HISTORY ROAD TRIPS

Summer is officially here! 2020 has certainly been filled with a unique set of challenges and experiences for us all. We hope that as the weather has warmed, you have been able to get outside and enjoy the rejuvenating natural landscapes that our state has to offer. If you have been out and about to experience any of Montana's historical landscapes or destinations, please let us know! Email your pictures and details about your getaways to melissa@mthistory.org. We'd love to share your experiences on our Facebook and Instagram pages and help others find new ways to explore Montana's history and natural wonders.

Above photo: the turnout off I-15 between Helena and Great Falls: the Missouri River Canyon and Old U.S. Hwy 91.

CARNegie EXHIBIT BACK ON THE ROAD

Our Carnegie libraries traveling exhibit is back on the road again! Closures and safety measures put in place as a result of COVID-19 meant we had to shorten or cancel a number of stops the exhibit was scheduled to make this spring. With libraries re-opening, the exhibit is on tour again. Its first stop was Malta, where it spent the second half of
June at the Phillips County Library.

Here is a look at the next several stops on the tour:

- **Chinook**: July 1-17
- **Havre**: July 18-31
- **Glasgow**: August 1-14
- **Dillon**: August 17-September 8

Please call ahead to the local library to make sure the exhibit is on site if you are traveling from out of town.

Above: Phillips County Library, Malta
I.G. Baker House Restoration, Fort Benton Community Improvement Association

Built in 1867 from adobe, the I.G. Baker House is one of the oldest homes in Montana still standing. A 2019 History Foundation grant partially funded a Historical Structure Report. The report was prepared in accordance with guidelines from the National Park Service and will direct future repairs and renovations of the museum.

The I.G. Baker House is located along Front Street in Fort Benton. At more than 150 years old, the home was built by Isaac Gilbert Baker in 1867. The two-room house is made from adobe and originally had a sod roof. It has a double-faced fireplace in the center, four windows, and a front porch supported by four columns.

The home became the center of Baker’s trade firm, had which had a large influence on the trans-border development of Montana and the Canadian West. The Fort Benton Community Improvement Association is the devoted caretaker of the property.

The report was finished in July of 2019 by historical architect firm Sievert & Sievert. According to the Fort Benton Community Improvement Association, the 300+ page document details many problems and issues associated with preserving the building. It is a guiding document that will help them take the I.G. Baker House into the next 150 years.

Read more about this month's featured project, the I.G. Baker House, on our website!

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