



# TOWN OF ELIZABETH

---

**TOWN OF ELIZABETH  
HISTORIC ADVISORY BOARD  
Monday, May 05, 2025 at 4:30 PM  
Town Hall, 151 S. Banner Street**

## **CALL TO ORDER**

## **ROLL CALL**

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

This is a meeting of the Historic Advisory Board held in public. We welcome you here and thank you for your time and concerns. When you are recognized, please stand and state your name and address to the Board. Your comments will be limited to 3 minutes. The Historic Advisory Board may not respond to your comments during this meeting. Rather, they may take your comments and suggestions under advisement and your questions will be directed to the appropriate person or department for follow-up. Personal attacks against Board Members, Administrative Staff, or Employees will not be recognized. If a response from Staff is requested, the Chair will direct Staff to have a response at the next regularly scheduled Board meeting.

## **AGENDA CHANGES**

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

1. Minutes from the Regular Meeting of February 3, 2025

## **NEW BUSINESS**

2. Discussion and Possible Action on Prize Selection for Historic Building Coloring Contest
3. Discussion and Possible Action on Stampede Booth & Promotional Items

## **STAFF REPORT**

4. Staff Report

## **BOARD REPORTS**

5. Board Reports

## **ADJOURNMENT**



## HISTORIC ADVISORY BOARD – RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

February 3, 2025

### CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the Historic Advisory Board was called to order on Monday, February 3, 2025, at 4:34 PM by Chair Dennis Rodriguez.

### ROLL CALL

Present were Chair Dennis Rodriguez, Vice Chair Jacque Hallet, Historian Bob Rasmussen, and Board Members John Quest, Lynn Mitchell, and Gayle Gardner. There was a quorum to conduct business.

Also present were Planner/Project Manager Alexandra Cramer, Planning Technician Dianna Hiatt, and Deputy Town Clerk Harmony Malakowski.

### PUBLIC COMMENT

Jeff Lehman – Town resident.

### AGENDA CHANGES

No agenda changes from Staff.

No agenda changes by the Board.

Agenda set.

### CONSENT AGENDA

1. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 6, 2025

Motion by Mr. Quest, seconded by Historian Rasmussen, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

The vote of those Board Members present was unanimously in favor. Motion carried.

### NEW BUSINESS

2. Discussion on May Color Contest

Ms. Cramer provided a Staff report.

Discussion followed and the Board provided direction to Staff.

3. Discussion on “Get to Know HAB” Campaign



# TOWN OF ELIZABETH

HISTORIC ADVISORY BOARD

Ms. Cramer provided a Staff report. She asked that the Board members return the questionnaire to Staff by February 21<sup>st</sup>.

#### 4. Discussion on Saving Places Conference

Both Board members and Staff provided insights and takeaways from the Saving Places Conference.

#### **STAFF REPORT**

- Planner/Project Manager Cramer:
  - Intern Malakowski wrapped up some audio clips that will be placed on the website soon.
  - The Park, Recreation, Open Space, and Trails Master Plan survey has been launched and is being distributed.
  - Discussion regarding the Town website and updates that are coming.
  - Joint workshop with the Board of Trustees will be scheduled soon.

#### **BOARD REPORTS**

No further reports from the Board.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Ms. Mitchell, seconded by Vice Chair Hallett, to adjourn the meeting at 5:46 PM. The vote of those Board Members present was unanimously in favor. Motion carried.

---

Chair Dennis Rodriguez

---

Town Clerk Michelle Oeser



# TOWN OF ELIZABETH

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

**To:** Historic Advisory Board  
**From:** Alex Cramer, Planner/Project Manager  
**Date:** May 5, 2025  
**Subject:** Discussion and Possible Action on Prize Selection for Historic Building Coloring Contest

## Summary

The Historic Advisory Board's first annual coloring contest for elementary school students (K-5) is currently underway, with submissions being accepted through May 23. To finalize contest preparations, the Board needs to determine prize structure, including number of winners across age categories and appropriate prize selections. Staff seeks Board direction on prize selection criteria and budget allocation.

## Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends the Board:

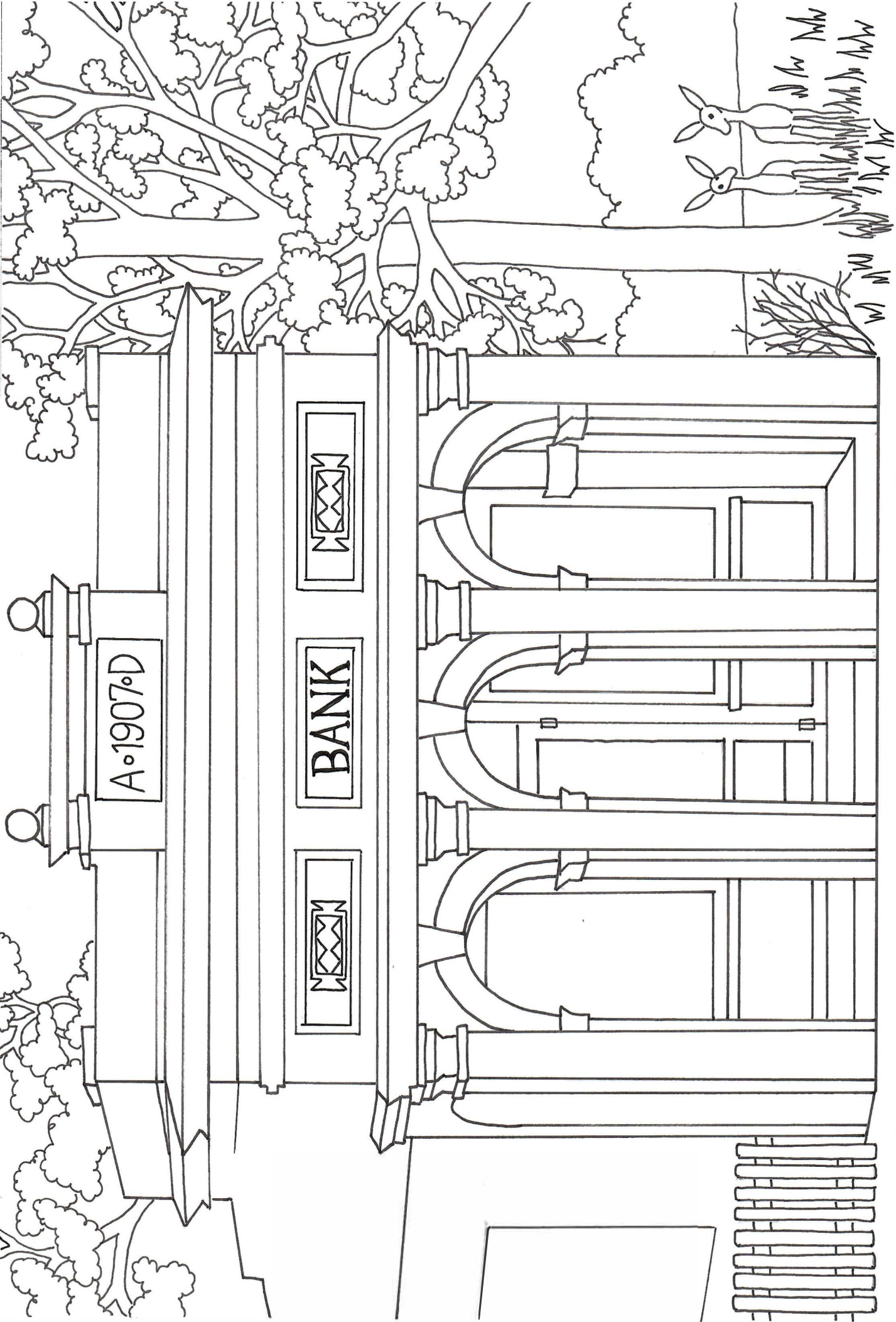
1. Determine the number of winners by grade level (e.g., one winner per grade, or winners for K-2 and 3-5 categories)
2. Select prize types appropriate for elementary students (e.g. gift certificates)
3. Establish a budget allocation from the available Community Outreach and Education funds

## Budget Considerations

The 2025 Workplan and Budget (attached) allocates \$5,000 for Outreach and Education initiatives. No funds have been specifically earmarked for this contest yet. Staff estimates prizes would cost between \$15-50 per winner, depending on prize selection and number of winners chosen.

## Attachments

2025 Coloring Contest Sheet  
2025 Workplan & Budget



# The Great Historic Bank Building Coloring Adventure

*A special Preservation Month celebration by the Elizabeth Historic Advisory Board*

---

## THE SECRET HISTORY OF OUR MYSTERY BANK!

Psst! Did you know? The beautiful building at 188 S Main Street has a *super cool secret* past! In 1907 (that's over 115 years ago!), this wasn't just any building - it was where the town kept ALL its money! The First National Bank of Elizabeth had fancy columns, beautiful arches, and even a REAL BANK VAULT that's still inside today!

Some people wonder if the bank was ever robbed by bandits... but we know something even more exciting happened! In 1919, a bank worker named Henry Winters got caught taking money and went to jail! GASP!

This amazing piece of Elizabeth history is so special that in 2023, it was added to the National Register of Historic Places - that's like getting a gold star from the whole country!

## YOUR MISSION (should you choose to accept it):

1. Take this paper and create your most **COLORFUL**, **AMAZING** artwork of our historic bank
2. Become a history detective! Visit Main Street with your family to see the REAL building
3. Return your masterpiece by **FRIDAY, MAY 23rd** to:
  - o Elizabeth Library (651 Beverly St):
    - Monday-Thursday: 9:00am-8:00pm
    - Friday: 9:00am-5:00pm
    - Saturday: 10:00am-5:00pm
  - o Inside Town Hall (Monday-Friday, 8am-5pm)

## WHAT HAPPENS TO YOUR MASTERPIECE?

- ALL artworks will be displayed at the Elizabeth Library
- Community voting runs from May 27th through June 6th during regular library hours
- Detailed voting instructions will be available at the library
- WINNERS will be announced at the first Friday Night Market on June 13th
- Multiple winners from each age group will get special prizes!
- Your amazing artwork might appear in the newspaper, website, and social media!

Parents: Be sure to follow the Town of Elizabeth Facebook page for updates and reminders about voting and contest results.

---

## ARTIST INFORMATION

Young Artist Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

YES! I give permission for my child's artwork and name to be published in the local newspaper, town website, and social media if selected as a winner.

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

*Thank you for celebrating our Town's history!  
Special thanks to local artist Wendy Finch for the amazing drawing.*

Town of Elizabeth Historic Advisory Board Workplan & Budget								
Priority	Goal	Projects	Timing	Status	Lead, Support	Success Measures	Budget (\$16,000)	Expenditures
Required CLG Activities	Maintain CLG compliance and fulfill all program requirements	Election of Chair & Vice Chair	Jan-25	Completed	Staff	Completed by January deadline		
		Establish designated meeting posting place	Jan-25	Completed	Staff	Designated and documented annually		
		CLG Annual Report	Oct-25		Staff	Submitted on time with all requirements met		
		CLG Annual Review	Every 5 years		Staff	All documentation complete and approved		
Board Development & Operations	Maintain effective board function through continued education and structured operations	Saving Places Conference	Jan-25	Completed	Staff, HAB	Half of HAB attending/reporting back	\$3,000.00	\$709.85
		CLG Training	As needed		Staff, HAB	1 training completed		
		Create comprehensive onboarding packet	Feb-25		Staff, HAB	Created and implemented, feedback from new members		
		Implement project assignment check-ins	Feb-25		Staff, HAB	Monthly completion rate, project progress tracking		
Community Outreach & Education	Develop youth interest in local history through educational partnerships and interactive programs	Coloring contest	May-25	Sheets distributed, voting in June	Dennis, Lynn	25 participants	\$5,000.00	\$0.00
		Junior Oral History Program	Ongoing	Reach out to County 4H program		3 student participants/interviews completed		
	Maintain active online engagement and resource sharing through website and social media	Maintain/update website	Ongoing		Staff	Updated monthly		
		Launch "Get to Know HAB" campaign	Feb-25	Website updated, social media in process	Staff, HAB	5 posts, 50 engagements		
	Create accessible resources to inform the public about local historical assets	Launch "Preservation Myths" campaign	Oct-25		Dennis, Staff	5 posts, 50 engagements		
		Create a local historic landmark brochure	July-25		Staff	Created and 100 distributions		
		Develop a resource library	Ongoing		Bob, Staff	Catalogue and organize 10 resources by end of year		
		Establish partnership Elbert County Museum	Ongoing		Bob, Staff	Establish working relationship with museum resulting in access to 10+ historical photographs with clear usage agreements		
Preservation Initiatives	Establish supportive relationships and resources to encourage historic property preservation	Create a welcome packet for new owners	April-25	Discuss at 5/5 mtg	Staff, John, Dennis, Jacque	Distributed to property owners, receive feedback	\$8,000.00	\$552.30
		Continue oral history collection program	Ongoing	7 COMPLETED this year!	Bob, Lynn	5 interviews completed		
	Document and preserve Elizabeth's history through community stories and memories	Develop oral history program packet	May-25	Discuss at 5/5 mtg	Staff, Bob, Lynn	Creation and implementation		
		Continue deed research	Ongoing		Bob, Lynn, Jacque	5 properties completed		
	Research and document Elizabeth's historic properties to build foundation for preservation initiatives	Create standardized research template	Jan-25		Staff, Bob	Creation and implementation		
		Create designation benefits handout	Mar-25		John, Staff	Created and distributed to all eligible property owners		
		Develop tax credit/financial incentives guide	Mar-25		Staff	Created and distributed to all local registered property owners		
		Create FAQ sheet addressing common concerns	May-25		John, Dennis, Staff	Created and posted on website		
<b>Total:</b>							\$16,000.00	\$1,262.15
Events	Engage the community in Elizabeth's history through interactive events and meaningful recognition programs	Historic Walk & Talk	Sept-25		Staff	150 attendees	\$5,000.00	
		Misc. Commemoration	As needed					



# TOWN OF ELIZABETH

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

**To:** Historic Advisory Board  
**From:** Alex Cramer, Planner/Project Manager  
**Date:** May 5, 2025  
**Subject:** Discussion and Possible Action on Stampede Booth & Promotional Items

## Summary

The Main Street Board of Directors have reserved a booth at the Stampede this year. The MSBOD have opened the option for the HAB to use the booth as well. Attached is a signup sheet if anyone on HAB is interested.

If there is interest among the group, then staff recommend discussing promotional materials for the booth. This can be in the form of the brochures that were adapted from the 2024 Walk and Talk. There is also an opportunity to have information boards about the oral history program. Staff would like the HAB to discuss what other ideas they have, keeping in mind the Stampede booth is reserved for June 6-8, 2025.

## Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends the HAB consider signing up for timeslots on the signup sheet for the Stampede weekend and decide on which promotional materials would be most effective for this event.

## Budget Considerations

There is approximately \$5,000 in the Community Outreach and Education budget and \$7,500 in the Preservation Initiatives budget that can fund promotional materials depending on the type.

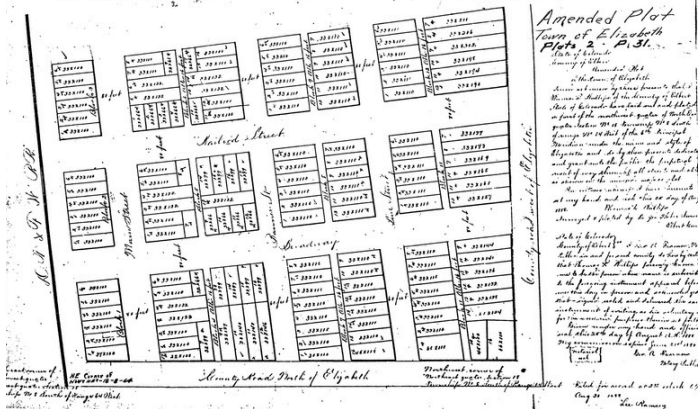
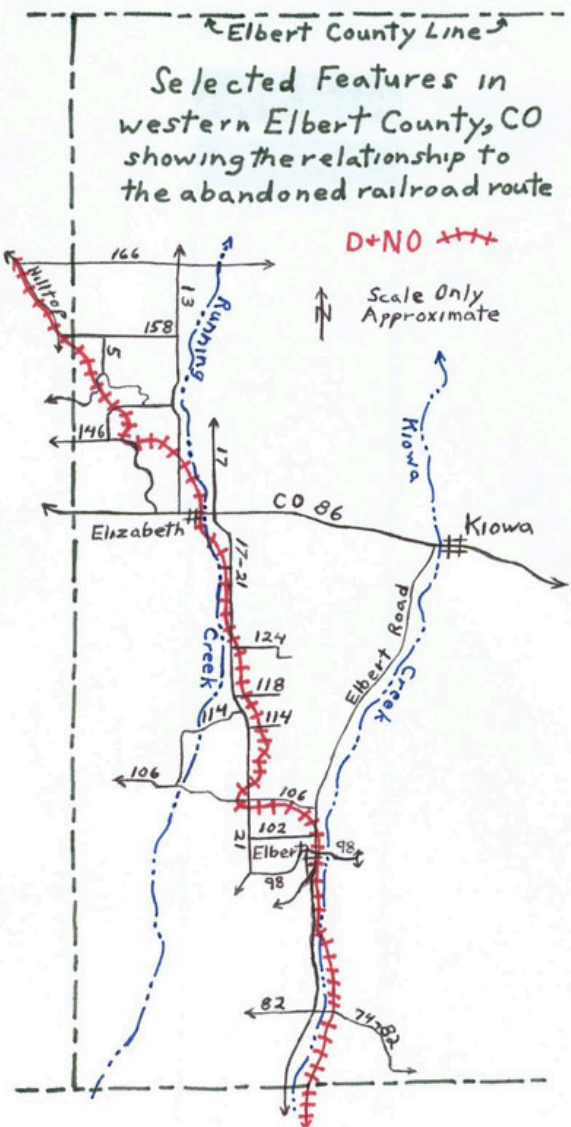
## Attachments

1. Stampede Booth Sign-Up Sheet
2. A Guide to Elizabeth's Roots Brochure

## Elizabeth Stampede Booth Sign-Up Sheet

Friday 6/6	Name(s)	Saturday 6/7	Name(s)	Sunday 6/8	Name(s)
4:00pm-7:00pm	Brandon	10:30am-1:00pm		10:30am-1:30pm	Carrie
	Linda				
7:00pm-10:00pm	Carrie	1:00pm-4:00pm	Carrie	1:30pm-5:00pm	
			Jeff Lehman		
		4:00pm-7:00pm	Brandon		
		7:00pm-10:00pm			

# TRACKS THROUGH TIME: ELIZABETH'S RAILROAD LEGACY



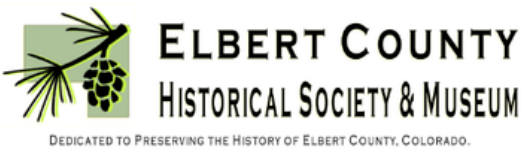
Discover More of Elizabeth's History



Scan the QR code or visit [www.historicelizabethco.org](http://www.historicelizabethco.org) to learn more about Elizabeth's history and ongoing preservation projects.

This map shows the route of the Denver & New Orleans Railroad through Elizabeth and the surrounding area, illustrating the town's strategic position along this important railway line. (Map from Jim Jones, 'Colorado & Southern Railway's D&NO Route')

A Special Thank You To:





Commercial Hotel, Former Site to the West of 377 E Kiowa Avenue

Built by the railroad company, the Commercial Hotel was a vital part of Elizabeth's early development. It housed Jack McKimmie's barber shop and provided boarding facilities, serving as a center of activity for travelers and residents alike. The hotel stood as a symbol of the town's railroad-driven growth until it was tragically lost to fire in February 1970.



Odd Fellows Hall, 122 S Main Street

The Odd Fellows Hall, built in the early 1900s, housed the International Order of Odd Fellows and its women's auxiliary, the Rebekahs. This fraternal organization often attracted railroad workers, serving as a community hub. Over the years, the building has been home to various businesses, including a saloon, bakery, grocery, and tack shop. It even served as the town hall for a period, reflecting its importance to Elizabeth's social and civic life during the railroad era and beyond.



Railroad Section House, 338 S Main Street

The Section House stands as one of the best-preserved examples of railroad housing in Elizabeth. Originally facing the tracks, this building housed the workers responsible for maintaining a section of the railroad. Its distinctive color scheme - dark red with olive-green trim - reflects the palette of the Colorado & Southern Railroad, though it originally sported the buff and brown colors of the Denver & New Orleans line. The Section House not only represents the critical role of railroad maintenance in Elizabeth's history but also offers a glimpse into the daily lives of the workers who kept the trains running smoothly through our town.



Former Farmer's State Bank, 377 E Kiowa Avenue

Established in 1902 as Farmer's State Bank, this building represents Elizabeth's railroad-era growth. It later merged with First National Bank, adapting to changing times. Over the years, it has housed various businesses, including a church, real estate office, and electronics store, showcasing the town's evolving economy. Today, it stands as a reminder of Elizabeth's financial history and architectural heritage.



The Little Blue Building, 144 S Main Street

This distinctive blue building at 144 S Main Street, moved from Elbert around 1901, reflects the economic opportunities that drew businesses to Elizabeth during the railroad era. It has housed various enterprises, including a dentist's office, Nature's Way store, and a confectionery. Today, it stands as a quaint reminder of Elizabeth's evolving commercial landscape in the early 1900s.



Aerial View of Elizabeth, circa 1900s

View looking west along the tracks, showing the Depot (center) and Section House (left). The railroad tracks once ran where Running Creek Park Trail is today.



Russell Gates Mercantile, 349 E Kiowa Ave

The Russell Gates Mercantile, established in the 1890s, was the commercial heart of Elizabeth during the railroad boom. As the town's largest employer until 1922, Russell Gates owned seven different stores in the area, selling general merchandise and building materials. A railroad spur to the large barn across the alley facilitated easy transport of goods. In 1901, it housed the first telephone lines in Kiowa, later connecting Elizabeth to Elbert and Eastonville stores. After 1943, the Hundley family repurposed the space for various businesses, including a meat locker plant and apartments.



Elizabeth Railroad Depot, Former Site Near Running Creek Park

The Elizabeth Railroad Depot, established in 1882 with the arrival of the Denver & New Orleans Railroad, was the heart of the town's transportation hub. Located near 490 E Elm Street, it served as Elizabeth's vital link to the wider world. The depot handled daily mail services between Elizabeth and Kiowa, and was a crucial shipping point for local farmers' products, especially milk and cream destined for Denver markets. Though the original structure is no longer standing, the depot's legacy lives on in Elizabeth's layout and the economic growth it spurred, playing a key role in shaping the town we know today.

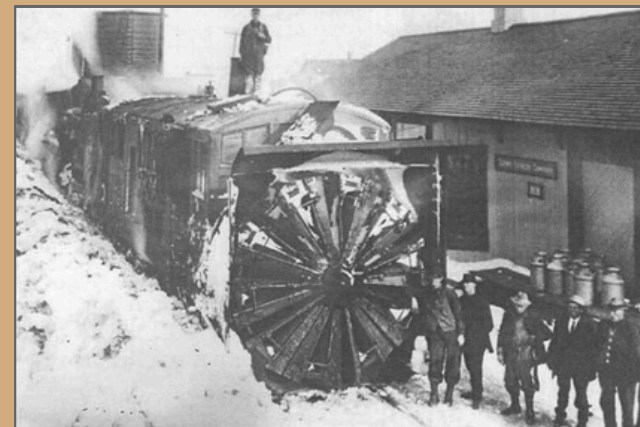


Photo credit: Jim Jones, 'Colorado & Southern Railway's D&NO Route

This image shows C&S rotary snowplow No. 99201, which was used on the mainline between Cheyenne, Wyoming, Denver, and Colorado. The snowplow and its crew are seen here during a brief stop to take on water. (Information from Jim Jones, 'Colorado & Southern Railway's D&NO Route')



**TO:** Historic Advisory Board  
**FROM:** Alexandra Cramer, Planner/Project Manager  
**DATE:** May 5, 2025  
**SUBJECT:** Staff Report

---

### **STAFF REPORT**

#### **1. Training:**

- a. Additional Trainings for HAB?

#### **2. Oral History Collection**

- a. The HAB's oral history collection is underway. Contact Bob if you have individuals interested in being interviewed.
- b. Staff and Town interns are working on categorizing and editing the Lucy Hoffhines' oral history interviews.
- c. Bob and Lynn have completed another oral history interview with Norm and Kay Ullom.
- d. Evelyn Malakowski, Main Street Intern, has wrapped up condensing three audio clips from one of Lucy Hoffhines' tapes. These we'll be up on the website and social media in the coming weeks.
- e. Bob and Lynn have already completed seven (7) oral histories this year! These are being posted every Thursday.

#### **3. Historic Advisory Board Website**

- a. The website is actively being promoted on social media.
- b. The "Get to Know" information has been added to the website.

#### **4. Local Historical Register**

- a. An additional 10 title searches have been purchased with Elbert County Abstract. This makes a total of 24 properties the HAB has title searches for.

#### **5. Local Historical Register Plaques**

- a. Six out of the eight plaques have been installed.

#### **6. PROST Master Plan**

- a. The Town has partnered with Elizabeth Park and Recreation District and Elizabeth School District on a Park, Recreation, Open Space, and Trails Master Plan.
- b. A community survey has been launched. Please check the master plan website or town website to take it by February 28<sup>th</sup>.
- c. The PROST team held a community workshop on April 16<sup>th</sup>.
- d. The Master Plan process is in its final stage and should be wrapped up by the end of May.

#### **7. The Historic Building Coloring Contest**



- a. Coloring sheets were distributed to the K-5 programs at Running Creek, Singing Hills Elementary and Legacy Academy.
- b. Submissions are due by May 23<sup>rd</sup> at Town Hall or Elizabeth Library. All submissions will be displayed at Elizabeth Library.
- c. Community voting will take place from May 27<sup>th</sup>-June 6<sup>th</sup>, with winners announced on June 13<sup>th</sup>.

**8. HAB & BOT Joint Workshops**

- a. TBD—sometime this summer. Any preferences?