

**State Historic Preservation Review Board Meeting Minutes**  
**September 21, 2018**  
**the Auditorium at the Montana Historical Society, Helena, Montana**

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**Review Board (Board) Members Present:** Dr. Riley Auge (Chair), Zane Fulbright, Milo McLeod, Carol Bronson, Dr. Tim Urbaniak, Debra Hronek, Jeff Shelden, Marcella Walter, Patti Casne

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

**Guests:** Bruce Whittenberg, Chere Justo, Bill Bronson, Dr. Ellen Baumler

**Call to Order-8:30 a.m.:** Dr. Auge called the meeting to order and read the State Historic Preservation Review Board mission statement.

**Welcome/Introductions-8:35 a.m.:** Dr. Auge requested that the Board, SHPO personnel, and guests introduce themselves.

**SHPO Preservation News-8:38 a.m.:** John Boughton briefed the Board about several subjects including:

**Local Preservation/Certified Local Government (CLG):** Louise de Montigny was appointed the new Historic Preservation Officer in Miles City. She replaces Connie Muggly.

**American Association for State and Local History:** The Montana Historical Society was selected as a 2018 Award of Merit winner by the AASLH for the *Montana's African American Heritage Resources* project. Kate Hampton, SHPO Community Preservation Coordinator, who served as project leader, will attend the AASLH annual meeting banquet on September 28 in Kansas City, MO to receive the award on behalf of Montana Historical Society (MHS).

**SHPO Funding: State Fiscal year 2017 End and Federal Fiscal Year 2018 Part 2**

**Application:** SHPO worked closely with the MHS Centralized Services Division to finalize the financial books on SHPO funding sources and expenses for state FY2018 (end June 30, 2018). Brad Hansen, SHPO Federal Grants Coordinator, also worked with Candi Mullenbach of the MHS CSD to successfully submit the paperwork to receive the second part of SHPO's federal funding for federal FY2018 (end September 30, 2018).

Jenn Coen, SHPO Administrative Assistant, worked extensively with Lori Ereth of the MHS to reconcile and invoice SHPO billable revenue accounts (file search and copy request fees) prior to the end of state FY2018. Consequently, less than \$2,500 in billable services is outstanding with no accounts past due beyond April 2018.

**SHPO Website Reconfiguration:** SHPO continues to work on planning for a refresher of their website. Damon Murdo, Michelle Phair, and Brad Hanson of SHPO have assumed the lead on the reconfiguration. MHS employees Rennan Reike of IT and Diane Hall of Publishing continue to work with SHPO providing ideas and insight to update the website.

**SHPO Collaborations:** SHPO participated in meetings with three groups to facilitate better communication and future collaborations. The groups include the Montana History Foundation, the Forest Service Region 1 Heritage Team, and the Montana Department of Commerce Community Development Division/Montana Main Street program.

### **Properties Listed in the National Register Since January 2018**

Cougar Peak Lookout (Sanders County, Lolo National Forest)  
Morning Eagle (Big Chief) [boat] [Glacier County]  
Jefferson Canyon Highway (Jefferson County)  
Lewis and Clark Caverns Historic District (Jefferson County)

### **Potential Upcoming Nominations**

Pioneer Park (Billings)  
Montana Airway Beacons MPD and associated nominations  
Cow Creek Skirmish Historic District, Upper Missouri River Breaks  
309 North Rodney, Helena

### **Consideration of National Register nominations-8:50 a.m.**

#### **1) Cow Island Landing Skirmish Site**

Montana Preservation Alliance executive director Chere Jiusto presented the nomination. The property was presented as significant under Criterion A.

*Questions and Comments from the Review Board:*

- Cow Island Landing was an established historical place. Should the larger landscape history of the area be discussed in the nomination? [the project contract was designed to focus on this single event].
- Is it a problem that the National Register photographs are six years old? [the National Register would likely desire that more-recent photos be included as part of the nomination. However, the ruralness and difficulty of reaching the property to take updated photos precludes submittal of recent images. In addition, the ruralness of the property makes it highly unlikely that any changes have occurred. It is anticipated that the Keeper of the National Register will understand this exception].
- The Cow Island Landing Skirmish Site is highlighted in the *Nez Perce Trail Comprehensive Historic Trail Plan*.

Dr. Urbaniak moved, and Ms. Casne seconded, to support the part-Federal/part-private nomination and that the nomination with discussed edits be forwarded to the Keeper by the Bureau of Land Management. The Review Board unanimously concurred.

#### **2) German Gulch Historic District**

Montana Preservation Alliance executive director Chere Jiusto presented the nomination. The property was presented as significant under criteria A and D. The nomination was prepared as part of an Underrepresented Communities Grant to MPA through the National Park Service.

Ownership/management of the land where the nominated district lies is split between the Beaverhead Deerlodge National Forest and a single private owner. The private owner has objected to listing the district in the National Register.

*Questions and Comments from the Review Board:*

- If the National Register boundary for the property was moved to exclude the private property, what resources would be omitted from the district? [Locality 43, consisting of a stone foundation and stone hearth, and a portion of the historic German Gulch road segment].
- One image of cabin remains presented during the power point presentation highlighted the use of vertical wood pegs securing the horizontal logs. This is unusual in Montana. Is this a Chinese construction technique? [not sure].
- Change the footnote on Page 18 regarding the location of the archaeological collection of the property; it is not curated at the University of Montana but is in the possession of the Beaverhead Deerlodge National Forest.
- Changing the name of the nomination from the *German Gulch Historic District* to the *German Gulch Chinese Historic Archaeological District* would clarify the nomination's focus on the Chinese use of the district, not its use by Euro Americans. Such a title change would assist researchers in identifying the historic ethnic context of the nomination and also avoid possible ambiguity related to the discussion in the nomination of the earlier and later use of the property prior to and after the arrival of the Chinese.
- One board member commented on being confused by the inclusion of discussion of features outside the defined NR-district boundary. Can some of the information for features outside the district boundary or that appear to no longer be extant due to disturbance be deleted? [while some of the feature discussion included in the nomination isn't Chinese-related, it does provide context to the overall historic mining features and story of the Chinese-use of the area. A review of the nomination will occur to see if additional feature-related information in Section 7 should be deleted].

Due to the private-owner objection to listing his portion of the property in the National Register, a contingency motion was proposed. Ms. Walter moved, and Ms. Hronek seconded, that the nomination, with discussed edits, and retaining the existing defined NR-boundary be forwarded to the Keeper contingent on the private property owner withdrawing his objection after talking with the proponents at MPA in the near future. In lieu of the private property owner withdrawing the objection, the NR-boundary presented in the nomination is to be redrawn to exclude the private property, while remaining continuous and the nomination, with the redrawn NR boundary, would then be forwarded to the Keeper. The Review Board unanimously concurred.

**Break-10:05 a.m.**

**Resumption of meeting-10:25 a.m.**

**3) Symmes Park Missile**

Zane Fulbright, the author, presented the nomination. The property was presented as significant under Criterion A.

*Questions and Comments from the Review Board:*

- Emphasize that Lewistown always referred to the missile as “our missile” denoting a sense of ownership.

- Emphasize that it was the first missile to transfer out of Federal ownership. Find documentation to support this claim though.
- Delete the word “principle” from page 8 of the nomination.
- Were there any objections to using a missile as a monument when it was erected? If so, expand the discussion of the public anti-missile installation sentiments of the time.
- Did the Symmes Park Missile ever serve as a site of protest? If so, include in discussion.
- Refine the Integrity statement.
- Provide more context about the overall significance of the missile program to Lewistown, thus more-fully explaining the rationale for selecting a missile as a monument.
- Elaborate that this was never an operational missile that had its internal components removed. It is instead a composite of exterior missile fuselage parts assembled at the park. Also provide information about where the parts of the missile were obtained.
- Provide a short description in Section 7 of the three exterior components (stages) of the missile.
- Mention this style of missile was historically obsolete at the time of its erection as the military had sequenced to the Minuteman II missile.
- Add an explanatory paragraph about Criterion Consideration F (monuments).
- Elaborate on why the area of significance is “Entertainment/Recreation”.

Ms. Hronek moved and Dr. Urbaniak seconded support of the nomination with the further development and inclusion of the suggested edits, and that the nomination be forwarded to the Keeper. A simple majority of the Review Board concurred with the exception of Mr. Shelden and Ms. Walter who objected. Mr. Fulbright recused himself from voting.

**Montana Railroad Eligibility Discussion: 11:10 a.m.** Dr. Baumler provided background about the authority of the Review Board in approving the addition of heritage properties (ie state properties eligible for the National Register of Historic Places) to the inventory of state heritage properties under the Montana State Antiquities Act [MCA 22-3-422(3)]. The addition of the Montana transcontinental railroad mainlines (Union Pacific, Great Northern, Northern Pacific, and Milwaukee) as state heritage properties would only be to recognize their historic significance, not for nomination for National Register listing. In practice, agencies and SHPO have been concurring in the eligibility of these railroads for some time as part of compliance with state and federal preservation regulations (“consensus determinations”); however, some county segments remain that still require evaluation. The Review Board’s finding would resolve the eligibility for these unresolved counties as well as provide further confirmation of the historic significance of the transcontinental railroads in Montana’s history.

The Review Board discussed a variety of issues including how railroads were recorded [by county with individual Smithsonian numbers], issues of integrity [sufficient under Criterion A only], and the extent of the properties being considered [understood to encompass the corridors of the mainlines and all railroad features within].

After further discussion, Ms. Hronek motioned and Dr. Urbaniak seconded to approve a motion for “*the addition of the primary historic Montana northern transcontinental railroad network - namely the corridors of the main lines and major branch lines of the Great Northern, Northern Pacific, Union Pacific, and Milwaukee railways both active and abandoned and as represented and recorded in the Montana Cultural Resource Information System (CRIS) - to the inventory of state heritage properties considered eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A at the state level of significance, for association with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad pattern of Montana’s history.*” The Review Board unanimously concurred.

**Public Comment-12:00 p.m.:** Dr. Auge called for public comment. None was given.

**New Business-12:02 p.m.:** Dr. Auge called for approval of the May 2018 Board minutes. Mr. Fulbright moved and Mr. Shelden seconded to approve the minutes. The Board unanimously concurred.

*Election of New Chairperson:* Dr. Auge called for nominations for a new board chair for 2019 to begin service with the January meeting of the Review Board. Dr. Auge nominated Dr. Urbaniak. Mr. McLeod seconded the motion. No other board members were nominated and nominations were closed. The board unanimously concurred in the election of Dr. Tim Urbaniak as Review Board chair for 2019.

*January 2019 Review Board Meeting.* The Board voted to hold the next Board meeting in Helena on the morning of January 18 (Friday). The review board meeting will be followed by the biennial Montana State Historic Preservation Awards ceremony, to be held at the Myrna Loy Theater in Helena.

*Last Review Board Meeting for Zane Fulbright.* The Board recognized the two-term commitment and contribution of Zane Fulbright, retiring member of the Board. The time and effort Mr. Fulbright invested in the Board, including the National Register nominations he authored and/or ushered through the board, was greatly appreciated by all.

**Adjourn-12:15 p.m.** Mr. Fulbright moved and Patti Casne seconded for adjournment of the meeting. The Review Board unanimously concurred.