



HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION MEETING

City Council Chambers, 33 East Broadway Avenue Meridian, Idaho

Thursday, February 24, 2022 at 4:30 PM

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Agenda

VIRTUAL MEETING INSTRUCTIONS

To join the meeting online: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83416860817>

Or join by phone: 1-669-900-6833

Webinar ID:834 1686 0817

ROLL-CALL ATTENDANCE

<input type="checkbox"/> Blaine Johnston, President	<input type="checkbox"/> Pam Jagosh
<input type="checkbox"/> Tyler J. Ricks	<input type="checkbox"/> Destinie Hart
<input type="checkbox"/> John Dinger	<input type="checkbox"/> Jody Ault
<input type="checkbox"/> Jack Keller	

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

APPROVAL OF MINUTES [ACTION ITEM]

- [1.](#) Approve Minutes from January 27, 2022

APPROVAL OF MONTHLY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS [ACTION ITEM]

- [2.](#) Approve Monthly Financial Statement

NEW BUSINESS [ACTION ITEMS]

- [3.](#) Welcome New Commissioners: John Dinger and Pam Jagosh
- [4.](#) Presentation by Karen Brewer about Ridenbaugh Canal for Consideration in the Meridian Historical Virtual Tour
- [5.](#) Discuss: Planning for May 2022 Preservation Month Activities
- [6.](#) Discuss Next Steps for Meridian Library District's Request for Rehoming Objects from Historical Society Collection: Assign Volunteers to Subcommittee Meeting

REPORTS

7. Update: Meridian Speedway Nomination to the National Registry of Historic Places
8. Update: FY2022 Grant Notification from State Historic Preservation Office

NEXT MEETING: MARCH 24, 2022

ADJOURNMENT



HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION MEETING

City Council Chambers, 33 East Broadway Avenue Meridian, Idaho

Thursday, January 27, 2022 at 4:30 PM

MINUTES

VIRTUAL MEETING INSTRUCTIONS

To join the meeting online: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86747743729>

Or join by phone: 1-669-900-6833

Webinar ID: 867 4774 3729

ROLL-CALL ATTENDANCE

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Blaine Johnston, President | <input type="checkbox"/> Vacant |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tyler J. Ricks | <input type="checkbox"/> Destinie Hart |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Vacant | <input type="checkbox"/> Jody Ault |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> John Keller | |

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

T. Ricks made motion to adopt agenda, seconded by J. Keller

All ayes

APPROVAL OF MINUTES [ACTION ITEM]

1. Approve Minutes from December 02, 2021

T. Ricks made motion to approve minutes, seconded by J. Keller

All ayes

APPROVAL OF MONTHLY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS [ACTION ITEM]

2. Approve Monthly Financial Statement

T. Ricks made motion to approve the monthly financial statements, seconded by J. Keller

All ayes

NEW BUSINESS [ACTION ITEMS]**3. 2022 Historic Preservation Commission President and Vice President Elections**

B. Johnston noted per City Code the Commission needs to elect a President and a Vice President for 2022 and he opened the floor for nominations.

T. Ricks made motion to nominate B. Johnston for the position of Commission President, seconded by J. Keller. The motion was passed with all ayes.

B. Johnston made motion to nominate D. Hart for the position of Commission Vice President, seconded by T. Ricks. The motion was passed with all ayes.

4. Welcome New Arts and Culture Coordinator, Cassandra Schiffler

B. Johnston welcomed the City's new Arts & Culture Coordinator, C. Schiffler.

C. Schiffler introduced herself as a third generation Idahoan who attended the College of Idaho and has a degree in English and Art and 36 credits toward a Masters in Fine Art from Boise State. C. Schiffler noted that most recently she had a personal property appraisal business in fine art but has left this to work for the City of Meridian.

5. Request for Help from Meridian Library District in Deaccessioning Objects from Historical Society Collection

Presentation given by J. Su, District Support Services Manager for the Meridian Library and N. Grove, Manager of the unBound Branch of the Meridian Library.

J. Su stated his department oversees the deaccession and cataloguing of the Historical Center's collection in to the care of the Meridian Library.

N. Grove stated he is helping with different pieces of the History Center project and will be the incoming Assistant Director at the Library.

B. Johnston requested clarification from J. Su and N. Grove as to what exactly they are requesting from the Historic Preservation Committee.

J. Su stated that the request is two-part:

- Helping rehome items the Library has determined they have no use for, such as "Traveler" the paper mâché horse (see attached list of items)
- Consider providing a small stipend (\$400/month) to help the Meridian Library cover the cost of archival materials

B. Johnston asked B. Nary if L. Hill should be contacted for input on the list of items to deaccession.

N. Grove confirmed the Library has been in contact and working closely with L. Hill who has given permission to donate items that came from her family.

B. Nary asked if L. Hill had provided any ideas about organizations or entities where these items might re-homed. B. Nary suggested creating a sub-group consisting of someone from the Library District, C. Schiffler, someone from the Mayor's Office, someone from the Historic Preservation Committee, and himself to come up with ideas on how to communicate these items' availability to the public.

B. Nary also stated needed communication with the City's Parks and Recreation Department because there may be a desire for some of these items to be displayed in a future Community Center.

C. Schiffler stated that if the Commission thinks it is appropriate, the Commission's social media could be used to help re-home items.

T. Ricks stated he didn't see an issue using the Commission's social media to assist in the re-homing of items.

N. Grove stated that ideally the items would stay in Meridian but entities outside Meridian could be contacted.

N. Grove stated that if items are moved to storage prior to re-homing, the right preservation environment must be in place. N. Grove noted that in order to properly preserve items that are currently in City Hall basement storage more room is needed so it is not ideal to store additional items down in the basement storage area.

B. Nary confirmed that in the past the Commission has partnered with the Historical Society to provide archival supplies.

B. Johnston stated the Commission will need to review the budget to determine what funds might be able to assist in this process.

J. Su stated that Library intends to be the main point of contact for moving re-homed items and intends to try to avoid any additional costs to the City or the Library.

B. Johnston requested that B. Nary and/or C. Schiffler set up a sub-committee meeting with those identified by B. Nary to further discuss the list of items needing to be re-homed.

REPORTS [ACTION ITEM]

6. Update: Meridian Speedway Nomination to the National Registry of Historic Places

B. Johnston stated he reached out to TAG Historical Research (TAG) for an update and they had to reformat the original survey report to meet the nomination form standards and add some additional information requested by the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). B. Johnston outlined the remainder of the nomination process:

- TAG will send updated nomination to SHPO and will provide a copy to the Commission
- SHPO will review draft and suggest any edits, if needed
- SHPO will send finalized draft to the Idaho Historic Site Survey Review Board for review at their June Board Meeting
- Upon approval, the Idaho Historic Site Survey Review Board will send the nomination to the National Parks Service for review
- The National Parks Services will review and make final decision in October
- Nominations are officially approved in November

7. Update: Social Media Content

B. Johnston thanked T. Ricks for his work on the Commission's social media campaign and requested that Commission members like and share posted content.

B. Johnston stated that May is Preservation Month so the Commission will need to do a concentrated effort for this and encouraged Commission members to continue to send social media post ideas and suggestions to C. Schiffler, himself and/or T. Ricks.

8. Update on Commissioner Member Statuses, Resignations, Open Seats, Interviews

B. Johnston stated that Commissioner J. Evarts and Commissioner D. Lusignan have resigned their seats but there are two candidates that both the Mayor and B. Johnston like so pending City Council approval in February, these candidates will be new Commissioners at February Commission meeting.

FUTURE MEETING TOPICS / DISCUSSION

9. Planning: May 2022 Preservation Month Activities

B. Johnston confirmed with SHPO their theme this year is celebrating the 150th Anniversary of the passage of the 1872 Mining Act and construction of the U.S. Assay Office in Boise. B. Johnston stated that C. Schiffler suggested maybe having an outdoor mining demonstration in City Hall Plaza.

NEXT MEETING: February 24, 2022

ADJOURNMENT

T. Ricks made motion to adjourn, seconded by J. Keller

All ayes

CITY of MERIDIAN

FY2022 (10/1/2021 thru 9/30/2022)

Budget for Historic Preservation & Historical Society

As of: 2/14/2022

Acct#	AGENCY / VENDOR	Effective Date	DESCRIPTION	FY2022 BUDGET	FY2022 REVENUES	FY2022 EXPENDITURES	Available Budget
01-1840-53801-11160	Budget	10/1/2021	Budget for misc	\$ 300.00			
Historical Society				\$ 300.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 300.00

Acct#	AGENCY / VENDOR	Effective Date	DESCRIPTION	FY2022 BUDGET	FY2022 REVENUES	FY2022 EXPENDITURES	Available Budget
01-1840-53801-11152	Budget	10/1/2021	Budget for Training	\$ 1,000.00		\$ 105.00	\$ 895.00
01-1840-53801-11153	Budget	10/1/2021	Budget for Supplies	\$ -			\$ -
01-1840-53801-11154	Budget	10/1/2021	Budget for Memberships	\$ 420.00		\$ 250.00	\$ 170.00
01-1840-53801-11155	Budget	10/1/2021	Budget for Printing/Promotional	\$ 1,200.00			\$ 1,200.00
01-1840-53801-11156	Budget	10/1/2021	Budget for Continuing Education Program	\$ 700.00			\$ 700.00
01-1840-53801-11157	Budget	10/1/2021	Budget for Historic Walking Tour App Maintenance	\$ 1,000.00			\$ 1,000.00
01-1840-53801-11158	Budget	10/1/2021	Budget for Student Initiative	\$ 150.00			\$ 150.00
01-1840-53801-11159	Budget	10/1/2021	Budget for Consulting/Photography Services	\$ 10,230.00	\$ 2,700.00	\$ 3,453.75	\$ 9,476.25
Historic Preservation				\$ 14,700.00	\$ 2,700.00	\$ 3,808.75	\$ 13,591.25
TOTALS				\$ 15,000.00	\$ 2,700.00	\$ 3,808.75	\$ 13,891.25

GL balance 2/14/22

for expenses check MIP/Reports/PostedTransactions/Historical Detail account #01-1840-53801 - populate Fyxx Expense tab
 for revenue check MIP/Reports/PostedTransactions/Historical Detail account #01-1840-34881 (shared acct with MAC) - populate Fyxx Rev tab
 Refresh Pivot table; verify accurately reflected in FY2021 tab
 After review of accurate reporting; email copy of file to Arts Culture Specialist: Audrey Belknap & Rachel Myers

City budget for both Society & Preservation in #53801
 Expenses to be approved by Arts Culture Specialist/ Bill Nary

G/L Code	Project Code	Session ID	Name	Effective Date	Transaction Description	Credit	Debit
34881	01	1840	11159	12/21/2021	ID State Historical Society: AR# 2851, Meridian Speedway Historian research, EFT	CR22-000319	2,700.00

for revenue check MIP/Reports/PostedTransactions/Historical Detail account #01-1840-34881 (shared acct with MAC) - populate Fyxx Rev tab
Refresh Pivot table; verify accurately reflected in FY2020 tab
After review of accurate reporting; email copy of file to Arts Culture Specialist: Audrey Belknap & Rachel Myers

Meridian's Agricultural Heritage Ridenbaugh

Virtual Historic Tour

Ridenbaugh – Construction History

- Begins at Barber Park . The water comes directly from the Boise River. Ends at Lake Lowell.
- 1877: Construction begins. William Morris completed 7 miles. Referred to as the South Boise Canal or Morris Canal.
- 1878: William Ridenbaugh inherits. Sells in 1883 due to lack of funds to continue the project.
- Several owners until 1890 when Boise City and Nampa Irrigation, Land and Lumber Company bought it and continued the project.
- 1893: Canal was complete to Nampa.

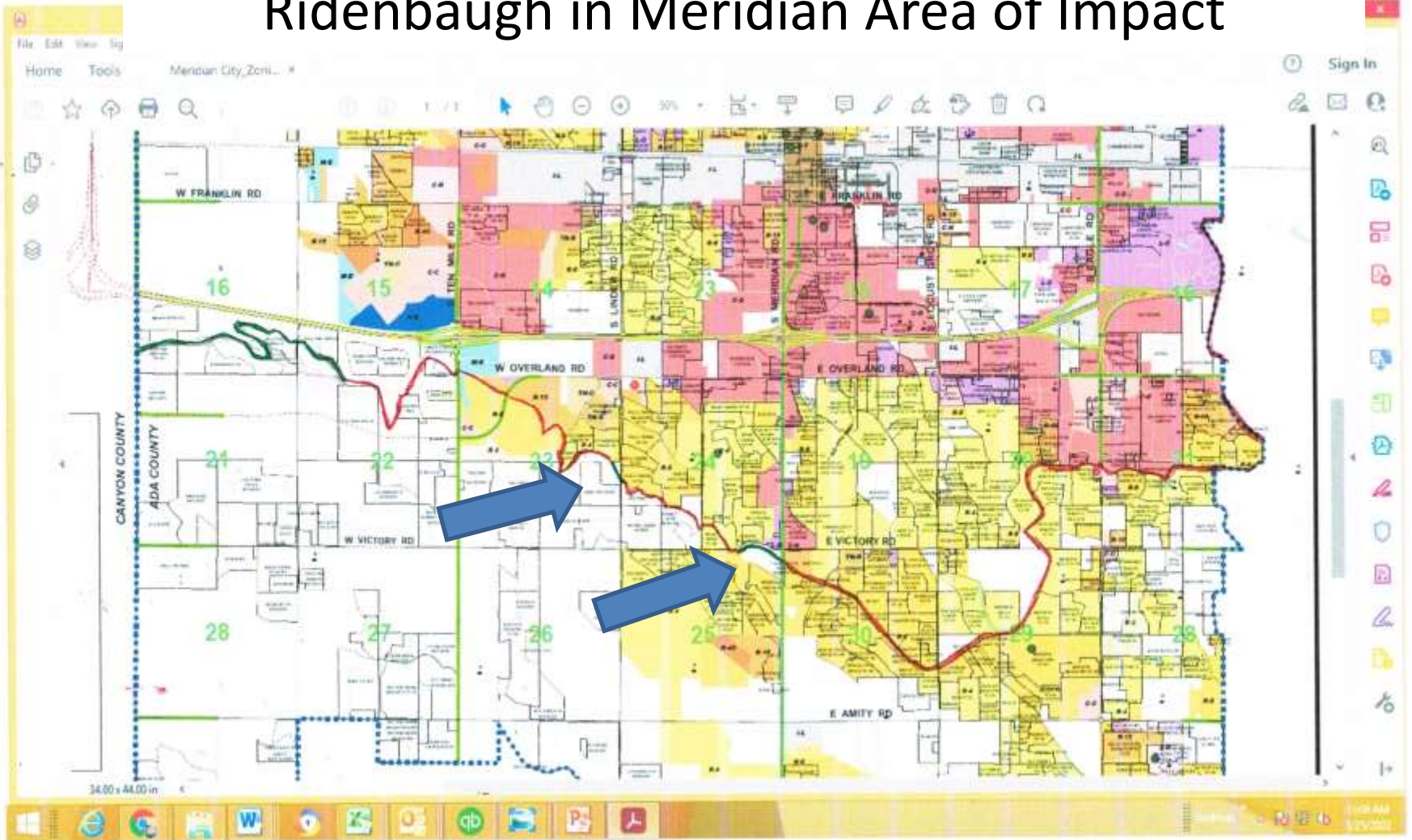
Why is Ridenbaugh Important to Meridian

- Settlers filing for land in Meridian area could, under the Homestead Act of 1862, file for 'Desert Land' at \$.25 acre. Desert Land was "Ground that would not, without irrigation, produce any kind of crop". Claimant must have water to the land within 3 years.
- 1886: "Owing to a failure to get water from the Ridenbaugh ditch this season none of the settlers west of Gress' place (corner of Fairview & Eagle) raised anything that amounted to much.
"Few of them have enough to keep body & soul together by shooting jackrabbits for the bounty offered by the county. " " We can scarcely comprehend how dry the valley was in the days before irrigation. With no moisture in the air, there was not even morning dew."
- After water became available, settlers poured into the area bringing sheep and cattle via the railroad . Most land was claimed by 1900. By 1902, Meridian was home to the dairy and fruit drying industries.



Above, workers use horses and primitive implements to dig ditches for the first irrigation system in the area. Clysta Gray said, "Water came to Meridian for irrigation via the Settlers' Ditch, and by way of the Ridenbaugh," both in the 1890s. The first water for irrigation was via sloughs and consisted mostly of water from the McPinnock heads, first owned by a man named Rossi. The first

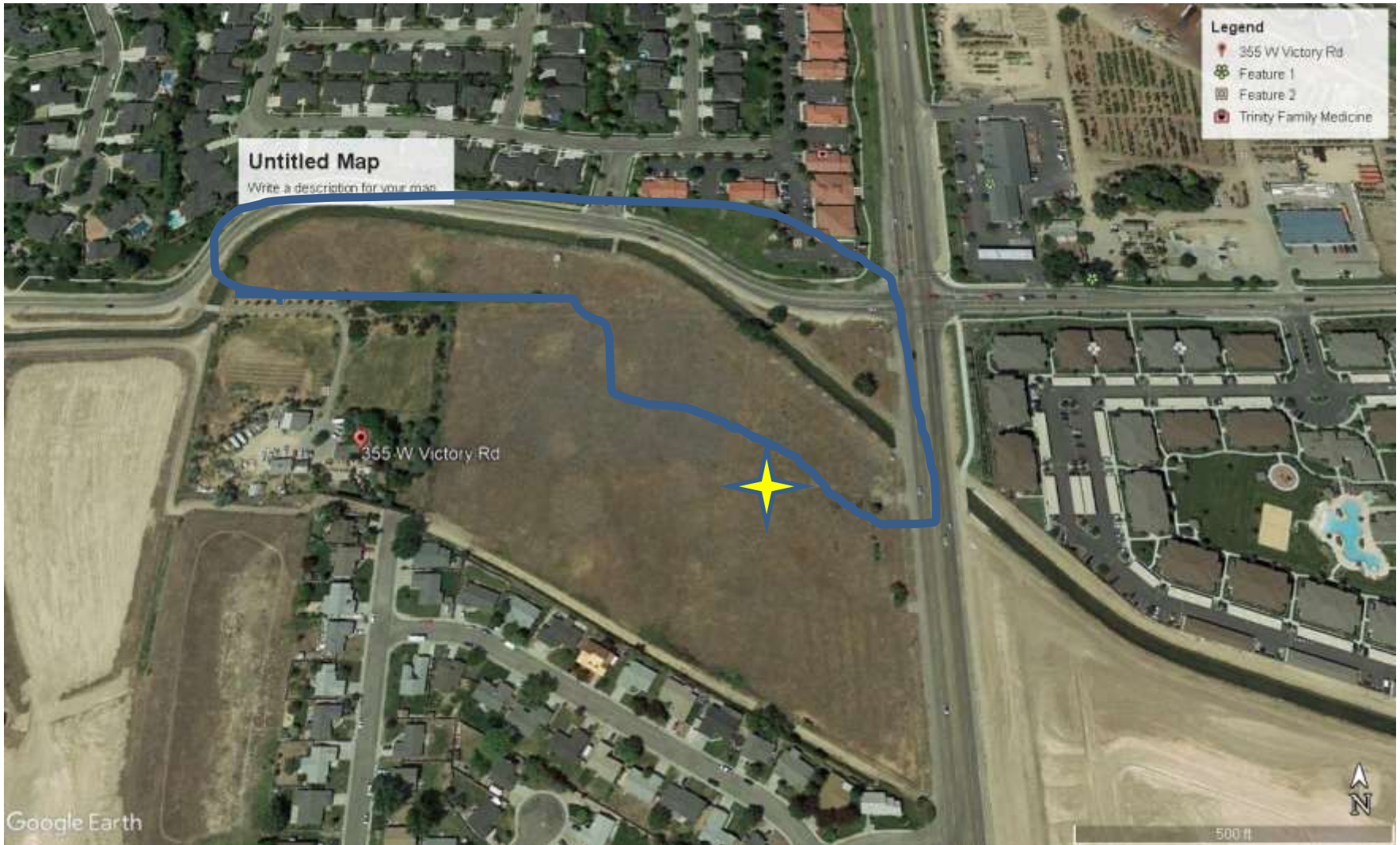
Ridenbaugh in Meridian Area of Impact



← Only remaining natural sections of Ridenbaugh

Section to Include in Historical Tour

Item 4.



From Idaho Historic Sites Inventory
Meridian Area of Impact
O.Haga / Doris Frost Farmstead #01-19811



Original Ridenbaugh – Natural State

Ridenbaugh Last Summer



Item 4.

Why Include in Historical Tour

- Ridenbaugh is one of the most important, if not the most important, part of Meridian's agricultural heritage.
- Unique section of Ridenbaugh remains as originally constructed.
- This is the only natural section still visible to people walking or driving.
- Used as a 'stop over' area for migrating and nesting birds. Large number of birds use riparian area. eBird documented over 43 species in the area. *See Golden Eagle Audubon Society letter that follows.*
- Goal for adding to Historical Tour is to make citizens aware and appreciative of the area and to hopefully preserve it as amenity if the land is developed. *Meridian Comprehensive Plan 4.6 "It is essential to find a balance that protects and preserves Meridian's natural resources, agricultural heritage and open spaces....."*



To Whom It May Concern,

The Golden Eagle Audubon Society is southwest Idaho's chapter of the Audubon Society. We are dedicated to building an understanding, appreciation, and respect for the natural world in order to conserve and restore natural ecosystems for birds and other wildlife. Our 1,200+ members, the vast majority of whom live and birdwatch in Ada County, are very interested in activities that preserve and enhance bird habitat as well provide local opportunities to observe birds close to home.

Recently, our members and partners informed Chapter leadership about the unique opportunity to provide habitat and birding opportunities in an area of the county where such features are rare: the currently undeveloped 18.5 acre tract at the southwest corner of Meridian and Victory Roads. We are aware that several plans to develop this property for residential housing have not been successful due to safe access, infrastructure and fiscal issues. Due to the positioning of the Ridenbaugh Canal as well as its functional and historic significance, it seems these issues are not likely to change.

Moreover, this property may prove to have a much higher value to Meridian City residents if left as open space and zoned or designated as a public asset nature sanctuary. A quick survey of the surrounding areas reveals there are no similarly designated places for many miles in every direction. Decision makers are urged to consider the value open space and naturally functioning parcels provide to citizens – both nearby residents and County taxpayers. Again, our quick map survey reveals recent residential development adjacent to the property and the potential for even more development. These new residents would greatly benefit from nearby open space – a place where they can find serenity and a small slice of nature. Recent studies in urban planning and social science overwhelmingly support such places as critical to mental health and social cohesion of residents living in developing areas.

These 18.5 acres, formerly an alfalfa field, have sat untouched since at least 2003. The property changed hands at least 3 times as multiple developers have attempted to convert it to residential housing. Although currently zoned as RUT (Rural Urban Transition), it is clear residential development is not likely to work there.

A review of ebird.org indicates that 43 bird species have been observed on this property *even though it is currently not being maintained as bird habitat*. Imagine what appropriate zoning and proper care and maintenance would do for bird diversity there! Now extend that imagination to include the sounds of bird song in the springtime as Moms leisurely push strollers down paths, school children (from the 3-4 schools within walking distance) picnic in an amenity-rich outdoor classroom, and teams of nearby residents work to restore native plants that benefit butterflies, birds and other wildlife as well the residents themselves.

This property is primed for such use having extensive water rights, an Idaho Power easement (think partners with mitigation funds) and the historic Ridenbaugh Canal that ties together nature and society and could be an anchor for cultural and natural connectivity with educational signs that speak to these connections and to the foresight of community planners who made the bold move to reserve this property.

Golden Eagle Audubon Society's 1,200+ members would support this concept and we implore you to as well. We have a 40 year track record of working with local leaders to conserve space for people and nature and support wholly these uses for this property.

Sincerely,

Liz Urban
President, Golden Eagle Audubon Society

Ridenbaugh in Concrete





MEMO TO HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

Re: Recommended next steps on the rehoming objects request from Meridian Library District:

1. Historic Preservation Commission President assigns a volunteer subcommittee meeting where HPC volunteers look at the objects for rehoming.
2. The HPC subcommittee discusses items to see if any HPC volunteer subcommittee members have contacts or ideas of best locations to rehome objects.
3. If an HPC volunteer has contacts or ideas, they are encouraged to make the initial contact to check for interest.
4. If the contact is interested, HPC volunteer would then connect interested parties with Jason Su from MLD to coordinate transfer of ownership.
5. The library would then coordinate ownership transfer, have some papers to sign and it will be up to the new owner to come pick up and transport the item.

HIGH PRIORITY - in display space, removal required for revamp
Rehome by March?



"Traveler"
the horse

Resided in the Meridian Saddle Shop for 100 years, donated by Mike Bernhard, who owned the business. Fashioned after Robert E. Lee's horse.

Condition: plaster may be fragile
Dimensions: 80"H (6'6")



Loom

Ca. 1918. Donated by Earl and Lila Hill. Note says it is for rag rug weaving.

From Lila: it was an extra loom and can be donated

Condition: good
Dimensions: 44"H 45"W 39"D



Sewing
Machine -
Howe

From Lila:
One of the earliest sewing machines.

From label:

On loan by Arnold Cairns and Helen Cairns Bryce. It was in their mother's family. It came from Iowa, South Dakota, Washington, and to Boise in 1904.



Sewing
Machine -
White

From Lila:
From an early Jordan Valley seamstress' family.



Wooden
case 1

Large display case with vertical space (artifacts will remain in collection)

2 pieces
66" x 39" x 69"(back), 40.5" (front)



Wooden case 2

Large display case with shelves (artifacts will remain in collection)
Donated by Phyllis Saxton. Top glass is scratched.
72" x 28" x 42.5"

MEDIUM PRIORITY - in display or office space but may remain longer, large items in basement storage
Rehome by summer?



Organ

Located in office.

From Lila:
Does not play. Was donated by the Alger family and Lila tried contacting them quite a while ago but never heard back.



Safe 1

Located in display space. Can be removed at any time.

From Lila:
From Lauderbaugh sale, donated to Historical Society.



Safe 2






Located in basement.


From Lila:
Original village safe. Donated by Rosalie Noarse to city after it was "blown open" by thieves I think while on loan to the City.

Safe 3
Cash box



Located in basement.

From Lila's notes under "cash machine":
Stalker Merc. Charge tickets went under spring by alphabetical last name. Was to be donated to the state but I was there and said it belonged to Meridian. The City of Meridian picked it up from ISHS and brought it back.

	<p>Trunk 1</p>	<p>Basement.</p>
	<p>Trunk 2</p>	<p>Basement. From Lila: Large early Samsonite Co. steamer wardrobe trunk - from Pfof family descendent Maureen Pfof McFadden</p>
	<p>Trunk 3</p>	<p>Basement.</p>
	<p>Trunk 4</p>	<p>Basement. "C.A.C. Phrenologist"</p>
	<p>Tandem Bicycle</p>	<p>Basement. Historical significance: attached is the first bicycle license issued by the City. Donated by Wayne or Kay Shriver.</p>

	<p>Coat rack</p>	<p>From civic group?</p>
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LOWER PRIORITY - items smaller in size and located in the basement storage space
Rehome 2022

	<p>Typewriters</p>	<p>We have 8 total typewriters, 1 will remain part of the Rice Pharmacy collection. We may keep 1 other typewriter beyond that. Some may have been used by the City? Does the City want any of them or can they all be rehomed to collectors, etc.?</p>
	<p>Cash register</p>	<p>Basement. Unknown source.</p>