

MUSEUM UPDATES

We will be doing a soft opening of the Historic Englewood Museum on Saturday, April 6th from 10am-2pm.

Check the website next week for ticketing information as space will be limited.

A Grand Opening is planned for later in May, stay tuned for more details.

Our first exhibit will feature the History of Cinderella City Mall in partnership with

The Cinderella City Project!

*If you have any Cinderella City memorabilia that you would be willing to loan us for the museum display, please email:
cinderellacityproject@gmail.com*

COMING SOON!!

Celebration at the Military Memorial on July 7th. Plans are being made to have a remembrance event at Englewood High School in July, to honor those who served. More details to come.

SPECIAL THANKS

DEBBIE WADDILL

Thank you for the wonderful donation of the Flood Junior High band uniforms. We so appreciate them!

ATOM STEVENS

Thank you for a very insightful presentation on the history of Mid-Century style homes! We had a packed house at both presentations!



SATURDAY VOLUNTEERS

Thank you to all who helped with painting, cleaning and setting up the theatre space in the new museum. We could not have done it without you!

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Upcoming LECTURE TUESDAY: MARCH 26

Have you ever wondered about the history of Arapahoe Acres? Do you love the Mid-Mod Style of Architecture? Then join us in learning more from speaker and author Diane Wray Tomasso. Ms. Wray Tomasso authored The Arapahoe Acres Historic District and co-authored Denver: The Modern City and The Mid-Century Modern House in Denver for Historic Denver. (Read more on page 2)

HISTORIC ENGLEWOOD.org



ARAPAHOE ACRES 1949-1957
Englewood's Mid-Century Modern National Historic District

2:30 PM - Englewood Library
1000 Englewood Parkway

6:30 PM - Table Public House
2190 S. Platte River Drive



MISSION

TO PRESERVE
& SHARE
ENGLEWOOD'S
UNIQUE
HISTORY

GETTING TO KNOW

DIANE WRAY TOMASSO

Our speaker this month, Diane Wray Tomasso is a retired consultant with 28 years experience in facilitating historic preservation projects. She assisted in the design and construction of projects meeting the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation. This included the preparation of applications and documentation for historic listing, federal and state tax credits and grants. In this capacity, she interfaced with owners, architects, contractors, and local, state and national agencies to define and realize appropriate preservation plans for historic properties.

In Englewood, she prepared the successful nomination of the 1949-1957 Arapahoe Acres National Register Historic District, the first post-World War II subdivision to be so listed. Downtown, she prepared successful National and/or State Register Nominations for the Englewood Post Office, Charles Deaton's Key Savings Bank and the Englewood Herald and Odd Fellows Buildings at 3421-3435 South Broadway. She also prepared a successful National Register nomination for Arapahoe Hills, a sister community to Arapahoe Acres in Littleton, a historic context for the City of Littleton from 1949-1967 and a survey of Modernism on Littleton Boulevard.

Other Colorado projects included a survey of Boulder Modernism 1947-77, Charles Deaton's Sculptured House in Genesee, the Rocky Mountain College of Art and Design in Lakewood (formerly the Jewish Consumptive's Relief Society), the American National Bank in Leadville, and, in Denver, the Elitch Gardens Theater, Buerger Brothers Lofts, Chamber Lofts, Clocktower Lofts,

Midland Lofts, the Colorado Business Bank, the Tattered Cover Bookstore (formerly the Bonfils Memorial Theater), the three Hardware Block Buildings and the Downtown Denver YMCA.

Ms. Wray Tomasso authored *The Arapahoe Acres Historic District* and co-authored *Denver: The Modern City* and *The Mid-Century Modern House in Denver* for Historic Denver. She also participated in local and regional public policy and preservation meetings and served as an invited speaker at conferences conducted by the Colorado Preservation Inc, the Jeffco Historical Society, the National Trust for Historic Preservation, the National Park Service, and the Historic Districts Council, a consortium of the landmark districts of New York City, held at Columbia University.

Diane was previously self-employed as a consultant to the construction industry, largely in the New York City area. She worked for over 125 contractors and subcontractors of all sizes and trades, providing her with a unique perspective on the realities of historic preservation in relation to real estate and project development. She also has a strong background in communication design, spending four years in the design of corporate identity programs, print, annual reports, and packaging lines for a variety of Fortune 500 firms.

As Director of Denver's Modern Architecture Preservation League (1989-1996), she actively advocated for the preservation of Modernism including the Denver Public Library Central and Zeckendorf Plaza, among others. Diane studied for two years at CU Boulder and has a B.A. in Fine Arts from the School of the Art Institute in Chicago. She has lived in Arapahoe Acres since 1990.

CONTACT US

HISTORICENGLEWOOD.ORG

contact@historicenglewood.org

303.242.3257

ENGLEWOOD CITIZENS CAN YOU HELP

by Doug Cohn

Historic Englewood has been asked by the City of Englewood's communications team to help identify the people and groups in several boxes of photos. They would like to have the the photos digitized and added to the Englewood Public Library's digital collection but it is integral to gather more information. There are about 800 pictures from the 1960s through the early 2000s. Do you recognize any of the people or businesses? Doug Cohn will be organizing a couple of workdays so that people can look through the photos and hopefully ID some of the individuals. Email Doug at enghisguy@gmail.com to find out more.



ENGLEWOOD HERALD MUSEUM ARTICLE

By Elizabeth Slay

Immersive retro Cinderella City display on tap at soon-to-open Englewood museum

Historic Englewood (dba Englewood Historic Preservation Society) will host a soft opening of its new museum in April. An exhibit will be devoted to Cinderella City, the large mall built off Hampden Avenue, west of Broadway, in 1968 that lasted for three decades until it was demolished. The sneak peek will be followed by a grand opening in May.

"As some may remember, the City Hall building is the last remaining structure from the original mall," Lindsey Runyan, Historic Englewood Communications Director and Museum Coordinator, said. In its heyday, the building that housed city hall was a department store. The Mall was completely demolished in 1998.

Historic Englewood and a group called The Cinderella City Project are attempting "to bring Cinderella City Mall back to life," Runyan said, at the museum's second floor of the Englewood Civic Center Building. Runyan said Josh Goldstein, creator of the project and Historic Englewood Board secretary, worked to recreate the mall in a three dimensional display "allowing for spectators to virtually walk through the mall and travel back in time to both era' of its design, 1960s and 1980s." "We are fortunate to have a theater space within the museum that will be ideal for showcasing the simulation," Runyan said.

Later exhibits in the works will feature Englewood Schools, Cherrelyn Horse Car,



Alexander Industries, General Iron Works, Arapahoe Acres and more.

"We believe that Englewood has a unique story to tell and having a museum space to bring that history to the community is essential," Runyan said.

The city council approved the museum last year. However, Runyan said the Englewood Historic Preservation Society has worked on the project for much longer.

The society was formed 12 years ago amid efforts to save the Sante Fe Train Depot and turn it into a museum, Runyan said. "Although the group was not awarded the depot after going through the proposal process, they still continued to expand and grow the society with the hopes that someday they could form a museum," Runyan said.

When the Museum of Outdoor Arts vacated its space in City Hall almost two years ago, that opened the door for conversations with city officials and the society, she said. The city and the society have an agreement for a year-long lease and the society also received some start-up funding. "We hope that there is enough interest in the museum to support it going forward," Runyan said. "If the city and the community sees its value that will hopefully lead to a contract renewal and perhaps a later expansion should redevelopment occur in this area down the line."

For more information or to get involved, email contact@historicenglewood.com.

- Article from Englewood Herald, March 21, 2024, online edition

DO YOU REMEMBER SOAP BOX DERBY RACES

by Doug Cohn



Do you remember the Soap Box Derby Races? Did you race a car? Did any family members? The Sertoma Club was the creator and sponsor of the race from the beginning. The Soap Box Derby is a youth racing program which has been run nationally since 1934. World Championship finals are held each July at Derby Downs in Akron, Ohio. The International Soap Box Derby® is a non-profit youth education and leadership development organization whose mission is to build knowledge and character, and to create meaningful experiences through collaboration, fair and honest racing competitions, STEM curriculum, and other community-focused activities. The soap box derby races were important in earlier times. Many local races were cancelled in the early to mid-1970s, though the national race continues. More info: <https://www.soapboxderby.org/>



Photo from [soapboxderby.org](https://www.soapboxderby.org/)

ENGLEWOOD'S AMAZING STORY

Have you heard about the machine that could extract fresh water from the ocean? What about those electric message signs you see in construction zones? Who came up with the idea of a truck mounted snowplow?

Do you know anyone who uses home oxygen? Where did the first all-electric airplane come from?

All of these things were invented in Englewood, Colorado!

WANT TO KNOW MORE, THEN, THIS BOOK IS FOR YOU!

BOOK ORDER FORM

Book Cost: **\$18.25** (*includes tax*). Please add **\$3.19** if shipping is needed. Make checks payable to: Doug Cohn.

Send checks or money order to: Englewood Historic Preservation Society, P.O. Box 11234 Englewood, CO 80151

Do not mail cash. For credit card payments call: 303-587-2407 or email: enghisguy@gmail.com.

Name _____ Date _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

☐ Cash ☐ Check # _____ Amount \$ _____ ☐ Credit Card

All the profits from the books sales will be donated to Historic Englewood!

EDITORS NOTE: *For those who bought a copy of Englewood's Amazing Story, there are two corrections. In the General Iron Works Chapter, the comment about creating Cheerios was not correct. Cheerios was created about 10 years before General Iron Works made a more efficient and larger cannon to make them, but they were not the first as previously sated. Also, General Iron Works did not make the first potato chip machine, but instead made the commercial sized cooker and the machine that made the bugle chips to compete with potato chips in the 1960s.*