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**PROUDLY SERVING**

Arkansas, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Texas

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**CALENDAR**

September

13-15 Beth in Dumas and McGehee, AR  
14-17 Jonathan, Leah & Wendy in DC  
23-24 Jonathan in Los Alamos, NM  
29-Oct. 1 Beth in West Memphis, AR  
30 Jonathan in San Antonio, TX

October

2 Jonathan in Little Rock, AR  
15 Leah in Albuquerque, NM  
24-30 Jonathan, Leah, & Wendy in Austin

November

2-5 Leah in El Paso, TX

**SOUTHWEST ADVISORS**

**AR:** *Debbie Shea, Ruth Hawkins*

**NM:** *Ernesto Ortega, Theresa Pasqual*

**OK:** *John Mabrey*

**TX:** *Sam Collins, Veleeta Lill, Margarita Araiza*

**STATEWIDE AND LOCAL PARTNERS**

**Arkansas:**

[Historic Preservation Alliance of Arkansas](#)  
[Quapaw Quarter Association](#)

**New Mexico:**

[New Mexico Heritage Preservation Alliance](#)

**Oklahoma:**

[Preservation Oklahoma, Inc.](#)  
[Tulsa Foundation for Architecture](#)

**Texas:**

[Abilene Preservation League](#)  
[Galveston Historical Foundation](#)  
[Greater Houston Preservation Alliance](#)  
[Historic Fort Worth, Inc.](#)  
[Historic Mesquite, Inc.](#)  
[Historic Tyler](#)  
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[Preservation Texas, Inc.](#)  
[San Antonio Conservation Society](#)

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[New Mexico Main Street](#)  
[Oklahoma Main Street](#)  
[Texas Main Street](#)

**NATIONAL TRUST MAIN STREET CENTER**

**STAFF BY STATE**

**AR & NM:** *Kathy LaPlante*

**OK & TX:** *Norma Miess*

## Saving Our History One Building (or Five) at a Time

When I was moving to Fort Worth from Charleston one year ago last month, my longtime friend Peggy Carr in Dallas suggested that I read a new book about Texas oil families by Brian Burroughs called *The Big Rich*. While I am a skeptical historian, I must admit that when I finally read *The Big Rich* during a recent vacation, I was mesmerized. Although I am certain that some Texans will find misconceptions in this volume, I really learned a great deal about the successes and failures of the oil business in Texas (and Oklahoma) from Spindletop to the present day. My favorite chapter, however, dealt with Glenn McCarthy of Houston and his incredible hotel, the Shamrock. I had not known before of Edna Ferber's source for the Jett Rink character in the book, *Giant* and the basis for the opening drama of Rink's great hotel, the Conquistador. Here was the true story she drew from: an opulent building, a tumultuous opening that included Texas socialites and Hollywood stars, and an ensuing five-year decline in which McCarthy lost the hotel to his investors. As a preservationist, what was most poignant for me was the description of the band of 800 Houstonians trying to protest its impending demolition in 1986, and the unexpected appearance of a quiet, broken man who proved to be Glenn McCarthy himself.

The Shamrock is gone. Maybe it was less distinguished in modernist terms than the threatened Statler Hilton in Dallas, yet it was of equal importance to the "Recent Past." Fighting demolitions is, I am afraid, consuming a great deal of our energy in the Southwest Office. While Dallas is faring better as of late, thanks to its preservationists and the defeat of an ordinance revision that would have taken away the primary authority of the Landmark Commission over demolitions, elsewhere there are major losses: in Oklahoma City, an energy company successfully guided an application to demolish five early twentieth century buildings to expand the "campus" of the company in the downtown area; the Santa Fe Indian School which has already demolished several of its historic structures is poised to remove the auditorium by the noted modernist designer, Paolo Soleri; in Corpus Christi, the landmark Memorial Coliseum was put under demolition by the city, even while the State Review Board was meeting and unanimously recommending it for National Register listing; and in Little Rock, the weak demolition ordinance continues to give angst to a preservation community concerned about saving the downtown from further losses.

I would say shame on the governments in these cities for the losses but happily that is not the end of the story; in all cases, there are valiant preservationists who will keep up the good fight in the places that matter in the Southwest. We will do all we can to support them and hope you will as well.



# February and June Grants Announced

## ARKANSAS

\$2,500 (Arkansas Fund) to the **City of Lake Village** to help support a conditions assessment and plan of action for the rehabilitation of the **Tushek Building** as municipal offices in downtown.



## NEW MEXICO

\$4,600 (Bonderman Fund) to **Audubon New Mexico** to conduct a water engineering survey for the historic **home and studio of Randall Davey** to determine the proper steps needed to reduce the damaging effects of water to the house and studio.

\$7,000 (Mitchell Fund) to the **Bandelier National Monument** for an interiors finishes analysis for its **Civilian Conservation Corps National Landmark Historic District** that will include the identification of the original interior finishes scheme for the painted plasters of the district's 31 historic structures.

\$5,000 (McCune/Public Lands Funds) to the **Solstice Project** for an Aerial Laser Scan (LiDAR) of the **Great North Road of the Chaco Culture**. The pilot study will further test the effectiveness of LiDAR in recording hundreds of other Chacoan roads and provide data for further ground research and urgently needed management of this resource.

\$1,200 (New Mexico Fund) to the **Museum of New Mexico Foundation** to develop interpretive signage for the **Palace of the Governors** that will explain the building sequences over more than two centuries and the materials used in its construction.

\$2,400 (New Mexico Fund) to the **Los Alamos Historical Society** to

conduct a two-day symposium that will bring together various preservation experts along with interested community members to discuss how best to use the **J. Robert Oppenheimer House**.

\$5,000 (Hart Fund) to the **Friends of the Cumbres & Toltec Scenic Railroad** to hire an architect to evaluate the condition of the c.1899 **Chama Depot** and produce a preservation plan.



## OKLAHOMA

\$8,000 (Kirkpatrick Fund) to the **First United Methodist Church** to develop a capital campaign fundraising plan that will communicate the significance of the building and its current condition, present a prioritized list of projects as outlined in the historic structures report, and solicit multi-year financial support.

\$4,000 (Mayo Fund) to the **Saline Preservation Association** to develop a plan for the **Memorial Trail**, which is part of the Saline National Park (also the first national park of the Cherokee Nation). The Trail will weave together the c.1900 springhouse along with the c.1884 Courthouse through an accessible foot path which will retain the natural and cultural attributes of the property.



\$5,000 (Mayo Fund) to **Preservation Oklahoma, Inc.** for the establishment of an internship program. Interns will assist with research and coordination of events, leadership training, the endangered historic places program, and compilation of preservation resources.

## TEXAS

\$7,812.50 (Mitchell Fund) to the **First Presbyterian Church of Galveston** to generate an interiors paint analysis for the building that will be used to restore the original paint scheme.

\$3,000 (Fondren Fund) to **Partners for Sacred Places** to create a storm window installation plan that will insure the



protection of the **Sealy Memorial window at Trinity Episcopal Church** in Galveston, one of the largest ever fabricated by the Tiffany Studio.

\$2,000 (Fondren Fund) to the **Layland Museum** in Cleburne for the production of a site and drainage plan that will address current issues affecting the building and its surrounding property.

\$2,000 (Fondren Fund) to **Preservation Texas, Inc.** for a speakers fund used to help cover honoraria for 2010 Preservation Summit speakers.

\$5,000 (Fondren Fund) to **Historic Mesquite, Inc.** for consultant services that will assist the City and HMI staff in developing a comprehensive guide to preservation planning.

\$4,000 (Fondren Fund) to **Preservation Longview** for an architectural landscape plan that will integrate the current grounds of the **Judge J. N. Campbell House** with the adjacent lot to create a park that replicates the house's historic themes.

\$3,300 (Fondren Fund) to the **Cibolo Nature Center** to develop a conditions assessment for the c.1883 **Herff Farm** homestead to aid in directing future rehabilitation efforts.

## Announcements

### STEPHANIE MEEKS NAMED THE 8<sup>TH</sup> PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL TRUST

To read the full announcement and learn more about Ms. Meeks, please visit the [PreservationNation Blog](#).

### 2010 NATIONAL PRESERVATION CONFERENCE REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!

View the [Preliminary Program](#) and [register online](#) for the 2010 National Preservation Conference in Austin, TX, October 27-30. We hope to see you there!

### REGION RECEIVES NPS GRANTS FOR PRESERVATION OF WWII JAPANESE AMERICAN CONFINEMENT SITES

#### Arkansas

##### Jonesboro

Rohwer Relocation Camp Interpretive Project for Rohwer Relocation Center, Desha County \$100,502

##### McGehee

McGehee Industrial Foundation for Jerome-Rohwer Visitor & Interpretation Facility, Rohwer Relocation Center, Desha County and Jerome Relocation Center, Chicot and Drew Counties \$419,967

For more information about the sites in Arkansas visit [Sen. Blanche Lincoln's newsroom](#).

#### Texas

##### Austin

Friends of the Texas Historical Commission, Inc. for Japanese Confinement Sites in Texas: An Untold Cultural Legacy of World War II

- Kenedy Internment Camp, Karnes County
  - Seagoville Internment Camp, Dallas County
  - Fort Sam Houston Internment Camp, Bexar County
  - Fort Bliss Internment Camp, El Paso County
- \$20,167

## Southwest Office Interventions (January—June 2010)

*Downtown Amarillo, Inc.* received an \$600 grant to produce a structural engineering report to determine if the **Liberty Theater** is structurally sound. Since the grant was awarded the city has begun looking at how the theater's redevelopment can be incorporated into future land use for the block and surrounding neighborhood.



The *Taylor Community Development Corporation* was awarded \$1,500 for a structural assessment to ascertain if the c.1889 **Alamo Building** is salvageable. The owner of this contributing building to the downtown National Register historic district is considering demolition due to concerns about this and the neighboring buildings' structural integrity and potential for bodily injury.



The *Bremond Historical Society* received a \$1,500 grant to hire a structural engineer to determine if the **Bremond High School** in Texas is sound.

## Gateways to Preservation

*This new section highlights opportunities to get involved in saving the local places that matter you, to celebrate successes, and learn from our losses. If you would like to contribute to this section, please email a short paragraph (no more than 75 words), an image, and contact information to [swro@nthp.org](mailto:swro@nthp.org).*

#### Arkansas

##### FAVORABLE

Built in 1912, the **Old Marion High School** was Crittenden County's first compulsory education school. Until recently, campus expansion plans posed an imminent threat to the vacant Neoclassical style building. In May, the Historic Preservation Alliance of Arkansas listed OMHS on its *Nine in Need: Arkansas's Endangered Historic Places* list. Thanks to this listing and persistent local advocates, the School Board approved an alternate plan giving supporters one year to raise money for its rehabilitation. Contact Lisa Heath, Marion Historical Society, at 870-739-4003 or [lheath1@comcast.net](mailto:lheath1@comcast.net) for more information.



PHOTO COURTESY OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION ALLIANCE OF ARKANSAS

#### New Mexico

##### THREATENED

The **Armijo-Gallagher House** in Las Cruces, is a rare example of a 19th-century, two-story adobe residence with Victorian detailing. The vacant building is prominently located near the city's historic downtown area. While the walls are three feet thick, they are in deteriorating condition. Local efforts are underway to save and repurpose this state and National Register listed structure. For more information, contact Greg Smith at the Downtown Las Cruces Partnership at 575-525-1955 or [downtown@dlcp.org](mailto:downtown@dlcp.org).



PHOTO COURTESY OF ERIC LIEFELD

(Continued on page 4)

(Continued from page 3)

RESTORED

Over 150 people recently celebrated the restoration of the **Victor Romero Cabin** (1913 ), one of three homesteader cabins remaining in Los Alamos County. Its interior is furnished with period furniture, tools, and utensils. Los Alamos Historical Society volunteers and grants from the National Park Service and Los Alamos National Laboratory helped **complete** the restoration. To learn more, contact John Ruminer at the Los Alamos Historical Society at 505-662-6272 or [historicalsociety@losalamoshistory.org](mailto:historicalsociety@losalamoshistory.org).



PHOTO COURTESY OF JOHN RUMINER

RESTORED

Operating as **Hotel Andaluz**, the former Hilton was one of Conrad Hilton's first. Located in downtown Albuquerque, the \$30 million rehabilitation took advantage of federal tax credits and may also receive LEED certification. The project involved restoration of the façade and several murals, replacement of non-historic windows with historically accurate ones, and retention of historic room doors and hallway configurations. For more information contact Darin Sand of Goodman Realty Group at [sand@goodmanrealty.com](mailto:sand@goodmanrealty.com).



PHOTO COURTESY OF HOTEL ANDALUZ

Oklahoma

THREATENED

This iconic Bruce Goff designed building that once catered to Tulsa's elite is now a haven for vandals. Vacant for 16 years, the **Tulsa Club** suffered three fires in a period of two weeks this past April. The building suffers from a lack of maintenance, repeated vandalism, and numerous code violations. City officials are now engaged in two lawsuits with the out-of-state owner. It is currently for sale. For more information contact Amanda DeCort, City of Tulsa: 918-576-5669 or [adecort@cityoftulsa.org](mailto:adecort@cityoftulsa.org).



PHOTO COURTESY OF TULSA PRESERVATION COMMISSION

SAVED

The **Tulsa Paper Company** (c.1922, 1927 and 1928) warehouse buildings, vacant for years, are being rehabilitated in collaboration with the George Kaiser Family Foundation for Tulsa University and the Philbrook art collections. A historic photo shows the signage expected in the exterior paint removal; however, an earlier unexpected oil supplier tenant sign

appeared instead. For more information about the progress of this project contact Cathy Ambler at 918-584-3566 or [cambler@sbcglobal.net](mailto:cambler@sbcglobal.net).



PHOTO COURTESY OF CATHY AMBLER

RESTORED

The one-room c.1910 **Verden Separate School** was built by African American farmer, Allen Toles, for rural black children in grades 1 - 8, near Verden. After the school closed in 1935 and decades of use as a barn, the school was threatened by demolition in 2002. The Loretta Y. Jackson-African American Historical Society (LYJ-AAHS) rescued the school relocating it to nearby Chickasha. The restored school was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2007. To learn more about LYJ-AAHS' continued efforts to interpret African American heritage contact 405-224-5297 or visit <http://www.lyjaahs.org/>.



PHOTO COURTESY OF LYJ-AAHS

Texas

THREATENED

The **First National Bank** in Henderson was built in 1903 as a two-story building, and an additional two stories plus a rooftop residential penthouse were added in 1929. The building has been abandoned since the 1970s and sits as the cornerstone of downtown Henderson. It is currently on the market and awaiting a historically sensitive redevelopment. For more information contact Cyndi Walker, Main Street Henderson at 903-646-3989 or [cwalker4456@aol.com](mailto:cwalker4456@aol.com).



PHOTO COURTESY OF MAIN STREET HENDERSON

RESTORED

Empty for thirty years, with a damaged roof that allowed water to seep into brick walls and threaten adjoining buildings, the restoration of the **Hepker Building** (1880) saved a contributing property in a commercial block of Bastrop. Longleaf pine floors were rescued, original brick walls were saved, an original skylight uncovered and restored, and the building returned to productive use as a retail shop. For more information contact Dan Hepker at 512-321-1010.



PHOTO COURTESY OF MAIN STREET BASTROP

# Around the Southwest Region

## *A Gathering, Santa Fe Style* *Jonathan H. Poston*

The historic La Fonda Hotel was the setting for the biannual joint convening of the Partners of the Mountain/Plains and Southwest regions in early April. The gathering included 78 partner organization representatives, SHPOs, Main Street staff, advisors, Trust staff and one Trust trustee. Following a keynote by noted New Mexico historian Dr. Estevan Rael-Galvez, Director of the National Hispanic Cultural Center, various Trust headquarters staff presented discussions on membership, Next Trust, Preservation Nation, Diversity and other key issues. Breakouts for Partners, Advisors, SHPO and Main



SATURDAY TOUR GROUP IN FRONT OF SAN MIGUEL CHURCH

Street staff ended the first day's meetings while the second day focused on energy and cultural landscape issues with speakers including Kak Slick of ICOMOS, John Fowler of the Advisory Council, and Roberta Lane with the Northeast Office of the Trust. Historic Santa Fe provided historic El Zaguán for Friday night's event as well as the box lunch on Saturday. The National Park Service generously hosted us at their headquarters on Old Santa Fe Trail for the Saturday night closing party. Tours on Saturday afternoon, led by James Hare with help from Santa Fe preservation planner, David Rasch, and a special tour of Acoma on Sunday, led by our advisor Theresa Pasqual, added important completion to our visit to New Mexico.

## *Demolitions in the Southwest* *Jonathan H. Poston*

Identified as one of the chief problems in the Southwest region, building demolitions are not only eradicating important historic resources but are violative of the Trust's goals for green and sustainable communities with effective reuses of existing structures. After three appeal hearings, Preservation Oklahoma (supported by the Southwest Office through appearances by Jonathan Poston) was unsuccessful in convincing the Board of Adjustment to overturn the demolitions granted by the Downtown Design Review Committee over five historic buildings in downtown



INDIA TEMPLE (1930s), PHOTO COURTESY OF OKLAHOMA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Oklahoma City. These practically undocumented structures, including the historic India Temple (1903) were among the oldest downtown and their loss will leave another large vacancy in the urban fabric of the city. The National Trust's offer of providing an assessment of the buildings' historic fabric was rejected by the developers, Sandridge.



INDIA TEMPLE (AUGUST 2010), PHOTO COURTESY OF DOUG LOUDENBECK

On a brighter note, Houston, which has been characterized by demolitions in the past is poised to consider important preservation ordinance amendments for the city that will offer additional protection from demolition for existing historic districts in Houston. Public hearings are currently underway before consideration of the ordinance by Houston City Council.

## *New South Texas Outreach Coordinator* *Jonathan H. Poston*

Jesús Najár, a native of Los Mochis, Sinaloa, Mexico, who holds an undergraduate degree in architecture and recently completed a Master of Urban and Environmental Planning degree with a certificate in Historic Preservation from the University of Virginia, has been hired as the South Texas Outreach Coordinator for the Southwest Office. This 8-month pilot program was created through a gen-

erous gift from the Meadows Foundation to aid in providing preservation field services and creating relationships within the communities of Webb and Zapata counties along the Texas border.

Jesús will work in the offices of the Webb County Historical Foundation and its Director, Margarita Araiza, who is also a National Trust Advisor. As an architectural historian, preservation expert, and planner, Jesús will not only aid in better documenting the historic resources of the region but will serve as a crucial bridge to the area's Hispanic community, providing workshops and information as well as better communication with this important population.

## Spotlight on...

### Galveston Historical Foundation Partners in the Field

Matthew Pelzer



As part of the Partners in the Field grant from the National Trust for Historic Preservation, Galveston Historical Foundation moved a house from 2119 Ave. M 1/2 to 3101 Ave. Q and is rehabilitating the house to become a model for energy-efficient technology in a historic home.

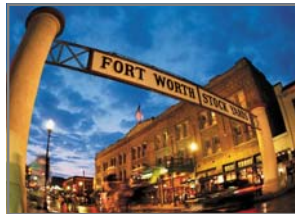
Our main objective is to demonstrate the complementary relationship between sustainability and historic preservation as tools in lowering energy costs and reducing waste. We have planned ambitiously and are working to preserve or reuse 90-100% of the existing structural material and 80-90% of the interior finish material, to use 90-100% recycled or salvaged materials for any additions or alterations, and to divert 95-100% of discarded materials and construction waste away from landfills.

Over 2000 visitors toured the house as the Preservation-in-Progress project during the GHF Historic Homes Tour in May. They learned about the process of "regreening" historic houses, enjoyed presentations from regional experts, and took home information to guide their own projects. Upon completion, the house will remain open for several weeks as a community exhibit. We will provide demonstrations, educational materials, and information on possible funding sources. For more information on the house and programs, contact Matthew Pelz at [matthew.pelz@galvestonhistory.org](mailto:matthew.pelz@galvestonhistory.org).

## National Trust News

### Nominate a Distinctive Destination Today!

Celebrate places that matter by nominating a unique city or town that offers cultural and recreational experiences different from the typical vacation destination. From dynamic downtowns and stunning architecture to cultural diversity and commitments to historic preservation, sustainability, and revitalization, the selected destinations boast a richness of character and exude an authentic sense of place.



Applications are available at [www.PreservationNation.org/ddd](http://www.PreservationNation.org/ddd). From a feature in *Preservation* magazine to extensive media coverage to prominent placement on our website and much more, the winning destinations receive tangible benefits from this positive program that highlights the work of their community and promotes heritage tourism. **Applications are due by September 10<sup>th</sup>.** Contact Joelle Schatz at [Dozen@nthp.org](mailto:Dozen@nthp.org) or 202-588-6141 with any questions.



PRICE TOWER,  
BARTLESVILLE, OK

Since the program's inception in 2000, the Southwest region has been represented on each year's list of Dozen Distinctive Destinations. Keep those quality nominations coming and let's recognize another city or town that makes the Southwest region such a great place to live, work, and play!

## Book Spotlight

### The "Modernism + the Recent Past" book set

The "Modernism + the Recent Past"

book set looks at the unique challenges of preserving resources from the recent past along with strategies and solutions for protecting them.



The set includes: Preserving Resources from the Recent Past; Preservationists Debate the Recent Past, *Forum Journal: Fall 2005*; and Modernism + the Recent Past, *Forum Journal: Summer 2010*.

Still on the fence? Now through September 3, save 10% on any Preservation Book as part of our [Annual Summer Sale](#). Enter promotion code **SALE10** at checkout to receive this special discount.

\$11.25 plus shipping & handling  
\$13.50 plus shipping & handling for Forum and Main Street members  
\$15.00 for National Trust members plus shipping & handling

Order no. 2RCP

## Identify this Historic Structure...

The first to reply correctly will win a



Complimentary  
One Year Membership to  
the National Trust.

## Keep up with the Southwest Office!

Sign up to receive our e-letter by sending an email to [swro@nthp.org](mailto:swro@nthp.org) OR to review past issues visit [www.preservationnation.org/southwest](http://www.preservationnation.org/southwest).

## Update from the Arkansas Delta

Dear Arkansas Delta RHDl Friends and Supporters,

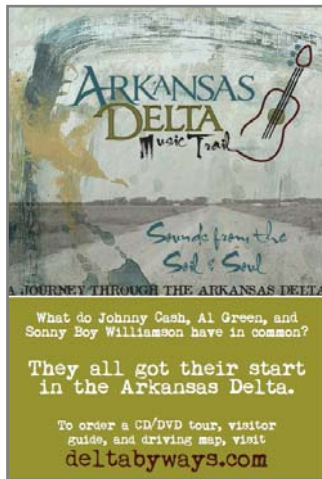
As most of you know, the Arkansas Delta Rural Heritage Development Initiative, begun as one of two national pilot programs by the National Trust for Historic Preservation, has continued beyond the original three-year pilot phase thanks to funding and support primarily from a National Scenic Byways grant to Arkansas State University and the Arkansas Delta Byways regional tourism promotion association. Main Street Arkansas (a program of the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program) and the National Trust for Historic Preservation have continued their support of the RHDl both in financial and technical assistance commitments. The position is funded through Summer 2011 and we are already working to ensure the sustainability of the RHDl program and the staffed position into the future. In other words, we're not going anywhere anytime soon!

The heritage-based economic development approach of the RHDl continues in the Arkansas Delta in the form of several new products and programs. While we continue to further develop the **ArkansasDelta Music Trail: Sound from the Soil & Soul** and grow the **Arkansas Delta-Made** program, the RHDl is taking on several new projects with our partners in 2010. Specifically, we are working on preservation and rehabilitation projects across the region—helping the Cross County Historical Society restore the two-room, c.1903 New Hope School located on Crowley's Ridge Parkway just outside of **Wynne** for use as a visitor center and interpretive facility for travelers along the National Scenic Byway; working with Mayor Jo Ann Bush to rehabilitate the Tushek Building in downtown **Lake Village** as the future home of all city services and offices and to serve as a model for historic preservation and downtown investment



DYESS COLONY CENTER

in Chicot County; assisting in the development and implementation of the Dyess Colony Redevelopment Master Plan to position **Dyess** in southwest Mississippi County as a major



tourism attraction in the Mid-South highlighting both the New Deal-era agricultural experiment and its most famous resident, Johnny Cash; and collaborating with the cities of **Dumas** and



JAPANESE-AMERICAN RELOCATION CAMP SITE AT ROWHER

**McGehee** to raise awareness of the significance of the two World War II-era Japanese-American Relocation Camps at Rowher and Jerome through interpretation and preservation of these sites in southeast Arkansas.

From community branding in **Blytheville, West Memphis, Paragould** and the **Sunken Lands** to small business technical assistance and the ongoing creation of a **Delta Cuisine Kitchen Incubator** to historic preservation resources and funding in **Helena, Marion, Dermott, and Osceola**, the impacts of the Arkansas Delta Rural Heritage Development Initiative can be seen in each of the 15 counties in the region as we charge through our fifth year on the ground.

After four years in Helena, the RHDl offices moved to downtown West Memphis in April 2010. Sharing office space with our partner Main Street West Memphis, this move positions staff closer to several key program projects while still maintaining a central location within the region. It was a bitter-sweet move—to leave Cherry Street and significant momentum and progress in downtown Helena—but a timely one reflective of the ongoing projects and needs throughout the Arkansas Delta. Many, many thanks to Main Street Helena and the Delta Cultural Center for providing a “home” to the RHDl for the past four years. (And as only Helena knows well, you'll likely see more of me now that I don't technically sleep there at night!) Who knows where we'll end up in four more years...but we hope and plan to continue the good work of the RHDl for years to come to make the Arkansas Delta a unique and special place to live, work and play with vibrant communities and a strong, revitalized, and sustainable economy.

Our contact information (telephone and email) hasn't changed. We hope to hear your thoughts, ideas, calls for assistance, and partnership opportunities as always.

Here's to a great 2010 in the Arkansas Delta!

beth

Beth Wiedower, Field Director  
Arkansas Delta Rural Heritage Development Initiative  
870-816-0774

[elizabeth\\_wiedower@nthp.org](mailto:elizabeth_wiedower@nthp.org)

## News from Acoma Sky City

Theresa Pasqual

Over the past couple of days, I've had the opportunity to travel from Flagstaff, Arizona to Chaco Canyon then on to Santa Fe. In all my travels I've passed mountains considered by the Acoma people to be sacred and visited the ancestral homelands of our People. Toward the end of the week I had the opportunity to discuss the importance of preservation with Native American high school students at the Leadership Institute's Summer Policy Academy. The goal of the academy is to engage high school students in learning about current Tribal issues and making them relevant to the students' lives.



Parts of our discussion lead us to the question of, what makes historic preservation important. Is it the preservation of beautiful architecture, the re-telling of a story that connects to place, the ability to study our past, the saving of a language? It's all those things and more. For many Native Americans it is our connection to the past, a living history, one in which we derive many of our customs, our culture, our traditions, our language. Like many others who are passionate about preservation we too are faced

with increased threats to those things that we cherish. Currently we face an increase in native language loss; it is language that connects us to our past, which connects us to place. We face an ever increasing demand to place development in areas that impact cultural landscapes and archaeological sites, robbing us of an unwritten history.

So how then do we preserve that which is being taken from us so quickly? First we build the strength and capacity of our Tribal Historic Preservation Offices (THPO). Staff in these offices are oftentimes the front line for saving many historic and cultural places of importance. Second, we need to support Native Language Preservation Programs, many of these cultural educators/historians serve as resources for THPOs as they complete cultural resource surveys. Finally, we need to look to find new and innovative ways to partner with proponents of development and preservation organizations to try and avoid and, if not, mitigate the potential effects of development on historic and cultural sites.

The world around us is changing; how we affect that change is up to us. What is preserved for future generations is our responsibility.

### Ready for a Challenge?

The **This Place Matters Community Challenge** is on! Communities from all over the country have applied, been accepted, and are now recruiting YOUR support to win \$25,000!

Check out [our Community Map](#) to see every participating community and read why they need your support! Browse all the pictures and stories before

deciding to commit because you only get to support ONE group throughout the Challenge.

Are you an organization who is still wanting to participate? You can! Applications are being accepted throughout the contest, so [apply now](#) and get your organization's cause on the map before the voting period ends on September 15th!

It's the hottest challenge of 2010! Have questions? [Email us!](#)

## Make a Tax-Deductible Gift to the National Trust: Support the Southwest Office

As America's only private, national non-profit organization dedicated to historic preservation, the National Trust for Historic Preservation depends upon contributions from individuals, corporations, and foundations. Your tax-deductible gift to the Southwest Office will underwrite preservation advocacy and outreach throughout the four southwestern states, building visibility and opportunities for heritage resources throughout the region. Charitable dollars provide administrative stability and programmatic momentum, contributing to our independence, flexibility, and ability to respond.

Enclosed Contribution: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

MEMBER NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY | STATE | ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to the National Trust for Historic Preservation, Southwest Office, and mail to:

**NTHP-SOUTHWEST OFFICE**  
500 Main Street, Suite 1030  
Fort Worth, TX 76102

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