

# Legislative Support for Historic Preservation in 2013

Local, state and national preservation organizations respectfully request support for the following historic preservation activities in South Dakota.

## These Places Matter



**Human Services Center, Yankton:** The HSC campus is South Dakota's oldest public institution, and its historic and architectural importance have been recognized by its listing on the National Register of Historic Places. We applaud the State's decision to lease the Mead Building to the Yankton County Historical Society for rehabilitation and reuse as the Dakota Territorial Museum. **We support the proposed rehabilitation and weatherization projects at the HSC campus while urging the State to find alternatives to demolition; and we encourage the State to pursue additional lease options at the campus.**



**Battle Mountain Sanitarium, Hot Springs:** This VA Medical Center was named a National Treasure by the National Trust for Historic Preservation and is one of only 16 National Historic Landmarks in South Dakota. It is threatened with abandonment by the Department of Veterans Affairs. Such a move would significantly impact the historic buildings, the economy of Hot Springs, and access to care for veterans in the Black Hills and surrounding areas. **We request that the State support the rehabilitation of the landmark as a modern hospital and support our Congressional delegation's discussions with the VA to prevent the abandonment of the facility.**

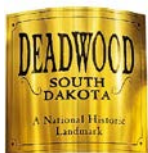


**Blood Run National Historic Landmark, Lincoln County:** Blood Run is one of the most significant archaeology sites in the U.S. and is one of the largest habitation sites attributed to early American Indians recorded to date. The site is threatened by the continuing growth and expansion of Sioux Falls. **We support Game, Fish, & Parks' plans to develop the Blood Run site into a state park and protect the site's irreplaceable archaeological resources. Furthermore, we support the Governor's proposal to commit funding towards the development of the state park.**

## Benefits of Saving Places that Matter

The forthcoming report, "**Economic Impacts of Historic Preservation in South Dakota**," commissioned by the South Dakota State Historic Preservation Office, shows that:

- Historic rehabilitation spending in South Dakota averaged **\$22.6 million per year** from 2007 to 2011; and
- Heritage tourists visiting South Dakota tend to **stay longer and spend more money** than other types of tourists.



National Trust for  
Historic Preservation  
*Save the past. Enrich the future.*