



February 2009

## FISHER MANSION

### Contents:

Update	1
A Bit of History	1
Re-Use Suggestions	2
Project Values	2
Next Steps	3
Final Note	3
Donate/Contribute	3
Special Thanks	4
The Partners Team	4

*“Salt Lake Solutions will engage all segments of our community. The process includes input from those affected by decisions, considers a wide range of ideas and options, and arrives at public solutions based on healthy dialogue and consensus.”*

*-Mayor Ralph Becker*

# Update on Fisher Mansion

For the past year under Salt Lake City Mayor Ralph Becker and Salt Lake Solutions, the renovation and preservation of Fisher Mansion for community use has been a big priority. Within that year, with the help of generous donations and grants, a great deal of progress has been made:

- There were two open houses in Spring of 2008 in which more than 2,500 visitors participated.
- Both the mansion and the carriage house were listed on the National Register of Historic Places in October of 2008.
- A temporary roof was installed on the Carriage House in Fall of 2008.
- The Jordan River Trail is planned to be extended from I-80 past the mansion.
- Sponsored by SPLORE and with the help of Copper Hills Youth, eight canoes took trash out of the Jordan River in August of 2008. See what was found at [www.slcgov.com/slsolutions](http://www.slcgov.com/slsolutions).

## A Bit of History

The Albert Fisher Mansion, located at 1206 West 200 South, was built in 1893 for Albert Fisher, president of the Fisher Brewing Company. Designed by Richard Kletting, the mansion was built at an estimated cost of \$13,000 on the banks of the Jordan River.



Occupied by members of the Fisher family until 1940, the home was then leased to the Catholic Church as a convent for Our Lady of Victory Missionary Sisters from 1944 to 1973. At that time, the Catholic Church turned the building into St. Mary's Home for Men, a shelter for homeless men with alcohol and other drug addictions. In order to complete a segment of the Jordan River Trail, Salt Lake City purchased the property from the Catholic Church in 2006.

Currently, Mayor Becker and the Salt Lake Solutions Partners Team are working to renovate the Fisher Mansion, the carriage house, and the grounds for community use. To learn about possible uses for the mansion that are being assessed, please read “Re-Use Suggestions” on page two.

# Re-Use Suggestions

- Office space
- Small gatherings
- Public space
- Educational opportunities
- Connection with Jordan River & trails
- Celebratory events
- Private retail
- Music venue
- Rent out for temporary uses
- Sustainable features
- Eating / drinking establishment
- Social services provider
- Living space
- Art gallery
- Museum
- Community use
- Nature center
- Stopover for Jordan River Trail users
- Mayor's Mansion



# Project Values

The Partners Team members developed criteria to help them choose between re-use options.

- Historic preservation
- Multiple SL Solutions community objectives
- Financially stable (short-term rehabilitation and long-term maintenance)
- “Green”-energy & water efficient
- Security & daily use balanced
- “Destination” for west side
- Diverse access possibilities (public transit)
- Public art projects
- Celebration of Jordan River (an asset)
- Sensitivity to immediate neighbors and context
- Public art projects
- Synergy with other projects (trails, Euclid neighborhood)
- Educational opportunities



## Next Steps

- Salt Lake Solutions has issued a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for an architect to conduct a Historic Structures Report. Responses are due before 4:30PM on 2/23/09. More information available at [www.slcpurchasing.com](http://www.slcpurchasing.com).
- The Historic Structures Report will provide graphic, documentary, and physical information about the property's history and existing condition. It will also provide a range of costs for various levels of restoration.
- When the Historic Structures Report is completed, the Partners Team will make recommendations for the community's re-use of the two Fisher Mansion buildings and grounds.



## Final Note

After much success over the past year, from an outstanding turn out for the open houses in Spring of 2008 to the placement of the historic buildings on the National Register of Historic Places, our goal is to continue engaging the community in the renovation of the Fisher Mansion property so that it can ultimately be used to serve the public. We look forward to continued community support throughout the restoration process.

## Donate or Contribute

For a cash donation, please write a check made out to "Salt Lake City Corporation," and send it to the following address:

**Salt Lake Solutions**  
 SLC Mayor's Office  
 PO Box 145474  
 Salt Lake City, UT 84114-5474

A financial contribution is not the only way you can help; we are currently seeking out any old photos of the mansion, or any stories from when the property was occupied. If you have anything to contribute to the history of this building, please contact us through our website ([www.slcgov.com/slsolutions](http://www.slcgov.com/slsolutions)) or via the mailing address provided above.





SLC Mayor's Office  
PO Box 145474  
451 South State Street #306  
Salt Lake City, UT 84114

MICHELE STRAUBE,  
MEDIATOR/FACILITATOR  
801-535-7971  
801-535-6331 (FAX)  
[SLSOLUTIONS@SLCGOV.COM](mailto:SLSOLUTIONS@SLCGOV.COM)

KAREN HALE,  
COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR  
801-535-7739  
[KAREN.HALE@SLCGOV.COM](mailto:KAREN.HALE@SLCGOV.COM)

FISHER  
MANSION

We're on the Web!

See us at:

[www.slcgov.com/slsolutions/](http://www.slcgov.com/slsolutions/)

## The Partners Team:

Mayor Ralph Becker, Co-Convener	
Councilman Van Turner, Co-Convener	
Alan Allred	Executive Vice President, Questar Gas
Genevieve Atwood	Albert Fisher Descendant
Roger Borgenicht	Director, ASSIST
Nancy Boskoff	Executive Director, SLC Arts Council
Ruby Chacon	SLC Artist
Dell Cook	Project Manager, SLC Engineering
Lyn Creswell	SLC Management Services
Maria Garciaz	Executive Director, Neighbor Works
Mike Harman	Chair, Poplar Grove Community Council
Tim Harpst	Division Director, SLC Transportation
David Hart	Utah Capitol Architect
Polly Hart	Community Trail User
Kirk Huffaker	Executive Director, Utah Heritage Foundation
Larry Madden	Science Curriculum, Salt Lake School District
Wilson Martin	State Historic Preservation Officer, Utah Division of State History
Joanne Milner	Education Partnership Coordinator, SLC Mayor's Office
Anne Oliver	SLC Historic Landmark Commission
Randy Park	Region II Director, Utah Department of Transportation
Bill Rutherford	SLC Urban Forester
Brenda Scheer	University-Neighborhood Partnership, Dean, University of Utah Architecture
John Spencer	SLC Property Management
Ray Wheeler	Executive Director, Earth Restoration Project
Robert Young	Associate Professor of Architecture, University of Utah
Robin Zeigler	Senior Historic Planner, SLC Planning

## Special Thanks:

Funding to complete the Historic Structures Report provided by:

- Grant from the National Trust for Historic Preservation -- \$4,000
- Grant from George S. and Dolores Doré Eccles Foundation -- \$6,000
- Anonymous donation -- \$10,000

In-kind contributions toward the Historic Structures Report:

- Preliminary Historic Structures Report written by University of Utah Professor Bob Young's architecture students (see it on-line at [www.slcgov.com/slsolutions/](http://www.slcgov.com/slsolutions/))
- Seismic structural assessment work being done *pro bono* by the Structural Engineers Association of Utah, Existing Buildings Committee