

PUBLIC NOTICE
**Regarding the National Endowment for the Humanities' Section 106 Review of
the Heritage Museum Roof Replacement Project**

The National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) has offered Museum, Inc. in Libby, Montana, an Infrastructure and Capacity Building grant (CHA-286663) to replace the roof of the Heritage Museum.

NEH is an independent grant-making agency of the United States government dedicated to supporting research, education, preservation, and public programs in the humanities. This public notice is issued as part of NEH's responsibilities under 36 C.F.R. Part 800, the regulations which implement Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966, as amended, 54 U.S.C. 306108. NEH, a funding agency, is required by regulation to identify and assess the effects of any proposed actions on historic properties. If any proposed action will have an adverse effect on historic resources, NEH works with the appropriate parties to seek ways to avoid, minimize, or mitigate any adverse effects. Additionally, the Section 106 regulations require NEH to consider the views of the public on preservation issues when making final decisions that affect historic properties.

The Heritage Museum located at 34067 US 2, Libby Montana, 59923-0628, is a historic property listed on the National Register of Historic Places (reference #100005148). It is a unique dodecagonal (12-sided) log building constructed in 1976 by volunteers. The Museum building was conceived by Doug Porter, upon the death of his father, western landscape painter Roy D. Porter, in 1971. Doug wanted to fulfill his father's dream of a Museum in Libby and needed a place to house his father's paintings and extensive collection of 1800-1900's historical artifacts. The local community's extensive involvement in the construction and maintenance of the building is one of the contributing factors to the buildings listing.

The proposed undertaking involves replacement of the leaking Heritage Museum roof. Work includes the replacement of rotted wooden roof framework down to the tongue and groove board. The applicant indicates that the new roof will look nearly exactly like the existing roof, with the addition of small vent holes under the eaves and on the top half of the ridge cap, and foam insulation (to prevent condensation from forming).

On March 30, 2022, Laura Evilsizer, M.A., the Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer, concurred with NEH's determination that the undertaking will have no adverse effect on the historic property. Should the scope of the project change and/or historic property concerns are identified, the MT SHPO will be notified, and revised plans will be provided for review and comment.

As required by Section 106, NEH is providing the public with information about this project, as well as an opportunity to comment on any knowledge of, or concerns with, historic properties in the proposed project area, and issues relating to the project's potential effects on historic properties. Comments may be submitted to the NEH by e-mail to FPO@neh.gov. The deadline for submitting comments is **April 19, 2022**.