

State Historic Preservation Review Board Meeting Minutes

September 19 and 20, 2019

The Columbus City Hall, Columbus, Montana

September 19, 2019

Review Board (Board) Members Present: Dr. Riley Auge, Marv Keller, Milo McLeod, Carol Bronson, Dr. Tim Urbaniak (Chair), Debra Hronek, Marcella Walter, Patti Casne

State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) Staff: John Boughton, Kate Hampton

Guests: Dan and Cheryl Rothlisberger, Penny Redli, Peggy Joki, Rita Westrum, Ken Joki, Bill Bronson, Joan Brownell, Stacey Roundy

Call to Order-1:07 p.m.: Dr. Urbaniak (Board Chair) called the meeting to order and read the State Historic Preservation Review Board mission statement.

Welcome/Introductions-1:09 p.m.: Dr. Urbaniak requested that the Board, SHPO personnel, and guests introduce themselves.

SHPO Preservation News-1:10 p.m.: John Boughton briefed the Board about several subjects including:

Local Preservation/Certified Local Government (CLG): Kate Hampton and Craig Mrock, Grants Contracts Coordinator, completed new contracts for 2019-2020 with each of Montana's 16 Certified Local Governments (CLGs). Previous year agreements were closed out with the exceptions of the cities of Deer Lodge and Livingston, who received extensions through September 2019.

HB229 and SB343

Two bills moved through the past legislature that touch on the State Historic Preservation Office. HB229 clarifies that paleontological fossils are not minerals and belong to the surface estate with regards to ownership, and SB343 revised open cut mining laws (i.e. gravel pits) stating that applications for state permits from the Department of Environmental Quality must include "documentation of consultation with the state historic preservation office regarding possible archaeological or historical values on the affected land." (MCA 82-4-432.2g).

Montana Preservation Poster

The 2019 Montana preservation poster, *Before Montana: Stones, Bones, and Stories of the Ice Age*, was created to showcase and complement the Society's new museum Ice Age exhibit, with assistance from Diane Hall (graphic design) and Tom Ferris (photography). Two thousand copies of the poster and an accompanying insert were printed with mailing to Montana libraries, local museums, agencies, consultants, and other preservation colleagues on June 11.

Revitalizing Montana's Rural Heritage Project

The largest grant request ever made by SHPO, other than the annual Historic Preservation Fund (HPF) allocation application, was awarded to the Montana Historical Society, via SHPO. Pete Brown, Kate Hampton, and Craig Mrock

completed the application together. The grant is for \$350,000 and will identify rural properties in need and provide critical funding for sensitive repair and rehabilitation. The money will be regranted to properties statewide. The hope is to focus on community anchors, properties that will serve as catalysts for economic stability and growth in their communities.

Office Changes

Former State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) Dr. Mark Baumler retired and Pete Brown has assumed the interim SHPO position until a new SHPO can be hired.

Michelle Phair left her position as the Cultural Records Assistant and accepted a similar position at the Colorado SHPO, closer to where she grew up.

Joleen Keen replaced Michelle Phair. Ms. Keen received her Bachelor's from Middle Tennessee State University in Anthropology and Geography and her Master's from George Mason in Geographic and Cartographic Science. She worked for, and with, the Smithsonian, and the American Association of Geographers.

Jennifer Coen, SHPO's administrative assistant also resigned. Ms. Coen was employed with SHPO for over five years. She is looking to pursue her degree through an online program with Arizona State University.

Dr. Stan Wilmoth retired the end of September. Dr. Wilmoth served as the State Archaeologist/Deputy SHPO for over 26 years and served unwaveringly the goal of resource protection in the state. He oversaw projects among public, governmental, private, and tribal entities, providing sound guidance toward successful completion.

Dr. Baumler, Dr. Wilmoth, Jennifer Coen, and Michelle Phair will be missed.

Properties Listed in the National Register Since January 2019

Sentinels of the Airways: Montana's Airway Beacon System MPS
(cover documentation approved)

Silver Bow Airway Beacon (Silver Bow County)
Homestake Airway Beacon (near Homestake Pass)
Glacier Park Women's Club (East Glacier Park)
Cow Island Landing Skirmish Site (NE of Winifred)
Cow Creek Skirmish Historic District (NE of Winifred)
Valley Masonic Lodge No. 21 (Townsend)
Stillwater County Courthouse (Columbus)

Potential Upcoming Nominations

Teslow Grain Elevator (Livingston)
Quinn's Garage (Augusta)
Libby Heritage Center
St. Regis Airway Beacon

Sage Creek Station
Silver City Cemetery

Consideration of National Register nominations-1:25 p.m.

1) James McCrossin Cabin

John Boughton of the State Historic Preservation Office and co-author, presented the nomination. The property was presented as significant under criteria A and C.

Questions and Comments from the Review Board:

- Expand the Period of Significance to include the later ownership by the Foss family [include two periods of significance, one associated with the original construction and occupation of the cabin by James McCrossin, 1908-1912, and a second related to the ownership of the cabin by the Foss family, 1945-1969].
- Correct definitions of “chinking” and “daubing” in the nomination.
- Change the date of “1898” to “1907” for the establishment of the Bitterroot National Forest (Section 8, page 12).
- Was the cabin always part of a larger ranch? [No, only after its purchase by the Foss family.]
- Add a few interior photographs.

Dr. Urbaniak asked for any public comment on the property. Mr. Rothlisberger, the owner of the cabin, told the review board he would provide interior photographs. Ms. Bronson moved and Ms. Hronek seconded, that the nomination with discussed edits, be forwarded to the Keeper. The Review Board unanimously concurred.

2) Whitetail Airway Beacon

Kate Hampton, Montana State Historic Preservation Office, presented the nomination. The property was presented as significant under criterion A and C within the contexts of the *Sentinels of the Airways: Montana’s Airway Beacon System, 1934-1979* MPD. The property sits on land managed by the Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest but is currently owned by the Montana Department of Transportation.

Questions and Comments from the Review Board:

- Will any issues arise with the submittal of the nomination to the Keeper with the end of the Period of Significance listed as 1979, less than 50 years from the present? [No, that date was accepted with the earlier submission of the *Sentinels of the Airways: Montana’s Airway Beacon System, 1934-1979* MPD cover document; cover documentation accepted May 28, 2019.]

Ms. Bronson moved and Mr. McLeod seconded that the nomination with discussed edits be forwarded to the Keeper. The Review Board unanimously concurred.

3) Hotel Andrus

John Boughton of the Montana State Historic Preservation Office presented the nomination. The property was presented as significant under Criterion A and Criterion C. *Questions and Comments from the Review Board:*

- Section 8, page 18, change the word “hate” to “hat”.
- Pleased that the nomination acknowledges the building has some integrity issues.
- Is anymore information on the architect available? [Don’t believe so, but will have author check.]

Dr. Auge moved and Ms. Casni seconded that the nomination with discussed edits be forwarded to the Keeper. The Review Board unanimously concurred.

Break-2:15 p.m.

Resumption of meeting-2:35 p.m.

4) Dillon City Hall

Stacey Roundy, City Clerk for Dillon and co-author, presented the nomination. The property was presented as significant under Criterion A and Criterion C.

Questions and Comments from the Review Board:

- Replace the “XXX” call out on page 2 of Section 9 to “c. 1921-1937.”
- Change “IMPORVEMENTS” to “IMPROVEMENTS” on page 15 of Section 7.
- The nomination discusses the “Order of the Redmen.” The Granite County Museum in Philipsburg features a pretty good exhibit on the subject.
- The review board is pleased to see the City of Dillon moving forward with this listing. They are to be congratulated for their efforts.
- This nomination does an excellent job of acknowledging that these types of buildings, like the Dillon City Hall, were designed to be used in civic capacities, not just political or administrative capacities.

Mr. McLeod moved and Ms. Walter seconded that the nomination with discussed edits be forwarded to the Keeper. The Review Board unanimously concurred.

5) Frederick and Josephine Bottler House

The author of the nomination was unable to attend the meeting. No presentation occurred. The review board moved immediately to discussion of the nomination. The property was prepared as significant under criteria A, B, and C.

Questions and Comments from the Review Board:

- Even with the vast amount of information presented in the nomination, the author did a good job of continually pulling the discussion back to the Bottlers.
- Because not all photos are called out in the text, and those that do appear are not sequential, it is best to delete photo call-outs.
- Rephrase the discussion regarding John Bozeman’s death on page 24. Mention other options of his demise and use the word “killed” vs “murdered”.
- Discussion occurred regarding the order of the significance criteria of the introductory paragraphs in Section 8.
- Why does the start of the Period of Significance begin later than many of Frederick Bottler’s activities chronicled in the nomination? [Montana’s National Register reviewer in Washington D.C. prefers that at least one resource dates to the beginning of the period of significance. Although Frederick Bottler’s activities in the area and on the parcel of land nominated for listing date to the late 1860s, the strongest resource on the property dating to his presence is the residence, built in 1905.
- What are the building foundations to the east of the Bottler House seen in the aerial image? [They were part of the Bottler property years ago, but are now owned by a different individual than the one listing the house.]
- Could the significance of the Story family, who purchased the property after the Bottler ownership, be included in the nomination? [While the Story family in Montana history is quite important, the Bottler House does not best illustrate their importance to the state.]
- Add map(s) showing where the other past Bottler-related resources are located to better acquaint the reader and reinforce that all of them are outside the National Register boundary of the nomination.
- Include a large-scale map of the entire Bottler historic spread to provide the reader an idea of the amount of acreage Bottler owned.

Ms. Walter moved and Ms. Hronek seconded that the nomination with discussed edits be forwarded to the Keeper. The Review Board unanimously concurred.

6) Dean School

Joan Brownell, the author, presented the nomination to the review board. The property was presented as significant under criteria A and C.

Questions and Comments from the Review Board:

- Congratulations to the school committee who invested their time and money to the project.
- Please add the construction date near the beginning of the initial paragraphs of the nomination.

- Appreciated the stories about the Dean School included in the nomination.
- Appreciated that handicap ramp was constructed to the teacherage and not to the front of the school house itself.

Mr. Keller moved and Ms. Casni seconded that the nomination with discussed edits be forwarded to the Keeper. The Review Board unanimously concurred.

New Business/Public Comment-3:40 p.m.: Dr. Urbaniak called for public comment. None was given.

May Minutes Approval: Dr. Urbaniak called for approval of the May 2019 Board minutes. Mr. Keller moved and Ms. Casni seconded to approve the minutes. The Board unanimously concurred.

Election of New Chairperson: Dr. Urbaniak called for nominations for a new board chair for 2020 to begin service with the January meeting of the Review Board. Ms. Casni nominated Ms. Walter. Mr. Keller seconded the motion. No other board members were nominated and nominations closed. The board unanimously concurred in the election of Ms. Marcella Walter as Review Board chair for 2020.

Biennial State Heritage Property Stewardship Reporting Discussion: SHPO provided background on the requirement that state agencies and the Montana university system report every two years about state-owned heritage properties under their purview to the State Historic Preservation Review Board. Dr. Riley provided additional detail regarding the process and the Board's role. Agency reports will begin to arrive at SHPO the beginning of 2020.

January 2020 Review Board Meeting. The Board voted to hold the next Board meeting in Helena on January 17, 2020.

Adjourn-4:35 p.m. Ms. Hronek moved and Dr. Auge seconded for adjournment of the meeting. The Review Board unanimously concurred.

September 20, 2019

State Historic Preservation Review Board field trip: the Museum of the Beartooths in Columbus, the site of Crow Agency II, Fishtail General Store in Fishtail, the National Register-listed Pelton House, the National Register-listed Togrimson Place, and the Dean School, a property just nominated and presented to the Historic Preservation Review Board the previous day – 8:30 a.m.