

## September and October Archives Monthly Report

These are the items I worked on during the months of September and October 2021.  
I worked remotely from my home from October 19 to October 29.

### RESEARCH REQUESTS

I received and answered fifteen (15) research requests in September and two (2) in October. These requests took the form of emails, city employee and department head requests, and researchers.

### COLLECTIONS MANAGEMENT - ARCHIVES

- **September and October Donations: 2021.11 Chris Houlette Research Library:** In September Chris Houlette of Pierre, SD donated 25 books on Deadwood and northern Black Hills history. Kevin Kuchenbecker picked these books up in Pierre on September 10, 2021. Of the 25 books, three were included into the City's research library the remaining 22 were given to the Deadwood Public Library. **2021.12 Sharon Rosenberg:** In September Sharon Rosenberg of Sugar Island, Florida donated, The Key of Heaven: or, A Manual of Prayer owned by Marie Brouillette Turgeon (D.O.D November 1889), who is buried in St. Ambrose Cemetery. Turgeon and her two sons died of smallpox in Deadwood withing weeks of each other. There is on grave marker that contains the three names of the Turgeon family. **2021.12 Tom Blair Collection:** In September, archival staff began to process the box of archival materials pertaining to Tom Blair's involvement in Deadwood politics and the Deadwood You Bet Committee. **2021.14 Optimae Life services:** In October Missy Neff of Optimae Life Services of Ottumwa, Iowa donated a substantial collection of recordation photographs and architectural drawings from the 1972 survey of Deadwood's downtown core district. **2021.15 Scott Moses Papers:** Steve Benn of the Rapid City Synagogue donated four boxes of records from local historian and newspaper reporter Scott Moses. Moses, a longtime Deadwood resident, wrote a weekly history column for the Rapid City Journal. **2021.16 Fairmont Hotel Collection:** Former Fairmont/Oyster Bay owner Ron Ruso donated an assortment of architectural, archival and museum related objects from his buildings.

As time permitted, I filled out and mailed the donation forms for the above collections, inventoried, cleaned and began cataloging the collections. If you are interested in seeing any of these collection and/or objects, feel free to call or email me at your convenience.

### COLLECTIONS MANAGEMENT – ARCHAEOLOGY

- **September and October Archaeological Collections: 39LA3000.2004.02 Branch House and 39LA3000.2019. Outlaw Square (archaeological collections):** In September SD-ARC brought up nineteen (19) boxes of archaeological materials and the final reports from

the 2004 Branch House survey and the 2019 Outlaw Square mitigation both conducted by the SD-ARC. **39LA3000.2021.03 (40 Taylor Avenue archaeological collection):** Martin and Amanda Reynolds of Dickenson, North Dakota donated a collection of archaeological objects unearthed during construction at 40 Taylor Avenue. The majority of the objects from this assemblage came from a privy (outhouse). After soaking the objects, we began cleaning and cataloging this collection. On a side note, On October 25-26, 2021, I was asked to help excavate, map and record two archaeological features on this property (privy and foundation wall). This data along with the photographs were turned over to Quality Services, Inc. for incorporation into the final report.

**39LA3000.2021.04 (Buena Vista / Deadwood Hill Development archaeological collection):** In September Kevin, Jeramy and I metal detected, photographed and recorded a portion of this development. A total of 84 objects were mapped using GIS and collected in the field. Once back in the office, Barb Fosheim and I cleaned, labeled and cataloged this assemblage. This winter my goal is to submit a site form to SD-ARC for the work we performed at this site.

- **City Archaeological Report Index:** In September and October I worked with the SD-ARC to update the City's collection of archaeological reports and site numbers. This included refiling portions of the assemblage, reassigning site numbers, verifying report numbers, and updating the information into an Excel spreadsheet.
- **HMC Open Cut Archaeological Report:** In September, I acquired from the Hearst Library in Lead, South Dakota the fifteen volume archaeological report on the HMC open cut expansion written by Jeff Buechler. Cindy made copies of this report for the archaeological lab library and I returned the original set. Within this report is Buechler's bottle analysis and database. This winter I would like to develop a similar database based on Buechler's work and will incorporate the City's bottle assembly.
- **Deadwood Chinatown Collection:** In September, I continued to work Barb Fosheim reviewing and assigning box and shelf locations to the Chinatown archaeological collection. As of October, we finished all of the boxes on the compactor storage units.

## PROJECTS

- **Mount Moriah Cemetery Traveling Exhibit:** I spent a considerable amount of time in September and October working on the twelve (12) traveling interpretive panels on Mount Moriah Cemetery. This included writing, editing the layout and developing Photoshop files for the project. On Friday October 29, I mailed the photoshop files to the Old Courthouse Museum in Sioux Falls for fabrication.
- **Outdoor Interpretive Signs Projects:** In September and October, I worked on the following outdoor interpretive panels: Finnish Log Architecture in Deadwood; Geology of Deadwood; Pyritic Smelting; Fremont Elkhorn & Missouri Valley Railroad Yard; Deadwood Amusement Park; Days of 76 Grandstand; Deadwood's Log Cabin

Attendant's Residence; and Deadwood's Industrial First Ward. These new interpretive panels will be installed at the Deadwood Rodeo grounds and Whitewood Creek extension trail.

- **2021 Oral History Project:** In September, Jaci Conrad Pearson (interviewer) interviewed Bill Auer, Mary Schmidt, John Arleth, and Stan Angle. Before the interviews, I provided all parties copies of personalized questions based on the pre-interviews I conducted in August. In October, I contacted and conducted a pre-interview with Spencer Ruff (architect) and John McEuen (Deadwood Jam and founding member of Nitty Gritty Dirt Band).
- **Oakridge Municipal Cemetery, Baby Section:** In September and October, I helped Bob Nelson Jr. research the infant burials in Section 10 of Oakridge Cemetery. This consisted of looking up death and burial records at the Lawrence County Register of Deeds and developing an Excel spreadsheet based on my research. This data will then be used to locate and replot (if necessary) the infant section in the cemetery.
- **2022 Neighborworks / Historic Preservation Calendar:** In September and October I worked with Cindy on the 2022 community calendar. My tasks included editing and cropped the photographs, writing the captions, and laying out the photos in Photoshop.


#### MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

- **Tours of Archives and Archaeology Lab:** On September 8, 17, and 27, I gave four tours of the Archives and Archaeology lab to visitors.
- **Denver, CO Ledger Run:** On October 4-5, 2021, I drove to Denver, Colorado to drop off and pickup the Lawrence County Tax records from Docutek. In addition to this trip, I drove to Hot Springs and picked up the Theodore Roosevelt / Seth Bullock traveling exhibit on display at the Hot Springs public library during the summer.
- **Whitewood Creek Trail /Stone Lined Well:** Kevin asked me to contact Chad Jacobs to build a grate for the rock lined well along the Whitewood Creek Trail.
- **Buena Vista / Deadwood Hill Development:** On September 21 and 23, I was asked to walk a portion of the Buena Vista development to review the Boulder Ditch.
- **BID-08 Research:** Kevin asked that I research and submit to him highlighted copies of the problematic agreement between Four Point and the City of Deadwood. This included reviewing the referenced documents mentioned in the problematic agreement.

If you have questions or would like to see what I have been working on, feel free to call or email  
Mike Runge, City Archivist



Image #01 Privy at 40 Taylor Avenue (39LA3000.2021.03)



*"The climate in the Black Hills is so damn healthy that you have to kill a man to start a cemetery."*

**George V. Ayres**  
Deadwood Merchant and Pioneer

History and natural beauty. Words that summarize Deadwood's Mount Moriah Cemetery, one of the Black Hills most recognized historic cemeteries. Located on a mountainous plateau overlooking Deadwood Gulch, Mount Moriah is a premiere historical attraction averaging over 100,000 visitors annually.

Owned and operated by the City of Deadwood and managed through the Deadwood Historic Preservation Office, Mount Moriah provides visitors an opportunity to walk among Deadwood's early pioneers and gain thoughtful insight into those individuals who helped tame one of the most wicked places on earth. The following exhibit highlights the history and significant features to entice visitors to spend some time in Deadwood's Mount Moriah Cemetery.

The cemetery is more than tourist destination; it is hallowed ground. Please refrain from littering and remain on the designated paths. Take nothing but pictures; leave nothing but memories.




Image #02 overview of Mount Moriah Cemetery traveling exhibit.