Denver Partners Network Summary
Contributed by Kirk Huffaker

Members and friends of the National Preservation Partners Network gathered in Denver on October 10, 2019, for a full day of propelling the organization, partnerships, and the national preservation movement forward. The packed agenda included common agenda items such as a brief business meeting led by chair Bonnie McDonald (Landmarks Illinois), two breakout sessions: one by organizational size and one by geography (Big Cities, Locals, Statewides), NPPN board committee meetings, and an unstructured networking lunch.

The first of two major items on the agenda included a presentation and discussion on the recent National Trust for Historic Preservation’s reorganization and the role of partnerships. This was led by Paul Edmondson, President, and Katherine Malone-France, Chief Preservation Officer, of the NTHP. We also appreciated the participation of NTHP Board Chair, Tim Whalen. Many found the opportunity to hear from and interact with the leadership of the NTHP beneficial in gaining an understanding of their organizational challenges and how they viewed opportunities for us to work together moving forward.

The second was a discussion facilitated by Greg Galer (Boston Preservation Alliance) titled “Setting a National Preservation Agenda: Defining Roles and Collaborative Opportunities.” Utilizing the housing crisis as a case study, the membership helped define how we move the NPPN goals/work plan forward while supporting a national preservation agenda with the NTHP and other national partners. A comprehensive report from this discussion will be made available to members in early 2020.

Please join us at the 2020 Spring Meeting in Asheville, NC, to engage with other NPPN members and national preservation leaders with another robust agenda.