

Message From the Council

Dear Friends,

George Floyd is being buried as I write this. Americans are marching in support of racial justice. Congress, legislatures, and city governments are considering law enforcement reforms, big and small. Minneapolis has pledged to scrap its police department altogether and rebuild from scratch.

All this connects to public lands.

At national parks and other national, state, and local public lands, America tells its stories. From the Council Tree historical marker here in Fort Collins to the Mall in Washington, on public lands, Americans honor their predecessors. On public lands, the nation defines what it is, what it values, and who belongs. It designates heroes and villains. It commemorates its achievements and mourns its darkest moments.

Public lands, however, have not always been kind to people of color. Yellowstone, Yosemite, and other places became wilderness only, evicting Indigenous peoples who lived and worked there. Shenandoah and Great Smoky Mountains national parks were segregated until the 1940s. For most of the twentieth century, park service stewards—so attentive to fostering democratic accessibility to public lands—consistently overlooked the monochromatic paleness of park visitors' skin. They took virtually no steps to welcome people of color, even though African Americans exhibited their enthusiasm for outdoor recreation by flocking to resorts like Michigan's Idlewild and Lincoln Hills right here in Colorado. Sometimes, the park service even assisted state parks in implementing Jim Crow practices on non-federal lands.

Public lands need to tell the stories of people they have historically excluded. In recent decades, the NPS has established numerous new sites interpreting Indian heritage, slavery,

Japanese-American confinement, LGBTQ struggles for justice, and the civil rights movement.

Similarly, the PLHC has worked hard to engage individuals and communities of color as well as other minoritized populations to help them place their stories into the national narratives public lands tell.

In the pages ahead, you'll read about our recent Indigenous history programming, including Native historian Dr. Kent Blansett's lecture, "Think Indigenous," during fall 2019, a curriculum development project to teach elementary schoolers about the yawning gap between desegregation and integration at Shenandoah, and our big new grant that funds partnerships with people not usually empowered to voice their public lands stories. As you read, watch for these and other ways, the PLHC is working to reverse the decades of barriers and silencing that people of color and others have experienced on public lands.

As PLHC joins in mourning the death of George Floyd and far too many others, we stand in solidarity with those working for racial justice. We acknowledge that some of that work must be done on public lands. And we pledge to undertake some of it ourselves by learning, preserving, and publicizing the history of people with small voices but big stories.

- Jared Orsi, Director



Dr. Jared Orsi is the current PLHC Director and Professor of History at Colorado State University.



Featured Project

Mission 66 Era Resources of Yellowstone

After World War II, the National Park Service (NPS) became overwhelmed as millions of new visitors flocked to the national parks after years of war and depression. Spurred by increasing income, affordable automobiles, and newly constructed interstates, national park visitation quickly exceeded pre-war levels; Yellowstone National Park alone received nearly one million visitors in 1948. Many visitors were quick to mention ramshackle facilities and unsanitary conditions induced by increased visitation and limited funding for improvements. Campgrounds and toilets overflowed, ranger talks were packed to capacity, and traffic jams multiplied. To accommodate these new visitors, NPS director Conrad Wirth developed Mission 66, a 10-year plan to update and improve NPS infrastructure before the agency's 50th anniversary in 1966.

During 2019, the PLHC worked with Yellowstone National Park to document several hundred Mission 66 era structures. Our team, comprised of principal investigator Dr. Sarah Payne, Dillion Maxwell, Jake Swisher, and I, traveled to Yellowstone, surveyed over 200 structures, completed archival research, and met with park staff. During two weeks of field work in late May and early June, we traversed every corner of the park and documented a wide range of structures, from staff housing and maintenance buildings to visitor centers and even an elementary school. Our team also spent several days at the park archives, diving deep



Dillion Maxwell (M.A., 2019) and Jake Swisher (M.A., 2020) discuss Mission 66 on a walk through Mammoth Hot Springs.

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into correspondence and press releases about Mission 66 and photographing architectural plans. Upon completion, this research and documentation will be presented to Yellowstone through a Multiple Property Documentation Form (MPDF) to help park staff make informed decisions about the maintenance and preservation of Mission 66 resources.

Once back in Fort Collins, Dillion, Jake, and I wrote up individual forms describing the architecture and history of each Mission 66 structure in Yellowstone. We used park correspondence, architectural drawings, and historic photos to discern changes to each structure over time. Over the course of the summer, our team grappled with how Yellowstone's unique history shaped the development of Mission 66 in the park. It seemed that while Mission 66 structures in Yellowstone contained modern, prefabricated materials, the designers took pains to harmonize Mission 66 projects with Yellowstone's historic buildings and natural environment. For example, at Grant Village the modern profile of the Visitor Center was supported with I-shaped wood beams and topped with wood shingles. Just up the road at Bridge Bay, the Mission 66 amphitheater housed brand new audio/visual equipment within a wood-shingled structure faced with local stones. Through the project MPDF, our team will provide Yellowstone with these complex, detailed histories of their Mission 66 structures to help cultural resource managers balance concerns for the park's historic resources with other management priorities.

Through my time on this project, I learned almost every skill necessary for a future position in historic preservation, including primary source research, documentation, and architectural vocabulary. Working with the PLHC and Yellowstone National Park also piqued my scholarly curiosity about Mission 66 and National Parks History. Since completing my time on this project, I have centered additional research projects on understanding Mission 66 and, with my new-found skills, I have applied for multiple career opportunities with the NPS and other public land agencies. Like other PLHC graduate student researchers, my contributions to the Yellowstone project have given me the confidence, skills, and professional experience to prepare myself for career opportunities in cultural resource management.

- *Rebekah Shields*

Working Together: 2019-2020 Collaborations in Review

The Henry B. Luce Foundation

In June 2019, the PLHC received \$225,000 in funding from the Henry Luce Foundation to support our “Telling Untold Stories” project. The Henry Luce Foundation seeks to enrich public discourse by promoting innovative scholarship, cultivating new leaders and fostering international understanding. The Foundation advances its mission through grantmaking and leadership programs in the fields of Asia, higher education, religion and theology, art, and public policy. Through the “Telling Untold Stories” project, the PLHC will support research and programming that identifies and disseminates public lands histories related to under-served communities. The project will also assist those communities in telling their own public lands histories, some of which will be shared through the PLHC’s American West Program. The acquisition of Henry Luce Foundation funding will help to support the PLHC’s work through 2022 and will enable the PLHC to independently fund new projects that advance the respective missions of the PLHC and the Henry Luce Foundation. In 2020 and 2021, the PLHC will support projects on Pawnee National Grassland and Organ Pipe National Monument. The PLHC is both grateful and excited for its new relationship with the Henry Luce Foundation and looks forward to the research and public programming that will grow out of the “Telling Untold Stories” project in the years to come.



PRECIP

In 2019, Dr. Leisl Carr Childers received funding from CSU’s Pre-Catalyst for Innovative Partnerships (PRECIP) program. Along with Drs. Courtney Schultz and Antony Cheng (Dept. of Forest and Rangeland Stewardship, CSU) and Dr. Lincoln Bramwell (United States Forest Service), Dr. Carr Childers explored how the PLHC might cultivate relationships with other scholars at CSU who similarly apply their disciplinary expertise to help public land managers make informed decisions about our cultural and natural resources.

Partnership News

In 2019, the PLHC and the Center for the Environmental Management of Military Lands (CEMML) were awarded a master cooperative agreement from the NPS for cultural resource management projects nationwide. The PLHC brings to this partnership expertise in historic contexts, administrative and environmental history, and experience working with built environments in national parks. CEMML’s cultural resource division is renowned for its work in archaeology, consultation, NEPA, and an array of other CRM work. The partnership brings our combined experience to bear on lands administered by the NPS.

In 2019, Colorado Humanities and CSU’s Morgan Library received a \$350,000 grant from the NEH to fund *Colorado Encyclopedia* (coloradoencyclopedia.org). On behalf of the PLHC, a sub-awardee to the grant, Dr. Doug Sheflin and Nick Johnson (M.A., 2015) will oversee the production of new articles for the encyclopedia. This project will provide CSU students with opportunities to gain experience in research and publication for public audiences.

Working Together: 2019-2020 Collaborations in Review

Parks as Portals to Learning 2019

PPL 2019 centered around Rocky Mountain National Park's (RMNP) Trail Ridge Road, as researchers studied physical changes to the road from 1971 to present. Workshop participants included CSU graduate students, undergraduate students, and high school students from Berthoud and Rocky Mountain High Schools. Participants completed primary research, collected GIS data, conducted oral history interviews with former park employees, and presented their work to current park staff. Collaboration among the group proved challenging but rewarding, with each participant bringing their unique perspective and skillset to the table. The final product stressed the need for historical research in park management and layered historical knowledge and spatial data produced through GIS.

- Andrew Olson



Leslie Moore (M.A., 2020), Ella Rupp (Berthoud High School), and Kurt Knierim (M.A., 2012; Berthoud High School) conducting field work on RMNP's Trail Ridge Road.

Parks as Portals to Learning 2020

During PPL 2020, Alex Miller, Amber Scott, Ariel Schnee (M.A., 2017), and Dr. Michael Childers helped RMNP staff examine how park visitors received the implementation of the backcountry permitting process in the late 1960s and how this process fit into a national context of backcountry recreation and thought. To assist park staff, the PPL team created a digital timeline placing park events alongside agency, state, and national policy changes and trends among wilderness thinkers, activists, and enjoyers. The team also produced an oral history with the park's Wilderness Office Manager, Barry Sweet. PPL 2020 is part of a multi-year PPL question on the implementation of backcountry camping regulations in the park.

- Alex Miller



Dr. Michael Childers with PRSE fellows, Alex Miller and Amber Scott at PPL 2020.

Working Together: 2019-2020 Collaborations in Review

Colorado Parks and Wildlife

In August 2019, the PLHC completed a cultural resource stewardship chapter for State Forest State Park, located in Colorado's Jackson County. The project's principal investigators were Drs. Jared Orsi, Adam Thomas, and Sarah Payne. Craig Somers (M.A., 2020) completed the research and writing for the chapter with survey documentation assistance from Dillon Maxwell (M.A., 2019). The chapter integrated archival research, oral histories, and a field survey of historic resources to produce a narrative for the area's more than 7,000 years of human history. By recognizing the different uses of a landscape and the variety of cultural perspectives that people bring to a place, the chapter provides park managers with the historical knowledge needed to better manage and interpret its cultural resources.

- *Craig Somers*

In summer 2020, the PLHC completed a cultural resource stewardship chapter for Eldorado Canyon State Park, located near Boulder, CO. The project's principal investigators were Drs. Jared Orsi, Leisl Carr Childers, and Adam Thomas. Eric Newcombe (M.A., 2020) conducted research and writing for the chapter. Due to the COVID-19 outbreak, Alex Miller and other PLHC staff completed additional field and archival work over the summer. The chapter integrated archival research, interviews, and a field survey of historic resources to narrate the canyon's shift from a landscape of labor to a landscape of leisure and recreation. The chapter will provide park managers with historical knowledge to better manage and interpret the park's cultural resources for visitors and the community.

- *Eric Newcombe*

Alumni Profile:

Kylee Cole (M.A., 2019)



Kylee Cole came to Colorado State University after completing her B.S. in history in 2017 at the University of Central Arkansas. While at UCA, she worked seasonally with Arkansas State Parks and interned with the Arkansas Department of Heritage. She completed her M.A. from CSU in 2019 focusing on Public History and Cultural Resource Management. She is now the Park Interpreter at Prairie Grove Battlefield State Park in northwest Arkansas.

During her time at CSU, Kylee worked on several projects with the PLHC. Her time at the PLHC was central to her professional growth and prepared her to enter park management directly after graduate school. She served as a research assistant on projects with Colorado Parks and Wildlife and Yellowstone National Park and participated in Parks as Portals to Learning in 2018. Kylee credits these experiences with building project management, interpersonal communication, and diverse resource management skills. She is thankful to center staff Dr. Jared Orsi, Dr. Sarah Payne, and Ariel Schnee and project colleagues Dillon Maxwell, Amy Hootman, and Bekah Schields for their support, mentorship, and friendship.

- *Kylee Cole*

Public Programming — Year in Review

The American West Program

In 2019, the PLHC welcomed Drs. Emily Moore and Kent Blansett (Cherokee, Creek, Choctaw, Shawnee, and Potawatomi) as American West Program speakers. Dr. Moore's presentation explored New Deal era policies of paying Tlingit and Haida men to restore or replicate nineteenth-century totem poles for tourists to Alaska, the subject of Moore's book, *Proud Raven, Painting Wolf: Carving Alaska's New Deal Totem Parks* (2018). Dr. Blansett's presentation recounted the life of Akwesasne Mohawk, Richard Oakes, one of the leaders of the Indians of All Tribes occupation of Alcatraz Island, Blansett delves into this history in his work, *Journey to Freedom: Richard Oakes, Alcatraz, and the Red Power Movement* (2018).

Brown Bag Series

The PLHC continued to offer its Brown Bag Series, which provides a forum for CSU students and faculty to connect with professionals in history and cultural resource managers. Among the featured speakers for 2019/2020 were Sean Fallon (M.A., 2017) and Yufna Soldier Wolf (Northern Arapaho). Fallon is an architectural historian with Pinyon Environmental, a consulting firm with which PLHC researchers Leslie Moore (M.A., 2020) and Danny Gilbert have held internships. Soldier Wolf is a former Tribal Historic Preservation Officer and lead consultant of Soldier Wolf Consulting, and an expert on matters concerning Traditional Ecological Knowledge and the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA).

History Day

Now in its second year, History Day is a partnership between the PLHC, high school educators, and the College of Liberal Arts' Office of Recruitment. Born during a conversation with Rocky Mountain High School teacher Kurt Kneirim (M.A., 2012), History Day educates high school students about career paths that leverage liberal arts skills, engages them with working professionals, and gives them a glimpse of what it's like to be a CSU Ram for a day. This year, the PLHC extended History Day to students from Berthoud High School with the help of history teacher, Kayla Steele (M.A., 2013). Students attended a career panel, toured campus, sat in on classes, and participated in a special session of History Jeopardy!

- Ariel Schnee



High school students attend a career panel with CSU history department alumni. From Left: Poppie Gullett, Jim Bertolini, Sam Iven, Kayla Steele, Dr. Adam Thomas, and Kurt Knierim.

Undergraduate Student Spotlight: Hailey Doucette

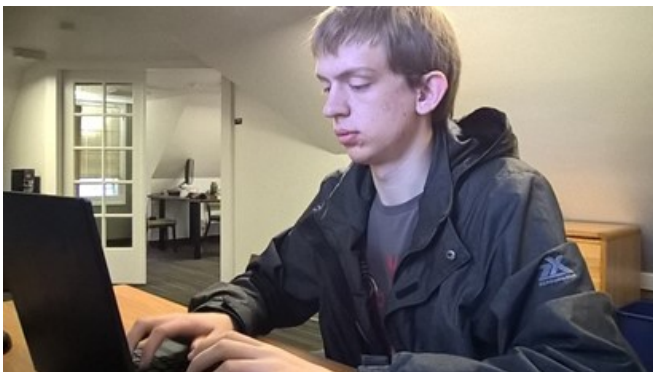
Hailey Doucette is a history and interdisciplinary liberal arts major on track to graduate with a B.A. in December 2020. She participated as an undergraduate researcher in the PLHC's 2019 and 2020 Parks as Portal to Learning (PPL) field workshops and completed an internship with the PLHC during the fall 2019 semester. During PPL, Hailey and the research team created a history of Trail Ridge Road from 1970-present. Hailey conducted oral histories with past NPS Staff and survey fieldwork to capture institutional knowledge about pull-offs along Trail Ridge Road. As an undergraduate intern, Hailey wrote two blog posts for the PLHC's website, [Endangered Species Act](#) and [BLM Relocation: Helpful or Harmful?](#) She also spent a day in Rocky Mountain National Park shadowing Cultural Resource Specialist Kelly Dick and seasonal employee Emilio Santiago. They spent the day in the field at Lake Irene where Hailey and the team measured different sites, recorded data, and found artifacts to learn about the site's history. This fall, Hailey will work with Dr. Sarah Payne to hold a symposium, complete oral histories, and create an exhibit for the CSU Liberal Arts building, Clark, which CSU plans to renovate in the near future.



“The PLHC has shown me that it is possible to combine a love for history and public lands. It has provided me with additional educational and internship opportunities. Working with the PLHC also improved my writing and research skills, networked me with other historians, and taught me a variety of skills that are helping me reach my educational and career goals.”

- Hailey Doucette

Internship Program



PLHC intern Logan Haas hard at work in our office space at Tiley House.

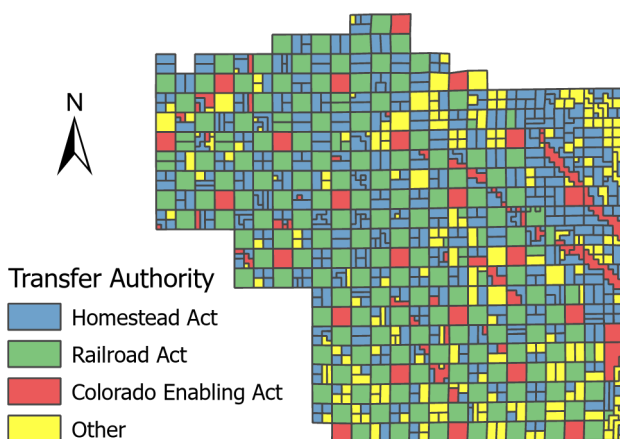
The PLHC welcomed three wonderful undergraduate interns to the center last year as part of the center's internship program that began in fall 2017. This year, Hailey Doucette, Logan Haas, and Lorena Garrod completed semester-long internships with the PLHC. Our interns helped coordinate our Brown Bag series, took advantage of opportunities to shadow and work with historic preservationists, museum professionals, and cultural resource managers, and also authored posts for the [PLHC blog](#), all in one semester! Hailey, Logan, and Lorena, we appreciate all of your hard work during your internships!

Research Project Updates

Ranchers in Place

During summer 2020, principal investigator Dr. Leisl Carr Childers and graduate student researchers Katya Irwin and Jake Swisher (M.A., 2020) began work on the first half of a two year oral history project examining the historical relationship of members of the Crow Valley Livestock Association to the grazing environment at Pawnee National Grassland. The Ranchers in Place project also examines the impact of COVID-19 on ranchers and their operations in Pawnee National Grassland. This project is ideally situated to investigate the intersection of public lands management, ranching, and the local ramifications of the global pandemic. By building a GIS database and conducting background research on Pawnee National Grassland, work completed this summer will provide context for oral history interviews that the PLHC will conduct next summer and will provide historical knowledge to the USFS and the local Crow Valley Livestock Association.

- Katya Irwin



PLHC researchers rely on ESRI's ArcGIS Pro software to study land transfers on Pawnee National Grassland. This map visualizes original patents for lands in Pawnee's West Unit.

Fort Collins Utilities History

In May 2019, longtime Chief Engineer of Fort Collins Water Utilities, Owen Randall, retired. But before he turned his attention to fishing the waters he had spent his career managing, Fort Collins Utilities and the PLHC collaborated on an oral history project to ensure Randall's forty years of experiences didn't leave with him. Across six filmed, on-site interviews in 2019, Dr. Ruth Alexander (principal investigator), Craig Somers (M.A. 2020), and Tristan Purdy (M.A. 2020) focused on recording what can't be found in the archives: Randall's personal experiences in problem-solving and negotiating with private companies and the public to secure water-related infrastructure projects. The oral history interviews considered the three branches of Fort Collins Water Utilities—water supply, stormwater, and wastewater—since Randall joined city utilities in 1979. The audio and video recordings will preserve Randall's institutional knowledge for the resource managers of the future.

- Tristan Purdy



Tristan Purdy (M.A., 2020) monitors recording equipment as Dr. Ruth Alexander interviews Owen Randall at the City of Fort Collins Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Research Project Updates

Naval Reactors Facility, Idaho

As part of the PLHC's new partnership with the Center for Environmental Management of Military Lands (CEMML), PLHC affiliate Dillon Maxwell (M.A., 2019) worked as a researcher on a historic resource project at the Naval Reactors Facility (NRF) in Idaho. The project PI is Amanda Wallander and the lead researcher is Alexandra Wallace, both CEMML employees. The NRF is part of the Department of Energy's Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program located on the Snake River Plain. The U.S. Navy and Department of Energy have worked together at the site since the early 1950s. Since then, the NRF has functioned as a reactor prototype testing site, a training facility for naval submarine and surface ship personnel, and a repository for the examination and research of spent nuclear fuel. Maxwell's main task was to update an outdated historic context of the NRF from the 1990s. His updated context integrated recent scholarship about the Cold War and the Atomic West as well as newly released primary source material. CEMML also used sections of the context for the NRF's building inventory report, a document that includes assessments and determinations of eligibility for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places of the buildings on site. Maxwell also assisted with a week of field work at the NRF in November of 2019 where he surveyed buildings and met with NRF staff. The team completed the project in the spring of 2020.

- *Dillon Maxwell*



Graduate Student Spotlight: Leslie Moore



Leslie Moore graduated from the History MA program in 2020, having focused her studies on historic preservation and environmental history. In her first year as a graduate student, Leslie worked for the PLHC to develop a digital curriculum for Shenandoah National Park about the park's history of segregation. Following graduation, she interned with the Poudre Heritage Alliance (PHA), before accepting the position of Architectural Historian with EBI Consulting in Longmont, Colorado.

Her previous work for the PLHC prepared Leslie for the task of weaving together place-based learning and digital tools. Furthermore, Leslie is a strong advocate for recognizing and using cultural resources on public lands to teach complicated stories about our collective past.

Research Project Updates

Shenandoah National Park

In 2018-2019, PLHC researcher, Leslie Moore (M.A., 2020), and Dr. Ruth Alexander, the project's principal investigator, developed a five-part digital curriculum for Shenandoah National Park to educate students about the park's history of racial segregation and discrimination. The curriculum is based on research conducted during a 2018 historical report written by PLHC Program Manager, Ariel Schnee (M.A., 2017), and Dr. Alexander.

The curriculum challenges students to analyze archival maps, photographs, and letters to understand how the park could be both a hostile place for African Americans in the mid-twentieth century and a place for respite and leisure. Interpretive staff are currently putting the finishing touches on the curriculum for delivery to students.

- *Leslie Moore*



This road sign pointed visitors to the entrance to Shenandoah National Park's "Lewis Mountain Negro Area" during the 1940s.

Rocky Mountain National Park

In 2019 and 2020, the PLHC made progress on determinations of eligibility for cultural landscapes in RMNP. Dr. Sarah Payne is the principal investigator for the project, which has engaged PLHC faculty and researchers at CSU and Montana State University (MSU). Dr. Janet Ore (MSU) completed survey work and drafted a historical narrative for Wild Basin. Dr. Adam Thomas worked to transform preliminary research conducted by Dr. Ore and Micah Chang (PhD Candidate, MSU) on the Grand Lake Entrance. Dr. Thomas also advanced work on a historical narrative and cultural landscape inventory for Onahu/Green Mountain.

- *Sarah Payne*



The entrance at Grand Lake may be small, but its scenery is among the best in RMNP.

PLHC Milestones

Since the last issue of *On the Trail*, the PLHC has engaged 59 graduate, undergraduate, and high school students in research, executed more than \$750,000 in projects, and developed new partnerships with various public land and resource management agencies.

Here are just a few of the PLHC's major accomplishments from the last few years:

- In 2015, the PLHC established the Public Lands History books series with the University of Oklahoma Press. Since its founding, the series has grown to include four scholarly works, the most recent of which is Cori Knudten and Maren Bzdek's newly-released work, *Crossroads of Change: The People and the Land of Pecos* (2020).
- In 2016, Dr. Sarah Payne's "["Confinement in the Land of Enchantment"](#) project received an honorable mention for the National Council on Public History's Outstanding Public History Project Award.
- In 2016, the Office of the Vice President for Research at CSU designated the PLHC as a Program of Research and Scholarly Excellence, awarding it an additional \$100,000 in competitive funding.
- In 2018, the PLHC relocated to the Tiley House, a larger office space that we share with our friends at CSU's [Center for Literary Publishing](#) (CLP).
- In 2019, the PLHC published *Long Exposures: Repeat Photography and Parks as Portals to Learning* in collaboration with the CLP. *Long Exposures* contains student-authored essays from participants in the 2018 Parks as Portals to Learning Field Workshop.

Support the PLHC!

Our Mission:

The PLHC believes that recovering histories of difference on public lands facilitates the preservation of cultural and natural resources, informs public dialogue, and is the basis for the development of shared public lands values. To promote justice and democracy, the PLHC reveals, tells, and disseminates complex histories of public lands in partnership with public lands agencies, communities, students, and the public.

Our Values:

Collaboration • Useful Knowledge • Education • Resource Stewardship • Innovation • Community

Our Future:

The PLHC gratefully accepts donations from individuals and organizations who wish to support our efforts to produce historical knowledge for resource managers, to inform public dialogue about our shared public lands history, and to train the next generation of historians and cultural resource managers. All donations are tax deductible. To donate, please visit <https://advancing.colostate.edu/PLHC>.

Your Contributions Support:

- Parks as Portals to Learning
- Research Opportunities for Students
- The American West Program
- The PLHC Internship Program

Meet Our Authors



Dillon Maxwell (M.A., 2019) is a historian and cultural resource professional living in Fort Collins, Colorado. He currently works for the U.S. Forest Service in the Arapaho-Roosevelt National Forest.



Andrew D. Olson (M.A., 2020) is an M.A. graduate from Colorado State University and served as the PLHC's Programs of Research and Scholarly Excellence (PRSE) Fellow from Fall 2018 to Summer 2019.



Rebekah Schields (M.A., 2020) is passionate about bringing history to the public in a variety of ways; she has worked in heritage and archaeology education for the past five years.



Alex Miller is a current graduate student in history at CSU and served as the PLHC's 2019-2020 PRSE Fellow. When he isn't researching recreation on public lands, he is out enjoying this topic through fly fishing, climbing, or skiing.



Leslie Moore (M.A., 2020) recently received her master's degree in history with a concentration in historic preservation at CSU. Leslie currently holds an internship with the Poudre Heritage Alliance.



Katya Irwin is a current graduate student in the M.A. program who is interested in land management history and is working on the Ranchers in Place project this summer. She has previously held seasonal positions with the NPS and USFS.



Dr. Sarah Payne specializes in Public and Environmental History, focusing on Historic Preservation and Cultural Resource Management. She is currently the Associate Director for Research at the PLHC and the Graduate Student Coordinator for the CSU History Department.



Craig Somers (M.A., 2020) currently lives in Seattle. He is completing a 7-month internship with the Park Cultural Landscapes Program of the National Park Service.



Eric Newcombe (M.A., 2020) graduated with his M.A. in Public History with a focus in Historic Preservation from CSU in May. He is currently the Historic Architecture Specialist at the Montana State Historic Preservation Office.



Tristan Purdy (M.A. 2020) is a recent graduate of CSU's history department and was a PRSE Summer Fellow for the PLHC during 2019.



Jacob Swisher (M.A., 2020) is an environmental and American Western historian. He currently lives in South Bend, Indiana where he is a Ph.D. student in the history department at the University of Notre Dame.



Ariel Schnee (M.A., 2017) is the Program Manager of the Public Lands History Center in Fort Collins, Colorado. Her research focuses on the intersections of the National Park Service's history with the histories of race, gender, and the environment.

PLHC Council

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Ruth Alexander, Professor of History

Leisl Carr Childers, Assistant Professor of History

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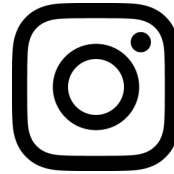
PLHC Student Staff

Andrew Olson, PRSE Graduate Fellow (2018-2019)

Alex Miller, PRSE Graduate Fellow (2019-2020)

Amber Scott, PRSE Graduate Fellow (2020-2021)

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