



HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION MEETING AGENDA March 16, 2022

Tom Baker Meeting Room	3:00 p.m.	City-County Office Building
The City of Bismarck is encouraging citizens to provide their comments via email to whutchings@bismarcknd.gov. The comments will be sent to the Historic Preservation Commissioners prior to the meeting and included in the minutes of the meeting. To ensure that comments are compiled and forwarded to the Historic Preservation Commission with enough time to review all comments, please submit your comments no later than 12 noon the day of the meeting. Comments should also include which agenda item number or topic your comment references and your name		(anonymous comments will not be forwarded to the Historic Preservations Commissioners or included in the minutes of the meeting). If you would like to appear via video or audio link for a 3-5-minute comment on a public hearing item, please provide your e-mail address and contact information to whutchings@bismarcknd.gov at least one business day before the meeting. As always, live meeting coverage is available on Government Access Channels 2 & 602HD, Radio Access 102.5 FM Radio, or stream FreeTV.org and RadioAccess.org
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MINUTES

1. Consider approval of the minutes of the February 16, 2022 meeting of the Bismarck Historic Preservation Commission

REGULAR AGENDA

2. **Final Review of Talking Trails Narrative** 3
Staff recommendation: *Approve*
3. **Final Review of Printed Historic District Walking Maps**.....14
Staff recommendation: *Approve*
4. **Review of Historic Preservation Plan Subcommittee Timeline Narratives** 20
Staff recommendation: *Approve*



5. **2022 CLG Conference Planning**.....88
Staff recommendation: *Appoint a liaison*

OTHER BUSINESS

6. **Other Business**
a. 150th Bismarck Anniversary (Sesquicentennial) Planning Efforts

ADJOURNMENT

7. **Adjourn:** The next regular meeting date is scheduled for April 20, 2022 at 3:00 PM in the Tom Baker Meeting Room

Enclosures: Meeting Minutes of February 16, 2022



MEMORANDUM

Draft Talking Trails Site Narratives

TO: Chair Sakariassen and Historic Preservation Commission
FROM: Will Hutchings, AICP, Senior Planner
DATE: March 11, 2022

Talking Trails has drafted and revised the attached narratives for ten identified historic sites for your review, feedback and approval. The attached are presented as provided by the contractor. The narratives, once approved, will be used to generate the audio recordings for each of the ten selected sites and will be added to the dial-in platform, mobile app, and website. Minimal text will be used on the accompanying website and mobile app.

The Former Governor's Mansion, one of the previously identified Talking Trail sites, has been removed since several other organizations are also planning to provide interpretation at that site. A replacement has been identified to feature Van Horn and Ritterbush Architects and will be placed at the former Van Horn/Prince Hotel on North 3rd Street.

Signage to accompany these sites has been provided. Staff will work with Talking Trails, Public Works and Engineering to find appropriate and visible locations to install the signs within the public right-of-way. If no options exist to install in the public right-of-way, staff will work with property owners as needed to find an alternative.

Staff Recommended Action

Review the attached final Talking Trail site narratives and either:

1. Approve the narratives as presented; or
2. Approve the narratives with identified changes requested by the Commission

Attachments: Final Talking Trail site narratives





Bismarck Historic Preservation Talking Trail

Talking Point #1 - Rail Depot

In August, 1898, the St. Paul Globe reported the Northern Pacific Railway's intention to build a new depot and office building here in Bismarck, to replace the wood-framed freight depot built in the 1870's that had been destroyed by a fire in 1898. According to the article, the Bismarck Depot would be designed by the nationally prominent architectural firm of Charles Reed and Allan Stem of St. Paul, and that it would be "one of the finest depots and freight offices on the Northern Pacific system, and one that all the people of Bismarck would admire.

Completed in December, 1901 at a cost of \$33,601, the Northern Pacific Depot is notable for its Spanish mission-style architecture, uncommon on the Northern Plains. The new depot was built on a site that had previously been the location of the 1877 Sheridan House, at one time Bismarck's leading hotel and the largest building erected in the Dakota Territory. The Sheridan House, which had served as both a hotel and railway passenger depot, was moved across fifth street, where it was remodeled and reopened as the Northwest Hotel.

The Northern Pacific Depot's Spanish mission-style architecture featured a center façade flanked by towers that were originally domed, and later replaced in 1954 by simple peaked tile roofs. Originally the Northern Pacific Depot grounds between 4th and 5th streets were enclosed with post and rail fencing. The grounds were carefully landscaped with trees, flower beds, and grass, to beautify the depot, and provide a park-like atmosphere to the access. At the southeast corner, an enamel and wrought iron sign reading "Bismarck" was supported by two Tuscan columns.

By 1916, the Northern Pacific Depot was serving 24 passenger trains daily. By 1950, however, Bismarck began to reflect the nationwide decline in railroad traffic. The decline continued into the 1970's as mergers between the Northern Pacific and other railroads eventually created the Burlington Northern and Sante Fe. Ultimately, the Railway Express Agency vacated its quarters in the west end of the Bismarck Depot following bankruptcy in 1975. Continue to explore all the rich history of Bismarck along the Talking Trail...

SOURCE(S):

<https://www.history.nd.gov/hp/PDFinfo/Railroads%20in%20North%20Dakota,%201872-1956.pdf>

<http://www.bismarckhistory.org/?id=32>

Talking Point #2 - Belle Mehus Auditorium

Bismarck was brimming with civic pride the evening of January 19, 1914, when the Belle Mehus, then known simply as the “City Auditorium” first opened its doors. Designed by local architect Arthur Van Horn in the Boa Art Style, and built by Bismarck Construction Co. for about \$35,000, the handsome brick and stone structure was the cultural showpiece for a small town that only 40 years earlier had been little more than a collection of saloons and bawdy houses, and where horse-drawn wagons could still be more dependable than newfangled automobiles on the mostly unpaved streets.

Design of the building was originally to have gone to a Minneapolis architectural firm, but when their bid came in at more than \$80,000, the city commission turned to Van Horn, one of North Dakota’s leading architects at the time. The money was raised through a special bond issue. Van Horn, who founded the architectural firm now known as Ritterbush Associates, designed a number of downtown buildings, most notably the Kensington (Prince Hotel), which was originally known as the Van Horn Hotel.

The opening night gala featured Reginald DeKoven’s popular operetta, “Robin Hood,” conducted by the composer. Although ticket prices were as high as \$18 for a box seat, an enormous sum in those days, the house was sold out.

In addition to its physical beauty, the auditorium was blessed with superb acoustics, and famous visitors were pleased to find their art could be heard perfectly even in the furthest seats. Not to be outdone by musicians and entertainers, politicians have also found the Belle a useful venue. President Woodrow Wilson tried to drum up support for the League of Nations from the auditorium rostrum in 1919; and a future president – John F. Kennedy – also put in an appearance here, as did presidential hopefuls Hubert Humphrey and Eugene McCarthy.

In 1931, the City Auditorium together with the adjacent, then-brand new, World War Memorial Building, housed the State Legislature after fire had destroyed the Old State Capitol. Most importantly, however, the Belle has been a showcase for local talent.

After decades of use, the once elegant auditorium had become worn down and ragged. Fortunately, in 1996 the community approved a 2.4 million dollar renovation. It has been placed on the National Register of Historic Places. It was renamed the Belle Mehus City Auditorium in 1989 in honor of a beloved local music teacher and continues to serve the Bismarck Mandan community.

SOURCE(S):

<https://www.history.nd.gov/archives/manuscripts/inventory/00745.html>
<https://bismarckmandansymphony.org/about/BelleMehusAuditorium/>

Talking Point #3 - Van Horn and Ritterbush

Located at Former Van Horn Hotel, 3rd Street Bismarck, ND

Van Horn and Ritterbush Architects, later Ritterbush Associates, P.C., is one of the state's oldest practicing architectural firms. The partnership began in 1920 when established Bismarck architect Arthur Van Horn joined forces with brothers Clarence and Robert A. Ritterbush.

Van Horn was born in New Jersey in 1860 and had learned carpentry skills from his father from an early age. He studied architecture at the Cooper Institute in New York City for two years before he headed west to make his career in Dakota Territory.

Like Van Horn, the Ritterbush brothers had been introduced to design and construction by their father. William Ritterbush had settled in Bismarck with his own father the same year Van Horn arrived in Dakota Territory. By 1890 the senior pair of Ritterbush men were advertising themselves as architects, contractors, cabinet makers, and concrete workers under the name of Ritterbush & Son. Robert A. and Clarence, upon graduating from high school in 1911 and 1912, respectively, sought more formal architectural training and entered the Ohio Mechanics Institute in Cincinnati. Both enlisted in the Navy on the eve of World War I, where they received additional training in carpentry as part of their service in the aviation section. Following the war, the Ritterbush brothers returned to North Dakota and registered to practice architecture from offices in Oakes and Minot prior to their merger with Van Horn.

Arthur Van Horn arrived in Bismarck in 1883, his first job was a draftsman for the Weaver Lumber Company. He then worked briefly in Hillsboro, North Dakota. By 1902 he was back in the capital city as an architect and superintendent of building for the new state penitentiary. During this time, his reputation as a skilled designer and builder spread. He quit in 1907 and began taking independent commissions. Many of the civic and commercial buildings in downtown Bismarck are attributable to his early success as one of few trained architects in the region. These include the Bismarck Civic Auditorium now known as the Belle Mehus and the Van Horn Hotel building before you.

From 1920 to 1929, Van Horn and & Ritterbush Architects completed over 80 projects throughout the state, the majority of which were located in the Bismarck-Mandan area. The Mason Apartments on the corner of 2nd Street and Broadway in Bismarck, the Youth Correctional Center west of Mandan, and public works like the Logan and Hettinger County courthouses and Valley City Municipal Auditorium illustrate their reach. The Ritterbush brothers continued to practice after the death of Arthur Van Horn in 1931, and though it has evolved through the generations, a variant of the firm still operates in Bismarck.

SOURCE/S: Written by Emily Sakariassen

Talking Point #4 - Patterson Hotel

Originally named the McKenzie Hotel, after local political boss Alexander McKenzie, the hotel opened its doors on New Year's Day, 1911. It was developed by local businessman and fellow politician, Edward Patterson, who was a close friend to Alexander McKenzie. Constructed in only 8 months at a cost of roughly \$150,000, the hotel represented the most modern construction techniques of the era with Chicago style architecture. It was the first building in North Dakota built with "steel reinforced concrete" and was advertised as "absolutely fireproof" and "shockproof"--important features in lieu of Bismarck's devastating 1898 fire, and San Francisco's 1906 earthquake. The building featured marble-top tables, and mahogany furniture. Inside, there was a modern barber shop, billiards room, and "Turkish-Russian sea and plain baths." Just prior to its opening, Patterson is quoted late in 1910 in the Bismarck Tribune in reference to naming the hotel after his friend, Alexander McKenzie, saying,

"If it had not been for Alex McKenzie, there would have been no Bismarck worthwhile. His work made it possible that there be demand for such a hotel and I made up my mind that, as long as I was putting up a building that would be sure to endure for many years, I would make it, in some measure, a tribute to and appreciation of the man who did so much for Bismarck."

Deemed North Dakota's first skyscraper, the building was the tallest in the state until the new Capitol building's completion in 1934. Upon opening, it was the largest hotel with a four state region. It was notable for its continued construction that spanned decades, ultimately expanding from seven stories to ten--this was done at least partially to exploit a loophole where property taxes couldn't be collected on a building undergoing construction. The hotel's name was officially changed to Patterson Hotel in March 1927; however, there are numerous references to it being called "The Patterson" as early as 1922 following McKenzie's death. It operated as a hotel from 1911 to 1978. It was condemned in 1980 and re-opened as Patterson Place and offered affordable housing in 1983 after a 5.6 million dollar renovation. The most recent exhaustive and historically accurate renovation was completed in 2021.

Housed in the former hotel's lobby, the Peacock Alley Bar and Grill is Bismarck's oldest restaurant still in operation, having first opened its doors in 1933.

SOURCE/S: <https://www.bismarckcafe.com/blogs/wiki/patterson-hotel-mckenzie-hotel>

Talking Point #5 - Capitol Theater Building

Ed Patterson built the E. G. Patterson Building in 1905. It was designed by the Fargo architect Milton Earl Beebe, at an early point in his career. In the first few years the building held W. O'Hara Grocery market on the lower west half of the ground floor, and the drugstore of B. E. Jones in the east side. Above these stores Patterson rented the front rooms of the large upper story to the Commercial Club of Bismarck—a sort of Chamber of Commerce group. The rest of the expansive upper level was designed as a meeting space for large gatherings and a ballroom for private functions and public dances. For decades Patterson's Hall hosted fancy balls, dances of all sorts, political party gatherings, boxing matches, and a range of other entertainments. In the prairie towns like Bismarck and Mandan, people hungered for social activities, seeking out musical events and other excuses to come together and meet new people and old friends. Hundreds of couples attended masquerade balls, and other such special events in Patterson's Hall. In these remote towns on the prairies, music was very important, it bridged cultural differences, and brought a cheap and relatively portable source of entertainment into their everyday lives. Many young area couples met and conducted courtships at the "Silver" Ballroom of the Hall. In 1922, Phyllis "Honey" Yochim, a Bismarck girl working at the Webb Brothers Department Store met an industrious young man from Mandan, John A. Sakariassen at a Patterson's Hall dance. They dated, likely adding variety to their social life by watching moving pictures featuring Tom Mix, Lillian Gish in "Way Down East", and Rin Tin-Tin, shown in the Capitol Theater which by then occupied the converted street-level portions of the Patterson Building. They married in 1929, honeymooning in Cuba as the United States stock market crashed that same month.

The population of Bismarck at the time Ed Patterson's building went up was just under 5,000 people. Mandan, across the Missouri River, just a ferry or train ride west, had a population of 2734. Patterson understood the desire of people to gather together and supplied many opportunities to afford them chances to mingle and become exposed to music and culture, discuss state and local politics, and gather as members of assorted organizations. Around 1910, the grocery store on the street level on Main Avenue was replaced by the Orpheum Theater, which showed moving pictures. This new source of entertainment was wildly successful, and in 1920 the show house was remodeled and renamed "The Capitol Theater. Much needed seating was added to the capacity of the theater. Patterson's Hall continued to be the site of important political gatherings and social events for decades, eventually connecting via a second story landing to the McKenzie Hotel, also built by Ed Patterson. Many events held in Patterson's Hall were progressive parties where a show would be watched in the theater, followed by dancing in the Hall, and late-night refreshments, in the McKenzie Hotel dining room, as the two building were connected by a second-floor doorway.

According to the National Register of Historic Places nomination form, the E. G. Patterson Building's exterior has changed little over the century, and this record maintains that: "Although the E.G. Patterson Building is one of several existing turn-of-the-century two-story brick commercial buildings in the city center, its design remains distinctive for the striking combination of classical detail, white enameled finish and tall copper bay windows. The second-floor ballroom is unequalled in the area, and perhaps the State, for its expansive pressed metal ceiling. Milton Earl Beebe (1822-1940), who designed the building for Patterson in 1905, was one of the State's earliest and most prominent architects."

SOURCE/S: Written by Amy Sakariassen

Talking Point #6 - The Provident Building and The Weather Beacon

Welcome to the Provident Life Insurance Building, located here on the southwest corner of Rosser Avenue and Fifth Street. The mid-century designed building was constructed in 1954 as the headquarters of Provident Life Insurance Company, which was the largest privately owned institution in North Dakota at that time. The building was purchased by Burleigh County in 1995 and today houses Burleigh County Social Services and various professional offices.

The 60-foot weather beacon attached to the roof of the building is one of the most recognizable landmarks in downtown Bismarck. The weather beacon serves as a reflection of a national trend that occurred during the mid-century, in which insurance company buildings were constructed with the weather beacon amenity. The weather beacon in Minneapolis at the former Norwest Bank was quite famous, and most likely influenced a lot of other insurance companies and banks, particularly around the Midwest. Insurance companies promoted the amenity as an “extra service for the community” striving to prove that they have our best interests at heart, even during difficult times. In 2002, recognizing the need to repair the beacon after decades of use and damage from a hailstorm, the Burleigh County Commission authorized \$61,000 to restore the beacon. This basic weather forecasting may seem quaint today, but after all, this was before one could easily check 24-hour TV weather or smartphone apps for instant updates...

The weather beacon is operated by KFYZ, as it has been throughout its history, and uses simple colors to show the weather forecast for the upcoming twelve hours. Green means no change foreseen, red as fire means temperature is going higher, white as snow means down the temperature will go, and blinking in agitation means there's going to be some precipitation.

SOURCE/S: <https://www.bismarckcafe.com/blogs/images/provident-life-insurance-building>
Historical Preservation Group Talking Trail site information document.

Talking Point #7 - St. Alexis

From the time of their arrival in Dakota Territory in 1878, the Benedictine Sisters have responded to the needs of the people, first for educating children, and then in caring for the sick. In 1885, the sisters were asked to open the first hospital in the Dakota Territory, and with the help of Abbot Alexius Edelbrock, the Benedictine sisters purchased the former Lamborn Hotel from Alexander McKenzie and Robert Mellon for \$30,000. The nuns put in some remodeling and the hospital was opened in 1885. It operated as the Lamborn Hospital before adopting the Saint Alexius moniker in 1887. Water was carried in from the river by hand. After completing the oldest section of its current facility in 1915, it served the residents of the region with 125 beds and employed eighteen surgeons and physicians.

They treated 65 patients in the hospital's first year, despite no formal medical training, at a standard fee of \$1 per day. Most patients suffered from common injuries of the era... brawls, frequent horse accidents, drunkenness, deadly diseases, and others. Chief Sitting Bull, future President Theodore Roosevelt, and Medora de Vallombrosa Marquise de Moers were noted patients of the frontier hospital.

Saint Alexius progressed under the administration of Sister Boniface, who took the position in 1892. She was instrumental in evolving it from a primitive, barely equipped frontier hospital into a well-funded modern healthcare facility. She replaced coal stoves with steam heat, installed telephones, and replaced hand bells with electronic call bells. She administered St. Alexius until retiring in 1937--the same year of her death. A dedicated four-story nursing school was built east of the hospital in 1925, appropriately named Boniface Hall. The program was phased out in 1960 when Saint Alexius partnered with the University of Mary. One of the first buildings erected at today's University of Mary campus is called Boniface Hall.

Though its original style is obscured, you can still see parts of the original brick building when standing on the south side of the hospital. St. Alexius Health continues the mission of the Benedictine Sisters to care for the sick and strive to create healthier lifestyles. The sisters focus their commitment to St. Alexius in ways that invite those who work with them to bear witness to Gospel values through deeds of loving service.

SOURCE/S: <https://www.chistalexiushealth.org/bismarck/our-history>
<http://www.digitalhorizonsonline.org/digital/collection/uw-ndshs/id/558>

Talking Point #8 - World War Memorial Building

Welcome to the historic World War Memorial Building, located here on 6th Street in downtown Bismarck. Not to be confused with the Liberty Memorial Building, on the State Capitol grounds.

The Legislative Assembly first authorized the construction of the building in 1929. It was decided that it would be a joint city-county community center. The city funded \$125,000, while the county funded \$84,000.

With nearly 75% support, Bismarck voters overwhelmingly approved the debt limit increase and bond measure to finance the building, through a special election held on May 31st 1929. It was the largest election turnout to that point. The cornerstone was laid on December 31st of that year.

It was originally dedicated to honor World War I veterans, but it has since expanded to celebrate other Veterans, namely those of World War II. The Art Deco-style building deployed the most modern construction techniques of the time, from its heating system to its steel frame supporting 700,000 bricks. It continues to serve the community with the gymnasium still in use today.

The state legislature met here from 1931 to 1934 while the new state capitol building was undergoing construction after the original had burned down. Check out the State Capitol Talking Trail to continue to experience the stories of Bismarck, ND--history happens here.

SOURCE/S: <http://www.digitalhorizonsonline.org/digital/collection/uw-ndshts/id/603>
<https://www.history.nd.gov/hp/WWImemorials.html>

Talking Point #9 - Bismarck Veterans Memorial Library

Welcome to the Veteran's Memorial Public Library. The library you see before you opened on July 8th, 1963, and replaced the Carnegie Library, which was demolished in 1980, however, the efforts to create Bismarck's first free public library began much earlier. The industrious pioneer women of Bismarck first established a reading room in the school with 200 donated books soon after the city was established in 1873. The books were made available to the public after school hours. The first movement for a Carnegie Library began in 1893 by Marshall Jewell and C.M. Dahl. While the idea was initially well received by both the citizens and the Carnegie Foundation, the Panic of 1893 hit the country and the idea of a public library was shelved.

Other library campaigns were launched in 1901 by former Governor Hanna and others, but did not succeed. In 1908, the Civic Improvement League formed and named a library committee as did the city Federation of Women's Clubs and the Bismarck Commercial Club. Bismarck was the only city with a population of over 3,000 that didn't have a public library, and many of Bismarck's community members weren't happy. By 1915 community members and groups worked together to lay out plans for a reading room. Folks donated materials and labor for the shelves and bookcases. One year later, in 1916, the devoted groups received a letter from the Carnegie Foundation, which had agreed to give \$25,000.00 to erect a free public library building for Bismarck. Construction was completed at the end of 1917.

After the old Carnegie Library was torn down in the 1980's, and was later replaced by a parking garage, which can be found on 6th Street and Thayer. The architectural style of the parking structure pays respect to the original Carnegie library, and each level is named for famous authors. There is also a plaque inside the first floor, at the northeast corner that mentions the Carnegie Library.

The current library, the Veteran's Memorial Library was originally constructed for \$375,000. Its largest expansion and renovation concluded in 1989 at a cost of roughly \$3.9 million. Once completed, the project added 50,000 square feet and renovated the original 18,000 square foot building. Several minor renovations have followed, including the Children's Library in 2009, and an exterior renovation in 2022.

The library has continued to be one of the most visited public spaces in the city. The library continues to honor our Veterans, and is grateful for their service, as well as for the continued support it has received over the years from our local businesses and citizens. So stop in, grab a book, find a nook, and get lost in one of the thousands of adventures waiting for you within..

SOURCE/S: <https://www.bismarcklibrary.org/157/History-of-the-Bismarck-Public-Library>

Talking Point #10 - Cathedral District

Cathedral District 1 - *recommend placement at CB Little Mansion Washington and Ave A*

Welcome to the beautiful, historic Cathedral District. You might consider walking a few blocks in each direction to check out the historic homes, and to view the Cathedral itself, which is located off West Avenue B and Raymond Street.

The Development of the Cathedral Area Historic District, also known as “the Hill”, all started with Clarence B. Little, an attorney and founder of the Provident Life Insurance Co. who purchased property on the hill overlooking Bismarck’s early commercial core. He built the Shingle Style mansion at the northwest corner of N Washington St. and W Ave A in 1906, setting the trend for other well-to-do Bismarckers to construct stately residences along Avenues A and B, to take advantage of what was then a panoramic view of the Missouri River valley.

Through the first half of the 20th Century, many of Bismarck’s most prominent figures bought up lots and built homes here. Three-term Governor “Honest” John Burke, who also served as Treasurer of the United States (1913-1921), lived at 224 W Ave A. In the 1920s, Governor “Wild” Bill Langer moved into the bungalow just down the street, at 114 W Ave A. Local physicians Dr. Lloyd Shipfer and Dr. Reuben Waldschmidt had homes on Ave B, as did A.W. Mundy, owner of the A.W. Lucas & Co. department store. Other movers and shakers in the neighborhood included George and Stella Mann, publisher and owners of the *Bismarck Tribune*; early archaeologist, historian, and horticulturist George Will; poet and artist Clell Gannon and his wife Ruth, both leaders in Bismarck arts and culture; Mayor Neil O. Churchill, auto dealer and manager of the Bismarck baseball team for whom Satchel Paige was the star pitcher, and many more.

SOURCE/S: Written by Emily Sakariassen
Vyzralek, Frank E. and Louis N. Hafermehl. 1980. Cathedral Area Historic District, National Register of Historic Places Inventory - Nomination Form. National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C.



MEMORANDUM

Final Review of Printed Historic Walking Maps

TO: Chair Sakariassen and Historic Preservation Commission
FROM: Will Hutchings, AICP, Senior Planner
DATE: March 11, 2022

The City of Bismarck has contracted with The Printers to produce two printed walking maps highlighting various historic buildings/sites within the Downtown Bismarck Historic District and Bismarck's Cathedral District. Both of these district's are listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Project Background:

This project was identified by the Historic Preservation Commission and awarded 2021 Historic Preservation Fund grant funding. The project consists of hiring a consultant to conduct content research, map design, and print 6,000 maps (3,000 for each district). Initial drafts of these maps were presented to the Historic Preservation Commission at their regularly scheduled meeting on October 20, 2021. Assistance for creation of the map has been provided by staff, members of the Historic Preservation Commission and others.

Project Funding:

This project was funded by the Historic Preservation Fund, National Park Service and the Department of the Interior. Any opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this material do not necessarily reflect the views of the Department of the Interior.

The required grant match was provided by donated labor of the Bismarck Historic Preservation Commission and City of Bismarck staff who assisted with this project.

Staff Recommended Action:

Review the attached proofs of the Downtown Bismarck Historic District and Bismarck's Cathedral Historic District and either:

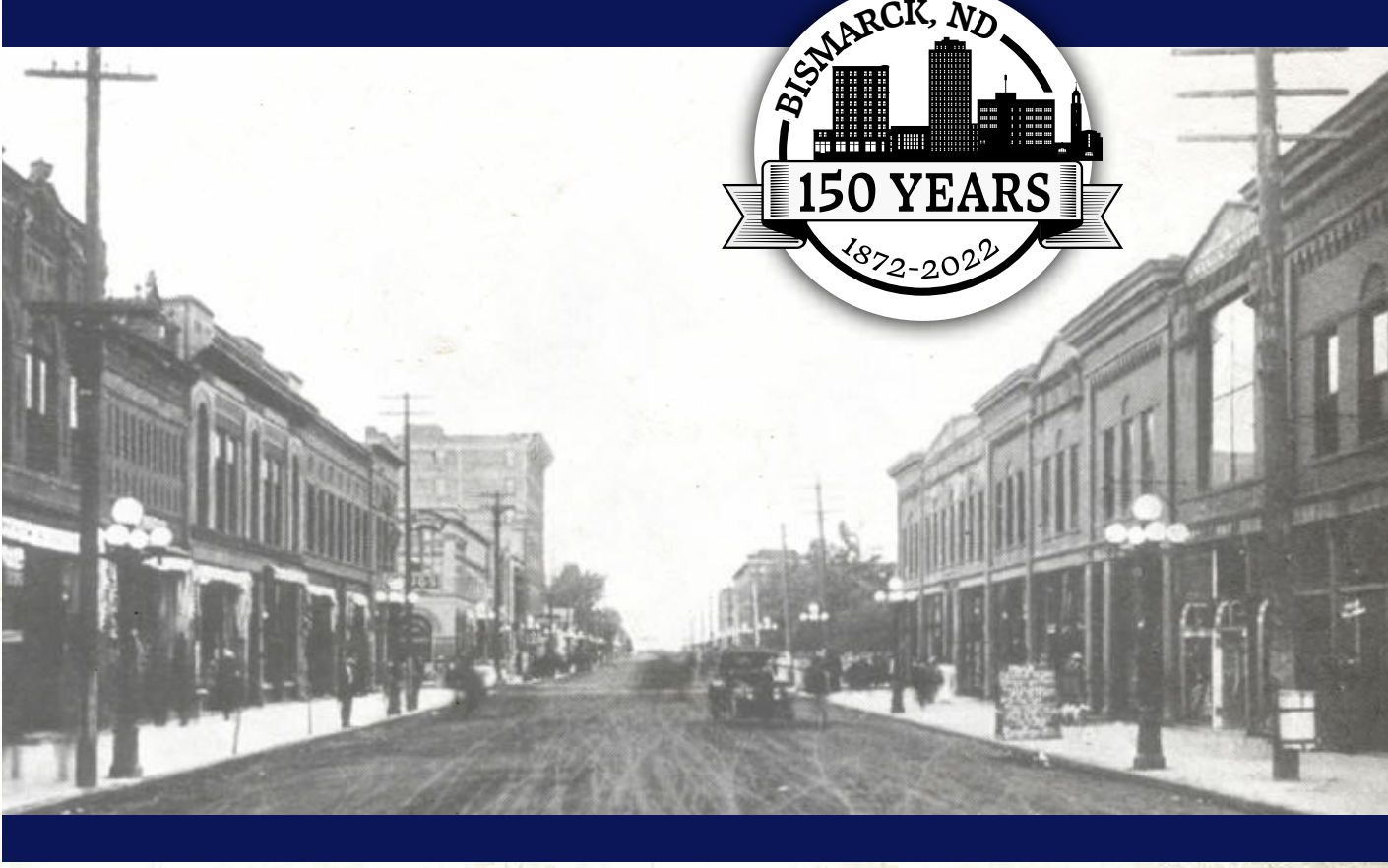
1. Approve the content and design proofs as presented; or
2. Approve the content and design proofs with identified changes requested by the Commission



Attachments:

- Content and Design Proofs:
 - Downtown Bismarck Historic District
 - Bismarck's Cathedral Historic District





Sources for this information:
United States Department of the Interior
National Register of Historical Places
National Park Service
SPONSORED BY:
Bismarck Historic Preservation Commission
PHOTOS:
Emily Sakariassen, Blake Dinkins,
State Archives, Google Maps



This project was funded by the Historic Preservation Fund, National Park Service and the Department of the Interior. Any opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this material do not necessarily reflect the views of the Department of the Interior.

A Walking Tour of Downtown Bismarck's Historical Buildings

DOWNTOWN BISMARCK HISTORIC DISTRICT

The city of Bismarck is located in south-central North Dakota on the east bank of the Missouri River. It is the Burleigh County seat and the state capital.

The Downtown Bismarck Historic District encompasses portions of eleven blocks in Bismarck's historic core. It is bounded by the historic Northern Pacific Railway mainline on the south and extends as far as 6th Street on the east. Thayer Avenue on the north and Washington Street on the west.

For four raucous years, 1873-1876, the stretch of 4th Street, between Main and Broadway Avenue, was a wild-west boardwalk of wood-fronted gambling saloons, dancehalls and brothels that became known as Bloody Fourth Street.



A large fire on August 8th, 1898 left this area from the Northern Pacific tracks north along 4th Street to Thayer Avenue in ruins. Substantial three-story brick buildings were melted into charred heaps of rubble, and residences as far away as six blocks were damaged and destroyed. This brought in an urban renewal style project for Bismarck. The buildings display a variety of architectural styles and influences of the early 20th century.

The historic commercial core is firmly anchored by architectural landmarks. The most prominent of these are the McKenzie Hotel, Civic Auditorium, Burleigh County Courthouse, Webb Brothers Block, Dakota Block, Hughes Apartment Building, Federal Courthouse, and the Tribune Building.



ARTHUR VAN HORN



MEYER AND MOLLIE EPPINGER



DR. BENJAMIN F. SLAUGHTER AND LINDA WARFEL SLAUGHTER

20. FEDERAL COURT

The federal government constructed this three-story building at the northwest corner of Broadway Avenue and 3rd Street in 1913. Architectural plans for the edifice were prepared by the Treasury Department's supervisory architect, James Knox. Upon completion, the Renaissance Revival-style building housed a Federal Post Office and District Court, one of only four such facilities in North Dakota. A three-story rear wing was added in 1937. The building was nominated to the National Register in 1976.



21. VAN HORN / PRINCE HOTEL

The Van Horn Hotel is on the west side of 3rd Street between Main Avenue and Broadway Avenue. Local entrepreneur and industrialist, Edmond Hughes, financed the construction of the original portion of the four story hotel in 1916 and added a four-story wing to the north in 1926. Hughes relied on the services of local architect Arthur Van Horn for the design of both the 1916 hotel and 1926 wing. The Van Horn Hotel has been listed in the National Register since 1984.



22. LOGAN

The Logan Building is on the west side of 3rd Street between Main Avenue and Broadway Avenue. The Logan Grocery was one Bismarck's first retail establishments and remained in operation at this general location for over sixty years. A. W. Logan opened the grocery at the corner of 3rd Street and Broadway Avenue in 1877. Logan had become sufficiently established to warrant construction of a new store on 3rd Street in 1881. After that building was destroyed in downtown Bismarck's 1898 fire, he quickly rebuilt on-site.



23. HUGHES / MASON APARTMENTS

The Hughes Apartment Building is a free-standing three-story building at the northwest corner of Broadway Avenue and 2nd Street. Edmond Hughes financed the construction of the original building in 1922 and reportedly relied on the services of Arthur Van Horn for its architectural design. The building included several retail shops on the first story, while the upper stories housed apartment-style living units. In 1926, the building received a large three-story addition that increased the total number of apartments to over forty units. That addition became known as the "Mason Apartments."



GEORGE AND STELLA MANN



In 1911, George Douglas Mann became editor of The Bismarck Tribune. During the Great Depression, the Tribune produced a series of articles urging a "Self Help for the Dust Bowl" program that advocated the practices of diversified agriculture, the utilization of water-conservation, and the benefits of irrigation. George Mann died in 1936, but his widow Stella Irene Mann and her staff continued this campaign, ultimately earning The Bismarck Tribune a Pulitzer Prize Gold Medal in 1938. Stella Mann served as publisher from the time of George's death until her own retirement in 1962.



ED PATTERSON

Edward C. Patterson was a larger-than-life personality, and a man thoroughly entwined in Bismarck's history. He arrived in Bismarck in 1882 as an energetic 16-year-old and started working as a barber. By 1893 the Pattersons had acquired the Sheridan House hotel. At one time or another Patterson's hotel interests included the McKenzie Hotel, the Northwest Hotel, and the McKenzie Hotel. The McKenzie Hotel, on Main Avenue and 5th Street was built by Patterson in 1910 as the McKenzie Hotel, opening for business on January 1, 1911, just in time for the legislative session. It was named to honor his friend and political crony Alexander McKenzie. Politics were a passion for Patterson, and he held many local offices through the years. The building was renamed The Patterson in 1927. After Prohibition, in 1933, Patterson opened a bar and grill known as Peacock Alley, and a tavern known as The Ring on the ground floor of the Soo Hotel on 5th Street. The walls of this establishment were covered with pictures of prize fighters. His lifelong interest in prize-fighting prompted Patterson to bring well-known boxers and other entertainment figures to Bismarck.



Buildings of Downtown Bismarck

1. L.J. ANDERSON BUILDING / FORMER INTERNATIONAL HARVESTER COMPANY WAREHOUSE

The L. J. Anderson Building is a historic warehouse located on northwest corner of Main Avenue and Mandan Street. The International Harvester Company of America constructed it around 1910. This warehouse was opened to supply the company's farm dealerships in southwestern North Dakota and southeastern Montana. The company abandoned the warehouse in the late 1930s.



2. CAMP HANCOCK HISTORIC SITE

Camp Hancock, a United States military post, was established along the route of the Northern Pacific Railway at Bismarck, Dakota Territory, on April 16, 1872. It guarded the construction of the Northern Pacific Railway throughout the area. The military history of Camp Hancock officially ended on April 16, 1894, when the War Department transferred the property to the Department of Agriculture.



3. DAKOTA BLOCK

The Dakota Block, at the northeast corner of Main Avenue and 2nd Street, is one of the few pre-1898 buildings to survive in the downtown area. An elaborately detailed Gothic Revival Style edifice of the early 1880s, the three-story brick block originally was comprised of three 25-foot wide bays. However, the easternmost bay was razed, presumably in the mid-1950s or 1960s.



4. B.P.O.E.

The BPOE stands in the row of adjoining commercial buildings that line the north side of the 200 block of Main Avenue. The two-story brick edifice was built by the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks (BPOE) in 1918. The organization occupied the building's second story and offered retail space at the street level for rent. The building's second story facade (south elevation) remains virtually unaltered.



5. WEBB BROTHERS BLOCK / ZIMMERMAN'S

This building was one of the first and finest replacement structures built in the aftermath of downtown Bismarck's 1898 fire. The St. Paul architectural firm of Butler and Reid rendered the building's Classical Revival design. A similarly styled addition was added on the west end of the original building in 1906. The Webb Brothers Department Store was the main occupant from the time of the building's completion until 1945.



6. NORTHERN PACIFIC RAILWAY DEPOT

Northern Pacific Railway Depot was completed by the railway in 1901. Designed in the Mission Revival style by the St. Paul architectural firm of Charles Reed & Alan Stern, its Spanish Mission style was uncommon on the northern plains. The depot displays a three-part structural mass, with a two-story gabled central core flanked by long single-story wings to the east and west.



7. WOOLWORTHS DEPARTMENT STORE

The Woolworths Department Store is a large two-story brick block on the northeast corner of Main Avenue and 4th Street. It was built in 1913 by the F. W. Woolworth Company which specialized in the sale of items priced at five and ten cents. The building has been extensively remodeled in recent years and no longer retains its original historic integrity.



8. CAPITAL THEATRE / E.G. PATTERSON

The Patterson Building stands in a row of historic commercial blocks on the north side of Main Avenue between 4th Street and 5th Street. Built in 1905, it was the first of three major building projects completed in the vicinity of Main Avenue and 5th Street by Edward G. Patterson. Retail space for two stores were provided at the street level, while the second story housed office suites and a ballroom.



9. MCKENZIE / PATTERSON HOTEL

The McKenzie (Patterson) Hotel was constructed on the northwest corner of Main Avenue and 5th Street by local entrepreneur and politician, Edward G. Patterson in 1914. Rendered in the Chicago School tradition by St. Paul architect, Herman Krentz, the seven-story hotel stood as the tallest building in North Dakota upon its original completion and was one of the first in the state to feature a skeletal frame of reinforced concrete. Patterson built a two-story addition on the west side of the hotel in the 1910s. By the late 1930s, the hotel itself had been enlarged into a ten-story building. The property has been listed in the National Register since 1976.



10. LASKEN BLOCK

Sources consulted indicate that Herman Lasken built this two-story brick block on the northeast corner of 5th Street and Main Avenue sometime between 1910 and 1912. Upon the building's completion, Lasken and his wife Mae opened a billiard hall and soft drink parlor and moved into an apartment on the second story. They remained in business at this location until at least the late 1920s.



11. SOO HOTEL

The Soo Hotel building is located on the west side of 5th Street between Main Avenue and Broadway Avenue. Designed by prominent Fargo architect Milton Beebe, the hotel was among several important downtown construction projects backed by Edward G. Patterson. Intended for working-class visitors to Bismarck, the Soo lacks exuberant architectural detail, but still displays a dignified and straightforward Neoclassical facade.



12. CIVIC AUDITORIUM / BELLE MEHUS

The Bismarck Civic Auditorium "The Belle Mehus" is on the northeast corner of Broadway Avenue and 6th Street. The City of Bismarck constructed the building in 1914 to serve as an auditorium for public events and the performing arts. The noted St. Paul architectural firm of Reed and Stern worked on the original design concept, but the building's Beaux Arts design was largely the product of local architect Arthur Van Horn.



13. WORLD WAR MEMORIAL

The World War Memorial Building is on the east side of 6th Street between Broadway Avenue and Thayer Avenue. It is a large freestanding building that occupies nearly five city lots. Plans for the memorial detailed a state-of-the-art steel frame and brick building designed in the Art Deco Style, one of the most favored architectural forms for public and commercial buildings at the time.



14. BURLEIGH COUNTY COURTHOUSE

The Burleigh County Courthouse is a three-story Art Deco-style edifice constructed in 1931 from designs prepared by Minot architect Ira Rush. It stands in the 500 block of Thayer Avenue at the same location as the 1880s courthouse it replaced. A prominent centrally-placed entry dominates the facade. It features a pair of bronze doors framed by a massive stone surround.



15. PROVIDENT LIFE INSURANCE

Located on the southwest corner of Rosser Avenue and 5th Street, the headquarters of the Provident Life Insurance Company was constructed in 1954. The building was purchased by Burleigh County in 1995 and today houses Burleigh County Social Services and various professional offices. The 60-foot weather beacon is one of the most recognizable landmarks in downtown Bismarck. Operated by KFYP, the weather beacon uses colors to show the weather forecast for the upcoming twelve hours. Green means no change foreseen, red as fire means the temperature is going higher, white as snow means down the temperature will go, and blinking in agitation means there's going to be precipitation.



16. OLD BISMARCK TRIBUNE

The Bismarck Tribune Building stands on the southwest corner of 4th Street and Thayer Avenue. After completion in 1920, it became home to the presses and staff of the Bismarck Tribune – North Dakota's oldest newspaper founded in 1873. The newspaper remained at this location for the next sixty years.



17. DAKOTA NATIONAL BANK

The Dakota National Bank stands in a row of adjoining commercial blocks on the west side of 4th Street between Broadway Avenue and Thayer Avenue. It is a two-story building of wood-frame and masonry construction with a two-story modern addition at the rear. The First Guaranty Bank constructed this building to house its new financial institution at Bismarck in 1920. At that time, F. A. Eeher of Bismarck headed the bank as its president and E. V. Lahr was the cashier. In 1929, First Guaranty Bank reorganized and assumed a new charter under the name of Dakota National Bank and Trust Company.



18. LUCAS

The Eppinger-Philbrick Block, on the southwest corner of Broadway Avenue and 4th Street, was built in 1907 at the top of what had once been, during Bismarck's first four years, a wild street of rough brothels, saloons, and dance halls. The building designed by A. Van Horn, was renovated in 1949 in the modern Art Deco style, clad in enameled tiles, for the Buttery's department store.



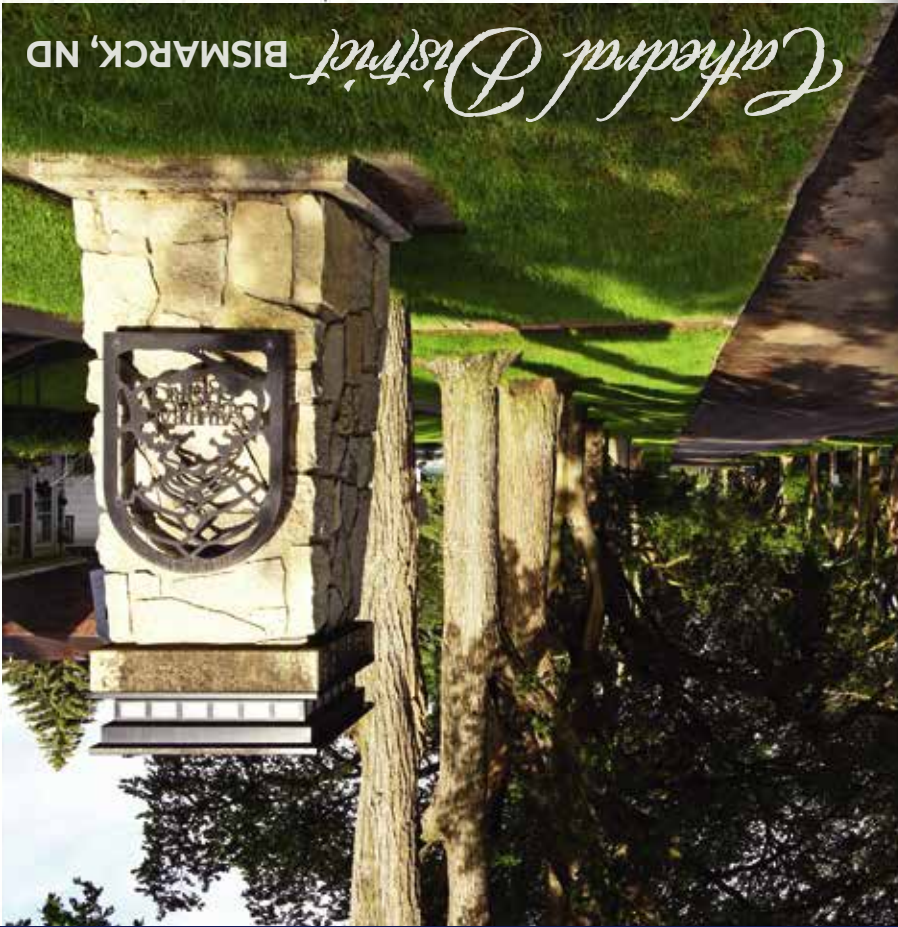
19. COWAN

The present building was built around the previously mentioned structure between 1954 and 1957. It is an example of 1950s commercial architecture featuring a curved wall at the street corner, continuous window bands on the four upper stories and a recessed entry. At the core of this building is an 1855 structure that was left standing after the fire of 1898.



The Cathedral Area benefits from the many trees planted in the boulevards. Tree planting was a method of bringing residential development and expansion to the neighborhood. They were a feature planned in the teens and 1920s to beautify the growing community of Bismarck. Today, the mature trees visually, physically, and economically enhance and help to define the Bismarck Cathedral Area Historic District. American Elms are the dominate landscape feature of the district. Hundreds of them form virtually intact canopies along the streets. The average spacing of the trees is approximately twenty feet.

In 1906 Clarence B. Little, an attorney, First National Bank president, and founder of the Provident Life Insurance Co., purchased property on the hill overlooking Bismarck's early commercial core and built a stately home for himself. His Queen Anne and Shingle Style turreted mansion at 304 W Avenue A set the trend for other well-to-do Bismarck residents, who quickly bought up lots along Avenues A and B. The neighborhood, now known as the Cathedral Area because it includes the 1945 Art Moderne Cathedral of the Holy Spirit, has retained much of its historic character. Remarkably intact, these homes look much the same as they would have when they were first constructed by a



progressive-minded era of North Dakotans. There existed an uncommonly democratic mix of residents, income ranges, and architectural styles indicative of the economic nature and social development distinguishing Bismarck's early growth and settlement from 1905-1949. Many of the homes built in this neighborhood were designed by architects like Arthur Van Horn, Frederick W. Keith, W.F. Kurke, Ashelman and Cage, and Purcell, Feick, and Elmslie, adding not only to the historic significance of the area, but to its eclectic aesthetic and charm. Its boundaries capture a variety of architectural styles, from modestly-sized Storybook and Tudor Revival bungalows to handsome Craftsman homes and Regal Colonial Revivals. The area served as the area of residence for many of the most prominent and influential figures of early twentieth-century Bismarck, several of whose fame extended far beyond North Dakota's boundaries. NorthWashington Street, the major thoroughfare that transects the neighborhood, was thoughtfully re-designed in recent years to move traffic efficiently while simultaneously preserving the integrity of the Cathedral Area. The area was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1980 and is Bismarck's first historic district.



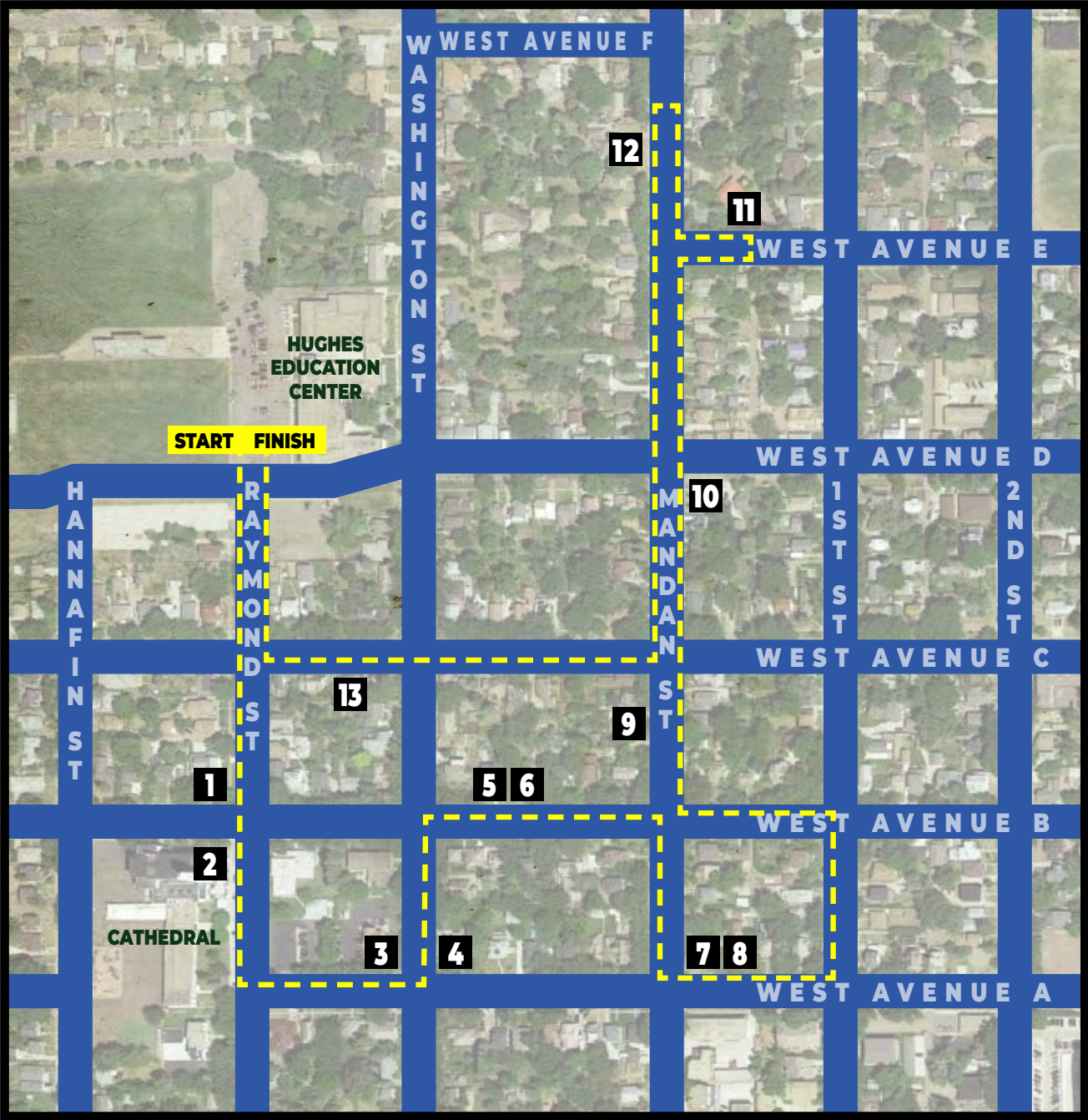
Neil O. Churchill, former Bismarck mayor and founder of the best baseball team in the history of the state once said of his life, "If there was another side of the tracks, that is where I was born." Churchill was born in St. Croix Falls, WI. As a youth, he worked hard to support his family but baseball had become his true passion. He played every summer and in 1912 he was a star catcher on a Minnesota-Wisconsin interstate league with future major league Hall of Famer Burleigh Grimes. Churchill came to Bismarck in 1918 and took a job with the Lahr Motor Sales Company, a career well-suited to his exuberant personality. A few years later he invested in the reorganization of Wickham Corwin's Bismarck franchise, forming Corwin-Churchill Motors; one of the largest dealerships in the state. Maintaining his interest in sports, Churchill organized the Bismarck baseball team. A bold move at the time, Churchill hired star players from the Negro Leagues, creating an interracial team more than a decade before Jackie Robinson broke the color barrier in Major League baseball.

Bismarck's semi-pro baseball team. From left to right: Joe Desiderator, Al Leary, Neil Churchill (manager), Dan Oberholzer, Ed Hendee. Standing: Hilton Smith, Red Haley, Barney Morris, Satchel Paige, Moose Johnson, Quincy Troupe and Ted Radcliffe. *Bismarck Tribune August 9, 1935, page 8, State Historical Society of North Dakota.*

Sources for this information:
United States Department of the Interior
National Register of Historical Places
National Park Service
SPONSORED BY:
Bismarck Historic Preservation Commission
PHOTOS:
Alex Sakariassen, State Archives, Google Maps,
City of Bismarck – Justine Thompson, photographer



*A Walking Tour
of Bismarck's
Cathedral
District
Historical Buildings*



1. 402 WEST AVENUE B
Prairie Style
1910

Timothy R. Atkinson (1896-1937)
Architects: William Gray Purcell & George Elmslie, Minneapolis
Timothy R. Atkinson arrived in Bismarck in 1905 and served as N.D. State Engineer 1906-1914. He is credited with the extensive development of engineering projects in communities throughout western North Dakota. In 1910, Atkinson built a visionary Prairie Style home at 402 Avenue B West.



2. 520 NORTH RAYMOND STREET
Art Deco
1945
Cathedral of the Holy Spirit
Architect: William F. Kurke, Fargo
Art Deco is an architectural style that rose to prominence during the Jazz Age between the World Wars. Sometimes referred to as Art Moderne, it fuses bold, futuristic, streamlined shapes with clean geometric decorative elements.



3. 304 WEST AVENUE A
Shingle Style
1902

Clarence Belden Little (1857-1941)
“Colonel” Little came to Bismarck in 1882. An attorney and leader in finance and politics, he was a founder and president of the First National Bank and Trust and Provident Life Insurance companies. Little served in the N.D. State Senate 1889-1909. His shingle style mansion and carriage house set the bar for residential development of “The Hill” neighborhood. For many years, it served as a convent for the Sisters of St. Benedict and now houses the N.D. State Bar Association.



4. 232 WEST AVENUE A
Tudor Revival
1910
remodeled
1931

George D. (1879-1936) and Stella (1892-1973) Mann
Architects: Bugenhagen & Molander, Minot
George and Stella Mann were owners and publishers of North Dakota’s oldest newspaper, The Bismarck Tribune. Mann came to Bismarck in 1914 as editor and turned the run-down newspaper into a highly respected publication. Stella Hilleboe Mann served as publisher following her husband’s death in 1936 until 1962. Under her direction, the Tribune received a Pulitzer Prize in 1937. In 1931, the Manns remodeled the original 1910 Foursquare house into a grand Tudor Revival.



5. 226 WEST AVENUE B
Classical Revival —
Colonial
1916
Frank E. Shepard House
Architect: Arthur Van Horn, Bismarck

Classical Revival architecture is a stylistic interpretation derived from ancient Greek and Roman Classical orders. Its most popular form in America is the Colonial Revival. It is characterized by balanced symmetrical facades, formal lines, and such classical decorative details as colonnaded entrance porches, pedimented doors and windows, dentils, quoins, and pilasters.



6. 220 WEST AVENUE B
Tudor Revival
1914
Clyde L. (1877-1967) and Rosa (1877-1962) Young
Clyde L. Young was Bismarck’s city attorney 1923-1933 and general counsel of Provident Life Insurance Company 1916-1962. Young is known as the “father of the Bismarck Public Library,” which he founded with C.B. Little and George F. Will in 1916. His wife, Rosa Christie Young, was a charter member of the Bismarck Park Commission and served from it’s inception in 1927 until 1950. Rosa Young Park is named in her honor. In 1914, the Young’s built a stately Tudor Revival at 220 West Avenue A which they occupied until Rosa’s death in 1962.



7. 120 WEST AVENUE A
Prairie Style
1912
Patrick Byrne House
Architects: William Gray Purcell & George Elmslie, Minneapolis
Prairie Style is an architectural form original to the American Midwest and can be credited directly to the genius of Frank Lloyd Wright during his years in Oak Park, Illinois. Common features include broad eaves, cantilevered terraces, low hipped or gabled roof lines and ganged windows, often incorporating art glass design.



8. 114 WEST AVENUE A
Craftsman Bungalow
1906
William Langer (1886-1959)
“Wild Bill” Langer was elected N.D. Attorney General in 1916 as the newly-formed Non-Partisan League (NPL) swept to statewide victory. In 1932, he was elected N.D. Governor. Removed from office by the N.D. Supreme Court in 1934, he was later acquitted of fraud charges and again elected governor in 1936. Langer was elected as a Republican to the U.S. Senate in 1940 and served until his death in his fourth term. Throughout his career, he concentrated on making life easier for North Dakota farmers. In 1923, Langer purchased the Craftsman Bungalow at 114 West Avenue A and lived there until his move to the Governor’s Mansion.



9. 618 NORTH MANDAN STREET
Tudor Revival
1928
Neil O. Churchill House
Neil Churchill served as mayor Bismarck. from 1939 to 1946. During the height of his sports career, Churchill and his family resided in this home built by local contractor John Beattie. They later resided in a second house, also in the Cathedral Area Historic District, the Ervin H. L. Versperman House at 410 W. Avenue B.



10. 723 NORTH MANDAN STREET
Arts & Crafts —
Storybook
1928
Clifford R. McConougty House
Architect: Herman M. Leonhard, Bismarck

The Arts and Crafts tradition in architecture originated in 19th century Britain in reaction to the impersonality of the industrial age. The architecture exhibits a whimsical quality, encompassing many individual styles such as Bungalow, Tudor and Storybook. It is often characterized by asymmetrical facades, rustic materials, and informal design elements such as stone-dressed doorways and windows, open porches, projecting eaves with overhanging rafters, and large windows with leaded-glass decoration.



11. 112 WEST AVENUE E
Spanish Colonial Revival
1949
George F. Will (1884-1955)
George F. Will was born in Bismarck to Pioneer Seed House nurseryman Oscar H. Will. Will studied at Harvard, and in 1905, conducted the first archaeological excavation at the Double Ditch Village site north of Bismarck. Will earned respect as a plant geneticist, climatologist, archaeologist, ethnologist, historian, outdoorsman, and conservationist. He served on the Bismarck School Board for more than 30 years and was president of the N.D. Historical Society and the Bismarck Public Library. In 1949, Will built an impressive Spanish Colonial Revival residence at 112 West Avenue E where he lived until his death.



12. 912 NORTH MANDAN STREET
Arts & Crafts
1935
Clell (1900-1962) and Ruth (1906-1988) Gannon
Clell Gannon, a talented artist and poet, is best known for the murals he painted in the Burleigh County Courthouse and the Bismarck High School library. Clell and Ruth Gannon designed and built their stone Arts and Crafts Norman Cottage “The Cairn” in 1935. It became home to a WPA-inspired poetry society and press, which they shepherded for many years. In 1948, Clell Gannon received a Citation Award, and was added to the Honor Roll of the American Artists Professional League. The Gannon Gallery in the library at Bismarck State College is named in their honor.



13. 313 WEST AVENUE C
Tudor Revival
1938
Dr. Engrebretson House
Two-story stucco and timbered building with a steep roof with cross gable construction. Second floor timbered gable projection overhangs above front door and garage. Long main facade wall set with five casement window panels of 8 vertical panes. In timbered second floor gable end a 6-over-6 window is centered. A diamond-shaped paned window is just to the left of doorway. Doorway is framed with tortured timbers as is garage entry. Exposed sculpted stucco chimney rises at east gable end.



MEMORANDUM

Review of Historic Preservation Plan Subcommittee Timeline Narratives

TO: Chair Sakariassen and Historic Preservation Commission
FROM: Will Hutchings, AICP, Senior Planner
DATE: March 11, 2022

The Historic Preservation Commission has formed a subcommittee to assist with development of the Bismarck Historic Preservation Plan. The sub-committee's role is to develop a section of the Plan that identifies and defines historical eras and themes which would be presented in an info-graphic format and organized as a timeline.

The subcommittee met monthly from January 2021 to August 2021 and identified events, people and sites of historic significance that should be included on the plan, Subcommittee members provided information about each event including sources, narratives and suggested classification themes for each event.

From September to present, a smaller group has worked to revise narratives to maintain a consistent voice and make each narrative length align with the historic significance of the event.

As the City gears up with partner organizations to celebrate the 150th Anniversary of the City, others have noted interest in using these narratives and possibly reproducing the timeline in other formats. Prior to using these and sharing with other organizations, staff would like the Historic Preservation Commission to review and approve these draft narratives.

Work on designing the timeline and creating a unified bibliography for sources is on-going. A sample of the design is attached to this memo.

Staff Recommended Action

Review the attached final timelines narratives and the design concepts:

1. Approve the narratives and design concept as presented; or
2. Approve the narratives and design concept with identified changes requested by the Commission

Attachments: Subcommittee Timeline Narratives
Draft Timeline Design

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THE RIVER

Timeless

Over 2.5 million years ago, all the rivers of North Dakota, including the Missouri River, flowed northwest to the Hudson Bay. Glacial activity ultimately turned to Missouri River southward. Today, the Missouri River is the country's longest river, traveling 2,300 miles from its headwaters in the Rocky Mountains of Montana all the way to St. Louis, Missouri, where it empties into the Mississippi River.

The Mandan Indians say that the confluence of the Heart River and Missouri River, just southwest of Bismarck, is the heart of their world. The Lakota call the Missouri River “Mnisose,” or “water a-stir.” When European trappers began to navigate the Missouri, they nicknamed it the “Big Muddy,” because of its high silt content. Still others call it the “Mighty Mo” because of its sheer size and the unpredictability of its depth and course. For millions of years, the Missouri River has provided habitat for plants and animals—creating an oasis on the Northern Plains and attracting human activity and settlement.



12,000 BC – 400 BC



EARLY INHABITANTS

12,000 BC – 400 BC

Archaeological evidence, such as projectile points from the Paleo-Indian Period (12000 BC to 7500 BC), suggests the earliest inhabitants of this area were nomadic hunters and gatherers. Within present-day Bismarck, archaeologists have found evidence that the site of Camp Hancock was used as a campsite for nomadic hunters and gatherers during the Archaic period (5,500 BC to 400 BC).

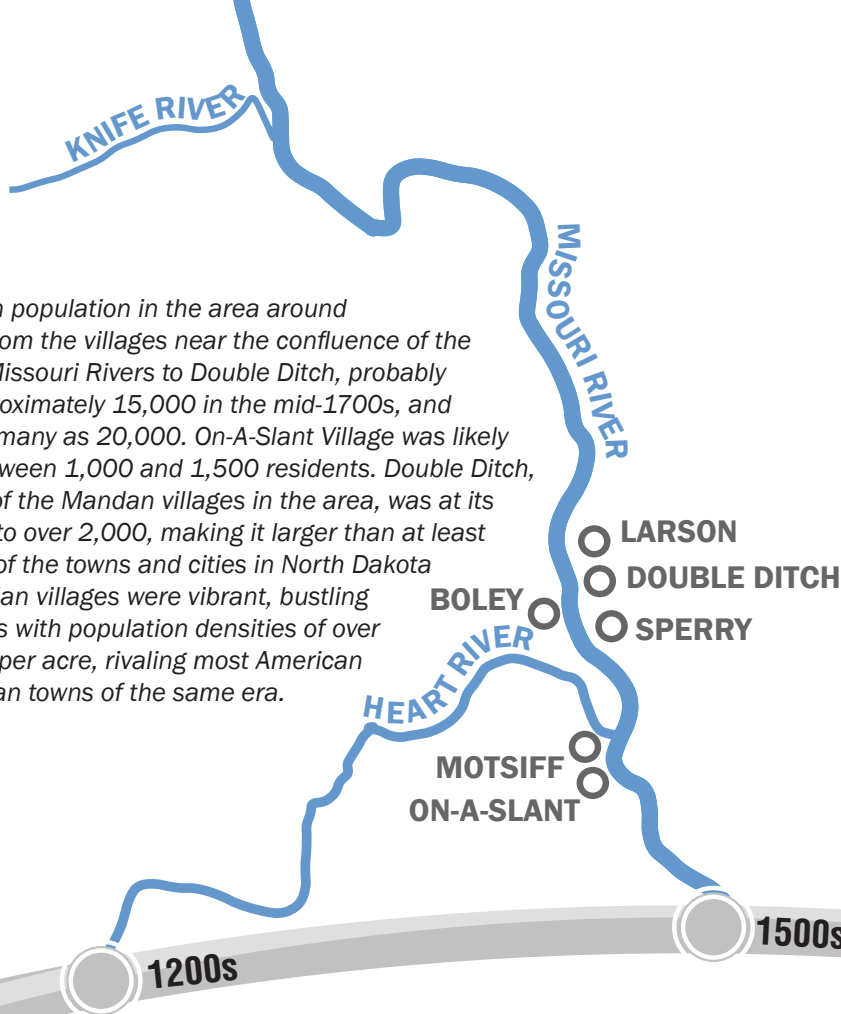
MENOKEN VILLAGE

1000 AD

The first permanent village in our region is the Menoken Village, on the banks of Apple Creek about ten miles east of Bismarck. This village was established by a Late Plains Woodland tribe around AD 1000. Around 200 people lived at Menoken, in thirty oval-shaped earth lodges. Among the artifacts archaeologists have unearthed there are marine shells from the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, or Atlantic Ocean, that indicate the people of Menoken Village had a vast trade network.

At lower right, a present day aerial view of Menoken Village, located 15 miles east of Bismarck.





MANDAN HOMELAND

1200s

The Bismarck area is the ancestral homeland of the Mandan Indians. The Mandan migrated north to this part of North Dakota as early as the 14th century and established agricultural communities along the Upper Missouri and its tributaries. By 1600, the Mandan villages had consolidated into the area between the Heart River, at its confluence with the Missouri River southwest of Bismarck, and the Square Buttes northwest of Bismarck.

The Mandan population in the area around Bismarck, from the villages near the confluence of the Heart and Missouri Rivers to Double Ditch, probably totaled approximately 15,000 in the mid-1700s, and perhaps as many as 20,000. On-A-Slant Village was likely home to between 1,000 and 1,500 residents. Double Ditch, the largest of the Mandan villages in the area, was at its peak home to over 2,000, making it larger than at least 95 percent of the towns and cities in North Dakota today. Mandan villages were vibrant, bustling communities with population densities of over 100 people per acre, rivaling most American and European towns of the same era.



CHIEF LOOKING'S VILLAGE

1500s

Established by the Mandan in the mid-1500s, Chief Looking's Village is located on a bluff overlooking the Missouri River, in present-day Bismarck. This village is unique, as it was occupied during a period in which Mandan architectural style was shifting from long, rectangular lodges to the circular earth lodges—you can still see the size and shape of each house as a depression on the ground today. Remains of defensive fortifications are visible here, too. They consisted of a deep ditch backed by a log wall or palisade, with two bastions on the east side. These defense fortifications are typical of village sites throughout the area.

Chief Looking's Village was named for the Mandan leader who lived there in the 1500s. Little is known about his life, but a number of legends exist regarding how he got his name. Some believe he had a supernatural sacred ability to scan the world and see what lay far beyond. Others think his name comes from a great loss he suffered. The following account was recorded by Col. A. B. Welsh in 1930:

Chief Looking had a son who was a bold, handsome brave. He was the idol of his heart, and the Chief seldom let him out of his sight. When the boy was grown, his father refused to let him go to war with the other men, fearful that he would be killed and never return. But one night, while Chief Looking slept, his son snuck away. When the old man awoke to find his son gone, he set out on the war path to follow him. He came to the spot where a great battle had taken place and found that his son had been killed. As he stood mourning at his dead son's side, he heard voices and, looking around, saw the spirit come and enter the body of his son. The young man got up and talked with his father, telling him about heaven and its wonders. He asked his father to fetch for him some rawhide, a cornball, and some moccasins for his journey back to heaven. Chief Looking did as he was told and from then on, [would] spend most of his time looking out over the valley where he had last seen his son.



HIDATSA AND ARIKARA

1600s

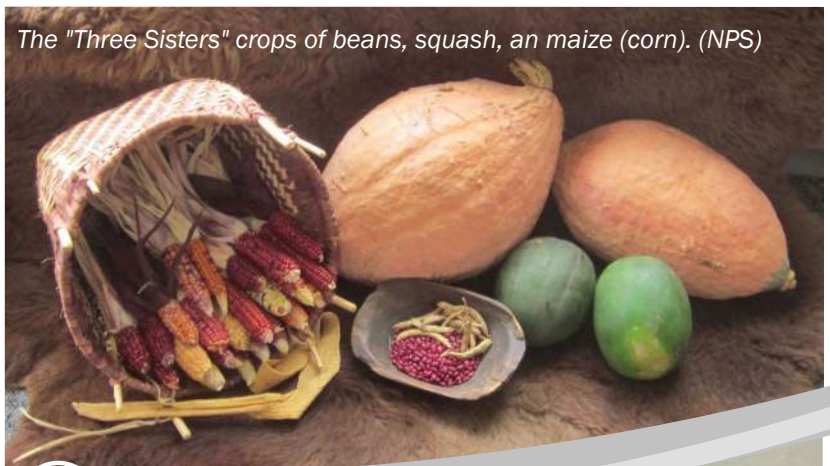
While the immediate area around Bismarck was predominantly the homeland of the Mandan, the Hidatsa and Arikara also inhabited this area long before Europeans arrived. The main Hidatsa villages were located north of Bismarck near the confluence of the Knife and Missouri Rivers. The Arikara (Sahnish), who also inhabited this area, traditionally resided further south on the Missouri River in northern South Dakota and southern North Dakota. Unlike most plains Indians, the Mandan, Hidatsa, and Arikara were all sedentary, agricultural tribes living in large, fortified villages of earth lodges. Over time, predominantly in response to inter-tribal conflict and disease brought by Europeans, the three tribes moved further north along the Missouri and consolidated, eventually becoming the MHA Nation.



FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

1600s

Like all tribes on the Northern Plains, the Mandan, Hidatsa, and Arikara hunted and relied on buffalo. But they were also North Dakota's original farmers. The three tribes grew beans, squash, maize, and other crops and harvested seasonal fruits like chokecherries and buffalo berries. Women tended gardens with hoes and rakes fashioned from animal bones and antlers. Surplus crops were stored in large underground cache pits. The tribes also fished in the Missouri with bone fishhooks and fish traps woven from tree branches.



The "Three Sisters" crops of beans, squash, an maize (corn). (NPS)

1600s



EARLY RIVER TRANSPORTATION

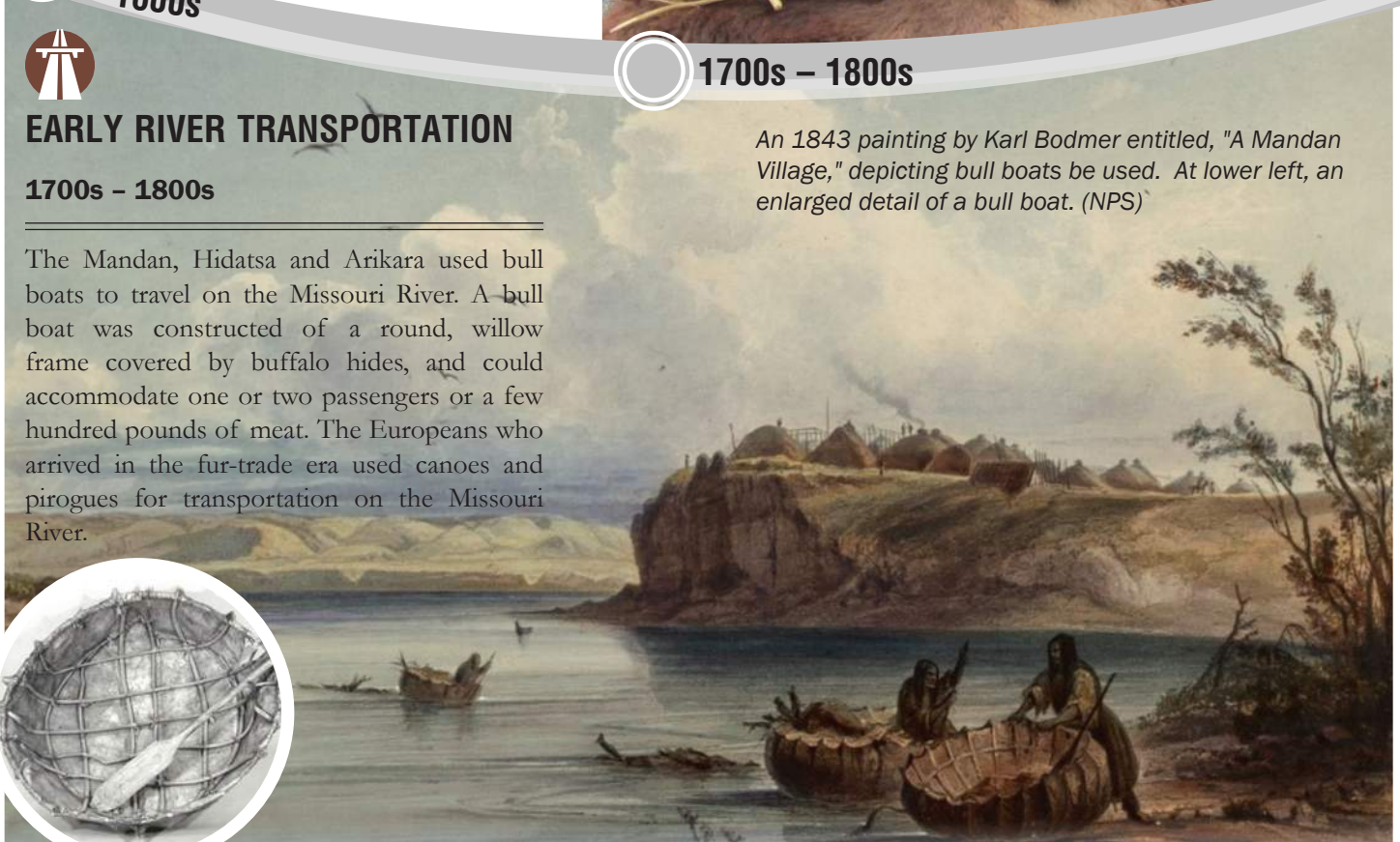
1700s – 1800s

The Mandan, Hidatsa and Arikara used bull boats to travel on the Missouri River. A bull boat was constructed of a round, willow frame covered by buffalo hides, and could accommodate one or two passengers or a few hundred pounds of meat. The Europeans who arrived in the fur-trade era used canoes and pirogues for transportation on the Missouri River.



1700s – 1800s

An 1843 painting by Karl Bodmer entitled, "A Mandan Village," depicting bull boats be used. At lower left, an enlarged detail of a bull boat. (NPS)





TRADING CENTER

c. 1738

The Mandan, Hidatsa and Arikara villages were the hub of a transcontinental trade network. Tribes of the Missouri River traded crops for goods brought by nomadic hunting tribes. As a result, European goods reached the area long before Europeans themselves. The first Europeans to visit the Mandan in 1738 noted that the tribe already possessed a few guns acquired through trade.



Trade good artifacts from the 1980 UND excavation of On-A-Slant Village (32MO26). These are all from proveniences dated to 1625-1725. (SHSND AHP)

1738





ARRIVAL OF THE LAKOTA

1700s

Beginning in the 1700s, the Lakota tribes (Sioux) began to appear on the Northern Plains, having gradually moved westward from their traditional lands along the Minnesota River. The Lakota would soon dominate the Northern Plains, from the Heart River south to the Platte, and from the Missouri River west to the Big Horn Mountains. The area around present-day Bismarck was part of the vast hunting territory of the nomadic Lakota.



VERENDRYE

1738

The first known European to arrive in our area was French fur trader Pierre Gaultier de Varennes, Sieur de la Verendrye, who accompanied an Assiniboin trading party overland from Lake Winnipeg. They reached the Mandan villages near the mouth of the Heart River, southwest of present-day Bismarck, in 1738. Other fur traders would soon follow, forever altering the way of life of the Mandan, Hidatsa, and Arikara.

At right, an enlarged detail from a winter count, representing a smallpox epidemic. (SHSND)



SMALLPOX EPIDEMIC

1781

While increased trade and contact with Europeans brought some benefits to the Upper Missouri tribes, it also came with deadly consequences. In 1781, smallpox devastated the Mandan people. Eighty percent of the population was dead within weeks; a population of 10,000 to 15,000 across seven villages was reduced to just 3,000 people. The Arikara lost an estimated 75 percent of their population and the Hidatsa suffered as well. The Lakota and other nomadic tribes fared much better, which helped them become the most dominant tribes in the region by 1800.

1700s

1738

1781

1803



The map above shows the area of the Louisiana Purchase in beige. (Wikimeida Commons)



LOUISIANA PURCHASE

1803

By the turn of the 19th century, the watershed of the Missouri River, including present-day Bismarck, was part of the Louisiana Territory controlled by France. In 1803, President Thomas Jefferson sent his protégé, James Monroe, to France assist in negotiations over the Louisiana Territory. Ultimately, Jefferson purchased the entire 828,000 square mile area for approximately three cents per acre, doubling the country's size overnight.



A postage stamp issued in 1954 commemorating the Lewis & Clark Expedition. (Smithsonian)



LEWIS AND CLARK EXPEDITION

1804 - 1806

Even before negotiations with the French government over the Louisiana Territory, President Jefferson had persuaded Congress to fund a diplomatic, commercial, and scientific expedition of the Missouri River to its ultimate source, which many believed would lead to the Pacific Ocean. The Lewis and Clark Expedition of 1804-1806 spent more time in North Dakota than in any other future state during their journey, spending the winter of 1804-1805 approximately 45 miles north of Bismarck among the Mandan (who by that time had moved farther north from their traditional villages around the Bismarck area) and their Hidatsa neighbors. Captain Lewis' journal entry for October 20, 1804 notes that Pierre Cruzatte shot and wounded the first grizzly bear of the expedition just south of present-day Bismarck. That same day, Captain Clark's field notes describe numerous "old Mandan" village sites near at the Heart River, one of which was On-a-Slant village southwest of Bismarck, which had been abandoned by the Mandan about a generation earlier after the 1781 smallpox epidemic.

1766 - 1812

1804 - 1806

1825



A profile portrait of Sheheke.



SHEHEKE (WHITE COYOTE)

1766 - 1812

Sheheke, or White Coyote, was born at On-a-Slant Village and became a leader among the Mandan. When the Lewis and Clark Expedition arrived in this area, Sheheke spent the winter of 1804-1805 getting to know members of the Corps of Discovery. In the summer of 1806, he joined them on their return journey and traveled all the way to Washington D.C. to meet with President Jefferson. After a failed attempt to travel back along the Missouri River escorted by US soldiers, he finally returned home two years later with the Missouri Fur Company.



START OF THE STEAMBOAT ERA

1825

Paddlewheel boats first traveled up the Missouri in 1825, carrying a U.S. military delegation charged with signing treaties with various tribes. These boats were faster than keelboats and canoes, but they still relied on raw manpower, or in some cases, horses. Steam powered boats had been used on the lower Missouri and the Mississippi since 1819, but the upper Missouri was more unpredictable, shallow, and dangerous.

In 1831, the Yellowstone became the first steamboat on the upper Missouri River, en route from St. Louis to Ft. Union. It was commissioned by Kenneth McKenzie, who worked for John Jacob Astor's American Fur Company. McKenzie knew faster travel along the Missouri would mean increased profits. The steamboat remained the dominant form of transportation to and from this area until the arrival of the railroad in the early 1870s.



TATANKA IYOTAKE (SITTING BULL)

c. 1831 – 1890

Tatanka Iyotake, or Sitting Bull, was a leader and holy man of the Lakota. He was born along the Grand River in South Dakota around 1831, and is best known for his role in the Lakota resistance against white encroachment on the Northern Plains. His famous vision of soldiers falling upside down into the Lakota camp was fulfilled in the victory at Little Bighorn in 1876.

After four years of exile in Canada, Sitting Bull and his remaining followers surrendered at Fort Buford in 1881. In his later years, Sitting Bull worked as a performer with Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show and lived on Standing Rock reservation. He participated in the parade and other festivities in Bismarck during the laying of the cornerstone of the capitol building in 1883.

In 1890, James McLaughlin, agent at Standing Rock, ordered Sitting Bull's arrest. The Ghost Dance movement had spread across the Plains and, amidst extreme suffering on reservation lands, the Lakota adopted its religious message as a call to arms to restore the way of life that had existed prior to European contact. McLaughlin feared Sitting Bull and his followers would become hostile. On December 15, 1890, Sitting Bull was shot to death by agency police as they tried to arrest him. Weeks later, members of the 7th Cavalry killed at least 145 Native Americans, eliminating most leaders known to be opposed to US Indian policy at what would become known as the Wounded Knee Massacre.

Detail of a studio portrait of Sitting Bull taken by D.F. Barry in Bismarck around 1884-1886.



c. 1831 – 1890

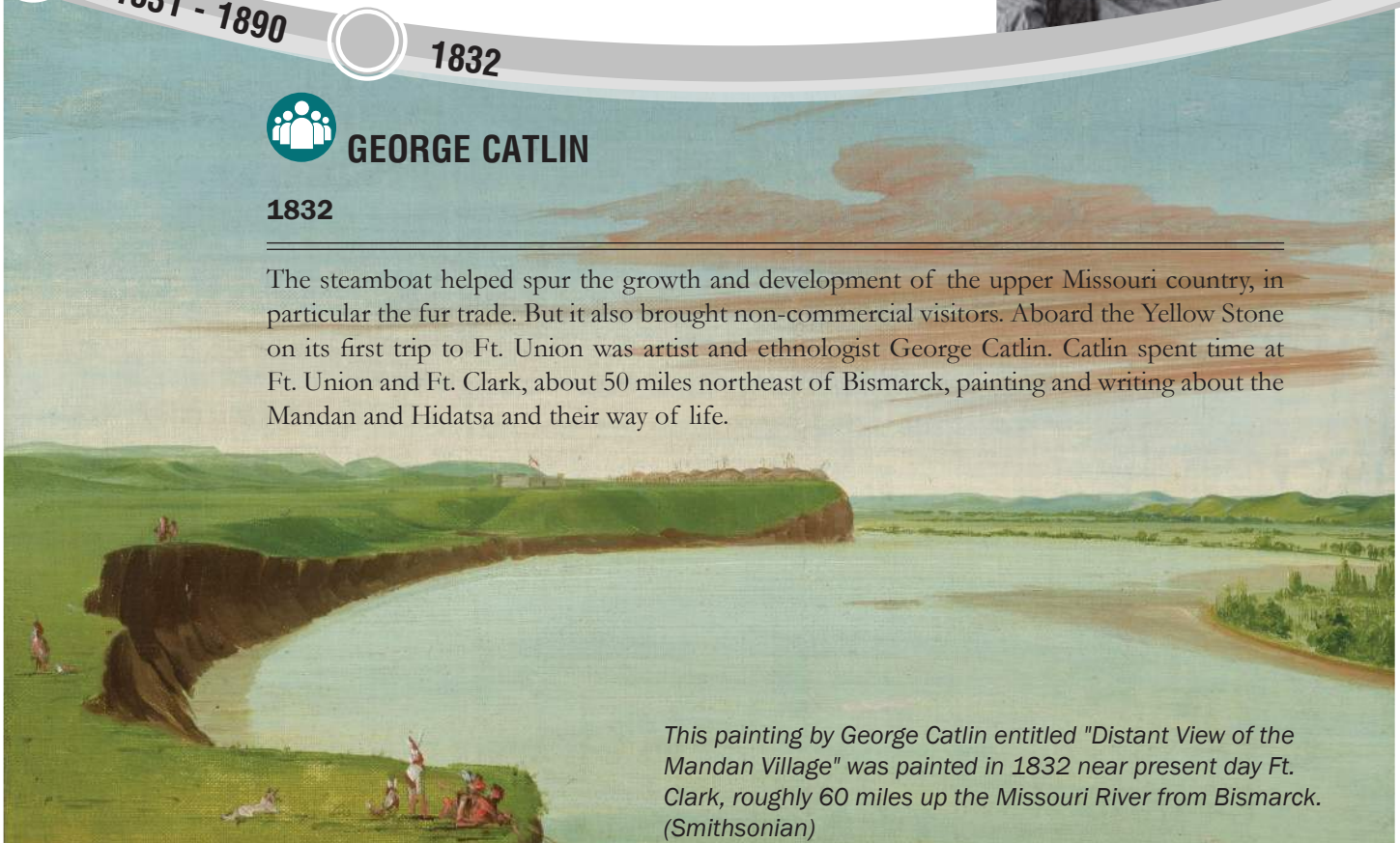
1832



GEORGE CATLIN

1832

The steamboat helped spur the growth and development of the upper Missouri country, in particular the fur trade. But it also brought non-commercial visitors. Aboard the Yellow Stone on its first trip to Ft. Union was artist and ethnologist George Catlin. Catlin spent time at Ft. Union and Ft. Clark, about 50 miles northeast of Bismarck, painting and writing about the Mandan and Hidatsa and their way of life.



This painting by George Catlin entitled "Distant View of the Mandan Village" was painted in 1832 near present day Ft. Clark, roughly 60 miles up the Missouri River from Bismarck. (Smithsonian)



PRINCE MAXIMILIAN AND KARL BODMER

1832 – 1834

German ethnologist Prince Maximilian and Swiss artist Karl Bodmer arrived at Ft. Clark and wintered with the Mandan and Hidatsa on the Knife River, 50 miles northeast of Bismarck. Bodmer produced detailed and realistic paintings of numerous tribal members and the surrounding landscape.

"Interior of a Mandan Earthlodge" painted by Karl Bodmer in 1833.



1840 – 1895



PIZI (GALL)

1840 – 1895

Pizi, or Gall, was born around 1849. He was a leader of the Hunkpapa Lakota as they defended their homelands between the Missouri and the Bighorn Mountains against white encroachment in the 1860s and 1870s. He was one of the most important leaders at the Battle of Little Bighorn, where two of his wives and several of his children were killed. After the Little Bighorn, Gall, Sitting Bull, and their followers sought refuge in Canada before eventually surrendering in 1881. Gall became a farmer and continued as a prominent leader of his people at Standing Rock, serving as a judge of the Court of Indian Affairs in 1889. He died in 1895.



SMALLPOX EPIDEMIC

1837

In 1837, the steamboat St. Peters departed from St. Louis on a journey to Ft. Clark. The first signs of smallpox on the boat appeared just days after departing St. Louis, as one of the workers onboard became ill. After the boat reached Ft. Clark, smallpox swept through the nearby Knife River Villages. More than 80 percent of the Mandan died, including the renowned chief Mato-Tope (Four Bears). Of all the Mandan living at the start of the 1837, only one in ten was alive a year later. The Arikara lost 30 percent of their population and the Hidatsa about 50 percent.

The three tribes began to consolidate after the 1837 epidemic and have lived together ever since.



Detail of a studio portrait photograph of Gall taken by D.F. Barry around 1880.



APPLE CREEK BATTLE

1862

In summer 1862, the U.S. government had failed to provide goods and money owed by treaty to bands of the Dakota experiencing severe hardship in Minnesota. In response, a group of Santee Sioux attacked and killed hundreds of white settlers along the Minnesota River. The U.S. military put down the uprising in Minnesota and launched an expedition into the Dakotas in 1863-1864 led by Gen. Henry Sibley and Gen. Alfred Sully, purportedly to punish the Sioux who had fled west. Numerous battles unfolded in what is now North Dakota. Two legendary Lakota leaders, Sitting Bull and Gall, fought in many of them.

A lesser-known engagement, the Battle of Apple Creek, took place from July 30 to August 1, 1863 just south of Bismarck on the bluff where the University of Mary is now. Native people knew the hill as “The Bluff Where They Dig for Paint” because sediments found there provided certain pigments. Around 500 Dakota and Lakota warriors fought and defended the hill against 3,000 soldiers under General Sibley’s command. The event marked the culmination of a two-week running battle that started at Big Mound (near present-day Tappen). The outnumbered Dakota and Lakota managed to hold off Sibley and his men, who retreated east. During the fighting, many Dakota and Lakota women and children managed to escape west across the Missouri River, making the crossing at various points between Apple Creek and the site where the Northern Pacific Railway Bridge would be built two decades later.



BURLEIGHTOWN / BURLEIGH CITY / WHISKEY POINT

1870 – 1874

In 1870, a settlement formed near present-day Fox Island, across the Missouri River from Ft. Abraham Lincoln. The village consisted of small stores, livery stables, and, most notably, saloons and houses of ill repute. Though it was officially called Carlton City, it was known by many other names including “Whiskey Point.”

Another early settlement along the Missouri River was Burleightown or Burleigh City, approximately two miles south of present-day Bismarck, near the site of the current municipal airport. Burleightown was named by and for its developer, Dr. Walter Burleigh, who firmly believed the railroad would eventually cross the Missouri River at that location. When the Northern Pacific chose instead to build further north, the little town failed. Burleightown has the distinction of being the area’s first ghost town.



WOODCUTTERS ON THE UPPER MISSOURI

c. 1870

Woodcutters, or “woodhawks” as they were popularly known, were a necessity for the steamboats that traveled the Missouri River. Woodhawks either plied their trade as independent businessmen or were part of the crew whose responsibility was to cut wood when the boat docked along the riverbank. Cottonwood trees, deadfall, and driftwood were the primary fuel sources though they proved very inefficient, burning quickly. A vessel could consume on average nearly one cord of wood per hour (a “cord” was a stack 4 feet high, 4 feet wide, and 8 feet long). Captains had to stop several times per day to collect the wood needed to maintain top speed when headed upriver. It was hard and dangerous work. The practice ultimately changed the landscape, depleting nearly all of the cottonwood stands along the banks of the Missouri. Today, Smith Grove in Morton County is the area’s best preserved river bottom woodlands and gives visitors a sense of how the valley once looked.



CAMP HANCOCK

1872

In 1872, a year before the railroad arrived, the U.S. Army established Camp Greeley at the site of present-day Bismarck to protect railroad construction crews and serve as a supply depot for other forts along the Missouri. The camp was originally named in honor of Horace Greeley, editor of the New York Tribune and Liberal Republican candidate for president at the time. It was renamed Camp Hancock in 1873, after Major General Winfield Scott Hancock, commander of the Department of Dakota.

The U.S. Army Signal Corps established a “reporting station” at Camp Hancock in 1874 to transmit military messages and maintain weather records. Military troops were withdrawn from the camp in 1877, but it continued to serve as a quartermaster’s depot and signal station. The camp was decommissioned in 1894, after which the site was used as a Weather Bureau Station until 1940 and as offices for the U.S. Soil Conservation Service until 1949, when fire damaged the main building. The site was given to the State Historical Society in 1951. A headquarters building—now the oldest structure in Bismarck—still stands on the site, and serves as an interpretive museum for artifacts and information about local history.



1872



FORT McKEEN AND FORT LINCOLN

1872

The same year Camp Hancock was established, the U.S. Army established Fort McKeen across the Missouri River to the southwest of Bismarck, named in honor of Colonel H. Boyd McKeen, who died at the Battle of Cold Harbor in 1864. The fort was enlarged and renamed Fort Abraham Lincoln in 1873. As with Camp Hancock, the main purpose of the fort was to protect the survey and construction crews of the Northern Pacific Railroad.



FOUNDING OF BISMARCK

1872

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*Main Street Bismarck N.Dak. 1873.
Property of H.E. Bronsvoort, St. Paul, Minn.*



JOHN YEGEN AND YEGEN'S GROCERY

1872

John Yegen came to Bismarck in 1872 and opened a grocery and bakery on Main Street between 4th and 5th Streets. The original building burned, but Yegen rebuilt. The Yegen Grocery was moved to 810 E Main, ca. 1910, but the business closed in the early 1980s. In 1992, the historic building was relocated to Buckstop Junction where it stands today.





ARRIVAL OF THE RAILROAD

1873

The Northern Pacific railroad reached the site of present-day Bismarck on June 3, 1873. It was the first transcontinental railroad to span the northern part of the United States. The first train arrived at Bismarck two days later and carried the printing press for the Bismarck Tribune. The Panic of 1873 caused severe financial problems for the railroad, stalling completion of the railroad bridge over the Missouri River for an entire decade. Track continued to be laid west of the Missouri, however, and rail cars were ferried across the river on steamboats or, in the winter, traveled across on temporary tracks on the ice.



1873



PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1873

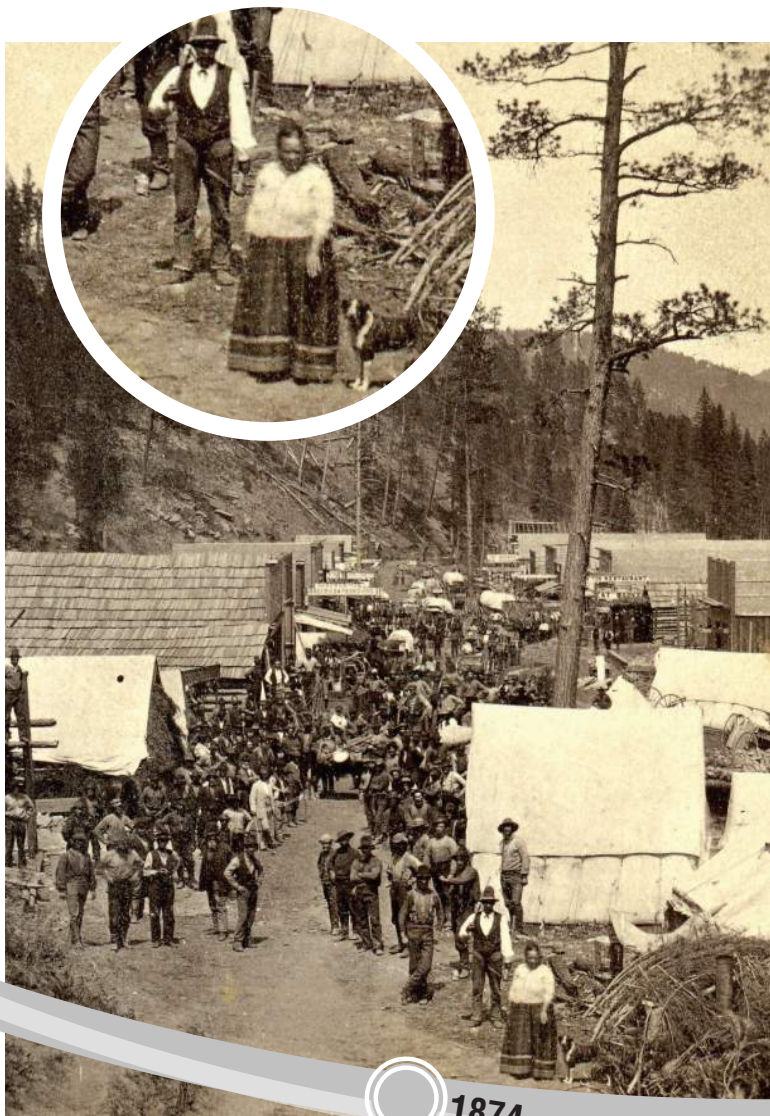
The first Presbyterian Church building in Bismarck was built in 1873 at the corner of Second Street and Thayer Avenue, just west of the present First Presbyterian Church.



YELLOWSTONE EXPEDITION

1873

In the summer of 1873, Lt. Col. Custer was second-in-command to Colonel David Stanley on the Yellowstone Expedition, accompanying a survey crew for the Northern Pacific Railroad to the Yellowstone River in southeastern Montana. On June 20, 1873, Stanley's column of 1,530 infantry and cavalry soldiers, 353 civilians, and 27 Indian scouts departed from Fort Rice, 30 miles south of present-day Mandan. The expedition engaged in two minor battles with Lakota warriors led by Sitting Bull, Gall, Crazy Horse and Rain in the Face. The expedition's casualties numbered 11 killed, one wounded. Native American casualties are estimated to have been around 5 killed, but numerous wounded.



SARAH “SALLY” CAMPBELL

1823 - 1888

Sarah “Sally” Campbell, was born a slave in 1823 and was brought to the Dakotas at age 11 to work as a cook on Missouri River steamboats. Sally gained her freedom when she was 14 and two years later, married a fellow steamboat worker from Illinois. Following his death in 1873, Sally settled in Bismarck where she purchased several lots on the west side of town and opened a boarding house and laundry.

In 1874, Sally accompanied the Black Hills Expedition led by Lt. Col. Custer as the camp cook. While there, Sally caught “gold rush fever.” She and 20 other Bismarck residents soon formed the Custer Park Mining Company, staking placer claims on French Creek in South Dakota. It was the first mining company formed in the Black Hills and newspaper accounts at the time noted Sally as the first non-native woman in the area and certainly the first woman to file a mining claim there. Following the gold bust, she turned to cattle ranching and settled near Galena, South Dakota, where she remained until her death in 1888.



MISSOURI RIVER FERRY COMPANIES

1874

In Bismarck’s early years, the Missouri River was an impediment to most east-west travel as it was too dangerous to cross by means other than steamboat or rope ferry. Bismarck’s first steam-ferry, the *Union*, began transporting people back and forth to Fort Lincoln in 1874. Finally, eight years later, the Northern Pacific’s railroad bridge—the linchpin in the northern transcontinental railroad—was completed, providing a reliable means to transport goods and people by rail. But local travel continued to rely on the ferries for many years.

Bismarck’s earliest ferries included the *Union*, the *Denver*, and the *Dr. Burleigh*, all three of which sank in 1880. For nearly a decade, the small steamboat *Undine* was the only ferry across. Notable ferries of the 1890s included the *Bull Dog*, the *Marion*, and the *Deapolis*. In 1922, the new Liberty Memorial Bridge was completed and eliminated the need for the ferries across the river.

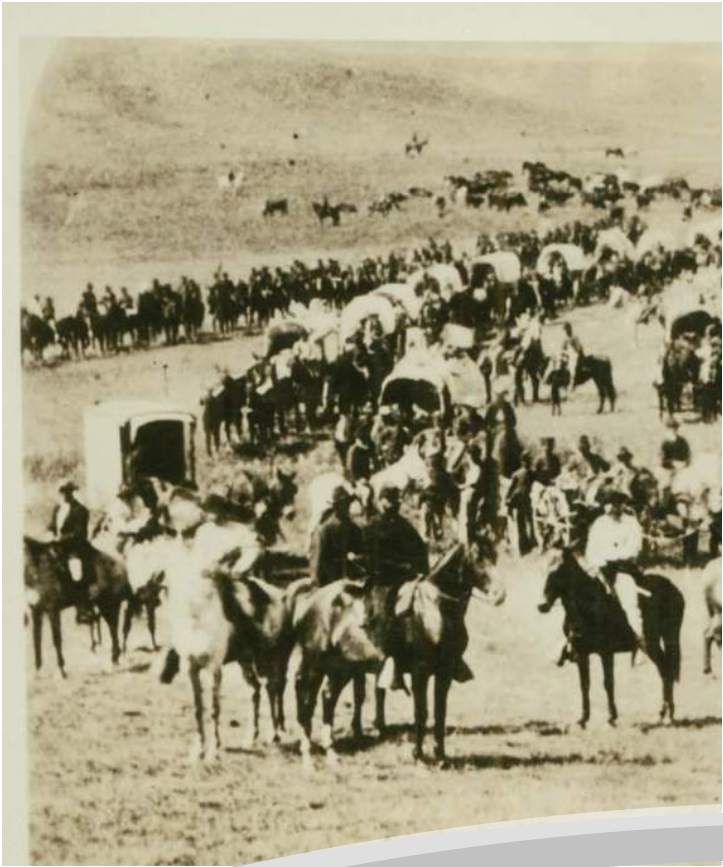




BLACK HILLS EXPEDITION

1874

In 1874, Lt. Col. Custer led an expedition from Fort Abraham Lincoln to the Black Hills. The Black Hills belonged to the Lakota under the terms of the Fort Laramie Treaty of 1868, but rumors of gold attracted interest from prospectors and other settlers. It was a major expedition, consisting of more than 1,000 men. Unlike the Yellowstone Expedition, Custer and his men did not encounter any resistance from the Lakota. They did, however, confirm the presence of gold in the Black Hills, and Custer ensured the news was widely publicized. Within a year, 15,000 miners descended on the Black Hills. Some of Custer's own men deserted and joined the prospectors. The Lakota would refer to Custer's route from Fort Abraham Lincoln to the Black Hills as the "thieves' trails" and Custer himself as the "chief of the thieves."



LT. COL. GEORGE ARMSTRONG CUSTER

1873 - 1876

Few have left their mark on the history of this area like Lt. Col. George Armstrong Custer. A Civil War hero who achieved the rank of brevet major general, Custer continued to serve in the military after the war, with posts in Texas and Kansas. His knack for self-promotion and controversy made him a household name by the time he assumed command at Fort Abraham Lincoln in 1873. But it was while stationed near present-day Bismarck that Custer became one of the most famous and controversial figures in American history.



Native Landscape (12,000 BC. to 1738)

Year Date	First point on the timeline
Event	The Missouri River
Theme(s)	Geography
Revised narrative	Over 2.5 million years ago, all the rivers of North Dakota, including the Missouri River, flowed northwest to the Hudson Bay. Glacial activity ultimately turned to Missouri River southward. Today, the Missouri River is the country's longest river, traveling 2,300 miles from its headwaters in the Rocky Mountains of Montana all the way to St. Louis, Missouri, where it empties into the Mississippi River. The Mandan Indians say that the confluence of the Heart River and Missouri River, just southwest of Bismarck, is the heart of their world. The Lakota call the Missouri River "Mnisose," or "water a-stir." When European trappers began to navigate the Missouri, they nicknamed it the "Big Muddy," because of its high silt content. Still others call it the "Mighty Mo" because of its sheer size and the unpredictability of its depth and course. For millions of years, the Missouri River has provided habitat for plants and animals—creating an oasis on the Northern Plains and attracting human activity and settlement.

Content Ranking	3
Year Date	12,000 BC to 400 BC
Event	Early Inhabitants
Theme(s)	People; Business and Economy
Revised narrative	Archaeological evidence, such as projectile points from the Paleo-Indian Period (12000 BC to 7500 BC), suggests the earliest inhabitants of this area were nomadic hunters and gatherers. The first permanent village in our region is the Menoken Village, on the banks of Apple Creek about ten miles east of Bismarck. This village was established by a Late Plains Woodland tribe around AD 1000. Around 200 people lived at Menoken, in thirty oval-shaped earth lodges. Among the artifacts archaeologists have unearthed there are marine shells from the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, or Atlantic Ocean, that indicate the people of Menoken Village had a vast trade network. Within present-day Bismarck, archaeologists have found evidence that the site of Camp Hancock was used as a campsite for nomadic hunters and gatherers during the Archaic period (5,500 BC to 400 BC).

Content Ranking	3
Year Date	ca. 1200 to present
Event	Mandan Homeland
Theme(s)	People
Revised narrative	The Bismarck area is the ancestral homeland of the Mandan Indians. The Mandan migrated north to this part of North Dakota as early as the 14th century and established agricultural communities along the Upper Missouri and its tributaries. By 1600, the Mandan villages had consolidated into the area between the Heart River, at its confluence with the Missouri River southwest of Bismarck, and the Square Buttes northwest of Bismarck.

Native Landscape (12,000 BC. to 1738)

Content Ranking	3
Year Date	ca. 1600
Event	Hidatsa and Arikara
Theme(s)	People
Revised narrative	While the immediate area around Bismarck was predominantly the homeland of the Mandan, the Hidatsa and Arikara also inhabited this area long before Europeans arrived. The main Hidatsa villages were located north of Bismarck near the confluence of the Knife and Missouri Rivers. The Arikara (Sahnish), who also inhabited this area, traditionally resided further south on the Missouri River in northern South Dakota and southern North Dakota. Unlike most plains Indians, the Mandan, Hidatsa, and Arikara were all sedentary, agricultural tribes living in large, fortified villages of earth lodges. Over time, predominantly in response to inter-tribal conflict and disease brought by Europeans, the three tribes moved further north along the Missouri and consolidated, eventually becoming the MHA Nation.

Content Ranking	3
Year Date	ca. 1500
Event	Chief Looking's Village
Theme(s)	People; Architecture
Revised narrative	Established by the Mandan in the mid-1500s, Chief Looking's Village is located on a bluff overlooking the Missouri River, in present-day Bismarck. This village is unique, as it was occupied during a period in which Mandan architectural style was shifting from long, rectangular lodges to the circular earth lodges—you can still see the size and shape of each house as a depression on the ground today. Remains of defensive fortifications are visible here, too. They consisted of a deep ditch backed by a log wall or palisade, with two bastions on the east side. These defense fortifications are typical of village sites throughout the area. Chief Looking's Village was named for the Mandan leader who lived there in the 1500s. Little is known about his life, but a number of legends exist regarding how he got his name. Some believe he had a supernatural sacred ability to scan the world and see what lay far beyond. Others think his name comes from a great loss he suffered. The following account was recorded by Col. A. B. Welsh in 1930: Chief Looking had a son who was a bold, handsome brave. He was the idol of his heart, and the Chief seldom let him out of his sight. When the boy was grown, his father refused to let him go to war with the other men, fearful that he would be killed and never return. But one night, while Chief Looking slept, his son snuck away. When the old man awoke to find his son gone, he set out on the war path to follow him. He came to the spot where a great battle had taken place and found that his son had been killed. As he stood mourning at his dead son's side, he heard voices and, looking around, saw the spirit come and enter the body of his son. The young man got up and talked with his father, telling him about heaven and its wonders. He asked his father to fetch for him some rawhide, a cornball, and some moccasins for his journey back to heaven. Chief Looking did as he was told and from then on, [would]spend most of his time looking out over the valley where he had last seen his son.

Native Landscape (12,000 BC. to 1738)

Content Ranking	3
Year Date	ca. 1700s through 1800s
Event	Early River Transportation
Theme(s)	Transportation and Infrastructure
Revised narrative	The Mandan, Hidatsa and Arikara used bull boats to travel on the Missouri River. A bull boat was constructed of a round, willow frame covered by buffalo hides, and could accommodate one or two passengers or a few hundred pounds of meat. The Europeans who arrived in the fur-trade era used canoes and pirogues for transportation on the Missouri River.

Content Ranking	3
Year Date	ca. 1600-18--
Event	Food and Agriculture
Theme(s)	People; Business and Economy
Revised narrative	Like all tribes on the Northern Plains, the Mandan, Hidatsa, and Arikara hunted and relied on buffalo. But they were also North Dakota's original farmers. The three tribes grew beans, squash, maize, and other crops and harvested seasonal fruits like chokecherries and buffalo berries. Women tended gardens with hoes and rakes fashioned from animal bones and antlers. Surplus crops were stored in large underground cache pits. The tribes also fished in the Missouri with bone fishhooks and fish traps woven from tree branches.

Content Ranking	3
Year Date	1738
Event	Trading Center
Theme(s)	Business and Economy
Revised narrative	The Mandan, Hidatsa and Arikara villages were the hub of a transcontinental trade network. Tribes of the Missouri River traded crops for goods brought by nomadic hunting tribes. As a result, European goods reached the area long before Europeans themselves. The first Europeans to visit the Mandan in 1738 noted that the tribe already possessed a few guns acquired through trade.

Pre-Founding (1738 to 1872)

Content Ranking	3
Year Date	1738
Event	First European Contact
Theme(s)	People
Revised narrative	The first known European to arrive in our area was French fur trader Pierre Gaultier de Varennes, Sieur de la Verendrye, who accompanied an Assiniboin trading party overland from Lake Winnipeg. They reached the Mandan villages near the mouth of the Heart River, southwest of present-day Bismarck, in 1738. Other fur traders would soon follow, forever altering the way of life of the Mandan, Hidatsa, and Arikara.

Content Ranking	3
Year Date	ca. 1700s
Event	Arrival of the Lakota
Theme(s)	People
Revised narrative	Beginning in the 1700s, the Lakota tribes (Sioux) began to appear on the Northern Plains, having gradually moved westward from their traditional lands along the Minnesota River. The Lakota would soon dominate the Northern Plains, from the Heart River south to the Platte, and from the Missouri River west to the Big Horn Mountains. The area around present-day Bismarck was part of the vast hunting territory of the nomadic Lakota.

Researcher	Tory Jackson
Year Date	Approximately 1750
Event	Mandan Village Populations
Theme(s)	People
Narrative	The Mandan population in the area around Bismarck, from the villages near the confluence of the Heart and Missouri Rivers to Double Ditch, probably totaled approximately 15,000 in the mid-1700s, and perhaps as many as 20,000. On-A-Slant Village was likely home to between 1,000 and 1,500 residents. Double Ditch, the largest of the Mandan villages in the area, was at its peak home to over 2,000, making it larger than at least 95 percent of the towns and cities in North Dakota today. Mandan villages were vibrant, bustling communities with population densities of over 100 people per acre, rivaling most American and European towns of the same era.

Content Ranking	2
Year Date	1781
Event	Smallpox Epidemic
Theme(s)	People
Revised narrative	While increased trade and contact with Europeans brought some benefits to the Upper Missouri tribes, it also came with deadly consequences. In 1781, smallpox devastated the Mandan people. Eighty percent of the population was dead within weeks; a population of 10,000 to 15,000 across seven villages was reduced to just 3,000 people. The Arikara lost an estimated 75 percent of their population and the Hidatsa suffered as well. The Lakota and other nomadic tribes fared much better, which helped them become the most dominant tribes in the region by 1800.

Pre-Founding (1738 to 1872)

Content Ranking	1
Year Date	1803
Event	Louisiana Purchase
Theme(s)	Government; Geography, Landscape and Nature
Revised narrative	By the turn of the 19 th century, the watershed of the Missouri River, including present-day Bismarck, was part of the Louisiana Territory controlled by France. In 1803, President Thomas Jefferson sent his protégé, James Monroe, to France assist in negotiations over the Louisiana Territory. Ultimately, Jefferson purchased the entire 828,000 square mile area for approximately three cents per acre, doubling the country's size overnight.

Content Ranking	4
Year Date	1804-1806
Event	Lewis and Clark
Theme(s)	People; Military
Revised narrative	Even before negotiations with the French government over the Louisiana Territory, President Jefferson had persuaded Congress to fund a diplomatic, commercial, and scientific expedition of the Missouri River to its ultimate source, which many believed would lead to the Pacific Ocean. The Lewis and Clark Expedition of 1804-1806 spent more time in North Dakota than in any other future state during their journey, spending the winter of 1804-1805 approximately 45 miles north of Bismarck among the Mandan (who by that time had moved farther north from their traditional villages around the Bismarck area) and their Hidatsa neighbors. Captain Lewis' journal entry for October 20, 1804 notes that Pierre Cruzatte shot and wounded the first grizzly bear of the expedition just south of present-day Bismarck. That same day, Captain Clark's field notes describe numerous "old Mandan" village sites near at the Herat River, one of which was On-a-Slant village southwest of Bismarck, which had been abandoned by the Mandan about a generation earlier after the 1781 smallpox epidemic.

Content Ranking	2
Year Date	1766-1812
Event	Sheheke
Theme(s)	People
Revised narrative	Sheheke, or White Coyote, was born at On-a-Slant Village and became a leader among the Mandan. When the Lewis and Clark Expedition arrived in this area, Sheheke spent the winter of 1804-1805 getting to know members of the Corps of Discovery. In the summer of 1806, he joined them on their return journey and traveled all the way to Washington D.C. to meet with President Jefferson. After a failed attempt to travel back along the Missouri River escorted by US soldiers, he finally returned home two years later with the Missouri Fur Company.

Pre-Founding (1738 to 1872)

Content Ranking	3
Year Date	1825
Event	Steamboat Era
Theme(s)	Transportation and Infrastructure
Revised narrative	Paddlewheel boats first traveled up the Missouri in 1825, carrying a U.S. military delegation charged with signing treaties with various tribes. These boats were faster than keelboats and canoes, but they still relied on raw manpower, or in some cases, horses. Steam powered boats had been used on the lower Missouri and the Mississippi since 1819, but the upper Missouri was more unpredictable, shallow, and dangerous. In 1831, the Yellowstone became the first steamboat on the upper Missouri River, en route from St. Louis to Ft. Union. It was commissioned by Kenneth McKenzie, who worked for John Jacob Astor's American Fur Company. McKenzie knew faster travel along the Missouri would mean increased profits. The steamboat remained the dominant form of transportation to and from this area until the arrival of the railroad in the early 1870s.

Year Date	ca. 1831 to 1890 (Pre-Founding, 1738 to 1872; Bismarck's Early Years, 1872 to 1898)
Event	Sitting Bull
Theme(s)	People
Revised Narrative	Sitting Bull was a leader and holy man of the Lakota. He was born along the Grand River in South Dakota around 1831, and is best known for his role in the Lakota resistance against white encroachment on the Northern Plains. His famous vision of soldiers falling upside down into the Lakota camp was fulfilled in the victory at Little Bighorn in 1876. After four years of exile in Canada, Sitting Bull and his remaining followers surrendered at Fort Buford in 1881. In his later years, Sitting Bull worked as a performer with Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show and lived on Standing Rock reservation. He participated in the parade and other festivities in Bismarck during the laying of the cornerstone of the capitol building in 1883. In 1890, James McLaughlin, agent at Standing Rock, ordered Sitting Bull's arrest. The Ghost Dance movement had spread across the Plains and, amidst extreme suffering on reservation lands, the Lakota adopted its religious message as a call to arms to restore the way of life that had existed prior to European contact. McLaughlin feared Sitting Bull and his followers would become hostile. On December 15, 1890, Sitting Bull was shot to death by agency police as they tried to arrest him. Weeks later, members of the 7th Cavalry killed at least 145 Native Americans, eliminating most leaders known to be opposed to US Indian policy at what would become known as the Wounded Knee Massacre.

Pre-Founding (1738 to 1872)

Content Ranking	1
Year Date	1832
Event	George Catlin
Theme(s)	People
Revised narrative	The steamboat helped spur the growth and development of the upper Missouri country, in particular the fur trade. But it also brought non-commercial visitors. Aboard the Yellow Stone on its first trip to Ft. Union was artist and ethnologist George Catlin. Catlin spent time at Ft. Union and Ft. Clark, about 50 miles northeast of Bismarck, painting and writing about the Mandan and Hidatsa and their way of life.

Content Ranking	1
Year Date	1832-1834
Event	Prince Maximilian and Karl Bodmer
Theme(s)	People
Revised narrative	German ethnologist Prince Maximilian and Swiss artist Karl Bodmer arrived at Ft. Union and wintered with the Mandan and Hidatsa on the Knife River, 50 miles northeast of Bismarck.

Content Ranking	2
Year Date	1837
Event	Smallpox Epidemic
Theme(s)	People
Revised narrative	In 1837, the steamboat St. Peters departed from St. Louis on a journey to Ft. Clark. The first signs of smallpox on the boat appeared just days after departing St. Louis, as one of the workers onboard became ill. After the boat reached Ft. Clark, smallpox swept through the nearby Knife River Villages. More than 80 percent of the Mandan died, including the renowned chief Mato-Tope (Four Bears). Of all the Mandan living at the start of the 1837, only one in ten was alive a year later. The Arikara lost 30 percent of their population and the Hidatsa about 50 percent. The three tribes began to consolidate after the 1837 epidemic and have lived together ever since.

Researcher	Tory Jackson
Year Date	ca. 1840 to 1895 (Pre-Founding, 1738 to 1872; Bismarck's Early Years, 1872 to 1898)
Event	Gall (Pizi)
Theme(s)	People
Revised Narrative	Gall, also known as Pizi, was born around 1849. He was a leader of the Hunkpapa Lakota as they defended their homelands between the Missouri and the Bighorn Mountains against white encroachment in the 1860s and 1870s. He was one of the most important leaders at the Battle of Little Bighorn, where two of his wives and several of his children were killed. After the Little Bighorn, Gall, Sitting Bull, and their followers sought refuge in Canada before eventually surrendering in 1881. Gall became a farmer and continued as a prominent leader of his people at Standing Rock, serving as a judge of the Court of Indian Affairs in 1889. He died in 1895.

Pre-Founding (1738 to 1872)

Content Ranking	3
Year Date	1862
Event	Apple Creek Battle
Theme(s)	Military
Revised narrative	In summer 1862, the U.S. government had failed to provide goods and money owed by treaty to bands of the Dakota experiencing severe hardship in Minnesota. In response, a group of Santee Sioux attacked and killed hundreds of white settlers along the Minnesota River. The U.S. military put down the uprising in Minnesota and launched an expedition into the Dakotas in 1863-1864 led by Gen. Henry Sibley and Gen. Alfred Sully, purportedly to punish the Sioux who had fled west. Numerous battles unfolded in what is now North Dakota. Two legendary Lakota leaders, Sitting Bull and Gall, fought in many of them. A lesser-known engagement, the Battle of Apple Creek, took place from July 30 to August 1, 1863 just south of Bismarck on the bluff where the University of Mary is now. Native people knew the hill as “The Bluff Where They Dig for Paint” because sediments found there provided certain pigments. Around 500 Dakota and Lakota warriors fought and defended the hill against 3,000 soldiers under General Sibley’s command. The event marked the culmination of a two-week running battle that started at Big Mound (near present-day Tappen). The outnumbered Dakota and Lakota managed to hold off Sibley and his men, who retreated east. During the fighting, many Dakota and Lakota women and children managed to escape west across the Missouri River, making the crossing at various points between Apple Creek and the site where the Northern Pacific Railway Bridge would be built two decades later.

Content Ranking	3
Year Date	1870-1874
Event	Burleightown (Burleigh City), Whiskey Point
Theme(s)	Geography, Landscape and Nature People
Revised narrative	In 1870, a settlement formed near present-day Fox Island, across the Missouri River from Ft. Abraham Lincoln. The village consisted of small stores, livery stables, and, most notably, saloons and houses of ill repute. Though it was officially called Carlton City, it was known by many other names including “Whiskey Point.” Another early settlement along the Missouri River was Burleightown or Burleigh City, approximately two miles south of present-day Bismarck, near the site of the current municipal airport. Burleightown was named by and for its developer, Dr. Walter Burleigh, who firmly believed the railroad would eventually cross the Missouri River at that location. When the Northern Pacific chose instead to build further north, the little town failed. Burleightown has the distinction of being the area’s first ghost town.

Pre-Founding (1738 to 1872)

Content Ranking	3
Year Date	Mid-1800s through early 1900s
Event	Woodcutters on the Upper Missouri
Theme(s)	People; Transportation and Infrastructure
Revised narrative	Woodcutters, or “woodhawks” as they were popularly known, were a necessity for the steamboats that traveled the Missouri River. Woodhawks either plied their trade as independent businessmen or were part of the crew whose responsibility was to cut wood when the boat docked along the riverbank. Cottonwood trees, deadfall, and driftwood were the primary fuel sources though they proved very inefficient, burning quickly. A vessel could consume on average nearly one cord of wood per hour (a “cord” was a stack 4 feet high, 4 feet wide, and 8 feet long). Captains had to stop several times per day to collect the wood needed to maintain top speed when headed upriver. It was hard and dangerous work. The practice ultimately changed the landscape, depleting nearly all of the cottonwood stands along the banks of the Missouri. Today, Smith Grove in Morton County is the area’s best preserved river bottom woodlands and gives visitors a sense of how the valley once looked.

Bismarck's Early Years (1872 to 1898)

Year Date	1872
Event	Camp Hancock
Theme(s)	Military
Revised Narrative	In 1872, a year before the railroad arrived, the U.S. Army established Camp Greeley at the site of present-day Bismarck to protect railroad construction crews and serve as a supply depot for other forts along the Missouri. The camp was originally named in honor of Horace Greeley, editor of the New York Tribune and Liberal Republican candidate for president at the time. It was renamed Camp Hancock in 1873, after Major General Winfield Scott Hancock, commander of the Department of Dakota. The U.S. Army Signal Corps established a “reporting station” at Camp Hancock in 1874 to transmit military messages and maintain weather records. Military troops were withdrawn from the camp in 1877, but it continued to serve as a quartermaster’s depot and signal station. The camp was decommissioned in 1894, after which the site was used as a Weather Bureau Station until 1940 and as offices for the U.S. Soil Conservation Service until 1949, when fire damaged the main building. The site was given to the State Historical Society in 1951. A headquarters building—now the oldest structure in Bismarck—still stands on the site, and serves as an interpretive museum for artifacts and information about local history.

Year Date	1872
Event	Fort McKeen and Fort Lincoln
Theme(s)	Military
Revised Narrative	The same year Camp Hancock was established, the U.S. Army established Fort McKeen across the Missouri River to the southwest of Bismarck, named in honor of Colonel H. Boyd McKeen, who died at the Battle of Cold Harbor in 1864. The fort was enlarged and renamed Fort Abraham Lincoln in 1873. As with Camp Hancock, the main purpose of the fort was to protect the survey and construction crews of the Northern Pacific Railroad.

Year Date	1872
Event	Founding of Bismarck
Theme(s)	Government
Revised Narrative	Northern Pacific engineers selected the site of Bismarck as a crossing point for the railroad in 1872, and squatters had been living in the area in anticipation of the coming of the railroad since 1871. The city was originally named Edwinton, in honor of the railroad’s chief engineer, Edwin F. Johnson, but was renamed Bismarck in 1873 in hopes of attracting German capital for the railroad (prior to the name change, the settlement was also known as The Crossing, Carlton and Burleigh). The City of Bismarck was officially incorporated on January 14, 1875, with Edmund Hackett appointed as the first mayor until John McLean won the city’s first mayoral election in April, 1875.

Bismarck's Early Years (1872 to 1898)

Year Date	1872
Event	John Yegen and Yegen's Grocery
Theme(s)	People; Architecture; Business and Economy
Revised Narrative	John Yegen came to Bismarck in 1872 and opened a grocery and bakery on Main Street between 4 th and 5 th Streets. The original building burned, but Yegen rebuilt. The Yegen Grocery was moved to 810 E Main, ca. 1910, but the business closed in the early 1980s. In 1992, the historic building was relocated to Buckstop Junction where it stands today.

Year Date	1874
Event	Missouri River Ferry Companies
Theme(s)	Business and Economy; Transportation and Infrastructure
Revised Narrative	In Bismarck's early years, the Missouri River was an impediment to most east-west travel as it was too dangerous to cross by means other than steamboat or rope ferry. Bismarck's first steam-ferry, the Union, began transporting people back and forth to Fort Lincoln in 1874. Finally, eight years later, the Northern Pacific's railroad bridge—the lynchpin in the northern transcontinental railroad—was completed, providing a reliable means to transport goods and people by rail. But local travel continued to rely on the ferries for many years. Bismarck's earliest ferries included the Union, the Denver, and the Dr. Burleigh, all three of which sank in 1880. For nearly a decade, the small steamboat Undine was the only ferry across. Notable ferries of the 1890s included the Bull Dog, the Marion, and the Deapolis. In 1922, the new Liberty Memorial Bridge was completed and eliminated the need for the ferries across the river.

Year Date	1873 - 1916
Event	Bismarck's Black Pioneers – Sarah "Sally" Campbell
Theme(s)	People
Revised Narrative	Sarah "Sally" Campbell, was born a slave in 1823 and was brought to the Dakotas at age 11 to work as a cook on Missouri River steamboats. Sally gained her freedom when she was 14 and two years later, married a fellow steamboat worker from Illinois. Following his death in 1873, Sally settled in Bismarck where she purchased several lots on the west side of town and opened a boarding house and laundry. In 1874, Sally accompanied the Black Hills Expedition led by Lt. Col. Custer as the camp cook. While there, Sally caught "gold rush fever." She and 20 other Bismarck residents soon formed the Custer Park Mining Company, staking placer claims on French Creek in South Dakota. It was the first mining company formed in the Black Hills and newspaper accounts at the time noted Sally as the first non-native woman in the area and certainly the first woman to file a mining claim there. Following the gold bust, she turned to cattle ranching and settled near Galena, South Dakota, where she remained until her death in 1888.

Year Date	1917
Event	Logan Grocery
Theme(s)	Business and Economy
Revised Narrative	Austin Logan established Logan's Grocery in 1877. He had arrived in Bismarck from Connecticut a year earlier at the age of 21 and with only \$200 in his pocket. He was a successful business man and, in 1881, he built a new store building at the same location

Bismarck's Early Years (1872 to 1898)

	on 3 rd Street and Broadway Ave. Logan's son, Roy, bought the business in 1915 and constructed the present-day Logan Building in 1917. The Logan Grocery closed in 1941. The brick building survived a damaging fire in 1984 and is still in use today.
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Year Date	1873-1875
Event	Bloody Fourth
Theme(s)	Civics and Culture
Revised Narrative	Bismarck evolved from an end-of-the-line encampment that sprouted up where it was determined the railroad would eventually cross the Missouri River. Before it was renamed Bismarck, the townsite of Edwinton was platted here. By July of 1873, it boasted roughly 150 structures—mostly tents, log huts, and false-fronted wood-framed shacks. Nearly one-quarter of these were saloons, brothels, dance halls, and casinos catering to the earliest residents who were predominantly soldiers, railroad workers, and gold prospectors. For a brief but wild period from 1873-1875, the stretch of 4th Street between Main and Broadway Ave was known as the most lawless place on the face of the earth, the wickedest street in the wickedest town in the West. Robberies and deaths were so frequent the neighborhood was nicknamed Bloody 4th and Murderer's Gulch. Two of the worst ruffians, Dave Mullen and Jack O'Neil, owned the Concert Saloon and Dance Hall on the southwest corner of 4th Street and Broadway. In 1873, at the door of the saloon, their gang of gamblers got into a shootout with soldiers from nearby Fort Lincoln that resulted in Mullen's own death. His partner O'Neil lost his life in another gunfight on 4th Street a year later. Most of the gamblers skipped town on the next train, and the lawlessness began to fade.

Year Date	1873
Event	Arrival of the Railroad
Theme(s)	Transportation and Infrastructure
Revised Narrative	The Northern Pacific railroad reached the site of present-day Bismarck on June 3, 1873. It was the first transcontinental railroad to span the northern part of the United States. The first train arrived at Bismarck two days later and carried the printing press for the Bismarck Tribune. The Panic of 1873 caused severe financial problems for the railroad, stalling completion of the railroad bridge over the Missouri River for an entire decade. Track continued to be laid west of the Missouri, however, and rail cars were ferried across the river on steamboats or, in the winter, travelled across on temporary tracks on the ice.

Year Date	1873-present
Event	The Bismarck Tribune
Theme(s)	Business and Economy; Civics and Culture
Revised Narrative	The Bismarck Tribune was founded in 1873 and was the first newspaper in Dakota Territory. Its founder, Col. Clement A. Lounsberry, came from Minnesota following the progression of the railroad and decided to name his publication after the Minneapolis Tribune where he had worked as editor. "[The publishers] make no special promises except to publish a live paper and give at all times their best efforts toward the building up the town.," Lounsberry once wrote. In 1876, Mark Kellogg, arguably the Bismarck Tribune's most famous reporter,

Bismarck's Early Years (1872 to 1898)

	accompanied Lt. Col. George Armstrong Custer and the 7th Cavalry to the Little Bighorn to serve as a correspondent. Kellogg died on the battlefield, but his diary documenting the Bighorn-Yellowstone Expedition of 1876 were retrieved and are housed at the State Historical Society. When the Far West steamboat, carrying wounded soldiers back from the Little Bighorn to Ft. Lincoln docked at Bismarck, the Bismarck Tribune published the first official account of Custer's defeat to the world. Lounsberry wrote lengthy and detailed dispatches about the battle that were telegraphed to the New York Herald over 22 hours, costing about \$3,000. The Tribune became a daily publication in April 1881 and, in 1883 Lounsberry sold his interest in the business to his partner Marshall H. Jewell. The Tribune won the 1938 Pulitzer Prize for Public Service for news reports and editorials titled "Self Help in the Dust Bowl." The Tribune has remained a steady source for area news, though it has changed buildings and locations numerous times—several times due to fire. In 1920, the Tribune moved to 222 N 4th St. which is, to-date, its longest-serving home. The current Tribune building at 707 E. Front Ave, was completed in 1980.
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Year Date	1873
Event	Presbyterian Church
Theme(s)	Civics and Culture; Architecture
Revised Narrative	The first Presbyterian Church building in Bismarck was built in 1873 at the corner of Second Street and Thayer Avenue, just west of the present First Presbyterian Church.

Year Date	1873 - 1930
Event	Bismarck's Chinese Entrepreneurs
Theme(s)	People; Business and Economy; Civics and Culture
Revised Narrative	Bismarck had a sizeable Chinese population in its early years, many of whom had initially come as railroad workers. Sam Lunch opened Bismarck's first Chinese establishment on 3rd Street in 1873, called the San Francisco Laundry. A rival laundry was opened by Sing Lee after 1877, but was damaged in a fire in 1879 that consumed nearly an entire downtown block. In 1880, five other Chinese men arrived to work at the laundry on 3rd Street. Other Chinese came to Bismarck as cooks for the steamboats, for private families, and as day laborers. By 1904, Chinese restaurants had become common in Bismarck. Those run by Chinese chefs included the Bon Ton run by Charlie Wong, and a chop suey café run by Bert Tang, but there were many others. Despite the popularity of their cuisine, Bismarck's Chinese residents often faced ridicule, insults, and mistreatment—some suffering assault or expulsion. Their shops were vandalized and burgled on a regular basis. No women of Chinese descent are recorded in Bismarck's early history. This was due to restrictive federal immigration laws at the time, prohibiting Chinese women from entering the U.S. In 1882, the Chinese Exclusion Act was passed, banning Chinese men, as well.

Bismarck's Early Years (1872 to 1898)

Year Date	1873 - 1916
Event	Bismarck's Black Pioneers
Theme(s)	People; Business and Economy; Civics and Culture
Revised Narrative	Though often overlooked, black Americans were integral in the founding of Bismarck and are counted among the area's first pioneers. According to the Dakota Territorial census of 1885, Burleigh county had a population of 5253, of which 79 were recorded as Black residents. More than 70 of those Black residents lived in Bismarck and worked as cooks, carpenters, plasterers, laborers, barbers, servants, porters, chambermaids, washerwomen, and homemakers. Approximately half were women. One of Bismarck's first barbers was William H.W. Comer, an African American man better known as "Professor" Comer. He had come west to serve as the Post Barber at Fort Sully and arrived in Bismarck in 1873 to open his first stand, the "Occidental Shaving, Hairdressing and Bathing Rooms," on 3rd Street. He later moved his shops to Main Street, and renamed his business "Comer's Tonsorial Parlor and Excelsior Bath Rooms." Comer took part in many "firsts" in Bismarck. In 1881 he served on a jury in Bismarck, and in 1874, on the first grand jury appointed in Burleigh County. He was known to employ other Black Americans in his barber shop and he became prosperous and well respected in the city. His wife, Virginia Comer, owned properties in downtown Bismarck and developed a number commercial lots, including a building at the corner of 3rd and Broadway that became known as the Comer Block. Frank Plummer, born a slave in Nashville, came to Bismarck as a deckhand on the Coulson steamboat line. He became a private secretary to the superintendent of the Coulson line in Bismarck, and then to the US Marshall of Dakota Territory. In 1885, Plummer became a bailiff in the Federal Court, based out of Fargo, but often returned for extended court terms to Bismarck. Louisa Thompson, of Black and Mexican descent, came to Bismarck in 1872 with Doctor Slaughter's family, as their housekeeper. After causing an accidental fire that burned the Slaughter's home to the ground, Louisa left their employ and built a log house behind the Merchants Hotel at the corner of 3rd and Main Street. Soon after, she married William Robinson, a white soldier from Fort Lincoln. On their wedding night, an unapproving brigade of locals ran the groom out of town on the rail. Louisa remained in Bismarck and became well known as "Yellowhammer", arrested a number of times for keeping a bawdy house.

Year Date	1873-1876
Event	Custer
Theme(s)	People; Military
Revised Narrative	Few have left their mark on the history of this area like Lt. Col. George Armstrong Custer. A Civil War hero who achieved the rank of brevet major general, Custer continued to serve in the military after the war, with posts in Texas and Kansas. His knack for self-promotion and controversy made him a household name by the time he assumed command at Fort Abraham Lincoln in 1873. But it was while stationed near present-day Bismarck that Custer became one of the most famous and controversial figures in American history.

Bismarck's Early Years (1872 to 1898)

Year Date	1873
Event	Yellowstone Expedition
Theme(s)	Military
Revised Narrative	In the summer of 1873, Lt. Col. Custer was second-in-command to Colonel David Stanley on the Yellowstone Expedition, accompanying a survey crew for the Northern Pacific Railroad to the Yellowstone River in southeastern Montana. On June 20, 1873, Stanley's column of 1,530 infantry and cavalry soldiers, 353 civilians, and 27 Indian scouts departed from Fort Rice, 30 miles south of present-day Mandan. The expedition engaged in two minor battles with Lakota warriors led by Sitting Bull, Gall, Crazy Horse and Rain in the Face. The expedition's casualties numbered 11 killed, one wounded. Native American casualties are estimated to have been around 5 killed, but numerous wounded.

Year Date	1874
Event	Black Hills Expedition
Theme(s)	Military
Revised Narrative	In 1874, Lt. Col. Custer led an expedition from Fort Abraham Lincoln to the Black Hills. The Black Hills belonged to the Lakota under the terms of the Fort Laramie Treaty of 1868, but rumors of gold attracted interest from prospectors and other settlers. It was a major expedition, consisting of more than 1,000 men. Unlike the Yellowstone Expedition, Custer and his men did not encounter any resistance from the Lakota. They did, however, confirm the presence of gold in the Black Hills, and Custer ensured the news was widely publicized. Within a year, 15,000 miners descended on the Black Hills. Some of Custer's own men deserted and joined the prospectors. The Lakota would refer to Custer's route from Fort Abraham Lincoln to the Black Hills as the "thieves' trails" and Custer himself as the "chief of the thieves."

Year Date	1876
Event	Little Bighorn
Theme(s)	Military
Revised Narrative	On December 6, 1875, President Ulysses S. Grant issued an order that all Sioux and Cheyenne were to report to established reservations by January 31, 1876 or be declared "hostiles" at war with the United States. The Lakota under Sitting Bull and Crazy Horse, in particular, had made clear that they would not submit to federal control. They would defend their homelands and their way of life. In response, the U.S. Army planned a three-pronged attack in the vicinity of the Yellowstone River in southeastern Montana. Early in the morning on May 17, 1876, the Dakota column, led by General Alfred Terry but spearheaded by Custer's 7th Cavalry, departed Fort Abraham Lincoln. The column stretched for nearly two miles. The plan was for the Dakota column to meet up with a column from Fort Ellis near Bozeman, and one from Wyoming Territory. The three columns never did rendezvous as planned. On June 25, 1876, Custer's 7th Cavalry, consisting of roughly 700 soldiers and scouts, met as many as 2,500 Lakota, Northern Cheyenne and Arapaho along the banks of the Little Bighorn River. The battle was an overwhelming victory for the Indians led by Sitting Bull, Crazy Horse, Gall, Lone White Man, and Two Moon. In all, 268 members of the 7th Cavalry lost their lives at the Battle of Greasy Grass, as it is known to the Lakota. Seven companies under Major Marcus Reno and Captain Frederick Benteen managed to hold a defensive position for two days, and were eventually rescued by

Bismarck's Early Years (1872 to 1898)

	General Terry. News of Custer's defeat shocked the nation during its centennial year. For the Lakota and their allies, it was the zenith of their resistance to white encroachment into their traditional lands.
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Year Date	1874
Event	Custer Hotel
Theme(s)	Architecture; Business and Economy
Narrative	The Custer Hotel was located south of Broadway on 5th St. It was destroyed by fire in 1898.

Year Date	1874 – 1922
Event	Alexander McKenzie
Theme(s)	People
Revised Narrative	Alexander McKenzie was a pioneer Burleigh County sheriff and a political boss who engineered North Dakota's early Republican political machine. He also was a railroad agent and a key player in moving the Dakota territorial capitol from Yankton to Bismarck. He worked to make North Dakota's laws friendly for corporations. He died in 1922 and was buried in Bismarck. Two towns and a county in North Dakota are named for him.

Year Date	1876
Event	Merchant's Hotel
Theme(s)	Business and Economy
Narrative	The wooden Merchants Hotel in 1876 stood on the northeast corner of Third and Main. Reconstructed as a store building, it was destroyed in the August 1898 fire.

Year Date	1873, 1876
Event	Mark Kellogg
Theme(s)	People
Revised narrative	Mark Kellogg was a newspaper report who arrived in Bismarck in May 1873 around the same time Colonel Clement A. Lounsberry established The Bismarck Tribune. Lounsberry hired Kellogg part-time to work as an editor and printer. When it became known that Lt. Col. Custer and the 7th Cavalry stationed at Fort Lincoln were to depart for Montana Territory, Lounsberry hired Kellogg and arranged for him to accompany the Dakota column as a correspondent on the expedition that would culminate in the Battle of Little Bighorn. Kellogg provided the only press coverage of the expedition, sending back three dispatches as the Dakota column marched west in May and June of 1876. In one of his final dispatches, Kellogg wrote "I go with Custer and will be at the death." Kellogg was killed at the Little Bighorn on June 25, 1876. Afterward, Lounsberry worked furiously to produce a special edition of The Bismarck Tribune, publishing one of the first full accounts of the Battle of Little Bighorn on July 6, 1876, and telegraphing the news to eastern papers. As Kellogg's reports were published by newspapers around the country, he is considered the first Associated Press correspondent to die in the line of duty.

Bismarck's Early Years (1872 to 1898)

	Today, Kellogg is honored with a plaque and tree in Custer Park, and Lounsberry's efforts to publish news of Little Bighorn is memorialized on a plaque along Fifth Street just east of the Northern Pacific train depot.
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Year Date	1877
Event	Sheridan House
Theme(s)	Business and Economy; Architecture
Revised Narrative	The Sheridan House was a railroad hotel built in 1877 by Eber H. Bly, an entrepreneur who came west to dabble in coal mining as well as operating the hotel until the 1890s. The hotel was the largest building in the Dakota Territory upon its completion. It featured a large lobby which doubled as the railroad's waiting room and ticket office. It was the gathering place of many notables, including the Nez Perce leader, Chief Joseph. From 1885 to 1899 it was also the center of political maneuverings during the biennial legislative sessions. To make way for construction of the Northern Pacific's new depot, in 1900 the Sheridan House was cut in two, jacked up and moved to the southeast corner of 5th St. and Main. Re-assembled and veneered with brick, it became the Northwest Hotel, which housed the first legislators of the Nonpartisan League in 1917 and eventually succumbed to fire in 1921.

Year Date	1873-1906
Event	Dr. Henry Porter
Theme(s)	People
Revised Narrative	Dr. Henry Renaldo Porter was a contract surgeon for the U.S. Army, arriving at Camp Hancock in October 1873. Of the three doctors who accompanied the 7th Cavalry to the Little Bighorn, Dr. Porter was the only one who survived. As the companies under Major Reno and Captain Benteen desperately established a defensive position on Reno Hill, Dr. Porter tended to the wounded and established makeshift field hospital protected by boxes, saddles and horse and mule carcasses. Porter and two orderlies had to make do without sufficient water or clean dressings, working under sniper fire, dust and blistering heat. After the battle, Porter continued to live in Bismarck, where he established a medical practice and served as county doctor for Burleigh County and the physician for the state penitentiary. He was active in the community and a founder of First National Bank of Bismarck. He died in Agra, India in 1903 during a trip around the world.

Year Date	1881
Event	Bread of Life Church Constructed
Theme(s)	Civics and Culture; Architecture
Revised Narrative	The Bread of Life Church is Bismarck's oldest church building, completed in 1881. It was renamed St. George's in 1887 and has been relocated several times. In 1965, the building was donated to the state and moved again—this time to Camp Hancock State Historic Site where it remains today.

Year Date	February 24, 1881
Event	City of Mandan founded

Bismarck's Early Years (1872 to 1898)

Theme(s)	Government
Revised Narrative	The City of Mandan was incorporated on February 24, 1881 following the completion of the Northern Pacific Railroad through central North Dakota in 1879. The Railroad staked out the original townsite, which had been informally known as Morton, then Lincoln before it was officially named "Mandan" in honor of the Mandan people, who inhabited the area for hundreds of years prior to homesteaders settling.

Year Date	1882
Event	Banking - Union/Anderson Block
Theme(s)	Business and Economy
Revised Narrative	Along with the railroad and business entrepreneurs, Bismarck's banking community has historically been a primary partner in the growth of the downtown area and the city as a whole. The Union, or Anderson Block was built at the northwest corner of Third and Main in 1882. It was home to the Bismarck National Bank and then the Bismarck Bank, which failed in 1922. Later home to First American Bank, the structure burned to the ground on January 9, 1973. The Bank of North Dakota, the only state-owned bank in the nation, started in downtown Bismarck in 1919. Today, downtown Bismarck continues to serve as the financial hub of the community and for a trade area that extends many miles beyond the city limits.

Year Date	1876-1916
Event	Grant Marsh
Theme(s)	People
Revised Narrative	Grant Marsh is the most famous of the many steamboat captains who made a living on the Missouri River in the 19th century. After Sitting Bull and his followers returned from Canada and surrendered at Fort Buford in 1881, Marsh piloted the steamboat that transported the great Lakota leader and his people to Fort Yates. Later in his career, in 1905, Marsh saved Bismarck's water intake system, using the paddlewheel of the steamboat Weston to break up a sandbar that plugged the water intake just south of the railroad bridge. His most famous exploit occurred after the Battle of the Little Bighorn. Marsh captained the Far West steamboat, which served as a base camp for the Army's 1876 expedition near the confluence of the Yellowstone and Big Horn rivers. When word of Custer's defeat reached the Far West, Marsh prepared the boat to receive the wounded by covering the deck with fresh-cut prairie grass and canvass. Forty-two wounded men were brought aboard, and Marsh piloted the boat back to Fort Abraham Lincoln, traveling 710 miles in a mere fifty-four hours—a record time that was never matched. The Far West was met at Fort Lincoln by twenty-six widows, to whom Marsh broke the news of the defeat at Little Bighorn. Three days after delivering the wounded to Fort Lincoln, Marsh headed back upriver on the Far West, along with Dr. Porter, to continue providing service to the soldiers still in the field. Marsh was buried in Bismarck's St. Mary's Cemetery and the Interstate 94 bridge at Bismarck is named in his honor.

Year Date	1883
Event	Railroad Bridge
Theme(s)	Transportation and Infrastructure

Bismarck's Early Years (1872 to 1898)

Revised Narrative	A decade after the Northern Pacific Railroad reached Bismarck, a new rail bridge was completed at Bismarck in 1883 at a cost of \$1 million (roughly \$25 million in today's dollars). Bridging the untamed Missouri was no easy task. The strong and shifting current and ice jams up to 20 feet thick presented serious engineering and construction challenges. Northern Pacific selected George Shattuck Morison, the preeminent bridge builder of the era, to lead the project. A crew of more than 500 men supplied the skill and muscle, including a brave few who descended below the water in pneumatic caissons to remove sand and lay foundations for each pier. Their incredible efforts resulted in the first bridge to span the upper Missouri, which still stands today as one of the most iconic structures on the Northern Plains.
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Year Date	1883
Event	Founding of State Penitentiary
Theme(s)	Government
Revised Narrative	The Territorial Legislature established the State Penitentiary in Bismarck in 1883. The prison opened in 1885. Many may have heard the story that Bismarck chose to have the State Penitentiary instead of the State University; however, that story is likely a myth. Similar apocryphal stories are told about the penitentiaries in Sioux Falls, Prince Albert, Saskatchewan, and elsewhere. The State Penitentiary has sponsored various prison industries including the Twine and Cordage Plant from 1899 to 1970. In 1975, the state legislature created Rough Rider Industries as the industrial division of the State Penitentiary, consisting of six small factories: a sign factory; plastics products factory; hardwood factory; upholstered products factory; janitorial products factory; and metal products fabrication factory. The North Dakota State Farm, now known as the Missouri River Correctional Center, was established in 1943 in the south part of Bismarck. The State Penitentiary has been remodeled and expanded over the years, and many of the old buildings, including the warden's house, have been demolished.

Year Date	1872 - 1911
Event	Linda Slaughter
Theme(s)	People
Revised Narrative	Linda Warfel Slaughter is among Bismarck's most accomplished pioneers. Born, raised, and educated in Ohio, she came to Dakota Territory with her husband Benjamin Franklin Slaughter, who was a surgeon for troops stationed at Fort Rice. Together, they settled in what would become Bismarck in 1872. Linda became very involved in the community. Among other accomplishments, she organized the first Sunday School, served as the first postmistress of Bismarck, served as the first superintendent of Burleigh County Schools, was the deputy superintendent of schools for Dakota Territory, organized the Ladies Historical Society of Bismarck and North Dakota which would later become the State Historical Society of North Dakota, and published articles, pamphlets, and books about her life in Dakota Territory.

Bismarck's Early Years (1872 to 1898)

Year Date	1883
Event	Capitol Cornerstone
Theme(s)	Government; Architecture
Revised Narrative	When Dakota Territory was created in 1861, the capital was at Yankton—in present-day South Dakota. Arguing that the capital should be located along the Northern Pacific Railroad line, a group of legislators successfully maneuvered its relocation to Bismarck which was, at the time, considered by many to be a small city far away from any meaningful economic activity in the Territory. As part of the agreement to move the capital, Bismarck had offered 100,000 in cash and 160 acres of land, which could be used as the site of the capitol building and as a source of additional revenue through the sale of residential building lots. On June 2, 1883, the Capitol Commission located the territory's new capitol building at Bismarck. The ceremonial laying of the cornerstone for the new capital building in Bismarck was held on September 5, 1883. Among the large crowd in attendance were dignitaries such as former President Ulysses S. Grant the German Minister to the United States Baron von Eisendecker, Henry Villard, Frederick Billings, and Sitting Bull. Festivities included speeches, band music, and a 17-gun salute.

Year Date	1884
Event	Governor's Mansion
Theme(s)	Government; Architecture
Revised Narrative	The former Governor's Mansion, at Fourth Street and Avenue B, is a two-story Stick-Style Victorian house built in 1884 by banker and liquor dealer Asa Fisher. Fisher sold the property to the state in 1893 to serve as a governors' residence. Between 1893 and 1960, it housed 22 governors and their families. In 1975, the house was given to the State Historical Society which operates the home as a State Historic Site, open to the public. The 1903 carriage house was restored in 2003 and now houses additional exhibits.

Year Date	1883
Event	First National Bank
Theme(s)	Business and Economy
Revised Narrative	The First National Bank was one of Bismarck's earliest banking houses, established in 1879. Among its founding members were Dr. Henry Porter, Asa Fisher, John Yegen, and the infamous madame, Elizabeth McClellan—better known as "Little Casino." For nearly a century, the bank occupied the northwest corner of 4th St and Main Ave. The bank building, completed in 1883, was destroyed by fire August 1898. It was soon replaced by another building at the same location, was remodeled in the 1950s, and now houses BNC National Bank.

Year Date	Bismarck's Early Years (1872-1898)
Event	St. Alexius
Theme(s)	Health, Architecture
Revised Narrative	Recognizing the need for healthcare in Bismarck's early days, a group of Benedictine Sisters established what would become St. Alexius—the first hospital in Dakota Territory. They purchased the recently-completed Lamborn Hotel and its lots from developers Alexander McKenzie and Richard Mellon for \$30,000, remodeled the building, and opened it as a hospital in 1885. The building was without running water,

Bismarck's Early Years (1872 to 1898)

	heat, or the convenience of elevators for the sick and injured but they managed to serve any and all in need. Theodore Roosevelt, who took ill with pneumonia, was one of the early patients there, and whenever he stopped in Bismarck thereafter, he visited St. Alexius. St. Alexius remained in the building through 1915. The Lamborn Hotel, at 6th St and Main Ave, was eventually razed in 1972.
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Year Date	1885
Event	Lamborn Hotel
Theme(s)	Business and Economy
Revised Narrative	The Lamborn Hotel was built by Alexander McKenzie and Richard Mellon in 1884-1885, and was named for a Northern Pacific Railroad official. However, the Lamborn never opened as a hotel. In April 1885, the three-story brick structure was sold to the Benedictine Sisters of St. Joseph, Minnesota. St. Alexius Hospital facilities occupied part of the building for more than a decade; other portions housed a parochial school and the Sisters' convent. St. Alexius Hospital moved to a new building in 1914, after which the Lamborn was used as a business college, offices and living quarters. It was demolished in 1972 as part of an urban renewal project, leaving a large and embarrassing "Big Hole," which was not filled until the Sheraton Galleria Hotel opened in 1983. Today the Radisson Hotel occupies a portion of the site and a new mixed residential-commercial building will occupy the rest.

Year Date	1906
Event	Cleaning up the city of Bismarck
Theme(s)	People; business
Revised Narrative	North Dakota entered the United States as a dry state in 1889, but the various saloons and other businesses of ill repute in the downtown area did not quit running, despite multiple efforts to "clean up" the city. In late 1906, about thirty local businessmen met and decided that a new year meant a new start. The mayor, with their support, sent the sheriff and chief of police to shut down all of these businesses, which included places with card games, sale of alcohol at hotels, and blind pigs—also known as "speakeasies."

Year Date	1883
Event	Electricity Comes to Bismarck, Electric Street Car/Trolley
Theme(s)	People; Business and Economy; Civics and Culture
Revised Narrative	Electricity was first used in Bismarck when local contractor Charles W. Thompson purchased an 8-light power engine in September of 1883 and used it to illuminate the construction of the state capitol building at night.

Year Date	1889
Event	Dakota Territory split – North Dakota achieves statehood
Theme(s)	Government
Narrative	Bismarck becomes the Capitol of North Dakota

Bismarck's Early Years (1872 to 1898)

Year Date	1894
Event	Edmond Hughes & Hughes Electric
Theme(s)	People
Narrative	Entrepreneur Edmond A. Hughes was one of the state's most influential figures at the turn of the century. Along with his father and brother, he pioneered the use of lignite coal for electricity and established the Hughes Electric utility company. His brother George invented the nation's first electric stove and served on the board of General Electric, and as President of Edison Electric. In 1894, Hughes Electric was awarded a contract with the City to begin producing electricity for street lights, electric machines, phone system, and steam heating system. In addition to Hughes Electric, Edmond Hughes owned several lignite coal mines, telephone exchanges, served in the State Legislature, and commissioned construction of many of downtown's hotels and apartment buildings in the 1910s and 1930s. His wife Edith Wakeman Hughes was a socialite and philanthropist, known for her work on behalf of the Braille Institute of America.

Year Date	1898
Event	1898 Fire of Bismarck
Theme(s)	Geography, Landscape and Nature; Transportation and Infrastructure; Business and Economy; Architecture
Revised Narrative	A fire started in the Northern Pacific Freight Depot on August 8, 1898 and burned portions of 13 blocks in downtown Bismarck. It was not controlled until 3pm the following day. Maps produced by the Sanborn Fire Insurance Company show the main burn area, but sparks carried by a southeasterly wind ignited separate fires on the 700 block of 4th Street and even prairie land north of the capitol. Some credit the fire as the impetus for modernization of the downtown through the enactment of fire codes and construction of safer and more permanent structures.

Growing Capital City (1898 to 1930)

Year Date	1898
Event	St Mary's Catholic Church established.

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Year Date	1898
Event	Webb Block Construction
Theme(s)	Architecture
Revised Narrative	Brothers Philip R. and William H. Webb opened a furniture store in Bismarck in 1884. As was common at the time, the furniture makers also built coffins and served as undertakers in the community. Following the great fire that destroyed much of Bismarck's early downtown, Alexander McKenzie built a two-story brick building on the 300 block of E Main Ave, where the Webb brothers opened a new department store in 1898. It eventually closed in 1945 and the space was leased to Sears Roebuck. Today, the building houses Zimmerman's Furniture.

Year Date	1900
Event	Sheridan House moved to southeast corner of Fifth and Main and veneered with Brick
Theme(s)	Architecture
Narrative	The Sheridan House was one of Bismarck's first hotels. It was first built in 1877 and was owned and operated by Edward G. Patterson. The original Sheridan House was the stopping point for thousands of immigrants who came here during the "Great Dakota Boom" of the late 19 th Century. It was partially dismantled and moved in 1900 to make way for the Northern Pacific depot. It was rebuilt as the Northwest Hotel, at the southeast corner of 5 th Street and Main where it stood until a fire destroyed it in 1921.

Year Date	1901
Event	Northern Pacific Depot Constructed
Theme(s)	Transportation and Infrastructure; Architecture
Narrative	The NP Railroad depot was completed in 1901 and was designed in the Spanish Mission style by Reed and Stem of St. Paul. The style was unique on the Northern Plains and was certainly evocative of western travel. Its tower domes were removed in 1954, but it remains one of downtown's most iconic structures. Curiously, four porcelain Kewpie dolls can be seen, incorporated in the marble-embedded stucco walls. Local lore holds that a group of workmen purchased the dolls from the five-and-dime store across the street and hid them throughout the building during construction.

Year Date	1902
Event	Q&R Clinic established
Theme(s)	People; Business and Economy
Revised Narrative	In 1902, Eric Quain and Niles Ramstad organized a medical partnership in Bismarck that is now the second-oldest medical clinic in the country (behind Mayo Clinic). The Quain & Ramstad Clinic, commonly known as the "Q&R Clinic", brought many new physicians and medical staff to the community and is closely linked to the growth and character of Bismarck. Quain first arrived in Bismarck in 1898 and quickly discovered the local medical community had not yet accepted germ theory of disease or adopted the practice of sterilization of surgical facilities and equipment. In 1900, he and his former med-school classmate Dr. Niles Ramstad founded the Q&R Clinic at the corner of 5th St. and Thayer

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	Ave., in what is now the City/County Building. Of note: in 1903, Dr. Eric Quain married another well-known Bismarck doctor, Dr. Fannie Dunn-Quain, who was the state's first licensed female physician. While she did not practice medicine with Quain & Ramstad, she did become a prominent leader in the medical community, organizing the North Dakota Tuberculosis Association.
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Year Date	1905
Event	Bakers Hall
Narrative	Corner of Third and Main – destroyed in 1977 for a parking lot

Year Date	1906
Event	Grand Pacific Hotel
Theme(s)	Business and Economy
Narrative	Grand Pacific Hotel was built on the northeast corner of Fourth and Broadway (razed in 1970)

Year Date	1906
Event	"The Hill" AKA the Cathedral Area Historic District
Theme(s)	People; Architecture
Narrative	In 1906 Clarence B. Little, an attorney, First National Bank president, and founder of the Provident Life Insurance Co., purchased property on the hill overlooking Bismarck's early commercial core and built a stately home for himself. His Queen Anne and Shingle Style turreted mansion at 304 W Ave A set the trend for other well-to-do Bismarck residents, who quickly bought up lots along Avenues A and B. The neighborhood became home to Bismarck's most prominent figures, including politicians like Governor John Burke and Governor "Wild Bill" Langer; physicians like Dr. Lloyd A. Schipfer and Dr. Reuben Waldschmidt; businessmen like A. W. Mundy, owner of Bismarck's A.W. Lucas and Co., and auto dealer Neil O. Churchill; and myriad other community leaders like George Mann, publisher of the Bismarck Tribune. Many of the homes built in this neighborhood were designed by regionally and even nationally renowned architects like Arthur Van Horn, Frederick W. Keith, W.F. Kurke, Ashelman and Gage, and Purcell, Feick, and Elmslie, adding not only to the historic significance of the area, but to its eclectic aesthetic and charm. The neighborhood, now known as the Cathedral Area because it includes the 1945 Art Moderne Cathedral of the Holy Spirit (520 N. Raymond St.), has retained much of its historic character. Some streets, like Ave C, are still lined with American Elms that form a lush green canopy. A handful of curved steel rods, known as "buggy guards" are visible in the curbs at some intersections and remind us of the horse-and-buggy days when the earliest houses were built. Even Washington St., the major thoroughfare that transects the neighborhood, was thoughtfully re-designed in recent years to move traffic efficiently while simultaneously preserving the integrity of Cathedral Area. The area was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1980 and is Bismarck's first historic district. Its boundaries capture a variety of architectural styles, from modestly-sized Storybook and Tudor Revival bungalows to handsome Craftsman homes and Regal Colonial Revivals. The district tells the story of Bismarck's prosperity in the first half of the 20th century.

Year Date	1881
Event	Oscar H. Will

Growing Capital City (1898 to 1930)

Theme(s)	People
Revised Narrative	Oscar H. Will came to Bismarck in 1881 to work at Fuller's Greenhouse and Nursery. Initially, the focus of Fuller's Greenhouse was supplying young seedling trees to early European settlers. Soon, Will became the greenhouse operator and renamed it Oscar Will & Co. Will began to experiment with different varieties of corn and beans that the Mandan, Hidatsa, and Arikara had been growing in this region for centuries. Because of their hardiness and durable shelf life, the varieties were well suited to the commercial market. The Great Northern Bean, for instance, was developed by Will and is one of the predominant bean species grown today. The Oscar H. Will & Co. business became very successful, and its namesake a prominent individual in the Bismarck community. A school was dedicated to him, which was later merged with another to become the present-day Will-Moore Elementary School. Oscar H. Will died in 1917. His son, George Will—avocational anthropologist, archaeologist, and botanist—continued the business renaming it The Pioneer Seed House, which remained in operation until 1959.

Year Date	1906
Event	Era Bell Thompson
Theme(s)	People
Revised Narrative	Era Bell Thompson, born August 10, 1906, moved with her family from Iowa to Driscoll, ND, where her father, Stewart C. Thompson, and mother Mary, farmed. Stewart also served as a private messenger for Governor Lynn Frazier during Legislative Sessions from 1917 to 1921. After the death of Era Bell's mother, she and her father moved to Bismarck in 1920, where he owned a few businesses. Era Bell Thompson graduated from Bismarck High School, where she was one of few black students. She participated in track and enjoyed writing. She later went on to become a writer. Her autobiography, <i>American Daughter</i>, was published in 1946. As an African-American female, she was a pioneer in the field of journalism and became associate editor of <i>Negro Digest</i> in 1947, and served as managing editor of <i>Ebony</i> magazine from 1951 to 1964. She received the Theodore Roosevelt Roughrider Award from the state of North Dakota in 1976, and died at her home in Chicago in 1986.

Year Date	1907
Event	State Library
Theme(s)	Civics and Culture; Architecture
Revised narrative	The State Library was established as the Public Library Commission in 1907 and occupied a single room in the State Capitol. In 1909, the library's name was changed to the State Library Commission. The State Library Commission occupied the Liberty Memorial Building on the Capitol Grounds from 1936-1970 and later moved to the Randal Building north of Bismarck. The agency's name was changed to the North Dakota State Library in 1979. In 1982, the State Library returned to the Liberty Memorial Building, its present location.

Year Date	1907-1937
Event	Bismarck Indian School
Theme(s)	People; Government
Revised	The Bismarck Indian School was founded in 1907 at the site of present-day Fraine

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Narrative	Barracks. It was one of about 30 off-reservation schools for Indian children operated by the federal government nationwide in an era when federal policy toward Indian tribes focused on assimilation. Students were forced to abandon traditional clothing and hair styles and were subjected to harsh punishment for speaking their native language. Aside from academic studies, Indian schools focused on developing farming skills for boys and domestic skills for girls. Congress first approved construction of a non-reservation boarding school between the Fort Berthold and Standing Rock reservations in 1901. Originally, Mandan was the intended location. But the federal government instead accepted a donation of 160 acres overlooking the Missouri River from the City of Bismarck. Congress appropriated \$50,000 for construction of the Bismarck Indian School, and the funds were released in 1906. The main buildings were completed in late 1907 and the first classes were held on December 11, 1908. W.R. Davis was the first superintendent of the Bismarck Indian School, having previously overseen Indian schools in Minnesota and South Dakota. On his first visit to Standing Rock, he found that most parents, aware of the harsh treatment at other Indian Schools, refused to send their children to the new school at Bismarck. Only 19 boys and girls returned to Bismarck with Davis, but enrollment increased by the end of the first year. In 1937, the Bureau of Indian Affairs announced plans to close the Bismarck Indian School and focus instead on day schools on or close to the reservations. On June 19, 1937, the school's last graduating class received their diplomas, and the school was officially closed on June 30.
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Year Date	1909
Event	McCabe Methodist Church (destroyed 1959)

Year Date	1911
Event	Patterson Hotel

Year Date	1912
Event	Bismarck High School Building
Theme(s)	Civics and Culture
Revised Narrative	The first high school in Bismarck was built in 1912, designed by Arthur Van Horn. Prior to that, high school students were housed together with several other grades in the North Ward School.

Year Date	1913
Event	Federal Building

Year Date	1914
Event	Evangelical Church

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Year Date	1914
Event	Belle Mehus Municipal Auditorium
Theme(s)	Civics and Culture; Architecture
Revised Narrative	In January 1914, the Bismarck Municipal Auditorium opened at the northeast corner of Sixth and Broadway and was equipped for both movies and stage productions. Local architect Arthur Van Horn designed the building. In 1988, it was renamed the Belle Mehus Auditorium, in honor of one of the city's best-known music teachers.

Year Date	1915-21
Event	Rise and Fall of the Nonpartisan League
Theme(s)	People; Government
Revised Narrative	The Nonpartisan League (NPL) dominated ND politics in the era during and after World War I, promising to stand up for farmers against the power of railroads, Minneapolis grain mills, and other out-of-state corporate interests. The NPL's heyday was relatively short lived, but the party enacted sweeping reforms and continued to influence state politics for decades. The NPL eventually merged with the state Democratic Party in 1956, forming the Democratic-Nonpartisan League Party. Four of the most influential leaders of the NPL were Arthur C. Townley, the party's primary founder and chief spokesman; Lynn Frazier, the first NPL governor; William "Wild Bill" Langer, attorney general and an eventual governor; and William Lemke, the second NPL attorney general. The party's Capital City headquarters was located in the Northwest Hotel and then the Patterson Hotel, both owned by influential NPL member, Ed Patterson. Shortly after its founding in 1915, the NPL began to dominate state government. Frazier was elected governor in 1916 with 79% of the vote, Langer served as attorney general from 1917 to 1920, and Lemke succeeded him as attorney general in 1921. The NPL took control of both houses of the state legislature in 1918, and quickly moved forward with a reform agenda, including establishing the Bank of North Dakota, the North Dakota State Mill and Elevator, a state-owned hail insurance agency, and the Industrial Commission. Ironically, one of the reforms established by the NPL – a state constitutional amendment giving citizens the power to recall public officials – was used against Frazier and Lemke. Mismanagement of the Bank of North Dakota and other scandals involving favoritism and sweetheart deals for NPL leaders led to a recall election in 1921. Lemke survived, but Frazier was removed from office by about 4,000 votes, making him the first governor in America to be removed from office by recall election. Frazier would go on to represent North Dakota in the U.S. Senate from 1923 to 1940, and Lemke represented North Dakota in the U.S. House of Representatives from 1943 to 1950.

Year Date	1916
Event	Carnegie Library

Year Date	1916
Event	Red Trail / Highway 10
Theme(s)	Transportation and Infrastructure

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Revised Narrative	Early on, Bismarck’s Main Street was merely a buckboard track through a frontier town. It was finally paved in 1923, to better accommodate an increase in automobiles. An automobile craze had swept across the country and many Americans were eager to explore the American west by car and soon, Bismarck emerged as a waypoint along the transcontinental transportation corridor known as the Red Trail. In 1915, Bismarck’s Good Roads boosters and its Commercial club met frequently to organize road building and to promote the Red Trail and its amenities. Stretching from Chicago to Spokane, the Red Trail was “the best route” between the coasts, linking metropolitan areas and national parks and drawing in hundreds of thousands, if not millions of tourists. The stretch through North Dakota was advertised as “the Smooth Road Through the Summer Playground.” The route of the Red Trail was informally marked. As the route became more popular, Bismarck’s hotels, auto repair garages, and gas stations began to advertise as “official” establishments of the Red Trail. Local auto promoters put Red Trail emblems on their cars. The Corwin Motor Company at 122 Main Street put its gas pump in a bright red sentry house with the markings of the Red Trail on three sides with a large round electric light on top. Because Memorial Bridge had not yet been built, businessmen organized to improve the ferry system across the river. By 1921, with tourist traffic growing, Bismarck established its first auto camp on the east end of the City, near the penitentiary, on a strip of land owned by the state. The Bismarck tourist camp grew to be a well-equipped, free camp that could accommodate 25 cars per night. It was lit with electric lights, had a kitchen and canopy dining room, a three-sided picnic pavilion, running water inside and out, Dutch ovens outside, and a telephone booth. The camp was used by Red Trail travelers from every state in the union and brought business to Bismarck’s merchants. The camp generated enough profit to entirely pay for itself and all its improvements. In 1923 the Red Trail was paved from the east end of Bismarck, through town and west to the Memorial bridge, becoming Burleigh County’s first and longest paved concrete highway. In 1927 a national highway numbering system was implemented, and the road was designated US Highway 10.
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Year Date	1917-1919
Event	World War I in the Capitol City
Theme(s)	Military; Civics and Culture
Revised Narrative	When war erupted in Europe in 1914, the US had pledged neutrality. But following Germany’s announcement that their U-boats would target any and all ships in the vicinity of the British Isles—neutral or not—Congress voted to declare war on German on April 6, 1917. Some North Dakotans were hesitant to break diplomatic ties with Germany. But once the US entered the war, despite North Dakota’s strong German roots, patriotism took over and an anti-German fever swept through the state as it did across the nation. Men and women alike scrambled to join up. A total of 28,000 North Dakotans served in World War I. The first called to service were the men of the Second Battalion of the North Dakota National Guard—companies from Bismarck, Mandan, Jamestown, Dickinson, and Lisbon. Their duty was to guard the NP Railroad Bridge over the

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	Missouri River at Bismarck, and other bridges across the state. They were then sent to Fort Lincoln, south of Bismarck, for mobilization and sent to training for overseas duties, where they were renamed the 164th Infantry. Many men enlisted or were drafted. Others such as Dr. Eric Quain, founder of the Q&R Clinic in Bismarck, served in the Red Cross. Former Governor Louis B. Hanna served as the chairman of the Liberty Loan drives in 1917 and 1918 and went overseas with the Red Cross. Youth of all ages participated however they could. One program that encouraged conservation of resources on the home front, encouraged youth to “tag” coal shovels with a note: “Save that Shovelful of Coal a Day for Uncle Sam.” One of the first shovels to be tagged in Bismarck was Governor Lynn Frazier’s, by his twin daughters, Unie and Versie. But not everyone backed the war. John H. Wishek, of McIntosh County, was charged with sedition for proliferating pro German propaganda and discouraging the sale of war bonds in Bismarck. His trial kicked up more anti-German sentiment. Authorities in Bismarck even received letters demanding that the City of Bismarck change its name. Germany surrendered to the Allied Nations (the U.S., Britain, France, Italy, and Russia) on November 11, 1918—originally commemorated as Armistice Day and now, Veterans Day. In March 1919, Bismarck celebrated the return of its brave soldiers with meals and dances to honor the boys who had been so long “over there.”
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Year Date	1918-1920
Event	Flu pandemic
Theme(s)	People; government
Revised narrative	The Great Influenza pandemic (often referred to as the “Spanish Flu” pandemic) arrived in North Dakota in the fall of 1918 and struck Bismarck in early October that year. Schools, churches and theaters closed, and meetings and gatherings were canceled. Bismarck had a mask mandate for waitresses and others handling food. People found loitering or congregating on Bismarck streets were subject to arrest. The 1919 Legislature met amid the pandemic, with some lawmakers leaving their hospital beds to vote on major bills. The flu waned in early 1919, but resurfaced a year later in 1920.

Year Date	1920
Event	Elks Pool
Theme(s)	Civics and Culture
Revised Narrative	Bismarck’s first municipal pool, the Elks Pool, opened on July 30, 1920, after a citywide fundraising campaign led by the local Elks lodge B.P.O.E 1199. Children of the city helped the drive by “selling” sacks of cement, door to door, until the equivalent of 3,000 sacks had been sold, plus enough for 10 tons of steel and other material. The original pool was 100’ by 125’, with white sand lining the shallow end. A bathing house was built, with girls’ and boys’ dressings room where swimmers stashed their street clothing. There was no shade or shelter to be had around the perimeter of the pool, where sun-bathers and swimmers laid their towels on the hot cement. Teenage lifeguards, wearing white zinc oxide on their noses sat on raised chairs at the pool’s edge and, during breaks,

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	patrolled the edges of the pool twirling their whistles on lanyards. The Elks pool was the center of summer life for generations of Bismarck children. In 2005, the pool had mechanical issues and the 72-year old Elks municipal pool and bathhouse were demolished. A new swimming pool for all ages was built, smaller in size but including a waterslide and other familiar amenities.
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Year Date	1889
Event	Suffrage in Bismarck
Theme(s)	Civics and Culture
Revised Narrative	When the Constitutional Convention met in Bismarck in July 1889, delegates bandied around the idea of including suffrage as part of North Dakota's constitution. Although this was not to be, women were granted the right to vote in school elections and hold school offices, as they had in the Dakota Territory. Moreover, the delegates ensured that future voters could enact suffrage in the state by a vote. Thereafter, the topic of suffrage arose frequently at legislative sessions, and several times went before the voters. By 1917, women in the state had received partial suffrage. North Dakota became the 20th state to ratify the 19th Amendment at a legislative special session held in Bismarck in December 1919. Women in the state were able to vote in their first presidential primary in March 1920, but numbers were down due to a blizzard in the area. However, decent fall weather was reported during the first presidential election following the passage of the 19th Amendment, in November 1920, and many voters were expected to turn out for this historic election. In Bismarck, women eagerly gathered outside polls before they opened. The Bismarck Tribune reported that twenty-five nuns from St. Alexius and twelve from St. Mary's marched to the polls, with three nuns the first to vote at one poll. Multiple women of advanced age voted, including Mrs. Joanna Brennan and Mrs. E.S. Pierce, who were "among the oldest." Men and women mixed in line at the polls, which the Bismarck Tribune noted, "was a strange sight to an old-time politician."

Year Date	1924
Event	World War Memorial Building
Theme(s)	Civics and Culture, Architecture
Revised Narrative	The Liberty Memorial Building was built to honor North Dakota men and women who served in World War I. The legislature of 1919 authorized its construction, and it was ready for occupancy by 1924. The new structure housed multiple state agencies, including the State Historical Society.

Year Date	1920
Event	Memorial Bridge
Theme(s)	Transportation and Infrastructure
Revised Narrative	The first automobile bridge across the Missouri River in North Dakota was the Liberty Memorial Bridge, built in 1920. The river was a formidable barrier to east-west vehicle travel across the northern tier of the country. Missouri River ferry boats operated at Bismarck-Mandan, but they were slow, unreliable, and seasonal. The bridge was built to link the local route known as the "Red Trail," later designated US Highway 10. As many as 10,000 vehicles a year tried one way or another to successfully cross the Missouri River at Bismarck. This gap at the Missouri River was considered the final link in the

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	nation's coast-to-coast roadway. The dedication of the Memorial bridge was held in 1922. This event included a three-day pageant in which 600 people took part. The structure was christened "The Liberty Memorial Bridge," in memory of the North Dakota men and women who had served in World War I. Inscribed boulders, taken from North Dakota prairies, were placed at both ends of the bridge by the North Dakota Chapter of the American War Mothers. For years, the Liberty Memorial Bridge was the only automobile bridge to cross the Missouri River between Great Falls, Montana and Sioux City, Iowa. Once built, it sparked a major increase in traffic to the area, and by 1924, the bridge already had more than 2,000 vehicles per day. Until completion of the Interstate Highway 94 bridge (now known as the Grant Marsh Bridge) in 1965, the Liberty Memorial Bridge was the main travel corridor between Bismarck and Mandan and provided a vital east-west link for transcontinental travelers. For its importance locally and nationally, it was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1997. Its design was also special, as it was the only Warren-Turner through truss bridge ever built in North Dakota. Many remember when the deck of the bridge had no asphalt, only metal grating, and the bridge hummed when driven over. The river was visible through the grate when looking straight down from above. The bridge was very heavily traveled and by the early 2000's, the stone piers had begun to deteriorate. The bridge needed significant repair. It had been designed to have a 50-70 year life span, but was 84 years old when construction on a new bridge began in June 2006. The new bridge was formally dedicated on November 11, 2008. The old humming Liberty Memorial Bridge was demolished with explosive charges and removed in pieces from the riverbed.
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Year Date	1920
Event	Bismarck Tribune Building
Narrative	Construction of Bismarck Tribune Building 4 th and Thayer

Year Date	1921
Event	Sheridan House succumbed to fire

Year Date	1927
Event	Riverside Sertoma Park
Theme(s)	Civics and Culture
Revised Narrative	Bismarck's Sertoma Park was formerly known as Riverside Park. The land was purchased by the Park Board in 1927, and for its first years the park was home to Bismarck's official Highway 10 Tourist Camp. The camp included 22 cabins, a caretaker's house, a shower house, modern lavatories, a kitchen, picnic areas, swing sets, a bandstand, and a backstop for baseball. In 1934, the park became the headquarter for Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC). A company of 30 CCC men began improvements to the park grounds, cutting thistles and

Growing Capital City (1898 to 1930)

	poison ivy, and trimming dead timber, pouring footings for new picnic shelters, building foot bridges over dry beds, and building trails. In 1959, the Sertoma Club took over maintenance of Riverside Park and it soon became known as Sertoma Riverside Park. By 1972, Sertoma Riverside Park had a total acreage of 584.8 acres and included the 18-hole Riverwood Golf course, an amusement park, a zoo, four baseball diamonds, a tiny tot play area, and six tennis courts.
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Year Date	1930
Event	Old Capitol Burns
Theme(s)	Government
Revised Narrative	On the morning of Sunday, December 28, 1930, the state capitol building caught fire and burned down. The incident was attributed to oily rags in a janitors' closet. At the time, the state legislature was preparing to convene, and plans were immediately made for a new capitol building. The towering 19-story Art Deco structure was designed by the renowned Chicago firm of Holabird, in collaboration with architects Joseph Bell DeRemer of Grand Forks and W.F. Kurke of Fargo. It was completed in 1934 at a cost of around \$2 million. As the tallest building in the state, it is affectionately referred to as the "Skyscraper on the Prairie."

Year Date	1920-1940
Event	Art Deco
Theme(s)	Architecture
Revised Narrative	Bismarck has a wealth of Art Deco architecture—a style of architecture characterized by a "streamlined" look with stylized abstract and geometric decoration. During the late 1920s through the 1930s Art Deco became increasingly popular in America. Arguably the finest example is the Chrysler Building in New York City, completed in 1930. The style was often used in skyscrapers, but was also a popular choice for civic buildings—in less luxuriant forms. Building materials such as decorated reinforced concrete or stone, and embossed metal panels offered an economic balance between practicality and ornament necessary for public projects. Use of these materials and the Art Deco style came to symbolize modernity and progress, moving forward from the Neo-Classical and Federal styles often used for institutional buildings. Bismarck's most notable example of Art Deco architecture is the North Dakota State Capitol, completed in 1934. A unique feature of the 19-story "Skyscraper of the Prairies" is the absence of a Neo-Classical dome—a rare choice for a capitol building. Due to the economic challenges of the Great Depression, many other Art Deco features were eliminated from plans, but several examples can be seen, particularly on the building's interior and throughout the Legislative Wing. Other excellent examples of Art Deco style in Bismarck include the Burleigh County Courthouse (1931)—with its embossed aluminum panels, bronze doors, and decorative cut stone—and the World War Memorial Building. The Cathedral of the Holy Spirit (1945), with its dramatic verticality, bas-relief panels, and stark white exterior, exemplifies the Art Moderne architectural style, which takes the sleek and stream-lined principles of Art Deco to the next level.

Tumultuous Years (1930-1945)

Year Date	1930s
Event	Baseball/Satchel Paige
Theme(s)	Civics and Culture; People
Revised Narrative	The first record of a baseball game in Bismarck is August 10, 1873 when the “Bismarck and Camp Hancock Baseball Club” defeated the “D Company, 20th Infantry Baseball Club” from Fort Lincoln. The final score has been lost to history, but baseball has been played in Bismarck ever since. In the Dust Bowl days of the 1930s, Bismarck was home to one of the great stories in baseball history. Neil Churchill assembled a racially integrated semi-pro team, drawing talented players from the Negro Leagues, including one of the greatest pitchers of all time, Leroy “Satchel” Paige. Led by Paige, the Bismarck team won a national championship at the First National Baseball Congress in Wichita in 1935. It was the first time a racially integrated team won a national championship—more than a decade before Jackie Robinson became the first black player in the majors in 1947. Paige later made it to the majors in 1948 at the age of 42, and became the first Negro League player enshrined in the Baseball Hall of Fame.

Year Date	1930s
Event	Clell Gannon
Theme(s)	People
Narrative	Clell Gannon was a Bismarck painter and poet, trained at the Art Institute of Chicago. Raised on a farm near Underwood, ND, his art was inspired by the landscape, wildlife, and history of the Great Plains. He is best-known for his murals in the vestibule of the 1931 Burleigh County Courthouse and bound poetry collection Songs of the Bunch Grass Acres. Gannon is also remembered for his commercial art—he designed catalog covers and product labels for the Oscar H. Will & Co. seed company. Upon Gannon’s death in 1962, the Bismarck Tribune touted him as “one of North Dakota’s leading artists.” Gannon was closely associated with two other prominent Bismarck men—George Will and Russell Reid, both of whom served terms as the director of the State Historical Society. The three made early strides in documenting North Dakota’s history through their overlapping interests in archaeology, ethnography, photography, literature, and art.

Year Date	1931
Event	Early Burleigh County Courthouse
Theme(s)	Architecture; Government
Narrative	Bismarck has been the seat of Burleigh County since 1873, when the county was formed. The current county courthouse at 514 E Thayer Ave, was designed by Ira Rush and built by Redlinger & Hansen in 1931 to replace the 1881 brick structure. It is an excellent example of the Art Deco style and contains numerous regionally and historically-inspired murals, including several painted by local artist, Clell Gannon.

Year Date	1932 to 1939
Event	Wild Bill Langer
Theme(s)	People; Government

Tumultuous Years (1930-1945)

Revised Narrative	William “Wild Bill” Langer is one of the most famous names in North Dakota political history. Langer was born near Casselton in 1886 and studied law at the University of North Dakota and Columbia University before starting his legal practice in Mandan. An early leader of the Nonpartisan League (NPL), Langer was elected state attorney general in 1916. He eventually clashed with NPL founder Arthur C. Townley, who he accused of Bolshevism, and unsuccessfully challenged incumbent NPL governor Lynn Frazier in 1920. Langer was first elected governor in 1932. As governor, Langer required all state employees to donate part of their salaries to the NPL and its weekly newspaper, the Leader. While not technically illegal under state law at the time, the U.S. Attorney for North Dakota deemed those “donations” as defrauding the federal government, as most highway department employees were paid through federal relief programs. Langer was found guilty and sentenced to eighteen months in prison. On July 17, 1934, the North Dakota Supreme Court ordered that Langer be removed from office and replaced by Lieutenant Governor Ole Olson. Langer initially refused to leave office and declared martial law, but eventually agreed to step down. After a retrial, Langer was acquitted on all charges and was reelected governor in 1936. He went on to serve as U.S. Senator from North Dakota from 1941 until his death on November 8, 1959.
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Year Date	August 1936
Event	FDR and Federal Relief Era
Theme(s)	Government
Narrative	In August 1936, president Franklin D. Roosevelt arrived in Bismarck on his tour of nine drought-stricken states in the west, observing conditions firsthand. Roosevelt had been elected in 1933 and within the first 100 days of his term, created a host of agencies and programs aimed at stemming the Great Depression through development of national infrastructure. Among his administration’s “alphabet soup” of relief agencies were the Federal Emergency Relief Administration (FERA), Public Works Administration (WPA), Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC), and the Agricultural Adjustment Administration (AAA). Federal Relief programs created jobs and put men, women, and even youth to work. The Works Progress/Projects Administration (WPA), for example, employed 61,000 North Dakotans by the mid-1930s and left a particularly lasting legacy in public architecture and engineering.

Year Date	1934
Event	New Capitol Building
Theme(s)	Government, Civics and Culture, Architecture
Revised Narrative	The state’s Capitol building was completed in 1934, replacing the 1884 brick structure that had burned down in December 1930. The new Art Deco-style, 19-story Capitol was designed by architect Joseph Bell DeRemer and is unique among statehouses for not featuring a dome. The building, often referred to as the “Skyscraper on the Prairie”, stands about 242 feet high and one of the tallest in the state. The Capitol was constructed amid the Great Depression at a cost of about \$2 million. In the spring of 1933, unskilled laborers working on its construction went on strike, demanding a raise from 30 cents to 50 cents an hour. Several days into the strike, a fight

Tumultuous Years (1930-1945)

	broke out and five picketers were jailed. Negotiations with the strikers took a break over Memorial Day, but Gov. Langer declared martial law in Bismarck, calling in the National Guard. The strikers and contractors reached a deal with the governor the next day for a raise to 40 cents an hour. The strike set construction back 12 days. The Bismarck Tribune commemorated the new Capitol in a 40-page special edition in 1934. The Capitol has seen changes and additions over the years, notably the addition of the Judicial Wing in 1979-80.
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Year Date	1936
Event	Bismarck Airport
Theme(s)	Transportation & Infrastructure; Government; Business and Economy; Military
Revised Narrative	The Bismarck Airport had modest beginnings in a pasture located on S Washington Street in the 1920s. By 1930 the airport had moved to its present location and had grown to 80 acres in size. The 1930s & 1940s saw a spurt of government-funded projects, including a large Art Deco-style hangar (Hangar 5, ca. 1936), a terminal building and paved runways (ca. 1940), all built under federal relief programs. During World War II, from 1943 to 1964, Hangar 5 was home to the 7th Ferry Command of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Airplanes housed in the hangar over the decades represent a flight through WWII history, including the B17, Curtiss P-40 Warhawk, Douglas B25A and the North American P-51 Mustang. Dozens of different general aviation aircraft ranging from the venerable DC3 to the tiny Taylor Cub to the modern Cirrus have also graced Hangar 5, which the Bismarck Air Museum Foundation is attempting to save from demolition and repurpose as an air museum. By 2016 the airport encompassed 2,400 acres and was handling nearly 300,000 passengers per year.

Year Date	1936
Event	New Bismarck High School Building
Theme(s)	Civics and Culture
Revised Narrative	The current Bismarck High School building was built in the 1930s to replace the 1912 high school building, already deemed insufficient to meet the needs of Bismarck's rapidly growing student body. The Ritterbush Brothers Architects designed the new school in the Art Deco style and the original marble and brass finishes are still found throughout the interior. Maurice Schumacher, general contractor, began work on the new school September 7, 1934, and the new building was able to be occupied on September 9, 1935, though the building wasn't officially finished until 1936. Numerous additions have been made over the years to accommodate more students and activities—the most recent of which was the north auditorium built in 2018.

Researcher	Tory Jackson
Year Date	1937 to present
Event	Fraine Barracks
Theme(s)	Government; Military

Tumultuous Years (1930-1945)

Revised Narrative	Fraine Barracks, the headquarters of the North Dakota National Guard, was built on the site of former brewery founded in 1885. As North Dakota entered the Union as a dry state on November 2, 1889, the brewery did not last long. In 1907, the site was redeveloped and used as the Bismarck Indian School. When the school closed in 1937, its 24 building-campus attracted a number of government entities. The federal Department of Agriculture considered acquiring the site for an experimental station. The Civilian Conservation Corps was also interested, and temporarily leased several of the buildings in the summer of 1937. The North Dakota National Guard, however, waged an aggressive and ultimately successful campaign to acquire the Bismarck Indian School site for its state headquarters. In September of 1937, The National Guard was granted a one-year temporary use permit from the federal government, which it extended until 1944, when the site was transferred to the state for permanent use as a National Guard headquarters. The site was re-named Fraine Barracks in honor of the late Brigadier General John. A. Fraine, a long-time member of the North Dakota National Guard.
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Researcher	Beth Nodland
Year Date	1942 to 1958
Event	Bismarck's Irrigated Victory Garden
Theme(s)	People; Civics and Culture
Revised Narrative	At the start of WWII, Americans were encouraged to grow vegetables and fruits and to preserve and can them to supplement domestic food supplies. Any vegetable grown in a family garden plot was considered a contribution to national defense. Bismarck citizens established a community "Victory Garden" on a large tract of vacant federal land between Riverside Park Rd and S Washington Street, south of Bowen Ave. Works Progress Administration (WPA) funding and WPA workers dug a long irrigation ditch between the riverbank and the garden. An irrigation pump system installed within the first year dramatically increased the productivity of the sandy soil in the garden. Long after the war was won, Bismarck's irrigated gardens were used and, even, expanded. Ultimately, 200-300 Bismarck families, businesses, and institutions were supplementing their groceries with fresh and canned vegetables and fruits from the garden plots. New varieties and unusual vegetables were sometimes tried, such as okra, cotton, and peanuts, and most were found successful. Approximately 8,000 trees and shrubs were planted in and around the perimeter of the garden to prevent wind erosion.

Post World War 2 and Midcentury Growth (1945-1965)

Year Date	1939
Event	Bismarck Junior College/Bismarck State College
Theme(s)	Government; Civics and Culture
Revised Narrative	Bismarck voters authorized the creation of a junior college in a special election on June 5, 1939. Bismarck Junior College (BJC) held its first classes on September 4, 1939 on the third floor of the Bismarck High School building. In 1951, the state legislature approved the transfer of 15 acres of land in the southeast corner of the state Capitol grounds for a dedicated campus. BJC moved into the new facility in 1955 but had already outgrown the space by 1959. Bismarck businessman Harold Schafer donated 70 acres of land on Meadowlark Hill overlooking the Missouri River in northwest Bismarck, where the campus remains today. Schafer Hall was the first building constructed on the new campus, completed in 1961. BJC was administered by Bismarck Public Schools from its founding until 1984, when it became part of the state university system. The school was briefly renamed Bismarck State Community College until the legislature adopted the current name, Bismarck State College (BSC), in 1987. The BSC campus has expanded in recent years with the addition of the National Energy Center of Excellence, the Aquatic and Wellness Center, new classroom and library buildings, and new residence halls. BSC is the third-largest school in the state university system, with annual enrollment of approximately 4,000.

Year Date	1953
Event	Garrison Dam
Theme(s)	Government; Infrastructure
Revised Narrative	In 1953, the Garrison Dam was completed on the Missouri River, approximately 80 miles upstream from Bismarck. It was one of a series of dams on the Northern Plains authorized by the United States Congress under the Pick-Sloan Act. The new dam allowed for regulation and stabilization of water levels and had a profound impact on the natural and cultural landscape of Bismarck and the surrounding region. For the first time, farm and ranch land south of Bismarck was no longer susceptible to seasonal flooding and could be developed for residential and commercial purposes. This opportunity came at great cost, however, to the Mandan, Hidatsa, and Arikara Nation, as the Garrison Dam created the Lake Sakakawea reservoir, flooding nearly all of the Missouri River bottomlands they had inhabited for countless generations. The Mandan, Hidatsa, and Arikara had to leave their homes and communities and form new ones, such as New Town on the Fort Berthold Reservation, greatly affecting their traditional way of life. Many immigrant settlers also experienced flooding of their homesteads. The Garrison Dam also had unintended consequences for the ecology and biodiversity of the region. Without the seasonal flooding necessary for germinating young seedlings, cottonwoods along the riverbanks were not replenished as quickly. The change in the river channel and water level affected many aquatic species such as the pallid sturgeon. Lake Oahe, a reservoir located south of Bismarck, which extends into South Dakota was similarly formed by another dam from the Pick-Sloan Program, the Oahe Dam near Pierre, SD.

Post World War 2 and Midcentury Growth (1945-1965)

Year Date	1951
Event	Oil booms' effect on Bismarck
Theme(s)	Geography, Landscape and Nature; Government; Business and Economy
Revised Narrative	Economically producible oil was officially discovered in North Dakota on April 4, 1951—an event that stirred excitement not only in North Dakota, but across the country. In Burleigh County, oil companies had drilled exploratory wells in 1949, but abandoned them. After 1951, the western part of the state was booming, and companies from all over began opening offices in Bismarck which quickly became a hub for the industry. Throughout subsequent oil booms in the 1970s, 1980s, 2000s and 2010s, the capitol city has been home to regulatory officials and boards that oversee the oil and gas industry in the state, including the Oil and Gas Division, Industrial Commission, Board of University and School Lands and the Public Service Commission.

Year Date	1950s to 1960s
Event	Northward Development
Theme(s)	Business and Economy ; Transportation
Revised Narrative	Bismarck expanded beyond its core for the first time during the post-World War II boom, and did so mostly to its north—pushing ahead of Boulevard Avenue to Divide Avenue, immediately north of the Capitol. To the east, building activity mostly ended at Sixteenth Street, barring some exceptions – mostly south of Hillside Park. It was during this time that the first planned housing developments took root in the city, including Highland Acres, the Casey Additions, Homan Acres, and the Fisher Addition. During the 1960s, Development slowly crept north of Divide Avenue. At the start of the decade, only about seventy homes had been built north of Divide Avenue. One of the most impactful events in Bismarck's growth occurred in 1965 when the \$1.2-million Grant Marsh Bridge opened on December 9th, completing Interstate 94 through Bismarck-Mandan. When the interstate opened, Bismarck Junior College, Northbrook Shopping Center, and a small handful of homes were all that existed within a half-mile of the highway, but its opening sparked a construction boom along the corridor and significantly altered traffic patterns in the area. As a result, businesses located along Highway 10 that were reliant on traffic – notably hotels, restaurants, and gas stations – suffered greatly while a new influx of such businesses sprouted where the interstate bisected with U.S. Highway 83.

Year Date	1953
Event	Arrowhead Plaza
Theme(s)	Business and Economy; Civics and Culture
Revised Narrative	Arrowhead Plaza, at 3rd Street and Boulevard, opened in 1953 and was not only Bismarck's first shopping center, but is believed to be the oldest shopping mall in the state. It was built by T. Clem Casey, to compliment his ongoing residential development on lands to the west of the state capitol and north of Boulevard. The mall got its name as the result of a city-wide naming contest in which the winning entry was submitted by a young Bismarck woman named Veronica Robinson. Dan's Super Value, Bing's Furniture, and Deluxe Cleaners, along with a few other small shops were among the first stores at Arrowhead Plaza. The Arrowhead Plaza Barbershop was in business for over 60 years. At various times throughout its 70-year

Post World War 2 and Midcentury Growth (1945-1965)

	history, the mall has included a drug store, a shoe shop, a hardware store, a dry cleaner, a beauty shop, a bank, a liquor store, and many other shops. The shopping center was expanded in 1959 and had a full-service gas station for many years.
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Year Date	1946 (Post WWII and MidCentury Growth, 1945 to 1965)
Event	Highland Acres
Theme(s)	• Architecture
Revised Narrative	The Highland Acres neighborhood in west Bismarck was developed beginning in 1946 by a housing cooperative formed by returning World War II veterans in response to a shortage of affordable, comfortable family housing. The earliest homes constructed were modest and affordable for returning veterans. Over time, the cooperative dissolved. As the remaining lots were developed, many were designed and built by prominent builders and architects in a variety of mid-century styles. The development exemplifies post-World War II land development patterns and was the first of its kind in North Dakota. It was platted as a subdivision in 1947 with curvilinear streets, cul-de-sacs and lots that follow the natural topography of the area. This development pattern is common now, but at the time was a departure from the gridded streets that were typical throughout Bismarck and North Dakota.

Year Date	1947 to 1967
Event	Bismarck Horse Club Arena on South Washington Street
Theme(s)	People; Civics and Culture
Revised Narrative	In 1947 the Bismarck Horse and Barn Association, which was primarily a social club, leased 40 acres of land at South Washington Street and Riverwood Drive for the erection of a horse stable for use by the newly formed Bismarck Horse Club. Over the years, the Horse Club hosted countless social events for the city including balls, movie showings, barn dances, basket socials, and hayrides. The Horse Club's horses were part of most parades in Bismarck. In the outdoor arena there were spectacular annual horse shows, rodeos, barrel races, horse-and-chariot races, and horse quadrillions and square dances. The races in the late 1950's were so popular they would draw a thousand spectators. Eventually, the city's Park Board acquired the land and, in 1963 began planning for the Riverwood golf course, and the Horse Club relocated to their current location, south of the golf course. The Walter Neuens Memorial Horse Arena is named in memory of the Club's first manager.

Year Date	1963
Event	University of Mary / Marcel Breuer
Theme(s)	Architecture; Education
Revised Narrative	In the 1950s, the Benedictine Sisters of the Annunciation in Bismarck began planning to establish Mary College. They asked Marcel Breuer, renowned 20th Century modernist architect, to create designs for their building. He created his "jewel on the prairie," a building that encompassed the Chapel, Convent Wing, Community Halls, and a School Wing. This was part of an original four-part Master plan, and played with elements of light and dark, and ended up being one of his favorite creations. Our Lady of the Annunciation Chapel was dedicated on May 13, 1963.

Post World War 2 and Midcentury Growth (1945-1965)

Year Date	1954 (Post WWII and MidCentury Growth, 1945 to 1965)
Event	Provident Life Insurance Building
Theme(s)	Business and Economy; Architecture
Revised Narrative	The Provident Life Insurance Building, located on the southwest corner of Rosser Avenue and Fifth Street, was constructed in 1954. The building was purchased by Burleigh County in 1995 and today houses Burleigh County Social Services and various professional offices. The 60-foot weather beacon attached to the roof of the building is one of the most recognizable landmarks in downtown Bismarck. The weather beacon is operated by KFYZ and uses simple colors to show the weather forecast for the upcoming twelve hours. Just follow this rhyme! Weather Beacon white as snow, down the temperature will go. Weather Beacon red as fire, temperature is going higher. Weather Beacon an emerald green, forecast says no change foreseen. When colors blink in agitation, there's going to be precipitation.

Year Date	Post WWII – present 1970
Event	Wachter Family – South Bismarck Development
Theme(s)	People; Business and Economy; Civics and Culture
Revised Narrative	One of the area's earliest and best-known families can trace its Bismarck roots to the arrival of Gottlieb (Charles) Wachter in 1881 and the founding of Wachter Dray & Transfer Company in 1885. Over the span of 130 years and five generations (and counting), the Wachter family has been at the forefront of numerous commercial and residential developments, including Kirkwood Mall, Kirkwood Motor Inn (Ramkota), Kirkwood Office Tower, the Bismarck Civic Center (Event Center), Wachter Jr. High School, Wachter Aquatic Center, Schaumburg Ice Arena, Dorothy Moses School, Cottonwood Lake Estates and numerous residential subdivisions. Most recently, 5th-generation Chad Wachter is developing a 1,200-acre master planned community in northeast Bismarck that will contain 2,800 single family homes & apartments, commercial plots, a elementary school, as well as parks and trails.

Year Date	1961
Event	Dakota Zoo
Theme(s)	Geography, Landscape and Nature; People; Civics and Culture
Revised Narrative	The Dakota Zoo first opened its gates on June 3, 1961. It was started by Bismarck veteran Marc Christianson who was born in Bismarck in 1918, the son of ND Supreme Court Justice A.M. and Edith Christianson. He graduated from Bismarck High in 1936, pursued flying (he was Chief Pilot & Instructor at Bismarck Flying Service before WWII) and, following the War, came home to raise a family, and lots of animals... Marc and his wife, Betty Barnes, loved animals of all sorts and raised a variety on their hobby farm in northwest Bismarck, near the present-day I-94 interchange. By 1960 their menagerie of "critters" had grown to the point that they decided Bismarck needed a zoo. Today Dakota Zoo is home to over 600 animals representing 125 different species and hosts more than 150,000 visitors each year.

Post World War 2 and Midcentury Growth (1945-1965)

Year Date	Post WWII - present
Event	Harold Schafer & the Gold Seal Co.
Theme(s)	People; Business and Economy; Civics and Culture
Revised Narrative	From his humble roots on a small farm near Stanton, North Dakota in 1912 to his days as a friend of U.S. Presidents and movie stars, Harold Schafer was always known for his work ethic and his love of North Dakota. Harold founded Gold Seal Company in his basement apartment in Bismarck during World War II. By the 1960s and 70s the company produced Glass Wax, Snowy Bleach and Mr. Bubble—each becoming a number-one selling product in its category in the world. Gold Seal employed hundreds of people in Bismarck and across the country. While he was a legendary salesman & promoter, Harold Schafer was at heart a philanthropist. He anonymously put hundreds, if not thousands, of kids through college, paid hospital bills and mortgages of those who could not afford the same, and happily donated land for what would become Bismarck State College. When Gold Seal was sold in the 1980s, Harold devoted his full attention (and significant assets) to the restoration & preservation of Historic Medora and its western culture. Today Medora, and adjacent Theodore Roosevelt National Park, are the most-visited attractions in the State of North Dakota.

Year Date	1962
Event	Northbrook Mall
Theme(s)	Business and Economy; Civics and Culture; Architecture
Revised Narrative	The Northbrook Shopping Center was Bismarck's first fully-enclosed and second overall shopping center (behind Arrowhead Plaza). The grand opening took place in 1963 with anchor stores Tempo and Red Owl grocery.

Year Date	1965
Event	Interstate 94 in Bismarck
Theme(s)	Transportation and Infrastructure
Revised Narrative	State officials formally opened a 15.3-mile segment of Interstate 94 through Bismarck and Mandan in December 1965. About 200 people attended the dedication, which featured Gov. Bill Guy and state Highway Commissioner Walt Hjelle. Earlier that day, the Bismarck Chamber of Commerce presented Hjelle with a trophy for the Transportation Department's "highway building excellence." Mandan and Morton County officials held a dedication ceremony the same day at the northwest Mandan interchange.

Year Date	1964
Event	State Street
Theme(s)	Transportation
Revised Narrative	In 1964, the road that would become known as State Street was graded and asphalted to Calgary Avenue. That same year, interchange ramps were built for I-94, which opened the following year. With the exception of I-94, it is the region's most traveled road, with some stretches topping more than 40,000 vehicles per day, as of 2016.

Year Date	1960-2018
Event	Former Governor's Residence (demolished)

Post World War 2 and Midcentury Growth (1945-1965)

Theme(s)	Government; Architecture
Revised Narrative	In 1960, the State completed a new Governors' Residence at the northeast corner of 4 th Street and Boulevard. Over the next six decades, it would house eight governors and their families. The first First Family to live here was Governor John Davis and First Lady Pauline Davis. They moved out of the first governors' mansion at 4 th Street and E Ave B into the new residence for the remaining nine months of his term on March 18, 1960. In May 2018, the 1960 house was demolished. Governor Doug Burgum and First Lady Kathryn Burgum were the last First family to occupy the mid-century residence, moving into the third and current Governors' Residence just north of the 1960s house, on March 14, 2018.

Year Date	Post WWII - present
Event	John "J.D" Kirschmann/Melroe/Bobcat
Theme(s)	People; Business and Economy; Civics and Culture
Revised Narrative	In the late 1950s, J.D. Kirschmann moved his Dickinson manufacturing facility to Bismarck where it would eventually grow into one of the largest manufacturing businesses in Bismarck, employing hundreds of workers to make "Spray-Coupes," grain drills, and various fertilizer attachments for the agricultural industry. After selling the company to Clark Equipment Company (Melroe Division, now Doosan/Bobcat) in 1972, Kirschmann focused on pure water and nutrition. He self-published the first "Nutrition Almanac" in 1973 and, after the 3rd edition, he licensed the publishing & distribution rights to McGraw-Hill. Millions of copies later, the book is still in circulation and sold world-wide.

Year Date	Post WWII - present
Event	Robert H. Ritterbush/Ritterbush Architects
Theme(s)	People; Business and Economy; Civics and Culture
Revised Narrative	Perhaps no other family has left as tangible a legacy in the city of Bismarck as the Ritterbush family of architects, who began designing area buildings over 100 years ago as Ritterbush & Son architects, contractors, and cabinet makers. In 1920, the second generation of Ritterbush builders, brothers Robert A. and Clarence, formed the partnership Van Horn & Ritterbush with senior architect Arthur Van Horn. By the 1930s the firm had designed most of the structures in downtown Bismarck, including the Municipal Auditorium, the Van Horn Hotel (later called the Prince Hotel), and Bismarck High School. In 1974 Robert H. Ritterbush, Robert A. Ritterbush's son, renamed the firm Ritterbush & Associates. Under his guidance the firm continued to leave a lasting mark on Bismarck's "built" landscape, with commissions including the MedCenter One complex (now Sanford), Basin Electric, Century High School, Bismarck Cancer Center, MDU, and numerous city, state and federal buildings. In 1990 Robert Jr. began the process of selling the practice to employee Dennis Hulsing and former employee William Ellig. Robert Ritterbush Jr. stayed on in an advisory role as he attempted to ease toward retirement.

A Maturing City (1965 – 1999)

Year Date	March 1966
Event	Blizzard
Theme(s)	Geography, Landscape and Nature
Revised Narrative	A blizzard hit the Bismarck-Mandan area on March 2, 1966 and lasted until March 4. A total of 22.4 inches of snow fell. Wind velocity was 52 miles an hour. All businesses closed Thursday and Friday, and city streets were impassable.

Year Date	1966-1968
Event	Job Corps at Fort Lincoln
Theme(s)	Business and Economy
Revised Narrative	From 1966 to 1968, the Job Corps operated the Lewis and Clark Job Corps training center at the former 1895 Fort Lincoln military post south of Bismarck. The center provided educational and vocational programs for corpsmen.

Year Date	July 1 – October, 1968
Event	Peace Corps at Fort Lincoln
Theme(s)	
Revised Narrative	In 1968, the Peace Corps negotiated with the Office of Economic Opportunity to use the former 1895 Fort Lincoln as a training grounds for volunteers preparing for work in Kenya. Trainees came from across the United States to learn skills in land development and agriculture at the Peace Corps' Camp Lewis and Clark.

Year Date	1969 - 2017
Event	Prominent Native Americans – Dr. David Gipp
Theme(s)	People; Business and Economy; Civics and Culture
Revised Narrative	Dr. David Gipp (1946-2020) was an enrolled member of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe who was instrumental in the development of the United Tribes Technical College in Bismarck—of which he was president for over 35 years. In fact, as a founding member of the American Indian Higher Education Consortium, Gipp led the movement to establish and fund tribal colleges across state and the nation. His Lakota name, Wica Kpe Is Nala, translates as Lone Star. A UND graduate, he served in the National Guard and was the youngest delegate and the only Native American to serve in North Dakota's 2nd constitutional convention of 1971. Dr. Gipp earned a national reputation as a master organizational thinker. His lifetime of public service was broad and helped many organizations provide higher education to Native Americans. He was inducted into the North Dakota Native American Hall of Honor at the State Heritage Center in 2017.

Year Date	1971
Event	Missouri Valley YMCA
Theme(s)	• Business and Economy • Civics and Culture • Architecture
Revised Narrative	The Missouri Valley YMCA opened at 1609 N Washington Street on December 15 th , 1971. The 37,000-square-foot building cost an estimated \$655,000 to construct. It boasted a swimming pool, lounge, all-purpose room, kitchenette, teen lounge, and unfinished basement. By 1973, efforts were underway to expand and groundbreaking on an expansion occurred in 1975, doubling the original size, adding a gymnasium, health clubs, craft centers, and meeting rooms.

A Maturing City (1965 – 1999)

	Other notable expansions occurred in 1987 – adding a second pool to its east, a spectator lounge, and 72 additional parking spots; a \$1.5-million two-story childcare center to its south in 2001; and a \$2-million 27,000-square-foot gymnasium and fitness center addition to its northwest in 2008. The organization partnered with Sanford Health to open the 41,000-square-foot Mandan Family Wellness Center in January 2017.
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Year Date	1972
Event	Prominent Native Americans – Dr. Harriet Skye
Theme(s)	People; Business and Economy; Civics and Culture
Revised Narrative	Harriet Skye (1931 – 2018) was a multimedia journalist who worked in print, radio, television, and film. A graduate of New York University film school, she became the first Native American woman to have her own television show. “Indian Country Today”, which first aired in 1972, was a public-affairs show that ran for 11 years on KFYZ-TV in Bismarck and was televised across five states. Skye’s Lakota name, Makhpiya To Win, translates as Blue Skye Woman. She was a Hunkpapa Lakota and member of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe. In addition to her television program, Skye had a career in print media, editing the Standing Rock and UTTC newspapers. She frequently served in key leadership positions on city, state, and national boards that promoted the advancement of Native American people. Dr. Skye was inducted into the North Dakota Native American Hall of Honor in 2016 in recognition of her educational leadership.

Year Date	1976
Event	Heritage Center
Theme(s)	People; Architecture
Revised Narrative	On October 9, 1976, ground was broken for construction of a new building to house the State Historical Society and the State Museum. The Society started out in 1889 as the Ladies Historical Society, founded by a group of local women including Linda Slaughter, who became its first president. In December 1894, the name was changed to the North Dakota Historical Society in an attempt to form a statewide organization. Initially, the Historical Society was housed in the basement of the capitol building. It later moved into the Liberty Memorial Building, which was built in 1924. But as the organization and its mission grew, more space was needed to house a multitude of incoming donations and records. Governor Guy had begun to build momentum in constructing a new building for the State Historical Society during his administration, and Governor Link continued this movement. In 1973, the first funding for the new building was appropriated; more came in 1975. Finally, the new building—known as the Heritage Center—was opened to the public in 1981. This building underwent an expansion to the Archives in 2007, and a second expansion in 2014 that doubled the museum’s gallery space.

Year Date	1976 (A Maturing City, 1965-1999)
Event	Chancellor Square
Theme(s)	Transportation and Infrastructure; Architecture
Revised Narrative	Chancellor Square is an area of downtown Bismarck bounded by 4 th and 6 th Streets and Broadway and Thayer Avenues. It was formally dedicated in 1976 as an urban renewal

A Maturing City (1965 – 1999)

	project—part of a nationwide trend in the 1960s and 1970s toward revitalizing urban areas. The original concept for Chancellor Square included a mini-mall with green space, diagonal on-street parking, climate-controlled skyways linking downtown buildings, a public park surrounding the Depot, and double-decker buses running between downtown and the new Kirkwood Mall. The final project was less ambitious, with the main change being the conversion of parts of 4th and 6th Streets and Broadway and Thayer Avenues to one-ways (a change which was reversed in 2017, bringing back two-way traffic to the area). Diagonal parking was added to the streets, along with new lighting, built-in benches, bumped out curbs and numerous trees and shrubs. Chancellor Square today is home to various events including Urban Harvest and the Annual Downtowners Street Fair.
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Year Date	A Maturing City 1965-1999
Event	Creation of City of Lincoln / Suburb of Bismarck
Theme(s)	People; Architecture
Revised Narrative	The City of Lincoln incorporated in 1977 and acts as a suburb southeast of Bismarck.

Year Date	1976
Event	McQuades Softball Tournament
Theme(s)	Business and Economy; Civics and Culture
Revised Narrative	The first-annual McQuade Softball Tournament was held in summer 1976. The annual charity event is the largest non-profit tournament in the country. It provides a major economic boost to the regional economy. In 1986, the softball diamonds adjacent to the VFW Sports Center and YMCA was renamed to honor Sam McQuade Senior, founder of McQuade Distributing & Bottling – the company that organizes the tournament.

Year Date	1979
Event	Gateway Mall
Theme(s)	Business and Economy
Revised Narrative	Gateway Mall opened in 1979 as an enclosed regional shopping center anchored by stores like Sears, A.W. Lucas, and White Mart. Osco Drug – a junior anchor – was the first store to open. As many of the mall’s original tenants had been previously located downtown, Gateway, along with the larger Kirkwood Plaza, contributed what has been referred to as the downtown commercial exodus. Plans for a shopping center near the US Highway 83/I-94 interchange were first unveiled in 1968. Century Mall, as it was originally going to be called, was developed by Denver-based Century 21 Corp on land owned by the Kavaney family. Gateway Mall and the nearby Kmart, which preceded it by eight years, established a new commercial district along the State Street Corridor, near the US Highway 83/Interstate 94 interchange. Sears, the mall’s last surviving original anchor, closed in April 2018 and its movie theater—once the city’s largest—closed in 2020.

A Maturing City (1965 – 1999)

Year Date	1982
Event	Bismarck Expressway
Theme(s)	Transportation and Infrastructure
Revised Narrative	In 1982, following conversion of Bismarck Avenue to a major four-lane roadway, the Bismarck City Commission changed its name to Bismarck Expressway. “Expressway” was a more fitting title, the city-county planner told the commission.

Year Date	1983
Event	Riverboat on the Missouri
Theme(s)	Business and Economy; Civics and Culture
Revised Narrative	In 1983, the Far West Riverboat began offering heritage tours of the Missouri River Valley. The boat, owned by Missouri Riverboat Co. of Chamberlain, SD, was a replica 19 th Century paddlewheeler named for the historic steamboat piloted by Grant Marsh. The Far West Riverboat replica was replaced in 1990 with the current Lewis & Clark Riverboat—also a major tourist attraction—owned by the Fort Abraham Lincoln Foundation and piloted by C.B. Archambault Marine Services, LLC.

Year Date	1984
Event	Virgil Hill
Theme(s)	List all appropriate themes from the following list: • People • Architecture
Revised Narrative	International Boxing Hall of Fame member Virgil “Quicksilver” Hill grew up in North Dakota. He learned the art of boxing in Grand Forks and continued his education in Williston, boxing as an amateur and a professional around the state and country. In 1984, Hill won a silver medal boxing at the Summer Olympics in Los Angeles, California. Hill visited Bismarck numerous times, and participated in multiple boxing bouts defending his title—which he never lost. In 2015, Hill ended his boxing career, winning a final fight against Jimmy Campbell by technical knockout at the Bismarck Event Center.

Year Date	1989
Event	State Centennial Celebration
Theme(s)	Civics and Culture

Year Date	April 1997
Event	Blizzard Hannah
Theme(s)	Geography, Landscape and Nature
Revised Narrative	Blizzard Hannah was one of a series of eight blizzards that hit North Dakota in April, 1997. Classified as a level 5 blizzard, the storm dropped tons of snow and eventually lead to devastating flooding events in the eastern portion of the state later that spring.

Bismarck Today (1999 to Present)

Year Date	2004
Event	<i>Pinehurst Square</i>
Theme(s)	<i>Business and Economy</i>
Revised Narrative	Pinehurst Square is an outdoor “power mall” located in northwest Bismarck anchored by several national big box stores that also contains many restaurants and smaller retailers. Constructed in several phases, beginning in 2004, Pinehurst Square officially opened in 2006. It was the largest single development since Kirkwood Mall 35 years earlier. Kohl’s and Lowe’s were the first anchors attached to the project. Other major tenants include Best Buy and Petsmart.

Year Date	2007
Event	Guinness World Record for Snow Angels
Theme(s)	Civics and Culture
Revised Narrative	On February 17, 2007, North Dakota made the Guinness Book of World Records for the most snow angels made simultaneously in one place. The record-setting event took place in Bismarck with thousands of participants making a total of 8,962 snow angels on the Capitol Mall.

Year Date	2008
Event	Bank of North Dakota Building
Theme(s)	Government; Business and Economy; Architecture
Revised Narrative	Bismarck is home to the Bank of North Dakota, the nation’s only state-owned bank. The bank was established by the legislature in 1919 when the Non-Partisan League dominated state politics and advanced a Progressive Era agenda. For many years, the Bank of North Dakota was located in the former Missouri Valley Motors building on the northeast corner of Main Avenue and Seventh Street. In 2008, the Bank of North Dakota relocated to a new building on Memorial Highway, featuring a bowed west front facing the river, meant to resemble the keel of a boat.

Year Date	2009
Event	Flood
Theme(s)	Geography, Landscape and Nature
Revised Narrative	Once the Garrison Dam was completed, the Bismarck-Mandan area seemed to be protected from flooding from the Missouri River. That changed in March 2009 when an ice jam formed and flooded several neighborhoods in south Bismarck.

Year Date	March 30, 2009
Event	Northern Plains National Heritage Area designation
Theme(s)	Civics and Culture, Landscape and Nature
Narrative	On March 30, 2009 Congress designated the Northern Plains National Heritage Area, headquartered in Bismarck to promote heritage tourism and economic development. The designation recognizes the region's unique history, culture, and natural beauty that flows from the Missouri River.

Bismarck Today (1999 to Present)

Year Date	2011
Event	Flood
Theme(s)	Geography, Landscape and Nature
Revised Narrative	Above average precipitation in the upper Missouri Basin in 2010-2011 led to soil saturation and major runoff, causing flooding along the Missouri River. For the first time in history, on June 1, 2011, the spillway gates at the Garrison Dam were opened to release floodwater. On July 1, the Missouri River peaked at 19.23 feet in Bismarck. The Missouri River was above flood stage for 78 days. Levee construction efforts in Bismarck began May 23. An estimated 11 million sandbags were filled and placed in Bismarck and Burleigh County. About three million were placed in Mandan and rural Morton County. Fargo, Cass County, and Grand Forks donated sandbag-filling spider machines. Cavalier County and North Dakota's Department of Emergency Services donated Mega Baggers. Some filled sandbags were also sent to Bismarck-Mandan via truck. Most houses within the city limits of Bismarck or Mandan managed to escape damage from floodwater, but many homes outside of the city were impacted.

Year Date	2008 (Bismarck Today 1999-Present)
Event	New Liberty Memorial Bridge
Theme(s)	Transportation and Infrastructure
Revised Narrative	In 2006, construction began on a new Liberty Memorial Bridge, which was completed and dedicated in 2008. The structure replaced the original Liberty Memorial Bridge which had been completed in 1922 and was dedicated in honor of North Dakota's World War I veterans. It was the first vehicular bridge between Bismarck and Mandan and carried traffic between the two cities until it was demolished in 2008. The pedestrian walkway on the south side of the new bridge includes five overlooks as a tribute to each branch of the military: Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines and Coast Guard. Public plazas and parks were constructed on each side of the river, which include parts of the truss of the old bridge and interpretive panels detailing the history of the original bridge.

Year Date	2014 (Bismarck Today 1999-Present)
Event	Municipal Ballpark
Theme(s)	Civics and Culture
Revised Narrative	Baseball has been played at what is now the intersection of Washington Street and Front Avenue for at least 100 years. The original municipal ballpark was built on that site in 1921. When Front Avenue and Washington Street were realigned in 1992, the original ballpark was destroyed and a new ballpark was built on the site. In 2014, the Municipal Ballpark underwent major renovations, mostly funded through private donations. A grandstand with stadium seats was built behind home plate, along with a new press box, concessions area, restrooms, dugouts and practice/warm-up

Bismarck Today (1999 to Present)

	facilities. The ballpark includes interpretive signs that tell the rich history of baseball in Bismarck. The ballpark now holds about 1,900 fans.
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Year Date	2014
Event	125 Year Celebration - Quasquicentennial
Theme(s)	People; Architecture
Revised Narrative	The year 2014 marked 125 years of statehood for North Dakota. An early celebration was held in April, which saw various speeches and musical talent on the capitol grounds. On the anniversary date, the newly-expanded Heritage Center opened its doors and hosted a celebration.

Year Date	Present
Event	Semi-Pro Sports
Theme(s)	Civics and Culture
Revised Narrative	Bismarck has been home to numerous semi-pro sports teams over the years. Current teams include the Bismarck Larks baseball team, part of the Northwoods League, the Bismarck Bobcats, a Tier II junior ice hockey team of the North American Hockey League, and the Bismarck Bucks, part of the Indoor Football League. Bismarck was home to the Dakota Wizards basketball team from 1995 to 2012. The Wizards were part of the International Basketball Association, then the Continental Basketball Association, and finally the NBA Development League. The team relocated to Santa Cruz in 2012.

Year Date	2015-present
Event	Carson Wentz
Theme(s)	People
Revised Narrative	Carson Wentz, born 1992, is a 2011 Century High graduate and former North Dakota State football quarterback. He was the No. 2 overall pick in the 2016 NFL draft, chosen by the Philadelphia Eagles. He was traded to the Indianapolis Colts in 2021.

Year Date	2017/2018
Event	Cara Mund
Theme(s)	People
Revised Narrative	On September 10, 2017, Cara Mund—a 2012 graduate from Century High School—became the first woman from North Dakota to be awarded the title of Miss America. She served as Miss America 2018. During her time as Miss America, the program was going through turbulent times. Mund later publicly criticized the Miss America Organization with regards to bullying and marginalization in a letter that made headlines and resulted in leadership change. Mund became the first and only Miss America to judge the Miss Universe competition and has been inducted into the North Dakota Bluebook's Notable North Dakotans.



MEMORANDUM

2022 CLG Conference Planning

TO: Chair Sakariassen and Historic Preservation Commission

FROM: Will Hutchings, AICP, Senior Planner

DATE: March 11, 2022

The City of Bismarck and the Bismarck Historic Preservation Commission have been identified as the entity to host the 2022 Annual North Dakota Certified Local Government (CLG) Conference. The host community for this annual conference has traditionally cycled between each of the North Dakota CLGs. Last year's event was held exclusively online due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This will be the City of Bismarck's first time hosting the conference as well as a return to an in-person conference meeting with additional options for partial of full remote attendance.

Bismarck is also celebrating its sesquicentennial (150-year anniversary) in 2022. It is the goal of the City of Bismarck, the Historic Preservation Commission and a stakeholder committee for Bismarck's 150th Celebration that events, such as this, will be co-branded and cross promote the celebration of the city's milestone. The conference will focus on sessions specific to the sesquicentennial, as well as other programs, speakers and sessions that help elevate conversations about the value and importance of historic preservation.

The conference will be free to any staff or local city elected/appointed commissioner of a CLG as well as those from the State Historic Preservation Office and State Historical Society of North Dakota. Registration will include free snacks and lunch for participants. Additional expenses may include procurement and booking of an adequately sized venue, keynote presentation speaker fees, online conference participation platform fees, print material, and other miscellaneous conference related expenses.

Staff is seeking feedback on potential dates, venues, speakers, topics, and a possible liaison from the Historic Preservation Commission to assist staff and the North Dakota State Historic Preservation Office with planning for this event.

Staff Recommended Action

Provide staff guidance on the wishes of the Commission for this effort and consider appointing a liaison to assist with planning activities.



**BISMARCK HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
February 16, 2022**

The Bismarck Historic Preservation Commission met on February 16, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. in the Tom Baker Meeting Room in the City-County Office Building, 221 North 5th Street. The meeting was held in person and via Zoom. Chair Sakariassen presided.

Commissioners present were Walt Bailey, Blake Dinkins, Calvin Grinnell, Tory Jackson, Beth Nodland and Amy Sakariassen.

Commissioner Steve Bakken was not present.

Staff members present were Sandra Bogaczyk – Office Assistant II, Kim Lee – Planning Manager, Ben Ehreth – Community Development Director, Stephanie Pretzer – Assistant City Attorney and Will Hutchings – Senior Planner.

Others present were Rebekah Schields and Jennie Lee - Metcalf Archeological Consultants, Inc.

MINUTES

Chair Sakariassen called for consideration of the minutes of the January 19, 2022 meeting of the Historic Preservation Commission.

MOTION: A motion was made by Commissioner Jackson to approve the minutes of the January 19, 2022 meeting of the Historic Preservation Commission, as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Nodland and with Commissioners Bailey, Dinkins, Grinnell, Jackson, Nodland and Chair Sakariassen voting in favor of the motion, the motion was approved.

PRESENTATION AND PUBLIC COMMENT ON HIGHLAND ACRES HISTORIC DISTRICT NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES NOMINATION

Mr. Hutchings welcomed members of the public and recognized that Bismarck's 150th sesquicentennial celebration happening throughout 2022 coincides with the Historic Preservation Commission welcoming a designated historic district into the City. He referenced the memoranda included in the meeting packet summarizing the people, buildings and history involved with the Highland Acres Historic District National Register of Historic Places Nomination and asked for public comment. He noted funding sources, along with a list of scheduled and advertised public information hearings that have taken place. He specified several future dates for the next steps towards obtaining a determination on designation by the National Park Service – all contained in the packet memorandum.

Mr. Hutchings noted the historical significance and integrity of the neighborhood's distinctive characteristics. He mentioned that any property owner who did not wish to be included in the designation must follow a process to list their objections with the deadline of May 15, 2022 for those comments to be received.

Mr. Hutchings named some common misconceptions about being included in a Historic District and provided the correct information.

At this time Chair Sakariassen recognized Ms. Schields from Metcalf Archeological Consulting, Inc. to speak. Ms. Schields provided an overview presentation of the draft nomination. She spoke about the history of the development of Highland Acres, the relationship between its creation and national events, social and financial characteristics, a description of the neighborhood and how it meets the criteria to list on the National Register of Historic Places.

Chair Sakariassen asked if there were any public comments. Written comments provided to the Historic Preservation Commission are shown as Exhibit A.

Mr. Richard C. Thronset of 1249 West Coulee Road stated that he lived in Highland Acres for twenty years and commented on the beauty of place and people. He stated that he supports the designation.

Mr. Daniel Neff of 1204 Prospect Place thanked the Historic Preservation Commission and Metcalf Archeological Consultants, Inc. and stated that although he is a new resident he shares the opinion that the neighborhood is beautiful. He stated that although he does not oppose the designation he has concerns about tax credits, the possibility of commercial uses such as student housing from Bismarck State College encroaching, specificity about building new structures, future costs including special assessments, including sidewalks, and anything young families might need to know about.

Chair Sakariassen stated that any questions about sidewalks are to be directed to the Engineering Department and do not pertain to the request for historic designation. She stated that any future building in the city is between a property owner and the Community Development Department. She stated that unless the neighborhood decided to create covenants that the current zoning regulations will not change and any covenants would be enforced by the homeowners association, not the City. Mr. Hutchings stated that the neighborhood is entirely zoned R5 – Residential and P-Public where no commercial ventures are allowed and density is regulated by the City.

Mr. Neff asked if the designation would affect property values. Chair Sakariassen stated that if well-kempt designations often positively affect historically designated areas and incentivize home owners to take care of their property.

Mr. Neff asked if any financial burdens might be incurred. Chair Sakariassen stated that she cannot think of any application.

Ms. Nodland stated that the plaques in the Cathedral District were paid for by the City, not homeowners, as mitigation for the widening of Washington Street.

Mr. Kyle Lark stated that he is a resident of Highland Acres and asked who would be the governing body to approve designs, according to ordinance. Mr. Hutchings stated that prior to any ordinance being created a public hearing would be scheduled and if any preservation review were to be requested typically Historic Preservation Commissions would be requested to give an opinion. He stated that there are no plans to create a historic design review ordinance and noted that there is one other residential historic district which has

been functioning without a preservation ordinance for decades. Mr. Hutchings stated that currently 50% of residents would have to request an ordinance change to create a process for historic design review and then hold a public hearing but neither the City, nor any residents, have shown any interest in creating one.

Mr. Lark stated that if the City wanted to create an ordinance he asked what the process would be. Mr. Ehreth stated that the City is not proposing any overlay district and so a body is not designated for such a process. Mr. Lark stated that he would like to know what that process would look like. He also voiced his concern that if property values would increase as suggested that younger families might be priced out of a neighborhood and has seen such neighborhoods become derelict due to the aging of the community.

Chair Sakariassen stated that she felt it unlikely that Bismarck residents and government would create covenants or a design overlay district that would impose strict ordinance creating the affect Mr. Lark predicted. She stated that the City and Historic Preservation Commission are like-minded in their opinion that home owners have the right to buy into a neighborhood with covenants and petition for covenants but they are not going to initiate any change. Chair Sakariassen stated as a home owner in a historic neighborhood she does not foresee Bismarck implementing future design review and she hopes her experience eases any apprehension of being listed on the National Historic Register.

There being no further public input Chair Sakariassen closed the public meeting and thanked Metcalf for their presentation and all the great questions the public brought forward.

MOTION: A motion was made by Commissioner Jackson to approve the National Register of Historic Places nomination as outlined. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bailey and with Commissioners Bailey, Dinkins, Grinnell, Jackson, Nodland and Chair Sakariassen voting in favor of the motion, the motion was approved.

OTHER BUSINESS

150TH BISMARCK BIRTHDAY (SESQUICENTENNIAL) ONLINE RESOURCES

Mr. Hutchings stated that the Historic Walking Maps should be ready for distribution this summer and stated how exciting it will be to see the final copies. The Cathedral District Map is 60% complete and the final revision will be presented at the March meeting.

The 2022 Historic Preservation Fund grant has been approved by the City Commission and submitted.

Chair Sakariassen described her experience at the most recent meeting in preparation for the 150th birthday celebration.

Mr. Hutchings stated that the City has created a web page for all things sesquicentennial found on the city website at <https://bismarcknd.gov/bismarck150>. He exhibited the site which describes city events, lists branding guidelines for using the approved event logo, a list of ideas for businesses to promote their establishment and suggests marketing uses.

Mr. Jackson stated that he is working on the historic timeline which has become of interest to some groups in incorporating it into city anniversary events. He predicts it being completed in time to disseminate to the public for use and stated that Mr. Dinkins is doing a great job on the design and as such it has received a lot of interest and many suggested creative ways to use it.

Chair Sakariassen thanked everyone for all their efforts.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chair Sakariassen declared the meeting of the Bismarck Historic Preservation Commission adjourned at 6:45 p.m. to meet again on March 16, 2022 at 3:00 p.m. in the Tom Baker Meeting Room.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sandra Bogaczyk
Recording Secretary

APPROVED:

Amy Sakariassen, Chair

Sandra Bogaczyk

From: William Hutchings
Sent: Monday, February 14, 2022 4:54 PM
To: Sandra Bogaczyk
Subject: FW: Draft - Highland Acres Historic District

-----Original Message-----

From: Bruce Whittey
Sent: Monday, February 14, 2022 11:01 AM
To: William Hutchings <whutchings@bismarcknd.gov>
Cc: Amy Sakariassen
Subject: Draft - Highland Acres Historic District

CAUTION: ***External Email - Use caution clicking links or opening attachments***

Will, as I will be unable to attend the meeting this February 16th I wanted to share a couple of observations on the draft that will be submitted to the State in consideration for the nomination of the Highland Acres Historic District.

On page 14 of section 8, a reference is made to G. Wright and then reference to Wright's "American Dream". It is my opinion the we have gone down a rabbit hole here that has little to do in support of the application. Enough is said that the covenants were not exclusionary as to race. The goal of the City and the development as well the codes and covenants supported single family homes. Single family homes no matter the size, the lot, or the finishes are exclusionary by nature. To mix it up with race has little value to me in this application.

On page 3 of section 7, there is made mention that in 2018 the City postponed their "sidewalk gap" project. There is also mention further in the following paragraph as to the sidewalks not "impeding" the National Registry application. My hope is that we could continue the narrative as in the Preliminary Report last fall that sidewalks or the lack of sidewalks are a characteristic feature and leave it at that. Like many historic projects which were initiated due to a conflict, I wouldn't like to see this conflict memorialized in the application.

Finally, I want to again thank the Bismarck Historic Preservation Commission and it's staff for the willingness and determination to see this through. It has been a long road and as a first project a great challenge. Highland Acres is a tremendous neighborhood and worthy of this recognition.

Bruce Whittey