



# FALL 2022

## Butte Citizens for Preservation and Revitalization

P.O. Box 164 Butte, MT 59703 [www.buttecpr.org](http://www.buttecpr.org)



Butte CPR's nearly 30-year history in the Butte community and its track record in furthering preservation-based revitalization in Butte speaks for itself. Butte CPR's greatest strength continues to be its volunteers, as evidenced by the over 650 hours of labor contributed in the first six months of 2022: sixty volunteers contributed nearly 200 hours to make the 2022 Dust to Dazzle historic buildings tour a success; volunteers salvaged historic building materials for resale; Butte Historic Trust volunteers worked on cleanup and restoration projects at the Jackson Street house; Story of Butte volunteers wrote stories and gathered photos to make history come alive on their website; and the list goes on.

We leverage your membership contributions in applying for grants; most of the major projects Butte CPR undertakes would not be possible without grant funds. We strive to keep our administrative costs as low as possible so that our funds can be put back into the community in the form of Historic Improvement Project grants.

### Basin Creek Caretaker's House

Congratulations Butte-Silver Bow on the great progress made to date on completing exterior improvements to this house at Basin Creek Park. Repairs to or reconstruction of the roof, siding, front porch, and rear entry have made this place once again an historic treasure. We look forward to hearing your plans for interior improvements and occupancy!



1913 sketch of proposed construction

### Historic Gathering Places Tour

A very successful tour of the interiors of several iconic Butte structures was recently sponsored by the Community Culture and Heritage group and the Butte-Silver Bow Archives. Tour attendees got behind-the-scenes tours of the Masonic Temple, the Mother Lode Theater, the B'Nai Israel Synagogue, the Knights of Columbus Hall, and St. Patrick's Church.

### CPR Board of Directors

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# Dust TO Dazzle

## HISTORIC BUILDING TOUR

Did you see the phoenix-rising-from-the-ashes Victorian-era house on Granite Street? How about the 103 year-old dairy warehouse on Arizona Street that now contains a modern apartment with room to expand? What about the former First Baptist church on Broadway Street that has become an Airbnb? If the answer is no, then you really missed out our 2022's Dust to Dazzle tour.

***Never fear: the 2023 tour is on its way!***

For those who missed out, here's a quick recap: 2022 was the epitome of Dust to Dazzle. The property on Granite Street gutted by fire in 2015 only to be brought back to life through the love and care of its owners. Not only did they preserve the historical integrity of the house, but they created an up-to-date living space where anyone would be happy to live.

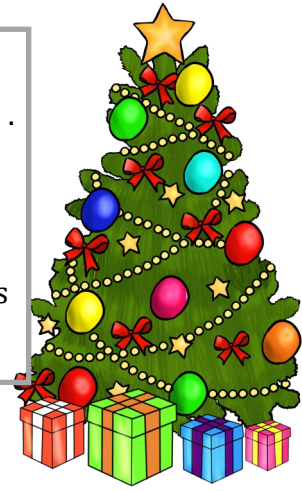
The Arizona Street warehouse used to be home to a dairy distributor and cold storage back in the day. It, too, suffered fire damage in 1981. But today one would enjoy contemporary conveniences, such as heated floors, modern appliances, and open living spaces on the main floor with loft apartments to be added on the upper levels.

The basement of the First Baptist church on West Broadway Street has transformed itself from a fellowship area to an Airbnb, large enough to house 12 people. It's an ideal place to stay for a family reunion. The sanctuary is mesmerizing with its original woodwork.

Three other properties were also included on the tour: The East Broadway Street Salvation Army building which in 2022 was a "dust" but will no doubt be on a future tour as a "dazzle." On Mercury Street, a charming "dazzle" that in 2010 was on the tour as a "dust" was included. And last, but certainly, not least: the house on the corner of Galena and Excelsior showed off its original architectural style and vast art display (not to mention the colorful array of women's pumps on the second floor).



Please join us on December 13 at Pita Pit / Taco del Sol from 6 to 9 pm . Pita Pit sandwiches will be available and potluck contributions are welcome as well. Wine, beer, sangria and margaritas are available at Taco del Sol, as well as non-alcoholic drinks from both places. We look forward to seeing you all to share good cheer as we celebrate this year's accomplishments.



## BUTTE HISTORIC TRUST

### Slow but Steady Progress on North Jackson Street

Like the old saying goes in the world of construction - "Take your timeline or budget and double it!". Our project timeline on North Jackson Street has extended longer than we had initially hoped, with an updated projected completion date of Spring/Summer 2023. With that being said, important work was completed on our 1890's structure this Summer.

Most importantly, we successfully stabilized the structure with a post & beam system completed by Patriot Builders of Montana. The original stone rubble foundation on the southern and eastern exposures of the home were actively failing, putting the entire structure at risk. Once the building was stabilized, Mountain Roofing replaced the roofing system - which entailed removing the corrugated tin, redecking the entire gambrel roof, and installing new architectural shingles. Beckman Excavating brought in new water and sewer service. Before the weather abruptly shifted on us, several board members were able to prime and paint the decorative (and original) shakes in the gable end of the building, which were hiding under vinyl siding up until this Spring.

We still hope to see concrete work - including sidewalks and retaining walls - be completed prior to the real onset of Winter weather. While the weather continues to change, our focus will shift to the mechanical systems and interior finishes of the home.



*A new paint job on a warm October day brought out the amazing original design of the architectural shingles.*

Butte CPR's commitment to using our resources to donate to owners of historic buildings has been a mainstay of the group since its inception. Our 2022 call for proposals resulted in three accepted projects. The residents at 1810 Georgia Avenue have finished the painting of their house and garage. The other two projects for repointing masonry structures are incomplete.

Also, the 2021 grantee has completed their project at 720 W. Daly St. in Walkerville. We look forward to continuing with the program in 2023.

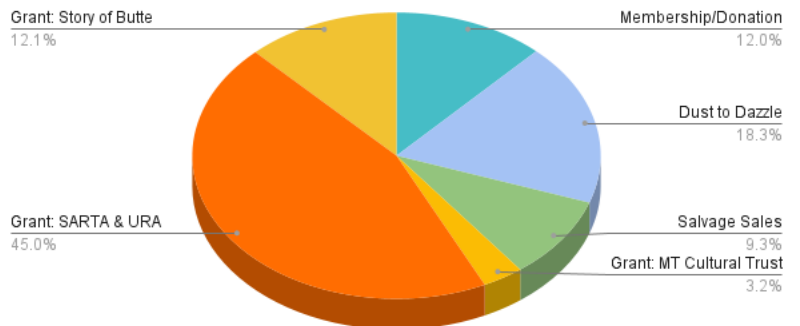


Painting of 1810 Georgia St. house was completed in Summer 2022.

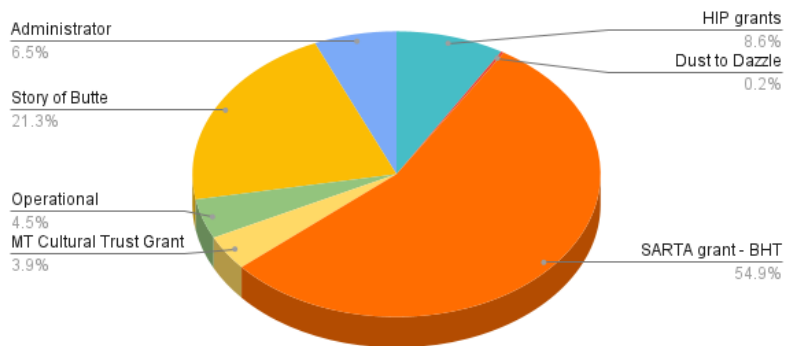
The pie charts at right illustrate Butte CPR's financial picture for the first three quarters of 2022. Our income for that time period was \$61,800, the majority of which was in the form of grants for specific projects. The SARTA and URA grants were specifically for the Butte Historic Trust renovation project on Jackson Street; the Story of Butte grant paid for the web platform for that project; and the Montana Cultural Trust grant goes toward operational support.

Expenses for the same three quarters totaled \$50,703. As expected, those expenses were primarily for the grant-funded projects mentioned above. Operational expenses include rent, internet, office supplies, postage, insurance, etc. and we are proud of our efforts to keep those costs as low as possible.

#### 2022 INCOME Q1-3



#### 2022 EXPENSES Q1-3





The Story of Butte history website and mobile app has recently added two new tours. The Murder of Frank Little tour traces the events that led up to and followed his abduction and hanging in Butte in 1917, while the Montana Tech tour describes the historic buildings on campus and the building of the 'M' on the side of Big Butte.

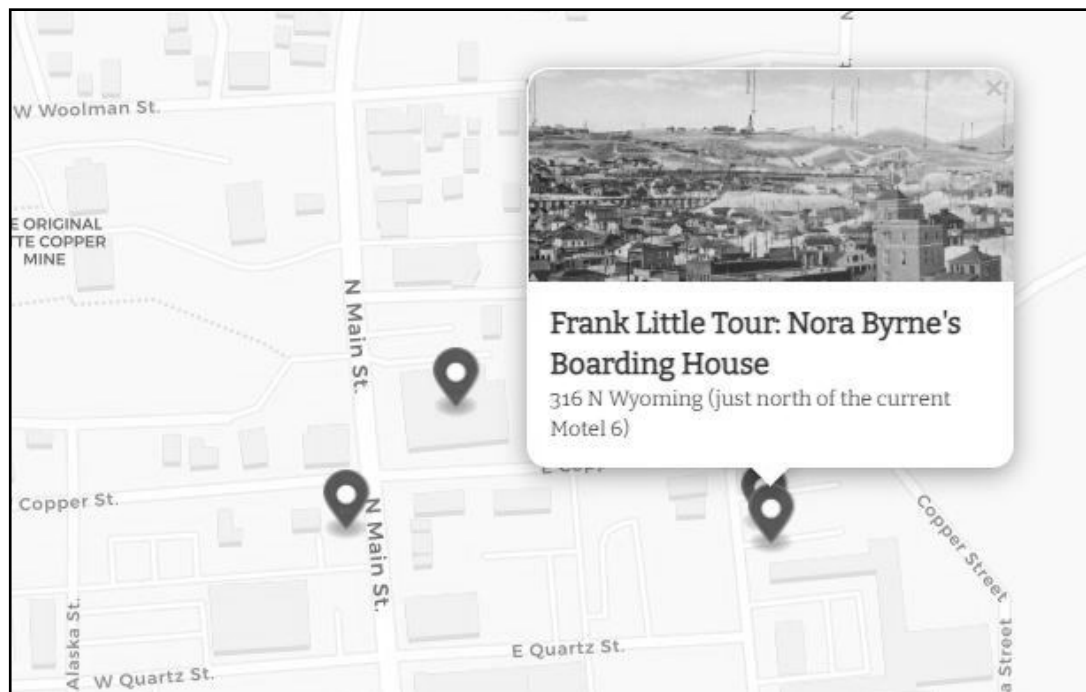
The Murder of Frank Little tour was written by Leif Fredrickson, one of the creators of the award-winning Death in the West podcast. The tour explores Frank Little's time in Butte, following his steps from his arrival by train to his meetings with other union organizers, his controversial speech at Columbia Gardens, his middle-of-the-night abduction from his boarding house, his hanging, his funeral, and the aftermath of the events.

Each of the 11 articles in the tour is associated with a location in Butte, and maps assist you in visiting the sites. The articles also include historic photographs and audio clips.

The Montana Tech tour, written by Butte resident Lindsay Mulcahy and incorporating material from the Montana Historical Society, tells the story of the gradual expansion of the campus, starting with the construction of the ornate Main Hall in 1900.

One article in the tour describes the construction of the "Big M" in 1910, including how a bucket brigade of students hauled 600 pounds of lime up to the site and used a hose borrowed from the fire department to paint the structure.

The Story of Butte is a joint project of Butte Citizens for Preservation and Revitalization and the Butte-Silver Bow Public Archives. Visit the website at [storyofbutte.org](http://storyofbutte.org) or download the app from the iPhone or Google app stores.

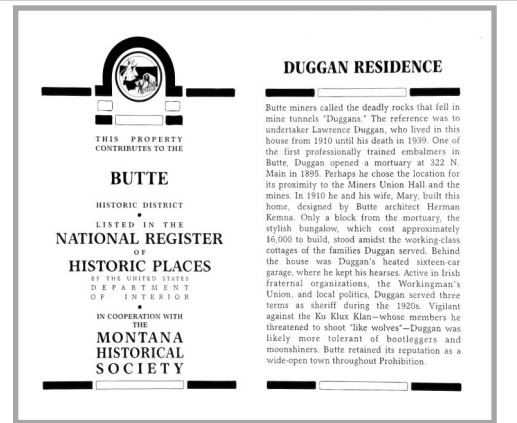


If you own or represent a property that is listed in the National Register of Historic Places, the Montana Historical Society invites you to purchase a National Register sign.

Each National Register sign includes a special logo and brief description of the property's historic significance. Montanans and visitors have come to recognize that a Montana National Register sign marks a place important to the history of our state.

After a property owner submits an application, Historical Society staff carefully craft each interpretive sign text, drawing from a variety of primary and secondary resources. Each text is designed to highlight the property's distinctive history and pique the reader's interest. Applicants will receive a draft text for review and approval prior to preparation of final sign copy. The cost of a standard sign for a contributing property within a historic district is \$35.

Applications can be found on the Montana Historical Society website: [mhs.mt.gov/Shpo/Signs](http://mhs.mt.gov/Shpo/Signs)



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