

The Turret Tribune



Sharing the energy of progress, the power of people, and the promise of what's to come.



*At the Colorado Preservation Incorporated Conference
Tim Williams, Pamela Williams and Debra Callihan, HCPC
board members and volunteers, along with Kevin Strong,
Editor and writer, KCNC*

Preserving Colorado's Past: The Most Endangered Places Program

Every year, Colorado Preservation, Inc. (CPI) highlights the historic buildings, landscapes, and archaeological sites most at risk of being lost forever. Since 1998, the organization has partnered with communities across the state to preserve endangered historic resources through its Endangered Places Program, offering advocacy, awareness, and technical assistance to critical sites in danger.

Hartman Castle was added to the list at the 2026 Saving Places Conference, held in Denver in February.

The theme connecting many of today's endangered places is adaptive reuse by figuring out how to preserve history while also making these sites relevant and sustainable for future generations, according to Endangered Places Director Katie Peterson.

In its 29-year history, the program has identified 149 historic resources across Colorado. Of these, 57 have been successfully preserved, with only nine lost, showcasing the effectiveness of community involvement. The sites span every region of the state, covering 49 out of Colorado's 64 counties. Hartman Castle is Gunnison County's first listing. Reflecting on the losses, CPI emphasizes that community involvement is essential to a 'save.' Hartman Castle Preservation Corporation is already collaborating with the agency and looks forward

Colorado Awards \$100,000 Grant to Support Hartman Castle Preservation

On April 13th, the Colorado Office of Just Transition (OJT) within the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment (CDLE), in partnership with the Office of Economic Development and International Trade (OEDIT) announced a \$100,000 grant to the Hartman Castle Preservation Corporation to support the acquisition of the historic property,

"This grant will help Gunnison protect and preserve a symbol of the community's past and create a space for the residents and visitors. By reimagining the use of Hartman Castle, the Gunnison community can preserve an architectural landmark, build an exciting new community gathering space, and support the local economy. The state is excited to be a partner in this effort. As Colorado celebrates our sesquicentennial birthday, we are finding innovative ways to celebrate our history and strengthen our communities for the next 150 years," said Governor Jared Polis.

"We hope this grant will protect a place that tells a compelling story about our State's past while looking clearly toward the future," said Wade Buchanan, Director of the OJT. "By securing the site now, we are providing the 'placemaking' foundation for a hub that supports both heritage tourism and the local creative economy in a way that new construction could simply not replicate."

The Castle represents an irreplaceable piece of local history. Board President Pamela Williams called it "a remarkable community asset that will drive meaningful economic and social benefits," adding that the grant allows Hartman Castle to transition "from endangered to enduring." Read the official press release [HERE](#)

to the support this designation will provide for its efforts.

For more information:

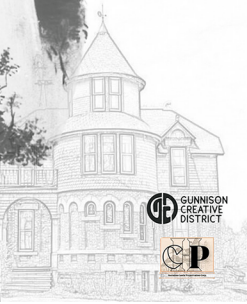
[2026 Colorado Most Endangered Places](#)

[CBS News—Endangered Places](#)

[Colorado Public Radio](#)

[Channel 9 News feature](#)

HARTMAN CASTLE FAIR Call for Artists! MAY 23



Another Hartman's Firsts: An Art Fair!

In conjunction with Gunnison's Creative Art District, we will have an Art Fair on the lawn of Annie Hartman's Castle.

A century ago, Annie Hartman lived in the Hartmans' castle and painted in the turret. She was part of a thriving art community and helped coordinate some of the early cultural events in Gunnison County. As the home that she designed gains statewide preservation status, we invite you to join us for a resurgence of art at the Castle on May 23.

There will be Hartman Castle tours, live music, pastries and coffee for sale, children's activities, and, of course, local art to peruse and purchase. Want more info or want to volunteer to help? Contact us at info@hartmancastle.org

Vendors: the event will be promoted on social media, and posters will be placed around Gunnison and Crested Butte. The event flyer will also be included in the packets distributed to all Growler participants. Here is an opportunity to meet a new fan base!

Vendors can sign up using this link for the Google [SIGN-UP](#) sheet.



Hartman Castle Added to Historic Registry

On March 3, 2026, Gunnison County designated Hartman Castle as a County Historic Landmark, recognizing its architectural significance, connection to key local figures, and role in shaping the Gunnison Valley.

Preservation Commission Chair Jody Reeser noted the Castle "represents an important piece of Gunnison County's history and architectural heritage," while Commissioner Laura Puckett Daniels called it a long-awaited dream realized.

The designation is a pivotal milestone for the Hartman Castle Preservation Corporation (HCPC), a nonprofit working to purchase and restore the property. President Pamela Williams praised the community's support and thanked the current owners, Dave and Susie Taylor, for their cooperation. The HCPC also thanked Patty Dowd Schmitz for her work in completing the historic designation application.

The designation now enables the organization to apply for a History Colorado acquisition grant worth up to \$250,000. Hartman Castle is honored to have been awarded a \$100,000 grant from Colorado's Office of Economic Development and International Tourism and the Office of Just Transition. If awarded the History Colorado acquisition grant, the purchase will be within reach.

Once acquired, Hartman Castle will serve as a community gathering space and event venue.

Would you like more information? Check out more details on our blog page, or our press release on the [Gunnison Country Times](#)

First quarter of 2026

Volunteers have been busy. We have learned how to use genealogy sites for research, starting with the Hartmans, especially Annie.

In addition to learning the software, we learned that Alonzo was related not only to Daniel Boone but also to Abraham Lincoln. We can trace Annie's roots back to the 1500s. She is a descendant of men who served with distinction in the Revolutionary War.

Lydia Hardy has compiled all of Annie's information to date into a document that can continue to grow. One of the many wonderful things about the Hartman Castle is the fabulous stories that are waiting to be told!

TEAM HARTMAN VOLUNTEERS

Many of you have offered to help Hartman Castle Preservation in various ways. Some of you have already been called upon, and we very much appreciate your efforts. THANK YOU!!

As we head into the warmer, more active months at the Castle, we are beginning to recruit more volunteers and organize them into categories based on job preferences and skills. We need folks eager to:

- Conduct tours (we will train you)
- Clean indoors (sweeping, mopping, windows, etc.)
- Do yard work (raking, digging, pruning, hauling yard waste, container planting, weeding, landscape jobs, etc.)
- Complete simple construction or repair projects
- Work on the Facilities Committee (work with CPI and History Colorado as we move forward for the restoration, explore offering apprenticeship workshops, etc.)
- Assist with events (setting up and taking down tents, tables, chairs, helping with refreshments, trash maintenance, parking guidance, mingling with visitors, and general errand-running, etc.)
- Fundraise (work collaboratively to secure contributions from businesses, corporations, or individual sponsors. Help with major gift donor campaigns, capital campaigns, and promote "friendraisers," etc.)

Please contact Debra Callihan by text at 970.209.7030 or email info@hartmancastle.org to sign up as a volunteer or for more information.

Don't have time to volunteer but want to support our efforts? You can always make a [donation](#).

Mark Your Calendars!

The Castle will make its public art debut at the **1st Annual Hartman Castle Art Fair** on Saturday, May 23, 2026, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The event will feature local artists, live music, children's crafts, and property tours.

Hartman Castle Preservation Corporation and the Gunnison Chamber of Commerce will host an **After Hours event on June 18th from 5 to 7 pm**. Businesses that have donated to the Castle's acquisition will receive a special Hartman Founders Club Certificate of Appreciation at the event. It is likely to be a special photo opportunity as well! For **donations of more than \$500**, the donor's name will be permanently recognized on the Donor Wall as a lasting symbol of their meaningful contribution. See the concept drawing for this project at the Castle.

On the afternoon of **June 17th**, Crested Butte Museum will host a **van tour with Duane Vandebusch at the Hartman Castle**. Enjoy a wonderful afternoon with Duane, museum staff, and Hartman volunteers. Hear the stories and feel the history! Check the museum's website for more information as the date approaches.



Exciting new developments

We were thrilled to be contacted by Tanya Mathews Ledford, who introduced us to her mother, Katharin Gregory Mathews, a niece of the former Hartman Castle owners, Craig and Kate Goodwin.

We had several conversations with Katharin, and she graciously allowed us to record them. Board members Pamela Williams and Debra Callihan visited Katharin's home in Hotchkiss to receive a large hand-colored photograph that had once hung in the Castle.

Anne Michel of the Gunnison Gallery will restore this piece so it can hang once again in its rightful place. We plan to record Anne as she educates us about the art, the frame, and the restoration process.

The Goodwins were cattle growers and ranchers. Kate Goodwin was a Carpenter from Cebolla and Sapinero. Her family owned and operated the Sportsman's Lodge. The Goodwins were among those who fought against the proposed Blue Mesa Reservoir — a defining struggle for ranchers in the region. They were also friends of cattle rancher Dan Thornton, the only Colorado Governor to hail from Gunnison.

Katharin gifted us with a Fishermen's Inn menu in its original leather folder. She has also provided us with a list of other items from the Hartman and Goodwin's time in the Castle that she plans to donate.

We look forward to sharing the Goodwin stories and that era of Gunnison's history.

For more information on the Carpenters and the Sportman's Lodge: please click [HERE](#):