

January and February Archives Monthly Report

These are the items I worked on during the months of January and February 2021.

RESEARCH REQUESTS

I received and answered thirteen (13) research requests in January and seventeen (17) in February. These requests took the form of emails, city employee and department head requests, and researchers.

COLLECTIONS MANAGEMENT

- **Collection 2020.10 Deadwood Dicks Antiques:** In January and February, I continued to process the architectural plans from 51-55 Sherman Street, former Deadwood Dicks antique shop. This included hydrating and pressing the rolled plans for the building, lightly cleaning the plans, and entering the data into PastPerfect. Next, I cataloged advertisement posters, photographs and library materials into the system. Several of the posters have been posted on the City's online search engine located at: <https://cityofdeadwood.pastperfectonline.com/> Finally, Lynn Namminga restored a wooden crate from the Adams Brothers Company. Upon its completion, I installed this box as a prop in the baggage room at the Deadwood Information & Visitor Center.
- **Collection 2021.01 Dakota Research Services Archaeological Library Collection:** In January and February I cataloged 105 reference books and periodicals donated by Jeff Beuchler. These reference materials included identification books pertaining to bottles, porcelain, ceramic, 19th century toys, crockery, and metal containers. These materials will be a wonderful addition to the City's archaeological library located in the archaeology lab. In March I submitted a short article on the donation in the citywide newsletter.
- **Collection 2021.02 Craig Ordahl Ledgers:** In February, former Deadwood resident Craig Ordahl donated to the City Archives six (6) Receiving Books from Lawrence County Register of Deeds (LCRD) and one (1) minute book from the Gold Dollar Mining Company (1908-1910). These receiving books will complement Collection 2010.03.12.1-12 – receiving books donated to the City by Ordahl's mother in the late 1980s. These twelve ledgers have been transcribed, microfilmed, digitized and will appear on the City Archives online search engine in 2021 (<http://archives.cityofdeadwood.com/>).
- **Collection 2021.03 LeAnn Nixion:** In February, LeAnn Nixion of Piedmont, South Dakota donated one (1) faded tee shirt from the Pam's Purple Door Auction on July 17, 1980. This shirt is currently on display in the HP Cabinet of Curiosities display.
- **Collection 2021.05 – Renee Burr / Deadwood Christian Science Church Window:** In January, Deadwood resident Renee Burr approached the Historic Preservation Office about buying a lancelet style stain glass window from the Deadwood Christian Science Church once located at 408 Williams Street. Prior to the purchase in April, I contacted an appraiser (Appraisals West) to get a fair market value on the window and a glass conservator to clean and stabilize the window (Touch of Glass – Rapid City, SD).
- **2010.09 Howard Mason Archival Collection:** In January and February as time permitted, I cataloged the architectural plans and maps from the Howard Mason collection. Mason worked

for the Hometake Mining Company as a surveyor. The contents of the assemblage include survey maps of the HMC water system and holding ponds. As of February, all of the architectural plans and maps have been cataloged and filed in the archives. I will next catalog the photographs from the Grizzly Gulch holding pond.

- **2002 & 2003 Deadwood Chinatown Collection:** In January and February, Barb Fosheim and I continued on assigning box number and shelf locations for the 2002 and 2003 Chinatown artifacts. This information was then entered into an Excel spreadsheet. To date, Ms. Fosheim has entered 24,099 records into this spreadsheet. Upon completion, city staff will be able to pinpoint and retrieve any object within the Deadwood Chinatown collection.

PROJECTS

- **Online Exhibit Rehab Class:** In January, I participated in an online class focusing on exhibit rehabilitation sponsored by the Northern States Conservation Center. The information taken from this class will help rehabilitate the City Hall basement exhibits in the ensuing year.
- **2021 Deadwood Oral History Project:** In February, I contacted and set up an interview with longtime Deadwood resident Ronald Dyvig. Prior to the interview, I called Dyvig and developed a series of questions for the interview. In March, Jaci Conrad Pearson interviewed Ron.
- **City Archives PastPerfect Online Database:** On March 1, 2021, I launched the City Archives online search engine (<https://cityofdeadwood.pastperfectonline.com/>). Prior to the launching date (coincided with Jack McCall's execution); I loaded the Hickok Collection (2006.06) and portions of the City's historic photos on this search engine. This new website will provide visitors an opportunity to view portions of the City Archives collections more specifically historic photos, archival documents and advertisement posters.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

- **Fall River History Conference:** On January 16, 2021 I gave a 30 minute presentation titled "*The Deadwood Connection: The Men who helped Shape Hot Springs, South Dakota*". Prior to this event, I researched, wrote and developed a PowerPoint presentation discussing the lives of Dr. Walter P. Jenney, Col. William J. Thornby, Dr. Rudolphus D. Jennings, Dr. A.S. Stewart, Judge Erwin G. Dudley, Leonard R. Graves, and Fredrick T. Evans and their connection to Deadwood and the settlement of Hot Springs, South Dakota.
- **Lead/Deadwood 6th Grade Virtual Presentation:** On February 18, 2021, I gave a half hour presentation on the Chinese in Deadwood to the L/D 6th grade social studies class. Prior to this talk, I developed a PowerPoint presentation and selected artifacts for "Show and Tell". This was a virtual presentation through Microsoft TEAMS.

If you have questions or would like to see what I have been working on, feel free to call or email me at your convenience.

Mike Runge, City Archivist