



HISTORY *Colorado*

Background

Overview

- **1991 – 2002:** Colorado Historical Society begins exploring major facility expansion and upgrades to its existing building in accordance with the Venturi Scott and Brown Civic Center Cultural Complex Plan
- **2000:** CHS conducts competitive search for an architect; Tryba Architects selected. Tryba and Society assess current and future organizational, programmatic and museum needs in “Vision 2000”
- **2002:** Museum facility expansion begins but halted due to rescinded capital construction funds.
- **2005:**
 - Urban Land Institute (ULI) study concludes that Judicial/Heritage Complex, which houses the Colorado History Museum and the Colorado Judicial Branch, is inadequate for both organizations
 - The ULI study found the complex to be undersized and poorly designed, with life-safety code and ADA issues, and in need of millions of dollars in deferred maintenance
 - Study finds two organizations missions incompatible to live on the same block–Judicial requiring “a place of dignity and slightly removed,” with security around its perimeter, and Colorado History Museum an “educational place that is fun and accessible”
 - ULI recommends relocating museum to another area within the Civic Center/Golden Triangle Museum District in proximity to other cultural institutions but within the governmental and cultural center of the city
- **2006 – 2007:**
 - Trammell Crow retained as the project manager for Colorado History Museum and Judicial Departments building projects
 - Colorado General Assembly approves a feasibility study to explore the construction of two new buildings
 - Eight potential sites, including three historic buildings, evaluated. Three considered most viable
 - Historical Society and City of Denver begin public discussion regarding potential Civic Center Park site
- **2008:**
 - Colorado Historical Society identifies 12th and Broadway in Denver as its location
 - Colorado General Assembly passed Senate Bill 08-206 authorizing certificates of participation for capital construction costs to finance construction of Ralph L. Carr Justice Complex and History Colorado Center
- **2009**
 - House Bill 09-1346 initiated by the State Treasurer that brings Colorado Statutes into compliance with ARRA regulations and, amid broad flexibility, allows for the 35% federal subsidy to be netted against established maximum annual lease payments
 - June 2009: Land purchased by the State for \$6.5 million
 - July 15, 2009: State of Colorado financed of over \$338 million in Certificates of Participation to build the new History Colorado Center and the Ralph L. Carr Justice Complex completed one of the largest sales of Build America Bonds to date
 - Colorado Historical Society approves design of History Colorado Center by Tryba Architects
 - The Colorado Historical Society changes its name to History Colorado
 - August 19, 2009: History Colorado breaks ground

- **2010**
 - March 2010: History Colorado moves from the Colorado History Museum at 13th and Broadway into temporary administrative space at 1560 Broadway
 - May 2010: The Colorado History Museum building is demolished
 - October 2010: Construction on the History Colorado Center tops out

- **2011**
 - September 2011: Construction on the History Colorado Center is completed
 - History Colorado is issued ownership and staff move into administrative space September 26.
 - Interior buildout of History Colorado public space commences (exhibits, restaurant, store) until public opening in Spring 2012.
 - October 2011: A dedication stone to the administrations of Governor John W. Hickenlooper and Governor Bill Ritter is unveiled.