Legalized Gambling Saves Boomtown Buildings: Comparing Two Historic Districts
By Catherine Griffith

This article is a comparison of two National Historic Landmark Districts: Deadwood, South Dakota, and Central City / Black Hawk, Colorado. Both towns began as mining camps in the late 1800s. By the 1980s, the infrastructure and architecture of both areas suffered from deterioration and neglect. The solution? Partial revenue from legalized gambling is set aside to fund historic preservation projects statewide. Deadwood and Central City now house more casino hosts than miners. As with the gold rush, this recent casino boom may bust, leaving these historic towns and the preservation funds they produce in the dust. If gambling decreases in popularity, these towns must create new enticements for tourists such as arts and entertainment events.

Deadwood, South Dakota
The Black Hills are the traditional lands of the Lakota. During the gold rush of 1874, miners encroached on Lakota lands without any hindrance from the U.S. Government. Deadwood is one such illegal mining town that popped up in the Black Hills while the Lakota were forcefully removed to the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation. With early residents like Wild Bill Hickok and Calamity Jane, Deadwood has a reputation as an outlaw town.

Moving forward from 1876 to the 1980s, Deadwood became a dilapidated town. Legalized gambling passed in 1989 to increase tourism and generate funds for the town’s historic preservation. Over 80 gambling establishments opened, and Deadwood has become one of the largest historic restoration projects in the United States (www.cityofdeadwood.com).

Deadwood’s historic Slime Plant is a great example of adaptive reuse. The Homestake Gold Mine was open from 1876 to 2001 and is known as the Western Hemisphere’s largest and oldest gold mine. The Slime Plant processed gold from the mine until 1973. During the 1980s, the Slime Plant remained unchanged while casinos popped up in abandoned store fronts and warehouses along Main Street. In 2012, with support and funding from both historic preservation funds and private funds, the Slime Plant is now part of an events center, hotel, and casino.
Homestake Gold Mine Slime Plant (1906-1973)  (http://www.deadwoodmountaingrand.com/home/history/64-history-of-the-slime-plant.html#prettyPhoto )


Central City / Black Hawk, Colorado
Central City (1859) and Black Hawk (1860) are hard rock mining and processing towns active from 1859-1918.  These two towns are often lumped together because they are within walking distance of each other and both are ore processing towns.  Black Hawk is known as the “The City of Mills,” first using Spanish arastras to grind the ore.  As technology advanced, stamp and smelter mills processed the gold ore.  Ore wagons and trains supplied the towns with ore from far off mines.  Two important buildings in Central City are the Teller House hotel (1872) and the Opera House (1878).  These two fine establishments showcase the wealth and prestige of the Central City community during the late 1870s.

As the mining industry slowed in Gilpin County, the boomtowns began to decline as well.  In 1991, limited gambling was legalized in Cripple Creek and Central City.  Revenue from gambling helps fund historic preservation projects throughout Colorado and within these historic districts.
The Opera House (1878), maintained by Central City Opera. https://centralcityopera.org/programs/historic-preservation/overview


Will They Last?
With legalized gambling and increased tourism, the towns will last. However, the pace and scale of expansion will determine whether these historic districts survive.

Deadwood, SD and Central City, CO could be sister cities in their similarities. They both have wild west personas in Wild Bill Hickok (SD), Calamity Jane (SD), and Buffalo Bill (CO). Both towns hold shootouts on the main street. Both offer a variety of tours from ghost tours to mine tours. Both have pinging and dinging slot machines shoved into small historic spaces. Most importantly, both historic districts are on the National Trust for Historic Preservation’s (NTHP) “11 Most Endangered Historic Places” list. Deadwood was listed in 1989 & 1990; Central City / Black Hawk were listed in 1998. The threat? Development.

While Deadwood has used the adaptive re-use approach in new developments as seen at the Slime Plant, Black Hawk has allowed new construction to overshadow the old. The new construction is concentrated on the Black Hawk side of town while Central City has retained a historic setting. The NTHP describes the threat of development in 1998, seven years after the casinos opened for business in Black Hawk and Central City:

“The first gambling establishments were small and installed in historic buildings, but the pace and scale of gambling-related development have increased dramatically in the past years. Officials in Central City recently approved a casino structure 12 stories high and 900 feet long, with a floor area 100 times larger than its historic neighbors. In Black Hawk and Central City, historic resources are increasingly viewed as liabilities rather than assets. Boom times are back, but the price of prosperity is the loss of irreplaceable remnants of Colorado’s colorful mining history for its new multi-story resorts that take away from the historic setting of the district.”

Having recently visited both towns, Deadwood was the better tourist experience. I felt more immersed in the history of the town. This has a lot to do with an unchanged and accessible setting. Watching Calamity Jane play go-fish with the kids may have swayed my opinion as well.

October General Meeting: Monday, October 12th, 2015 at DMNS in the Planetarium at 7 PM.

Speaker: Douglas Bamforth

Title: Maize Horticulture Beyond the 100th Meridian

Abstract:
Anthropology tends to view hunter-gatherers and farmers as very distinct groups with dramatically different kinds of social and settlement patterns. However, we know that foragers and farmers lived near each other and interacted intensively in many times and places and that people sometimes moved back and forth between foraging and farming communities over the course of their lives. It is increasingly clear that the transition to maize farming on the Plains involved changes in the lives of indigenous hunter-gatherers who knew their horticultural neighbors, but we do not know very much about this transition in most areas. The King Site on the Nebraska Pine Ridge dates to the agricultural transition on the Plains and seems to document the lives of people on the way to becoming farmers: for example, we have maize but it is not abundant and people made Central Plains Tradition pottery onsite but used non-Central Plains Tradition knives. People at the site imported a variety of material from the west, including obsidian and other flakeable stone and ochre, and the only features that appear to be houses look nothing like farmers’ houses elsewhere on the Plains; instead, they resemble hunter-gatherer houses in Wyoming and Colorado. The site suggests complex, perhaps multi-
ethic, origins for the horticultural communities that later develop into eastern Plains farmers.

**Speaker Bio:**

Douglas B. Bamforth received his BA from the University of Pennsylvania in 1978 and his MA (1983) and PhD (1986) from the University of California at Santa Barbara. Although his research has emphasized the Paleoindian occupation of the Great Plains, he has worked on archaeological field and laboratory projects in Nevada, coastal California, the Mojave Desert, coastal Georgia, Texas, Colorado, Nebraska, southwestern Germany, and Ireland. He is the author of *Ecology and Human Organization on the Great Plains* (1988) and *The Allen Site: A Paleoindian Camp in Southwestern Nebraska* (2007), and he has published on Paleoindian human/environment interactions, Plains Village societies in the Dakotas, lithic technology, bison ecology, theoretical issues in archaeology, warfare, and the Irish Neolithic. Most recently, his work focuses on recent horticultural occupations on the Great Plains, and he has an ongoing field project in northwestern Nebraska, examining the transition from hunting and gathering to at least partial horticulture on the western edge of the range of these occupations.

**November General Meeting:** Monday, November 9th, 2015 at DMNS in Ricketson Auditorium at 7 PM.

**Speaker:** Dr. Richard Wilshusen  
**Title:** Lessons Learned at Chaco: Contract Archaeology, Culture History, and Heritage Management (1969-2015)

**Minutes of the DC-CAS Board Meeting, August 4, 2015**

The DC-CAS Board Meeting was held at Sturm Hall at Denver University September 9, 2015. Meeting was called to order at 7:07 PM by Linda Sand. Attending were Linda Sand, Reid Farmer, Jon Kent, Teresa Weedin, Craig Banister, Ken Andresen, Ann Wilson, Bill Hammond and Cashel McGloin.  

**Speakers-**Catherine was not present, but she did send an email stating that Doug Banforth is the speaker for October.  

**Scientific-**Neil wasn't present; Linda read his email. The artifact analysis should be ready by that Saturday. The initial draft will not be complete by October 1st, but it will be by January 1st, so it will be ready in time for Presentations in March at CCPA. Hopefully, the survey of Ken Caryl will be complete in November.  

**Membership-**Rosalie wasn't in attendance so Linda read her email. The membership is the same as last month with one additional member.  

**Annual Meeting-**The annual meeting is October 9th-11th in Durango. Teresa took notes of who’s going so they can bring duplicate books the Denver CAS members didn’t want.  

**PAAC-**Anne Winslow let us know that there was a survey in August and she attended two days. They used the Trimble rather than doing it by hand and the class was full. There are no PAAC classes in Denver for the remainder of the year.

**Financial-**Preston pointed out two large expenditures. They were for insurance and were expected, annual costs. Next month there will also be a $600 fee next month to pay the annual museum fees. Otherwise we are about even with previous months.

**Trips** nothing new.  

**APB-**The APB was released on time and there were no other updates.  

**Website-**Craig's email said there were no updates for the website.

**Old Business**  
The APB minutes were approved for August. Teresa accepted the minutes and Preston seconded with an unanimous vote. A correction was noted for April, that the skeleton was not kept in a garage but was always on display the art studio and well cared for. Linda Sand will ask for nominations for board members. Bill Hammond has provided a one page synopsis of the tasks remaining for Swallow Site report. The artifact analysis for Ken Caryl is complete, but there's an issue with curation. The Ken Caryl facilities do not meet state standards, but the curation is being handled through Metro, not CAS. Jon Kent and Craig Banister are the directors whose positions are up for a vote. Roselie may choose to vacate her position as well. There was some question as to why the treasurer and membership positions were separate, as most CAS chapters don't do it that way. We split it because it was too large for one individual since we are one of the largest chapters. Linda will remain president for another year unless someone else would like the position. Michelle Giometti will be taking over as treasurer so Preston can be freed up as the state treasurer. Anne Winslow will no longer be able to be the PAAC representative after 9 years of service. She will speak to her colleagues about taking over in her stead.

**Library-** The Chapter library must be removed from Denver University by November 30. Preston looked into storage for the books, ideally climate controlled. He found the average cost in Denver for a 10x15 feet storage unit is $165 monthly and a 10x20 feet unit is $190 monthly. An additional $100 monthly cost would be involved for climate control. In storage, the books will not be accessible to anyone, thus defeating the point of the library. It only gets about a dozen visitors a year. Storage would cost a minimum of several thousand dollars a year and render it unusable to the very few people who visit. Given this, the board unanimously decided to dissolve the Denver CAS chapter library by offering the published works first to Denver CAS members, second, to the rest of CAS chapters and third to dispose of any remaining books as the board determines. We were contacted by geologist Bill Miller about possible gamedrive walls he had found. Reid Farmer will look into this matter. The meeting was adjourned at 8:28 PM.

Submitted by Cashel McGloin
Ken-Caryl Ranch Bradford House Site

Long time Denver CAS officer, Professor Jon Kent of Metro State University of Denver, was prominently thanked for his major archaeological excavations and studies leading to the listing of the Ken-Caryl Ranch Bradford House site on the USA National Register of Historic Places in a ceremony held there 9/18/2015.

Ken-Caryl Ranch Historical Society (KCRHS) speaker, Jim Antes, explains the history of the Bradford House. Jim prepared the Historical Listing application and explained that the archaeological work lead by Professor Jon Kent was a major part of the application. The Bradford House was also important as the gateway to the first toll road 1860-1867 from Denver to the mountain mining districts; including South Park, Leadville, and Breckenridge. The Bradford House was also the recruiting post for the Colorado Volunteers to the Union Army during the Civil War in 1863. In later years the house was expanded and is famous for hosting historic people including: US Presidents Taft and Theodore Roosevelt, Will Rodgers, and Princess Tatiana of Russia.

In the past 30 years, the Bradford House ruins have been preserved and is occasionally open for tours given by the Ken-Caryl Historical Society. This plaque gives credit to the main players in the work.
The official US National Register of Historical Places plaque was unveiled at the event.

The Bradford House was the fourth place on the historic Ken-Caryl Ranch to be listed on the National Register. All are due to work by people from CAS. Previously, three areas where CAS conducted prehistoric archaeological digs, with components in the Archaic and Ceramic eras (9,380 BP to historic time), were recognized on the National Register. They are the nearby Bradford House II and Bradford House III (shown in the photo above) sites and the large Ken-Caryl South Valley Archaeological District, which includes four major sites excavated by CAS.

By Jack Warner

Help Wanted

The Alice Hamilton Scholarship Fund Committee is looking for two new members who are willing to take on a lead role in our fund-raising activities. Terri Hoff has been fund-raising for many years, but she is now wanting to relinquish the duties to some “new blood”. Terri will train/mentor the successful applicants by Terri this year, and take over in 2016 (with assistance if needed or desired).

**Position One: Raffle/Games Manager.** This individual will interact with the Colorado Gaming Commission, for reporting and compliance with State gaming rules and regulations. This certified position requires a one-day training class, taken either in classroom or online: [http://www.sos.state.co.us/pubs/bingo_raffles/bingoHome.html](http://www.sos.state.co.us/pubs/bingo_raffles/bingoHome.html)

He or she will perform the following tasks:
- Solicit donation of raffle items from the membership
- License the upcoming raffle with the Colorado Gaming Commission
- Prepare and distribute raffle flyers and other promotional/advertising materials.
- Print raffle tickets and distribute to Chapters
- Set up and conduct the raffle at the CAS Annual Meeting
- File Quarterly reports with the Colorado Gaming Commission
- Participate in the Committee's annual scholarship application review and scholarship determination process

**Position Two: Silent Auction Manager.** He or she will perform the following tasks:
- Promote and solicit donation of silent auction items from the membership
- Arrange for Silent Auction display space at the CAS Annual Meeting
- Conduct the Silent Auction, with assistants.
- Participate in the Committee's annual scholarship application review and scholarship determination process

For questions and volunteering, please contact either Phil Williams (p2wms@comcast.net, 719-291-9298) or Terri Hoff (swedishgirl20@gmail.com, 720-384-3017)

Lecture

October 18, 2:00 pm, Sturm Hall Room 453 (4th Floor), 2000 East Asbury Avenue Denver, CO 80208

University of Denver, American Institute of Archaeology, Denver Chapter

**Basque Whalers and Southern Inuit: Worlds in Collision**

Dr. William Fitzhugh
Department of Anthropology at the National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution

Abstract:
Two hundred years before the great 19th century explosion of Arctic whaling the Spanish Basques were sending scores of ships to hunt whales in Labrador and Newfoundland. Because they never settled, their role in the early history of North America was forgotten until the discovery of the Basque whaling center in Red Bay,
Labrador, in the 1970s. This lecture reconstructs the Basque enterprise in North America during the 16-17th centuries with new information gleaned from the speaker’s archaeological research at Petit Mecatina on the Quebec Lower North Shore. Combining land and underwater archaeology, this research not only helps flesh out a dark chapter of history; it also reveals how Eskimos—the first New World whalers—partnered with Basques and for 200 years kept other Europeans at bay in a period that could be called “The Eskimo Wars.”

Bio:
William Fitzhugh is Director of the Arctic Studies Center and Curator of the Department of Anthrology at the National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution, and holds his degrees from Harvard (Ph.D. and M.A.) and Dartmouth (B.A.). Dr. Fitzhugh’s areas of specialization are arctic archaeology, circumpolar cultures, Mongolia, and Vikings (especially in the Western Atlantic). He has done fieldwork in the North Atlantic regions and arctic Russia, and in Mongolia, and has been recognized for his work in exhibits, documentaries, and research.

All AIA lectures are free and open to the public. Bring a friend along to share in these outstanding and informative lectures.

Hogback Lecture Series

Roxborough State Park is proud to sponsor an all-new lecture series in conjunction with our fourth annual fair celebrating International Archaeology Day on October 17, 2015. Last year’s lecturers described this as one of the best public archaeology events in the state. Join us in our auditorium to hear local experts describe archaeology and proto-history of the hogbacks. Lectures and fair are free with paid park admission.

11:30 Ute, Arapahoe, and Cheyenne: Life and Times
Dr. Paul Miller

12:45 Archaeology and Roxborough
Todd McMahon, Office of the State Archaeologist
2:00 The Ancient Coloradans: The Denver Basin 16,000-5,000 Years Ago
Jack Warner, Colorado Archaeological Society, Denver Chapter

This is a very popular event, so come early to avoid delays in entering the park. Carpooling is suggested.
Betsy Healey, Volunteer Naturalist (Archaeology Fair Coordinator)

On behalf of Angel Tobin, Volunteer & Interpretive Services Manager

Roxborough State Park
4751 E. Roxborough Dr
Roxborough, CO 80125
303-973-3959

Mounds and Migrants: An archaeological tour of southern and central Arizona
March 19-25, 2016

The last 15 years have seen a dramatic increase in archaeological understanding of precontact migration and the Salado “phenomenon” in the American Southwest. In this tour, participants will join Drs. William Doelle and Jeffery Clark of Archaeology Southwest and other esteemed researchers at the forefront of these recent investigations for a tour of southern and central Arizona, where they will explore the effects of this “clash” of Hohokam and Ancestral Pueblo ideologies. The tour is sponsored jointly by Archaeology Southwest (a nonprofit based in Tucson, Arizona) and Southwest Seminars (a nonprofit based in Santa Fe, New Mexico). You can learn more, and download a PDF of the tour flyer, at http://www.archaeologysouthwest.org/what-we-do/tours/

DC/CAS
Prepared by Preston Niesen, Treasurer

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Lamb Spring Archaeological Preserve Talks and Tours

Learn about the Paleo-Indian mammoth, camel, sloth, and extinct forms of bison hunters at the Lamb Spring archaeological site in the SW Denver. Talks and tours are held from May through October. For more information and reservations see www.lambspring.org.
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