



Susan Crook <scrookla@gmail.com>

Utah Heritage Award Nomination

1 message

David Amott <david@preservationutah.org>
To: scrookla@gmail.com

Thu, Jun 16, 2022 at 8:12 PM

Dear Ms. Whalen and Ms. Crook,

Congratulations!

I am happy to let you know that Ms. Whalen was selected as a representative of the Zion Canyon Corridor Preservation effort to receive a Preservation Utah 2022 Heritage Award. By presenting you with this award, Preservation Utah's board of trustees, staff, and constituency thanks you for your contribution to Utah's architectural and historic legacies.

We are looking forward to bringing the story of your efforts to life during the evening of Saturday, October 22nd. This year, we will be celebrating recipients in an entirely new way, which includes the opportunity for you and your community to take an active role in the evening. I will provide more details in the coming weeks on exactly what that role will be. In the meantime, however, please know how much we enjoyed reviewing your application for, and documentation on all of your tremendous efforts.

Sincerely,

--

David Amott, Ph.D.



(801) 533-0858 ext. 103

www.preservationutah.org

Memorial House in Memory Grove Park

375 N. Canyon Rd.

Salt Lake City, Utah 84103

To keep history alive, not only for preservation, but to inspire and provoke a more creative present and sustainable future.

Preservation Utah 2022 Heritage Award – Jane Whalen

- Project Name: Zion Canyon Corridor Preservation
- Street Address of Project: SR-9 LaVerkin to Zion National Park
- City & Postal Code of Project: LaVerkin to Springdale
- Project completion (or estimated) date: ongoing
- Award Recipient: Jane Whalen
- Award Recipient Contact Details: Jane Whalen, cell 435-619-2144, mailing address: PO Box 182, Hurricane, UT 84737
- Award Category: Individual / Organization
- Nominator Name: Susan Crook
- Nominator Affiliation to the project: Associate of Jane's
- Nominator Company/Organization: WASHINGTON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
- Nominator Email: scrookla@gmail.com
- Nominator Phone: 435-773-7920

Jane Whalen is a tireless advocate for the preservation of historic resources in communities along the Zion Canyon Scenic Byway from LaVerkin to Springdale. She has been involved in historic preservation activities and advocacy in southwest Utah since at least 1997 when the Grafton Heritage Partnership was formed to protect and preserve the historic ghost town and its cemetery. She currently serves as its president and can often be found in the National Register-listed Grafton Historic District collecting donations from the secure on-site collection box, monitoring visitor use - and misuse, repairing vandalism, or doing routine maintenance. She is constantly searching for ways to get a new generation of historic preservation advocates to join its aging board of trustees. The annual Butch Cassidy 10k/5k Grafton Fundraiser finds her on site chatting with participants.

Jane was on the forefront of efforts to save the historic Rockville Bridge from demolition and replacement by UDOT. It is the last surviving Parker through truss bridge in the state. The bridge is architecturally and technologically significant for its distinctive construction methods. It was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1995. Jane was a leader in the fundraising campaign that culminated in its rehabilitation and reuse as a pedestrian bridge adjacent to the new vehicle bridge across the Virgin River. On May 3, 2019, the Town of Rockville celebrated the completion of the rehabilitation project with the help of State and local officials, residents, supporters and vintage Model T's from the same era as the bridge.

Jane tracks proposed development and land use projects in unincorporated Washington County that would affect the scenic beauty and historic character of the Scenic Byway, submits comments on them to the county commission, and encourages others to do so as well. She also monitors proposed actions by government agencies such as BLM on public lands along the Zion Canyon Corridor and calls attention to any that may affect the visitor experience and the scenic and historic resources that attract them to Zion National Park and its gateway communities, submitting comments and urging others to follow her lead.

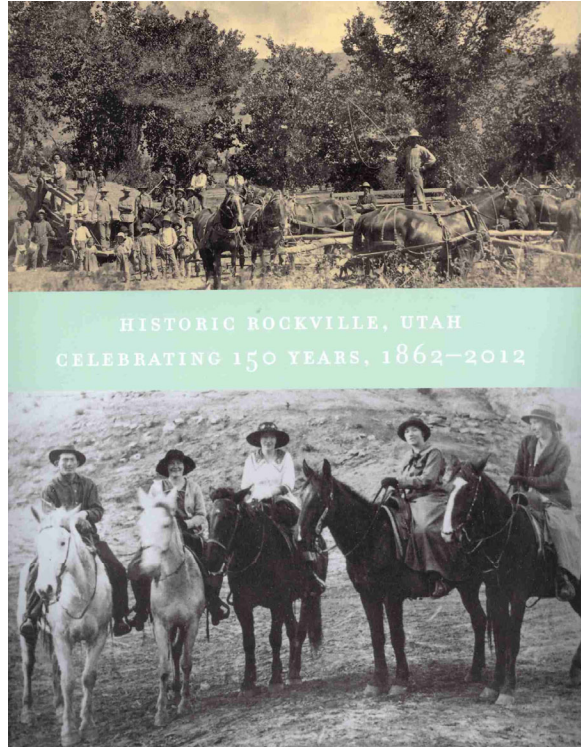
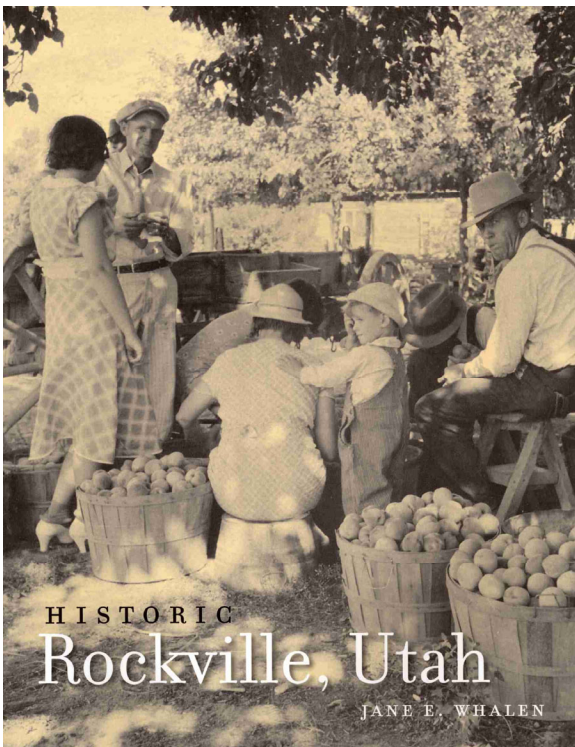
In her professional life, Jane is a Hurricane, Utah, realtor who owns and leases out an entire block of historic buildings in the city's downtown, helping to preserve its historic character. She takes advantage of opportunities to comment on general plan updates and other actions by the City of Hurricane that might affect its historic resources.

When Jane worked for legendary environmentalist Martin Litton, founder of Grand Canyon Dories, at his business in her earlier years, he urged her and others associated with him to go out and save the world. Jane has been doing it ever since.

Photo & Image Captions (left to right below)

1. Jane Whalen, Coldwell Banker Realtor photo
2. Grafton schoolhouse and Alonzo Russell home before restoration by the Grafton Heritage Partnership Project. Photo courtesy Utah State Historical Society
3. Alonzo Russell home November 2020. Photo by Susan Crook
4. Rockville Bridge, view through truss. HAER UTAH,27-ROC.VI.V,1--2, 1993
5. Rockville Bridge, elevation view. HAER UTAH,27-ROC.VI.V,1—1, 1993
6. Rockville Bridge pre-rehabilitation. Photo by Reuben Wadsworth, St. George News
7. Rockville Bridge after restoration. Photo by Reuben Wadsworth, St. George News
8. Front cover of book, Historic Rockville, Utah, by Jane Whalen
9. Back cover of book, Historic Rockville, Utah, by Jane Whalen







February 28, 2022

RE: Jane Whalen Nomination for Historic Preservation Award

To Whom it May Concern:

I am pleased to support the nomination of Jane Whalen for a historic preservation award in recognition of her long-standing commitment to the communities of Zion Canyon. Jane's tireless efforts have been instrumental in preserving some of the canyon's most important historic assets. Perhaps more importantly, her leadership and advocacy have helped promote a general appreciation and recognition of the importance of historic preservation in the community.

Jane has been instrumental in the preservation of the historic Grafton town site. For many years she has worked with landowners, local government, and historic preservation advocates to ensure this important piece of the Zion Canyon history is preserved. She continues to promote education and awareness of the importance of this asset.

Jane's work to preserve the historic Rockville Bridge over the Virgin River is an amazing feat. She helped in efforts to bring UDOT, the Town of Rockville, and Washington County to a consensus on the best way to both preserve the bridge and ensure safe vehicular access across the river. She then was a leader in the grassroots effort to raise funds to save the bridge.

Jane advocates for the protection of the entire Zion Canyon Corridor. Whether by supporting the Nature Conservancy in their efforts to acquire important riparian areas and open space along the Virgin River, or helping promote community awareness and education about the impacts of potential public land leases near Zion National Park, Jane has consistently worked to preserve the special places that make the Zion Canyon communities unique.

Jane is truly deserving of recognition for her efforts.

Sincerely,

Thomas Dansie
Director of Community Development