

1. Title / Content Area:	Dana Crawford
2. Historic Site:	Various: Union Station, Denver, 16th Street
3. Developed by:	Century Middle School, Adams 12 Five Star Schools
4. Grade Level:	6-8  6th: History 1.1, 1.2, Geography 2.2 7th: History 1.1, 1.2, Geography 2.2, Economics 3.1 8th: History 1.1, 1.2, Geography 2.2, Economics 3.2
5. Assessment Question:	How has Dana Crawford made an impact on the built environment in Colorado?
6. Contextual Paragraph	<p>Dana Crawford is a leader in placemaking in the United States. Many of the students we teach are unaware that without her vision and foresight, we would have the sites we are accustomed to using and seeing in downtown Denver available to public use. Her accomplishments are best described in her biography located below from her own website (<a href="http://www.danacrawford.net/bio.html#BIO">http://www.danacrawford.net/bio.html#BIO</a>)</p> <p>“Award-winning preservationist Dana Crawford initiated a concept of urban renewal that was one of the first of its kind in the United States. She pioneered the redevelopment of Denver’s historic Larimer Square in the mid-1960s, creating a festival shopping area from the neglected and abandoned buildings of Denver’s original main street. Today, Larimer Square serves as a prototype for the revitalization of forgotten main streets and architectural landmarks throughout the country.</p> <p>Since the 1960s, Mrs. Crawford has redeveloped more than 800,000 square feet of historic property in the city of Denver including the Oxford Hotel, the Acme Lofts, the Edbrooke Lofts and Cooper Flats Condominiums. Mrs. Crawford has been steadfast in her belief that core cities can be made livable again.”</p>
7. Connection to Historic Preservation	Mrs. Crawford is a renowned leader in the preservation movement in Denver and in Colorado as a whole. She has given much of her time to both local and national



concerns. She served nine years on the board of directors of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, six of those years on its executive committee. In 1995 the National Trust awarded her their highest honor, the distinguished Louise duPont Crowninshield Award. For fifteen years she worked with Preservation Action, serving as president for two years. She presently serves on the national board of Project for Public Spaces.

Mrs. Crawford worked tirelessly to preserve, protect, and rehabilitate Denver's Historic Union Station. Through her work, this neo-classic building provides a central transportation hub in the city of Denver, and also provides a gathering place for community members in the many establishments housed in the building today including a rail station which has been a feature since its inception.

## Document Based Question (DBQ)

### Document Set

Denver Union Station Interior Photo (1915),  
Denver, CO



<http://digital.denverlibrary.org/cdm/singleitem/collection/p15330coll22/id/10728/rec/2>

GUIDING QUESTIONS:

1. What do you see in the picture of the Union Station interior from 1915?
2. What was the function of this building? How can you tell?
3. What are some of the architectural elements that make this station special?

Denver Union Station Interior Photo 2016, Denver,  
CO

GUIDING QUESTIONS:

1. What are the special features in Union Station today?
2. What are some of the uses of the station today?



[https://savingplaces.org/stories/the-creative-and-beautiful-reuse-of-denver-union-station#.WT\\_p6evyvlU](https://savingplaces.org/stories/the-creative-and-beautiful-reuse-of-denver-union-station#.WT_p6evyvlU)

3. How do these uses compare to prior uses as a station alone?
4. What are some of the architectural elements that make this station special today? What features still exist compared to the original photo?

16th Street from Curtis Street (1882-1900), Denver, CO



<http://digital.denverlibrary.org/cdm/singleitem/col/lection/p15330coll21/id/8523/rec/29>

GUIDING QUESTIONS:

1. Analyze the photo of Curtis Street. What special buildings are located on the street?
2. What is happening on this street?
3. Do you think this is an important portion of Denver? Why or why not?

Curtis Street looking towards 16th Street Photo  
Date: 1973-1980, Denver, CO

GUIDING QUESTIONS:

1. What is happening in this picture?



<http://denverurbanreview.com/historic-denver/>

2. Why would people want to demolish buildings?
3. What are the benefits of preserving and reusing historic buildings?
4. Based on your knowledge from the Colorado Experience film, how did Dana Crawford fight back against demolition of historic buildings in Denver?

Secretary of Interior's Standards for Treatment of  
Historic Properties: Rehabilitation

“A property will be used as it was historically or be given a new use that requires minimal change to its distinctive materials, features, spaces, and spatial relationships.

<https://www.nps.gov/tps/standards/four-treatments/treatment-rehabilitation.htm>

GUIDING QUESTIONS:

1. Who is the Secretary of Interior?
2. Why do we have standards that help us preserve historic buildings?
3. Read the standard here at the left. How did Dana Crawford address this standard with the buildings she restored, preserved, and brought back to life in downtown Denver?
4. How is this standard addressed in Union Station?

**Assessment Question**

How has Dana Crawford made an impact on the built environment in Colorado?

Response