Our Story

The Billings Depot, built in 1909, was comprised of four original buildings including the Depot building, railroad lunch room, mail building and an office building. The Depot featured a spacious waiting area for 200 passengers, a gentlemen’s smoking room, a ladies’ waiting room, a baggage area and service offices. These buildings are the center of Billings’ town site district, which was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1978.

By 1914, almost 10,000 homesteaders, many traveling by rail car, claimed land at the Billings’ land office and train tracks had been extended in ten directions. The last regular Amtrak Passenger Train left the Depot in the spring of 1979. The demise of rail travel left many of the early twentieth century buildings in the Depot area vacant and deteriorating.

In 1995, a group of citizens, concerned by the physical condition of the facility, came together to begin rehabilitation of the Depot complex. The group raised funds and the first events were held in the renovated facility in the fall of 2001.

Plan Your Corporate Event

Over a century ago, the Depot served as the venue of choice for many of the most important visitors in Billings’ history, including numerous presidents, governors, Hollywood celebrities, and even visiting royalty! Today, the Depot is the premier location in Billings for many corporate events, including seminars and training sessions, conventions, trade shows, annual meetings, holiday parties, and board meetings.

While many people associate the Depot with large community events, the Depot has a meeting space that can also accommodate smaller groups in both its conference room and Passenger Station, which includes a built-in high-quality Bose sound system. If you would like to hold a weekday event, we think you will find our Monday-Thursday rates are very affordable!

Contact
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Plan Your Fundraiser

The Depot has been lovingly restored to its place as the center of our community, and plays host to dozens of Billings’ signature fundraisers and non-profit events. The Depot is comprised of four main public spaces: the beautiful Passenger Station, the spacious Baggage Room, and two outdoor event venues, Gainan’s Courtyard, for small-medium sized events, and Trailhead Plaza for large and “super-sized” events. As a benefit to the community, the Depot offers a special discount to non-profit agencies to assist you with your fundraiser.

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