

# Abstract

## **Mapping the Past: Using GIS to Assist Historic Preservation**

**Track:** State and Local Government

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The gold mining town of Deadwood, South Dakota has a colorful history of gambling, prostitution, and rough living. In 1989, the town legalized limited-stakes gaming to fund infrastructure maintenance and finance the restoration of key historic landmarks. In 2000, Deadwood began the creation of a GIS, with an emphasis on using GIS to map and track historic resources held by the City archives, such as Sanborn fire insurance maps, photographs, building and engineering plans, historic surveys, and archeological artifacts from Deadwood's Chinatown. Mt. Moriah Cemetery, the final resting place of Wild Bill Hickok and a local tourist attraction, has been restored and a GIS is being developed as a public resource for historic research.

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