

State Historic Preservation Review Board Meeting
September 13, 2013, the Facilities Planning Quonset at Montana State University,
Bozeman, Montana

Minutes

September 13, 2013

Board Members Present: Tim Urbaniak, Don Matlock, Milo McLeod, Zane Fulbright, Debra Hronek, Lesley Gilmore

State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) Staff: Dr. Mark Baumler (SHPO), John Boughton, Kate Hampton

Guests: Courtney Kramer, Jessie Nunn, Dale Martin

Call to Order-1:27 p.m.: Ms. Gilmore called the meeting to order and read the board mission statement. Ms. Gilmore requested the board, SHPO personnel, and guests to introduce themselves. A safety briefing by Mr. Matlock followed the introductions.

SHPO Preservation News 1:30 p.m.: John Boughton briefed the Review Board about several subjects including:

Montana Preservation Poster: *Building Communities* was mailed to over 900 addresses in early June. Kate Hampton and Damon Murdo prepared the poster which features an historic photo of the Montana Federation of Colored Women's Club gathering in the late 1950s superimposed over a recent photo of the 1917 Union-Bethel African-Methodist Church in Great Falls, listed in the National Register on September 11, 2003.

SB3 SHPO/State Agency Workshop: on May 30, 2013, SHPO met in Helena with many of the state agencies involved with SB3 reporting. Lesley Gilmore, Don Matlock, and Jon Axline represented the Montana Historic Preservation Review Board. An updated property reporting form and additional guidance and instructions were presented, as well as a discussion of the State Antiquities Act and heritage properties in general. The SHPO and Review Board members reiterated that the agencies should review the critiques made by the board to each agency for the reports they submitted in 2012.

Montana Modernism Travelling Exhibit: the travelling exhibit made its debut in Missoula in the offices of A&E Architects at the end of July. Pete Brown attended the event. The exhibit next travels to A&E Architects in Billings for the month of September. Ms. Gilmore (CTA of Bozeman) offered to host the exhibit in Bozeman and to construct a custom box for transporting the associated model.

Update of the Montana Historical Society Website: a requested change for all agencies and departments by the Governor's office resulted in updates to the Montana Historical Society webpage. The glitches that remain will be resolved by the Montana Historical Society IT person.

Properties listed since May 2013 Review Board Meeting:

Square Butte School in Square Butte
The Northern Hotel in Billings
The Glacier County Courthouse in Cut Bank
Old U.S. Highway 91 in Cascade and Lewis and Clark counties

Potential Upcoming nominations:

Flathead National Forest Bob Marshall Wilderness Cabins
Cottonwood Creek Bridge in Fallon County
Yodeler Motel in Red Lodge
The Bridgewater House in Helena

Ms. Hronek mentioned plans for a library conference in Billings in April 2014 and inquired about SHPO participation. SHPO agreed to consider if travel possible.

Ms. Gilmore discussed the availability of National Register nominations via the Montana Memory Project. SHPO responded that while some nominations, generally dating from approximately 2002 to 2008, are posted, continued updating hasn't continued due to staff time constraints and the associated complexities of posting new nominations. SHPO will re-visit if/how to continue posting.

Nomination Consideration-1:50 p.m.

1) Helena Historic District (Addendum II)

Ms. Gilmore introduced John Boughton of the State Historic Preservation Office who co-authored and presented the nomination addendum. The nomination addendum clarifies the National Register status of Central School and the Seventh Avenue Gymnasium, both which stand within the existing NR-listed Helena Historic District, but are not presently identified explicitly as contributing properties. The two buildings were presented as contributing properties, significant under criteria A and C.

The following issues discussed by the Review Board are to be addressed prior to submittal to the Keeper of the National Register:

Questions and Comments from the Review Board:

- Is it proper to use NAD 27 instead of NAD 83 for UTM references? SHPO responded that either may be used.
- Should the period of significance be expanded beyond 1948? SHPO replied that expanding the period of significance beyond the period established in the earlier nominations would require a resurvey and updating of the district context.
- Include a city map showing other Helena landmarks in relation to the location of Central School and the Seventh Avenue Gymnasium.
- Discussion regarding eligibility of the school under Criterion C occurred with the consensus being that as a contributing resource sufficient integrity exists.

- One board member noted the clean presentation of the nomination as he observed no typographical errors.

Mr. Urbaniak motioned for the nomination addendum, with the discussed edits, be forwarded to the Keeper. Mr. Matlock seconded the motion. The Review Board unanimously concurred and the motion passed. (Mr. Axline voted in absentia to forward the nomination to the Keeper with whatever edits the review board recommended.)

2) Judith Landing Historic District (Boundary Increase)

Ms. Gilmore introduced Kate Hampton of the State Historic Preservation Office who co-authored and presented the nomination. The nomination was presented as significant under Criterion A.

The following issues discussed by the Review Board are to be addressed prior to submittal to the Keeper of the National Register:

Questions and Comments from the Review Board:

- Why not forward the nomination under Criterion B too? SHPO responded that other places exist that better address Hayden's significance as an individual.
- Is this the earliest dinosaur find in the United States? What about the find in Nebraska in 1853? SHPO replied that although earlier finds occurred, they weren't specific to dinosaurs, instead documenting mammals. Clarify in the nomination that *Ancient Fauna of Nebraska* referred to mammals and not dinosaurs.
- Do fossils need to remain intact (not fragmentary) to maintain integrity? SHPO responded that integrity applies to the site and not the individual fossils, per se. In the case of this type of site, the answer is no.
- Board members commented on reviewing a different type of property and enjoying the nomination.

Ms. Hronek motioned for the nomination, with the discussed edits, be forwarded to the Keeper. Mr. McLeod seconded the motion. The Review Board unanimously concurred and the motion passed. Mr. Fulbright (representing the Bureau of Land Management, part-owner) abstained from voting. (Mr. Axline voted in absentia to forward the nomination to the Keeper with whatever edits the review board recommended.)

Break-2:55

Reconvene-3:10

3) Montana State University Historic District

Ms. Gilmore introduced the nomination's author, Jessie Nunn, who presented the nomination. This nomination was funded and written as part of a cooperative agreement between the Montana State Historic Preservation Office and Montana State University. The property (comprised of 39 contributing buildings, sites, structures and objects) was presented as significant under criteria A and C.

The following issues discussed by the Review Board are to be addressed prior to submittal to the Keeper of the National Register:

Questions and Comments from the Review Board:

- Why exclude Brick Breendon Fieldhouse from the district? Is it eligible? SHPO responded that the fieldhouse could be considered a contributing resource to a district, but it would not likely be individually eligible for listing in the National Register, due primarily to changes that have affected integrity. Its exclusion from the present nomination occurs because it stands too far outside of the defined resource concentration area.
- Why extend the Period of Significance to 1968 (less than 50 years old)? Ms. Nunn responded 1968 served as a natural break. Further discussion resulted in agreement that 1967 provided a more justifiable natural end-date to the Period of Significance.
- Please make building dates consistent between text and table.
- Section 7, page 9 footnote: is the footnote regarding the reopening of Harrison Avenue necessary?
- The board discussed the degree of alterations of certain buildings and whether they still contribute to the district.
- The Gatton Field Gate has been moved (once); does it still contribute? Ms. Nunn responded it moved only a short distance and its orientation remains the same, thus still considered contributing.
- Add a map showing the district boundaries within the Montana State University campus.
- Edit/correct information related to the Carsley/Gilbert Campus Plan on page 62 beginning with "The resultant 1917...".
- Add a map call-out number to the bolded resource call-out in the text (to make it easier to locate the resource on the district map).
- Architectural edits on text will be forthcoming. Please incorporate into the revised text.
- Add a general discussion regarding the classification of buildings as contributing or noncontributing.
- Please reference the district to the original 200-acre campus.
- Clarify if the size of the campus was 200 or 120-acres in size.
- Board members recognized the immensity of the nomination and the amount of research required to prepare it.

Ms. Gilmore motioned for the nomination, with the discussed edits, be forwarded to the Keeper. Mr. Fulbright seconded the motion. The Review Board unanimously concurred and the motion passed. (Mr. Axline voted in absentia to forward the nomination to the Keeper with whatever edits the review board recommended.)

New Business-4:30 p.m.

Public Comment-4:30 p.m. Ms. Gilmore called for public comment; no public comment.

Approval of the May 2013 Review Board Meeting Minutes: Ms. Hronek motioned to approve the minutes. Mr. Fulbright seconded the motion. The Review Board unanimously approved the motion.

Discussion of SB3 (State Agency Stewardship Reporting): The review board conferred about how SHPO should respond to a request from the Department of Military Affairs (DMA) for input regarding their reporting on properties in 2014. The board recognizes DMA holds no responsibility to report on heritage properties not owned by the state, releasing DMA from reporting obligations for DMA-managed heritage properties on federal or leased federal land. The board requested additional information, however, regarding properties reported by DMA as not owned by the state or DMA, though the Montana Cadastral website indicates otherwise. The board also would like DMA to report on its efforts to identify unrecorded potential state-owned heritage properties and to consult with SHPO on all DMA properties older than 50 years old to resolve eligibility as heritage properties. The board wishes DMA to continue submitting the bi-annual agency heritage report.

Discussion of future Review Board meeting location and dates: The next Review Board meeting will occur January 10 in Helena.

Election of Chairperson: Mr. Urbaniak motioned for Ms. Gilmore to continue as chairperson for another year. Mr. Fulbright seconded the motion. The Review Board unanimously concurred and the motion passed.

Adjourn-5:00 p.m.

Mr. Fulbright motioned for adjournment of the meeting. Ms. Hronek seconded the motion. The Review Board unanimously concurred. Motion passed.