

C O L O R A D O

Heritage



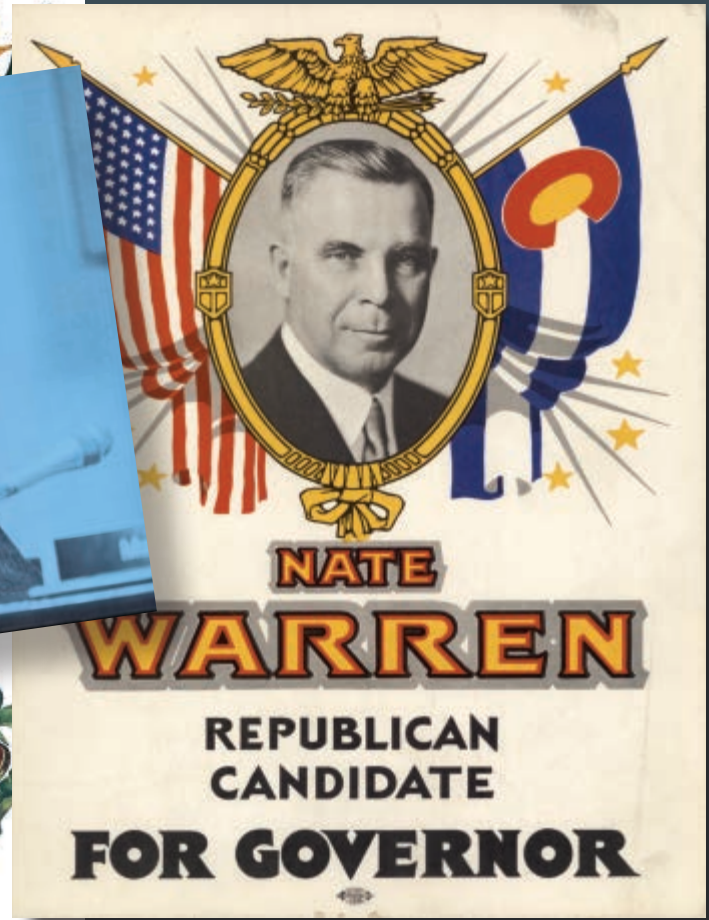
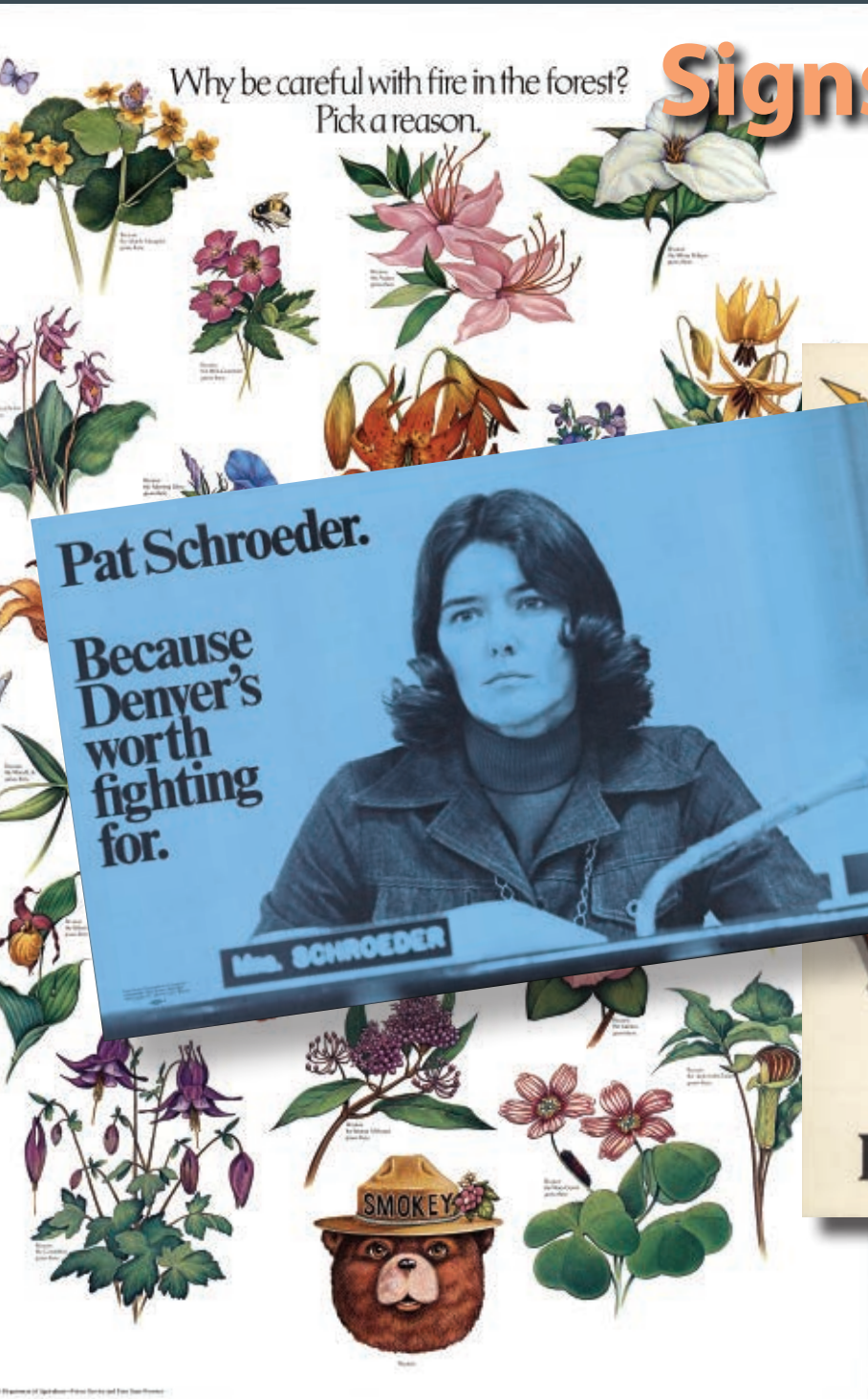
The Magazine of History Colorado

Fall 2019

Signs of the Times

Colorado Posters in
What's Your Story?

At the History Colorado Center



HISTORY  Colorado
140TH ANNIVERSARY
1879-2019

On the Trail of Del Lockard and Bronco Lou, in and Around Durango

Mary Lathrop and Florence Sabin: Two Women Who Got There First

Colorado's Arc from "Hate State" to the Election of a Gay Governor

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Most Coloradans now oppose discrimination based on sexual orientation. Getting here has been a struggle.
By William Wei, Colorado State Historian

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Coloradans have long—in fact always—made posters to share what they care about and to inspire others.
By Julie Peterson

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Along the Durango-area trail of Del Lockard and Bronco Lou, mysteries remain and injustice abounds.
By David N. Shorr

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ON THE COVER

The new History Colorado Center exhibit *What's Your Story?* features more than a hundred “changemakers” from Colorado’s past and present—along with an interactive tunnel of posters Coloradans have used to voice their opinions, fly their colors, and proudly proclaim who they are.

USDA Smokey Bear poster, 1989. Gift, Collected by History Colorado staff. 89.116.1

Pat Schroeder Congress campaign sign, 1972. Gift, Collected by History Colorado staff. 2002.96.10

“Nate Warren, Republican Candidate for Governor” poster, 1948. Gift, Collected by History Colorado staff. 2003.72.24

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THE COLORADO BOOK REVIEW

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Send any new books or booklets about Colorado, for listing and possible review, to:

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THE COLORADO ENCYCLOPEDIA

Did you know? More than 100 *Colorado Heritage* articles have been adapted for the *Colorado Encyclopedia*—a new online resource where you can find a wealth of information about Colorado history. What’s in this twenty-first-century reference work on the Centennial State? Find out at ColoradoEncyclopedia.org.

To order a scan or print, or to see more of our collections of historical photography, visit the History Colorado Online Collection at h-co.org/collections or stop in to the Hart Research Library at History Colorado.

Collodion on paper. C. E. Rose, Denver, 1897.



The man at center is Charles T. Linton, who as an Arapahoe County undersheriff some sixteen years earlier arrested two men for horse theft—launching the tragic events related in our feature beginning on page 16. Linton went on to write about the incident in *The Trail: A Monthly Magazine for Colorado*.

This image tells a story in its own right, of a “ceremony without parallel,” as an inscription on the reverse reads. At Denver’s Masonic Lodge No. 5 in September 1897, “a most unique ceremony occurred, and which will pass into history as ‘the first and only of its kind’ . . . On the occasion thus referred to, the Master Mason’s degree was conferred on Brother Harry Bruce Linton, grandson of the grand tyler of the grand lodge of Colorado.” Thus, three generations—Charles and his father and son—were now masons in the same Denver lodge.

Just a few months later, Charles Linton donated the photo himself to History Colorado (then known as the State Historical and Natural History Society). Sadly, his own story has a tragic ending. In December 1922, as a guard at the Denver Mint, he was killed in a hail of gunfire when five men robbed a bank truck he was loading with \$200,000 in five-dollar bills.



PRESENTED BY
 THOMAS LINTON. CHARLES T. LINTON. HARRY B. LINTON
THREE GENERATIONS.
 MEMBERS OF DENVER LODGE NO. 5, A. F. AND A. M.
 P. E. Rose, 1206 Larimer S
 Denver.



Bold Women Change History, Every Day

We hope you're already excited about the year's worth of programs we've launched for the Women's Vote Centennial in Colorado. Hundreds of you have already attended talks by former UN ambassador Samantha

Power and Emmy-winning journalist Maria Hinojosa, not to mention the panel of five women—all of whom achieved firsts in elected positions—that kicked it off for us in September.

And that's just the beginning.

With History Colorado as its statewide leader, the Women's Vote Centennial Commission is driving efforts to



commemorate 100 years since the passage of the Nineteenth Amendment—and to recognize Colorado women for gaining the vote more than a quarter-century earlier.

Cathey Finlon, our board chair, also chairs that commission. As she wrote in *The Denver Post* on October 8, “Where would we be without the voices from the suffrage movement? They had ideas, and they expressed them with courage and determination.”

Joined by community partners statewide, we're creating thoughtful discussion about the past in the context of the here and now. The History Colorado Center's **Bold Women. Change History.** lecture series—along with programs in every county of the state—honor the theme, “You shape history every time you vote.”

The Women's Vote Centennial is giving multi-generational audiences the opportunity to learn about the journey to achieve the women's vote, understand the contributions of Colorado women, and underscore the value of each of our voices.

Keep up with the lecture series at H-CO.ORG/BOLDWOMEN and with programs around the state at COWOMENSCENTENNIAL.ORG.

Steve W. Turner, Executive Director and State Historic Preservation Officer

MISSION

History Colorado creates a better future for Colorado by inspiring wonder in our past.

OUR SITES

History Colorado Center

1200 Broadway, Denver
303/HISTORY, HistoryColoradoCenter.org

Center for Colorado Women's History at the Byers-Evans House Museum

1310 Bannock Street, Denver
303/620-4933, ByersEvansHouseMuseum.org

El Pueblo History Museum

301 North Union, Pueblo
719/583-0453, ElPuebloHistoryMuseum.org

Fort Garland Museum and Cultural Center

East of Alamosa off U.S. 160
719/379-3512, FortGarlandMuseum.org
Open: March 1 to October 31.

Fort Vasquez

13412 U.S. 85, Platteville
970/785-2832, FortVasquezMuseum.org

Georgetown Loop Historic Mining & Railroad Park®

Georgetown/Silver Plume I-70 exits
1-888/456-6777, GeorgetownLoopRR.com

Grant-Humphreys Mansion

770 Pennsylvania Street, Denver
303/894-2505, GrantHumphreysMansion.org

Healy House Museum and Dexter Cabin

912 Harrison Avenue, Leadville
719/486-0487, HealyHouseMuseum.org
Open: May 18 to October 8, or by appointment.

Pike's Stockade

Six miles east of La Jara, near Sanford, just off Highway 136
Closed for the season.

Trinidad History Museum

312 East Main Street, Trinidad
719/846-7217, TrinidadHistoryMuseum.org

Ute Indian Museum

17253 Chipeta Road, Montrose
970/249-3098, UteIndianMuseum.org

Stephen H. Hart Research Center

At the History Colorado Center
303/866-2305, h-co.org/collections

Spotlight On . . .

National Western Stock Show Loving Cup

BY JAMES S. PETERSON, ASSISTANT CURATOR FOR ARTIFACTS

This 1909 “loving cup,” awarded to Charles Boettcher, is newly on view in the Members Lounge at the History Colorado Center.

Charles Boettcher, one of Colorado’s most important early businessmen and philanthropists, was no stranger to horses or horse shows. At one time, almost 600 horses—some of them purebreds from Europe—roamed his 180-square-mile ranch in Jackson County. An accomplished equestrian, Boettcher and his Kentucky gaited saddle horse, Candy Jim, took first prize in the Walk, Trot, and Canter competition at the Fourth Annual National Western Stock Show and Horse Fair in Denver during the week of January 18–23, 1909.

That year’s show had been billed as the greatest exhibition of fine stock ever shown west of Chicago. A newly completed National Amphitheater seated 6,000 people around a 100-by-200-foot arena that was lit and steam-heated. The venue was a novel sight in 1909. In recognition of its high merit, Denver Mayor Robert Speer declared Thursday, January 21, as a half-day holiday for city employees, and he encouraged businesses to close early so workers could attend.



In January 2020, the National Western Stock Show will celebrate its 115th year as one of Denver’s premier attractions.

Charles Boettcher, shown here around 1900, established Denver’s first packing plant, founded the Great Western Sugar Co., and was a cattleman, banker, and philanthropist. Photo by Rose & Hopkins, Denver. Courtesy Denver Public Library, Western History Collection. H-13

Inset: National Western Stock Show loving cup, 1909. Bohm-Allen Co., Denver. 70.112.2

This 1909 or 1910 view by L. C. McClure shows the Denver stock yards’ brand-new amphitheater on Forty-Sixth Avenue, built at a cost of over \$200,000. Courtesy Denver Public Library, Western History Collection. MCC-1645

How We Got to Now

New Podcast Explores Stories You Won't Believe You've Never Heard

A Podcast Presented by

STURM FAMILY
FOUNDATION

Colorado has stories to tell. Some of the best are buried deep inside archives, hidden within the collection of two million photographs, 200,000 artifacts, and 11 million documents that History Colorado has built over the past 140 years. This fall, a new podcast has brought them to light. *Lost Highways: Dispatches from the Shadows of the Rocky Mountains*, a biweekly History Colorado podcast presented by the Sturm Family Foundation, harnesses the power of storytelling to support deeper and more inclusive dialogues about Colorado, the greater Rocky Mountain region, and the nation. The inaugural six-episode season debuted in September via [HistoryColorado.org/lost-highways](https://www.historycolorado.org/lost-highways), Apple Podcasts, Spotify, Stitcher, and everywhere else that podcasts are found.



Lost Highways hosts
Noel Black (left) and Tyler Hill

Top: Co-host Tyler Hill interviews Clela Rorex, who as a Boulder County clerk in 1975 issued six marriage licenses to same-sex couples, launching a national debate about gay marriage rights.

Season one explores the roots of familiar contemporary topics such as talk-radio culture, same-sex marriage, and American Indian mascots. It also mines insights from stories of Japanese incarceration and forced relocation during World War II, minority settlements, and the “Red Elvis,” a man who might have been John Denver before he defected to cold-war East Germany. Multiple community listening sessions have provided a forum for insight and dialogue in the first season.

The population of Colorado increased by nearly 600,000 people between 2010 and 2018, representing a growth rate of 11.4 percent and the sixth-fastest clip in the nation. The Centennial State has emerged as a social bellwether on major national issues in the past decade, such as marijuana legalization, energy development, gay rights, immigration, and the impacts of climate change. With the spotlight on our state, *Lost Highways* provides historical perspectives on dialogues and debates that have shaped our world today.

In the podcast, hosts Noel Black and Tyler Hill set out to discover their home state through stories they can’t believe they’d never heard before. Both veterans of public radio—and Coloradans—Black and Hill bring high standards to the project. The Sturm Family Foundation has pledged support to launch the podcast. History Colorado lends in-kind support through its ten museums and historic sites statewide; the resources of its Curatorial Services and Collections Access departments, which oversee the institution’s vast collection and provides investigative services through the public Stephen H. Hart Research Center; and its Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, which operates the nation’s largest state historical fund.

“*Lost Highways* brings you stories about Colorado and the West that you likely haven’t heard,” says Noel Black. “These stories will take listeners well beyond the mountains-and-marijuana stereotypes that most people think of when they think of Colorado.”

“These days, people have a hunger to understand how we got to now,” says Jason Hanson, chief creative officer and director of interpretation and research at History Colorado. “*Lost Highways* will give listeners a deeper understanding of how the issues impacting our lives today took shape—and perhaps help inspire ideas that will shape a brighter future. There is no better place to start these narratives than History Colorado’s vast archive of stories. Our oral history collection and audio archive add vibrant dimensions to how people encounter our shared past.”

“Our goal for this podcast is to spark people’s curiosity and encourage them to see this region in a different light,” says Stephen Sturm, co-managing director of the Sturm Family Foundation. “At its best, history should be informative and entertaining, approachable and thought provoking, and bring the past in connection with the present. *Lost Highways* does this in spades and we’re excited for all Coloradans—natives or newcomers—to have ‘aha’ moments as they connect with the history of our state.”

About the Hosts

Noel Black is the senior producer and host of *Lost Highways*. Formerly, he was the creator, co-host, and senior producer of *Wish We Were Here*, an Edward R. Murrow Award-winning show and podcast produced by KRCC public radio in Colorado Springs, Colorado. Tyler Hill is producer and co-host. He has worked at National Public Radio’s Morning Edition, Weekend All Things Considered, and Weekend Edition.



Lost Highways: Dispatches from the Shadows of the Rocky Mountains

SEASON ONE

SIX GAY WEDDINGS AND A HORSE
Boulder County Clerk Clela Rorex issued six gay marriage licenses in 1975, and one of those couples brought marriage to the forefront of the gay rights movement.

BONSAI BEHIND BARBED WIRE
We trace the history of American bonsai trees back to Amache, the incarceration camp in southeastern Colorado where people of Japanese descent were held during World War II.

THE PASSION OF ALAN BERG
We’ll examine the legacy of Alan Berg, the Denver talk-radio host who helped shape the culture of outrage-for-profit that dominates the media landscape today.

THE DEAREST FIELD
We’ll take you to Dearfield, Colorado, and Nicodemus, Kansas, two all-African American communities with two different fates that helped define the black experience in the West.

ROCK AROUND THE BLOC
Meet Dean Reed, the so-called “Red Elvis,” a Denver-born folk singer and pop star who defected to East Germany during the Cold War.

MASCOT, MASK OFF
We’ll look at two Colorado high schools taking two very different approaches to their Native American mascots.

HistoryColorado.org/lost-highways



From "Hate State"

Governor John Hickenlooper signed the Colorado Civil Unions Act in March 2013, in the History Colorado Center atrium. Photo courtesy Steve Grinstead.

to the Election of a Gay Governor

BY WILLIAM WEI
COLORADO STATE HISTORIAN

Colorado is a socially liberal state when compared to other states, and particularly to other states in the American West. The state had gay bars in the 1940s and gay rodeos beginning in the 1960s. Colorado is also home to progressive communities such as Denver, Aspen, and Boulder, which have been supportive of individual rights and freedoms. For example, in 2019 Denver held its forty-fourth annual PrideFest Parade, the region's largest celebration of LGBT (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender) pride. Today, the majority of Coloradans are opposed to discrimination based on sexual orientation and the state recognizes same-sex marriages. But getting to this point has been a back-and-forth struggle. It's been complicated.

In 1975, Boulder County Clerk and Recorder Clela Rorex became the first person in the country to issue marriage licenses to same-sex couples—doing so after getting an opinion from District Attorney Alex Hunter that state statutes were gender-neutral when it came to marriage. But after issuing six licenses, Rorex was stopped by State Attorney General J. D. MacFarlane, who declared them illegal.

A further roadblock went up in 1992, when Coloradans approved Amendment 2 to the State Constitution. Amendment 2 prevented any city, town, or county from taking any steps to recognize homosexuals as a protected class. In other words, it forbade local governments to enact affirmative action measures to prevent discrimination against people due to their sexual orientation. But in 1995, the US Supreme Court struck Amendment 2 down as unconstitutional by a vote of 6 to 3, after the justices concluded that the amendment was too broad. It could have been used, they argued, to deprive gays and lesbians of protections afforded by existing civil rights laws covering employment and housing, rather than simply to prevent them from receiving “special rights.”

The animosity toward the LGBT community that gave rise to Amendment 2 emanated mainly from Christian right groups based in Colorado Springs and elsewhere. They persuaded Coloradans to approve the amendment by a campaign that stressed traditional family values. Besides emphasizing positive aspects of family life, the drive also demonized gays and lesbians as a threat to society, particularly to children because of the belief that homosexuality caused pedophilia. The push also sought to motivate voters by stirring up fears of a putative “homosexual conspiracy” seeking to degrade Christianity and society as a whole.

By its success, the Christian right’s crusade had the effect of changing Colorado’s reputation for tolerance—earning it the moniker “hate state” from LGBT activists. However, there is no doubt that the campaign struck a deep chord with Colorado voters. Even though Amendment 2 was ultimately overturned through a state referendum in 2006, another constitutional amendment was passed that same year adding language restricting marriage to couples of different genders.

Perhaps the most significant recent event in the back-and-forth struggle for equal rights for members of the LGBT community occurred on March 21, 2013, when Governor John W. Hickenlooper signed

the Colorado Civil Union Act into law at the History Colorado Center. The act provided same-sex couples with rights comparable to those of opposite-sex married couples. Garth Dagan Criswell and Timothy Mark Kraft of Lone Tree, Colorado, were among the homosexual couples who took advantage of the new law to get married. They did so on December 7, 2013. The civil union license and certificate on display at the History Colorado Center in *Zoom In: The Centennial State in 100 Objects* was issued to them at Cherry Hills Village, Douglas County, legalizing their relationship. Two years later, in 2015, the US Supreme Court ruled 5 to 4 that the US Constitution guarantees the right to same-sex marriage, sanctioning same-sex marriage nationwide.

With the Supreme Court’s decision in favor of same-sex marriage, one would think that the war for equal rights had been won, but some legal battles remain to be fought. In recent years, one of the most contentious cases has been *Masterpiece Cakeshop v. Colorado Civil Rights Commission*. Jack C. Phillips is a Lakewood, Colorado, baker who believes that “God’s intention for marriage from the beginning of history is that it is and should be the union of one man and one woman,” writes the *Los Angeles Times*. He refused in 2012 to “create” a cake for Charlie Craig and David Mullins, a gay couple who wanted simply to celebrate their nuptials.

Craig and Mullins filed a complaint with the Colorado Civil Rights Commission, which found that Phillips had violated the state’s Anti-Discrimination Act in a ruling that was later affirmed by the Colorado Court of Appeals. With the support of the Alliance Defending Freedom, a conservative Christian nonprofit law firm representing him, Phillips petitioned the Supreme Court, arguing that being required to create a cake for a same-sex wedding celebration was a form of “compelled speech” and that it violated his right to the free exercise of religion.

The Supreme Court ruled 7 to 2 in favor of Phillips. Writing on behalf of the majority, Justice Anthony M. Kennedy, more or less, ignored Phillips’ free-speech argument and focused on his assertion of religious freedom. He said that Colorado Civil Rights Commission members were hostile to his faith, violating his First Amendment right that the nation’s laws be applied in a neutral manner, without reference to religion. For that reason, the Supreme Court overturned the civil rights commission’s decision against Phillips. At the same time, Kennedy affirmed the rights of gay people, saying that they “cannot be treated as social outcasts or as inferior in dignity and worth,” as the *Washington Post* reported.



Presented by
Colorado State
University.

THIS LICENSE VALID ONLY IN COLORADO
 35 DAYS FROM DATE OF ISSUE.

No. 63

NOTE: THIS IS A CIVIL UNION LICENSE - NOT A CIVIL UNION CERTIFICATE. IF IT IS NOT USED, THE PERSON TO WHOM IT IS DELIVERED MUST RETURN IT PROMPTLY TO THE COUNTY CLERK AND RECORDER WHO ISSUED IT.

CIVIL UNION LICENSE

STATE OF COLORADO.

To any person or religious society Authorized by Law to Perform the Civil Union Ceremony:

GREETING:

You are hereby authorized to join in civil union
TIMOTHY MARK KRAFT
 of **LONE TREE, CO**
GARTH DAGAN CRISWELL
 of **LONE TREE, CO**
 and of this license you will make due return to my office.

Witness, my hand and the seal of my office at
 this 2nd day of December 2013 9:33 am
JACK ARROWSMITH Douglas County Clerk
Danielle Morris Deputy Clerk



CIVIL UNION CERTIFICATE

STATE OF COLORADO,
 County of Arapahoe } ss.

It is hereby certified that on the 7th day of December
A.D. 2013 at Cherry Hills Village
 in said county, the undersigned, did enter in Civil Union in accordance with the laws
 of the state of Colorado and the authorization of the foregoing license

TIMOTHY MARK KRAFT
 of **LONE TREE, CO** and
GARTH DAGAN CRISWELL
 of **LONE TREE, CO**

Witness, my hand the day and year last above written.

[Signature]
 Signature of Officiating Party
Pastor Ronald T. Glesenkamp
 Print Title of Officiating Party

[Signature]
 Witness Signature
[Signature]
 Witness Signature

[Signature]
 Party One Signature
[Signature]
 Party Two Signature

RETURN TO 9483 S SHADOW HILL CIR LONE TREE, CO 80124

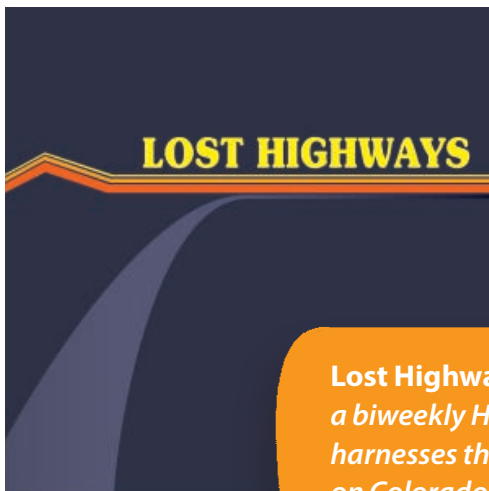
63 DAY NOTICE
 THIS CIVIL UNION CERTIFICATE MUST BE FORWARDED TO THE COUNTY CLERK AND RECORDER SHOWN ON THE TOP OF THIS FORM, BY THE PERSON OR PARTY CERTIFYING THE CIVIL UNION,
 WITHIN 63 DAYS OF CERTIFICATION.

FAILURE TO DO SO SHALL RESULT IN A LATE FEE OF NOT LESS THAN 20 (TWENTY) DOLLARS, PAYABLE BY THE CERTIFYING PERSON OR PARTY. AN ADDITIONAL FIVE-DOLLAR LATE FEE MAY
 BE ASSESSED FOR EACH ADDITIONAL DAY OF FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THE FORWARDING REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SUBSECTION (1) UP TO A MAXIMUM OF FIFTY DOLLARS FOR PURPOSES
 OF DETERMINING WHETHER A LATE FEE SHALL BE ASSESSED PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION (1). THE DATE OF FORWARDING SHALL BE DEEMED TO BE THE DATE OF THE POSTMARK. CRS
 14-15-11(2)

In other words, in making a narrowly focused decision, the Supreme Court had “punted,” leaving the larger issue of whether business owners and others can deny protected persons equal access to goods and services because of religious objections for a later time. (Phillips later sued the state to stop it from taking action against him over a new discrimination allegation, specifically his unwillingness to make a cake for a person celebrating a transgender transition. By March 2019, the civil rights commission had withdrawn its proceedings against Phillips, and Phillips had dropped his case against the commission.)

It is difficult to say whether same-sex marriages will ever attain full acceptance in American society. Given that racial minorities are still waging a struggle for equality after more than one hundred fifty years of legislation, it is doubtful. In Colorado, there has been at least acceptance of gays in the political sphere. In the 2018 midterm election, Jared Polis, an openly gay man, was elected Colorado’s governor. While his sexual orientation was mentioned in passing as part of his personal profile, it was never considered a handicap in his run for the governorship.

And that is social progress.



A Podcast Presented by

STURM FAMILY
FOUNDATION

Facing: Garth Criswell and Mark Kraft’s civil union license, December 7, 2013, Lone Tree, Colorado. Loan, T. Mark Kraft and Garth Criswell. IL.2017.20.1. On view in Zoom In: The Centennial State in 100 Objects.

For Further Reading

The articles referenced in this essay are Times Editorial Board, “The Supreme Court Squanders an Opportunity for Lasting Justice in the Wedding Cake Case,” *Los Angeles Times*, June 5, 2018, and Robert Barnes, “Supreme Court Rules in Favor of Baker Who Would Not Make Wedding Cake for Gay Couple,” *Washington Post*, June 4, 2018. See also Colleen Slevin, “Baker Back in Court over 2nd LGBT Bias Allegation,” *Daily Camera* (Boulder), December 19, 2018, and Elise Schmelzer, “Masterpiece Cakeshop, State of Colorado Agree to Mutual Ceasefire over Harassment, Discrimination Claims,” *The Denver Post*, March 5, 2019. For more about Denver’s PrideFest, see Aaron B. Marcus, “PrideFest: A History of Denver’s Gay Pride Celebration,” *Colorado Heritage*, May/June 2013.

WILLIAM WEI, PhD, is Colorado’s State Historian, having assumed that role on August 1. A professor of history at the University of Colorado Boulder, he is editor-in-chief of the online *Colorado Encyclopedia* and has held national and international fellowships. His latest book, *Asians in Colorado: A History of Persecution and Perseverance in the Centennial State*, was a finalist for the 2017 Colorado Authors’ League Award



for General Nonfiction. He was a lead advisor on the *Zoom In* exhibit in 2016–17 and is working on a book featuring the 100 objects in *Zoom In*. He is a frequent contributor to *Colorado Heritage*.

Lost Highways: Dispatches from the Shadows of the Rocky Mountains— a biweekly *History Colorado* podcast presented by the Sturm Family Foundation— harnesses the power of storytelling to support deeper and more inclusive dialogues on Colorado, the Rocky Mountain region, and the nation. Hosts Noel Black and Tyler Hill, veterans of public radio, explore the roots of same-sex marriage in the episode “Six Gay Weddings and a Horse.” Other episodes bring to light stories of talk-radio culture, American Indian mascots, Japanese internment, minority settlements, and the “Red Elvis,” a man who might have been John Denver until he defected to cold-war East Germany.

Hear the inaugural six-episode season via HistoryColorado.org/lost-highways, Apple Podcasts, Stitcher, and everywhere podcasts are found.



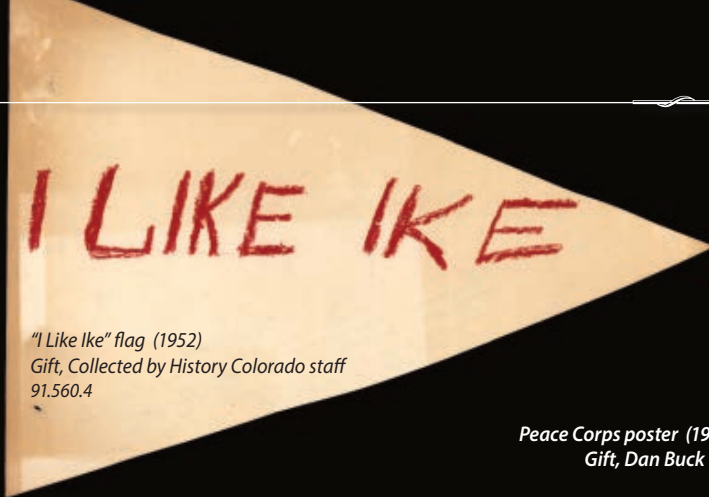
“You don’t have to be older to impact your community in a positive way. You can do it right now. You can impact your community as young as you are.”

— Sara Gebretsadik, age 19, Colorado Governor’s Citizenship Medal Winner, 2018

SIGNS OF THE TIMES

Colorado Posters Have Challenged and Inspired

BY JULIE PETERSON
PUBLIC HISTORIAN & EXHIBIT DEVELOPER



"I Like Ike" flag (1952)
 Gift, Collected by History Colorado staff
 91.560.4

Peace Corps poster (1970-75)
 Gift, Dan Buck 98.15.4

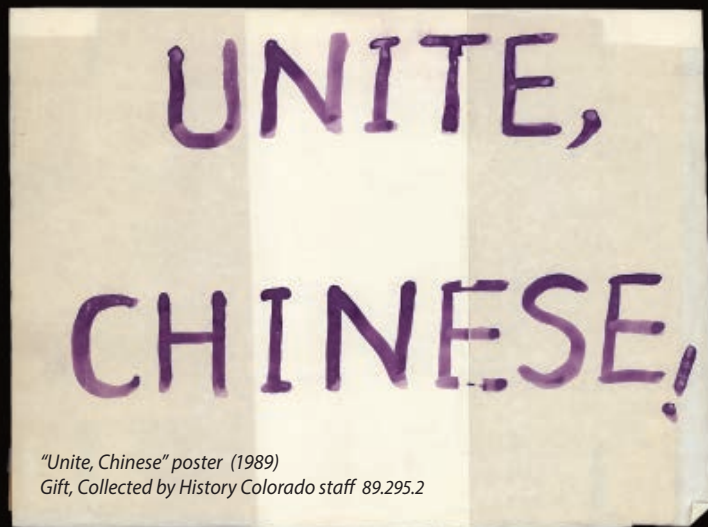
For more than a century, Coloradans have been making posters to share what they care about and to inspire others. In 1952, members of the Central City Opera surprised the audience by waving "I Like Ike" flags during a performance. They were almost fired for their impromptu statement in support of President Dwight D. Eisenhower during his election campaign. In the 1970s, posters appeared with the message, "Make America a Better Place. Leave the Country." Though it echoes a refrain familiar in today's contentious debates over immigration, this poster is actually a call to American citizens to join the Peace Corps. It encourages Americans to bring the skills and experience they gain as Peace Corps volunteers back home to their own communities.

On June 4, 1989, the Chinese government violently crushed a pro-democracy protest in Tiananmen Square in Beijing, killing and arresting thousands. A poster proclaiming "Unite, Chinese" was made for a rally, in support of the protestors, held on the steps of the Colorado State Capitol a few days later.

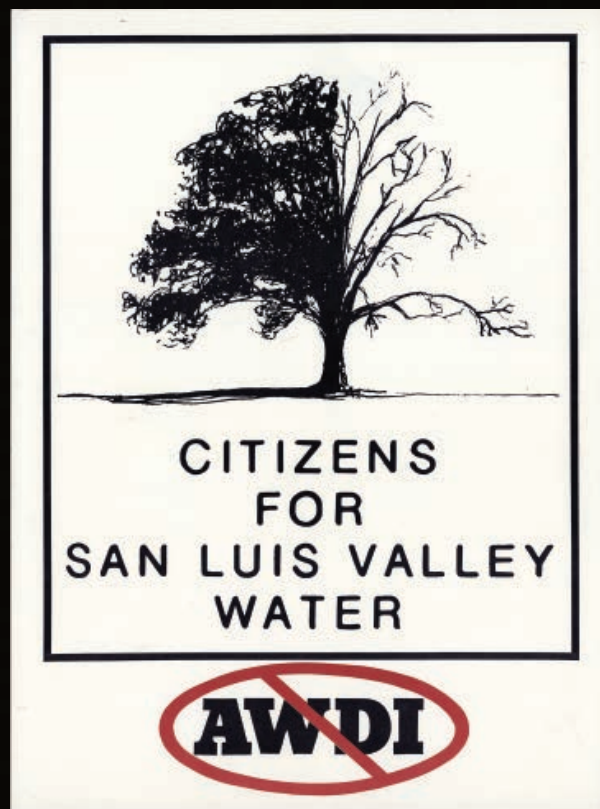
Also in the 1980s, American Water Development, Inc. bought Baca Ranch in southwestern Colorado. The company proposed pumping groundwater from beneath the 97,000-acre ranch for local irrigation and to sell water to nearby regions. San Luis Valley citizens vehemently opposed the proposal and challenged AWDI in court, halting the plans to drain the aquifer. They, too, carried posters.



Citizens for San Luis Valley Water poster (1990)
 Gift, Collected by History Colorado staff 93.52.1



"Unite, Chinese" poster (1989)
 Gift, Collected by History Colorado staff 89.295.2





In the final section of the new exhibit *What's Your Story?*—presented at the History Colorado Center with generous support from CiviCO—you'll walk through a tunnel of posters like these, all from History Colorado's extensive collections and dating from the 1860s to the present.

There, you can join the generations of Coloradans

who came before you by making your own poster using a digital kiosk. Share your poster to a monitor within the gallery to see it alongside others, and send it to yourself for sharing via email or social media.

W*hat's Your Story?* empowers visitors to reflect on their personal journey, inspiring them to leave a lasting impact on their community. A new core exhibit of the History Colorado Center, *What's Your Story?* is the first exhibit in the new Owens Hickenlooper Leadership Gallery.

Through interactive media opportunities and immersive experiences, you'll recognize leadership traits in yourself and others. You'll see that making an impact is a journey with distinct steps—like finding a spark, committing to a cause, confronting challenges with resilience, and finding your identity. You'll learn what your superpower is, and find out which Coloradans share it. You'll identify Colorado leaders—past and present—who exemplify civic action, giving back, and entrepreneurship. And, you'll see how innovative Coloradans have confronted tough challenges and embraced unique opportunities along their journeys to becoming changemakers.

More than one hundred individuals are featured in the exhibit. Some you may have heard of, while others are everyday changemakers like you. Just a sample of the people featured are Senator Casimiro Barela, nonprofit leader Christine Benero, conductor Antonia Brico, preservationist Dana Crawford, musician John Denver, youth leader Juan Franco, Olympic swimmer Missy Franklin, Judge Ben Lindsey, artist Emanuel Martinez, Denver Mayor Federico Peña, cultural mediator Amache Ochinee Prowers, astronaut Jack Swigert, and mountaineer Agnes Vaille.

What's Your Story? includes more than 125 artifacts. Many items were collected from the people featured, such as the climbing shoes Tommy Caldwell wore when he and his partner were the first to free climb the Dawn Wall of

Facing: Clockwise, from bottom right: World War I food rationing poster, 1917; gift, collected by History Colorado staff, 83.476.9. Moffat Tunnel amendment ribbon, 1913; gift, Rosemary Marinoff, H.4272.27. "Save waste fats for explosives" poster, 1943; gift, collected by History Colorado staff, 95.12.7. "To Arms!" poster, 1860s; gift, collected by History Colorado staff, 2010.47.22.

Yosemite's El Capitan in 2015, and prototypes for testing lead in drinking water created by Gitanjali Rao when she was only eleven years old. You'll see an 1894 letter from women's rights activist Susan B. Anthony celebrating Colorado's expansion of voting rights for women, a model of historic Larimer Square, ancestral Puebloan items from Mesa Verde, political pins, ballet slippers that belonged to the founder of the Colorado Ballet, and more.

Impact Journey Interactives

In four different stations in the inner circle of the gallery, explore your personal connection to the moments on the journey to making an impact: the spark, commitment, challenges, and resilience.

Nominate a Medal Winner

Learn about the Colorado Governor's Citizenship Medal, facilitated by Denver's leadership development organization CiviCO, and nominate someone you think deserves to win one of the medals.

Superpower Quiz

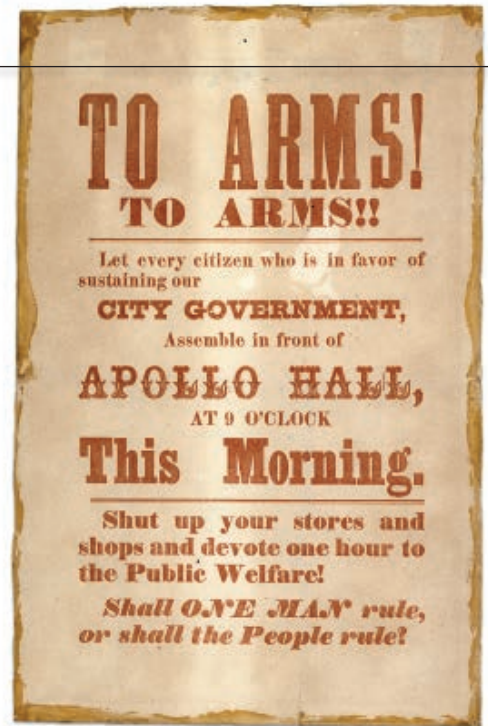
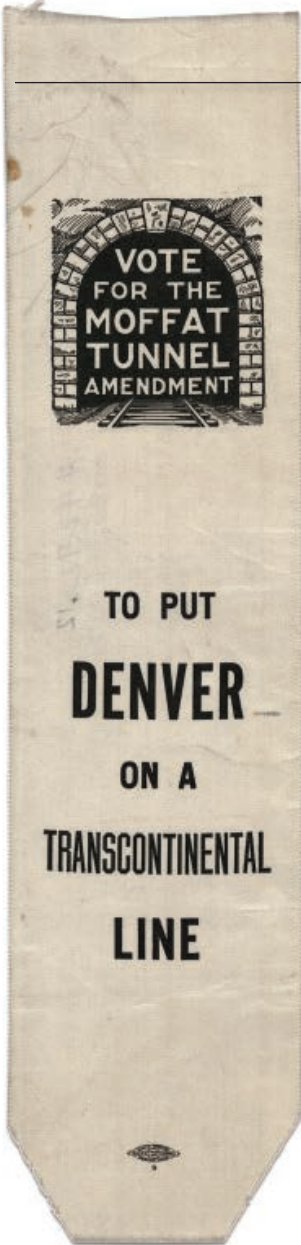
Take a quiz to find out what your superpower is. You'll be matched with a squad of three Coloradans who share your superpower. The seven superpowers in *What's Your Story?* are courage, determination, passion, creativity, curiosity, empathy, and resilience.

Find Your Spark!

In the gallery, three giant screens display portraits and quotes from Colorado changemakers: historical figures, contemporary people, and Governor's Citizenship Medal winners. Take a photo of yourself and make a statement about an issue you care about. You and your statement will appear alongside those of other Coloradans who've made an impact.

Colorado is a place like no other. The state we call home is more than a collection of spectacular landscapes. It's the result of generations who've invested their time and energy in creating a unique place where we celebrate values like innovation, collaboration, and stewardship.

— From the exhibit *What's Your Story?*



JULIE PETERSON was the lead developer for *What's Your Story?* Since coming to the History Colorado Center in 2017, she has served as lead developer for *Zoom In: The Centennial State in 100 Objects* and has worked on such initiatives as the *Lost Highways* podcast and an audio tour for the museum. Originally from Loveland, Colorado, Julie holds a master's in public history from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst.



With generous support from:

CIVICO

WHAT'S YOUR STORY?

Each of us is on a journey toward making a difference. What's your superpower?

Is it curiosity—like Gitanjali Rao, the eleven-year-old who invented a way to test water for lead? Is it determination—like Janet Bonnema, the first woman to work in the Eisenhower Tunnel? Is it resilience—like Casimiro Barela, who overcame tragedy to help write the State Constitution and publish it in three languages?

Come explore your superpower and those of Coloradans past, present, and future. Find out how they made an impact on our state, whether by fighting school segregation or being a world-class athlete. See how your experience compares to the challenges and opportunities faced by generations of Coloradans before you.

Through one-of-a-kind multimedia experiences, you and your friends can tell the world what's important to you, and share it on the big screen for all to see. Whatever you care about—the outdoors? becoming an entrepreneur? helping others?—you'll meet Coloradans who share your passion.

Learn about the Colorado Governor's Citizenship Medal, then nominate someone you think should win it. See Tommy Caldwell's rock-climbing shoes and the model of Larimer Square Dana Crawford built when she saved the neighborhood. Make a poster to send your message—you'll see your creation among more than seventy-five posters spanning 150 years of Colorado history.

In *What's Your Story?* you'll meet 101 people who've made an impact—just like you will.

Colorado Women Got There First

BY DEVIN FLORES, DIGITAL STORYTELLING COORDINATOR, COMMUNITY MUSEUMS

Colorado women have long been proud pioneers in various fields. Here are two incredible women who accomplished great things, and got there first.

Mary Florence Lathrop: "I'm Either a Lawyer or I'm Not!"

Mary Florence Lathrop was one of those people who knocked out a whole battery of firsts, one right after the other.

She began her professional life as a journalist, but quickly changed over to law. She attended the University of Denver Law School, where she graduated *summa cum laude* in 1896. Her score for the Colorado Bar would stand as a record, for both men and women, until 1941.

After graduating she became the first woman to open a legal practice in the state of Colorado. Many of her male colleagues refused to acknowledge her at first, but she soon rose in popularity and success. She became the first woman to try a case before the Colorado Supreme Court in 1898 (*Clayton v. Hallett*), a high-profile case involving a mountain man, an orphanage, and a sum of \$2.5 million.

In 1901 she was invited to join the Colorado Bar Association, but she turned the invitation down for reasons unknown. She was invited again in 1913, this time unanimously. She accepted and became the organization's first female member. In 1917 she scored another first when she was one of two women to simultaneously join the American Bar Association—the first time any women had been a member of that organization,

of which she later became vice president.

Lathrop was a philanthropist and social figure as well as a lawyer. She often made anonymous donations to help struggling students, and during World War II she entertained soldiers at huge Thanksgiving and Christmas parties.

Mary Lathrop passed away in 1951, but she left behind a legacy that's still with us. The Colorado Women's Bar Association presents a yearly award in her name to "outstanding female attorneys who have enriched the community through their legal and civic activities."



Mary Florence Lathrop, photographed by the Rose & Hopkins studio in Denver around 1900. Courtesy Denver Public Library, Western History Collection. H-61

Florence Sabin: "A New School of Anatomy"

Florence Sabin was born the daughter of a schoolteacher and a mining engineer in Central City, Colorado, and from adolescence had an interest in math and the sciences. As a young woman she taught high school mathematics in Denver, but this was only temporary. She needed the job to save up money for her true ambition: to gain a doctorate from Johns Hopkins School of Medicine.

When she enrolled in 1896, she was one of only fourteen female students in the school, but she refused to let this slow her down. Sabin was quickly noticed for her perseverance and sharp observational skills, and was sponsored in two research projects that would become landmark developments in the world of medicine—including the first three-dimensional model of a human brainstem.



Photo courtesy "The Wall Street of the Rockies: A Denver Walk of History and Infamy along 17th Street" (wallstreetoftherockies.com).

After graduation she stayed at Johns Hopkins and quickly rose through the ranks—within two years she'd earned an associate professorship. She was the first woman to teach at Johns Hopkins, and by 1917 she was the first woman to ever hold a full professorship at a medical college.

In 1925, she left the college to focus on research. Within the year, she was appointed the head of the Department of Cellular Studies at the Rockefeller Institute—the first time a woman had ever held a department head position at that organization. In the same year, she became the first woman to join the National Academy of Sciences; she was the only female member for more than twenty years.

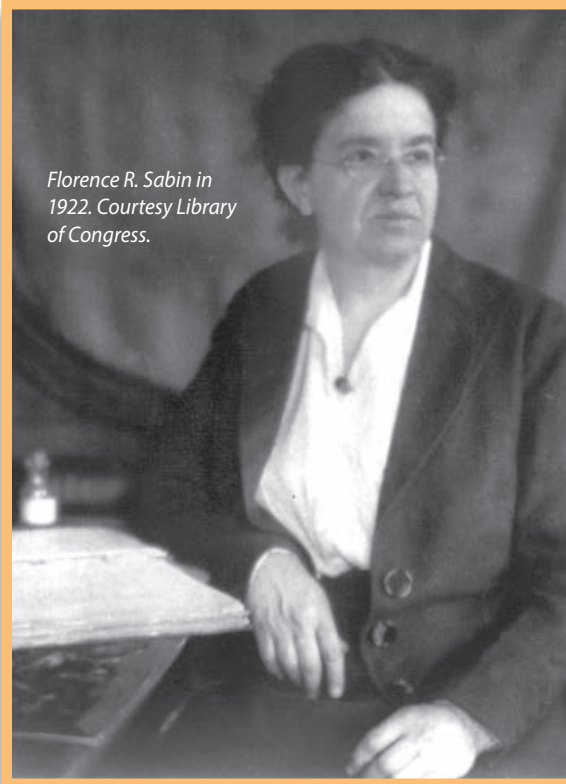
During her time at the Rockefeller Institute, she helped develop important research into immunology (the study of how the body fights disease), and her work helped lay the foundation for the cure of tuberculosis and many other illnesses that had long plagued society.

She retired in 1938 and moved back to Colorado, but she wasn't idle for long. Five years

later, she was appointed to a state committee on public health. She later went on to say that she'd been appointed because the governor had no interest in public health reform and believed an "old lady" wouldn't be able to accomplish anything.

He was wrong. She fought ferociously for public health standards in Colorado, and the "Sabin Health Laws" are on the books to this day. Her reforms helped reduce rates of tuberculosis in Colorado cities and served as the model for laws in other states.

She retired again in 1951, approaching eighty years of age, but continued to fight for public health issues until her death two years later. She is well-remembered across the nation for her research and tireless work.



Florence R. Sabin in 1922. Courtesy Library of Congress.

To read about two other pioneering women of Colorado—Elitch Gardens founder Mary Elitch and Denver Symphony Orchestra co-founder Helen Marie Black—go to h-co.org/womenfirst.

Women's Vote Centennial
COLORADO // 2020

Commemoration. Events. Impact.



History Colorado and the Women's Vote Centennial Commission are leading efforts to commemorate 100 years of the Nineteenth Amendment—and to recognize Colorado women for gaining the vote more than a quarter-century earlier.

The centennial gives multi-generational audiences the opportunity to learn about the journey to achieve the women's vote, understand the contributions of Colorado women, and underscore the value of each of our voices.

HISTORYCOLORADO.ORG/BOLD-WOMEN-CHANGE-HISTORY • COWOMENSCENTENNIAL.ORG

LOVE AND LOSS IN THE **Wild West**

*On the Trail of
Del Lockard and Bronco Lou*

BY DAVID N. SHORR



One of the Durango area's most notorious and still-mysterious episodes is that of Del Lockard (shown here) and his two companions, all three of them transported south into New Mexico and lynched in October 1881 after accusations of horse thieving. This photo carries a date of circa 1874–1881. If it dates after June 1880, it was taken in Colorado. Courtesy David Pitchford; used in Isabel Lockard, "Columbus Delano (Del) Lockard: A New Mexico Mystery," *New Mexico Genealogist*, March 2006.

Southwest Colorado and northwest New Mexico experienced rapid change in the late 1870s and early 1880s, spawned by the settlement of farmers and ranchers in the Farmington area of New Mexico and the extension of the Denver & Rio Grande Railroad in Colorado from Antonito to Silverton in 1882. A fair portion of this extension cut through New Mexico and led to the establishment of railroad towns such as Chama and Amargo, the latter all but extinct. The most enduring of these railroad towns was Durango, Colorado.

The rapid growth and prosperity of all these communities, albeit sometimes brief, attracted a criminal element, bringing to the area the likes of Ike Stockton, Charles Allison, Dison (Dyson) Eskridge, and Jim Catron. While there were many rustlers, highwaymen, and other outlaws, these men received particular attention in the Colorado and New Mexico press. Philip J. Rasch describes much of the hostility of the time in a July 1965 *New Mexico Historical Review* article, "Feuding at Farmington." Among the many violent deaths Rasch identifies, he notes five lynchings that happened as a direct consequence of the conflicts extending far north and east of Farmington. This article sheds light on a triple lynching that Rasch does not note.

DOLORRES NEWS.

VOL. 3.

RICO, COLO., SATURDAY, OCTOBER 29, 1881.

NO. 112

An Important Suit Decided.

Judge Hallett made an important min-

The Pueblo *Chieftain* just now wants the State capital removed from Denver to

nitton, bedding, etc., valued by its owners at \$1,000, destroyed by Indians, and

cellency to do whatever is in your power toward securing for us, our families and

The editor of the Dolores News used the triple lynching of fall 1881 to lobby for an end to Colorado's penchant for lawless frontier justice.

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the few villages, concerning the prize with her, would see any other disposition of the prize, and even with them there is division. Not many of them find their own people unanimous on the question.

THREE men were lynched, strangled or hanged, at Amargo on last Wednesday night. Kid Coulter, Slim Jim and Dell Lockhart were the victims. Kid Coulter killed a man at Chama last winter. Slim Jim and Dell Lockart were arrested at Durango a short time ago and held on a requisition from the Governor of New Mexico. The sheriff of Rio Arriba county placed them in jail at Amargo to await trial. They were charged with stealing horses from the D. & R. G. railroad. There is no doubt that these three men were dangerous characters, and deserved a term in the penitentiary, but Colorado has already built up too damnable a reputation for lawless lynching mobs, and it is time that brains should take the place of fool hardy cowardly force. To-day Colorado is known and spoken of in every land as a country of outlaws and lynching mobs. We have now arrived at a state of lawlessness for which every honorable and manly citizen should blush for shame. If outlaws shall be judged, convicted and executed by outlaws, we have no further use for courts. The News does not wish to find fault in this particular instance, but if outlawry is to be suppressed it should be done by laws.

THIS is what Gen. Sherman says with regard to Mason, the private who attempted to assassinate the assassin of Garfield: "The law must take its course. The act

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Near midnight on October 25, 1881, three men were lynched in Tierra Amarilla, New Mexico, the Rio Arriba County seat. While a brief account of the lynching was reprinted in many newspapers, Colorado's *Dolores News* of October 29 and the *Santa Fe Daily New Mexican* of November 1, 1881, provided the most information (although the former misidentifies the place of the lynching as Amargo, New Mexico, a town about twenty-five miles northwest of Tierra Amarilla). Press accounts most often identified the victims as "Dell Lockhart," "Slim" ("Slim Jim"), and "Kid Coulter," whose first name appeared in some articles as "Ed."

"Dell" was the subject of a 2006 *New Mexico Genealogist* article by Isabel Lockard. His full name, with corrected spelling of his surname, was Columbus Delano Lockard and his nickname more properly rendered as "Del." Isabel Lockard—the granddaughter of one of Del's brothers, Frank M. Lockard—describes the family's efforts to find the truth regarding Del. The family remained unconvinced that Del was a horse thief, the press-reported reason for his lynching. One source for the family's skepticism was an article appearing in the *Coshocton Democrat* six weeks after the lynching. Coshocton County, Ohio, is where Del was born in 1856, according to Isabel Lockard. The text of the article she provides reports that Del was a member of the secret service whose targeted criminals, illegal distillers, had labeled him and his companions as horse thieves. As a consequence, they were jailed and subsequently lynched by a mob.

Only Del and Slim were identified as horse thieves. Coulter was said to have already been in jail in Tierra Amarilla for a murder the previous winter in Chama,

a town about fifteen miles to its north and six miles from the Colorado border. It was also sometimes misidentified as the site of the triple lynching. Del and Slim were brought to Tierra Amarilla from Durango on the afternoon of October 25, 1881, and all three were taken by a mob about midnight and lynched. Most brief accounts of the event were based on a *Denver Republican* press release of October 28. While misidentifying Tierra Amarilla as in Colorado, it stated that the proximate cause of the lynching was knowledge of a plan by Coulter to kill a guard and escape. As the story unfolds, this narrative appears unlikely and was probably a rationalization by the lynchers or their sympathizers to further villainize their victims.

Knowing Del's correct and complete name allowed for a more exacting search of the US censuses. Isabel Lockard's family history reported him leaving Kansas in the spring of 1881. However, it must have been no later than the spring of 1880 because a "C. D. Lockard" is listed as a carpenter living in Breckenridge, Colorado, in the 1880 census. This

listing certainly is Del given the name, his age of twenty-four years, and the fact that both he and his parents are noted as born in Ohio, as also appeared in the 1860 census. However, Del might have arrived in Colorado a year or two earlier than 1880.

In an article titled "An Experience with Horse Thieves" in the September 1908 issue of *The Trail: A Monthly Magazine for Colorado*, Charles T. Linton describes his capture of Del and Slim in Durango. Linton was an undersheriff for Arapahoe County, Colorado, in the early 1880s and had been in Chama on business related to the Denver & Rio Grande Railroad in 1881. Here he learned that a pair of horses had been stolen from a Mr. Shellenberger and he assumed the task of tracking the thieves and retrieving the horses for a reward. Linton's firsthand account of the events, while nearly thirty years after the fact and containing some minor errors, is credible and belies an argument that illegal distillers falsely accused Del and Slim of horse theft.



Durango, Colorado, around 1881. 10025725

DENVER REPUBLICAN.

—NO. 131.]

DENVER, COLORADO, FRIDAY MORNING, OCTOBER 28, 1881.

(PRICE, FIVE CENTS.)

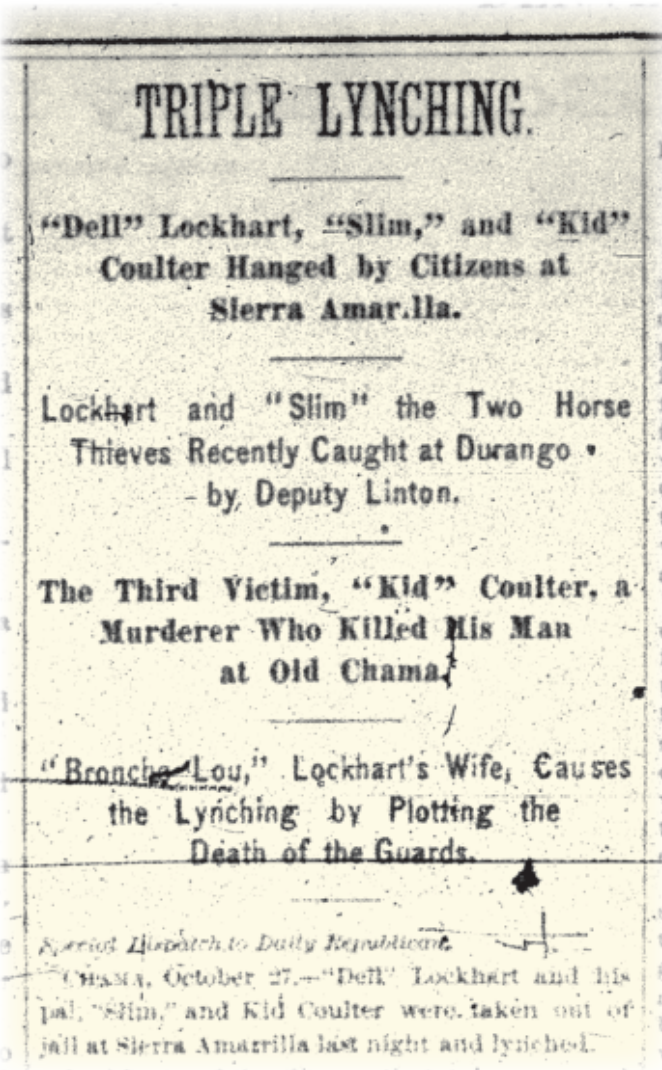
NEWS. ... on his way to ... and party are at ... carrying off the laurels ... men will be protected ... superior of Brazil, will	TRIPLE LYNCHING. "Dell" Lockhart, "Slim," and "Kid" Coulter Hanged by Citizens at Sierra Amarilla. Lockhart and "Slim" the Two Horse Thieves Recently Caught at Durango. —by Deputy Linton.	THE PANAMA QUESTION. Press-Comments in regard to the London Times' Article Concerning Blaine's Report. New York, October 27.—The Tribune on the London Times' article, says: "While Blaine's declaration is entirely satisfactory to the American people, it is evident that misapprehensions may arise in which we must be prepared to back up the facts by that expedition which nations sometimes find sufficient without resorting to acts of war. Our position is in effect not unlike that of the Greek agent, which in 1871 he partly assumed the	WASHINGTON. The Senate Confirms Judge C. J. Folger for the Treasury Portfolio. Thomas L. James, Postmaster-General, and Frank Hatton, First Assistant.	Washington, October 27.—Upon the re-assembly of the Senate, the President nominated Charles Faxon, of Massachusetts, Charge d'Affaires at Dresden; Comins General, Ford Vespeter, of Ohio, Frankfurt; Simon Wolf, of Boston, of Columbia, Cairo, Consul; Elias F. Hobbell, of New York, St. John and Quebec; Jesse H. Moore, of Illinois, Carion; Valney Smith, of Arkansas, St. Thomas; William F. Pierce, of Georgia, Tierra Fuerte; Registrar of Wills, Hiram J. Mansfield, District of Columbia. GUILTY'S CASE. Washington, October 27.—In the Criminal court today an order was passed allowing twenty witnesses to be subpoenaed in behalf of	IRELAND. The British Govern- the League Belief That the Govern- the League
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Many reports of the lynching based their facts on an account printed in the Denver Republican of October 28, 1881. Among its errors, the account places Tierra Amarilla in Colorado rather than New Mexico. It also perpetuated a questionable narrative, likely used by the lynchers to rationalize their actions and villainize the victims.

A woman who went by the name of "Bronco Lou" was with Del and Slim when they were apprehended. When she asked Linton for an explanation, he initially fabricated reasons as a ruse to elicit further evidence of their guilt. He explains in the article that he eventually "told her the truth and what [he] wanted. She declared she knew nothing about the horses," and would provide no further information. Linton reports that after Shellenberger's arrival with the sheriff from Chama, legal efforts by Bronco Lou, and receipt of a formal requisition from New Mexico, Del and Slim were taken to the Tierra Amarilla jail. Linton had declined to take them himself after learning that a mob from Chama was waiting there to lynch the prisoners. He subsequently received a letter saying that they were lynched at Tierra Amarilla on the night of their arrival.

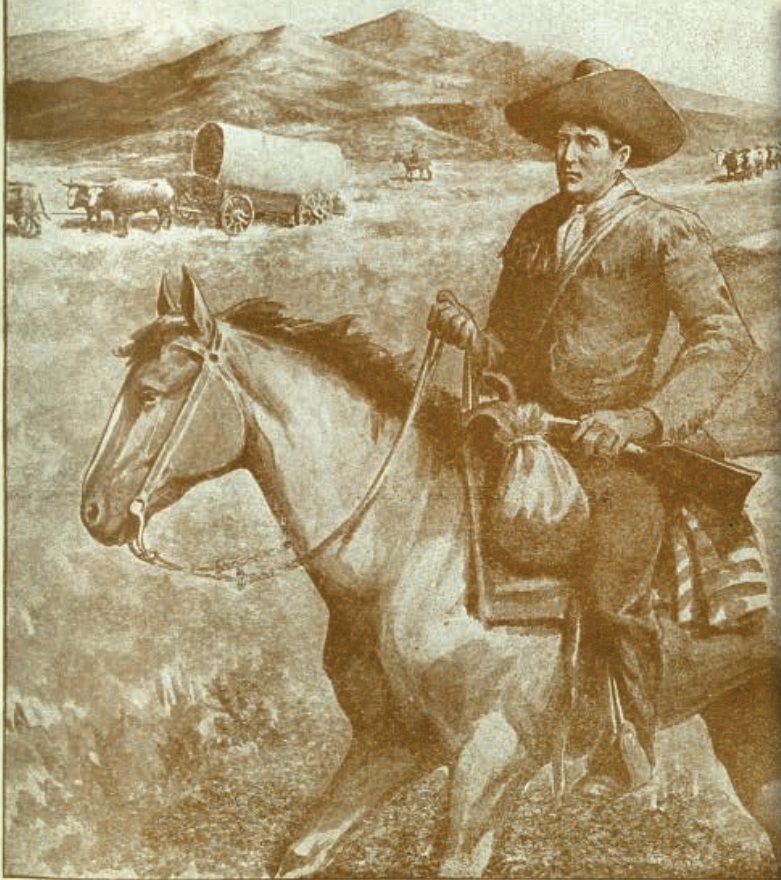
A more careful examination of the 1880 census entry for C. D. Lockard revealed an additional detail. Directly beneath his entry is that of a "Lue," preceded by a line indicating that she had the same surname as the entry above. She is listed as nineteen years of age, born in Wisconsin with both parents born in France, and the wife of the head of the household, C. D. Lockard. Also, they share the same dwelling and family numbers, unique only to them. The census enumerator evidently understood them to be married.

A few contemporary accounts of Bronco Lou exist. The April 22, 1881, *Weekly Nebraska State Journal* described an event occurring six months prior to Linton's encounter with her. The story, attributed to the "Conejos County News" (probably the *Conejos County Times*), reported that on April 1, following a bout of gunfire, "Bronco Lou' and her paramour, incited by previous ill-will,"



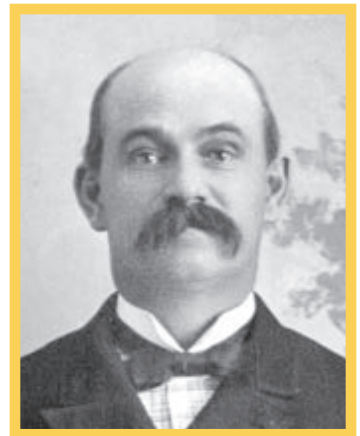
THE TRAIL

A MAGAZINE "FOR COLORADO"
OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE SOCIETY OF
SONS OF COLORADO.



Copyright 1908, William C. Bishop

48



Charles Linton described his capture of Del and Slim in the September 1908 issue of *The Trail: A Monthly Magazine for Colorado*. An Arapahoe County undersheriff, Linton was in Chama, New Mexico, on railroad business in 1881 when he learned of the stolen horses and offered to nab the thieves for a reward. Linton's story remains a largely credible recounting of the events. At top right is Linton in 1897 (see page 1 for more). 89.451.2145

REMINISCENCES

An Experience With Horse Thieves

By Chas. T. Linton.

In the spring of 1882 the Chas. Allison gang was operating in the southern part of the state around Antonito and Chama, N. M. The gang consisted of Allison, Watts and Perkins. Joe Smith, then sheriff of Conejos county, and Frank Wyatt, his under sheriff, captured the gang and not having a safe place to keep them in Conejos county they were brought to Denver and lodged in the old county jail of Arapahoe county. When the time came to bring them to trial the people living in the county lying south of Pueblo were greatly excited over their depredations in robbing stage lines and trains and formed a vigilant committee for the purpose of taking them from the officers. Governor Pitkin was appealed to for assistance, but he, having absolute faith in the ability of Sheriff Smith and his deputies to transport them safely, refused to give any assistance. At this time I was under sheriff to M. Spangler, sheriff of Arapahoe county, and was asked to accompany Sheriff Smith to Conejos. Governor Pitkin was at Manitou. The evening we started on the D. & R. G. train at Colorado Springs Sheriff Smith received a wire from La Veta stating a gang was waiting for him at that point and would endeavor to take Allison away from him. Smith at once ordered us to take the men to Pueblo and put them in the county jail while he again interceded with Governor Pitkin for assistance. The governor said: "Why, Joe, you know they cannot take these men from you, but if you think best, fool them by taking your prisoners via Salida," which was later done. But the next night Smith gave it out that he was going via La Veta pass and we took the train and fixed up some dummies in the mail car and word was sent down the line that Smith and the party were on the train. Sure enough, when we arrived at La Veta a crowd was waiting and as the train stopped, made a break for the mail car and the sheriff had

the laugh on them. A few days later Smith smuggled the men to Conejos via Salida. They were given a hearing and returned to Denver for safe keeping until final trial several months later. They were all convicted and sentenced to the penitentiary—Allison for thirty-five years, Watts and Perkins for a shorter term.

While these men were lying in the Denver jail I had many conversations with Allison regarding his escapades, and I often furnished him with tobacco and other delicacies not furnished by the jailer. One day Allison said he would give me information where he had a plant of stolen goods taken from the D. & R. G., and gave me a diagram where the goods could be found in Archuleta county. I gave my information to the D. & R. G. railway, and told them if they would furnish me transportation and a special officer I would go and look it up. Mr. W. C. Black, their special officer, was delegated to accompany me. We went and my instructions were to see a Mr. Shellenberger, superintendent of construction for the D. & R. G. railway at Chama, who would fix me out with a pair of mules and a buckboard. We arrived in Chama on Monday morning, and after meeting Mr. Shellenberger he informed me that the Saturday night before he had lost a valuable pair of horses, stolen from his camp, and for us to keep a lookout for them while on the road. Soon after we left Chama, on the road to Pagosa Springs, we discovered footprints of two horses which we followed for several miles when a third horse track appeared. Our destination was to be near Archuleta's ranch, but as the trucks passed the ranch we were almost certain they were the stolen horses. While we were at the ranch talking with Archuleta he advised him of the loss of the Shellenberger horses and he told us that on Monday, while he was standing in the cab door, two men riding the horses we de-

PATRONIZE THE ADVERTISERS IN THE MAGAZINE.

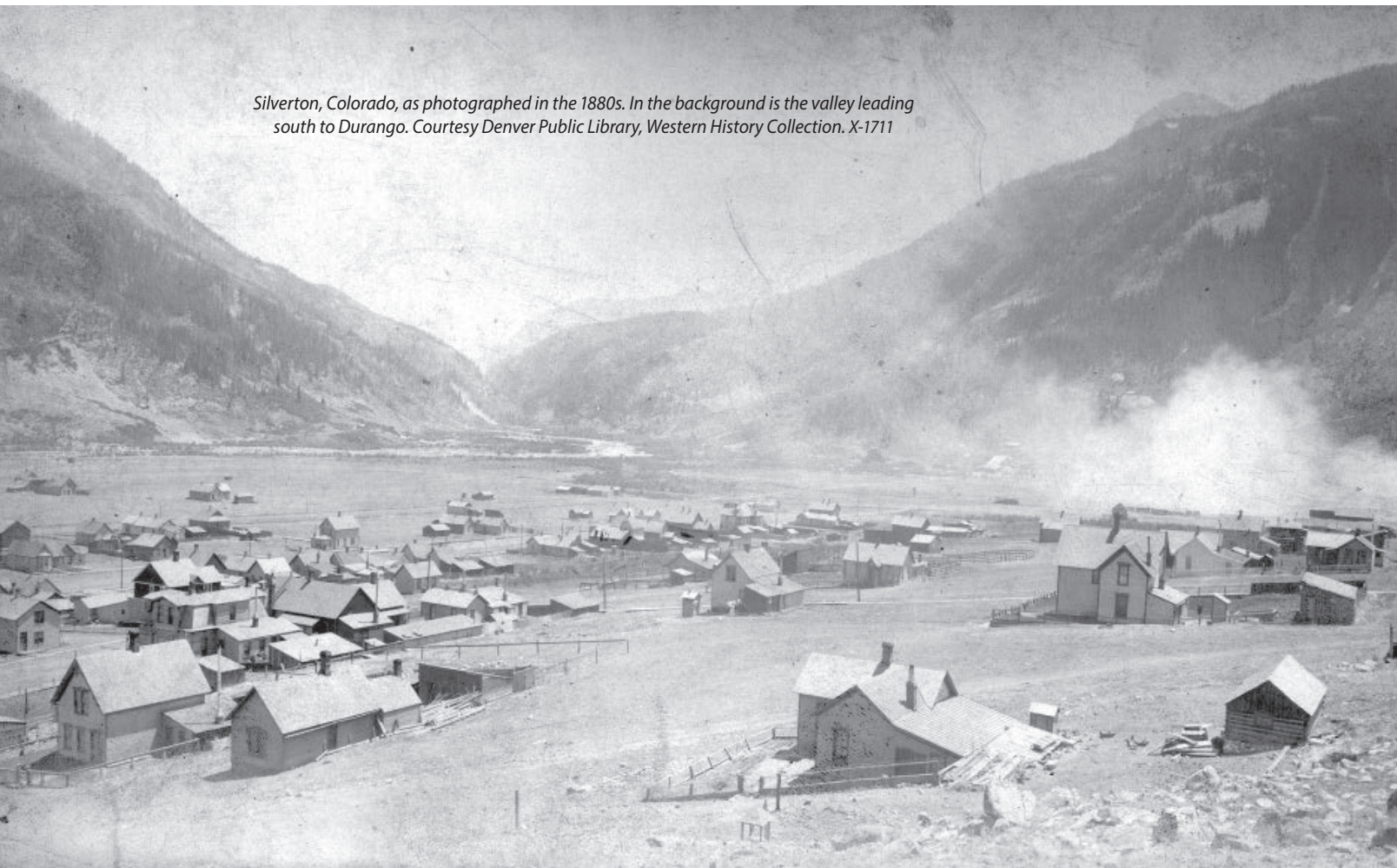
accused a Deputy Sheriff Johnson at Amargo (referred to as “Almargara”) of firing the shots that killed one man and wounded another. Fortunately two men from Conejos convinced a mob of would-be lynchers to release the lawman. The near-lynching of Deputy Sheriff Charles Johnson is also described in a letter from New Mexico Adjutant General Max Frost to Governor Lew Wallace dated April 3, 1881, and in the *Canton Daily Repository* of April 6, 1881, albeit no members of the would-be lynching party are named in these accounts.

On August 25, 1881, Silverton’s *San Juan Herald* reported that on August 22, “‘Bronco Lou,’ the proprietress of the Diamond Saloon or dance hall, [enticed a man from Ophir] to enter her place of business . . . [where] he was relieved of his cash and then ejected from the premises.” For this she was arrested and spent at least that one night in jail. It is from this event that Allen Nossaman reported in his 1998 history of Silverton, *Many More Mountains, Volume 3: Rails into Silverton*, that Bronco Lou used the same surname as Del as “she had been identified in [justice of the peace] York’s

docket book as ‘Lou Lockhard [sic].’” While speculating about her, Del, and others’ outlaw camaraderie, Nossaman makes no mention of a possible marital or other close familial relationship. Two days after Lou’s arrest, Silverton Marshal Clayton Ogsbury was murdered in front of the Diamond Saloon and the following day the establishment was closed. Interestingly, in response to Linton’s first fabrication about Del’s arrest, that of him having been in a “cutting scrape in Silverton,” Lou told him that “she knew better, because she and Dell [sic] had been ordered out of Silverton and they dare not return.”

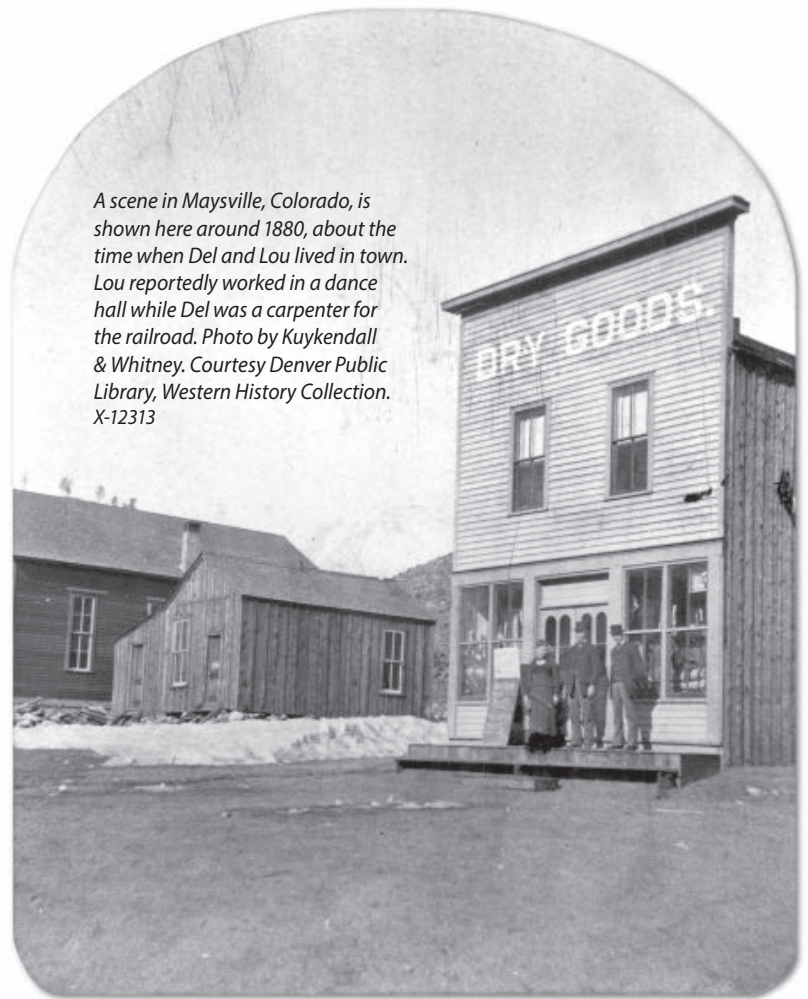
A February 1, 1882, article based on an interview with Lou “Lockhard” appeared in the *Pueblo Daily Chieftain*. The interviewer states that Lou “arrived in this city on Saturday last from New Mexico” and describes Del as a “well known individual in several of the mountain towns of this state.” The article reviews the pair’s arrival and sojourn in Colorado, and then describes events related to the arrest and lynching of Del and Slim. It reports that

Silverton, Colorado, as photographed in the 1880s. In the background is the valley leading south to Durango. Courtesy Denver Public Library, Western History Collection. X-1711



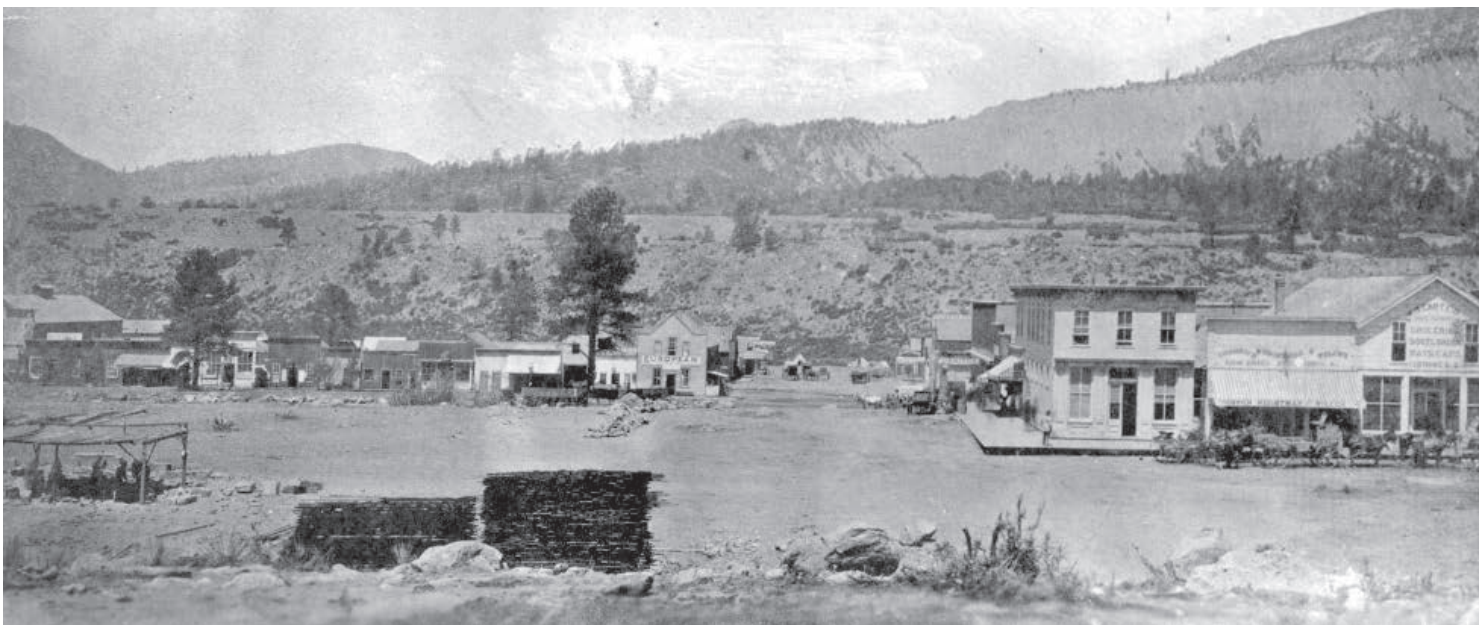
“four years ago Mr. and Mrs. Lockhard and several others crossed the plains in a wagon . . . [from] Central Kansas.” They first settled in the new mining town of Leadville. Learning that Lou had ridden into town on a large bronco, enthusiastic miners “held a meeting and agreed to build a log cabin in honor of the new comer, and at the same time Mrs. Lockhard was called ‘Bronco Lou,’ . . . since which time she held the name, which is to-day very detestable to her.” She and Del then moved on to Maysville, where she “took a position in a dance hall” and, when the miners and railroad men took sick, she cared for them. Del is said to have been a carpenter working on bridges for the railroad. The article continues, “In spring, 1881, with hundreds of others, [they] migrated to Durango, at which place they built a house, which was kept by Mrs. Lockhard as a young ladies’ seminary; so at least the writer is informed.” Just prior to Del’s arrest she told him their property had been sold and their plan to return to Kansas could take place the next day.

With regard to Del and Slim’s arrest, Lou contended that it was Slim who had stolen the horses. In the summer of 1881 Slim came to Del and Lou’s home in Durango, where he was treated for several bullet wounds. Afterward he went to Chama and invited Del, who was there also but unaware of



A scene in Maysville, Colorado, is shown here around 1880, about the time when Del and Lou lived in town. Lou reportedly worked in a dance hall while Del was a carpenter for the railroad. Photo by Kuykendall & Whitney. Courtesy Denver Public Library, Western History Collection. X-12313

Another view of Durango, this one taken in 1880. Del and Lou moved to the town in the spring of 1881. 10025723





Lincoln Avenue in Breckenridge, Colorado, circa 1880 or '81. Lou lived in the town just briefly. 10054648

the theft, to join him on a return trip to Durango. “About 8 o’clock on that evening [of their return and arrest] the man called ‘Slim’ came over to Lockhard’s house, and said we are going to get in trouble. This was the first intimation my husband had . . . that the horses were stolen.” They were initially formally charged with gambling, held for a couple of weeks, and then immediately rearrested for the Chama horse theft. A local gambling charge could have provided a means to hold them until a request for extradition was obtained from New Mexico.

Lou said she accompanied Del and Slim when they were transported back to New Mexico following their arrest, taking “with her some guns to defend her husband from mob law.” This act would indicate that, as with Linton, she had strong suspicions that an attempt on their lives would occur. Her guns were confiscated while she spent the day with Del in his jail cell. Late in the evening Del, Slim, and “Ed. Coulter . . . the latter being accused of murder,” were forcibly removed from their cells and lynched by men “engaged by the persons from whom the horses were stolen,” among them a “Deputy Sheriff Sallenberger, of Chama.” Whether a deputy sheriff or not, this is undoubtedly the Shellenberger who hired Linton to track the horse thieves. The interviewer adds, “A short time after leaving the jail Mrs. Lockhard found

her husband hanging from a tree, while the other two, Slim and Ed. Coulter, were hanging about a half mile from where her husband was.” Lou’s account ends with her sharing with the interviewer Del’s last letter proclaiming his innocence and advising her to be “a true and good woman” and appealing to God for “forgiveness of his murderers.” The interviewer concludes that Del’s “wife tells a straight story, and if true, the bloodthirsty vigilantes are guilty of the murder of Del Lockhard.”

The article does not mention stays in Breckenridge and Silverton, which, along with Durango, are documented towns where Lou resided. However, time spent in Breckenridge might have proven brief and uneventful, while that in Silverton might have represented a topic she did not wish to broach. While her story about the events surrounding Del and Slim’s arrest certainly comes from a different perspective than Linton’s, it does not contradict it. Lou’s story, though, omits certain unsavory events and presents Del and herself in a better light than they are otherwise remembered. What may well be the last contemporary Colorado newspaper item mentioning her is a notice in the October 7, 1882, *Dolores News* that a letter had been available for “Lockard, Mrs. C. D.” at the Rico post office since September 10.

While not recounting a recent incident, a widely reprinted

article from the December 3, 1883, Denver *Rocky Mountain News* speaks of events that would likely have occurred a couple of years earlier. It is about how a citizens' posse attacked a group of desperadoes. A gun battle ensued in which both a citizen and two gang members were killed. It goes on to tell how Bronco Lou, "a woman of perhaps twenty-five," nursed the captured and wounded bandits and eventually assisted in their escape. The gang was again tracked and caught, with Lou among them. However, as preparations were made for their lynching, "Lou, with a sudden move, took from a place of concealment in her dress a keen knife, and before the astonished gathering could recover from their surprise the three men and woman were galloping off into the timber at a rapid rate." The desperadoes with Lou were assumed to have fled to New Mexico. This story reads like portions of a dime-store novel and, in the absence of specifics of time and place, its veracity, even allowing for a measure of hyperbole, might be questioned. At the least, it speaks to the notoriety of Bronco Lou during the early 1880s.

An additional article, also reprinted in a number of newspapers, first appeared in the January 2, 1887, *New York Sun*. A letter dated December 28 (1886) from Las Cruces, New Mexico, appears to tell a variation of the previous story, mentioning that the wounded members of the gang with Bronco Lou were captured and "conveyed to the jail in Las Animas," from which Lou facilitated their escape. When the gang was recaptured, "Lou and one companion, well mounted and armed, descended on the party with such impetuosity as to stampede it and give the prisoners a chance to escape." While a clue as to the general vicinity of the event is provided, the author has been unable to locate a contemporary newspaper account of a successful or attempted escape from confinement in Las Animas or Animas City in the late 1870s or early 1880s. As with the 1883 *Rocky Mountain News* article, it may be apocryphal. This article's primary contribution to Bronco Lou lore, however, is the claim that

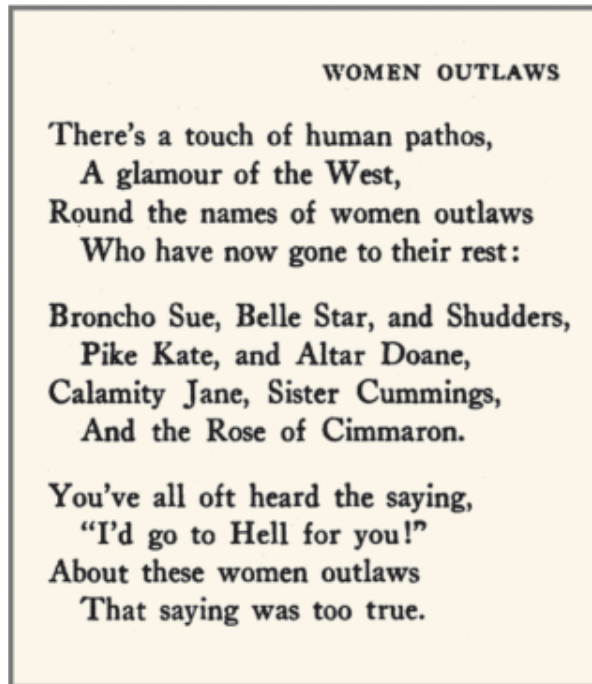
she was the infamous California, Nevada, and, particularly, New Mexico woman known as "Bronco Sue."

Born Susan Warfield, Bronco Sue sequentially acquired the surnames Raper, Stone, Yonkers, and Dawson. She lived in California and Nevada before moving to southern Colorado in the 1870s, then relocating to New Mexico in the early 1880s. As Susan Raper she was described in the March 12, 1870, issue of Nevada's *Elko Independent* as a woman who could "shoot a pistol like a sportsman, ride a mustang with all the grace and dash of a vaquero, drive a bull-team equal to any Missourian, and in the parlor or ball room 'get way' [or compare favorably] with most women for style." This description came in the context of reporting her acquittal on a charge of cattle theft.

She had three sons by her first husband, Thomas Raper, while still acquiring a notable criminal history prior to arriving in Colorado. While in Colorado, she acquired the surname Stone, although how or why is not known. By the late 1870s, she was ranching and operating a stage line between Alamosa and San Antonio (Antonito), Colorado. After relocating to New Mexico, she lost two husbands

and a former intimate to premature deaths in a span of a year and a half. Her second husband, Jacob Yonkers, died of smallpox while en route to Lincoln County, New Mexico, in the spring of 1884 and, according to her, she buried him. Her third husband, Charles Dawson, was killed in a gun battle by an offended neighbor in Doña Ana County in December 1885. Between these two deaths she shot and killed Robert Black in Socorro County in August 1884. For this killing she was acquitted in 1886 on the grounds of self-defense.

Silverton historian Nossaman, while reviewing some of the pre- and early Colorado history of Bronco Sue, restated the claim that she became Bronco Lou while in Colorado during the early 1880s. He cited two sources to justify the statement that it was "as an enticing, wily 26-year-old



The first three verses of an early-twentieth-century poem, "Women Outlaws," by N. Howard Thorp, prominently mention the legendary "Bronco Sue." Featured in Poetry: A Magazine of Verse, August 1920; courtesy of the author.

The 1880 census for Breckenridge, Summit County, Colorado, includes these entries for C. D. and "Lue" Lockard. Accessed via Ancestry.com; courtesy of the author.

Dwelling	Family	Name	Color	Sex	Age	Relationship	Married	Profession
612665		Lockard Del	w	m	24		/	Carpenter
		Lue	w	f	19	Wife	/	Keeping house

she-devil that the former Susan Warfield Raper appeared in Silverton with her relatively new sobriquet 'Bronco Lou' to manage the Diamond Saloon in early August [1881]." One of these was an article published in the December 17, 1886, *Silver City Enterprise*. It reviewed Bronco Sue's life up to and including her December 16 acquittal for the murder of Robert Black without suggesting that she spent a period of time as Colorado's Bronco Lou. The one source cited by Nossaman contending that Lou and Sue were one and the same is the article first appearing in the January 2, 1887, *New York Sun*, the letter from Las Cruces.

A number of facts manifestly contradict this claim. One is the bare-bones outline of Del and Lou's arrival to Colorado from Kansas provided in the 1882 *Pueblo Daily Chieftain* interview of Lou. This narrative accords with the Isabel Lockard family account of Del's departure west from Kansas. Bronco Sue's route was from a nearly opposite direction, Nevada. Also, Nossaman's "26-year-old she-devil" in 1881 was, as Susan Raper, a sixteen-year-old in the 1860 census and, as S. Raper, a twenty-six-year-old in the 1870 census. More important is that as Susan Stone she was listed in the 1880 census as thirty-eight years of age and living with two of her sons, Joseph and William Raper, in "La Jara and Alamosa Valleys," Conejos County, Colorado. This is the same census listing nineteen-year-old "Lue" as the wife of C. D. Lockard in Breckenridge, about 150 miles to its north as the crow flies. While these notorious women were contemporaries, Colorado's Bronco Lou and New Mexico's Bronco Sue clearly were not the same person.

Returning to the question posed by the Lockard descendants: Del Lockard's guilt or innocence of horse theft may never be resolved to the satisfaction of some. Certainly the claim that he was a secret agent for the government whom illegal distillers framed for horse theft is not tenable. According to Lou, not only did Del profess his innocence to her after his arrest, but she also claimed that just prior

to his arrest he was surprised to learn that Slim had stolen the Chama horses. Additionally, Charles Linton had not actually witnessed Del and Slim with the horses, having had them apprehended based on a description provided him while tracking the horses. Del had also asserted their innocence to Linton when he told him that, in Linton's words, he "might be right about the horses [being stolen], but . . . wrong about the men [stealing them]." However, if at the time Del truly believed he was not involved in a horse theft, even unwittingly, this would contradict Lou's contention that Slim told him about the theft earlier the night of their arrest. And, if Del was innocent, why didn't he inform Linton and the Durango lawmen about his unknowing complicity? Could it have been an instance of honor among thieves? As was too often the case with lynchings, the victims' accounts were not adequately aired in a public setting, including any mitigating circumstances surrounding an alleged crime. Lastly, the reader should keep in mind that even if Del Lockard had been convicted of horse theft, there was virtually no likelihood that he would have been legally executed. Of a list of seventy-four legal executions in New Mexico Territory (thirty-nine) and Colorado Territory and State (thirty-five) through 1900, all of the accused were hanged for the crime of murder.

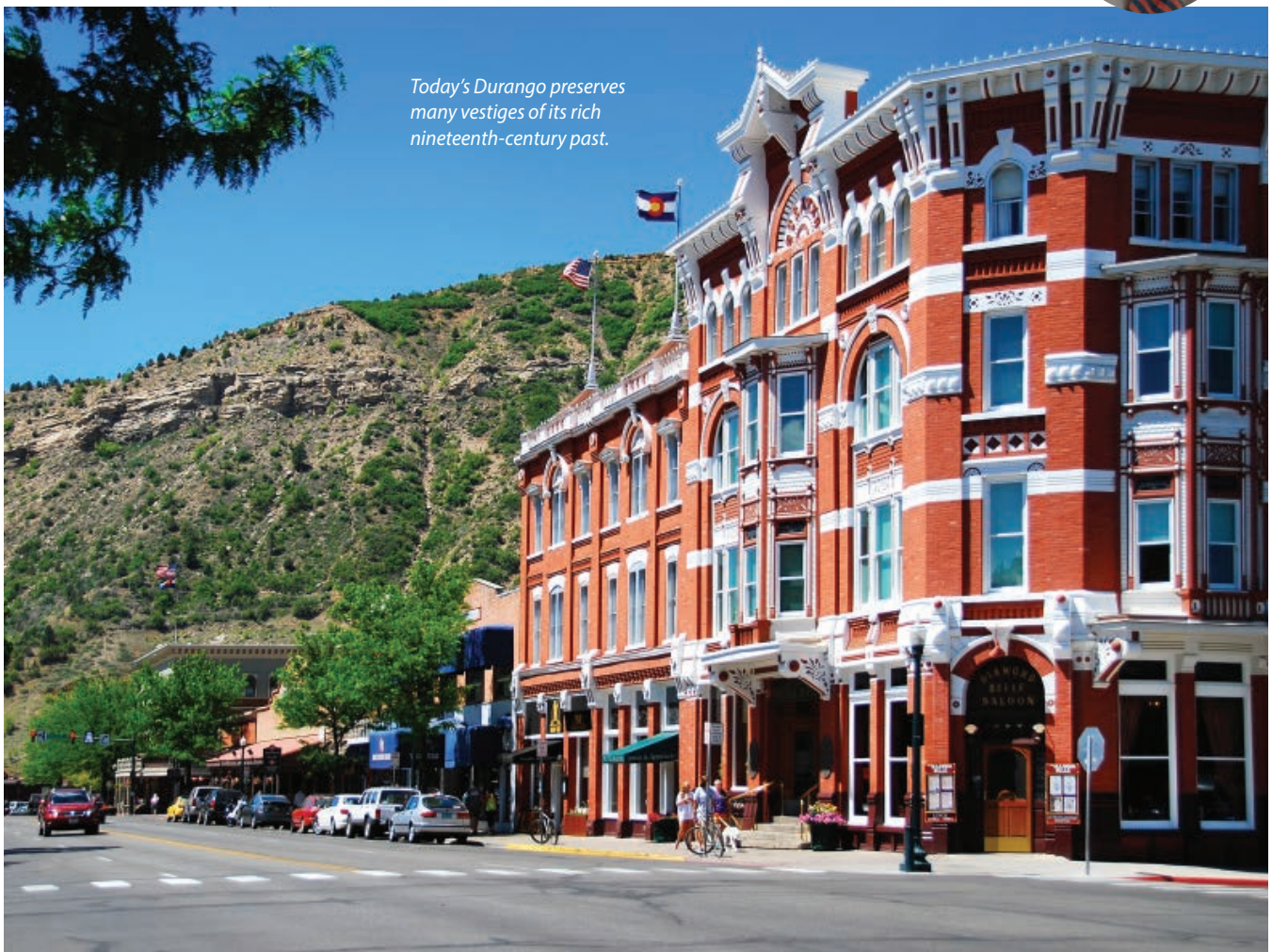
Del Lockard was one of too many young men lynched in New Mexico and Colorado during the second half of the nineteenth century. His association with Colorado's Bronco Lou came as a surprise to the author. Equally surprising was discovering that theirs was an intimate and sustained relationship, one in which Lou possibly risked her life to be with her husband when his fate was all but sealed. One can imagine Del's fear as he approached an almost certain death while being transported from Durango to Tierra Amarilla. However, one can also imagine that Lou provided him some solace. These young Midwesterners carved out a brief, tumultuous, and, in the end, tragic partnership in what was truly the Wild West.

For Further Reading

The author thanks the staff of the Albuquerque Genealogical and Special Collections Libraries and the New Mexico State Records Center and Archives for their assistance in obtaining information for this article. Nineteenth-century newspaper accounts and documents form the core of Del Lockard and Bronco Lou's story. Most were accessed through online databases, including Colorado Historic Newspapers Collection, Chronicling America, NewspaperArchive.com, GenealogyBank.com, and Ancestry.com. Valuable background information came from Philip J. Rasch's article "Feuding at Farmington" (*New Mexico Historical Review*, July 1965) and Allen Nossaman's chapter "End of Innocence" in his *Many More Mountains, Volume 3: Rails into Silverton* (Sundance Publications, 1998), albeit the latter incorrectly identifies Bronco Lou and Bronco Sue as the same person. Charles T. Linton's 1908 account of the tracking and arrest of Del Lockard and Slim and his confrontation with Bronco Lou is accessible from the Google Books website; enter "The Trail:

A Magazine for Colorado," then "An Experience with Horse Thieves" in the sequential search screens. A thorough account of New Mexico's Bronco Sue may be found in the "Lucretia Borgia of the West" chapter in Bob L'Alorge's *Knights of the Sixgun: A Diary of Gunfighters, Outlaws and Villains of New Mexico* (Yucca Tree Press, 1991).

DAVID N. SHORR received a doctorate in developmental psychology from the University of Washington. He is an emeritus professor from Central Washington University. Since his retirement to Los Lunas, New Mexico, he has become interested in nineteenth-century Southwest history, particularly as it intersects with New Mexico.



Congratulations to the 2020 Stephen H. Hart Award Winners!



Crossan's M&A Market
receives Governor's Award for Historic Preservation

Magic Mountain Archaeological Site
receives State Archaeologist Award

Chimney Rock National Monument
receives State Historic Preservation Officer Award

Bosler-Yankee House
receives Hart Award

Crested Butte Mountain Heritage Museum
receives Hart Award



*Awards will be presented the evening of Friday, January 31,
at 5 P.M. in the History Colorado Center.*



History Colorado's Board of Directors began presenting the Stephen H. Hart Awards in 1986 to honor Colorado's first State Historic Preservation Officer, Stephen Hart. Awarded projects are chosen from nominations presented by staff from the State Historical Fund, Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, and History Colorado leadership.

The 2020 Hart Awards are presented in conjunction with the Colorado Preservation, Inc., Saving Places Conference, held annually. Visit HistoryColorado.org for more information about the history of the Stephen H. Hart Award for Historic Preservation, previous winners, or how to attend the ceremony.



New Listings

In the National Register of Historic Places and Colorado State Register of Historic Properties

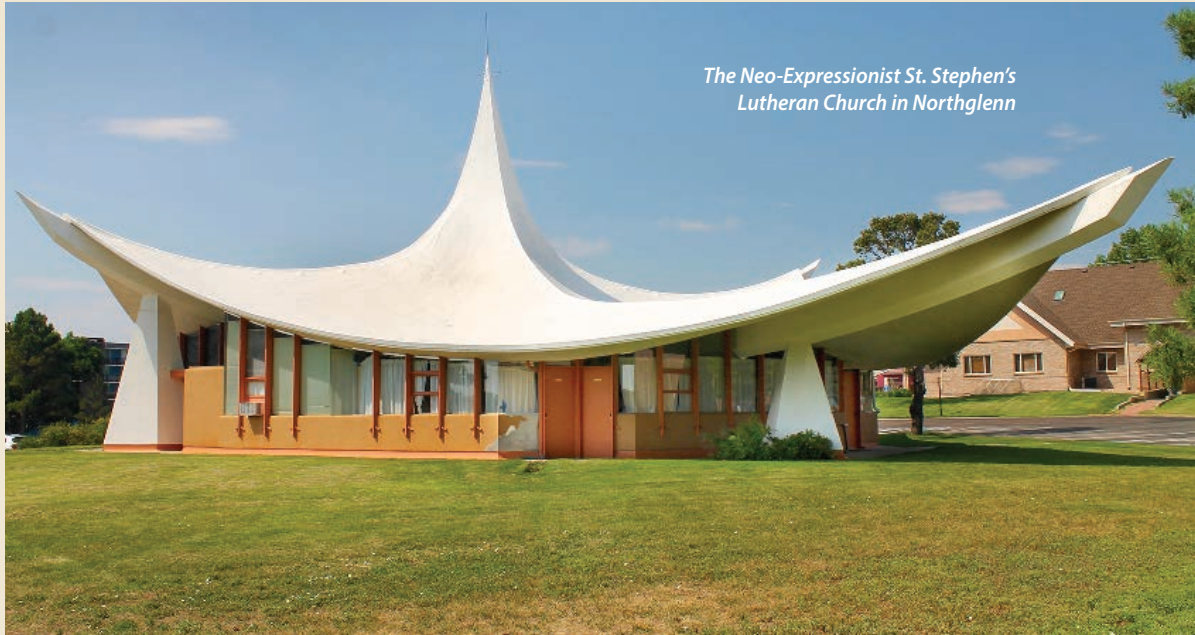
The National Register of Historic Places is the official list of the nation's historic places worthy of preservation.

St. Stephen's Lutheran Church

Northglenn

The striking St. Stephen's Lutheran Church, built in the Denver suburb of Northglenn in 1964, is one of Boulder-based architect Charles Haertling's finest designs. After establishing a solo practice in the early 1960s, Haertling explored the possibilities of Neo-

Expressionist architecture, seeking inspiration from the natural world and pushing the boundaries of modern architecture. St. Stephen's Lutheran Church, with its swooping lily-like shape—made possible through the use of thin-shell concrete engineering techniques—exemplifies Haertling's design philosophy and is the first of his projects to be nominated to the National Register of Historic Places



The Neo-Expressionist St. Stephen's Lutheran Church in Northglenn

National Register of Historic Places

John C. Shaffer Barn

Littleton vicinity

Fetz-Keller Ranch Headquarters

Montrose

Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railway Passenger Depot

Lamar

State Register of Historic Properties

A. G. Ranch House

Shawnee

Colorado & Southern Railroad Gondola No. 4319

Como

National Sugar Manufacturing Company Gates

Sugar City

Do you know this building?

- | | | |
|------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Where is it? | 2. Who built it? | 3. When was it built? |
| a) Leadville | a) Bank of Victor | a) About 1879 |
| b) Victor | b) Horace Tabor | b) About 1888 |
| c) Fairplay | c) Independent Order of Odd Fellows | c) About 1895 |
| d) Russell Gulch | d) Summer Brewery | d) About 1900 |



Answers on page 30

Do you know this building?

Continued from page 31

BY AMY UNGER,
NATIONAL AND STATE REGISTER HISTORIAN



Answers: d) Russell Gulch, c) Independent Order of Odd Fellows, c) 1895



In the late 1800s and early 1900s, fraternal organizations provided a much-needed social safety net in communities throughout Colorado.

Prior to the signing of the Social Security Act in 1935, government assistance was largely limited to veteran benefits, and few companies provided reliable pension plans. Churches and charitable organizations could offer some help during a crisis, but addressing the long-term needs of the infirm and elderly often fell to family members with little resources of their own. For recent immigrants, the unmarried, and those without extended family in Colorado, a single accident or illness could prove devastating. This was

especially true during the 1800s in the booming mining towns across Colorado, where the work was dangerous and the prospect of great wealth drew many immigrants and single men.

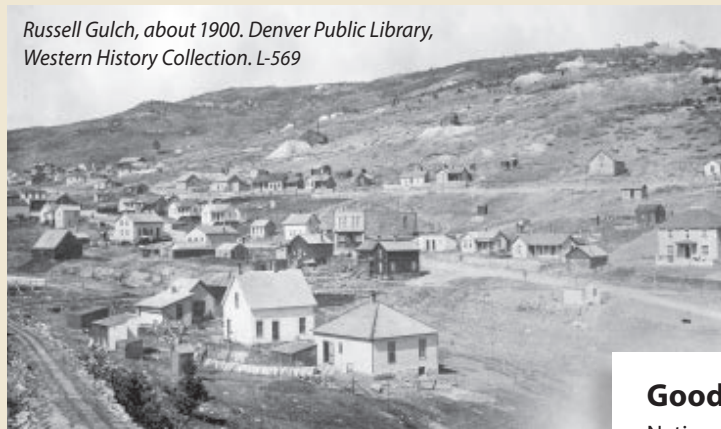
By the 1890s, Russell Gulch, one of Colorado's earliest mining camps, had grown significantly in size since William Greeneberry Russell discovered gold there in 1859. In 1895, mine workers John Mellow, Humphrey Vaughn, and Joseph Hore bought land on behalf of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows Lodge No. 41 for a fraternal meeting hall in the heart of the camp.

The Independent Order of Odd Fellows evolved from an English organization founded in the 1700s, with the first North American chapter organized in 1819. Like other fraternal organizations, the IOOF provided assistance to members who became ill, destitute, or disabled and offered death benefits to surviving families. At the time the hall in Russell Gulch was built, the IOOF was the largest fraternal organization in the United States.

IOOF meeting halls were often grand by small-town standards, typically two stories in height and built of brick and/or stone in popular architectural styles of the time. A business tenant commonly occupied the first floor, generating income for the IOOF, while the upper floor served as a multipurpose meeting hall. In Russell Gulch, the grocery and dry goods firm of Wagner & Askew occupied the first floor, along with the local post office.

IOOF Lodge No. 41 was active in Russell Gulch through at least 1930. Local chapters of the Foresters of America and Societa Alpino—organizations that catered to the local Italian and Tyrolean miners—also met in the second-floor meeting hall, which also served as a venue for dances, concerts, lectures, fundraising events, and other social functions.

The Russell Gulch Lodge No. 41 eventually disbanded, and its property transferred to IOOF Rocky Mountain Lodge No. 2. In 1948 the building was sold to private owners and since 1973



Russell Gulch, about 1900. Denver Public Library, Western History Collection. L-569

has been owned and cared for by the DeCicco family. In 2011 it was listed in the National Register of Historic Places, and today it remains one of the best-preserved historic buildings in Russell Gulch about three miles southwest of Central City.

Good to Know

National or State Register listed properties may be eligible for investment tax credits for approved rehabilitation projects. Listed properties may also be eligible to compete for History Colorado State Historical Fund grants. These grants may be used for acquisition and development, education, and survey and planning projects. The next nomination submission deadline is January 31, 2020. For information, call 303/866-3392.

For more about these and all National and State Register properties in Colorado, visit HistoryColorado.org/national-state-registers.

Parlaying a Passion for History into Advocacy and Action

Joe Halpern, a partner in the Denver law firm of Holland & Hart LLP, joined History Colorado when he first arrived in Colorado in 1979, a fresh transplant from Brooklyn, New York. A history major in college, Joe has embraced History Colorado and its mission in the ensuing forty years, serving in a variety of volunteer capacities.

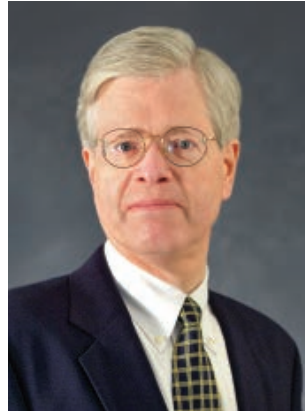
Joe served on our Board of Directors for twenty-four years, including twenty as vice chair. His passion for the raw materials of history—books, manuscripts, and artifacts that tell the stories of the people who’ve called Colorado home—led him to advocate for the Stephen H. Hart Research Center, the library and archives located in the History Colorado Center in Denver. Thanks to his efforts, the research center has made significant acquisitions of key historical materials, including personal papers of General William H. Larimer dating back to his founding of Denver in 1858; business papers of mining magnate J. J. Brown (whose wife was Margaret “Molly” Brown); the personal journal of Dean H. Martyn Hart of St. John’s Cathedral, started a few years after he arrived in still-young Denver in 1879; and, most recently, an original 1864 soldier’s commission for the Third Colorado Cavalry, which participated in the tragedy of the Sand Creek Massacre.

Adding to the treasures of the Hart Research Center requires funds above and beyond those History Colorado receives as a State agency. So, with the support of like-

minded individuals, Joe helped create the Hart Library Acquisition Fund, held at the Colorado Historical Foundation, an independent 501(c)(3) nonprofit that supports history and preservation projects. Contributions to the Acquisition Fund, which are tax-deductible, provide the resources for special acquisitions by the Hart Research Center.

Another of Joe’s passions is historic preservation. While still in high school, he took part in the successful campaign to preserve Flatbush Town Hall, a Victorian Gothic gem in Brooklyn that became a New York City landmark in 1973. A few years after arriving in Colorado, Joe took on preservation of the Seventeen Mile House in Arapahoe County, a Territorial-era stagecoach stop on the Smoky Hill Trail that was threatened with demolition for commercial development; he secured a preservation easement that still protects the property today. Joe was also a leader in securing designation of the Alamo Placita Historic District in Denver, and then served as pro bono legal counsel in successfully defending that designation when a commercial property owner challenged it in court.

Joe takes personal pleasure in carrying on the preservation tradition of Stephen H. Hart, Colorado’s first State Historic Preservation Officer and co-founder of Holland & Hart, which continues to sponsor the annual presentation of the Stephen H. Hart Preservation Awards by History Colorado.



Thank You . . . To Our Most Dedicated Members

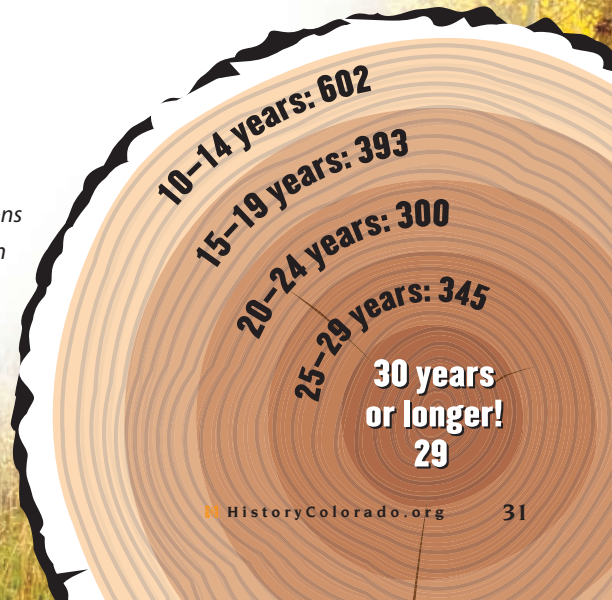
Here’s how many of you have supported History Colorado’s mission for thirty years or longer!

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 Diane & Forrest Anderson
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 Edwin Bathke
 Ellengail & Donald Beuthel
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Are you missing from the list? If so, email Jessica.Pierce@state.co.us or call 303/866-4481.





In every issue of Colorado Heritage, we'll field your questions about our collections, your own collections, Colorado history, archaeology, or historic preservation.

Q: *What happens if someone finds remains out in the wild?*

A: As you head out for a late-season hike, you may encounter a number of things in Colorado's vast outdoors: moose, Gunnison sage grouse, interesting rocks and plants. Humans have resided in Colorado for over 11,000 years, and some of the interesting things you may encounter are remains of the things past groups have left behind, like arrowheads or other artifacts—or even the remains of the people themselves eroding from a creek bank or a farmer's field.



In many parts of Colorado, it's not only unethical to pocket artifacts, it's illegal. While bringing an artifact to your local archaeologist may sound helpful, removing that object from where you found it strips it of important information that can never be recovered. Luckily, most of us carry powerful devices in our pockets—our cell phones, which allow us to take pictures and even record locational information. This is what should be carried back to your local archaeologist, who can then help identify the best course of action. If an item is in a high-traffic area, such as the middle of a mountain bike trail, it's OK to move it off to the side where it won't be trampled, or to cover it with natural detritus so it isn't as visible to other passers-by.



Several times a year, Colorado hikers do come across human remains. What to do? For many conscientious hikers, the idea of just leaving the remains in place seems irresponsible, but that's truly the best course of action. In Colorado we have what's called the "Unmarked Burial Process," an efficient and respectful process for ensuring the protection of human remains. The first step is that the person who discovers the remains, perhaps a hiker such as yourself, calls local law enforcement, the way you would with any other human body. Local law enforcement works with the county coroner to identify whether the remains are in fact ancient, or "ancestral." If the remains appear to have some antiquity, they work directly with the Office of the State Archaeologist here at History Colorado.

Once the case is released to the Office of the State Archaeologist, the process kicks into high gear, and the staff work with forensic anthropologists, the Colorado Commission of Indian Affairs, and the two resident Ute Tribes to identify the remains and ensure that those remains are quickly and respectfully reburied or returned to the appropriate tribe.

***Not sure how to find your local archaeologist, or have other questions?
Call us at 303/866-3392.***



HISTORY *Colorado*

OFFICE of ARCHAEOLOGY
and HISTORIC PRESERVATION

The State Archaeologist's office, which responds to requests for technical assistance and investigates impacts to archaeological resources, also fosters appreciation of Colorado's rich heritage through classes, research materials, and our annual Archaeology and Historic Preservation Month. Top photo courtesy Crow Canyon Archaeological Center.

Do you have a question for History Colorado?

Send it to publications@state.co.us, and please put "Ask History Colorado" in the subject line.



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We're a certified "Service Enterprise," meeting our mission through the power of volunteers. By giving your time, you can help us continue to engage people in our past in order to create a better Colorado. Share your passion by finding the volunteer or internship opportunity that's just right for you. Visit HistoryColorado.org/volunteers or call 303/866-3961.



JOIN US

Love History Colorado? Join us! You'll get free admission to our museums, a number of Georgetown Loop Railroad® passes based on your membership level, our publications, and much more. Already a member? Members at higher levels get reciprocal Smithsonian benefits. Consider upgrading to get the VIP treatment. Join us or give the gift of membership by going to HistoryColorado.org/membership.



LEAVE A LEGACY

In 1879, just three years after Colorado achieved statehood, Governor Pitkin established the State Historical Society (today's History Colorado) to collect and preserve items related to the state's identity. Today, History Colorado's Society 1879 honors those whose estate gifts will help preserve Colorado's past for generations to come. Estate gifts come in all shapes and sizes. Options exist. Contact Cheyenne Johnson at 303/866-4845 or Cheyenne.Johnson@state.co.us.



MAKE HISTORY WITH YOUR NEXT EVENT

Create an unforgettable event with an authentic Colorado experience. The History Colorado Center offers a convenient downtown location with full event-planning services and a team of culinary experts. Treat your guests to a taste of history with our interactive exhibits set in a clean, modern museum setting. Whether it's a dream wedding, 1,500-person cocktail reception, or a meeting for ten, we look forward to creating a custom event in our beautiful museum. Find us—and all our other sites—at HistoryColorado.org.



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