

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

SDSHS Board of Trustees Report

January – March 2024

1. Staff

- As in past years, SHPO will employ a summer intern this year. Erin Ruch has accepted the intern position and will begin on Thursday, May 9th. Erin is currently a Junior at the University of Alabama, majoring in history and anthropology.

2. National Register/National Historic Landmark (NHL) Listings

- This quarter, the National Park Service approved the nomination of three new properties to the National Register of Historic Places. The Turton Jail, Conde Municipal Building, and DeRouchey-Hageman Barn and Farmyard now are listed in the National Register.
- On January 17, 2024, the National Park Service approved the Additional Documentation submitted by SHPO regarding the Galena Creek Schoolhouse.
- On January 29, 2024, the National Park Service approved the amendment to the Buffalo Gap Historic District, which slightly reduced the boundary of the historic district as non-contributing resources were removed from the district.

3. Budget Items

- In January, the National Park Service (NPS) issued a Notice of Funding Opportunity for a partial apportionment of the funding available to SHPOs at that time. South Dakota SHPO's partial apportionment is \$454,795. The application for this partial apportionment was submitted on March 7, 2024. NPS has not issued a Notice of Funding Opportunity yet for the remainder of the 2024 apportionment. However, the National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers (NCSHPO) reports that Congress approved what amounts to level funding for SHPOs for 2024.
- After SHPO's proposed annual work plan was approved by the Board at the December meeting, the Bureau of Information and Technology (BIT) has increased its rates by 83%. SHPO staff met with BIT staff to discuss the rate increase, and, although BIT did make their proposed work plan more efficient and therefore require fewer hours, BIT estimates that the required updates to CRGRID ahead of the statewide migration to Enterprise GIS will be \$78,500. This increase in cost coupled with the reported level funding for SHPOs means that SHPO will be unable to fund all previously planned projects. SHPO staff re-assessed the various items in the annual work plan. The updated annual work plan attached to this report represents SHPO's current plan for federal funding allocations, allowing the office to fund the necessary updates to CRGRID while still performing other functions to meet the requirements of the federal grant.

- On March 14, 2024, SHPO staff met to review and score the sixteen (16) applications received for the Spring 2024 Deadwood Fund Grant cycle. SHPO recommends funding six (6) of the applications at a total funding level of \$75,000, which will be presented at the April 4th Board of Trustees meeting. Due to the recent cancellation of three previously contracted Deadwood Fund Grant projects, SHPO decided to re-obligate a portion of those previously obligated funds during this cycle.

4. FY2023 Major Contract Projects

- **Managing Moving Water in South Dakota: Cultural Resource Context and Evaluation Guidance** – The Archaeology Laboratory at Augustana University continues to develop the draft context document. SHPO has provided comments on the proposed outline, and staff from SHPO, the Archaeological Research Center, and the Archaeology Laboratory at Augustana University discussed recommendations for recording water management features.
- **Perkins / Harding Counties Architectural Survey** – JMT completed the survey of Perkins and Harding Counties and has entered the results into CRGRID. SHPO staff have reviewed the entries and are working with JMT on resolving any outstanding questions regarding the entries. Preliminary results indicate that 9 structures in Perkins County and 6 structures in Harding County were newly recorded, while 105 structures and 151 structures in each county, respectively, were revisited during the survey.
- **Mobridge Auditorium NHL** – Jennifer McLerran continues to conduct the contracted research on Oscar Howe and the murals he painted in the Mobridge Auditorium. Due to additional personal obligations, Dr. McLerran requested an extension of her contract. Originally, Dr. McLerran’s final research materials were due on May 31, 2024. However, the amendment to the contract extends the due date to August 16, 2024.

5. Education/Outreach/Other Projects

- On January 19th, Jenna Carlson Dietmeier presented on archaeology to third grade students at Jefferson Elementary in Pierre.
- Katie Wasley participated in the Brookings Home Show on February 16th and 17th, assisting the Brookings Historic Preservation Commission with their booth at the show. Katie also gave a presentation during the Home Show, providing a general introduction to Historic Preservation in South Dakota.
- This quarter, a Federal Tax Credit Part 2 Amendment was submitted to National Park Service (NPS) and was approved by NPS with conditions. This marks the first Federal Tax Credit project from South Dakota to be processed and transmitted electronically to NPS since they went to an all-electronic submission process in August 2023.

- In honor of the upcoming Archaeology and Historic Preservation Month in May, SHPO is again hosting a Student Essay Contest for fourth grade students in South Dakota. Entries must be postmarked by March 15th and are still arriving at the time of this reporting, but it is estimated that we will have over 200 entries this year.
- Also in connection with Archaeology and Historic Preservation Month, SHPO staff are co-sponsoring Archaeology Camp with the US Army Corps of Engineers again this year. Camp will be held Tuesday, June 4th through Thursday, June 6th, and registration will open May 1st.

6. Deadwood Items

- In January and February, SHPO review one (1) Certificate of Appropriateness and five (5) Project Applications for the City of Deadwood, pursuant to the Support Agreement. There have been no Certificates of Appropriateness or Project Applications reviewed in the month of March at the time of this reporting.