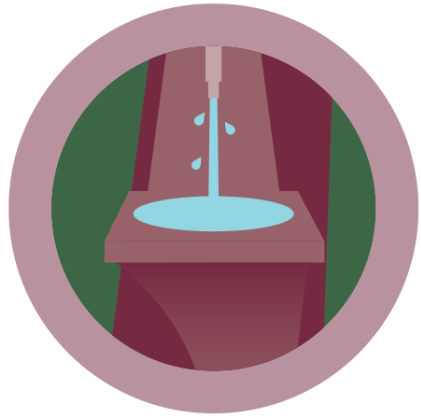




Museum Remodel Public Presentation

October 25, 2023



Where Did the Heritage Center Museum Come From?

Historic Manitou Springs, Inc. (HMSI), was formed in 1997 as an educational non-profit and operates the Manitou Springs Heritage Center.

Our mission is to collect, preserve, research, and interpret the history and culture of Manitou Springs and the Pikes Peak Region.

Prior to opening the museum, HMSI sponsored numerous projects and events – including installing the memorial stone for Emma Crawford in Crystal Valley Cemetery and starting the Ghost Tours (part of the Emma Crawford Festival).

In July 2008, HMSI obtained a Purchase Option on the building and established a business office and small gallery of historic photos on the second floor.

On August 26, 2009, we opened the Manitou Springs Heritage Center museum in the building's ground floor with exhibits fulfilling the mission statement above.

Our office and the growing collection of documents and artifacts are still housed upstairs. The current number of accessioned items in the collection is about 5,100. The donated materials the museum has received are important and cherished.

Everything the museum does would not be possible without our steadfast volunteers.



Where Are We At Currently?

In 2022, the museum's purchase was finalized by HMSI. Fundraising for upgrades of the building occurred at the same time as for the purchase.

Through the Capital Campaign, **approximately \$350,000 to date has been spent on the purchase and improvement** of the building.

Improvements so far have been:

1. Much-needed **replacement of a very leaky roof.**
2. Work on the **drainage around the building.**
3. New **windows** that restore the appearance of the second floor.
4. Repairs and **re-stuccoing the exterior.**
5. Remodeling a former garage in the back of the second floor to **expand the climate-controlled archives storage.**



Where Are We Going – Short-Term?

October 28 the museum will close to the public so we can pack and move everything into storage.

January 2, 2024, contractors begin work on the front and ground floor of the building. The project entails:

1. Install **sliding, barn-like doors** on the front to replace the overhead garage door and restore the historic appearance of the building.
2. Install a **glass entry** inside the opening for better control of heating and cooling.
3. Install much needed **structural beams and posts** to support the second floor.
4. Install **new furnace and air conditioning** in the building, and **new electrical** in the museum.
5. Install **insulation/drywall** on the walls/ceiling and build **new storage enclosures** in the museum.
6. Install new **light fixtures, paint** the walls/ceiling, and **refinish the floor** to put finishing touches on the revamped and upgraded museum space, which will serve the community many years into the future.

Construction will finish in March 2024. Then we will bring everything back into the museum to populate exhibits and the new store area.

An Opening Reception will be in May 2024. Look for announcement of the date!



What Do We Need to Get There?

The **estimated cost** for the upcoming project totals **\$420,000**.

To date, the Heritage Center has **raised** approximately **\$270,000** for the planned improvements.

This leaves a **funding gap** of **\$150,000**.

To close the gap - we are writing and submitting several **grants**, continuing to **fundraise**, and looking for **other funding** opportunities.

If we are **unable to raise all the funds** for the project, we are also arranging **short-term loans** from organizations and individuals. Under this scenario, the Heritage Center will incur some **debt** that will be **paid off over the next 3-5 years** with proceeds from established events/other sources.

How can you help?

Donate! Direct donations to the Heritage Center, or through the El Paso County Enterprise Zone (we are a designated project), are a win-win for you and the museum.

Volunteer – We are always looking for people to help at the front desk, work in the archives, lead tours or assist with events. Once the museum reopens, we will need people who can help the organization into the future.

Continue to **support and attend** the museum's **programs and events** once we reopen in 2024.



Where Are We Going – Long-Term?

The future is bright for the Manitou Springs Heritage Center!

Future physical upgrades will include better access to the second floor with improved stairs and an elevator. Eventual remodeling of the second floor to better house the operations of the Heritage Center is on the horizon.

We have established a relationship with the UCCS Intern program and are looking into programs with other, area colleges to expand access to students and provide them with real-world experiences.

We are currently working with a donor to establish a Scholarship Program through the Heritage Center that should launch in 2024.

Someday we will hire staff to help run the museum and allow for more programs and public outreach.

The historical archives will continue to grow and will be a major resource for information about Manitou Springs and the Pikes Peak Region. We are preparing to launch the Research Center and on-line access to the museum's collection after the upcoming construction.



We Want to Thank...

- **Board member Neale Minch** for spearheading the construction planning and coordination.
- The **Manitou Springs MACH** for providing seed monies essential to the current, and future, projects. This initiative is making a difference in our community!
 - The **Colorado State Historical Fund** for approximately **\$168,000** in grants (awarded and anticipated) supporting the historic restoration and rehabilitation of the museum building.
 - The **El Paso County Enterprise Zone** for approving the Heritage Center as a participant which allows donors additional tax advantages under that program.
 - The many **small grantors and donors** fueling the museum's ability to operate and giving us the courage to take on building improvements.
 - **Grant writer Charise Boomsma** and **Architect Robert Swickert** for their work on the museum's behalf.
 - Our **volunteers**, who make it possible to operate the museum and collect, preserve, research, and interpret the history and culture of this fascinating community.
 - Finally, last but certainly not least, **we sincerely thank the people of Manitou Springs**. They are what make this community truly special and a joy to share with our many visitors.



For Questions or More Information Contact the Museum



517 Manitou Avenue • Manitou Springs, CO 80829 • 719-685-1454
ManitouHeritage@gmail.com • ManitouSpringsHeritageCenter.org