

JMJBWM
September and October Archives Monthly Report

These are the projects and items I worked on during the months of September and October 2020.

RESEARCH REQUESTS

I received and answered fourteen (14) research requests in September and ten (10) in October. These requests took the form of emails, city employee and department head requests, and researchers.

COLLECTIONS MANAGEMENT

Data Entry

During the months of September and October, I worked on the below collections. As part of data entry, I inventoried, researched, cataloged and entered the information into PastPerfect collection management software. Upon completion, I then boxed and shelved the collections in the archives central storage area.

- **Collection 1998.005 Aerial Photographs of Lawrence County:** This collection consists of 210 aerial photographs of Lawrence County taken in 1938. As of 10/31/2020, I entered the first 30 prints into PastPerfect. I then relocated the entire collection into Oversized Map Case I.
- **Collection 2008.01 Deadwood Dicks / Deadwood Glass Transparencies:** This collection consists of the fourteen (14) glass plate transparencies, digital files, and the paperwork generated during conservation project. As of 10/31/2020, the glass transparencies have been cataloged into PastPerfect and relocated them into Oversized Map Case I.
- **Collection 2017.01 Nez Perce County Historical Society:** This collection consists of twelve Lawrence County Register of Deeds documents from Robert C. McGregor/ Sue Storey estate. The contents of this collection have been entered into PastPerfect and shelved in the central storage facility.
- **Collection 2017.04 Judy Dohn Collection:** This collection consists of (2) 5 x 7" photographs of four men in front of rock and mineral exhibit and an unidentified man. Interesting to note-in the background of the rock and mineral exhibit is the Deadwood glass transparency exhibit from the 1904 World's Fair (see Collection 2008.01).
- **Collection 2017.16 Arlene Ham:** This collection consists of a framed Lawrence County, Dakota Territory bond for \$50.00 to J. Ringolskep. The bond was removed from its frame, cataloged and filed in Oversized Map Case I.
- **Collection 2018.01 Jason Grenstiner:** This collection consists of one oversized velum map of M.C. 254 in Lead City; a bound ledger of business letters covering the years 01/06/1887 to 05/10/1887; a book titled, Long's Legislative Handbook for 18th Assembly (1889), an account book from Merchants National Bank, two council bills for 16th legislative assembly (1887); a hand written letter dated 10/11/1882; and (2) bank receipts. All of these items have been cataloged and filed.

- **Collection 2019.15 Linda Wells:** This collection consists of twenty-four (24) documents from the Cleo Wells Funeral Home in Deadwood, South Dakota. As part of this work, the above collections have been cataloged and entered into PastPerfect collections management software. Once this is complete, the items are then boxed and shelved in the archives central storage area.

Loans

- **Loan 2020.02 Hot Springs Public Library – Hickok Traveling Panels:** On September 29, 2020, I picked up the Hickok Traveling panels at the Hot Springs Public Library. The Hickok exhibit was on display at the library from May through September.
- **Loan 2020.03 /.03a – Lawrence County Tax Records:** In October, I received permission to digitize the next installment of Lawrence County tax records. Prior to this loan, I contacted DocuTek of Inglewood, Colorado and the Case Library Archives at Black Hills State University to arrange the loan. I then wrote and submitted Loan #2020-03/03a to the City Attorney for review. Once approved at City Commission, the loans were emailed and hand delivered to the above mentioned institutions for signatures. On October 27, 2020, Parks Department staff and I drove to Spearfish and picked up 46 tax ledgers (1915-1934) from the Case Library.

Donations

- **Donation 2020.06 Lead/Deadwood School District:** In September, the Lead/Deadwood School District donated a small assemblage of glass bottles unearthed during the remodel of the grade school this summer. As part of the donation, I submitted to and received back the signed donation form. Once I received the donation form, I begun processing the bottles, cataloged them and prepared them for exhibit in the *Cabinet of Curiosities* at City Hall. On a side note, three of the bottles had an amazing backstory. I hope you will take a moment and read the panels in the exhibit.
- **Donation 2020.07 Francis Parker Collection:** In September, Richard Mindigo of California donated a collection of Deadwood Volunteer Fire Department memorabilia. These items included the Constitution and Bylaws for the Deadwood Fire Department (1924, 1938, and 1942) and 1924-1925 campaign ribbons for the annual South Dakota Fire School. These items are extremely important since much of the Fire Department's working documents and memorabilia were lost in the January 1952 City Hall Fire. This winter I am going to write a short narrative on the collection and submit it for publication in the *South Dakota Firefighter* monthly newsletter.
- **Donation - Public Works (Streets, Water, and Parks Departments) Archival Collection:** On October 22, 2020, city staff from the Public Works delivered the first of two loads of architectural plans, building manual books, and building specification books to the City Archives. As time permitted, I have begun culling through the architectural plans, adding new items and removing the duplicate copies.
- **2020 Oral History Project:** In September and October, I contacted several potential individuals for the 2020 oral history project. After talking with them via telephone, I sat down and drafted a series of questions based on the pre-interview conversation. Once these questions were created, I sent copies to the interviewees. In October, Jaci Conrad Pearson interviewed Craig

Ordahl, Janice Harrison and Keith Fox. I had one individual who was interested, however dropped out at the last minute.

- **Lawrence County Indexing Project – Tax Records:** In September and October, independent contractor Don Toms completed three Lawrence County Tax record books for the archives. These books included Books #02 and #03 of the 1896 tax records and Book #01 of the 1897 tax records. To date, there are 68,558 entries in this database constituting the years 1880 to 1897.

Archaeology

- **Deadwood Chinatown Collection (2001 to 2004):** In October, Barb Fosheim began working again on the 2001 Deadwood Chinatown Collection. This included entering the box content sheets into an Excel spreadsheet. Once complete, city staff and future researchers will be able to retrieve specific objects from the 400 boxes that make up this assemblage.
- **LIV Hospitality/Tin Lizies Archaeological Project:** In September, I visited and was later asked to help monitor the excavation work at the Tin Lizies hotel addition. On September 9-10, 2020, I helped QSI archaeologists map in the utility ditch and wood water feature at the site. Back in the office, I posted photographs of the artifacts unearthed during this portion of the excavation on social media. Amazingly, these social media posts reached over 27,000 individuals.

PROJECTS

- **Boots and Brick Book:** In September and October, I met with Dr. David Wolff to discuss re-writing Boots on Bricks: A Downtown Walking Tour of Deadwood by Mark Wolfe. Prior to the meeting, I reviewed the first 32 pages of the book, made notes, and forwarded these ideas to Kevin and Dr. Wolff for review and comment. On October 1, 2020, we met at City Hall and discussed the proposed direction of the book. It was decided that each building lot and structure would be expanded to include not only architectural details but historical facts.
- **Deadwood Mayor Project:** In September and October I continued researching and writing biographies on the Mayors of Deadwood. As of October, I have developed a rough draft of each mayor. As time permits, I have been editing and preparing a webpage for each mayor. My goal is to have this project completed by December.
- **2020 Deadwood Wall of Fame:** On Wednesday, October 28, 2020 the Deadwood Historic Preservation Commission inducted James K.P. Miller and Lew Keehn into the Wall of Fame. Prior to the ceremony, I edited the narratives for both recipients, organized the layout, printing and framing of the awards, notified the press and photographed the award ceremony. I was asked by Kevin to create a bulleted outline that he could read during the presentation. Family members and friends were on hand to accept the awards.
- **Slaska Family Motion Picture Collection:** In August, Shelly Nisley of Spearfish, SD contacted me about the Slaska family and eight, 8mm films of Deadwood. After some correspondence, the Historic Preservation Office agreed to digitize her film. In gratitude, Ms. Nisley will donate the original film to the City Archives. In September, I located a film conservator who could clean and digitize the film. At the end of October, I sent the films to San Francisco, California.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

- **Movie Introduction:** On Friday, September 4, 2020 I was asked to introduce the 1959 movie, The Beast from Haunted Cave at the Outlaw Square. Prior to this event, I prepared a short descriptive narrative on the movie, the actors and producers.
- **DHI Meeting:** On September 11, 2020 I attended a two hour meeting with Carolyn Weber and staff from DHI. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss a possible grant opportunity.
- **West River History Conference:** On October 7, 2020 I was asked to set up the Theodore Roosevelt/Seth Bullock traveling exhibit at the West River History Conference in Deadwood.
- **1948 Dodge Restoration:** On October 7, 2020, I interviewed Jerry Pontius about the restoration of the 1948 DVFD Dodge fire truck. I then created an eight minute video and posted it on the Deadwood HP Facebook page on October 27, 2020.
- **Collection Appraisal, Craig Ordahl:** On October 8, 2020 I met with Bob Kolbe of Sioux Falls, and Craig Ordahl to discuss the appraisal and potential donation of five receiving books owned by Ordahl.

If you have any questions or would like to see what I have been working on, feel free to stop in and see me.

Mike Runge, City Archivist