



BLACK HAWK

BLACK HAWK HISTORY - A SNAPSHOT IN TIME

The mining camp, which would eventually become the City of Black Hawk, was established in May of 1859 as part of the Gregory Diggings. The Gregory Diggings was the location of the first lode gold discovery in the Territory of Kansas, which on February 28, 1861, became part of the Territory of Colorado. In June of 1860, William L. Lee, Dr. Frederick H. Judd, and Mylo Lee founded the town of Black Hawk Point. In the Third Session of the Colorado Territorial Legislature, on March 11, 1864, Black Hawk Point was incorporated as the City of Black Hawk, establishing Black Hawk as the second incorporated city in the Territory of Colorado, with Denver being the first. The City of Black Hawk is defined by its industrial history. Enshrined in the community's history are the many historic buildings, structures, and cultural spaces that highlight Black Hawk's continued commitment to recognizing and remembering its past while forging its future.

In 1991, a "second gold rush" occurred after the city implemented limited stakes gaming which allowed the subsequent revenue to be utilized for the preservation of historic resources and cultural spaces that are essential to the community's identity, as well as supporting historic preservation efforts across the state through funding directed from the limited stakes gaming revenue into the State Historical Fund administered by History Colorado.



Today, continued historic preservation and appreciation efforts are underway including the development of the HARD (History Appreciation Recreation Destination) District, a public use

space for residents and visitors to recognize Black Hawk's industrial origins in the hard rock mining of natural resources that allowed the city to become a prominent gold mining and milling center in the region.

Locally, several businesses operate out of older and historic spaces – consider exploring them during Historic Preservation Month and year-round! These include the newly established JKQ BBQ operating from Crooks Palace, new businesses in the Gregory Street Plaza, Gregory Point on Gregory Street, Gilpin Casino in the old Gilpin Hotel, Bull Durham Casino, Sasquatch Casino, and many, many more! Don't miss the Hidden Treasure Trailhead and corresponding bridge linking to many historical sites including the historic narrow gauge Gilpin Tramway. Challenge yourself to spend the day shopping, dining, and recreating in Black Hawk's unique historic spaces!

The Black Hawk Historic Preservation Commission is excited to celebrate Historic Preservation Month and the community's treasured historic resources that established Black Hawk's early history and continue to define the community's culture through Black Hawk's notable historic buildings, structures, and cultural spaces!

