



**BUTTE CITIZENS FOR PRESERVATION AND REVITALIZATION**

P.O. Box 164, Butte, MT 59703 ❖ 406-490-3216 ❖ [www.buttecpr.org](http://www.buttecpr.org)

E-NEWSLETTER ❖ FEBRUARY 2009

# CPR



## GREEK CAFÉ THREATENED

**A**t the January meeting, CPR expressed a commitment to keeping this building standing, to work with potential investors, buyers, and the county, and to explore possible means of determining whether or not the walls are actually moving and in danger of failing. You can find more photos on our web site's "for sale" page ([www.buttecpr.org/forsale.shtml](http://www.buttecpr.org/forsale.shtml)).

**Description of Building's Structural Shell.** The Greek Café building is a substantial structural shell constructed in 1917. Due to this comparatively late date for construction in Uptown Butte, it started with a strong base of a reinforced concrete foundation. The exterior brick bearing walls of the upper two floors are three bricks/12 inches thick with a high-fired hard face brick on the primary north and east facades. The building's basement and main and upper floors provide a gross square footage of a little over 13,600 square feet.

A massive failure of the roof's east timber truss has occurred. This was apparently caused by a flashing and sealant failure of the support rods and saddle (suspended from the steel truss system) pulling through the supported wood after water penetration. Despite the dramatic failure of the east's north-south wood truss, the three clear-span east-west steel trusses remain in very good condition. It is these steel trusses that are bracing the otherwise unsupported "tall and thin" east brick wall.

The main floor consists primarily of storefronts, large glassed areas spanned by cast iron posts and beams supporting the brick walls above. The floor area is divided into six store areas, three facing Park Street and three facing Wyoming Street stepping down the

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## MITZI WINS AWARD

CPR's Mitzi Rossillon was one of four recipients — and the only individual — of the 2009 Biennial Historic Preservation Awards conferred by the Montana State Historic Preservation Office and Montana Historical Society. The award was presented by Lieutenant Governor John Bohlinger at a ceremony in Helena January 14, 2009.

Mitzi's award recognized her "outstanding preservation career and contributions to state preservation efforts". Among the specific projects cited was her work on the archaeological excavation in Chinatown in 2007.

## WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

**Hot Water Heat Workshop—Spring 2009**

(Second running)

**Windows Workshop—Spring 2009**

**How to research your home—TBA**



CPR's 2008-09 workshops are supported in part by a sub-grant from the State Historic Preservation Office's Preserve America Grant.

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# OFFICE HOURS & UPDATES

Nicole is expanding and changing CPR's office hours to **Wednesdays and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.**



Please stop by the office on the second floor of the Museum of Fine Arts—Butte (405 W. Park St.) to



- browse our preservation library (members can borrow),
- discuss your historic home improvement projects,
- learn about tax incentives for preservation,
- get details of upcoming programs that you can volunteer for or participate in,
- join Butte CPR or make a donation,
- and talk to fellow building-huggers.

We still seek volunteers to give talks to **Beyond Assisted Living** once a month. Peggy Eustice, the coordinator of these programs, tells us that they were so happy with our presentations, they'd like to open it up to any topic—not just Butte history or things within CPR's focus. **So if you have an interesting family story, a travelogue, just about anything, please contact Dick if you are interested.**

Likewise, if you want to contribute to the Newspaper article series *Brick by Brick*, contact Dick (rigibson@earthlink.net, 723-9639).



## RENEWAL TIME: 2009 MEMBERSHIPS

CPR's membership is on a calendar-year basis, with annual dues in January. For the complete list of each level's associated benefits and discounts, please visit our web site: [www.buttecpr.org/membership.htm](http://www.buttecpr.org/membership.htm). THANKS for your support!

**Rooming House Level** (students): \$10 annually

**Miner's Cottage Level** (Individual): \$25 annually

**Bungalow Level** (Family – up to two active members at one address): \$40 annually

**Italianate Level** (Supporting – up to two active members at one address) \$80 annually

**Queen Ann Level** (Underwriter – up to two active members at one address): \$150 annually

**Copper King Level** (Patron – up to two active members at one address): \$500 annually

**Butte Preservationist Level:** \$1000 and more annually - up to four active members at multiple addresses

*For businesses:*

**Basic Corporate Membership:** \$150 annually

**Business Project Supporter:** \$25 to \$100 – specific support for smaller projects

**Corporate Dust to Dazzle sponsorship:** \$95

**Historic Improvement Program Grant underwriting:** \$750

**Next Meeting**  
**Tuesday Feb. 10, 2009**  
**7:00 p.m. — MoFAB**  
**405 W. Park St.**

### MEMBERSHIP

**Reminder:** Dues are now payable for 2009. Please refer to the web site, [www.buttecpr.org](http://www.buttecpr.org), or call Nicole at 406-490-3216 for details of membership levels outlined above.

# SALVAGE STILL AVAILABLE

The garage sale is over, but we still have plenty of stuff you can buy. Call Robert at 723-1219 to make an appointment. Typical prices:

- doors—\$10-\$40 • trim—50¢/ft • toilets—\$25
- maple flooring—\$1.50/sq ft
- beadboard—\$1/sq ft
- single-pane windows—\$1 • multi-light—\$20
- radiators—\$30 • light globes—\$4
- pine timbers—\$2/ft • door hardware—\$1

## Salvage Want List

Several people have joined the list requesting specific materials, including clawfoot tubs (we have some donated, at the old Sears building—needs a work party), water fountain, hairpin fencing, iron fencing, and big slag bricks.



*Hoarfrost limns climbing rings in Cherokee Park. Anselmo headframe and 1890s four-square home in background.*

## WARNER PRESERVATION AWARD GIVEN

Ed and Susan Renfro were presented the first Warner Preservation Award in recognition of the restoration of their home at 409 W. Boardman Street in Centerville. Watch for details in a future article and online.

**President: Larry Smith ♦ Vice-President: Carrie Kiely**

**Treasurer: Mitzi Rossillon ♦ Secretary: Dick Gibson**

**Board of Directors: Larry Smith, Mitzi Rossillon, Andrea Stierle, Robert Edwards, Carrie Kiely, Julie Crowley**

**Public Relations Coordinator: Nicole von Gaza**

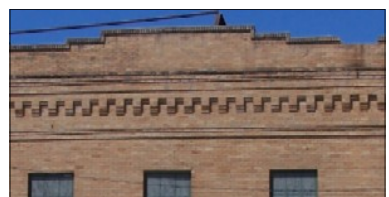
**Webmaster & Newsletter Editor: Dick Gibson**

**Membership Directory: [www.buttecpr.org/directory.htm](http://www.buttecpr.org/directory.htm)**

**Would you like to see something in the e-newsletter?**

**Please send ideas and constructive criticism to Dick at [rigibson@earthlink.net](mailto:rigibson@earthlink.net).**

*Butte Citizens for Preservation and Revitalization*



*from page 1* hill. The south half of the building has bearing walls running east-west and the north half has bearing walls running north-south. It would appear that this change in structural direction is primarily responsible for the long central crack in the east wall and the brick bulge at the north end of the east storefront. More openings here at this central point may induce a crack and the weight of debris inside the building may also be a contributing factor. These main-floor 16-foot wide stores, defined by bearing walls, add some rigidity to the lower floor whose façade is primarily open glass front.

**Deterioration.** A significant amount of deterioration has occurred to the non-structural surfaces of the building (particularly the lath and plaster) because the missing roof. The degree of deterioration is less as one proceeds deeper into the structure; the basement has little deterioration of its structural posts and joists but more water damage to its floor sheathing. The main-level floors probably can be reused with selective replacement of damaged areas.



The upper floor's sheathing is extensively deteriorated, particularly at the central area of the missing roof and from the impact of the failed wood truss. A previous owner removed most of the failed wood truss components. The floor sheathing and floor are extensively damaged and the majority of the floor, particularly toward the center where there is now no roof, will need to be replaced. The perimeter floor areas of the second floor are in better condition because the truss failure introduced a path for water flow. The floor area under the one-third of the remaining roof, to the west, is in surprisingly good condition.

The roof over two-thirds of the building is completely missing, due to the failure of the saddle support of the east wood truss. As with the truss components, the previous owner removed the majority of the roof's joists after the failure of the wood truss.

The remaining one-third of the roof is in relatively good shape for three-fourths of the slope, and the roofing and joists are beginning to fail at the south end. The built-up components of the wood truss at the south end are actively failing. The remainder of the west truss consists of paired lumber components arranged to form a truss (five 2x12s with staggered lapped joints in a truss configuration) that is still supporting the western roof. It should be noted that the historic wood truss in now only supporting half of its previous roof load and that the clear-span steel trusses are now only supporting one-quarter of their previous roof load. The wood truss and steel trusses have additional capacity without two-thirds of the roof in place.



**Additional Information Available.** About seven years ago, the local Urban Revitalization Agency demonstrated an interest in and commitment to 88 E. Park Street when it authorized a structural analysis of the building. A copy of that report can be reviewed at Butte-Silver Bow's Community Development Department office. Anyone interested in this property should contact Karen Byrnes, URA Director and head of Community Development at [kbyrnes@bsb.mt.gov](mailto:kbyrnes@bsb.mt.gov); phone 406-497-6266.

**FRIENDS OF THE GREEK CAFÉ** is an ad hoc group meeting to brainstorm ideas and connections to help save this important building. Contact Mitzi Rossillon, [mitzi.rossillon@gmail.com](mailto:mitzi.rossillon@gmail.com), to be on the contact list for get-togethers.

# BUTTE CPR MEMBERSHIP

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail \_\_\_\_\_  Exclude me from the e-mail list

For 2009:  NEW  RENEWAL

Individual Membership Levels  
(please check amount enclosed):

**Rooming House Level** (students): \$10 annually

**Miner's Cottage Level** (Individual): \$25 annually

**Bungalow Level** (Family – up to two active members at one address): \$40 annually

**Italianate Level** (Supporting – up to two active members at one address): \$80 annually

**Queen Ann Level** (Underwriter – up to two active members at one address): \$150 annually

**Copper King Level** (Patron – up to two active members at one address): \$500 annually

**Butte Preservationist Level:** up to four active members at multiple addresses: \$1000 and more annually

I'm enclosing an additional donation in the amount of \_\_\_\_\_.

OPTIONAL: Please allocate this donation for the following purpose or memorial:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Business Membership (provide Business Name on top line above)**

**Business Membership: Basic—\$150 annually**

Involvement: Please indicate any activities for which you'd like to be contacted. No obligation!

Thank YOU!

- Salvage Corps     Dust to Dazzle Committee     Newsletters  
 Stained Glass/Literary Tour Committee     Workshops     Grants  
 Board     Newspaper Articles     Beyond Assisted Living Programs  
 Other (you tell us what you want to be involved in!):

Your ideas: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
CPR's membership is on a calendar-year basis, with annual dues in January.

Print form and mail payments to: P.O. Box 164, Butte, MT 59703  
or bring to the Office (MoFAB, 405 W. Park, Suite 200) during office hours  
Thursdays 10-11:30 a.m. and Noon-2:00 p.m. 406-490-3216