

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE JOINT APPROPRIATIONS
SUBCOMMITTEE ON LONG RANGE BUILDING
April 2, 1981

The meeting was called to order by JACK K. MOORE, Chairman at 1:05 p.m. in Room 104. All Committee members were present except SEN. ETCHART and SEN. THOMAS (both excused). Also in attendance was BOB ROBINSON, Fiscal Analyst. See Visitor's Register for those who gave testimony.

THE CHAIRMAN stated the cultural and aesthetic projects will be discussed in the following order: Montanans at Work, Community Arts Service Project, Eastern Montana, Montana Chautauqua, Montana Repertory Theater, Montana Literature Publications, Conservation of the Ralston Mural, Montana Folklife Project, Art Conservation, Yellowstone Arts Center Renovation, and Community Video Project.

MONTANANS AT WORK

This project relates to a statewide history project to be sponsored cooperatively between the Montana Historical Society and the Montana History Association. See EXHIBIT A and EXHIBIT B. This is an oral history project, which is the methodology of capturing data of a historical and sociological nature which is otherwise not available to researchers. It is intended to interview and secure oral reminiscence from workers in Montana in not only ongoing jobs, but also the type of jobs that are no longer in existence. They would like to cover in this, a period from 1910 to 1945 which is an industrialization period in the United States, which helped the change of Montana also. It is believed they could do approximately 350 interviews in the project concentrating in the areas of miners, farmers, commerce trades, transportation, service etc. They believe in the process of doing this they will leave for the state of Montana, a data source which will reflect the changes in the state, the reminiscence of the level of population that is not represented in the history records. They intend to document history by employment patterns, and graphical data. This concept is based on WPA idea which was tried in the 1930's, but did not include Montana. A book resulted in that effort, and Montana was not entered in the book, and the Historical Society feels this gap can be closed by this project. They feel the budget is quite tight, but they are prepared to accept less money should the Committee so desire.

COMMUNITY ARTS SERVICE PROJECT FOR EASTERN MONTANA

This project was developed as a result of meetings held last spring, or individual contacts made with members of agricultural associations in eastern Montana. Eastern Montana is being faced with a 30% population increase by 1990. This is if all the energy potential occurs in that area. The residents are concerned as to what this will do to their communities. Boom towns associated with energy development have numerous problems, such as overcrowding, drugs, alcohol and child abuse. The people in this area

feel that the arts and cultural events play an important part in their community growth. This project will place a community arts developer who will work intimately with community organizations around those 22 counties to help with management assistance. The theory that arts and cultural events have a significant effect on these impact areas, has been proven quite valid. They are looking for funding for phase I of a two year project. The project director will work with other directors regarding public and local sources of funding. He will also work with the communities to enable them to meet with the current challenges more successfully. He asked the Committee to refer to EXHIBIT C and EXHIBIT D.

MONTANA CHAUTAUQUA, University of Montana

This is a request for additional funding to extend this project for an alternate year, because this was the third application to Title I, and it was turned down. This project is designed to show Montanans that the work of Montana artists, shows and demonstrations characteristic to their state. This has three parts to it which are film, dance and literature which are taken to ten communities in Montana. The dance portion deals with authentic journals and is a 25 minute presentation. The literature portion of the project is a lecture given by DR. WILLIAM BEVIS, and in each community they have appeared, Dr. Bevis has directed the lecture around the local history. The film portion is entitled, Energy and Morality, and this film was selected throughout the world to be viewed on public television. She feels this project is both a cultural and aesthetic project in that it includes creative work of Montanans and also identifies the reasons for that work. She stated she has raised the sponsor fees for each community, from \$250 to \$350. None of the communities seem to be objecting to this amount.

MONTANA REPERTORY THEATER - University of Montana

The Montana Repertory Theater is the only professional equity theater between Minneapolis, St. Paul and Seattle. It is in residence in Missoula preparing for four to six weeks and then goes on the road for nine to twelve weeks. This particular request is to supplement funding which is already being made and appreciated from the Montana Arts Council, the Western States Arts Foundation and the National Endowment for the Arts. This request would assist in funding, particularly in small and middle size communities in the state. There is a difference in the costs when they are touring out of state at \$3,600 a day, compared to in-state for \$2,400 a day. This helps off-set the deficit when they perform in the state of Montana because they feel the responsibility of keeping the fees at a level that can be afforded by any size community. They recently received a gift from a large

corporation, and they feel this particular grant is applicable to this legislation, because it is designed to make up the deficit to enable them to go into and perform specifically the small communities that could not afford to have them. In addition to professional theatre performances, they also do a theatre in the schools program that does workshops in elementary and secondary schools. They had a graphic artist do specifically a design indicating the fiscal problems of supporting the Montana Repertory Theater, which showed a standard size semi with a bed of about 20 feet. If they were not to receive any funding, but needed to explain the semi to show how much financial support they actually receive from their fees, it would show the engine, wheels and half of the cab. The remainder of the cost for touring in that truck comes from many other private, state and federal requests.

MONTANA LITERATURE PUBLICATION- DR. BEVIS at U of M.

This is the same person as recently mentioned in Montana Chautauqua project. This project would involve time off for Dr. Bevis to do part of a book length study on Montana Writers. Since the proposal was submitted, he has been doing a number of lectures, which involve new recommendations that have occurred in the last few weeks. The challenge to the author, would be if a popular readable account can be written about Montana Writers. His interest is in an intellectual historians account as a development of their values, society and culture as seen through its literature. He gave an example of what happens in trying to do a book of this type, one would look at native americans in white Montana literature and their own literature, there would be a couple of discrepancies. He used a quote from a book stating the wild life of the Indian, and being able to run with him wild and free like the mustang, which is a popular misconception of the white man toward the Indian. The Indian in this book is not wild and free at all, and they have a great amount of tribalism. The white man's literature shows a person moving from home and trying to have a good life somewhere else. The native american is exactly the opposite, and they circle back home to their family. This is the type of point he would be making in many different areas in this book. The best recommendation is BUD GUTHRIE, learning that he was going to moderate a panel on Montana Writers stated you couldn't get a better man for it. He is teaching the only course in the state on Montanas Writers, and he feels this is a book that should be written, and he would like the opportunity to write it. He would not get a national grant on this since it deals only with Montana.

CONSERVATION OF RALSTON MURAL- Billings Logan Airport.

This painting is located in the lobby of the terminal, and approximately 3,000 to 4,000 people pass it daily through the lobby. This is the largest Ralston that was ever completed. See EXHIBIT E, for details. Billings International Airport is in

a tight fiscal situation, and funding can not be used to restore this painting. Funding must be secured from other sources other than Airport revenues. It was stated that if they do not receive funding, he would not know where to go next and this painting does need some significant repair work before it is lost in the future.

MONTANA FOLKLIFE PROJECT

This request is for an ongoing, previously funded project which has been ongoing since 1979, see EXHIBIT F. The purpose of this project is to document the traditional cultures that exist in the state of Montana. The purpose of this is to share this with the people of Montana. They have engaged in several subprojects, such as retrieving materials that have been lost, stolen or taken from Montana and get them back into the state. It is important that they have gone to the Library of Congress, and have gotten tapes and copies of originals which have ended up in the Library. They initiated a radio program called "My Home's in Montana", which came from the field recordings that are made from this project. They have engaged a folk artist in the school program to teach children how traditional artists came about these traditions, and how they are being passed on from generation to generation. They also help other groups set up presentations in their communities. They hope to get into producing a series of phonograph records, and the first one called "My Home's in Montana" was recorded. They would like to keep this project going, and build up an archive that the state can really be proud of.

ART CONSERVATION AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA

This grant is in the infancy stage at the U of M of dealing with a very important part of Montana's artistic heritage at the University. There are 18 Paxton murals at the University that have never been cleaned plus many other famous artists paintings and prints. All of these are in a state of disrepair, and in the past year have been able to get them in a storage climatized environment. There are 32 art centers in the state of Montana, and it is the desire that the collection at the University be made available throughtout the state for as much time as they would like to exhibit. They also have some WPA prints, and with a recent grant they were able to frame and mat these. See EXHIBIT G. The small art centers are not able to develop their own permanent collections with any great ease, so the restoration of these works would enable these works to tour the state in a show.

YELLOWSTONE ART CENTER RENOVATION.

The Yellowstone Art Center now serves statewide as the largest

Art Center in the state of Montana. The annual attendance now exceeds 26,000 and they serve many counties. The Center is housed in the former county jail, however, they are facing many problems in operating this center in a jailhouse. The quality and scope of the exhibition education program has grown to the extent that they utilize the entire second floor on a continuing basis. One of the major collections are on the second floor, plus all of the offices. The auditorium and all the lectures and films they offer to this region, are on the second floor, because this is the largest room available. Those programs are denied to all of the handicapped in the region, because they do not have an elevator. They recently installed a major ramp on the outside of the building, but this does not pertain to the second floor. The everyday hauling and crating of these paintings and sculptures is both dangerous to the art and the staff. The initial step in their master plan is adding an elevator to the building, a shipping and receiving area would be located, plus updated restrooms for the handicapped. The total cost of this project would be \$250,000 and this would be according to the architects specifications.

COMMUNITY VIDEO PROJECT- Lewis and Clark Library.

The Helena Community Video Project would be intended to provide access to video equipment and technical expertise to artists, local arts and educational organizations and local government units. See EXHIBIT H, regarding the four main purposes. This would create works of art in the medium of video, preserve the works of local artists; produce documentaries on local and regional issues and subject matter, and educate the public on local and regional issues. They are hoping to provide maximum exposure to video programs that are developed and originated locally through a variety of outlets such as the Helena Public Library, Helena Cable TV etc. It is believed that video tape can provide greater access to the public and individual citizens because it is an effective medium and versatile. Many groups in the community have expressed interest and support of this project.

J.K. RALSTON CENTER IN RICHLAND COUNTY.

The original proposal was misleading and they are requesting funds for Phase I of this project, which is \$145,000. See EXHIBIT I regarding the history of the project, the present scope and the future scope. They are attempting to secure the funds necessary to acquire the Peoples Congregational Church, which was constructed in 1908. The purpose of this will provide a cultural center for Sidney by providing a Museum, an Art Center and a Center for Senior Citizen activities, plus a lecture and recital hall. This is something Sidney is desperately in need of, and the closest cultural center is Miles City, which is 120 miles away. It is

their feeling that this type of spending under the Coal Tax Fund for cultural and aesthetic projects is indeed appropriate. Private citizens, plus city and county officials are all working together to see that the project gets built. The \$700,000 construction costs for the new building will be paid for through private and public grants, private donations, and the biggest part will be by the Richland County Commissioners through their 1 mill support. To show the support for this project, they have raised approximately \$60,000 in cash donations, and in addition have used 6,000 of donated man hours. There are over 300 active members in this Historical Society and they are very determined that this project be done. If they do not get this property purchased, the church will be demolished and the city of Sidney will lose one of its most historic buildings. They feel this project was the type of project intended by HB 500. This is a cultural project, because it provides a cultural center. It is aesthetic because Sidney is losing its past and needs to preserve their heritage. This is a chance for the state to work hand and hand with private and local government in order to get the project off the ground.

J.D. HOLMES, Lobbyist for the Arts Advocacy, stated he likes all of these projects, however, the requests total approximately \$1,000,000 more than what is available. He wanted to offer two top priorities by his group, one is the Restoration of the Murals in the Capitol, and the other priority is the Montana Folklife Group. He stated they would like to leave the other projects between the sponsors and the Committee.

HELENA RESIDENT AND ARTISTS, stated many of them have found occasions to want access to video equipment because it is more adaptable to the TV. It has been felt many times, many activities that go on in Helena could be preserved and broadcast to the local media. The main problem is getting the quality equipment necessary to do local projects, and it would make easy accessibility administered through the local Library.

THE CHAIRMAN asked the representative for the Community Video Project that his request was considerably less than is now being presented, and they are trying to get funding for just one year. ANSWER; They did not understand if the project would be funded for one or two years, so they put together a budget for two years. The first \$51,000 would be for equipment, the second year would be operating and administrative costs.

THE CHAIRMAN asked the representative of the Ralston Mural at the Billings airport, what was involved in the restoration price. ANSWER; The painting is suffering from severe flaking and tinting, the paint layers are being lost. The treatment would involve photography and removal, application of protective varnishes, and transportation from the conservatory to the airport and back,

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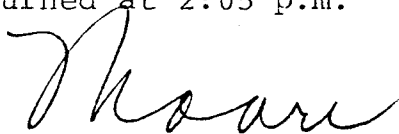
Page 7

cleaning of the reverse, new lining, cleaning, repair of some tears, mounting to an aluminum panel.

REP. BARDANOUE asked if the R.K. RALSRON Center has made a down payment on the land. ANSWER: They have made a down payment for \$15,000 and any additional money the committee can see fit to give to this project will be appreciated.

THE CHAIRMAN asked how many years the Repretory Theatre has been on the road and how many communities it entertains. ANSWER: They have been on the road four years, in the present state, and last year they entertained in 25 communities. It was stated that the \$3,600 charged out-of-state helps fund the deficit of the \$2,400 in the state. She explained they are not allowed to charge an amount in the ticket price that would cover the cost of the production. At this time, they are floating a \$100,000 deficit to keep this affordable. Their concern is that in order to be fiscally responsible, they would end up performing more outside of the state than inside the state and their mission is to provide professional theatre to the state of Montana. This would assist them in what they should be charging to smaller communities who cannot afford this.

There being no further discussion or comments, the meeting was adjourned at 2:05 p.m.



JACK K. MOORE, Chairman

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VISITORS' REGISTER

HOUSE LONG RANGE BUILDING COMMITTEE

TITLE Cultural & Aesthetic Proj.

Date 4/2/81

SPONSOR _____

NAME	RESIDENCE	REPRESENTING	SUPPORT	OPPO
J. D. Holmes	Helena	MT ARTS Advocacy	Folklife	
Michael Koen	Missoula	MT Folklife Proj	Folklife	
Sister Kathryn Martin	MISSOULA	U of Montana	Art Center MRT	
Nyma Forbes	Billings	Yellowstone Art Center	Elevator for Bldg	
V. Martin Holt	Helena	Helena Com.	Video Proj	
Jane T. Thorsen	Sioux	Montana Hist Soc		
John A. ...	Missoula			
Christine ...	Billings	Billings Paper Dept		
John ...	Missoula	"Montana ..."		
Brian ...	Helena	"Montanians at Work"		
Margaret ...	Missoula	Commission of ...		
Bill ...	MSLA	MT ARTS Council	Com Arts Proj	
David Nelson	MSLA	Montana ...	Folklife Comm ...	

IF YOU CARE TO WRITE COMMENTS, ASK SECRETARY FOR LONGER FORM.

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY.

MONTANANS AT WORK

AN ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

SUBMITTED BY THE MONTANA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Exhibit A

ORAL HISTORY PROJECT - RATIONALE

Oral history is a method of recording historically significant reminiscences of individuals for use in the research and preservation of personal interpretations of the past. Recording interviews on tape, is the most effective way in which to insure that at least some of the information stored in the memories of people is preserved for us and for future generations. In this century telephone conversations, which leave no record, have replaced the numerous letters and diaries so common to and plentiful in the past. Our historical record of the feelings, attitudes and lives of common people has become increasingly sketchy. Oral history must fill the gaps in the written record if those of us living now and in the future are going to have an accurate and representative record of this century.

As such, oral history is dependent upon people who are willing to share their first-hand experiences, and upon the interest and abilities of informed and capable interviewers. Oral history is tenuous in that often the most significant sources are people of advancing years and in poor health. No time is too soon to establish a systematic means of collecting these interviews. Interviewing, the preservation of tapes, and the provision of public access to the tapes for research purposes are three essential ingredients in the oral history process.

No one can dispute the diversity and excitement of Montana history. The history of people living and working in this state is relatively new, and there are still those who can remember certain frontier experiences. In appreciation of the variety of occupations that lured people to Montana, in recognition of the value of the state's personal resources, and with respect for the devastations of time, it is important that support be given to the development of an oral history program now.

According to the latest survey conducted by the Montana Oral History Association, thirty-eight libraries, museums, universities and like institutions across the state are collecting or have on file some oral history tapes. These individual efforts are important, but a well-coordinated state-wide project would serve eminently well in collecting significant interviews and in providing a model for those institutions and individuals who have an interest in preserving history in this way. The Montana Historical Society, with a permanent and experienced staff, is in the best position to provide this guidance and education through the sponsorship and operation of such a program.

THE PROJECT: MONTANANS AT WORK, 1910-1945

The Montana Historical Society proposes to do what many other states are already doing. We propose a state-wide effort to collect oral history from people who have made their livelihoods in Montana. A state-wide oral history project has been discussed many times in Montana, but for a variety of reasons it has not been done. The need is critical if this fast disappearing information is to be retained for future research and education.

In many respects, Montana's economy and society were both shaped by and followed national trends in the first half of the twentieth century. While these trends influenced business and industry in the state, they were also important, but less obvious, in dictating the lives of working Montanans in the same period. As Montana emerged from the frontier era into the twentieth century, new jobs appeared while others became superfluous to the new industrial society. These changes shaped life in Montana, then and today.

The Federal Writers Project, operated by the federal government in the 1930s, sponsored a project entitled "Men At Work", which was intended to capture the

experiences of working Americans in all regions of the country. In Montana, this effort had only a token beginning before World War II brought an end to the project. If this program had proceeded, much valuable information for historians, sociologists, other scholars, private researchers and educators would have been preserved. Nothing demonstrates this failure better than the publication of a book entitled First Person America. This volume which draws upon over 10,000 of the oral interviews conducted by the Federal Writers Project and contains eighty life histories, has none relating to Montana.

The Montana Historical Society proposes to undertake a program similar to the old WPA effort, using the techniques of oral history. Tentatively titled "Montanans at Work," the project will collect interviews of Montanans in selected occupations that are representative of the state's work force in the period 1910-1945. In addition to including most of the more common occupations in Montana, the project will also cover all regions of the state.

The project will conduct between 300 to 350 interviews over the two years. These will reveal occupational patterns, ethnic employment patterns, biographical data, and local history information. A list of occupations, reflecting regional tendencies, as well as dominant and peripheral employment patterns, has been compiled (see attached for preliminary listing). From this list, occupations will be selected for interviewing purposes. Selection of interview subjects will be weighted towards the dominant economic sectors in Montana. Of those, mining, agriculture, and forest products will require multiple interviews. Other areas represented in the project, such as commerce, the professions, service industries, and recreation will require fewer interviews. Many aspects of our society are not represented by written records, and the

use of oral history techniques will make a much larger quantity of this "fugitive" information available. Future generations will gain insights into the lives of miners, loggers, railroad engineers, homesteaders, hotelkeepers, and a large number of other under-represented and poorly documented occupations. Materials resulting from this project will be deposited in the State Archives at the Montana Historical Society where they will be available to researchers, pending any restrictions placed on the materials by narrators. A duplicate tape will be deposited in a local institution in the area from which the tape originated. Oral history may be used in Society publications and possibly for media and school programs as well. Of paramount importance, however, is the need to collect and preserve a rapidly disappearing historical record.

PROJECT METHODOLOGY AND WORK PLAN

Project Demands -

The scope of this project requires a careful administration of all phases of the project work, from selection of narrators (persons to be interviewed) to oversight of legal releases and deposition of interviews in Montana Historical Society Archives. This requires a professional staff in the central office. It also requires cooperation with local and regional groups including historical societies, libraries, museums and local oral history groups in the identification of narrators and to insure that this project does not duplicate already completed work.

Project Staff -

Director, Chief Interviewer, Secretary/Transcriber will constitute the permanent professional staff. The Director will be responsible for oversight and direction of the entire project. The Chief Interviewer will be responsible for conducting interviews, aiding in the training of contract interviewers, selection of narrators, and other necessary aspects of processing interviews. The Secretary/Transcriber will be responsible for transcribing interviews, typing, proofing tape summaries, and general office work. A committee drawn

from the professional staff of the Montana Historical Society (Oral History Committee) will play an advisory role in the project.

Work Plan -

Considering that it is projected that 150-175 interviews will be conducted each year of the two-year project, an orderly work plan is essential. The object is to cover the entire state. To do this the state will be divided into regions and potential narrators will be identified in each region with the aid and cooperation of local historical groups. The interviews will be conducted by either the professional office staff or by contracted interviewers.

There are six basic procedures in oral history work that must be followed:

- 1) Selection of narrator and determination of subject area;
- 2) Research and preparation for the interview;
- 3) Formal interview;
- 4) Signing of release and disposition forms by narrator and interviewer;
- 5) processing of interview by tape summary or occasionally full transcription;
- 6) Deposit of tape and summaries or transcripts in archives.

The Director and Chief Interviewer will do much of the interviewing, but additional interviewers will be necessary to complete the project. Narrators will be located all across the state, requiring extra time and travel for the professional staff. To aid in the project, therefore, two university faculty personnel well versed in oral history methodology and Montana history and four graduate students will be hired for twelve weeks each year to interview narrators. During the rest of the year, when travel is more restricted, several oral historians across the state will be contracted for specific interviews at a standard rate. The faculty, graduate students, and contracted interviewers will all undergo intensive preparatory training in the project methodologies and goals. This training will be the responsibility of the Director and the

Chief Interviewer.

Work Schedule -

"Montanans At Work" Oral History Project will run from 1 July 1981 to 30 June 1983. The first work in preparation for the project's beginning will be the selection of narrators for July-September 1981 interviews. This selection will have to be made by Montana Historical Society Oral History Committee. Training of the summer faculty and graduate student interviewers will take place in early July 1981; interviewing will begin by late July. The Director and Chief Interviewer will draw up a full and detailed work plan for the whole project by September 1981. The Montana Historical Society Oral History Committee will review and approve the plan at that time. The Director of "Montanans at Work" project will present monthly progress reports to the Oral History Committee and the Director of the Montana Historical Society.

	F.Y. 1982	F.Y. 1983
I. Personnel		
1. Project Director - Grade 14	\$17,080.00	\$17,436.00
Fringe benefits	3,074.00	3,138.00
2. Chief Interviewer - Grade 12	\$14,284.00	\$14,584.00
Fringe benefits	2,571.00	2,625.00
3. Secretary/Transcriber - Grade 9	\$11,139.00	\$11,376.00
Fringe benefits	2,005.00	2,048.00
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SUB TOTAL	\$50,153.00	\$51,207.00
II. Program Costs		
1. Phone	800.00	800.00
2. Postage	500.00	600.00
3. Brochure	1,500.00	----
4. Paper and Supplies	150.00	150.00
5. Travel	15,000.00	15,000.00
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SUB TOTAL	\$17,950.00	\$16,550.00
III. Contracted Services (Summer Field Interviews)		
1. Four (4) Student Interviewers for three (3) months @ \$850.00 per student per month	\$10,200.00	\$10,200.00
2. Two (2) Faculty Interviewers for three (3) months at \$1,500 per person per month	9,000.00	9,000.00
3. Twenty-five contract interviews @ \$100.00/interview	2,500.00	2,500.00
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SUB TOTAL	\$21,700.00	\$21,700.00
IV. Equipment		
1. Six Super Scope cassette recorders @ \$120.00	720.00	_____
2. Six Microphones @ \$30.00	180.00	_____
3. One Panasonic Transcriber	425.00	_____
4. One I.B.M. Selectric II Correcting Typewriter	975.00	_____

	F.Y. 1982	F.Y.1983
5. 2,100 hours of T.D.K. cassette tape @ 2.00/hr.	<u>\$ 4,200</u>	<u> </u>
SUB TOTAL	6.500	000.00
TOTAL	\$96,303.00	\$89,457.00
 TOTAL COST FOR F.Y. 82,83	 \$185,760.00	

POSSIBLE INTERVIEWS TO BE INCLUDED

COMMERCE

Tailor
 General Merchant
 Banker or Bank employee
 Traveling salesman
 Retail Clerk
 Bookkeeper
 Stenographer
 Grocer
 Watchman
 Warehouseman
 Hatter
 Florist
 Saddlemaker/leather worker
 Printer/pressman
 Farm Equipment Sales
 Motor Car Sales
 Cigar Maker
 Brewery worker
 Sign Painter/maker
 Clothier

RECREATION

Movie/theater cashier or usher
 Movie/theater operator
 Bartender
 Prostitute
 Soda fountain attendant
 Musician
 Billiard room operator
 Actor/actress

AGRICULTURE

Dairyman
 Rancher
 Cowboy
 Grain farmer
 Harvest hand
 Truck farmer
 Homesteader
 Orchard worker
 Farm/ranch wife

SERVICES

Waiter/waitress
 Iceman
 Candymaker (Confectioner)
 Baker
 Brewery worker
 Hotel Bellboy
 Hotelkeeper
 Mortician
 Butcher
 Barber
 Cook
 Beautician
 Blacksmith (iron worker)
 Housekeeper
 Seamstress
 Machinist
 Laundress/"presser"
 Miller
 Boardinghouse proprietor
 Utilities worker
 Milkman

PROFESSIONS

College teacher
 Architect
 Photographer, commercial
 Veterinarian
 Teacher
 Nurse
 Doctor
 Minister/priest
 Nun
 Pharmacist
 Librarian
 Lawyer
 Surveyor

GOVERNMENT

Soldier
 Fireman
 Policeman or deputy sheriff
 Government office worker
 Postman

MINERALS

Miner, coal
Miner, hardrock
Smelterman
Mine engineer
Shift boss
Geologist
Ropeman
Station tender
Petroleum refinery worker
Drilling rig crew
Assayer

TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATION

Railroad engineer
Railroad crew (fireman, brakeman, conductor, etc.)
Truck driver
Teamster
Mechanic
Telephone operator
Newspaperman (reporter, editor)
Bus driver
Trolley carman
Telegrapher
Telegraph messenger
Railroad yard worker (car repair, fire starter, etc.)
Railroad section hand
Commercial pilot
Steamboat crew

FORESTRY AND FOREST PRODUCTS

Forester/ranger
Logger
Sawyer
Lumber mill worker/sawmill operator
Shay locomotive operator
Forest firefighter

BUILDING CONSTRUCTION AND CRAFTS

Tinner
Brickmaker
Building contractor
Foundry worker
Carpenter
Electrician
Painter
Mason/bricklayer
Stone cutter
Plumber



DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY
AND POLITICAL SCIENCE
Billings, Montana 59101
(406) 657-2311/2138

December 3, 1980

Dr. Robert Archibald, Director
Montana Historical Society
225 North Roberts
Helena, MT 59601

Dear Dr. Archibald:

This letter is written in support of the grant application to fund the oral history project, "Montanans at Work, 1910-45," which intends to interview 350 individuals with a variety of working experiences. As a sociologist who teaches an upper division course in the sociology of work, I am, of course, extremely interested in the results of such an effort. Data regarding work experience in the state of Montana are extremely hard to obtain, at the same time that current perspectives on work are in part generated by the previous social experiences in occupations. I am certain that a well founded research would be of enormous help in understanding more clearly the specific regional orientations towards work which define the state of Montana in more than two areas.

Because part of my training is anthropology, I am also of the opinion that a well controlled interview program of the type envisioned in the proposal will indeed elicit the information which would be most useful to the different social sciences in addition to its importance for a historical perspective. I also feel that I find this project of sufficient urgency that funding should not be delayed, because the mortality rates of individuals might cut short the sources of information that are necessary to complete the research. I hope, therefore, that you will fund the proposal because I think it will be to the advantage of the people of Montana and of academic interest for a wide group of the social sciences.

Sincerely yours,

Andreas N. Maris Van Blaaderen, Ph.D.
Associate Professor of Sociology
and Anthropology
Chairperson, Department of Sociology
and Political Science

MVB/mlh

exhibit B



University of Montana
Missoula, Montana 59812

Department of History
(406) 243-2231/243-5943

November 24, 1980

Dr. Robert Archibald, Director
Montana Historical Society
225 North Roberts
Helena, Montana 59601

Dear Bob:

I've just heard of your Oral History Project and want to encourage you to push your hardest for funding. This is undoubtedly one of the most needed projects one could originate. In order to understand the history of Montana we need to get the testimonies of those who were involved before it is too late. The excellent results of our Potomac Valley Oral History Report should convince every person who values his Montana heritage of the importance of acting soon.

If I can be of any help, please call upon me.

Good luck!

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bob".

Robert R. Dozier
Associate Professor

RRD:ja



DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY
Billings, Montana 59101
(406) 657-2119

November 24, 1980

Dr. Robert Archibald
Director, Montana Historical Society
225 North Roberts
Helena, MT 59601

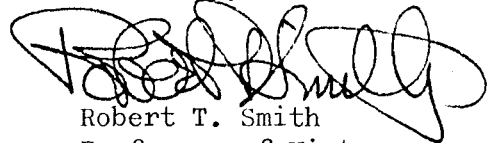
Dear Bob:

I was especially pleased to hear that you are applying for funds to support a major oral history project in Montana. It is something which needs to be done and I think is very appropriate that the Montana Historical Society supervise the effort.

The scope of the project, Montanans at Work, 1910-1945, seems to focus precisely on an area which if neglected much longer would be lost forever.

If there is any way I could further assist you in the project please let me know.

Sincerely,



Robert T. Smith
Professor of History

RTS/bm



University of Montana
Missoula, Montana 59812

Department of History
(406) 243-2231/243-5943

November 25, 1980

Dr. Robert Archibald, Director
Montana State Historical Society
225 North Roberts
Helena, Montana 59601

Dear Bob:

Harry Fritz indicated that we should contact you directly about the proposed oral history project entitled "Montanans at Work, 1910-1945." Frankly, if even a less ambitious project could be funded, it would provide an opening wedge for expanded study.

As you are aware, my own interest in this topic has been sharpened considerably by the work I've done with DCA on the Mexican-American. As a consequence, a project such as the one you propose clearly needs an Hispanic component that the DCA work has only scratched.

I would, therefore, be interested in working closely with you on such a project. For an Hispanic section, I could probably provide two or three students per year (advanced undergraduate or graduate).

I certainly hope that such an ambitious project will be launched. We are very much in need of a systematic, comprehensive oral history project in the state, and I am happy to give it my most enthusiastic support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Manuel A. Machado, Jr.", written in black ink.

Manuel A. Machado, Jr.
Professor of History



University of Montana
Missoula, Montana 59812

Department of History
(406) 243-2231/243-5943

November 26, 1980

Dr. Robert Archibald, Director
Montana Historical Society
225 North Roberts
Helena, Montana 59601

Dear Dr. Archibald:

Harry Fritz informs me that you will soon attempt to get legislative support for an oral history project: "Montanans at Work, 1910-1945."

I have done some work in Montana labor history and am presently completing an article on the coal mining operation in Red Lodge, 1890s to 1925. One vital ingredient which has been missing in my current research is personal accounts--memories. While one can do an adequate job of description without such accounts, their addition could certainly lend that human touch which makes the past come to life for us in the present.

I enthusiastically endorse your proposal, therefore, and urge you to feel free to call on me for any help I may be able to give.

Sincerely,

William B. Evans
William B. Evans
Professor

WBE:ja



COLLEGE OF LETTERS & SCIENCE

DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY & PHILOSOPHY

MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY, BOZEMAN 59717

December 10, 1980

Robert Archibald, Director
Montana Historical Society
225 North Roberts
Helena, MT 59601

Dear Dr. Archibald:

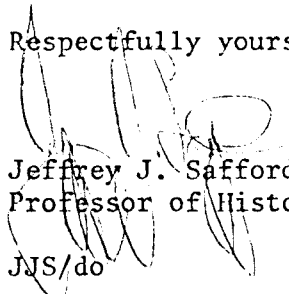
I am writing to endorse your application for a grant of support from the Coal Severance Tax Fund for the purpose of establishing an Oral History section within the Historical Society's function.

As recent projects have demonstrated abundantly, Montana's past is in large measure being recreated and preserved through this viable and meaningful new methodology, and the Historical Society is the logical and appropriate agency to serve as its administrative center of operation.

The fact that you envision a project recording the reminiscences of Montanans at work before the 1950s makes the project all the more worthy in my opinion.

You have my unqualified endorsement.

Respectfully yours,



Jeffrey J. Safford
Professor of History

JJS/do



THE BEAVERHEAD COUNTY MUSEUM

Museum-Chamber of Commerce Building — Depot Lawn

Dillon, Montana

November 25, 1960

Robert Archibald, Director
Montana Historical Society
225 N. Roberts
Helena, Montana 59601

Dear Bob:

This letter is to express my enthusiastic support for the "Montana at Work" oral history project which the Montana Historical Society is proposing. There is a great need in Montana to preserve the history of the present century -- an era when individuals have tended to write less and less and rely on the telephone more and more. As a result, many of the vital contributions which have been made to the development and growth of the region are not being recorded for future generations. As Chairman of the Montana Oral History Association, I have become acutely aware of that problem, and feel a program such as "Montana at Work" will help fill the void.

Speaking as the Curator of the Beaverhead County Museum, I can also see great promise for such a project as it works with the various counties and communities in Montana to record the oral history of each locale. Those individuals who have worked in Beaverhead County have made it the place it is today -- to record that contribution on tape would be most worthwhile.

It is my hope that the proposed project will be funded and that the Historical Society may, thereby, be enabled to preserve a record of the men and women who have been the backbone of Montana's growth and development during the twentieth Century.

Sincerely yours,

Rex C. Myers
Curator, Beaverhead County Museum
Chairman, Montana Oral History Association

Historic Beaverhead County

Southern Gateway to Montana





Fort Missoula Historical Museum

December 4, 1980

Dr. Robert Archibald, Director
Montana Historical Society
225 North Roberts
Helena, Montana 59601

Dear Bob:

The proposal for a statewide oral history project, "Montanans At Work, 1910 - 1945", is an excellent and much needed project for the preservation of a unique historic resource: the unwritten remembrances, attitudes, and feelings of the people who participated in Montana's development during these critical years.

As now envisioned the project will conduct systematic interviews with persons of varied occupations throughout the state. Such interviews will provide personal first-hand responses to Montana's development. By recording these responses and systematically making them available, the project will add significant documentation unavailable now to our understanding of Montana history.

We strongly support the Historical Society's effort to fund the project through a state appropriation. Through a statewide coordinated effort people from all parts of the state can both participate in and receive the benefits of the project. A well planned and funded project may also be a catalyst to encourage those persons already working in oral history to continue their efforts. We also anticipate the development of additional oral history projects in response to the interest created by "Montanans At Work".

Through this project a significant cultural resource will be preserved for future generations. We urge the Historical Society to seek funding for the project through a state appropriation.

Sincerely,

Frank R. Grant
Director

FRG:sh



November 28, 1980

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
Billings, Montana 59101
(406) 657-2300

Dr. Robert Archibald
Director, Montana Historical Society
225 North Roberts
Helena, Montana 59601

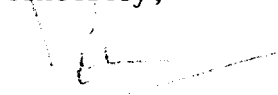
Dear Bob:

I write in support of your grant application for a state-wide oral history project under the sponsorship of the Historical Society. I know of no more appropriate place to locate such a state-wide effort since all of us with a commitment to history and an interest in Montana's past turn to the Society as the focus of our interests. You have not only the finest collection of Montana material, but you provide us with the means of coming together with our common interest, and we have the service of your very able professional staff. That you have taken the initiative for this grant request is additional evidence of the Society's strength.

Oral history properly done is of particular importance in a State like Montana where the literary record is neither as full or as strong as in the older sections of the United States. A work history could be developed only in the manner you propose and will provide us with an invaluable resource for an understanding of all aspects of our State's past.

Thank you for undertaking this important venture.

Sincerely,



John E. Van de Wetering
President

VdW/jd

COMMENTS IN SUPPORT OF COMMUNITY ART SERVICE PROJECT FOR EASTERN MONTANA

"The ~~arts~~ are important to people's lives...particularly in those communities facing the stress and changes which come with growth impact. We desperately need the personnel and resources which this proposal would provide to help communities build their own cultural identities and programs." Jessica Stickney, Miles City

"...to those of us in Eastern Montana who are trying our best to preserve our community values during these times of rapid change and growth. There are many problems which must be dealt with soon before it is too late, and we will only be able to be successful in our efforts if we are provided the sort of assistance that the Community Art Service Project could provide." Gary J. Thogerson, Pres., MonDak Historical and Art Society, Sidney

"It is my hope that this program will tie us into a network of statewide arts advocacy." C. Karen Stanton, Big Horn Arts and Crafts Association, Hardin

"...though distances are great and towns far apart, the people are here and they certainly would profit from such a project." John Johnson, Principal, Dawson Co. High School, Glendive

"The integration into the population base of large numbers of people from outside of our immediate area will inevitably result in an altering of the lifestyles and customs of the region. We believe it is desirous to see the upcoming transition accomplished with as little polarization as possible. We at Miles Community College will provide such assistance and support as we are able to assure its successful implementation." Judson H. Flower, President, Miles Community College, Miles City

"I strongly support the proposal which seems to be very thoroughly researched and an excellent product." Norma Vestre, Chief, Social Services Bureau, SRS

"These communities are being asked to suffer because of national needs...most will suffer more than ordinary communities since they are informal social systems, accustomed to a stable agrarian life style which operates among persons familiar to each community member. If development is to occur, it should occur with maximum opportunities for impacted persons. They deserve assistance." Pat Jobs, Department of Sociology, Montana State University

"Some of the more critical issues we have faced in our work in Wyoming 'boom towns' have been in the areas of integrating new comers into the mainstream of the community, finding recreational and cultural outlets, and preserving and maintaining the quality of life for local residents. Your project is designed to help prevent and mitigate these problems." Dr. Judith Davenport, Director, Wyoming Human Services Project, Univ. of Wyoming, Laramie

"...it is quite refreshing to see a proposal that does not focus on sewer systems and water treatment!" D. Wm. Freudenburg, Dept. of Rural Sociology, Washington State University

"from what I have seen in Colorado, Wyoming and North Dakota's impacted communities...There is no doubt in my mind that under conditions of rapid growth, some program such as you propose is indeed called for. I strongly support it and wish someone in Colorado were planning a similar program!" Bernie Jones, Director, Community Research Center, University of Colorado

"Montana continues its leadership among state arts agencies in imaginatively addressing problems which are unique to the state without relying on all the tired programming ideas and buzz words through which we all swim daily." Peter deC. Hero, Executive Director, Oregon Arts Commission

"Your proposal is one of the most thorough and persuasive documents of its kind that I've ever seen. It must have been a massive effort. I only hope that the people who must approve it give it the attention that it deserves. Bill Jamison, Executive Director, Western States Arts Foundation

Exhibit C

2206 Main St.
Miles City, MT 59301
November 14, 1980

Mr. Bill Pratt
Community Arts Coordinator
1280 South Third Street West
Missoula, MT 59801

Dear Bill:

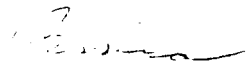
I have read your Proposal for a Community Arts Service Project for Eastern Montana with a great deal of interest and anticipation. I support the concept wholeheartedly, and trust those who review the project for funding will see its value to the state of Montana, and to the communities in eastern Montana in particular.

In my various involvements with people in eastern Montana I am increasingly aware of the vital importance the arts play in our individual lives and in the corporate life of a community. We desperately need the personnel and resources which this proposal would provide to help communities build their own cultural identities and programs.

The arts are important to people's lives in any circumstance, but particularly in those communities facing the stress and changes which come with growth impact, they are a vitally important aspect of the health and wholeness of a people. Akin to the spiritual needs we feel, our creative needs must also be met.

I endorse this proposal with great enthusiasm and the hope that it will become a reality.

Sincerely,



Jessica P. Stickney



Box ~~50~~ 751

Sidney, Montana 59270

Telephone: (406) 482-3500

November 5, 1980

Mr. Bill Pratt
Community Arts Coordinator
Montana Arts Council
1280 South Third West
Missoula, Montana 59801


Re: MonDak Historical & Art Society

Dear Bill:

I have reviewed the rough draft of your proposal for a Community Art Service Project for Eastern Montana. I find that the proposal is extremely well done, in that it presents in a very concise and thorough manner a proposal to meet some of the serious problems that Eastern Montana is facing, and that I have been particularly aware of in my own community.

This project would provide much needed assistance to those of us in Eastern Montana who are trying our best to preserve our community values during these times of rapid change and growth. There are many problems which must be dealt with soon before it is too late, and we will only be able to be successful in our efforts if we are provided the sort of assistance that the Community Art Service Project could provide. You may be assured of my support for your proposal, and if I may be of further assistance to you in this regard, please do not hesitate to call or write.

Sincerely,



Gary J. Thogersen, President

October 16, 1980

OCT 17 1980

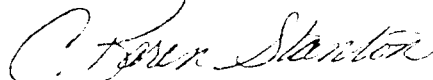
MONTANA ARTS COUNCIL
1280 South Third St.
Missoula, Montana 59801

Dear Arts Council Members:

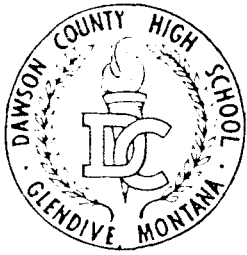
I am writing to express my support for the Community Art Service Project for Eastern Montana. It is my hope that this program will tie us into the network of statewide arts advocacy.

In a recent conversation with our District Senator, Carroll Graham, we discussed this project as well as general support for the arts, and he is aware of my stand on this issue.

Sincerely,



C. Karen Stanton
Big Horn Arts & Crafts
Association
Hardin, Montana, 59034



DAWSON COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL

900 N. MERRILL AVE. - BOX 701
GLENDDIVE, MONTANA 59330

NOV 10 1980

DR. RAYMOND FELTON
SUPERINTENDENT
406 365 5293

JOHN H. JOHNSON
PRINCIPAL
406 365 5265

HILARY M. HOPFAUF
VICE-PRINCIPAL
406 365 5265

MRS. VADA M. TAYLOR
DISTRICT CLERK
406 365 2555

November 6, 1980

Bill Pratt
Community Arts Coordinator
Montana Arts Council
1280 S. Third West
Missoula, MT 59801

Dear Bill:

I have read the draft of your proposal "Community Arts Service Project". It sounds feasible even though distances are great and towns far apart, the people are here and they certainly would profit from such a project. I could only find one area of disagreement, that of locating the headquarters in Miles City. Glendive has some office space.

Keep up the good work.

Yours truly,

John H. Johnson
Principal

JHJ:jm

MILES COMMUNITY COLLEGE

2715 Dickinson

MILES CITY, MONTANA 59301

November 18, 1980

Montana Arts Council
1280 South Third West
Missoula, MT 59801

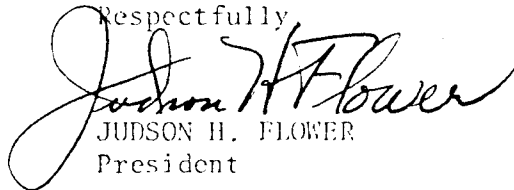
Gentlemen:

Miles Community College, as a result of its forty-one years of interaction with the people of Southeastern Montana, is fully aware of the deep concerns of our people for the preservation of the culture and values of our area. The development of Southeastern Montana's energy resources is an emerging problem relative to these attitudes. The integration into the population base of large numbers of people from outside of our immediate area will inevitably result in an altering of the lifestyles and customs of the region. We believe it is desirous to see the upcoming transition accomplished with as little polarization as possible. To accomplish this, there will be a need to, simultaneously,:

- 1.) preserve those ideals, skills, and cultural practices representative of Southeastern Montana;
- 2.) cultivate an appreciation of the traditional values and customs of the area for those who are "newcomers" in order to provide a bridge between the cultures;
- 3.) stimulate and expand the opportunities for the fine arts within the area.

Funds being requested by the Montana Arts Council under HB 550 would be well utilized to the fulfillment of these goals. Should the proposal you are submitting be funded, we at Miles Community College will provide such assistance and support as we are able to assure its successful implementation.

Respectfully,


JUDSON H. FLOWER
President

JHF:ss

Enclosures

DEPARTMENT OF
SOCIAL AND REHABILITATION SERVICES



THOMAS JUDGE GOVERNOR

PO BOX 4210

STATE OF MONTANA

HELENA, MONTANA 59601

November 12, 1980

NOV 13 1980

Bill Pratt
Community Arts Coordinator
Montana Arts Council
1280 South Third West
Missoula, MT 59801

Dear Bill,

Thank you for sending the proposal for a Community Art Service Project for Eastern Montana. I strongly support the proposal which seems to be very thoroughly researched and an excellent productive.

I personally have no additional sources of information. The needs in Eastern Montana are great and will continue to grow.

If we can be of assistance, please let me know.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Norma Vestre".

Norma Vestre, Chief
Social Services Bureau

NV:pl



DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY
SOCIAL-WORK-PROGRAM

COLLEGE OF LETTERS & SCIENCE

MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY, BOZEMAN 59717

TELEPHONE (406) 994-4201

November 6, 1980

NOV 10 1980

Bill Pratt
Community Arts Coordinator
Montana Arts Council
1280 South Third West
Missoula, MT 59801

Dear Bill:

You have done an excellent job on this proposal. I can only underscore and add to the general presentation. These communities are being asked to suffer because of national needs. They have been shown to be among the most opposed rural residents of high impact potential development areas. They deserve assistance.

Furthermore, most will suffer more than ordinary communities since they are informal social systems, accustomed to a stable agrarian life style which operates among persons familiar to each community member. They are generally satisfied with their ways of getting things done and with the services available to them. (Jobes and Parsons, 1974) These areas generally exhibit greater involvement with community based arts and crafts activities and have more musicians per capita than the rest of the United States.

Rapid growth will induce two problems. First, it may reduce the traditional informal ways of doing things among local residents. Second, it will bring in a host of new residents who are not integrated into the old ways of doing things. Consequently, a void will be created for each because of growth. The most desirable alternative would be to locate development elsewhere in order to minimize local impact. But, if development is to occur, it should occur with maximum opportunities for impacted persons.

Communities which have undergone more gradual growth already have many of the programs and services proposed for this project. They have had time to develop appropriate programs. These communities might require years to develop comparable programs, unless they receive special assistance.

I hope these comments may complement what you already have written. You have done a good job. Good luck.

Sincerely,

Patrick C. Jobes
Associate Professor

PCJ/bp



Wyoming Human Services Project

Merica Hall 312V University of Wyoming / Laramie, WY 82071 / Phone (307) 766-6318

Judith A. Davenport
Project Director

November 6, 1980

Bill Pratt
Community Arts Coordinator
Montana Arts Council
1280 South Third West
Missoula, MT 59801

Dear Bill:

I am delighted that you are proposing a Community Arts Service Project for Eastern Montana. I have just recently been to eastern Montana and met with local human service providers and am aware of many of the current and future problems they will be facing relative to energy resource development.

Some of the more critical issues we have faced in our work in Wyoming "boom towns" have been in the areas of integrating new comers into the mainstream of the community, finding recreational and cultural outlets, and preserving and maintaining the quality of life for local residents. Your project is designed to help prevent and mitigate these problems.

I wish you luck in your funding efforts and will be happy to assist in any way possible.

Sincerely,

Judith Davenport
Director

WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY

PULLMAN, WASHINGTON 99163

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY/DEPARTMENT OF RURAL SOCIOLOGY
Room 23, Wilson Hall

December 9, 1980

DEC 11 1980

Bill Pratt
Montana Arts Council
1280 South Third, West
Missoula, Montana 59801

Dear Bill:

Thank you very much for your telephone request of several weeks ago that I send you three papers, "The Social Impact of Energy Boom Development on Rural Communities . . .," "Toward Ending the Inattention . . .," and "An Ounce of Prevention"

I am afraid that one of the papers you requested ("Toward Ending the Inattention . . .") is "out of print" right now--I have run out of copies of the original. Since about half of the paper has been subsumed in one of the papers enclosed ("An Ounce of Prevention . . .") and since I am currently in the process of revising the other half for potential publication, I really have no plans to run off any additional copies in the near future.

To try to compensate, I have enclosed two other papers which have recently become available. The first, "The Effects of Rapid Population Growth on the Social and Personal Well-Being of Boomtown Residents," is a literature review which largely supersedes the 1976 paper, being much more recent and containing a good deal of information which was not available at the time of the first paper. The final enclosed paper, "The Density of Acquaintance-ship . . .," is a recent attempt to identify the central sociological core of the findings from my Colorado boomtown research. It is also the main reason that this letter is so slow in coming, in that it was "almost done" (I thought) at the time I got your request, and thus I held off mailing this letter until the letter was finally completed. My apologies for the delay.

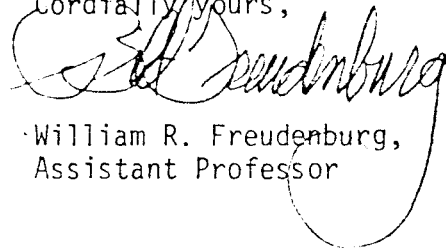
Another of the reasons you're getting this package now is that I've only recently managed to dig out your own letter, which got to me "a few days ago"--only to realize that it actually had been sitting on my desk for almost a month. Even now, I have not had time to give your proposal for a "Community Arts Service Project for Eastern Montana" anything more than a cursory glancing-through, I'm afraid, and thus it scarcely seems appropriate to send you detailed comments, particularly since you hoped to have any rewriting done by December 1. You are clearly focusing on an area that has generally been overlooked in past work, however--it is quite refreshing to see a proposal that does not focus on sewer systems and water treatment! Please do keep me posted on your progress.

Bill Pratt
Page Two

I hope that the enclosed papers will be of usefulness to you, and I would very much appreciate hearing any comments you might have on any or all of them.

With best wishes, I am,

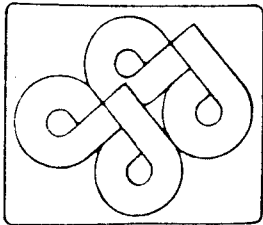
Cordially yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "W. R. Freudenburg". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name and title.

William R. Freudenburg,
Assistant Professor

WRF/rd

Enclosures



CENTER for
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
and DESIGN

University of Colorado at Denver
1319

November 14, 1980

Dr. Bill Pratt
Community Arts Coordinator
Montana Arts Council
1280 South Third West
Missoula, Montana 59801

Dear Bill,

Thank you for asking me to review and critique your proposal for a Community Arts Service Project for Eastern Montana.

The proposal is a strong one in a number of ways. First, cultural arts do get neglected under conditions of rapid growth from what I have seen in Colorado, Wyoming, and North Dakota's impacted communities. Second, the notion that what impacted communities need is an effort to develop a sense of community, which can be partially done through the cultural arts, is quite sound. Shared cultural experiences can help bring together newcomers and oldtimers in creating a new sense of togetherness. Third, the objectives you propose are well thought out and the work plan reasonable.

There is no doubt in my mind that under conditions of rapid growth, some program such as you propose is indeed called for. I strongly support it and wish someone in Colorado were planning a similar program! Best wishes in getting it off the ground.

Sincerely,

Bernie Jones, Ph.D.
Director
Community Research Center

BJ/cld



Oregon Arts Commission

835 SUMMER STREET, N.E., SALEM, OREGON 97301 PHONE (503) 378-3625

January 6, 1981

Mr. David E. Nelson
Executive Director
Montana Arts Council
1280 S. Third Street, W.
Missoula, MT 59801

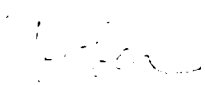
Dear David:

Last night I finally burrowed to the bottom of the stack of mail which has gathered dust on my desk over the holidays as I have been attempting to get some NASAA business in order. I was delighted to find your Community Arts Service Project for Eastern Montana report. You and Bill Pratt are to be congratulated. It is the most thorough and carefully written document of its kind that I have ever seen. Montana continues its leadership among state arts agencies in imaginatively addressing problems which are unique to the state without relying on all the tired programming ideas and buzz words through which we all swim daily.

Not only is the report well written, but it seems to be proposing a program that is realistic and clearly on target for the needs you identify. I hope you plan to share the report with other states beyond those here in the West. And, of course, I look forward to learning of the results of the program (assuming your Legislature has the wisdom to enact it!).

My congratulations again. I look forward to seeing you in Washington later this month. In the meantime, stay warm. Spring will be here at some point I'm told.

Best regards,


Peter deC. Hero
Executive Director

PH:sg



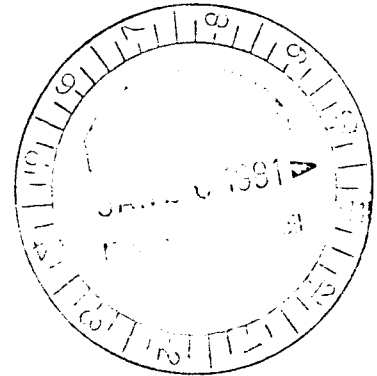
A regional
alliance
of the state
art agencies of

Arizona
Colorado
Idaho

Montana
Nevada
New Mexico
Oregon

Utah
Washington
Wyoming

January 21, 1981



Bill Pratt
Montana Arts Council
1280 South Third West
Missoula, Montana 59801

Dear Bill:

Your proposal for the Community Arts Service Project for Eastern Montana is one of the most thorough and persuasive documents of its kind that I've ever seen. It must have been a massive effort. I only hope that the people who must approve it give it the attention that it deserves.

Our whole field, of course, still lacks adequate documentation of the social impact of the arts in communities, but you handled that problem as well as possible. If you get the chance to implement the project you may learn lessons about community arts that have a broader application and value than the boomtown situation. Regardless of that potential, though, the project would certainly be of immediate and significant use to the many other western boom communities outside of Montana.

Cheers, again, for the proposal. It is very well documented and argued. Please let me know the progress of the funding struggle.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bill".

Bill Jamison
Executive Director

BJ:dg

cc: Dave Nelson
Maxine Blackmer

VIII. BUDGET

Eastern Montana Community Arts Service Project, FY '82 - '83

<u>Category & Explanation Detail</u>	<u>FY '82</u>	<u>FY '83</u>
PERSONNEL SALARIES		
Project director (full-time) Grade 12	14,230	14,979
Secretary/Bookkeeper (half-time) Grade 8	5,146	5,686
Total direct salaries	<u>19,376*</u>	<u>20,665*</u>
Fringe benefits 17.9% of salaries (FY '81) plus 3.2% increase for each succeeding FY	4,088	4,360
Total direct personnel costs	<u>23,464</u>	<u>25,025</u>
OPERATING EXPENSES		
Contracted Services		
Clerical/Document Processor		
FY '82 & FY '83: .167 F.T.E.	3,678	3,932
Consultant Services (\$100/day x 6 days)	600	600
Printing: Brochure--500 copies \$100		
General		
Graphics & Layout	150	708
	<u>650</u>	<u>708</u>
Total Contracted Services	<u>4,928</u>	<u>5,240</u>
Supplies & Materials		
Office		
Misc. Equipment: 2 typing tables	544	588
1 bookshelf	55	
1 calculator	110	
2 desk lamps	100	
Other	110	
Copying (\$15/month plus inflation factor)	330	
Advertising	196	211
Total Supplies & Materials	<u>100</u>	<u>799</u>
	<u>1,545</u>	
COMMUNICATION		
Telephone		
Local Service & Equipment (\$40/mo. for FY '81 plus inflation factors)	538	597
Long distance (\$50/mo. for FY '81 plus inflation factors)	672	746
STS (\$13/mo. for FY '81 plus inflation factors)	175	194
One-time charges (installation)	218	
Teleconferencing: bridge charges (FY '82: \$30/hr., 4 hrs.; FY '83, 6 hrs.)	120	180
STS charges, 10 person call	709	1,180
Postage (\$15/mo. for FY '81 plus inflation factors)	240	240
Total Communications	<u>2,672</u>	<u>3,137</u>

*Based on comparison of increases for FY '80 to FY '81

TRAVEL--Broken down by person and/or purpose
 --Inflation factor of 15% applied to all Explanation Detail Info. for each FY

Travel for interview	1,000	
Project Director (80 days x 57.50/day)	5,290	6,084
Regional Arts Organization Representatives (10 reps. x 2 meetings x 57.50/day)	1,323	1,521
MAC--Community Arts Coordinator--		
Air travel (5 trips FY '82; 4 trips FY '83)	1,587	1,460
Per diem (20 days @ \$38)	874	1,005
--Accounting--		
Air travel (2 trips FY '82; 1 trip FY '83)	635	365
Per diem (11 days @ \$38)	481	553
--Grants Officer--		
Air travel (1 trip)	317	365
Per diem (3 days @ \$38)	131	151
--Folklife Director--		
Air travel (1 trip)	317	365
Per diem (3 days @ \$38)	131	151
--AIS Director--		
Air travel (1 trip)	317	365
Per diem (3 days @ \$38)	131	151
--Executive Director--		
Air travel (1 trip FY '82; 2 trips FY '83)	317	730
Per diem (10 days @ \$38)	437	503
Travel for training (project director)		
Air travel (2 trips, out-of-state)	1,323	1,520
Per diem (17 days @ \$38)	1,271	1,461
Resource consultants		
Air travel (6 trips)	1,904	2,190
Per diem (12 days @ \$38)	524	603
Total Travel	<u>18,310</u>	<u>19,543</u>

RENT

Office Space (350 sq. ft. @ 8.50/sq. ft.)
 (no utilities included)

	3,283	3,621
--	-------	-------

REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE

(\$100 for FY '80)

	134	153
--	-----	-----

OTHER

Training--Conferences & Workshops
 Relocation
 Total Other

	800	800
	500	
Total Other	<u>1,300</u>	<u>800</u>

Category & Explanation Detail

	<u>FY '82</u>	<u>FY '83</u>
TOTAL OPERATING	28,494	29,361
EQUIPMENT		
2 Electric typewriters (1 office; 1 portable)	1,300	
1 file cabinet	200	
2 desks	400	
2 desk chairs	300	
4 folding chairs	200	
1 dictaphone	650	
Total Equipment	<u>3,050</u>	
TOTAL REQUESTED	58,686	58,318

NB: In every case inflation factors used are those used by Office of Budget & Program Planning for projections for the next biennium.

Category & Explanation Detail

COSTS TO BE PAID FROM OTHER SOURCES

% of MAC staff time devoted to project and related costs

*Community Arts Coordinator (Contract)

FY '82: .33 F.T.E.

FY '83: .25 F.T.E.

*Executive Director

FY '82: .25 F.T.E.

FY '83: .125 F.T.E.

*Accountant (Contract)

FY '82: .167 F.T.E.

FY '83: .125 F.T.E.

Grants Officer

FY '82 & FY '83: .01 F.T.E.

Folklife Project Director (Contract)

FY '82 & FY '83: .01 F.T.E.

AIS Director

FY '82 & FY '83: .01 F.T.E.

Costs include personnel & operating costs related to each position.

*Includes project-related one trip to be paid in each year.

Community Art Library (6 sets @ \$100)

Conference--Montana Committee for the Humanities/Nat. Endowment for the Arts

Total Other Sources (35%)

SUMMARY OF COSTS BY SOURCE

Requested

General Fund

Federal (National Endowment)

Coal Tax (Folklorist)

Montana Committee for the Humanities

Total

TOTAL COSTS

less total from other sources

TOTAL REQUESTED FROM HB 550

FY '82

FY '83

8,991

7,208

11,358

6,071

4,416

3,541

300

321

266

284

252

270

25,583

17,695

600

7,500

26,183

25,195

58,686

58,318

8,163

5,102

17,754

12,309

266

284

7,500

7,500

84,869

83,513

84,869

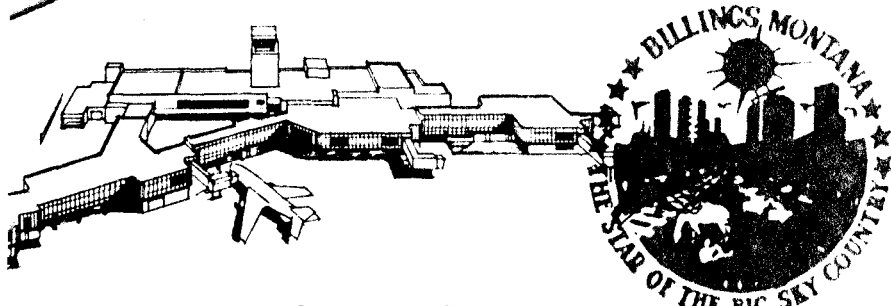
83,513

26,183

25,195

58,686

58,318



CITY OF BILLINGS, MONTANA
TELEPHONE (406) 245-8989
J. BRUCE PUTNAM Ext. 195
DIRECTOR OF AVIATION



BILLINGS LOGAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

SUMMARY SHEET ON
TESTIMONY FOR
FUNDING OF RESTORATION WORK ON
J.K. RALSTON MURAL
"FIRST FLIGHT"

BEFORE THE SUB-COMMITTEE
ON LONG RANGE BUILDING
THURSDAY APRIL 2, 1981

BY J. BRUCE PUTNAM
DIRECTOR OF AVIATION
CITY OF BILLINGS

- The J.K. Ralston Mural "First Flight" a 20 foot by 9½ foot oil located in the main lobby of the Billings Logan International Airport is in a state of "Insecurity" and in need of "immediate treatment".
- The mural was painted in 1958 and depicts the "First Flight" from the present site of the Billings Airport. The mural appears on the cover of Frank Wiley's book "Montana and the Sky".
- Billings Logan International Airport is the largest airport in Montana and in the top 100 in terms of passenger traffic in the United States. This means simply that many people pass through the facility each day and have an opportunity to view this beautiful painting. An estimated 3,000-4,000 people per day pass through the lobby where the painting is located (over 1,000,000 people per year have an opportunity to view the painting). Perhaps there is no other painting in Montana that receives more public exposure than Ralston's "First Flight".
- Billings Logan International Airport is a municipally owned and operated facility faced with the same severe budget constraints that other of Montana's cities are faced with. Local funding is simply not available for the badly needed restoration work on this important painting. In a tight fiscal situation Airport Revenues are allocated entirely to the operations and maintenance costs necessary to keep the facility open and operationally safe and efficient. Therefore it is very important to secure the funding for the needed restoration from sources other than Airport Operational Revenues

Exhibit E
(4/1/81)

The MONTANA FOLKLIFE PROJECT

For the past two years, the Montana Folklife Project has been actively involved in the documentation and public presentation of folk cultures in the state. During this period, the Folklife Project has compiled a collection of almost two hundred hours of sound tapes and over 3,000 photographs which reflect various aspects of culture in Montana. Initiated in the 46th Legislature through legislation sponsored by Harriett Hayne, Jerry Metcalf, Alan Kolstad and Bill Thomas, the Folklife Project has endeavored to identify the cultural "treasures" of Montana -- the people and ways of life that help to make the state the very special place it is. Also, through pursuing an aggressive policy of finding "strayed" materials (collections, art works, field tapes and photographs which deal with Montana cultures but have been taken out of the state), the Folklife Project has begun to make strides towards painting an accurate and comprehensive picture of Montana traditional cultures.

It is equally important, however, to make use of the materials that field research produces. Otherwise, it becomes the dusty curiosity of tomorrow. The Folklife Project works towards taking the songs, music, stories, legends and skills that its field workers find and returning them to the people of the state through public programs and presentations. "My Home's in Montana" is a weekly radio program produced by the Folklife Project and carried on over 20 stations throughout the state. The 15-minute program is visits with some of Montana's finest folk artists. The Folklife Project is currently producing the first of a series of phonograph records which will be available to the public. The records will spotlight Montana folk artists with an accompanying booklet, and again, point up the importance of traditional cultures to our state. Technical assistance by the Folklife Project to local groups and organizations offers a foundation for people to develop projects in their own communities to help identify and recognize the cultural treasures of their own locale.

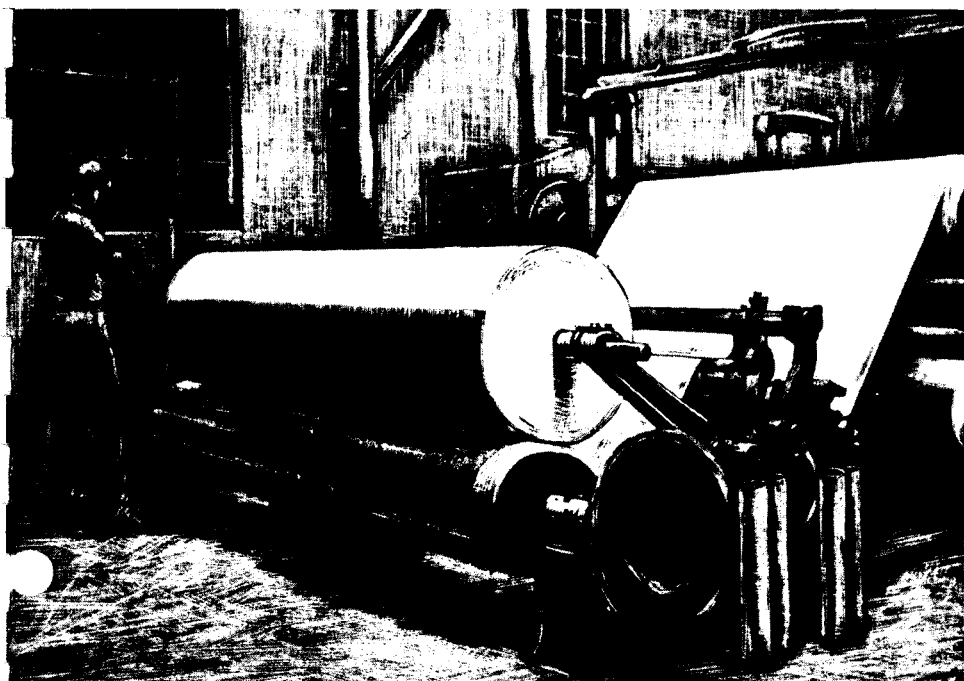
Through the work of the Montana Folklife Project, not only is an accurate record made of the peoples and cultures of Montana but an opportunity is provided to celebrate ourselves and our State.

The Montana Folklife Project is a program of the Montana Arts Council,
1280 South Third Street West, Missoula, MT 59801, 543 8286.

Exhibit F

W. P. A. PRINT EXHIBIT

A print exhibit of the works of artists involved in the
Works Progress Administration
Art Project, 1935-1943.



"Paper Making"

Charles Gardner

- Western Gallery October 1-October 31, 1980
Western Montana College, Dillon, Mt. 59725
- Student Union Gallery November 15-December 15, 1980
Eastern Montana College, Billings, Mt. 59101
- Custer County Art Center January 1-January 31, 1981
P.O. Box 1284, Miles City, Mt. 59301
- Silver Bow Arts Chateau February 15-March 15, 1981
321 West Broadway, Butte, Mt. 59701
- Paris Gibson Square April 1-April 31, 1981
1400 1st Avenue North, Great Falls, Mt. 59401
- Liberty Village Art Center May 15-June 15, 1981
P.O. Box 269, Chester, Mt. 59522
- J. K. Ralston Museum & Art Center July 1-July 31, 1981
P.O. Box 50, Sidney, Mt. 59270
- Missoula Museum of the Arts August 15-September 15, 1981
335 North Pattee, Missoula, Mt. 59801

**Permanent Collection
School of Fine Arts, University of Montana
Missoula, Montana**

Exhibit G



"City Forest"

Irving K. Samuels

W. P. A. Art Project

The Works Progress Administration (WPA) established Federal Project I, early in 1935, with Holger Cahill directing the art project. By 1936 there were more than 6000 artists employed by the WPA. Many of the artists were involved doing murals and sculptures in public buildings. These works remain today in many courthouses, post offices and other public buildings throughout the United States.

The University of Montana has over one hundred prints from the WPA Project. Those selected for this exhibit deal with subject matter, thematically typical of the concerns of the thirties: throngs of people in welfare lines, on public transportation, in parks and squares, tenement settings, and industrial scenes typifying industrialization. Such prints as "Bridge Marker #6" "Union Square," "City Forest," "Subway," and "New Year's Eve," are illustrative of these themes. It is important to note that while many of the works followed these the-

matic directions, the prints of this exhibit, as with the Project, were not restricted to thematic works, and include a cross section of subject matter.

The special significance of the art project is perhaps best described by painter Edward Bruce:

It (WPA) brought to the artist for the first time in America the realization that he was not a solitary worker. It (WPA) symbolized people's interest in achievement. No longer was he, so to speak, talking to himself.

And, Dore Ashton in *The New York School, A Cultural Reckoning*:

The continuity of the artistic life, which many experienced for the first time on the project, proved to be the catalyst that was to change the diffident American painter into a professional who would finally see himself as an equal in the world of modern art.

Sister Kathryn Martin, Dean



"An Old Town in Illinois"

Todros Geller



"Subway"

G. Kamp

Artistic Significance of the W. P. A.

There are particularly important reasons why this exhibition merits special attention.

For some three decades, the "official" art world has tended to ignore and sometimes demean the art produced during the nineteen-thirties and forties under the government patronage of Franklin Roosevelt's WPA (Works Progress Administration). Artists and critics representing the various movements of abstract and nonrealist art have accused WPA art of being no more than provincial, isolationist, illustrative, sentimental, communist and even fascist.

Since any art movement has its share of mediocrity and weaknesses peculiar to itself, these criticisms miss a more important point.

The historical and artistic significance of WPA art was its attempt to free U.S. culture from domination by European viewpoints, to explore the roots of American cultural identity, and to bridge

the abyss that chronically exists between much of the American public and the world of art.

To what extent the WPA movement succeeded with these objectives is of course open to debate. But today we hear again cries from many quarters that art is alienated from the everyday life and world of the general audience. Consequently, it seems relevant to re-examine the art of a period in U.S. history when community, government, and individual artists experimented with the idea of working together in the interests of a common culture.

The School of Fine Arts and Art Department at the University of Montana takes special pride in presenting its own collection of WPA art to the people of the state.

James G. Todd
Chairman, Department of Art
University of Montana
Professor of Arts and Humanities



"New Years Eve"

Abouwarf-

This exhibit is made possible through the support of the Montana Arts Council, The National Endowment for the Arts, and the Montana Art Gallery Directors Association. We are grateful for their support and for the assistance of *The Art Attic* in matting & framing the exhibit.

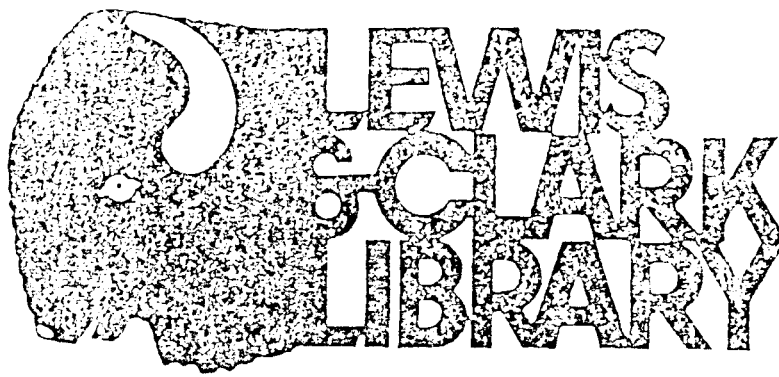
Sister Kathryn Martin, Dean
School of Fine Arts
University of Montana
September 1, 1980



"Union Square, N.Y.C."

Jack Markow

Photography by E. R. Leimbach



120 South Last Chance Mall • Helena, Montana 59601

Phone 442-2380

THE HELENA COMMUNITY VIDEO PROJECT

PURPOSE

The Helena Community Video Project would make video equipment accessible to artists, local arts and educational organizations, and local government units to:

1. create works of art in the medium of video;
2. preserve the works of local artists;
3. produce documentaries on local and regional issues and subject matter;
4. educate the public on local and regional issues using locally originated or already available video programs.

for specific project ideas see Appendix A.

This project would seek to attain aesthetic excellence in the programs created so that a strong foundation for future programming can be achieved. With this foundation, the video project can be expected to make a significant contribution to the community, and, ultimately, the state. This project would also seek to demonstrate the ability of a community video project to be self-sustaining.

IMPLEMENTATION

The Helena Community Video Project will be administered jointly by the Lewis and Clark Library and the Helena Film Society.*

Participants in the Community Video Project will be required to submit a project proposal to a Project Review Committee. This committee will review applications from individuals and/or community organizations based upon established guidelines. The committee will be composed of representatives from the Lewis and Clark Library, the Helena Film Society and other appropriate community organizations.

A part-time director will be hired to implement and manage the Community Video Project.

The project director will receive technical assistance from a video-services consultant.

The project director will be responsible for publicizing the program, developing guidelines, managing the budget, coordinating the activities of the Project Review Committee, initiating project ideas, encouraging community organizations to submit proposals, administering the equipment and the training involved in all video projects, and other administrative duties.

The video-services consultant will conduct technical training sessions in both equipment operation and the aesthetic use of the medium. All persons using the equipment will be required to participate in a training session conducted by the consultant or the project director.

The Community Video Project would pursue maximum exposure for all video programs developed through the project. The Lewis and Clark Library will make tapes available for individual viewing at a video screening area in the library, and the Helena Film Society will present video screenings for larger audiences. Local and state-wide TV stations and cable TV are other possible avenues for public presentation of the video programs generated by the project. Also, since public television is a much-discussed possibility for Montana in the next few years, it will be an important showcase for community video programs. And with the advent of public television, the capacity of a community to produce its own programs is an invaluable resource for the state.

¹¹ The Lewis and Clark Library is a joint city-county funded public library. The Helena Film Society is a non-profit, tax-exempt educational organization with a 501-C-3 status from the I.R.S.

JUSTIFICATION

Video has proven to be an important and effective means of preservation and communication of culture throughout the country. This project, by giving local artists and cultural organizations significant control and direction over media production, furthers the development and preservation of Helena's and Montana's unique culture.

The Helena Community Video Project thus emerges from a grass-roots community recognition that video-tape can provide greater access to the broadcast media. Because video is cost-effective, versatile, and easily learned, it is the perfect tool with which the public can create its own programs. Video will allow the local expression of local concerns. It is a sound alternative to commercial broadcasting and film -- both of which are technologically demanding and economically prohibitive on a local level.

Numerous groups in the community have recognized the potential usefulness of video and organizations as diverse as Westmont Home Health Care, the Grand Street Theatre, the Alternative Energy Resource Organization, the Montana Voluntary Effort, and the Montana Land Reliance have expressed support and interest in this project.

On the state level this project has been discussed with, and received support from Dave Wanzenried, Director of the Montana Telecommunications Project, and Bill Pratt, Community Arts Consultant with the Montana Arts Council. A letter from Mr. Pratt in support of this project is attached.

A P P E N D I X A

PROJECT IDEAS

Video could make a much needed contribution to preserving our local heritage through programs which interview and document the lives and contributions of "old timers", from folk artists to stonemasons to those whose memories are treasures to be tapped. Video would be an important complement to oral histories.

Documentaries on local issues and facets of the community's history -- from water and energy problems, to historic preservation and the effects of urban renewal -- would stimulate the community to become more aware and involved in a dialogue on local issues.

Local arts organizations can make use of video to preserve and document their art. This would be especially fruitful with regard to live stage productions. Video would also be helpful as a rehearsal tool and a means of study for directors and actors.

Organizations such as the Archie Bray Foundation and the Montana Historical Society can use video for educational purposes, both as a demonstration for a particular art form and as a tool for informing the public of an organization's programs and its contribution to the community. Such programs would be ideal community videotapes in a video screening room at the library. A program on the Western Rendezvous of Art would be another possibility. Such a program would also lend itself to national exposure on the public TV networks across the country.

Video can also be used to interpret a stage production or community event for the deaf. An off-stage interpreter signing for the deaf would be simultaneously magnified on a video screen placed on the side of the stage.

The above possibilities are only suggestive of the range of meaningful projects possible through a community use of video.

BUDGET

I. Non-recurring Costs

A. Video Equipment - 3/4 inch system:

2 cameras @ 4,750	\$ 9,500.00
Portable Recorder NV-9400	3,200.00
Editing Equipment: Player NV-9240	4,500.00
Recorder NV-9600	6,950.00
Controller NV-A960	3,000.00
Monitor 13 inch CT-i310-V	595.00
Monitor 13 inch CT-1310-M	495.00
Racks	1,000.00
Microphones	500.00
Stands, Tripods	1,000.00
Portable Lights	500.00
Cables, Cords, Connectors	1,000.00
Cabinet for Storage of equipment	1,500.00
Sync Generator	975.00
Special Effects Generator	3,000.00
Headphones	200.00
Character Generator	3,000.00
Wave Form Monitor	800.00
Audio Mixer	600.00
Bank of three (3) Monochrome Monitors WV-5203	825.00

B. Equipment for Video Screenings:

1/2 inch Video Cassette Recorder-player	1,550.00
Monitor CT-1910-M	625.00
Video Projection Unit	6,000.00
Cart for Video Screening	200.00
Office Furniture for Video Screening Room in Library	2,500.00

C. Library Materials Relating to the Field of Video Technology:

1,000.00

TOTAL OF NON-RECURRING COSTS \$ 55,015.00

II. Annual Operating Costs for Two-Year Project

1982

1983

A. Personnel:

Project Director (1/2 time position)	6,500.00	7,200.00
Consultant (@ \$5.50 per hour)	<u>2,750.00</u>	<u>3,000.00</u>
Subtotal for Salaries	9,250.00	10,200.00
Plus benefits (22%)	<u>2,035.00</u>	<u>2,244.00</u>
Total for Personnel	11,285.00	12,444.00

B. Maintenance and Operation Costs:

Equipment Maintenance	2,500.00	7,500.00
Supplies	1,500.00	1,500.00

	<u>1982</u>	<u>1983</u>
II. B.		
Printing	1,000.00	1,000.00
Advertising	600.00	600.00
Postage	500.00	500.00
Telephone	500.00	500.00
Freight	400.00	200.00
Work Study	<u>700.00</u>	<u>700.00</u>
Subtotal for Maintenance & Operation	<u>7,700.00</u>	<u>12,500.00</u>
Subtotal for Annual Operating Costs	18,985.00	24,944.00
Administrative Overhead (15% of Annual Operating costs)	<u>2,848.00</u>	<u>3,742.00</u>
TOTAL FOR MAINTENANCE AND OPERATION	\$ <u>21,833.00</u>	\$ <u>28,686.00</u>
TOTAL NON-RECURRING COSTS	\$ <u>55,015.00</u>	<u>-0-</u>
TOTAL PROJECT COSTS	\$ 76,848.00	\$ 28,686.00
<u>TOTAL PROJECT COSTS FOR TWO YEARS: \$105,534.00</u>		

MONTANA ARTS COUNCIL/THOMAS L. JUDGE, GOV.

November 21, 1980

Mr. Arnie Malina, Director
Helena Film Society
9 Placer
Helena, MT 59601

Dear Mr. Malina:

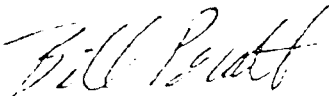
As per our telephone conversation of November 21st, I am writing to express my support for your cooperative media project with the Lewis and Clark Library. It is my understanding that you will be applying for funds made available for "cultural and aesthetic" projects under the provisions of HB 550.

The Montana Arts Council is very interested in the development of local media production capability and the creation of programming dealing with Montana's artistic and cultural life. The Council will be happy to entertain grant applications for specific programming. You should also be aware that the National Endowment for the Arts has a Media Arts Program and is another source for program funds.

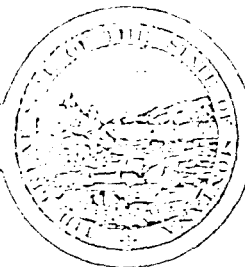
We would also be most willing to act in an advisory capacity in the development and growth of this project.

Best of luck in obtaining funding for this project from the Montana Legislature. Please contact me if you need any further assistance. I look forward to seeing a copy of your final proposal.

Sincerely,



Bill Pratt
Community Arts Coordinator



THOMAS I. JUDGE, GOVERNOR

GOVERNOR'S STATE MICHIGAN BUILDING

STATE OF MONTANA

(406) 449 2586

HELENA, MONTANA 59601

December 5, 1980

Robert Archibald, Director
Montana Historical Society
225 North Roberts
Helena, Mt. 59620

Dear Dr. Archibald:

Please regard this letter as an unqualified endorsement of the proposal submitted to your agency by the Helena Film Society and Lewis and Clark Library, for possible funding under the provisions of House Bill 550.

In our efforts to develop recommendations as to how best deliver public television programming to Montanans one thing is clear - in the short-term Montana may not need a public television station in order to realize the benefits of public television. Instead, a more decentralized system of production appears preferable for philosophical as well as financial reasons. The cooperative proposal submitted by the Helena Film Society and Lewis and Clark Library would serve to enhance the production process and expand the variety of programming.

Your serious consideration is encouraged.

If I can answer questions, please call.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "David E. Wanzonried".

David E. Wanzonried
Project Administrator

DEW:cld

Encl: Brochure

cc: John V. Nichols

THE HISTORY . . .

Mondak Historical & Art Society was formed in Richland County in 1968. The purpose of the society is to foster appreciation of the "Arts" and preservation of historical values of the area.

In October of 1971, the "society" obtained the use of the ground floor of the old hospital building in Sidney, to be used as a museum and art gallery.

The J. K. Ralston Museum and Art Center opened at that location on July 4, 1972. The Historical and Art Society has continued to support the museum and art center, along with other cultural events in the community.

THE PRESENT . . .

Facilities in the old hospital building have been outgrown and have only served to house a portion of the activities desired. Proper gallery space for traveling exhibits is not presently available and space for educational and craft projects is non-existent. The Society has virtually no "home" for the Arts in Sidney.

In 1980, the Historical and Art Society was given the opportunity to acquire the Peoples Congregational Church, one of the oldest structures in Sidney, having been constructed in 1908. This building has significant historical value to the community and will provide the cornerstone of our New Art and Historical Preservation Center.

THE FUTURE . . .

The Mondak Historical and Art Society has undertaken the challenge to secure the funds necessary to acquire the Peoples Congregational Church property, preserve the present building and construct an addition to house the J. K. Ralston Museum which will provide adequate facilities for a new Cultural Center for the Sidney area.

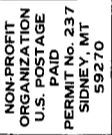
The "Society" has retained a consultant to review the costs for restoration and preservation of the Church and to detail costs of new construction. This folder outlines the proposed plans which includes full time facilities for the senior citizens of the community. This plan will provide a multi-use facility with exceptional value to our community.

I 1919x3

A New Beginning

J. K. RALSTON MUSEUM AND ART CENTER

Mon-Dak Historical & Art Society
Box 50
Sidney, Montana 59270



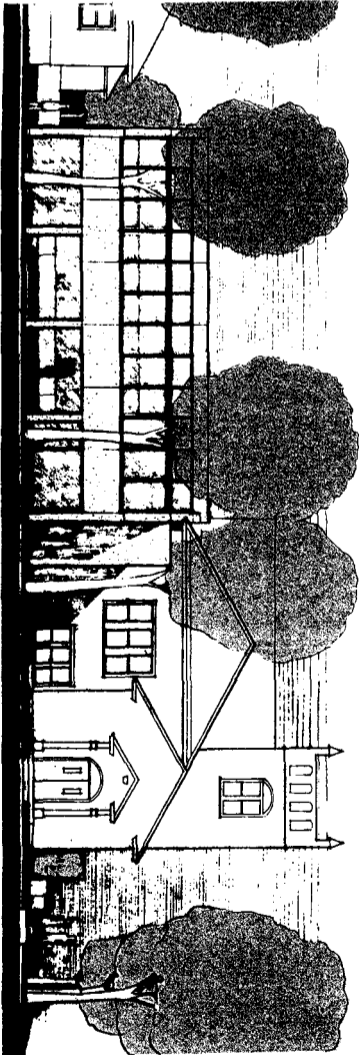
Ann Schneider 482-3500
Box 50
Sidney, Montana 59270

Gary Thogersen 482-1802
Box 751
Sidney, Montana 59270

For Further Information Call or Write:

Gary Thogersen, President	Ralph Chase	Gene Kruger
Phil Jones, Vice-President	Betty Cumming	Alice MacGrady
Mary Mercer, Secretary	Charles Evanson	Laurie Markle
Irvan Zadow, Treasurer	Everett Goldsmith	Dave Torrence
Kevin Boehler	Ervin Jones	Dolly Williams
Carol Tarnavsky		Ruth Goldsmith

THE MON-DAK HISTORICAL & ART SOCIETY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS



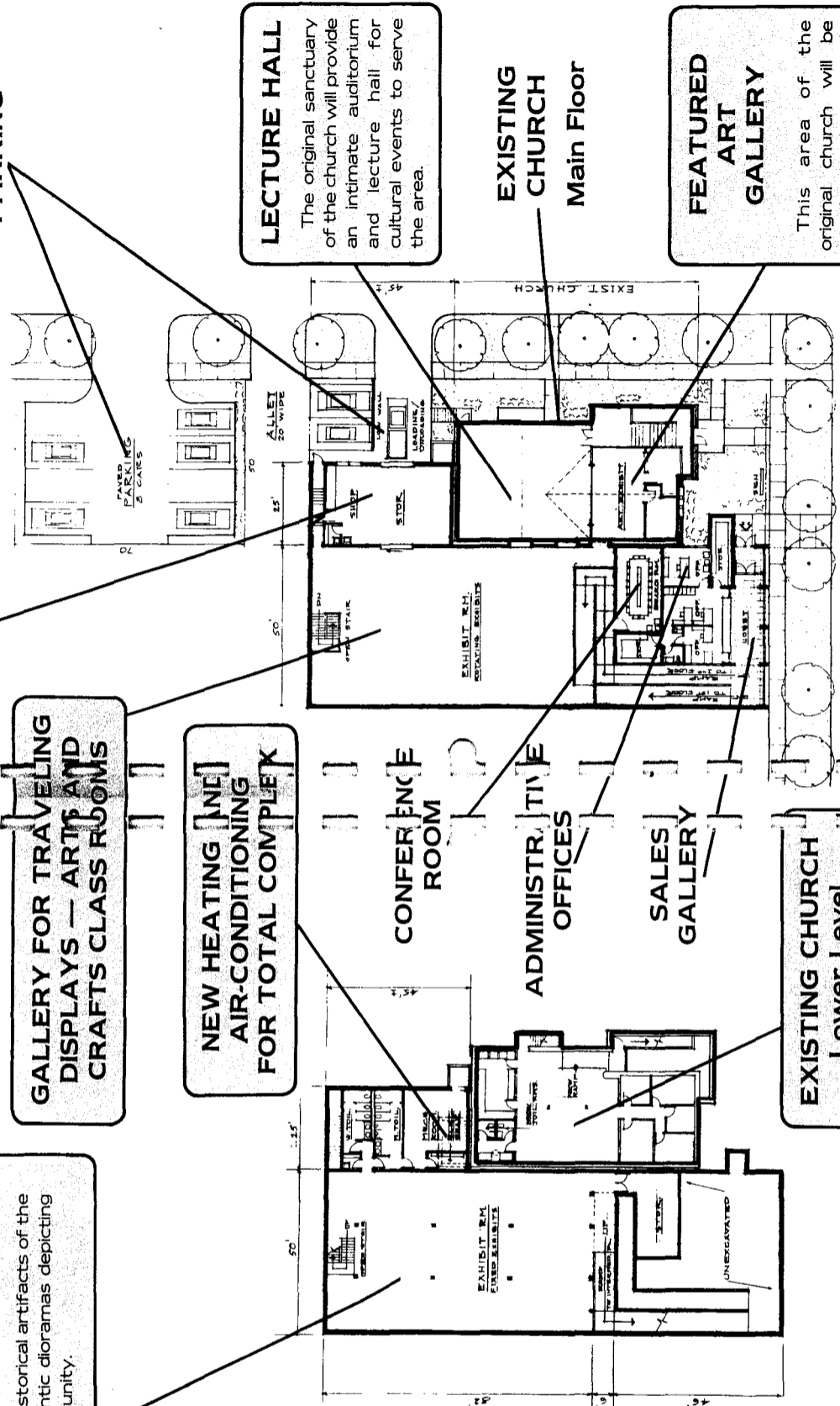
NEW PERMANENT HOME OF THE J. K. RALSTON MUSEUM
 The museum houses historical artifacts of the Mondak area and authentic dioramas depicting the history of our community.

J. K. RALSTON MUSEUM AND ART CENTER

Providing Preservation and Restoration of the Peoples Congregational Church

Constructed in 1908

1st FLOOR PLAN



SITE PLAN Showing INTERMEDIATE & 2nd FLOOR PLANS



80-1-50

Sidney, Montana 59270

Telephone (406) 482-3500

A PROPOSAL FOR
J. K. RALSTON CENTER
AT SIDNEY, MONTANA

Prepared by: MonDak Historical & Art Society
Gary J. Thogersen, President
November 24, 1980

Submitted by: Richland County Commissioners
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I. PROPOSAL SUMMARY

The MonDak Historical and Art Society, a non-profit corporation, with offices at Sidney, Montana, and the Richland County Commissioners, of Richland County, Montana, respectfully submit this proposal for funding of a community center in Sidney, which will be known as the J. K. Ralston Center.

The J. K. Ralston Center, when completed, will consist of a facility that combines one of Sidney's most historical structures, with a beautiful new building attached, which will serve the cultural and artistic needs of this rapidly growing city. The historical building is a church that was constructed in 1908 in downtown Sidney. This structure is currently being purchased from the Lutheran Brethern Congregation, and will house a Senior Citizens activity center, a multi-purpose art gallery, and community lecture and recital hall. The attached new building will house the J. K. Ralston Museum, offices for the museum director and curator, sales gallery, multi-purpose community board room, and offices designed for the Sidney Chamber of Commerce.

This project is the result of years of planning by the MonDak Historical and Art Society, in order to provide the community with a multi-purpose facility that would meet the needs of as many of the people in our area as possible under one roof. It is our feeling that such a facility is desperately needed, in order that the history and culture of this part of eastern Montana may be preserved during a time of rapid change and growth. In addition, we feel it is especially important to encourage and promote appreciation of the arts. The addition of space for a Senior Citizens activity center and Chamber of Commerce offices was added in order to make this facility serve the needs of the business community and the older citizens in the community.

We feel this project is one that deserves serious consideration for funding through the cultural and aesthetic projects grants fund created by the 1979 legislature under House Bill 550. Funding for the project will include funds for the purchase of the historic church and surrounding property, as well as funding for the construction of the attached new facility.

II. INTRODUCTION

The MonDak Historical and Art Society is a non-profit corporation created over twelve years ago in order to promote the preservation of history and appreciation of the arts in the Richland County area. Over the years, the Society has had as many as three hundred members, and is governed by a Board of Directors of nineteen members. The Society is supported by donations from the general public, as well as various fund-raising events. In addition, the current museum in Sidney, which was created under the guidance of the Historical Society, is supported to a large extent through funding from tax revenues in Richland County.

The current museum was established in 1972, in the lower level of the county-owned Community Services Center. The museum contains a beautiful collection of artifacts, which have been donated by citizens throughout this part of eastern Montana. In addition to miscellaneous displays of artifacts, there is a portion of the museum constructed to resemble an early day street scene in Sidney, complete with stores and shops equipped with original furnishings. This street scene includes a general store, church, saloon, dentist office, blacksmith shop, school, bank, and post office.

Further, the museum maintains a well-stocked historical reference library, containing records dating back to the beginning of Sidney. The library contains microfilm of the local newspapers, along with a microfilm reader. The library is used to house the records of local businesses and social and service groups, and is open to the public for research and recreational reading.

The museum also contains an art gallery, which is used for the display of traveling art shows, as well as exhibitions of local art from time to time. There is also a sales gallery where art is sold on consignment, along with other gift and novelty items.

The museum was named the J. K. Ralston Museum and Art Center in honor of J. K. Ralston, a well-known Montana artist currently residing in Billings. Mr. Ralston spent much of his early years in the Sidney area, and his art work has been much influenced by the many years he spent in this part of eastern Montana. It was felt that because of his long attachment to the Sidney area, it was appropriate to name the facility after Mr. Ralston.

In addition to maintaining the Museum and Art Center, the MonDak Historical and Art Society promotes many cultural events in the area during the year. The Society has sponsored local historical tours to points of historical interest in eastern Montana, sponsors the Shakespeare in the Parks production each

summer, Missoula Children's Theater Productions, puppet shows, a local amateur theater group, just to mention a few of its activities. Several years ago, the Society sponsored and published a volume of local family histories, containing over 1,000 pages devoted to the history of our area.

The Museum and Art Center is staffed by a full-time curator-director, who is assisted by volunteer workers from throughout the community. From time to time, the museum has also utilized the services of a CETA employee. The Museum and Art Center's activities are coordinated by a five member board appointed by the Richland County Commissioners, with assistance from the BonDak Historical and Art Society.

III. PROBLEM STATEMENT

When the J. K. Ralston Museum and Art Center opened in the lower level of the Community Services Center, the location was considered to be temporary only. The County Commissioners had planned to use the area now containing the museum for further expansion of county offices and storage space. In addition, the museum location is not readily accessible to the public, because it does not have a street level entrance. In addition, the current location simply does not provide adequate space for the display of the museum's artifacts, and there is little or no storage space.

The art gallery maintained by the museum is the only permanent year-round art gallery in Richland County. At the present time, space is limited, and efforts to expand this needed service to the community greatly hampered.

Further, the current museum facility was not designed for access to the handicapped and elderly, thereby depriving many of our citizens from the opportunity to visit the Museum and Art Center. The new facility will be designed with free access to all areas to the handicapped and elderly.

More importantly, the Museum and Art Center, as it is today, does not lend itself to the needs of a museum and art center, because it was originally designed to be a hospital. The hospital building was purchased by the County Commissioners several years ago to be used to take care of rapidly expanding county office space. The lower level was given to the Museum and Art Center temporarily, until permanent quarters could be obtained.

When the MonDak Historical and Art Society began to formulate plans for a permanent museum and art gallery, it was decided that such a facility should be designed to take care of the needs of as many people as possible. In other words, instead of building a separate museum and art center, it was decided that other groups in the community who desired space should also be contacted to see whether or not the facility could meet their needs as well.

One of these groups was the Senior Citizens. At the present time, there is no permanent Senior Citizens activity center in Sidney. The Senior Citizens Organization is limited to one meeting per week at the local Moose Lodge. The Senior Citizens must schedule their events around the activities of the Moose Lodge. There is no place for the older members of the community to go on a daily basis where activities are provided, as is done in many other communities. A large percentage of Sidney's population consists of elderly persons who have retired from farming and moved into Sidney. It has been felt for a long time that the community

desperately needs an activity center from senior citizens, where a variety of activities may be offered on a daily basis.

Another problem that was evident in the community was the lack of a permanent location for the Sidney Chamber of Commerce. Over the past fifty years, the Chamber of Commerce has been forced to rely on short-term rental space, and has had to move their location many times. When plans for the new Museum and Art Center were begun, office space for the Chamber of Commerce was designed to be included in the building, because it was believed that the Museum and Art Center and the Chamber of Commerce would compliment each other. The Chamber of Commerce is a focal point for tourists and newcomers to the community, as is the Museum and Art Center. To place both of these services in the same building would conserve costs and operational expenses could be shared, and at the same time, both the Chamber of Commerce and the Museum and Art Center would have a permanent home, in which to develop fully the services they offer to the community.

As this joint project progressed, and the search for a location for the facility was begun, it was discovered that one of the oldest buildings in Sidney was for sale. This building was originally built in 1908 as the People's Congregational Church. This building is a beautiful turn-of-the-century structure that has remained virtually unchanged, and in excellent condition, since its construction over 70 years ago. The present owners of the church building, which is located in downtown Sidney, informed the Historical Society that the only buyers interested in the building were planning to have it razed, in order to make room for new construction.

After a thorough inspection of the property, it became evident that the church location was ideal for the location of the multi-purpose facility planned. The property is located 1 1/2 blocks from a new high-rise senior citizens housing development, which would make it easily accessible to many of the senior citizens who would use the Senior Citizens activity center. In addition, the location in downtown Sidney was excellent for the purposes of high exposure to the traveling public who would be interested in the Museum and the Chamber of Commerce.

As an added incentive, the Historical Society saw an opportunity to be able to preserve one of the few remaining historic buildings in Sidney. One of the problems this community has faced in the last few years has been the rapid growth of the downtown area, in which many of the old historic buildings were torn down to make way for new construction. As a society dedicated to the preservation of the past, it was decided that an effort would be made to preserve the church building in a way that the property could be used in order to satisfy the needs of the groups mentioned above. As an added incentive, it was discovered that the

nave of the church could be converted into a public lecture and recital hall, which is also desperately needed in Sidney. The nave has seating which will accommodate 175 - 200 persons, and could be rented at a nominal fee to any group in the community who wished to utilize the space.

IV. PROJECT GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

In order to get the project off the ground, the MonDak Historical and Art Society, using funds accumulated over many years, hired the architectural firm of North Central Consultants, of Jamestown, North Dakota, to draw up preliminary plans for the construction of the facility. In addition, the Society entered into a Contract for Deed, in which the church property was purchased for a total purchase price of \$145,000.00, with \$14,500.00 down, and the balance payable by December 15, 1981.

The property consists of two full commercial lots, one of which contains the existing church building, and the other adjacent, which contains the current church parsonage. The property also includes one-half of an empty lot directly across the alley from the church.

The preliminary plans call for the removal of the parsonage home from the property, with a new building constructed on that lot attached to the existing church building. The empty half lot across the alley will be used for off-street parking.

The preliminary architect's plans for this facility are enclosed as exhibits to this proposal.

Exhibit A shows the intermediate and second floor plans of the project. The existing church building is shown in the area shaded slightly darker. The new facility attached is indicated by the darker lines in the drawing adjacent to the church.

The area indicated in Exhibit A of the existing church building will house a new art gallery and possibly space for the museum's historical reference library and music library. The nave of the church is on this level and will be used for a public lecture and recital hall.

The new facility indicated on Exhibit A will contain the street level entrance and lobby area, with access to a museum curator's office, and Chamber of Commerce offices. There will also be two separate storage rooms on this level, as well as a large board room for the use of the Historical Society, the Chamber of Commerce, and any other group in the community. Exhibit A also shows the second floor area of the new museum which will be devoted to rotating exhibits, a shop, and storage. As indicated, there is a loading and unloading dock provided for easy access to the museum facility.

Exhibit B shows the first floor design of the facility. The area shaded represents the existing lower level of the church building, which will be used exclusively for the Senior Citizens activity center. This area includes a large social

hall, kitchen, restrooms, and classrooms that can be converted into activity areas.

The new facility represented on Exhibit B shows the lower level of the museum, which will contain fixed exhibits, probably arranged as a small street scene, similar to the procedure used in the present museum. This area will also include public restrooms and the mechanical and electrical room for the facility.

Exhibit C is a cross-sectional view of the new facility, showing the approximate levels of the each of the areas designed. The architects have included glass skylights in as many areas as possible to direct natural sunlight into the building.

Exhibit D is a sketch of the front of the facility as it will look after construction is complete. The structure on the right is the existing church building, and the structure on the left is the new facility constructed on property now containing the church parsonage.

Finally, Exhibit E is a side view of the church and new facility, showing the main entrance to the museum and Chamber of Commerce area. The Senior Citizens activity center will use a separate entrance through the main doors of the existing church.

V. PROJECT SCHEDULE

The entire project will be developed according to the following schedule:

1. The church property is purchased in December, 1980, from the Lutheran Brethern Congregation, on Contract for deed, with balance payable on December 15, 1981.
2. The parsonage home is removed from the property in the fall of 1981.
3. Ground is broken and construction begun on the new facility in the late fall of 1981.
4. Senior Citizens activity center is open for use approximately December, 1981.
5. New facility is completed and ready for occupancy in the early summer of 1982.
6. The entire facility is open and fully operational in the fall of 1982.

VI. BUDGET

The following is a detailed budget for the purchase of the property and construction of the new facility. The budget is broken into two phases. Phase One involves the purchase of the existing property, and Phase Two involves the construction of the attached new construction.

PHASE ONE

A.	Total purchase price of the property	\$ 145,000.00
B.	Down payment paid by Mondak Historical and Art Society	<u>\$ 14,500.00</u>
C.	Balance remaining to be paid on Contract for Deed, payable on or before December 15, 1981, with interest on the declining principal balance at the rate of 6% per annum	\$ 130,500.00

PHASE TWO

- A. A breakdown of the Construction costs attributed to the new facility is provided on Exhibit F, which was provided to the Historical and Art Society by North Central Consultants, Ltd., of Jamestown, North Dakota. A more detailed breakdown of construction costs can be obtained from the architects upon request.
- B. Total construction costs as estimated by North Central Consultants \$ 744,494.00

VII. FUTURE FUNDING

Future funding of this facility will be obtained from a variety of sources. The MonDak Historical and Art Society will continue to support the facility through its various fund raising activities, general membership dues, and contributions.

In addition, the Society will continue to receive the generous support received from Richland County pursuant to O.C.A. Section 7-16-2201(1979) et seq. It is also hoped that further support for the operation of this facility may be obtained from various state and federal agencies involved in the promotion of history and the arts. There is also a possibility of federal and state funding associated with facilities designed to provide activities for senior citizens.

II. SUMMARY

This proposal involves a project that will benefit a large cross-section of the citizens of Richland County, Montana. This area of Montana is in the process of rapid change, due to extensive mineral development. Sidney has become one of Montana's fastest growing communities, and the usual problems associated with rapid growth are widely known.

The multi-use facility, which would be funded if this proposal is adopted by the Montana Legislature, would go a long way toward preserving and protecting the cultural base that is so important to any community. This is a unique opportunity to utilize a portion of Montana's coal tax revenues to provide a facility that will have lasting benefit for Montana's citizens.

Respectfully submitted this _____ day of November, 1980

MONDAK HISTORICAL & ART SOCIETY

By _____
Gary J. Thorgersen, President

RICHLAND COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Bing Poff

Harold Fink

Andrew Peterson, Jr.

EXHIBIT F

COST ESTIMATE
J.E. RALSTON MUSEUM
SIDNEY, MONTANA
NOVEMBER 20, 1980

ncc
North Central Consultants, Ltd.

Architecture
Engineering
Planning

GENERAL CONSTRUCTION

Excavation and Fill	\$10,676.00
Structural Concrete Work	118,296.00
Precast Concrete Facing	13,406.00
Masonry Work	78,186.00
Brickwork	5,869.00
Carpentry and Millwork	19,729.00
Aluminum Windows and Glazing	19,522.00
Aluminum Entrance Doors	3,158.00
Roofing and Sheet Metal Work	20,581.00
Painting and Wall Covering	12,634.00
Ceramic Floor Tile	1,680.00
Carpet and Vinyl Floor Covering	12,419.00
Acoustic Ceilings	2,240.00
Office Partitions and Accessories	1,646.00
Glass Display Cases	2,400.00
	<u>\$322,442.00</u>
Inflation 12 months @ 12%/month	<u>38,700.00</u>
	\$361,142.00
General Conditions	<u>20,000.00</u>
TOTAL GENERAL CONSTRUCTION WORK	\$381,142.00
<u>HVAC AND PLUMBING (itemized)</u>	170,800.00
Sheet Metal Work	\$ 57,175.00
Mechanical Equipment	34,300.00
Refrigeration	12,580.00
Plumbing	56,450.00
Miscellaneous	<u>10,295.00</u>
TOTAL HVAC AND PLUMBING	\$170,800.00

COST ESTIMATE
 J.K. RALSTON MUSEUM
 SIDNEY, MONTANA
 NOVEMBER 20, 1980
 PAGE 2

* ELECTRICAL WORK (Includes Existing Church) (Itemized below)	<u>\$111,700.00</u>
TOTAL BUILDING CONSTRUCTION COST	\$663,642.00
Site Improvements	
4" A.C. Parking Lot 50 x 70 \$10.00/sq.yd. x 3,500	\$35,000.00
Parking on Site	
26 x 40 = 1,040 x \$10.00	<u>\$10,400.00</u>
	\$709,042.00
5% Contingency	<u>35,452.00</u>
TOTAL CONSTRUCTION COST	\$744,494.00

* ELECTRICAL WORK

Rewire existing church building	\$ 7,790.00
Intercom System	2,250.00
Mechanical Equipment Wiring	4,150.00
Fire Alarm System	4,650.00
New Electrical Service	7,400.00
Electrical Power & Telephone	31,365.00
Lighting (including fixtures)	51,925.00
Security Alarm System	<u>2,250.00</u>
TOTAL ELECTRICAL WORK	\$111,700.00