the Rio Grande Depot).

Outreach

Staff presented 20 programs to public schools and senior citizen centers. Teaching kits and photo exhibits reached approximately 3,200 students.

Staff taught courses in archaeology and oral history, led tours of archaeological sites, and prepared briefing papers for officials regarding the Galena Site.

Staff worked with the Utah Trails Consortium toward trails and road interpretation for the general public.