

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

SDSHS Board of Trustees Report

April - June 2024

1. Staff

- Erin Ruch started as SHPO's summer intern on May 9th. She comes to SHPO from the University of Alabama. Over the summer, she has been assisting with Archaeology Camp, site visits, and National Register research. She will be drafting a National Register nomination for a stone house in Clark County as part of her internship.
- Jenna Carlson Dietmeier accepted a position with USDA Rural Development. She started with SHPO in 2017 as the Review and Compliance Archaeologist and has been serving as Review and Compliance Coordinator and Interim State Historic Preservation Officer for the last year. Her last day with SD SHPO was June 12th.

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

- On May 23, 2024, the National Park Service approved the nomination of the SD Stockgrowers Association building in Rapid City to the National Register of Historic Places.

3. Budget Items

- Congress approved the full appropriation for the Historic Preservation Fund (HPF) this quarter, and, in April, SHPO submitted an application for the supplemental allocation of HPF funds. (Previously, SHPO was only able to apply for a partial apportionment of \$454,795). On June 4, 2024, the National Park Service Approved SHPO's full HPF apportionment and awarded a total of \$896,513 for the 2025 Fiscal Year.
- SHPO Staff have been working with Certified Local Governments (CLGs) to close out agreements from the Federal Fiscal Year 2023 allocation and to apply for funds from the Federal Fiscal Year 2024 allocation.

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. Augustana has provided a draft of the context document for SHPO review, and the agreement deadline has been extended to August to allow additional time to generate a quality final document.
- **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. The contract has been extended to August to allow additional time for the final reporting requirements.

- **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

- May was Archaeology and Historic Preservation Month in South Dakota with the theme of “Preservation Adventures” this year. To celebrate, SHPO staff developed four different travel itineraries for preservation adventures, created directed social media posts, and hosted a 4th Grade Essay Contest and a Kids’ Archaeology Camp. This year, a record-breaking 232 essays were submitted by 4th graders from 28 different schools across South Dakota for the “This Place Matters” essay contest. Also, this year, SHPO again partnered with the US Army Corps of Engineers to host a three-day archaeology camp for students going into 4th, 5th, and 6th grades. We had 19 campers for all three days who excavated a 19th-century fur trade site, visited historic sites in the Pierre/Fort Pierre Area, dissected owl pellets, practiced different archaeological survey techniques, learned about prehistoric pottery, and washed and identified artifacts.
- Jozef Lamfers and Liz Almlie assisted the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) with their annual cultural resources training modules. During all three NRCS training sessions, Jozef presented on what SHPO requires for Section 106 consultation, and Liz Almlie presented on farmsteads as historical cultural resources.
- Duncan Trau and Jenna Carlson Dietmeier participated in the Environmental Protection Agency’s Region 8 Brownfields training in Denver and presented on the Section 106 process and grantees’ role(s) within that process.
- SHPO staff participated in the Certified Local Government (CLG) conference in Sioux Falls, and Liz Almlie presented on the Secretary of the Interior’s Standards and gave an update on the SHPO office during the conference.

6. Deadwood Items

- This quarter, SHPO has reviewed seven (7) Certificates of Appropriateness and 12 Project Applications for the City of Deadwood, pursuant to the Support Agreement.