



# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions, National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.

## 1. Name of Property

Historic name: De Mores Memorial Park  
Other names/site number: 32BI1050  
Name of related multiple property listing:  
Federal Relief Construction in North Dakota, 1931-1943  
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

## 2. Location

Street & number: SE corner of Main St and 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave  
City or town: Medora State: ND County: Billings  
Not For Publication:  Vicinity:

## 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,  
I hereby certify that this x nomination     request for determination of eligibility meets  
the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic  
Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.  
In my opinion, the property x meets     does not meet the National Register Criteria. I  
recommend that this property be considered significant at the following  
level(s) of significance:

    national     statewide    x local  
Applicable National Register Criteria:  
   x A     B    x C     D

		<u>DIRECTOR</u>		<u>12-17-2018</u>	
Signature of certifying official/Title:			Date		
<u>NDSHPO</u>					
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government					
In my opinion, the property <u>   </u> meets <u>   </u> does not meet the National Register criteria.					
Signature of commenting official:			Date		
Title :			State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government		

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**4. National Park Service Certification**

- I hereby certify that this property is:  
 entered in the National Register  
 determined eligible for the National Register  
 determined not eligible for the National Register  
 removed from the National Register  
 other (explain:) \_\_\_\_\_

   
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- Private:   
Public – Local   
Public – State   
Public – Federal

**Category of Property**

(Check only **one** box.)

- Building(s)   
District   
Site   
Structure   
Object

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**Number of Resources within Property**

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
_____	_____	buildings
_____	_____	sites
_____	_____	structures
_____	_____	objects
_____	_____	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register \_\_\_\_\_

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Landscape: park  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Landscape: park  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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## 7. Description

### Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

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**Materials:** (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: sandstone, iron, granite, bronze

### Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

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### Summary Paragraph

The De Mores Memorial Park sits on six lots at the southeast corner of Main Street and 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue in Medora, North Dakota. The rectangular park is surrounded by a stone and an iron fence with flagstone walks on the north and west sides, an alley to the south, and a neighboring property to the east. The layout of the park was designed by landscape architect Weldon Gratton. It creates a bisected half circle of flagstone walks with strategically placed benches and a water fountain that form the setting for the statue of Antoine-Amedee-Marie Vincent Manca de Vallombrosa, commonly referred to as the Marquis de Mores because of his title.

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### Narrative Description

The park has been in its current location since it was founded in cooperation between Louis and Paul de Vallombrosa and the town of Medora. The de Vallombrosa brothers donated the land for the park to the town in 1924 and commissioned a statue from Pierre Marie Poisson that was cast by the F. Barbedienne Foundry. The statue was erected in June of 1926, centered along the north side of the park inside a simple fence. The park did not receive many improvements in the next

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ten years until it became the property of the State Historical Society of North Dakota. Making use of the federal relief programs available in the 1930s, Weldon Gratton of the National Park Service created a new design for the park with the intention that all work would also be done under these programs.



Men from the CCC erecting the De Mores statue in its new location within the redesigned park. Exact date of the photo is not known but the stone and iron fence is visible in the background.

Following Gratton's plan, the statue was moved to its current location centered along the east side of the park and opposite the main gate. The base is made from granite and is four-sided but widens as it moves downward from the top and casts out like a bell before sitting on a square riser above a wider square platform. The statue faces west towards where the Marquis' packing plant once stood and on that side of the base, the top stone is engraved with "DE MORES". The second stone from the top on that side holds a round bronze medal with a relief of Medora Von Hoffman's, the Marquise de Mores, profile. On the east side, the second stone from the top and

continuing on the third course is engraved with the words below. The line "MEDORA" is in a larger size than the rest of the inscription.

IN MEMORY OF  
ANTOINE MANCA DE VALLOMBROSA  
MARQUIS DE MORES  
LIEUTENANT FRENCH CAVALRY  
BORN IN PARIS 1868  
KILLED IN NORTH AFRICA 1896  
AND OF HIS WIFE  
**MEDORA**

WHO FOUNDED THIS TOWN IN 1883

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While the park is a rectangle of approximately 140' x 150' (including the outer flagstone walks), inside the fence the walks are designed in a bisected half circle with benches strategically located. The gate begins the bisector and at the intersection of the diameter of the circle and the bisector is a circular-plan stone water fountain on a large circular base that also has two semi-circular steps up (Figure 2). The fountain and the benches have a simple pattern of three lines carved into the base of each side. Continuing east from the fountain along the bisector leads to a rectangular area with curved corners at the northwest and southwest that serves as the immediate setting for the statue, along with four stone benches. Around the half circle path are an additional four stone benches and two modern composite benches have been added near the stone benches at the corners of the half circle. The edges of the walks have a raised 4"-6" stone curb.

East of the statue and along the outside of the half-circle walk are mulched plant beds with bushes and shrubs. Inside the half circle and west of it is primarily grassy areas with trees surrounded by small mulch beds at the corners. Due to high levels of salts in the water and various weather conditions over the years, none of the original plants have survived but the new plantings follow the original plan with a few species changes to better suit the soil and climate. Original plants included Buffalo Grass, Cottonwood, Russian Olive, and Cedar trees, Shrub Juniper, Aromatic Sumac, Flowering Currant, and Shrubby Cinquefoil. There are no longer any cottonwoods, the grass is now a blend, and potentilla has been planted in place of the currant and older cinquefoil bushes.

The whole park is surrounded by a stone and hand-hammered iron fence approximately 42" tall. The stone fence is constructed from cut stones of rectangular shape in a variety of sizes and with color variations. Each side of the park has 10 built-up pillars that are 42" square at the base and step to 36" square at the 18" height. The main corner pillars have another shallow step at the cap but the other pillars just have a small angle for shedding water. Between the pillars for two sections on either side of each corner are solid stone walls 3'3" tall and 24" wide. The middle five sections on each side have an 18" stone wall with a hand-hammered iron fence with a top rail at 39" and sharp points on top the rail reaching 42" in total height. Iron rods of 5/8" were used to create straight balusters with a point or twisted balusters without a point that were arranged in groups with a straight baluster flanking each side of the twisted baluster. The exact pattern of the balusters varied between the sections of fencing according to their length. The iron work is attributed to Einar Olson, a local rancher from Sentinel Butte, who also worked with the project supervisors to do other metal work for the area projects.<sup>1</sup>

In May 2018, an approximately 10' section of wall immediately east of the statue was removed to storage at the Chateau de Mores State Historic Site in order to create a second entrance and partner with the restaurant next door. The stones were all numbered and photographed so the section could be reconstructed in the future. The curbing of the plant area was reused as the plant bed between the stone area and the wall was removed and new sandstone of a similar color was

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<sup>1</sup> Olson's most well-known design from this time is a silhouette of Theodore Roosevelt on horseback that became iconic for the Badlands in North Dakota. The original design concept by Gratton was for a relief but Olson convinced him of the merits of using a silhouette.

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placed in the new walkway. The double bench was split into two benches and those were placed in the corners near the statue, perpendicular to the existing benches west of the statue.

This second (east) entrance is compatible with the historic character of the site as great care was taken to reuse existing materials, and use compatible sandstone pavers when new pavers were required. The new pavers can be distinguished from the old. The wall stones removed were numbered and are in storage in a safe location. The section removed was ten feet long and is compatible with the original entrance opposite, retaining the formal layout of the park. The second entrance allows access from the east and serves as a public entrance or during catered events, can serve as a service entrance. This change improves the accessibility and the flow of patrons through the park to and from the surrounding restaurants and shops.



New entrance to De Mores Memorial Park. Photo by Lorna Meidinger May 2018.

The gate at the entrance on the west is inset 8'9" on center from between the center pillars with curved walls of stone and iron. In front of the curved wall portion are plant beds with a raised stone curb. At this time, these beds are filled only with gravel. Between raised beds and the curved wall, the gate is two panels that open at the center with approximately 3' clearance in width. An iron post in the middle allows the gate to be closed securely if needed. Each gate panel uses the straight and twisted bar design but also has a center portion with a double scroll design.

Outside the fence on the north and west sides is a flagstone walk interrupted at the northwest corner by modern concrete creating a curb-less access. The stones of the walks both outside and inside the fence have been re-grouted and there is some variation in color and texture of the grouts used. There are also areas with grout missing. Immediately outside the fence at the southern edge of the east side of the property is a stone building with a steel water tank.

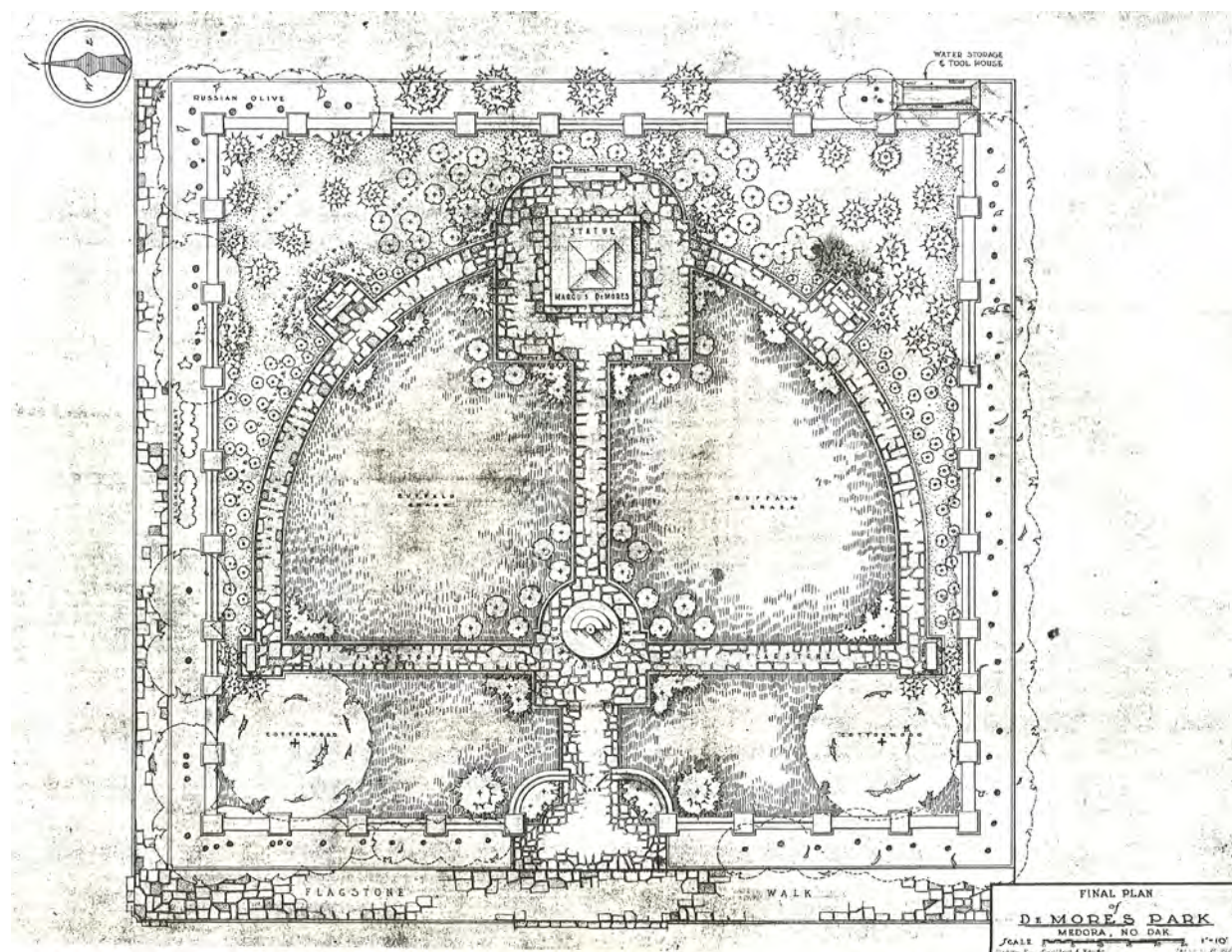
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The stone building is labeled as “Combination of Storage & Tool House” on a March 25, 1940 plan drawn by R.T.T. & M.D.W. (see Figure 3). The plan of the stone building is rectangular but it narrows from roughly 5’ x 14’ to roughly 3’ x 12’ as the height of the stone increases up to about 12’. The steel water tank is mostly cylindrical but appears to have a flat bottom. Inside the stone building is roughly 2’ x 11’ of storage space. There is a boarded opening centered on the west side where the plan called for a 20” x 24.5” window and an opening for a pedestrian door near the south end of the east side. There are hinges in place but the actual pedestrian door is not there. This building is currently being used by the owner of the property to the east, who also assists in taking care of the park. The eastern neighbor has also placed a large propane tank along the south of the stone building and fence and the sliding door from the neighbor’s wooden fence extends west past the propane tank.



This final “as built” plan by Gratton and Yauss is dated January 8, 1941.

A monument made of the same sandstone as the park fence sits outside the gate and on the grass just south of the entrance. This monument is a “Tribute to the Civilian Conservation Corps” that



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was erected in 1984<sup>2</sup> through the cooperation of a number of partners, one of them being Weldon Gratton.

The seven resources specified in Section Five: Number of Resources within Property of this nomination form are site, the entire park area including sidewalks as exterior boundary, and the De Mores statue is the object. The stone and iron fence wall, the flagstone pavement, the fountain, and the tool shed are the four eligible structures, and the small 1984 monument to CCC workers is the ineligible structure.

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<sup>2</sup> The exact date of erection or dedication was not found on file but a long-time employee of the State Historical Society of ND recalled the monument was part of the centennial of Medora and said it would have been planned in 1983 but likely erected in 1984.

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## 8. Statement of Significance

### Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A. Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B. Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C. Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

### Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes
- B. Removed from its original location
- C. A birthplace or grave
- D. A cemetery
- E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure
- F. A commemorative property
- G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

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**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Landscape Architecture

Art

Entertainment/Recreation

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

**Period of Significance**

1921-1940

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

**Significant Dates**

1926

1936

\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Person**

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

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

**Cultural Affiliation**

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

**Architect/Builder**

Weldon Gratton, landscape architect

Civilian Conservation Corps

Einar Olson, blacksmith

Pierre Marie Poisson, sculptor

F. Barbedienne Foundry

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**Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph** (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

When the Marquis de Mores Antoine de Vallombrosa decided to enter the meat packing business, he chose the Badlands of North Dakota to be the primary location for the enterprise. The Marquis founded the town of Medora in 1883 and immediately started building facilities for the packing plant and support businesses as well as a summer home. One of the few men who owned land in the area, the Marquis at one time owned about 15,000 acres in the area and drove much of the development in the early years of the community. The 1/4 town block of land for the De Mores Memorial Park was donated by the Marquis' sons, who also commissioned the statue by Pierre Marie Poisson in France. The park was further developed during the next decade through Works Progress Administration and Civilian Conservation Corps projects from 1937 until 1940. The park is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places at the local level under Criterion A for Entertainment/Recreation and under Criterion C for Art and Landscape Architecture.

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**Narrative Statement of Significance** (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

The story of the Marquis and Marquise de Mores in North Dakota begins with the Marquis' decision to start a meat-packing enterprise in the Badlands in 1883. He arrived in April of 1883 and founded the town of Medora, named for his wife Medora Von Hoffman, across the river from a small existing settlement. The Marquis had bought land and immediately began the construction of a summer home (Chateau de Mores, NRHP#75001299), processing facilities (De Mores Packing Plant Ruins, NRHP#75001300)<sup>3</sup>, and support businesses. He would also build a home for his in-laws (Von Hoffman House, NRHP#77001018), a church at the insistence of his wife (St. Mary's Catholic Church, NRHP #77001017), and lodging for his employees. Being civic minded, the Marquis was very involved with local committees and organizations as well as with organizations related to his businesses such as stockman associations. The Marquise also supported the developing community through her involvement with the church and in supporting the local school by paying the teacher's salary.

The ranch and packing business did not last long for several reasons which include: a preference by eastern household for corn-fed beef, difficulties in maintaining year-round operations, collusion between others in the business and the railroad, and a price-war. In the end, the Marquis and his family left Medora before the winter of 1886-1887 that was devastating to the local cattlemen (Theodore Roosevelt's writings from this time clearly express the situation). Much has been written about the Marquis and Marquise de Mores and their time in Medora and the Chateau de Mores is operated as an interpretive center and a state-owned historic site.

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<sup>3</sup> The MPDF Federal Relief Construction in North Dakota, 1931-1943 erroneously claims on page E82 that the park was listed individually in 1975 but it was only the Chateau de Mores and De Mores Packing Plant Ruins that were listed at that time. Those two sites were not listed for their connection with the federal relief programs although that is another layer that is now recognized by historians.

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Because of this, and the fact that the significance for the park is not Criterion B, that part of their story is only touched upon here. The Marquis's last visit to Medora occurred in 1889. The Marquis employed managers for his properties in Medora but moved his focus to political endeavors in France. On a politically motivated trip to North Africa in 1896, he was killed by his Toureg guides. After the Marquis' death, Medora spent years pursuing justice for him and the surviving culprits were finally sentenced in 1902. One man was sentenced to death but Medora requested his sentence be changed to hard labor for life. The next year, Medora brought her three children to spend the summer at the Chateau in Medora and that turned out to be her last visit to the area.

During the Great War, Medora opened her home in France for use as a hospital and sustained an injury while working as a nurse from which she never fully recovered. When the Marquise died in 1921, her sons, Louis and Paul Manca de Vallombrosa, began to pursue fulfilling her wish for a memorial park to her late husband in Medora, North Dakota. Once the estate had been settled in 1924, the sons donated the land for the park to the town and commissioned a bronze statue in France from Pierre Marie Poisson, a renowned sculptor and medalist. Poisson's formal art studies began by 1893 and he began exhibiting at the Société des Artistes Français in 1899 and they awarded him their medal of honor in 1907. Poisson also became a *Chevalier de la Légion d'honneur* in 1923 and his works include war memorials in Niort and Le Havre, busts, medals and decoration for buildings and ocean liners, with his last commission being completed in 1951. After completing his design, Poisson worked with the F. Barbedienne Foundry to cast the Marquis de Mores statue. The F. Barbedienne Foundry was started in 1838 in Paris by Ferdinand Barbedienne and Achille Collas. Originally, the foundry used a machine Collas invented to cast miniature replicas of bronze statues but they expanded in 1842 to casting the work of living artists as well. The foundry survived a financial collapse in 1848 and grew to employ 300 workers by the time of Collas death in 1859. Barbedienne continued to operate the foundry and even produced canons during the Franco-Prussian War to keep it open. Barbedienne reverted back to art production after the war and operated the foundry until his own death in 1891. From 1891 until 1952, the foundry was operated by members of the LeBlanc family.

The completed statue was shipped to the park and erected in June of 1926. The statue was to remain veiled until the brothers could come for the dedication but in September of 1927 the local newspapers reported that a few individuals had decided the statue had been veiled long enough and burned the canvas wrapping. The newspapers speculated that the culprits did not realize that the fire would also damage the statue. The statue was soon restored and remained unveiled.

The other work done in the 1920s to create the park appears to have been minimal as photos taken before the start of the federal relief construction projects reveal a simple wire fence with a gate, little vegetation, and no pathways.

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The photo at left was taken for Arnold O. Goplen's report that was completed in 1939. It shows the setting prior to the major work at the De Mores Memorial Park.

In 1936, an agreement was reached between Louis de Vallombrosa<sup>4</sup> and the State of North Dakota to give a large amount of land to the State in care of the State Historical Society of North Dakota (SHSND) for the establishment of a museum. In those same discussions, the idea for the Town of Medora to transfer the De Mores Park to the SHSND was born and the transfer occurred shortly. Planning began and funding sources through the federal relief programs available in the 1930s were identified and pursued. Under a cooperative agreement, many of the projects for the development of the former De Mores properties fell under the projects in the Theodore Roosevelt Recreational Development Area (a portion of the area would eventually become Theodore Roosevelt National Park). That agreement led to Weldon Gratton, a landscape architect for

the National Park Service, designing the De Mores Memorial Park in 1937.

Weldon Gratton was at the center of a group of dedicated individuals in the area who designed and built rustic architecture of rough-cut stone, logs, and rough-cut lumber that was sometimes embellished with iron work. These entrances, picnic shelters, small road bridges, curbs and walls are local examples of parkitecture or National Park Service rustic. As the landscape architect Gratton designed the structures, yet by temperament Gratton collaborated extensively with local builders, and with Russell Reed, superintendent of the State Historical Society, who facilitated NPS projects constructed by the CCC (Civilian Conservation Corps) and WPA (Works Progress Administration) in the 1930s.

The overall area where the federal relief construction occurred was classified as a Recreational Development Area (RDA) and the intention was to eventually have the State take ownership of it all. The RDA in the Badlands was a very large area that included a lot of land bought by the government during the 1930s as part of relief efforts. As a result of how the Homestead Act was structured, this area was populated much more densely than could be sustained agriculturally.

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<sup>4</sup> Originally, all of the property was split evenly between the two brothers but by this time, Paul had signed a quit-claim deed for the Medora properties.

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The government buyouts were voluntary, with no possibility of eminent domain or takings if the owners refused, and the amount paid for land varied by quality. The rates for the land, however, were established for the quality category and not negotiated with each owner separately.<sup>5</sup>

There were three Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) companies that would work in the areas of Medora and what is now the North Unit of Theodore Roosevelt National Park with the ones near Medora being Company #2767 and Company #2772. While these companies were authorized 200 men each, Gratton remembers they typically had only around 160 men at any given time. With a number of men being required for maintaining the company camp life, only around 140 were available for construction labor. As with the other relief programs, an emphasis was placed on labor-intensive projects to ensure the money spent on the project went to the men and their families rather than for buying materials. To meet this emphasis, the sandstone for the projects at the Chateau de Mores and De Mores Memorial Park was quarried near Sentinel Butte and then hand-shaped by the men for their projects. Funding for the projects in this area included Emergency Relief Administration (ERA) and Works Progress Administration (WPA) funds but the physical labor all came from the CCC camps.



An undated newspaper clipping "Rock Shaping Crew At Work" on file in the ND State Archives shows men shaping stone for the contact station at the Chateau de Mores.

<sup>5</sup> Interview with Weldon Gratton. Theodore Roosevelt National Park.  
<http://www.theodorerooseveltcenter.org/Research/Digital-Library/Record?libID=o273539>. Theodore Roosevelt Digital Library. Dickinson State University.

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De Mores Memorial Park is historically significant as an amenity provided by the family of its founder for public enjoyment and recreation, for its art and design elements along with its craftsmanship, and for the opportunity the improvement projects provided to further benefit local residents and visitors under the federal relief programs of the Great Depression era. The park is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places at the local level under Criterion A for Entertainment/Recreation, and under Criterion C for Art and Landscape Architecture.



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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

**Bibliography** (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

Chateau de Mores State Historic Site Collection, Archeology and Historic Preservation Division Historic Site files, State Historical Society of North Dakota.

Goplen, Arnold O. "Historical Narrative and Plans for Restoration, Development, and Preservation of the De Mores Historic Sites at Medora, North Dakota" report for the National Park Service, May 29, 1939.

Reid, Russell. "The De Mores Historic Site" *North Dakota Historical Quarterly*, vol. 8, no. 4, 1941: 272-283.

Martens, Steve C. "Federal Relief Construction in North Dakota, 1931-1943" Multiple Property Documentation Form, National Register of Historic Places #64501091, 2010.

Martens, Steve C. "The Designed Landscape of the North Dakota Badlands" *North Dakota History: Journal of the Northern Plains*, vo. 80 no. 2 summer, 2015: 3-15.

*Interview with Weldon Gratton.* Theodore Roosevelt National Park.  
<http://www.theodorerooseveltcenter.org/Research/Digital-Library/Record?libID=o273539>.  
Theodore Roosevelt Digital Library. Dickinson State University.

"Ferdinand Barbedienne" Art Bronze. <http://www.artbronze.com/ferdinandbarbedienne.aspx>  
accessed November 30, 2017.

"F. Barbedienne Bronzes" Wikicollecting, <https://www.justcollecting.com/art/f-barbedienne-bronzes>  
accessed November 30, 2017.

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### Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # \_\_\_\_\_

### Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government

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University  
 Other

Name of repository: \_\_\_\_\_

**Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):** \_\_\_\_\_

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### 10. Geographical Data

**Acreeage of Property** .5

#### UTM References

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927 or  NAD 1983

1. Zone: 13 Easting: 612271 Northing: 5196714

#### **Verbal Boundary Description** (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

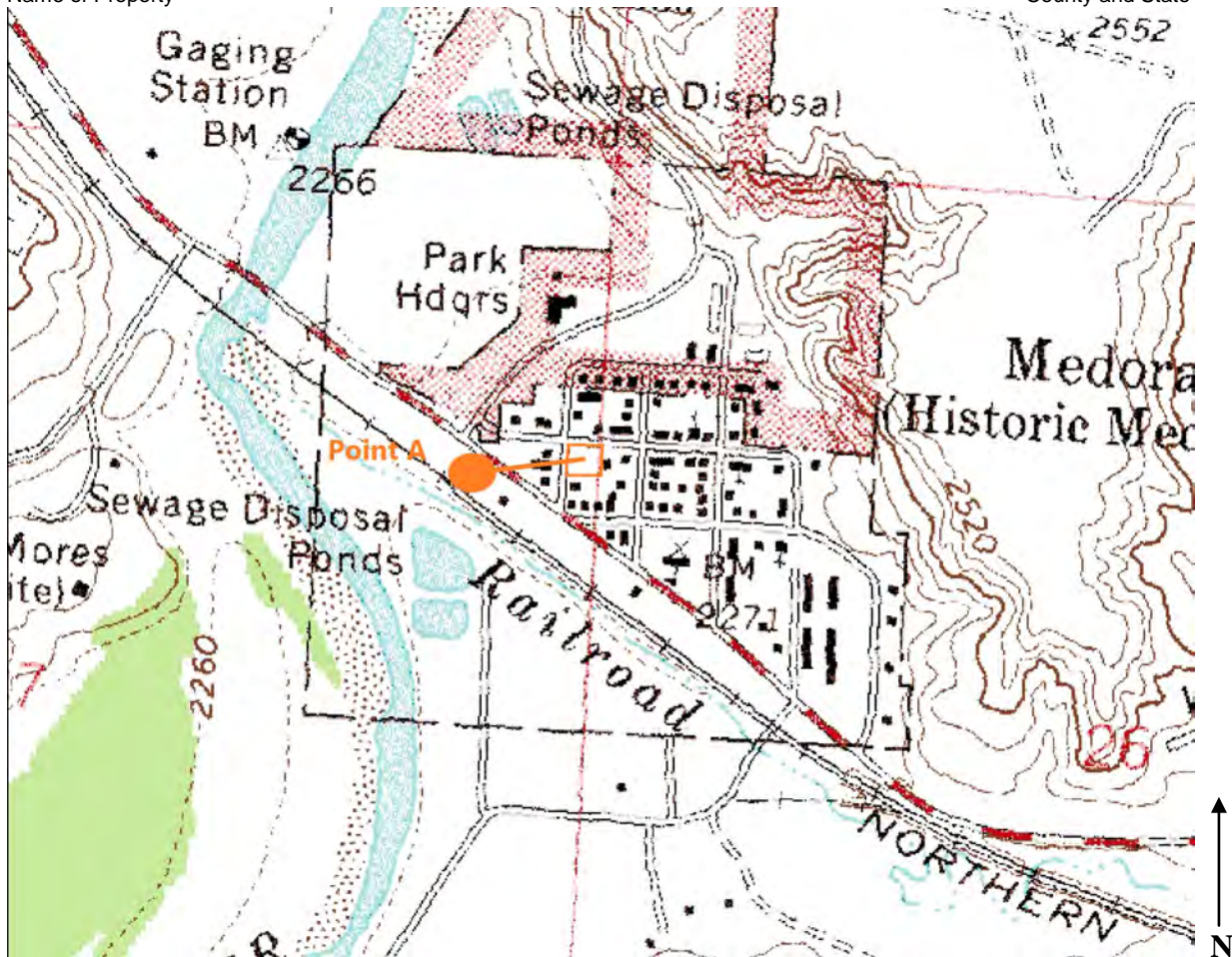
Lots 19-24 of block 13, original township of Medora.

#### **Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

These lots are the original land donated for the park and the property has continually served in that manner since it was donated.

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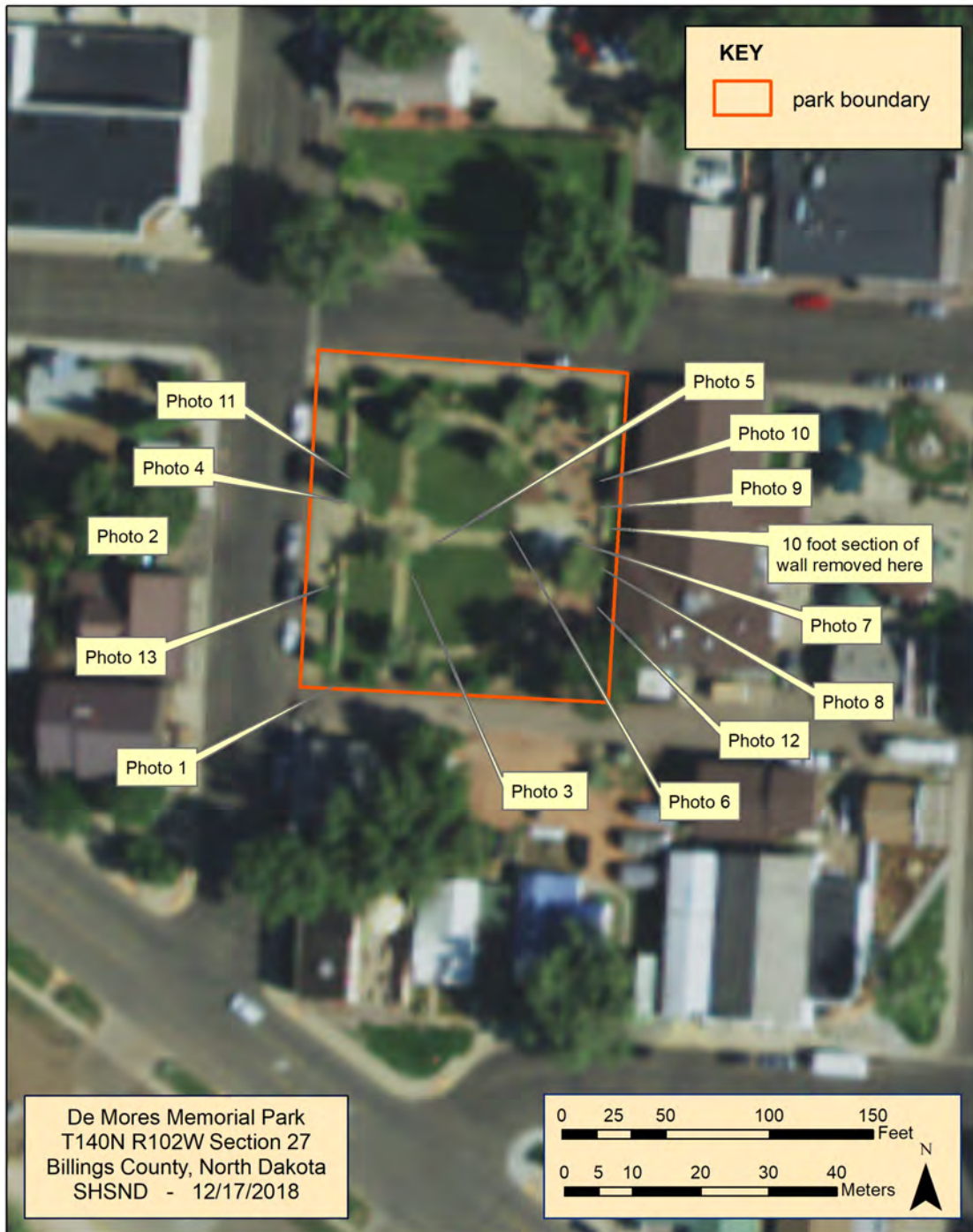


### 11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Lorna Meidinger, Architectural Historian  
organization: State Historical Society of North Dakota  
street & number: 612 E Boulevard Ave  
city or town: Bismarck state: ND zip code: 58505-0830  
e-mail: lbmeidinger@nd.gov  
telephone: 701-328-2089

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**Additional Documentation**

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Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

### Property Owner

name/title: Fern Swenson  
organization: State Historical Society of North Dakota  
street & number: 612 E Boulevard Ave  
city or town: Bismarck state: ND zip code: 58505-0830  
e-mail: fswenson@nd.gov  
telephone: 701-328-3575

### Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

### Photo Log

Name of Property: De Mores Memorial Park  
City or Vicinity: Medora  
County: Billings State: North Dakota  
Photographer: Lorna Meidinger unless otherwise noted  
Date Photographed: September 28, 2017 unless otherwise noted

De Mores Memorial Park  
Name of Property

Billings County, ND  
County and State



Overview from southwest corner  
1 of 13.

De Mores Memorial Park  
Name of Property

Billings County, ND  
County and State



Overview from outside the gate, looking east

Taken May 22, 2018

2 of 13

De Mores Memorial Park  
Name of Property

Billings County, ND  
County and State

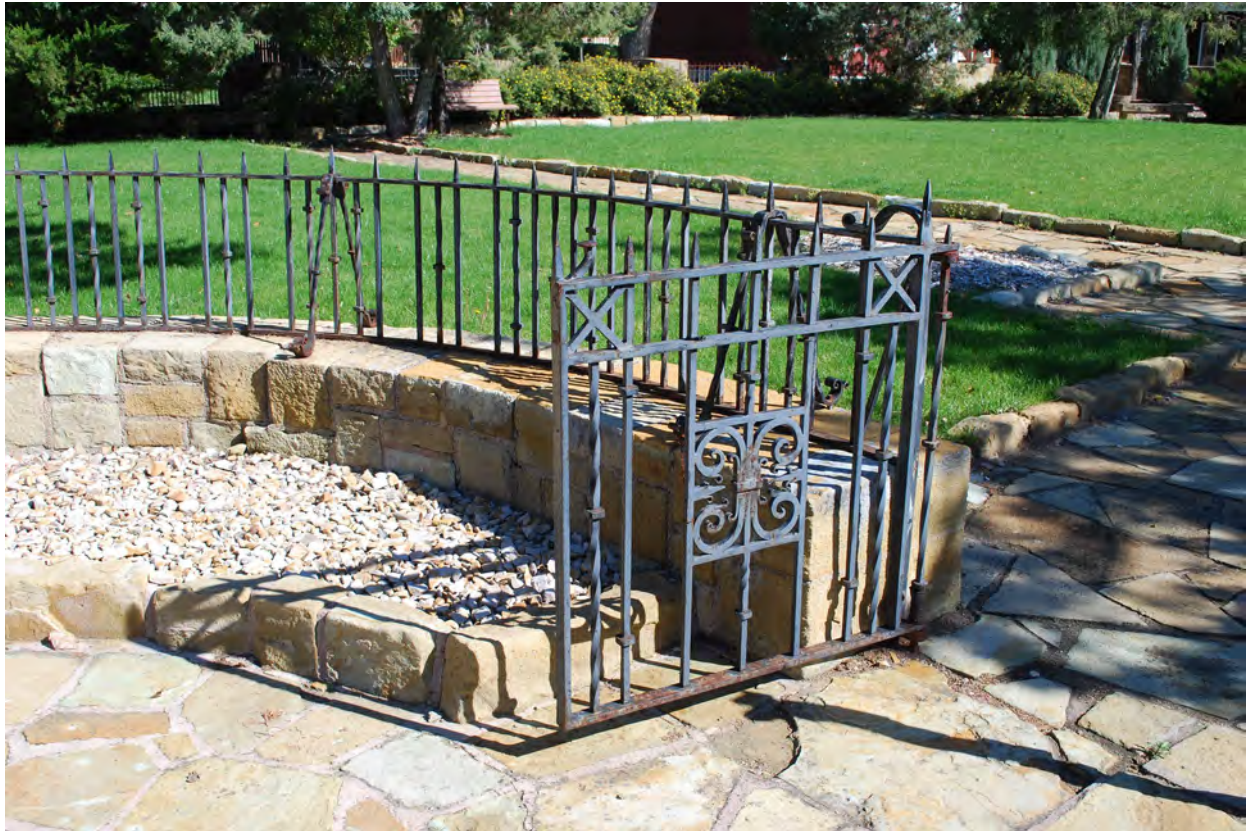


Overview from fountain, looking south  
3 of 13



De Mores Memorial Park  
Name of Property

Billings County, ND  
County and State



Gate detail, looking northeast  
4 of 13

De Mores Memorial Park  
Name of Property

Billings County, ND  
County and State



Fountain detail, looking west  
5 of 13

De Mores Memorial Park  
Name of Property

Billings County, ND  
County and State



De Mores statue after cleaning, looking east  
Taken June 29, 2018 by Lisa Steckler  
6 of 13

De Mores Memorial Park  
Name of Property

Billings County, ND  
County and State



Medora medallion on statue's west face

7 of 13

De Mores Memorial Park  
Name of Property

Billings County, ND  
County and State



De Mores statue, looking northwest

8 of 13

De Mores Memorial Park  
Name of Property

Billings County, ND  
County and State



De Mores statue, looking southwest

De Mores Memorial Park  
Name of Property

Billings County, ND  
County and State



Overview of statue area showing the new entrance, facing SSE

Taken May 22, 2018

10 of 13

De Mores Memorial Park  
Name of Property

Billings County, ND  
County and State



Typical stone bench in the park  
11 of 13



De Mores Memorial Park  
Name of Property

Billings County, ND  
County and State



Tool Storage building, looking east-southeast  
12 of 13

De Mores Memorial Park  
Name of Property

Billings County, ND  
County and State



CCC memorial outside the west fence, looking east

13 of 13

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

De Mores Memorial Park  
Name of Property  
Billings County, ND  
County and State  
Federal Relief Construction in North Dakota,  
1931-1943  
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

33. Section number Add. Documentation Page 35

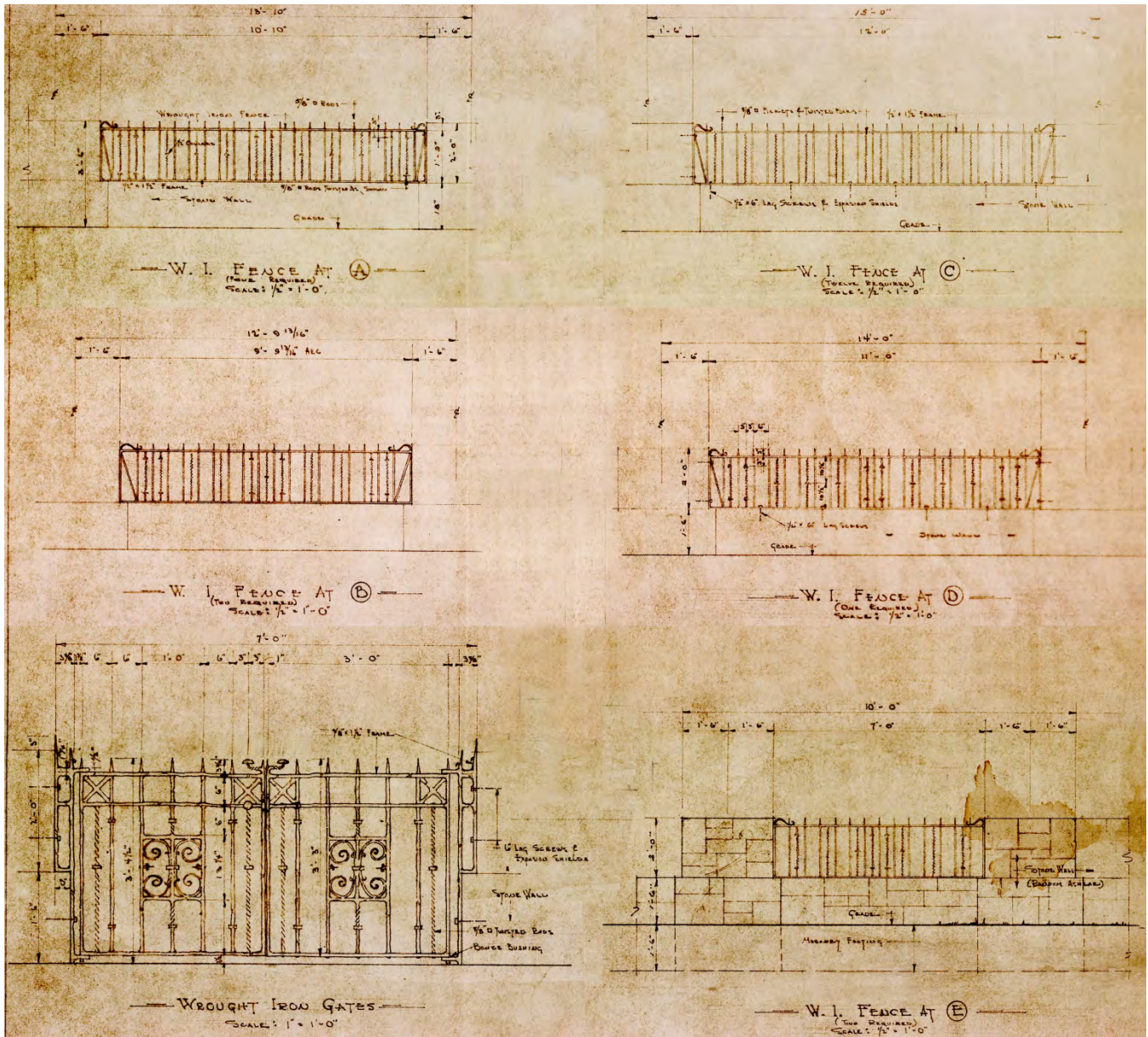


Figure 1: plans for the ironwork of the fence. Plan images were edited for spacing between images on this figure to allow better viewing. The full sheet with an earlier park plan in the middle is in the SHSND AHP Historic Site files.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

De Mores Memorial Park  
Name of Property  
Billings County, ND  
County and State  
Federal Relief Construction in North Dakota,  
1931-1943  
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

33. Section number Add. Documentation Page 36

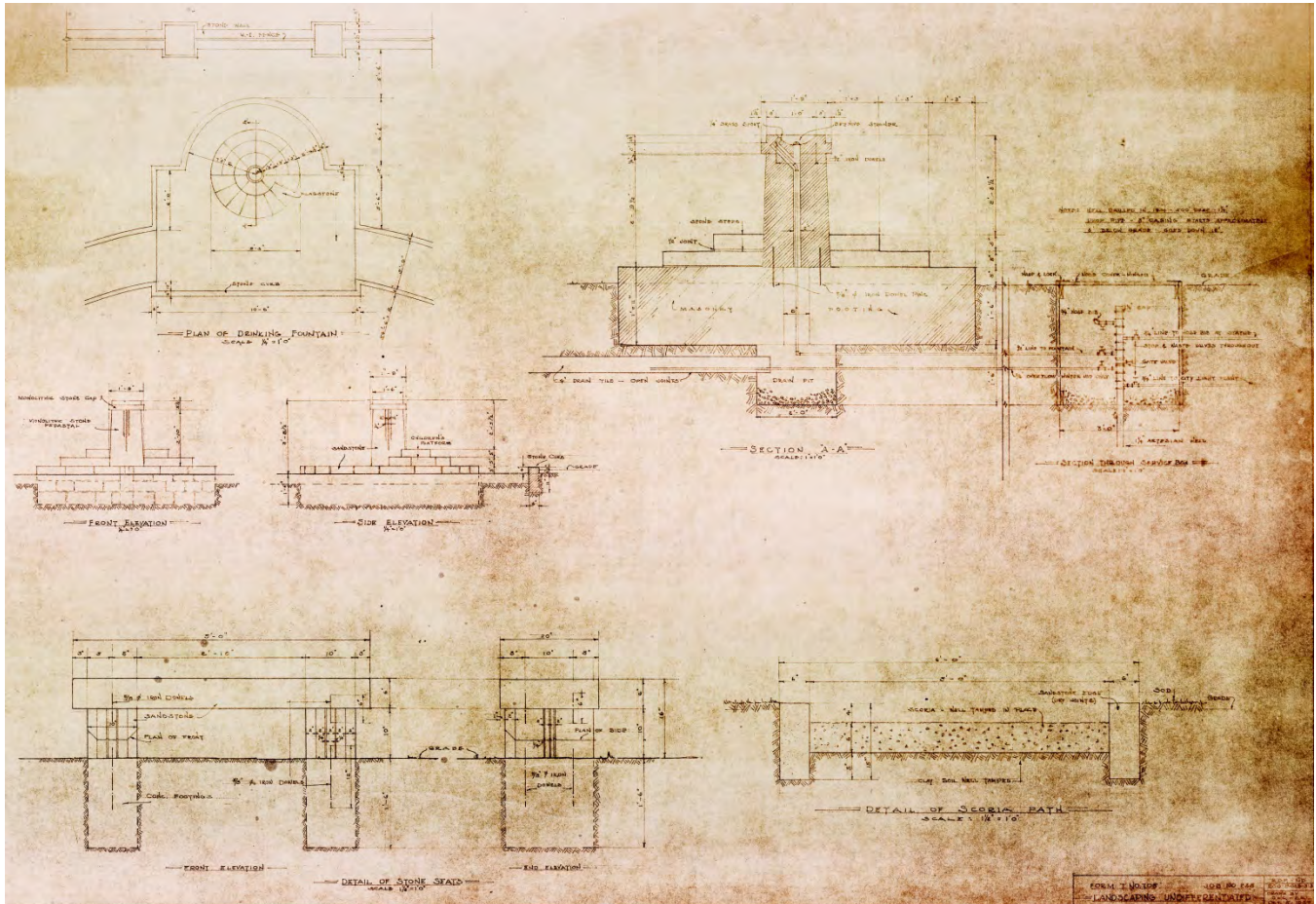


Figure 2: Plans for the drinking fountain and benches dated October 5, 1937 and drawn by what appears to be O.W.C. and B.R. Note the fountain setting in the upper left corner is from an early park plan that was revised prior to construction. SHSND AHP Historic Site files

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

De Mores Memorial Park
Name of Property
Billings County, ND
County and State
Federal Relief Construction in North Dakota, 1931-1943
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

33. Section number     Add. Documentation     Page 37

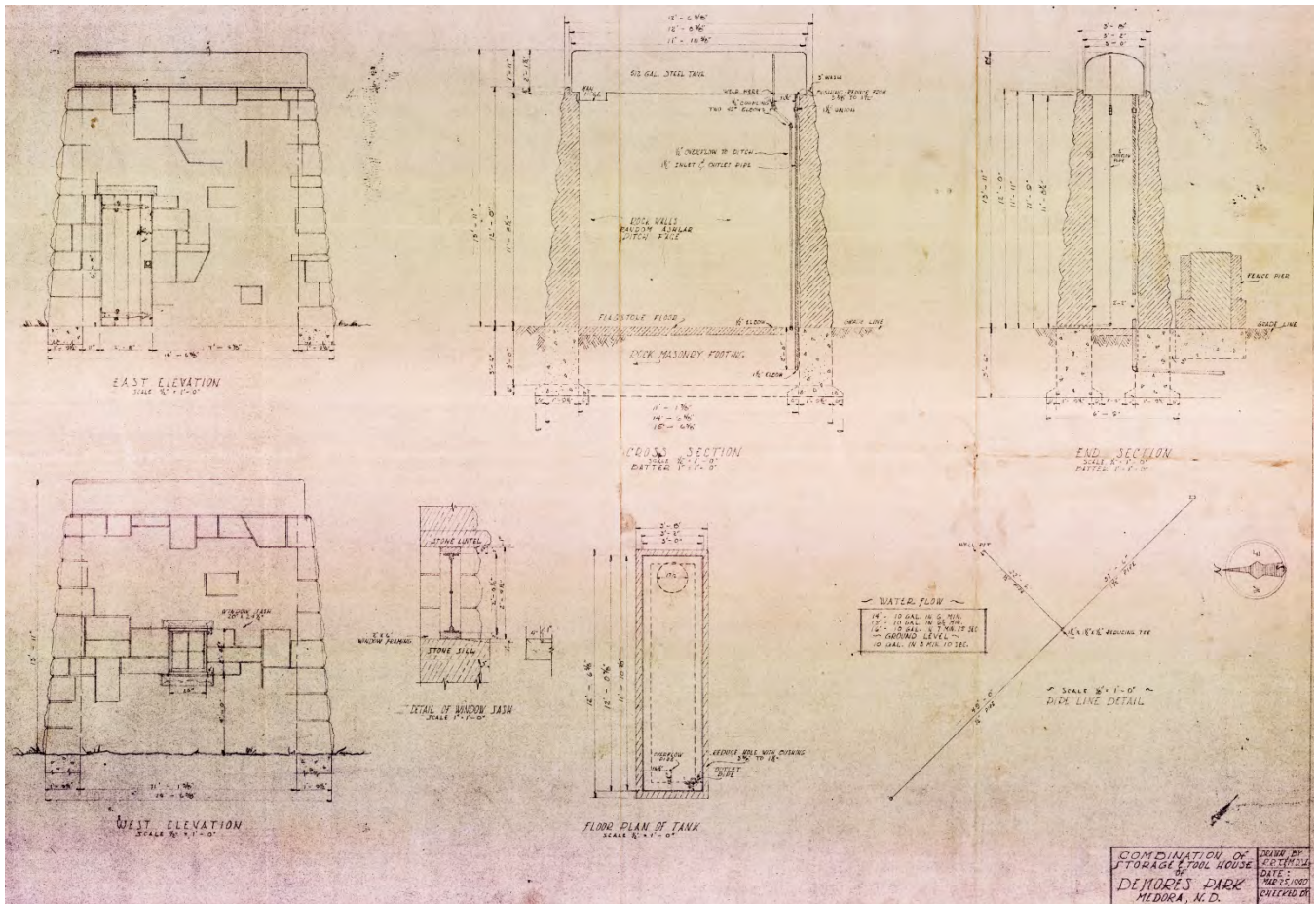


Figure 3: March 25, 1940 plans for the Combination of Storage and Tool House, drawn by R.R.T. and M.D.W. but with the “Checked By” block unsigned. SHSND AHP Historic Site files

**United States Department of the Interior**  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

De Mores Memorial Park
-----
Name of Property
Billings County, ND
-----
County and State
Federal Relief Construction in North Dakota, 1931-1943
-----
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation Page 38



Figure 4: The  
Marquis de  
Mores in the  
Badlands,

SHSND 00042-  
078

**United States Department of the Interior**  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

De Mores Memorial Park
----- Name of Property
Billings County, ND
----- County and State
Federal Relief Construction in North Dakota, 1931-1943
----- Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation Page 39



Figure 5:  
Photograph of a  
portrait of Medora  
Von Hoffman,  
SHSND AHP  
Chateau de Mores  
Collection

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

De Mores Memorial Park
Name of Property
Billings County, ND
County and State
Federal Relief Construction in North Dakota, 1931-1943
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation Page 40



Figure 6: Copy from SHSND AHP Chateau de Mores Collection















DE MORES





IN MEMORY OF  
ANTOINE MARCHE DE VILLOMBROSA  
MARQUIS DE MORES  
LIEUTENANT FRENCH CAVALRY  
BORN IN PARIS 1838  
KILLED IN NORTH AFRICA 1896  
AND OF HIS WIFE  
MEDORA  
WHO FOUNDED THIS TOWN IN 1893





IN MEMORY OF  
ANTOINE MANCA DE VALLOBROSA  
MARQUIS DE MORES  
LIEUTENANT FRENCH CAVALRY  
BORN IN PARIS 1868  
KILLED IN NORTH AFRICA 1896  
AND OF HIS WIFE  
**MEDORA**  
WHO FOUNDED THIS TOWN IN 1803







## Tribute to the Civilian Conservation Corps

*"I propose to create a Civilian Conservation Corps...We can take a vast army of these unemployed out into healthful surroundings. We can eliminate to some extent at least the threat that enforced idleness brings to spiritual and moral stability."*

*President Franklin Delano Roosevelt's message to Congress, 1933*

This commemorative plaque is placed in honor of the work performed by the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) Companies #2767 and #2772 in North Dakota, as a lasting tribute to the young men who chose the opportunity to work rather than accept welfare during the Great Depression.

Through the efforts of the CCC and similar work programs, the country gained new bridges, roads, trails, culverts, picnic shelters, campgrounds, and parks, many of which are still in use today. In turn, the men of the CCC experienced social, intellectual, and occupational growth and were able to ease the financial burden of their families. In the nine-year life of the organization, more than three million men working for the CCC nationwide helped feed their families by serving their country for a dollar a day. Called the "Unknown Heroes," the Civilian Conservation Corps reclaimed and beautified the land, leaving their work as a legacy to past, present, and future generations of Americans.

Between 1933 and 1941, under the direction of the National Park Service and other federal agencies, CCC crews developed the Chateau de Mores State Historic Site and what is now Theodore Roosevelt National Park. Camp #2767 was located near Medora and later replaced by camp #2772. An additional camp, #2771, was located near the north unit of what is now Theodore Roosevelt National Park.

This plaque is placed here through the cooperative efforts of:

Merlin and Dorothy Dahl, Mandan, North Dakota  
Weldon W. and Marjorie Gratten, Medora, North Dakota  
Stanley Hettman, Larslan, Montana  
Ted and Dolores Will, Bismarck, North Dakota  
The State Historical Society of North Dakota  
Theodore Roosevelt National Park  
Medora Heritage Commission, Medora, North Dakota

National Register of Historic Places  
Memo to File

# Correspondence

The Correspondence consists of communications from (and possibly to) the nominating authority, notes from the staff of the National Register of Historic Places, and/or other material the National Register of Historic Places received associated with the property.

Correspondence may also include information from other sources, drafts of the nomination, letters of support or objection, memorandums, and ephemera which document the efforts to recognize the property.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Requested Action:

Property Name:

Multiple Name:

State & County:

Date Received: 1/28/2019      Date of Pending List:      Date of 16th Day:      Date of 45th Day: 3/14/2019      Date of Weekly List:

Reference number:

Nominator:

Reason For Review:

Accept       Return       Reject      3/4/2019 Date

Abstract/Summary  
Comments:

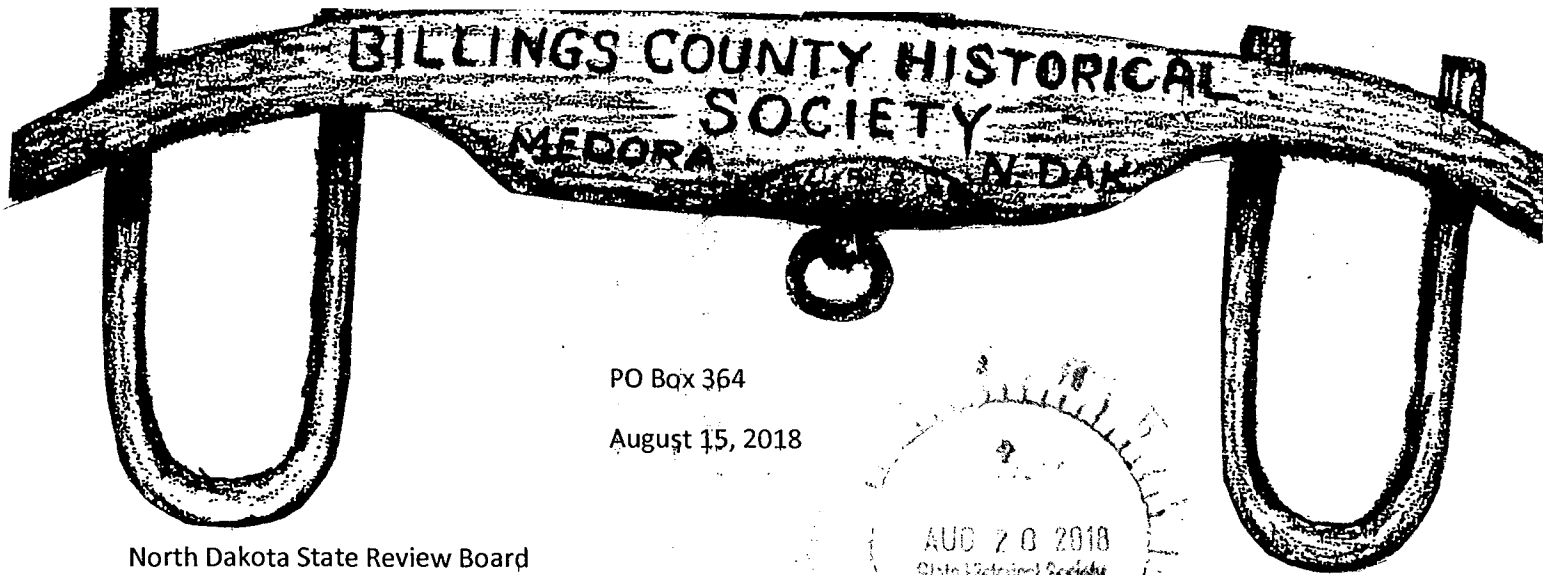
Recommendation/  
Criteria

Reviewer Roger Reed  Discipline Historian

Telephone (202)354-2278 Date \_\_\_\_\_

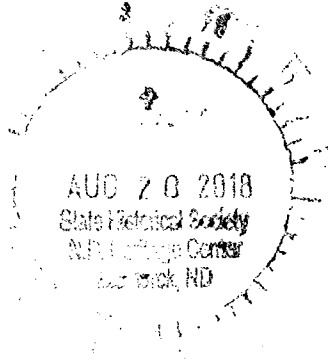
DOCUMENTATION:    see attached comments : No    see attached SLR : No

If a nomination is returned to the nomination authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the National Park Service.



PO Box 364

August 15, 2018



North Dakota State Review Board

612 East Boulevard Ave

Bismarck, ND 58505

Review Board of ND:

Please vote **NO** on listing the De Mores Memorial Park on National Register of Historic Places until the CCC wall surrounding this park can be fully restored back to its original condition since it has been recently altered with a ten foot hole.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

*Carmen Zuroff, vice pres.*

Rodney Krogh, President Billings County Historical Society

*Rodney Krogh*

Carmen Zuroff, Vice-President Billings County Historical Society

*Carmen Zuroff*

Connie Hartman, Treasurer Billings County Historical Society

*Connie M. Hartman*

Diane Buckman, Secretary Billings County Historical Society

*Diane Buckman*

Ruth Ehrmantraut

*Ruth Ehrmantraut*

- member / Board

Bambi Mansfield

*Bambi L. Mansfield*

- museum manager

BCHS

Joseph A. Armbrust

*Joseph A. Armbrust* member of board



Carmen Zuroff  
PO Box 408  
Medora ND 58645

North Dakota State Review Board

612 East Boulevard Ave

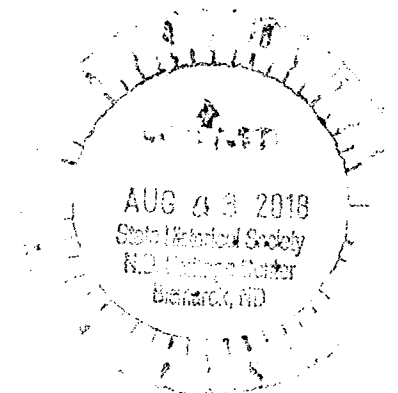
Bismarck, ND 58505

Review Board of ND:

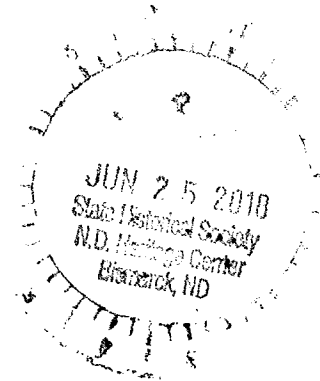
Please **stop the process** of moving forward with putting the De Mores Memorial Park on the National Historic Register **until the CCC's wall surrounding the park can be restored back to its original state.** Having a ten foot hole in the wall is NOT how I would like to see this park presented.

Thank you for any consideration you can give us until this matter is resolved.

Respectfully,



Carmen Zuroff  
PO Box 408  
Medora, ND 58645  
June 22, 2018



State Historical Society of North Dakota  
Board of Directors  
612 East Boulevard Avenue  
Bismarck, ND 58505

Dear SHSND Board of Directors:

I am a long-time Medora resident and descend from two very old Medora families-the Reid's and the Connell's, first settling here in 1892. I had uncles on both my mother's and father's sides that were in this area's Civilian Conservation Corps, the [CCC's] building structures in the late 1930's and 1940's.

I can't begin to tell you how infuriated I am by the ten-foot section removed from the De Mores Memorial Park this spring. I don't know when it ever became acceptable for the State Historical Society of North Dakota to stop protecting our historic structures, This was a dereliction of duty at the highest level, as was allowing special favors to be granted to the Theodore Roosevelt Medora Foundation [TRMF] when they put forth this abominable proposal. This is the EXACT thing the SHSND should never have allowed. To add more fuel to my fury was the Memorandum of Agreement contract signed between the SHSND and the TRMF giving them special privileges again to extend their already large town square patio into De Mores Memorial Park, host private events and basically change the quiet aesthetics of this park into a beer garden. The alteration of the De Mores Memorial Park wall never went through Medora City zoning.

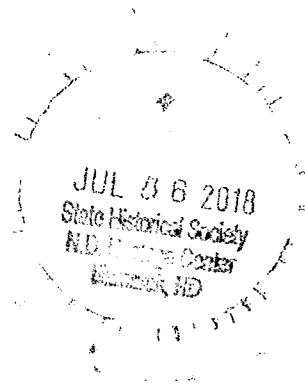
Everyone at the SHSND must know this was wrong. There is only one answer to this and no acceptable compromise. **The stone wall needs to be restored back to its original state.** And it needs to be completed before August 1<sup>st</sup> so that the paperwork can be completed for the park's entry into the National Historic Register with the surrounding wall restored.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Carmen Connell Zuroff". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Carmen (Connell) Zuroff

Derwin Zuroff  
PO Box 408  
Medora, ND 58645  
June 25, 2018



Board of Directors  
State Historical Society of North Dakota  
612 East Boulevard Avenue  
Bismarck, ND 58505

Dear SHSND Board of Directors:

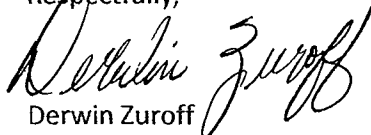
As a longtime resident and business owner in Medora, I am astonished at the blatant disregard of history by the State Historical Society of ND in allowing the destruction of a portion of the De Mores Memorial Park wall. How could the State Historical Society of ND have removed a ten foot section of the wall built by the CCC's in the 1930's when we entrust you to protect the park from this type of destruction. In my opinion it is criminal! For anyone to think that the wall has less value than the statue is not seeing it as it was meant to be seen.

The fact the whole process was an underhanded attempt to slide through, without input from zoning, Medora City Council, and Medora residents is unconscionable. Furthermore, the fact that the process to have it listed on the National Historic Register was delayed until after a section of the wall was removed and then restarted is at the **very least underhanded**.

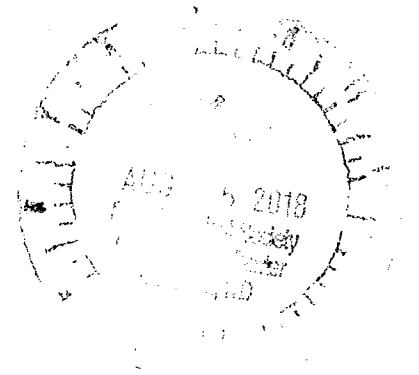
I've been told the origin of this situation was that SHSND wanted someone else to maintain this park. While I find this hard to believe, it no doubt played a huge part in the SHSND making a deal with TRMF in allowing the destruction of part of the wall for TRMF's commercial use. The Memorandum of Agreement between the SHSND and TRMF allows the park to be used in a questionable manner which begs the question does TRMF not have enough property of their own to hold these functions. Do we need to use every space in Medora for commercial purposes? I feel the De Mores Memorial Park design was never intended to be used for commercial purposes. It has always been one of the only places in Medora that you could go for quiet low-key use.

As a resident of Medora, I would like the wall be restored to its original state and the MOA between the SHSND and TRMF be discontinued. This should be done in a timely manner as to not interfere with the process and timing of this park's acceptance to the National Historic Register.

Respectfully,

  
Derwin Zuroff

Derwin Zuroff  
PO Box 408  
Medora, ND 58645  
Aug 10, 2018



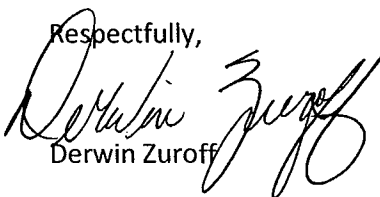
North Dakota State Review Board  
612 East Boulevard Ave  
Bismarck, ND 58505

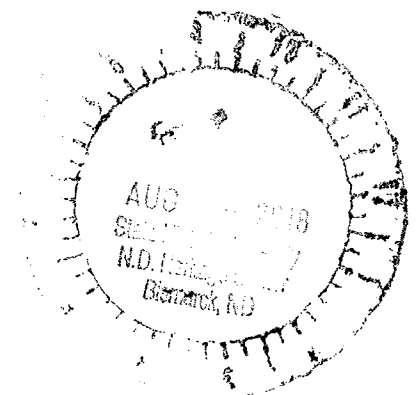
Review Board of ND:

Please do not vote in favor of de Mores Memorial Park becoming a part of the National Register of Historic Places with the ten foot section of wall removed. I would be in favor of de Mores Memorial Park being listed on the National Register of Historic Places if and when the wall is completely restored to its original state.

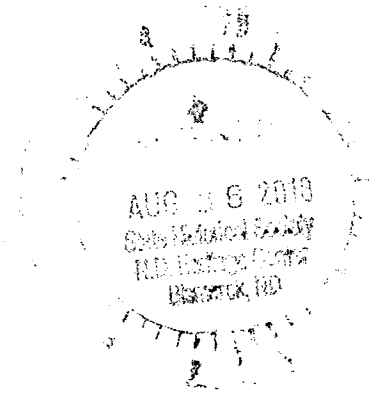
Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

  
Derwin Zuroff



July 31, 2018



Director Claudia Berg

Ref: Non-Compliance

612 East Boulevard

Bismarck, North Dakota 58505

Dear Director Berg:

I recently went to the park known as the DeMores Park in Medora that is operated by your offices. At first I was pleased with the high state of maintenance and preservation but then I saw an ugly hole in the wall. Upon inquiry I was told that the Theodore Roosevelt Medora Foundation (The Foundation) was going to use the park for it's business events and wanted easy access. I was taken back that a business entity would have such influence the SHPO would actually pay to destroy the historical integrity of a CCC constructed facility that was nominated to the National Register. What you have done is essentially destroyed part of a historic wall and given away a piece of choice real estate for uses that are not compatible with the intent of the park without benefit of public input or knowledge. Once this use is allowed it will be politically impossible to cancel it. The damage from spills and food service will be irreparable.

The Foundation has done many things of high quality and has been a "good neighbor" to me. But for the state to basically turn over the use of the park to any entity for uses that are not compatible with the park's purpose and that will undoubtedly destroy the "quiet reflective" nature the park was designed to offer, is beyond contemptible. You have basically given over the park to an entity that realistically is in competition with the few remaining private food and beverage businesses.

Here are the things I find offensive if not illegal:

1. The State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) is funded through federal money from the Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (16USC470). Duties of the SHPO require that they find eligible historic sites and nominate them to the National Register. The SHPO and Deputy SHPO failed in their duties because they did not submit the application for this park to be added to the National Register when it was recommended. Clearly, they delayed submitting the application because they were contacted by Foundation staff requesting delay of nomination. Unbelievably, they evidently then paid for destroying the wall to facilitate an incompatible use through a secret process
2. The state officials violated every rule of historic preservation by paying for the destruction of the historic wall. If they used federal funding in anyway their funding should be cut.

3. The request to “destroy the wall” has been on the table for many years. Previous SHPO’s and other staff continued to discourage that action. Why now, when the wall is even older and more historic, would it seem to be an appropriate action?
4. Records show that the state (aka tax dollars) has invested over \$100,000 dollars to repair the wall and in 2016 spent another \$13,000 to improve the park. Since the plan now is to allow food and drink and parties in the park on a regular basis, doesn’t this represent an expenditure of public funds to improve a facility for a private entity. (While the Foundation is in part non-profit but in reality it is in direct competition with other food and beverage establishments. Yet no other entity was offered the opportunity to compete for this exclusive privilege.)
5. Any reasonable planner looking at Medora would argue that with sidewalks and business packed throughout the summer there is a crying need for a place for quiet reflection. Once this is turned over to the Foundation it will be inundated not just during meals but continually with staff preparing and cleaning up after use. It was never intended to be a “beer garden” atmosphere and the SHPO’s failure to manage it in accordance with the original design and intent shows a blaring lack of professionalism.
6. It is my understanding that with budget cuts at the Chateau maintenance staff was cut to one person and that was the catalyst for even considering turning maintenance of the facility over to another entity. I also understand that there are three maintenance workers now at the Chateau so I question why they aren’t able to maintain it as is their duty.
7. There was no public hearing nor public notification of this action. It seems to me that IF the intent was to reduce maintenance costs for the state, a competitive and open process that would have considered all proposals from all entities would have yielded a better “deal” for the state and more compatible uses.
8. At no time was the city or the National Park Service that oversees funding and management of the National Register given the opportunity to take over maintenance of the park. It seems any state would first turn to its local and national governments for assistance before allowing the destruction of a historic CCC wall over to non-compatible uses
9. It is not realistic to think the park can incur food and beverage users on a regular basis and not be damaged. Nor is it realistic to think other users will not be forced from the park by the hubbub of a large group eating and drinking and creating an atmosphere that this park was absolutely not designed for. Drawings and records on file in the state museum clearly show the intent of the park was not as a “recreational city park”. Again, the SHPO has completely failed to understand their responsibility to manage historic properties to protect the property and maintain uses that are compatible with the original intent. (If the Foundation were to use the park for educational talks and events that are in complete accord with the park and do not limit other users.
10. The park has rarely if ever even hosted a family reunion. Families from the area instinctively realize that is an incompatible and likely destructive use of the park.

In closing, I urge that you withdraw the politically motivated agreement for the Foundation to use the park. I further urge you to repair the wall to historic structure

standards and limit the park's uses to those that are compatible with the intent of the park. Your failure to do so would be a mockery of the responsibilities you are charged with.

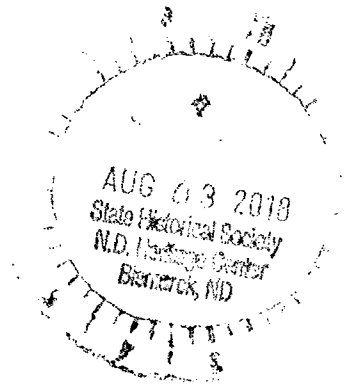
Sandra Holsten

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "S. Holsten".

CC: Governor, Congressional delegation, Medora City Council, National Historic Preservation Office

July 30, 2018

Lorna Meidinger, Architectural Historian  
Board of Directors  
ND State Historical Society  
612 E. Boulevard Ave.  
Bismarck, ND 58505



Dear Lorna Meidinger,

Writing concerning the action of Claudia Berg and Fern Swenson their authorizing of the partial destruction of the de Mores Park in Medora.

I was born, raised and have lived my entire life of 66 years at Medora and the Badlands of North Dakota. Have served on both the city board and the zoning board in the past. The city of Medora has not only worked with the State Historical Society, but also agreed to dedicate 2.5% city tax to pay off the financial obligation of the over budget cost of building a new Interpretive Center. The past 35 years the State Historical site has presented plans for changes to the Medora Zoning Board for approval.

Randy Hatzenbuhler made the request in 1999 to put a hole in the wall of the de Mores Park and was told by the site manager that would not happen.. This supervisor was doing her job and that was to preserve the history of the de Mores Park.

The Director for the Historic Preservation had an application almost ready to submit in January 2018 to have the de Mores Park listed in the National Register of Historical Places when she was advised by Fern Swenson to stop the application and wait until the hole was completed and redo her application to have the de Mores Park listed with the hole in the wall! This is the most ridiculous, and sickest thing ever and we are paying people with our tax money to protect and save our historic sites and treasures but instead they destroy a historic site and a treasure like the de Mores Park. I feel this would possibly qualify as a criminal offense to remove this wall.

If it was not for the Marquis de Mores and his wife Medora there would have never been the little town of Medora! The Vallombrosa brothers, Louie and Paul sons of the Marquis and Marquise de Mores commissioned the full length bronze statute in the center of the **Demores Memorial Park**! Note this has been a **memorial** park for 92 years!

The SHSND and the TRMF should be both be ashamed of this terrible destruction of the Demores Memorial Park they are involved in together. The SHSND using our taxpayers money and the other entity using it for commercial use to make money for the TRMF which is suppose to be non-profit.

I request that the Advisory Board of the ND State Historical Society mandate that the rocks be replaced to its previous complete condition. I urge you to vote NO to approving the application of the De Mores Park for the National Register of Historic Places at this time until the wall has been put back in this historic site.. Lots of people that come to town stated their all time favorite spot is the beautiful quiet De Mores Park. Now there are comments how terribly shocked and devastated they are about the removal of the wall when they come to Medora.

Sincerely,

Sheila Marie  
P.O. Box 355  
Medora, ND 58645



North Dakota State Review Board  
612 East Boulevard Ave  
Bismarck, ND 58505



Review Board of ND:

Please **stop the process** of moving forward with putting the De Mores Memorial Park on the National Historic Register **until the CCC's wall surrounding the park can be restored back to its original state.** Having a ten foot hole in the wall is NOT how I would like to see this park presented.

Thank you for any consideration you can give us until this matter is resolved.

Respectfully,

*Sheela Marie*  
*P.O. Box 355*  
*Medora, ND*  
*58645*

August 17, 2018

North Dakota State Review Board

612 East Boulevard Avenue

Bismarck, North Dakota 58505

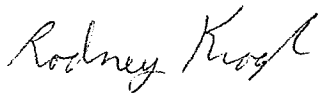
Review Board of North Dakota:

Please vote NO on listing the De Mores Memorial Park on the National Register of Historic Places until the CCC wall surrounding this park can be fully restored back to its original condition. It is akin to vandalism to have a ten foot hole in the wall recently created for the sole benefit of one corporation.

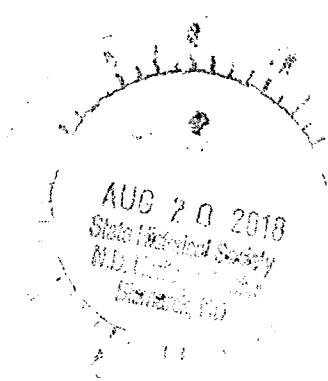
This hole should be repaired to restore the integrity of the fence and the park. The hole in the wall built in honor of the men working in the Civilian Conservation Corp is an insult to my Father, Uncle and all of the other men who spent much time and energy into making this country better. No one would think of cutting a hole in the wall of Memorial to Vietnam Veterans and this wall should be protected in the same manner.

Again please vote no on placing the De Mores Memorial Park on the National Register of Historic Places until the wall can be restored to its original condition and insist that the State Historical Society repair the wall as soon as possible. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Rodney Krogh, Billings County Resident



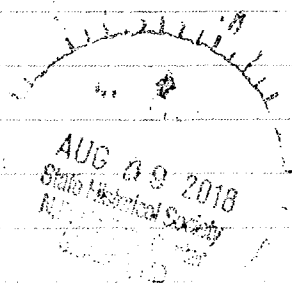
Medora, N.D.  
August 06, 2018

National Historic Preservation Review Board  
Attn: Lorna Meidinger

Board Members:

"Please" do not approve the application concerning the De Mores Park in Medora, N.D. to the National Historic Preservations Register!! I am in favor of this park being put on the National Register but only if the hole which was cut and removed on the east side of the wall in April of 2018 is replaced/repaired prior to application for the Historic Register.

Sincerely  
Mary Lou Ryden  
Medora, N.D.





Aug 24, 2018  
PO Box 174  
Medora ND 58645

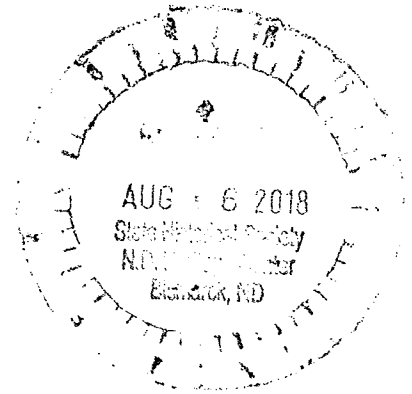
State Review Board for  
National Historic Preservation Designation  
for deMours Memorial Park in Medora  
612 E Boulevard Ave  
Bismarck ND 58505

Dear Review Board Members,

I am strongly OPPOSED to your acceptance of the application for designating deMours Park in Medora to the National Historic Preservation listing UNLESS the 10 ft hole in the stone wall around the park is restored to the condition that it was in when the park was dedicated to the ND State Historical Society with the intention that they would preserve and honor deMours Park. It is shameful that they have instead ordered it to be disfigured at the expense of North Dakota taxpayers!

Please vote NO - do not accept the application in current form.

Mary Griffin  
Medora resident



North Dakota State Review Board

612 East Boulevard Ave

Bismarck, ND 58505

Review Board of ND:

Please **stop the process** of moving forward with putting the De Mores Memorial Park on the National Historic Register **until the CCC's wall surrounding the park can be restored back to its original state.** Having a ten foot hole in the wall is NOT how I would like to see this park presented.

Thank you for any consideration you can give us until this matter is resolved.

Respectfully,

*Tim Dush*  
*P.O. Box 355*  
*Medora, N.D.*  
*58645*

North Dakota State Review Board

612 East Boulevard Ave

Bismarck, ND 58505

Review Board of ND:

Please **stop the process** of moving forward with putting the De Mores Memorial Park on the National Historic Register **until the CCC's wall surrounding the park can be restored back to its original state.** Having a ten foot hole in the wall is NOT how I would like to see this park presented.

Thank you for any consideration you can give us until this matter is resolved.

Respectfully,



July 5, 2018  
PO Box 174  
Medora ND 58645

Fern Swenson, Deputy Director  
Board of Directors  
ND State Historical Society  
612 E Boulevard Ave  
Bismarck ND 58505

Dear Mr Rockstad,

I feel compelled to write to express my dismay over the actions of Fern Swenson and Claudia Berg in their authorizing of the partial destruction of the deMores Park in Medora. As a 50 year resident and promoter of the Chateau deMores, I feel these two employees of the State of North Dakota have as much as slapped the residents of the whole State of North Dakota in the face! The City of Medora has not only worked with the State Historical Society, but also agreed to dedicate 2.5% city tax to pay off the financial obligation of the over budget cost of building a new Interpretive Center at Medora. Over the previous 35 years, the State Historic site has presented plans for changes to the site to the Medora Zoning Board for approval – even for the little greenhouse to be used to grow their own flowers!! Then, this April, without any application or discussion there appears saws and drills and other equipment and a hole is made in the sandstone wall (which was built by the CCC's in the thirties) surrounding the deMores Park. At a public meeting we were told this was done so as to accommodate the request of Theodore Roosevelt Medora Foundation for more room and space to host private parties and impress their donors. It seems more than coincidental that Randy Hatzenbuhler made the request for this hole in the wall back in 1999 and was told by the then site supervisor that it would not happen as long as she was in charge of the historic site. Oddly enough, that same employee was fired last fall for unsubstantiated reasons and within 6 months there is a gaping hole in the wall which is supposed to surround deMores Park! More than a coincidence in my opinion!

Furthermore, the Director for Historic Preservation had the application almost ready to submit in January to have the deMores Park be listed on the National Register of Historic Places – when she was advised by Fern Swenson to stop the application and wait until the hole was completed and then to re-do her application to have the deMores Park listed on the National Register with the hole shown in the rock wall! As a North Dakota taxpayer, I feel that directive is close to a criminal offense! We pay our taxes to pay the salaries of the State Historic employees to protect our historic treasures and then they purposefully rob us of one of those treasures! Not what I consider “working for the people of North Dakota”. I would dare to say that if a room was removed from the former Governor’s Mansion just to benefit some non-profit organization that it would not be looked on kindly.....and neither should the hole in the wall at deMores Park be accepted! As a resident of Medora and North Dakota and a

citizen of the United States, I request that the Advisory Board of the ND State Historical Society mandate that the rocks be replaced and the wall re-established to its previous complete condition! I also request that the Board closely examine the actions of these two employees of the State Historical Society and demand justification for all their actions over the last 9 months. I truly do not feel that they are doing what we are paying them to do! -and I also know of cases of verbal harassment being used in the workplace – unacceptable on my tax dollars.

AND I urge you to vote NO to approving the application of deMores Park for the National Register of Historic Places due to the fact that it is not in its original condition. Eight years ago when I inquired of Claudia about the possibility of help with preserving an old log lodge she told me if it was not in its original condition that it did not qualify for assistance from National Preservation. Same should hold true to the rock wall around deMores Park.

I trust you will see to it that the employees of the ND State Historical Board actually enforce preservation, rather than being convinced by one entity to devalue a treasure for that entity's gain! Furthermore the non-profit is not supposed to be in competition to private businesses, and I feel this is giving them unfair advantage being their property adjoins the deMores Park.

Sincerely,

Mary Griffin-Abrahamson

PO Box 174,

Medora ND 58645



*Steve C. Martens; Architect*  
architecture & historic preservation  
NDSU Emeritus Professor  
martensfrozenmusic@gmail.com  
PO Box 742  
Fargo, ND 58107-0742

Fern Swenson; Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer  
State Historical Society of North Dakota

August 30, 2017

(2018)

RE: DeMores Memorial Park National Register eligibility

Dear Fern;

I still plan on attending the State Review Board meeting tomorrow, to show my support for NRHP listing of the Demores Memorial Park. I neglected to ask for a copy of the draft nomination, and I realize I've long-since missed the opportunity for written public comment 30-days prior to the meeting, so I certainly understand if there is no way for my ill-timed comments to find their way into NRHP consideration of this nomination. In Lorna's absence, I'm not sure who will be presenting the nominations to the SRB. If you be willing to share a pdf copy of the final nomination with me prior to its posting on the NPS web site, I would certainly be interested in being better informed. As an architectural historian research consultant, I strongly support this NRHP listing based on the documentary evidence of its significance.

I believe the 2010 MPDF I authored for "Federal Work Relief Construction in North Dakota, 1931-1943" makes a compelling, persuasive case for NRHP eligibility of Demores Memorial Park. As I shared with you informally, I further hope that recent concerns over the maintenance/management plan for this historic resource will have no adverse effect on its material integrity or the eligibility of a clearly-significant historic landscape resource.

After 50-years of involvement, I'm increasingly mindful of the importance of an NRHP nomination to place research discovery on the public record, for the information of interested scholars as well as the general public. Out of respect for my old friend, the late Marjorie Neuens Gratton, my sincere hope would be that the Demores Memorial Park nomination as forwarded for NPS acceptance is written in a way the clearly and convincingly acknowledges the especially productive collaborative relationship between SHSND then-Director Russell Reid and administrative staffers and designers with federal work-relief agencies, especially Weldon Gratton who delineated his design ideas for a remarkable, xeriscaped, (sustainable dryland) historic designed landscape.

With respect to National Register Criterion "C", Demores Memorial Park is one of the earliest designed landscapes in North Dakota constructed according to the design vision of an academically-trained Landscape Architect. I hope my article in *North Dakota History* (v.80:n.2) reinforces that claim. In light of recent efforts to renew the park's living landscape consistent with Weldon Gratton's well-informed original design intent, using an aesthetic assortment of indigenous local plantscape materials so well suited to the dryland landscape, might it be feasible to display the park design as part of its interpretation?

Knowing the thoroughness with which staff architectural historian Lorna Meidinger prepares National Register submissions, I suspect she had the foresight to include with the Additional Documentation section, graphic documentation of Gratton's meticulously delineated plan for the park from the SHSND records, to illustrate the historic park's appropriate palette of indigenous materials and native Badlands plant species like buffalo grass turf, Badlands cedars, Russian olives, aromatic Sumac and junipers, and flanking Cottonwood trees, in addition to cultivated wild prairies roses. The gravity-fed watering system and water holding reservoir Gratton designed are really quite innovative.

One of the challenges of treating cultural landscapes in North Dakota is the shortage of expert opinions and historic designed landscapes. I'm glad you were able to involve someone from NPS in the course of your site visit. Might it be feasible to develop a brief management plan reflecting the measures that have been taken to renew the De Mores Memorial Park consistent with its historic characteristics? An aspect of the management plan could be the addition of interpretive panels explaining the park's design significance and its importance to the historic integrity of Medora, for the benefit of all citizens and visitors. Based on the 2010 statewide survey of Depression-era Work Relief Construction, I realize that the bronze dedication plaque that was installed by in De Mores Memorial Park on the 60th anniversary reunion of the CCC work adds important interpretive information about the park's design and construction.

As a long-time former State Review Board member, I commend the continuing effort by SHSND to recognize the historic significance of Demores Memorial Park with appropriately detailed and well-supported National Register documentation. This designed historic landscape is of pivotal importance as a well-preserved example of federal work relief construction, reflecting favorably on the positive, constructive, longstanding relationship of trust between Russell Reid and designers within CCC and the other federal agencies.

In professional friendship, with best regards;

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steve Martens". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Steve" being larger and more prominent than the last name "Martens".

Steve C. Martens  
Architectural Historian  
PO Box 742  
Fargo, ND 58107-0742

[martensfrozenmusic@gmail.com](mailto:martensfrozenmusic@gmail.com)  
701 361 3943

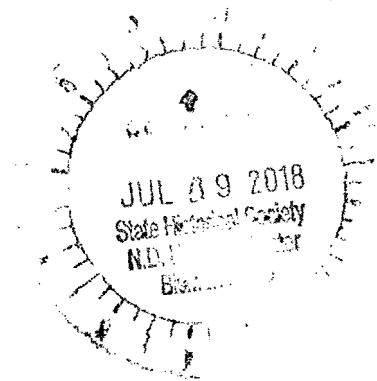
Medora & Billings County Residents

Derwin and Carmen Zuroff

PO Box 408

Medora, ND 58645

June 8, 2018



State Historical Society of North Dakota

Terrance Rockstad, President

Gereld Gerntholz, Vice President

Hon. Patrick Weir, Secretary

Claudia Berg, Director

Fern Swenson, Deputy Director

Lorna Meidinger, Architectural Historian

Tom Linn, Architectural Project Manager

Secretary of State Alvin A. Jaeger, Statutory Member

Director of Tourism, Sara Otte Coleman, Statutory Member

612 East Boulevard Ave

Bismarck, ND 58505

Re: de Mores Statue Park Structural Alteration

State Historical Society of North Dakota:

We are writing to you as concerned residents and business owners of Medora. We recently attended the last Medora City Council meeting of June 5, 2018. All of us were shocked by the recent lack of protocol of the State Historical Society of North Dakota's failure to present their De Mores Memorial Park wall alteration through Medora City Zoning. In Medora's past the SHSND has always gone through the proper channels of sharing its plans and proposals with the city of Medora and seeking the city's input. This case leaves the residents of Medora wondering why proper steps were not taken. This letter contains three requests.

1. We hereby request that the De Mores Memorial Park wall be restored back to its original state.
2. We hereby request a hearing in Medora on the above issue.
3. We hereby request a termination of the current Memorandum of Agreement contract (on De Mores Memorial Park) between Theodore Roosevelt Medora Foundation (TRMF) and the State Historical Society of North Dakota (SHSND.)

Contact person for the above requests are Medora Zoning Board member and newly-elected Medora City councilman, Doug Ellison, 701-623-4345 or Medora resident and businessman, Derwin Zuroff, 701-623-4488.

We respectfully request that this issue be given immediate and expedited priority as to meet with deadlines of the paperwork currently being written for this site's Historic Register status.

Respectfully,

1. Derwin Zuroff Derwin ZUROFF P.O. Box 408, 410 3rd St. Medora, ND 58644
2. ~~Derwin Zuroff~~ ~~362 3rd St. Medora, ND 58644~~
3. Carmen Zuroff Carmen ZUROFF, P.O. Box 408, 410 3rd St. Medora, ND 58645
4. ~~Derwin Zuroff~~ 345 3RD STREET MEDORA, ND 58645
- Mary Griffin-Abrahamson Mary Griffin-Abrahamson P.O. Box 174, Medora ND 58645  
162 Griffin Drive, Medora ND 58645
- Norma Myer 175 Pacific Ave. Medora, N.D. 58645
- DENIS JOYCE 225 E. RIVER RD. S. Medora ND 58645
- Tim Irish Tim Irish P.O. Box 355 - Medora, N.D. 58645  
3519 E. River Rd.
- Sheila Marie Sheila Marie P.O. Box 355 - Medora, ND 58645  
3519 E. River Rd.
- Mary Jean Brannum Mary Jean Brannum P.O. Box 486 Medora, ND 58645  
Red Trail St.
- MUSICKLER  
WORBERT P.O. 123 MEDORA ND 58660
- Doug Ellison Doug Ellison P.O. Box 466 Medora, ND 58645
- Benjamin Brannum Benjamin Brannum P.O. Box 486 Medora ND 58645
- Jim Bridger Jim Bridger Box 579 MEDORA
- Justin Justin Box 241 Medora ND 58645

Historical Society Board members

15. Steve Law 175 Pacific Ave Medora, ND 58645

16. Shirley King, President Billings County Historical Society 1303 126th Ave SW Fairbield, ND 58627

17. Deani Buckman 403 4th Ave. NE Belfield, N.D. 58622

18. Corine M. Hartman 13895 TR Road Medora ND 58645

19. Russell J Mitchell 685 2nd St. So. Medora ND 58645

20. Ken Clyde 450 Broadway Medora N.D. 58645

21. Ella So Cornell 380 3rd Ave Medora, ND 58645  
Ella So Cornell

22. Todd Cornell 380 3rd Ave Medora, ND 58645

23. Rita Edland 425 Broadway Ave, Medora, ND 58645

24. Olivia Titcomb 386 Pacific Ave, Medora, ND 58645

25. Marjorie C. Lindbo 3736 Sully St. Belfield, N.D. 58622

26. George Stover 322 Pacific Ave 58645

27. Kathryn Stover 322 Pacific Ave 58645

28. Mara Obingewitz 13067 34th St SW Belfield, ND 58622

29. Marjorie Jensen P.O. Box 234 Medora, N.D. 58645

30. Beth. Tescher Clyde PO Box 487 Medora ND 58645

31. Douglas J. Jensen PO Box 234 Medora ND 58645

32. Ed [unclear] 210 3rd St Medora ND 58645

33. David R. McCowan 202 4th St Medora ND 58645

34. Joanne Joyce Joanne Joyce 225 E. River Rd. S.

35.	Jane Muggli	Jane Muggli	PO Box 26	Medora, ND
36.	Judy Babcock	Judy Babcock	3041 135th Ave. SW	Bellevue ND 58622
37.	Kim Rapp	Kimmy Rapp	PUBOX 137	MEDORA ND 58622
38.	Becky Schert	Becky Schert		Bellevue ND 58622

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA  
 COUNTY OF BILLINGS

On this 28th day of June, in the year 2018, before me personally appeared Carmen Zuroff, known to me to be the person who is described in and who executed the within and foregoing instrument, and acknowledged to me that she (he/she/they) executed the same.

**STACEY SWANSON**  
 NOTARY PUBLIC, STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA  
 MY COMMISSION EXPIRES SEPT 6, 2021

(Seal)  
Stacey Swanson Notary Public

1. Derwin Zuroff, PO Box 408, 410 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, Medora, ND 58645
2. Beverly Wilhelmi, Box 474, 362 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue, Medora, ND 58645
3. Carmen Zuroff, Vice-President Billings County Historical Society, PO Box 408, 410 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, Medora, ND 58645
4. Brad Skachenko, 345 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, Medora, ND 58645
5. Mary Griffin-Abrahamson, PO Box 174, 162 Griffin Drive, Medora, ND 58645
6. Denis Joyce, 225 East River Road S., Medora, ND 58645
7. Tim Irish, PO Box 355, 3519 East River Road, Medora, ND 58645
8. Sheila Marie, PO Box 355, 3519, East River Road, Medora, ND 58645
9. Mary Jean Brannum, PO Box 486, Red Trail Street, Medora, ND 58645
10. Norbert Sickler, PO Box 123, Medora, ND 58645
11. Doug Ellison, PO Box 456, 420 Broadway, Medora, ND 58645
12. Benjamin Brannum, PO Box 486, Red Trail Street, Medora, ND 58645
13. Jim Bridger, PO Box 579, 75 East River Road, Medora, ND 58645
14. Justin Eli, PO Box 241, Medora, ND 58645
15. Steve Law, 175 Pacific Avenue, Medora, ND 58645
16. Rodney Krogh, President Billings County Historical Society, 1303 126<sup>th</sup> Avenue SW, Fairfield, ND 58627
17. Diane Buckman, Secretary Billings County Historical Society, 403 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE, Belfield, ND 58622
18. Connie M. Hartman, Treasurer Billings County Historical Society, 13895 TR Road, Medora, ND 58645
19. Russell J. Mitchell, 685 2<sup>nd</sup> Street South, Medora, ND 58645
20. Kevin Clyde, 450 Broadway, Medora, ND 58645
21. Ella Jo Corneil, 380 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue, Medora, ND 58645
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23. Rita Edland, 425 Broadway Avenue, Medora, ND 58645
24. Olivia Titcomb, 386 Pacific Avenue, Medora, ND 58645
25. Margie C. Lindbo, 3736 Sully Street, Medora, ND 58645
26. George Stverak, 322 Pacific Avenue, Medora, ND 58645
27. Kathryn Stverak, 322 Pacific Avenue, Medora, ND 58645
28. Mara Obrigewitch, 13067 34<sup>th</sup> Street SW, Belfield, ND 58622
29. Marjorie Jensen, PO Box 234, Medora, ND 58645
30. Beth J. Tescher-Clyde, PO Box 487, 450 Broadway, Medora, ND 58645
31. Douglas Jensen, PO Box 234, Medora, ND 58645
32. Jodi Johnson, 210 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, Medora, ND 58645
33. David R. McCowan, 202 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Medora, ND 58645
34. Joanne Joyce, 225 East River Road S., Medora, ND 58645
35. Jane Muggli, PO Box 26, Medora, ND 58645
36. Judy Babeck, 3041 135<sup>th</sup> Avenue SW, Belfield, ND 58622
37. Kimmy Rappenecker, 250 Main, Medora, ND 58645
38. Becky Scheef, 13285 Franks Creek Rd, Belfield, ND 58622

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

MP3204

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.

### 1. Name of Property

Historic name: De Mores Memorial Park  
Other names/site number: 32BI1050  
Name of related multiple property listing:  
Federal Relief Construction in North Dakota, 1931-1943  
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

### 2. Location

Street & number: SE corner of Main St and 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave  
City or town: Medora State: ND County: Billings  
Not For Publication:  Vicinity:

### 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this  nomination  request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

national  statewide  local  
Applicable National Register Criteria:  
 A  B  C  D

Returned

Signature of certifying official/Title: <u>[Signature]</u> NDSHPO		Date: <u>10.15.18</u>
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government		
In my opinion, the property <input type="checkbox"/> meets <input type="checkbox"/> does not meet the National Register criteria.		
Signature of commenting official:		Date
Title :		State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

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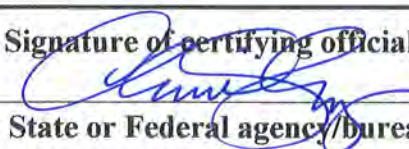
In my opinion, the property      meets      does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

     national      statewide   x   local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

  x   A      B   x   C      D

Returned

<p>Signature of certifying official/Title: <u></u> NDSHPO Date <u>10.15.18</u></p> <p>State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government</p>	
<p>In my opinion, the property <u>    </u> meets <u>    </u> does not meet the National Register criteria.</p>	
<p>Signature of commenting official:</p>	<p>Date</p>
<p>Title :</p>	<p>State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government</p>

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

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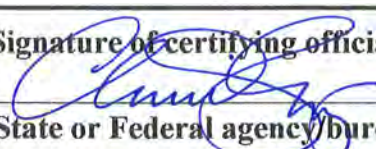
In my opinion, the property      meets      does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

     national      statewide   x   local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

  x   A      B   x   C      D

Returned

<p><b>Signature of certifying official/Title:</b>    NDSHPO</p>	<p><b>Date:</b>  <u>10-15-18</u></p>
<p><b>State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government</b></p>	
<p>In my opinion, the property <u>    </u> meets <u>    </u> does not meet the National Register criteria.</p>	
<p><b>Signature of commenting official:</b></p>	<p><b>Date</b></p>
<p><b>Title :</b></p>	<p><b>State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government</b></p>

De Mores Memorial Park  
Name of Property

Billings County, ND  
County and State

**4. National Park Service Certification**

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
- determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain:) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- Private:
- Public – Local
- Public – State
- Public – Federal

**Category of Property**

(Check only one box.)

- Building(s)
- District
- Site
- Structure
- Object

Returned

De Mores Memorial Park  
Name of Property

Billings County, ND  
County and State

**Number of Resources within Property**

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
_____	_____	buildings
1	_____	sites
_____	_____	structures
_____	_____	objects
1	_____	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register \_\_\_\_\_

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Landscape: park  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Landscape: park  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

De Mores Memorial Park  
Name of Property

Billings County, ND  
County and State

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

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

**Materials:** (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: sandstone, iron, granite, bronze

**Narrative Description**

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

**Summary Paragraph**

The De Mores Memorial Park sits on five lots at the southeast corner of Main Street and 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue in Medora, North Dakota. The rectangular park is surrounded by a stone and an iron fence with flagstone walks on the north and west sides, an alley to the south, and a neighboring property to the east. The layout of the park was designed by landscape architect Weldon Gratton. It creates a bisected half circle of flagstone walks with strategically placed benches and a water fountain that form the setting for the statue of Antoine-Amedee-Marie Vincent Manca de Vallombrosa, commonly referred to as the Marquis de Mores because of his title.

**Narrative Description**

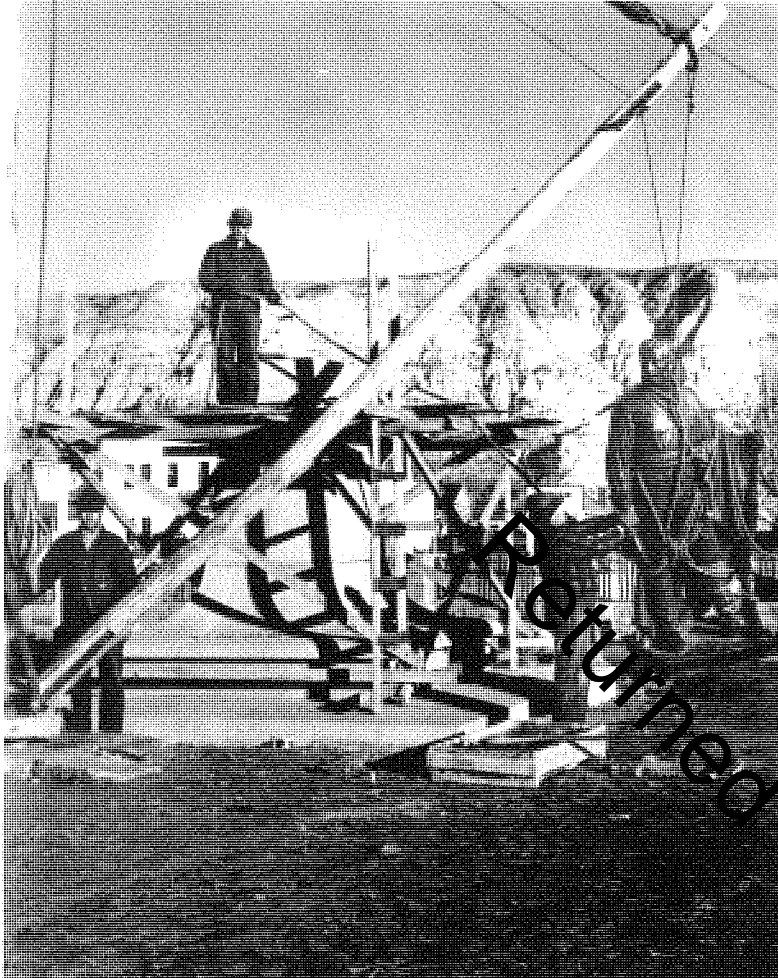
The park has been in its current location since it was founded in cooperation between Louis and Paul de Vallombrosa and the town of Medora. The de Vallombrosa brothers donated the land for the park to the town in 1924 and commissioned a statue from Pierre Marie Poisson that was cast by the F. Barbedienne Foundry. The statue was erected in June of 1926, centered along the north side of the park inside a simple fence. The park did not receive many improvements in the next ten years until it became the property of the State Historical Society of North Dakota. Making

De Mores Memorial Park

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use of the federal relief programs available in the 1930s, Weldon Gratton of the National Park Service created a new design for the park with the intention that all work would also be done under these programs.



Men from the CCC erecting the De Mores statue in its new location within the redesigned park. Exact date of the photo is not known but the stone and iron fence is visible in the background.

Following Gratton's plan, the statue was moved to its current location centered along the east side of the park and opposite the main gate. The base is made from granite and is four-sided but widens as it moves downward from the top and casts out like a bell before sitting on a square riser above a wider square platform. The statue faces west towards where the Marquis' packing plant once stood and on that side of the base, the top stone is engraved with "DE MORES". The second stone from the top on that side holds a round bronze medal with a relief of Medora Von Hoffman's, the Marquise de Mores, profile. On the east side, the second stone from the top and

continuing on the third course is engraved with the words below. The line "MEDORA" is in a larger size than the rest of the inscription.

IN MEMORY OF  
ANTOINE MANCA DE VALLOMBROSA  
MARQUIS DE MORES  
LIEUTENANT FRENCH CAVALRY  
BORN IN PARIS 1868  
KILLED IN NORTH AFRICA 1896  
AND OF HIS WIFE  
**MEDORA**

WHO FOUNDED THIS TOWN IN 1883

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While the park is a rectangle of approximately 140'x150' (including the outer flagstone walks), inside the fence the walks are designed in a bisected half circle with benches strategically located. The gate begins the bisector and at the intersection of the diameter of the circle and the bisector is a circular-plan stone water fountain on a large circular base that also has two semi-circular steps up (Figure 2). The fountain and the benches have a simple pattern of three lines carved into the base of each side. Continuing east from the fountain along the bisector leads to a rectangular area with curved corners at the northwest and southwest that serves as the immediate setting for the statue, along with four stone benches. Around the half circle path are an additional four stone benches and two modern composite benches have been added near the stone benches at the corners of the half circle. The edges of the walks have a raised 4"-6" stone curb.

East of the statue and along the outside of the half-circle walk are mulched plant beds with bushes and shrubs. Inside the half circle and west of it is primarily grassy areas with trees surrounded by small mulch beds at the corners. Due to high levels of salts in the water and various weather conditions over the years, none of the original plants have survived but the new plantings follow the original plan with a few species changes to better suit the soil and climate. Original plants included Buffalo Grass, Cottonwood, Russian Olive, and Cedar trees, Shrub Juniper, Aromatic Sumac, Flowering Currant, and Shrubby Cinquefoil. There are no longer any cottonwoods, the grass is now a blend, and potentilla has been planted in place of the currant and older cinquefoil bushes.

The whole park is surrounded by a stone and hand-hammered iron fence approximately 42" tall. The stone fence is constructed from cut stones of rectangular shape in a variety of sizes and with color variations. Each side of the park has 10 built-up pillars that are 42" square at the base and step to 36" square at the 18" height. The main corner pillars have another shallow step at the cap but the other pillars just have a small angle for shedding water. Between the pillars for two sections on either side of each corner are solid stone walls 3'3" tall and 24" wide. The middle five sections on each side have an 18" stone wall with a hand-hammered iron fence with a top rail at 39" and sharp points on top the rail reaching 42" in total height. Iron rods of 5/8" were used to create straight balusters with a point or twisted balusters without a point that were arranged in groups with a straight baluster flanking each side of the twisted baluster. The exact pattern of the balusters varied between the sections of fencing according to their length. The iron work is attributed to Einar Olson, a local rancher from Sentinel Butte, who also worked with the project supervisors to do other metal work for the area projects.<sup>1</sup>

In May 2018, the approximately 10' section of wall immediately east of the statue was removed to storage at the Chateau de Mores State Historic Site in order to create a second entrance and partner with the restaurant next door. The stones were all numbered and photographed so the section could be reconstructed in the future. The curbing of the plant area was reused as the plant bed between the stone area and the wall was removed and new sandstone of a similar color was

<sup>1</sup> Olson's most well-known design from this time is a silhouette of Theodore Roosevelt on horseback that became iconic for the Badlands in North Dakota. The original design concept by Gratton was for a relief but Olson convinced him of the merits of using a silhouette.

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placed in the new walkway. The double bench was split into two benches and those were placed in the corners near the statue, perpendicular to the existing benches west of the statue.



New entrance to De Mores Memorial Park. Photo by Lorna Meidinger May 2018.

The gate at the entrance on the west is inset 8' 9" on center from between the center pillars with curved walls of stone and iron. In front of the curved wall portion are plant beds with a raised stone curb. At this time, these beds are filled only with gravel. Between raised beds and the curved wall, the gate is two panels that open at the center with approximately 3' clearance in width. An iron post in the middle allows the gate to be closed securely if needed. Each gate panel uses the straight and twisted bar design but also has a center portion with a double scroll design.

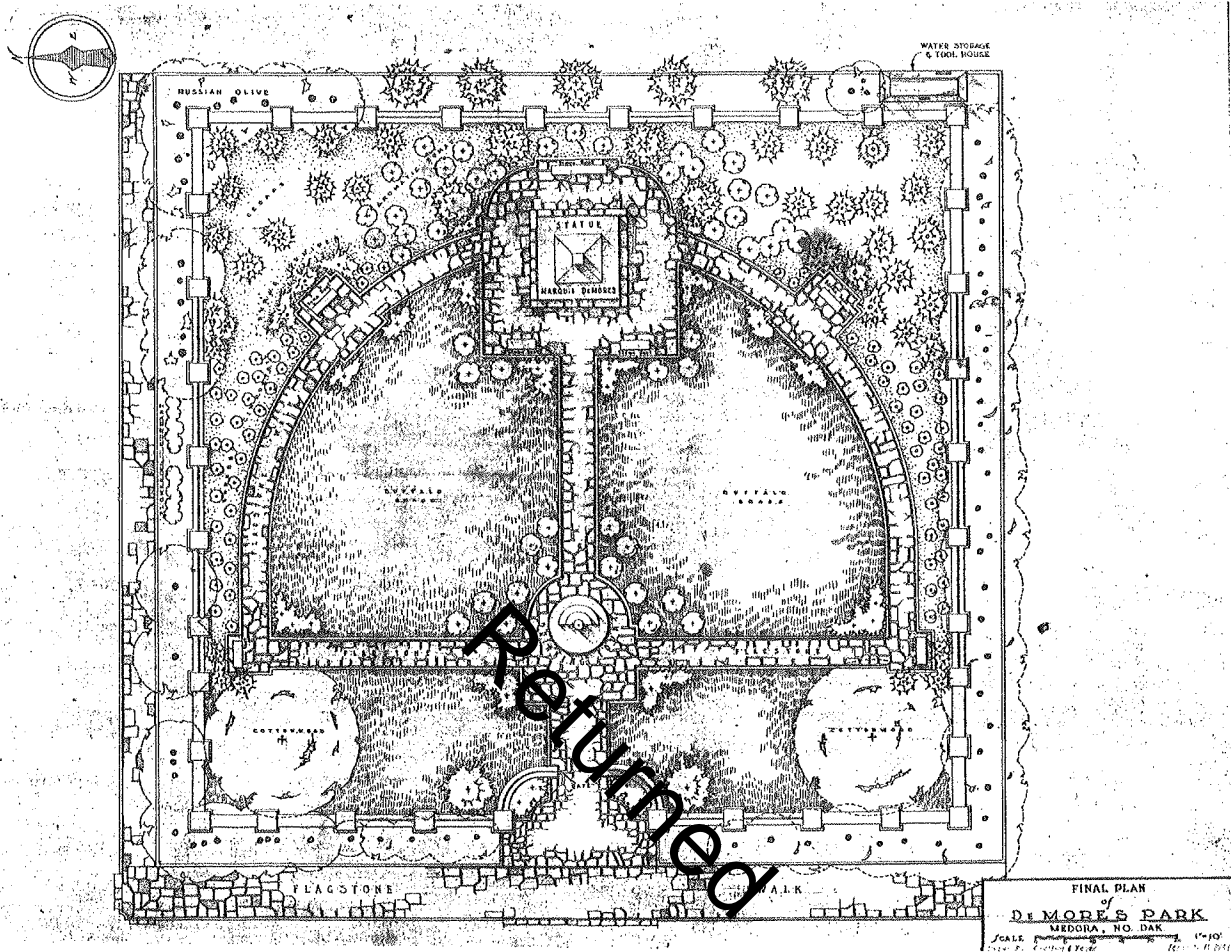
Outside the fence on the north and west sides is a flagstone walk interrupted at the northwest corner by modern concrete creating a curb-less access. The stones of the walks both outside and inside the fence have been re-grouted and there is some variation in color and texture of the grouts used. There are also areas with grout missing. Immediately outside the fence at the southern edge of the east side of the property is a stone building with a steel water tank.

The stone building is labeled as "Combination of Storage & Tool House" on a March 25, 1940 plan drawn by R.T.T. & M.D.W. (see Figure 3). The plan of the stone building is rectangular but it narrows from roughly 5' x 14' to roughly 3' x 12' as the height of the stone increases up to about 12'. The steel water tank is mostly cylindrical but appears to have a flat bottom. Inside the stone building is roughly 2' x 11' of storage space. There is a boarded opening centered on the west side where the plan called for a 20" x 24.5" window and an opening for a pedestrian door near the south end of the east side. There are hinges in place but the actual pedestrian door is not there. This building is currently being used by the owner of the property to the east, who also assists in taking care of the park. The eastern neighbor has also placed a large propane tank along the south of the stone building and fence and the sliding door from the neighbor's wooden fence extends west past the propane tank.



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This final “as built” plan by Gratton and Yauss is dated January 8, 1941.

A monument made of the same sandstone as the park fence sits outside the gate and on the grass just south of the entrance. This monument is a “Tribute to the Civilian Conservation Corps” that was erected in 1984<sup>2</sup> through the cooperation of a number of partners, one of them being Weldon Gratton.

<sup>2</sup> The exact date of erection or dedication was not found on file but a long-time employee of the State Historical Society of ND recalled the monument was part of the centennial of Medora and said it would have been planned in 1983 but likely erected in 1984.

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### 8. Statement of Significance

#### Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A. Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B. Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C. Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Returned

#### Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes
- B. Removed from its original location
- C. A birthplace or grave
- D. A cemetery
- E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure
- F. A commemorative property
- G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

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**Areas of Significance**  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Landscape Architecture  
Art  
Social History

**Period of Significance**  
1921-1940

**Significant Dates**  
1926  
1936

**Significant Person**  
(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

**Cultural Affiliation**

**Architect/Builder**  
Weldon Gratton, landscape architect  
Civilian Conservation Corps  
Einar Olson, blacksmith  
Pierre Marie Poisson, sculptor  
F. Barbedienne Foundry

Returned

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**Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph** (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

When the Marquis de Mores Antoine de Vallombrosa decided to enter the meat packing business, he chose the Badlands of North Dakota to be the primary location for the enterprise. The Marquis founded the town of Medora in 1883 and immediately started building facilities for the packing plant and support businesses as well as a summer home. One of the few men who owned land in the area, the Marquis at one time owned about 15,000 acres in the area and drove much of the development in the early years of the community. The 1/4 town block of land for the De Mores Memorial Park was donated by the Marquis' sons, who also commissioned the statue by Pierre Marie Poisson in France. The park was further developed during the next decade through Works Progress Administration and Civilian Conservation Corps projects from 1937 until 1940. The park is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places at the local level under Criterion A for Social History and under Criterion C for Art and Landscape Architecture.

**Narrative Statement of Significance** (Provide at least one paragraph for each area of significance.)

The story of the Marquis and Marquise de Mores in North Dakota begins with the Marquis' decision to start a meat-packing enterprise in the Badlands in 1883. He arrived in April of 1883 and founded the town of Medora, named for his wife Medora Von Hoffman, across the river from a small existing settlement. The Marquis had bought land and immediately began the construction of a summer home (Chateau de Mores, NRHP#75001299), processing facilities (De Mores Packing Plant Ruins, NRHP#75001300)<sup>3</sup>, and support businesses. He would also build a home for his in-laws (Von Hoffman House, NRHP#77001018), a church at the insistence of his wife (St. Mary's Catholic Church, NRHP #77001017), and lodging for his employees. Being civic minded, the Marquis was very involved with local committees and organizations as well as with organizations related to his businesses such as stockman associations. The Marquise also supported the developing community through her involvement with the church and in supporting the local school by paying the teacher's salary.

The ranch and packing business did not last long for several reasons which include: a preference by eastern household for corn-fed beef, difficulties in maintaining year-round operations, collusion between others in the business and the railroad, and a price-war. In the end, the Marquis and his family left Medora before the winter of 1886-1887 that was devastating to the local cattlemen (Theodore Roosevelt's writings from this time clearly express the situation). Much has been written about the Marquis and Marquise de Mores and their time in Medora and the Chateau de Mores is operated as an interpretive center and a state-owned historic site. Because of this, and the fact that the significance for the park is not Criterion B, that part of their

<sup>3</sup> The MPDF Federal Relief Construction in North Dakota, 1931-1943 erroneously claims on page E82 that the park was listed individually in 1975 but it was only the Chateau de Mores and De Mores Packing Plant Ruins that were listed at that time. Those two sites were not listed for their connection with the federal relief programs although that is another layer that is now recognized by historians.

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story is only touched upon here. The Marquis's last visit to Medora occurred in 1889. The Marquis employed managers for his properties in Medora but moved his focus to political endeavors in France. On a politically motivated trip to North Africa in 1896, he was killed by his Toureg guides. After the Marquis' death, Medora spent years pursuing justice for him and the surviving culprits were finally sentenced in 1902. One man was sentenced to death but Medora requested his sentence be changed to hard labor for life. The next year, Medora brought her three children to spend the summer at the Chateau in Medora and that turned out to be her last visit to the area.

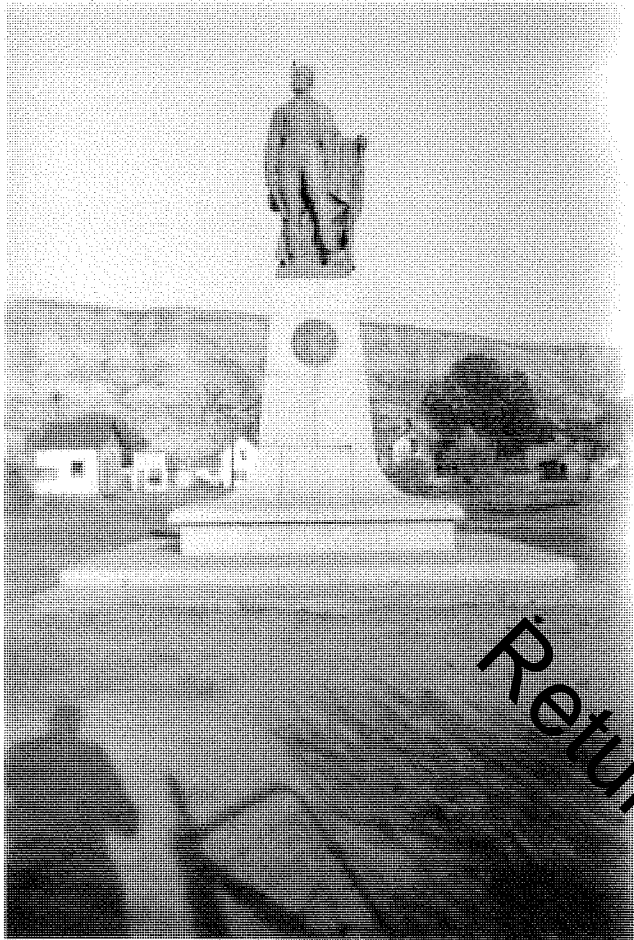
During the Great War, Medora opened her home in France for use as a hospital and sustained an injury while working as a nurse from which she never fully recovered. When the Marquise died in 1921, her sons, Louis and Paul Manca de Vallombrosa, began to pursue fulfilling her wish for a memorial park to her late husband in Medora, North Dakota. Once the estate had been settled in 1924, the sons donated the land for the park to the town and commissioned a bronze statue in France from Pierre Marie Poisson, a renowned sculptor and medalist. Poisson's formal art studies began by 1893 and he began exhibiting at the Société des Artistes Français in 1899 and they awarded him their medal of honor in 1907. Poisson also became a *Chevalier de la Légion d'honneur* in 1923 and his works include war memorials in Niort and Le Havre, busts, medals and decoration for buildings and ocean liners, with his last commission being completed in 1951. After completing his design, Poisson worked with the F. Barbedienne Foundry to cast the Marquis de Mores statue. The F. Barbedienne Foundry was started in 1838 in Paris by Ferdinand Barbedienne and Achille Collas. Originally, the foundry used a machine Collas invented to cast miniature replicas of bronze statues but they expanded in 1842 to casting the work of living artists as well. The foundry survived a financial collapse in 1848 and grew to employ 300 workers by the time of Collas' death in 1859. Barbedienne continued to operate the foundry and even produced canons during the Franco-Prussian War to keep it open. Barbedienne reverted back to art production after the war and operated the foundry until his own death in 1891. From 1891 until 1952, the foundry was operated by members of the LeBlanc family.

The completed statue was shipped to the park and erected in June of 1926. The statue was to remain veiled until the brothers could come for the dedication but in September of 1927 the local newspapers reported that a few individuals had decided the statue had been veiled long enough and burned the canvas wrapping. The newspapers speculated that the culprits did not realize that the fire would also damage the statue. The statue was soon restored and remained unveiled.

The other work done in the 1920s to create the park appears to have been minimal as photos taken before the start of the federal relief construction projects reveal a simple wire fence with a gate, little vegetation, and no pathways.

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The photo at left was taken for Arnold O. Goplen's report that was completed in 1939. It shows the setting prior to the major work at the De Mores Memorial Park.

In 1936, an agreement was reached between Louis de Vallombrosa<sup>4</sup> and the State of North Dakota to give a large amount of land to the State in care of the State Historical Society of North Dakota (SHSND) for the establishment of a museum. In those same discussions, the idea for the Town of Medora to transfer the De Mores Park to the SHSND was born and the transfer occurred shortly. Planning began and funding sources through the federal relief programs available in the 1930s were identified and pursued. Under a cooperative agreement, many of the projects for the development of the former De Mores properties fell under the projects in the Theodore Roosevelt Recreational Development Area (a portion of the area would eventually become Theodore Roosevelt National Park). That agreement led to Weldon Gratton, a landscape architect for the National Park Service, designing the De Mores Memorial Park in 1937.

Weldon Gratton was at the center of a group of dedicated individuals in the area who designed and built rustic architecture of rough-cut stone, logs, and rough-cut lumber that was sometimes embellished with iron work. These entrances, picnic shelters, small road bridges, curbs and walls are local examples of parkitecture or National Park Service rustic. As the landscape architect Gratton designed the structures, yet by temperament Gratton collaborated extensively with local builders, and with Russell Reed, superintendent of the State Historical Society, who facilitated NPS projects constructed by the CCC (Civilian Conservation Corps) and WPA (Works Progress Administration) in the 1930s.

The overall area where the federal relief construction occurred was classified as a Recreational Development Area (RDA) and the intention was to eventually have the State take ownership of it all. The RDA in the Badlands was a very large area that included a lot of land bought by the government during the 1930s as part of relief efforts. As a result of how the Homestead Act was structured, this area was populated much more densely than could be sustained agriculturally.

<sup>4</sup> Originally, all of the property was split evenly between the two brothers but by this time, Paul had signed a quit-claim deed for the Medora properties.

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The government buyouts were voluntary, with no possibility of eminent domain or takings if the owners refused, and the amount paid for land varied by quality. The rates for the land, however, were established for the quality category and not negotiated with each owner separately.<sup>5</sup>

There were three Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) companies that would work in the areas of Medora and what is now the North Unit of Theodore Roosevelt National Park with the ones near Medora being Company #2767 and Company #2772. While these companies were authorized 200 men each, Gratton remembers they typically had only around 160 men at any given time. With a number of men being required for maintaining the company camp life, only around 140 were available for construction labor. As with the other relief programs, an emphasis was placed on labor-intensive projects to ensure the money spent on the project went to the men and their families rather than for buying materials. To meet this emphasis, the sandstone for the projects at the Chateau de Mores and De Mores Memorial Park was quarried near Sentinel Butte and then hand-shaped by the men for their projects. Funding for the projects in this area included Emergency Relief Administration (ERA) and Works Progress Administration (WPA) funds but the physical labor all came from the CCC camps.



An undated newspaper clipping "Rock Shaping Crew At Work" on file in the ND State Archives shows men shaping stone for the contact station at the Chateau de Mores.

<sup>5</sup> Interview with Weldon Gratton. Theodore Roosevelt National Park.  
<http://www.theodorerooseveltcenter.org/Research/Digital-Library/Record?libID=o273539>. Theodore Roosevelt Digital Library. Dickinson State University.

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De Mores Memorial Park is historically significant as an amenity provided by the family of its founder for public enjoyment and recreation, for its art and design elements along with its craftsmanship, and for the opportunity the improvement projects provided to further benefit local residents and visitors under the federal relief programs of the Great Depression era. The park is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places at the local level under Criterion A for Social History and under Criterion C for Art and Landscape Architecture.

Returned



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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

**Bibliography** (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

Chateau de Mores State Historic Site Collection, Archeology and Historic Preservation Division Historic Site files, State Historical Society of North Dakota.

Goplen, Arnold O. "Historical Narrative and Plans for Restoration, Development, and Preservation of the De Mores Historic Sites at Medora, North Dakota" report for the National Park Service, May 29, 1939.

Reid, Russell. "The De Mores Historic Site" *North Dakota Historical Quarterly*, vol. 8, no. 4, 1941: 272-283.

Martens, Steve C. "Federal Relief Construction in North Dakota, 1931-1943" Multiple Property Documentation Form, National Register of Historic Places #64501091, 2010.

Martens, Steve C. "The Designed Landscape of the North Dakota Badlands" *North Dakota History: Journal of the Northern Plains*, vo. 80 no. 2 summer, 2015: 3-15.

*Interview with Weldon Gratton.* Theodore Roosevelt National Park.  
<http://www.theodorerooseveltcenter.org/Research/Digital-Library/Record?libID=o273539>.  
Theodore Roosevelt Digital Library. Dickinson State University.

"Ferdinand Barbedienne" Art Bronze. <http://www.artbronze.com/ferdinandbarbedienne.aspx>  
accessed November 30, 2017.

"F. Barbedienne Bronzes" Wikicollecting. <https://www.justcollecting.com/art/f-barbedienne-bronzes>  
accessed November 30, 2017.

### Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested  
 previously listed in the National Register  
 previously determined eligible by the National Register  
 designated a National Historic Landmark  
 recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_  
 recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_  
 recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # \_\_\_\_\_

### Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office  
 Other State agency  
 Federal agency  
 Local government

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University  
 Other

Name of repository: \_\_\_\_\_

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): \_\_\_\_\_

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### 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property .5

#### UTM References

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927 or  NAD 1983

1. Zone: 13 Easting: 612271 Northing: 5196714

#### Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

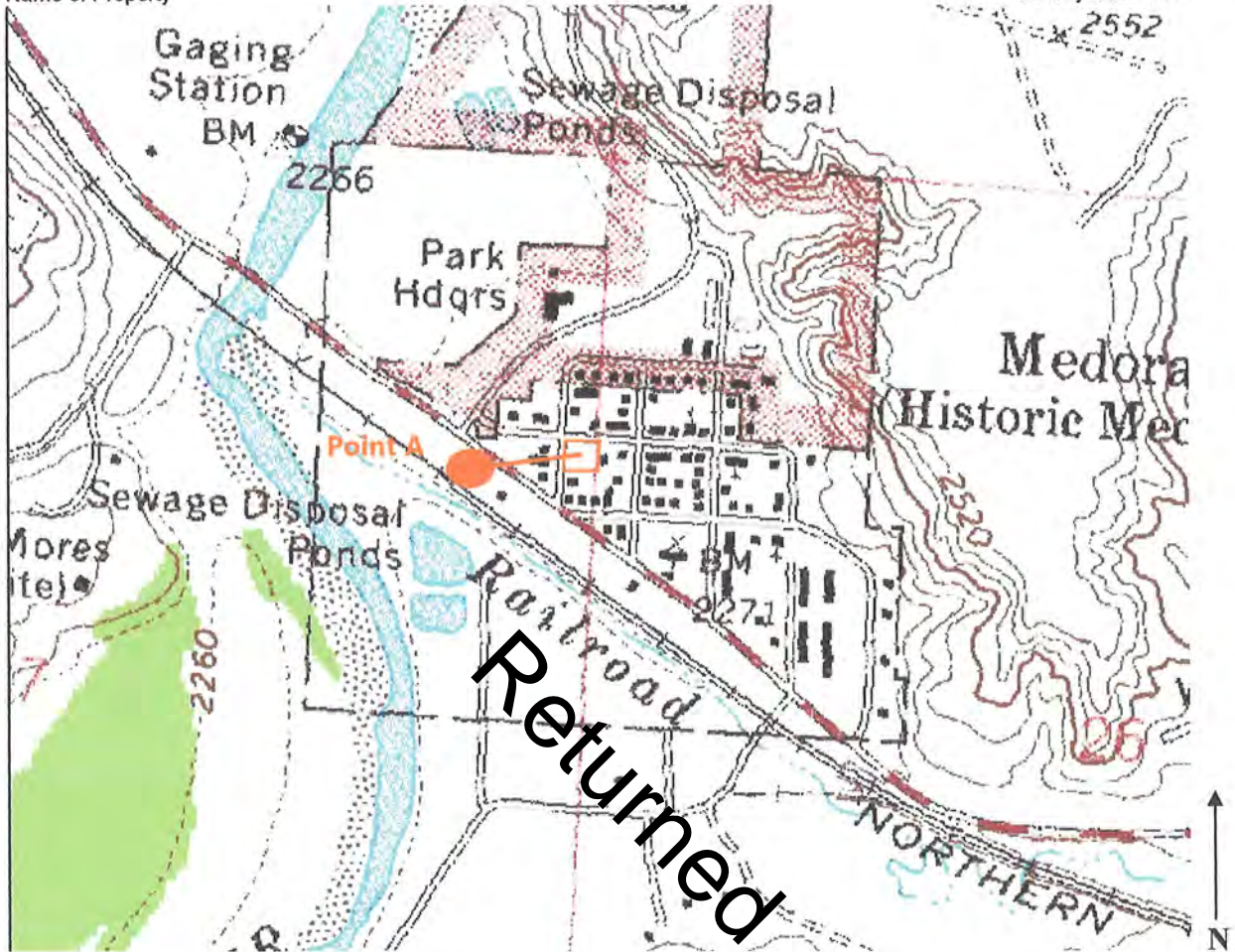
Lots 19-24 of block 13, original township of Medora.

#### Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

These lots are the original land donated for the park and the property has continually served in that manner since it was donated.

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**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title: Lorna Meidinger, Architectural Historian  
organization: State Historical Society of North Dakota  
street & number: 612 E Boulevard Ave  
city or town: Bismarck state: ND zip code: 58505-0830  
e-mail: lbmeidinger@nd.gov  
telephone: 701-328-2089

**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

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- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

### Property Owner

name/title: Fern Swenson  
organization: State Historical Society of North Dakota  
street & number: 612 E Boulevard Ave  
city or town: Bismarck state: ND zip code: 58505-0830  
e-mail: fswenson@nd.gov  
telephone: 701-328-3575

### Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

### Photo Log

Name of Property: De Mores Memorial Park  
City or Vicinity: Medora  
County: Billings State: North Dakota  
Photographer: Lorna Meidinger unless otherwise noted  
Date Photographed: September 28, 2017 unless otherwise noted

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Overview from southwest corner  
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Overview from outside the gate, looking east

Taken May 22, 2018

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Overview from fountain, looking south  
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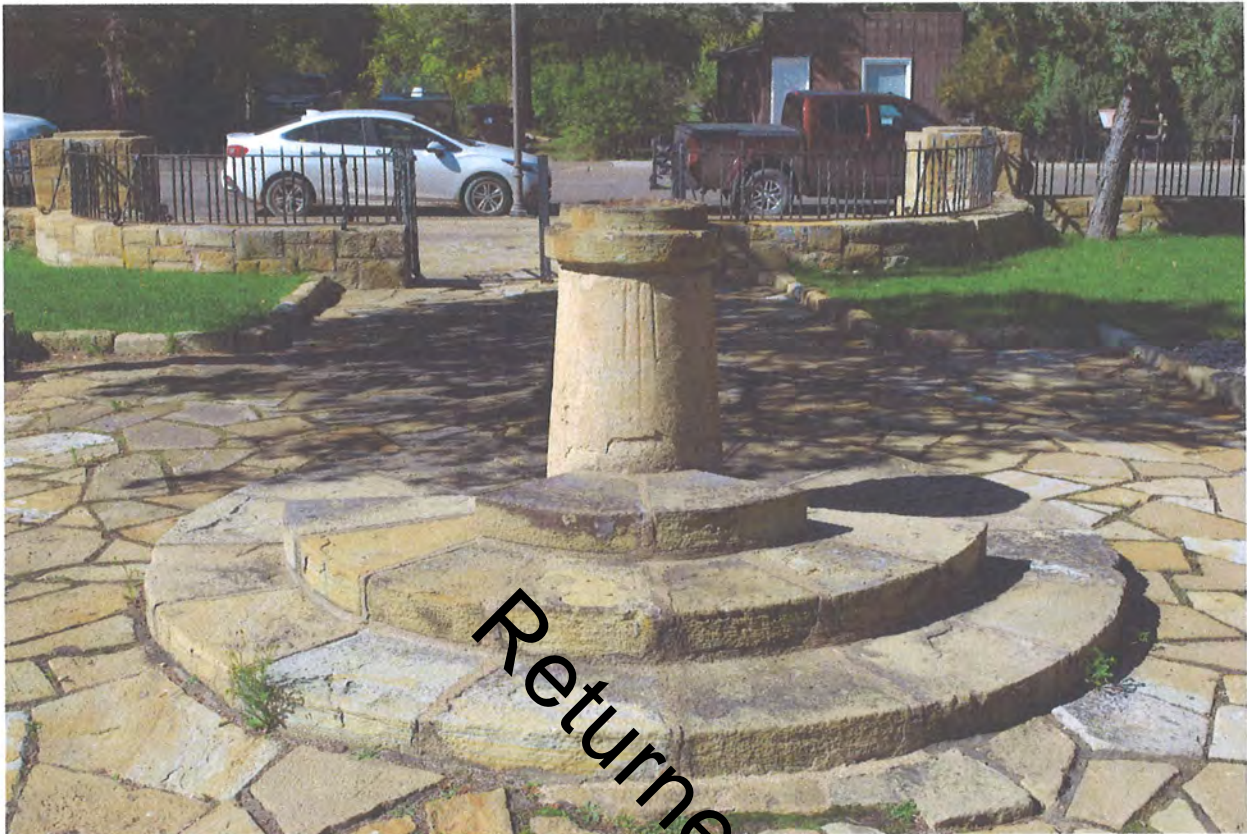


Gate detail, looking northeast  
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Fountain detail, looking west

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De Mores statue after cleaning, looking east  
Taken June 29, 2018 by Lisa Steckler  
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Medora medallion on statue's west face

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De Mores statue, looking northwest  
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De Mores statue, looking southwest  
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Overview of statue area, facing SSE

Taken May 22, 2018

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Typical stone bench in the park  
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Tool Storage building, looking east-southeast  
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CCC memorial outside the west fence, looking east

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**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

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Federal Relief Construction in North Dakota,  
1931-1943  
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

33. Section number 7

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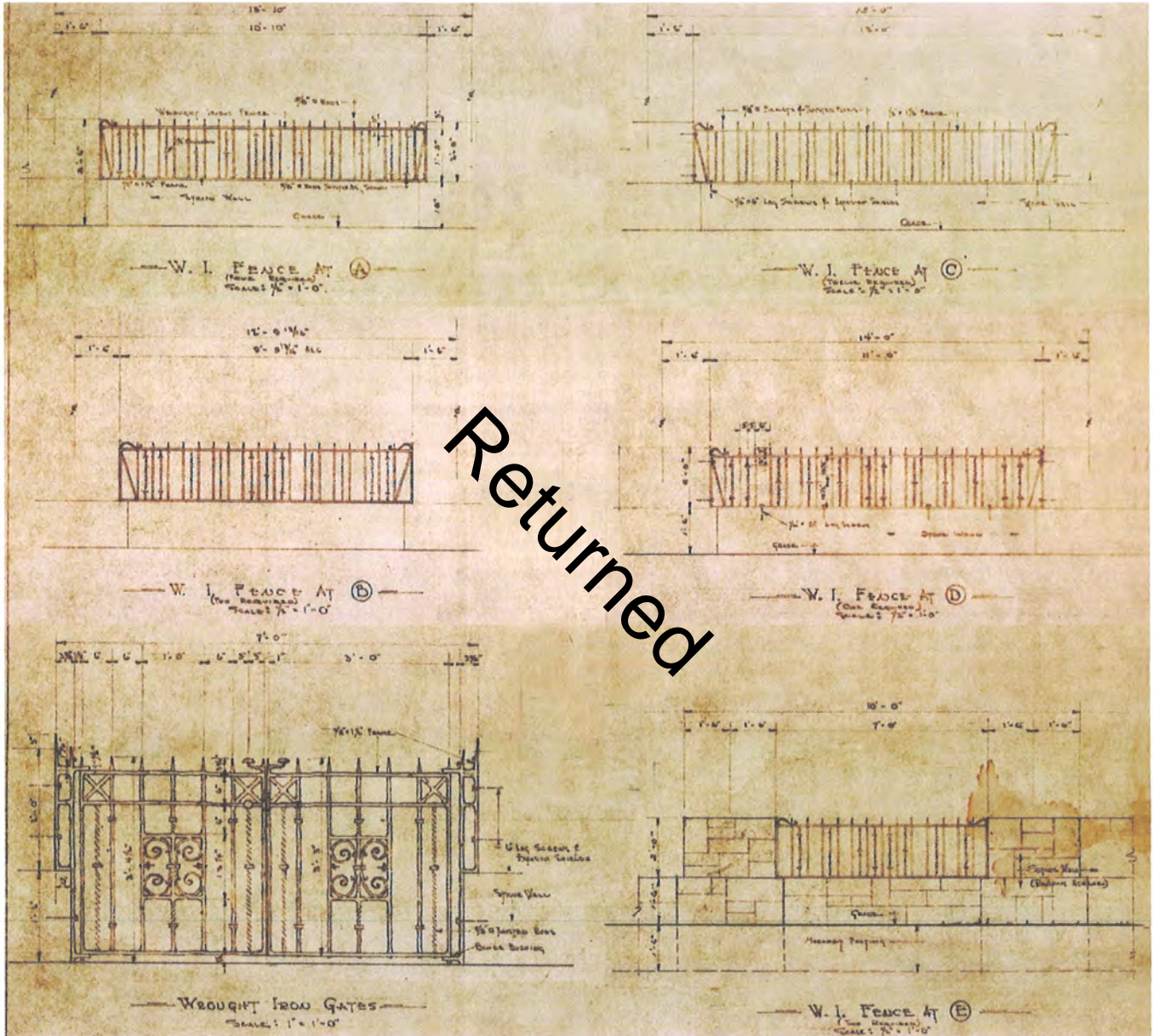


Figure 1: plans for the ironwork of the fence. Plan images were edited for spacing between images on this figure to allow better viewing. The full sheet with an earlier park plan in the middle is in the SHSND AHP Historic Site files.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
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Federal Relief Construction in North Dakota, 1931-1943
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

33. Section number 7

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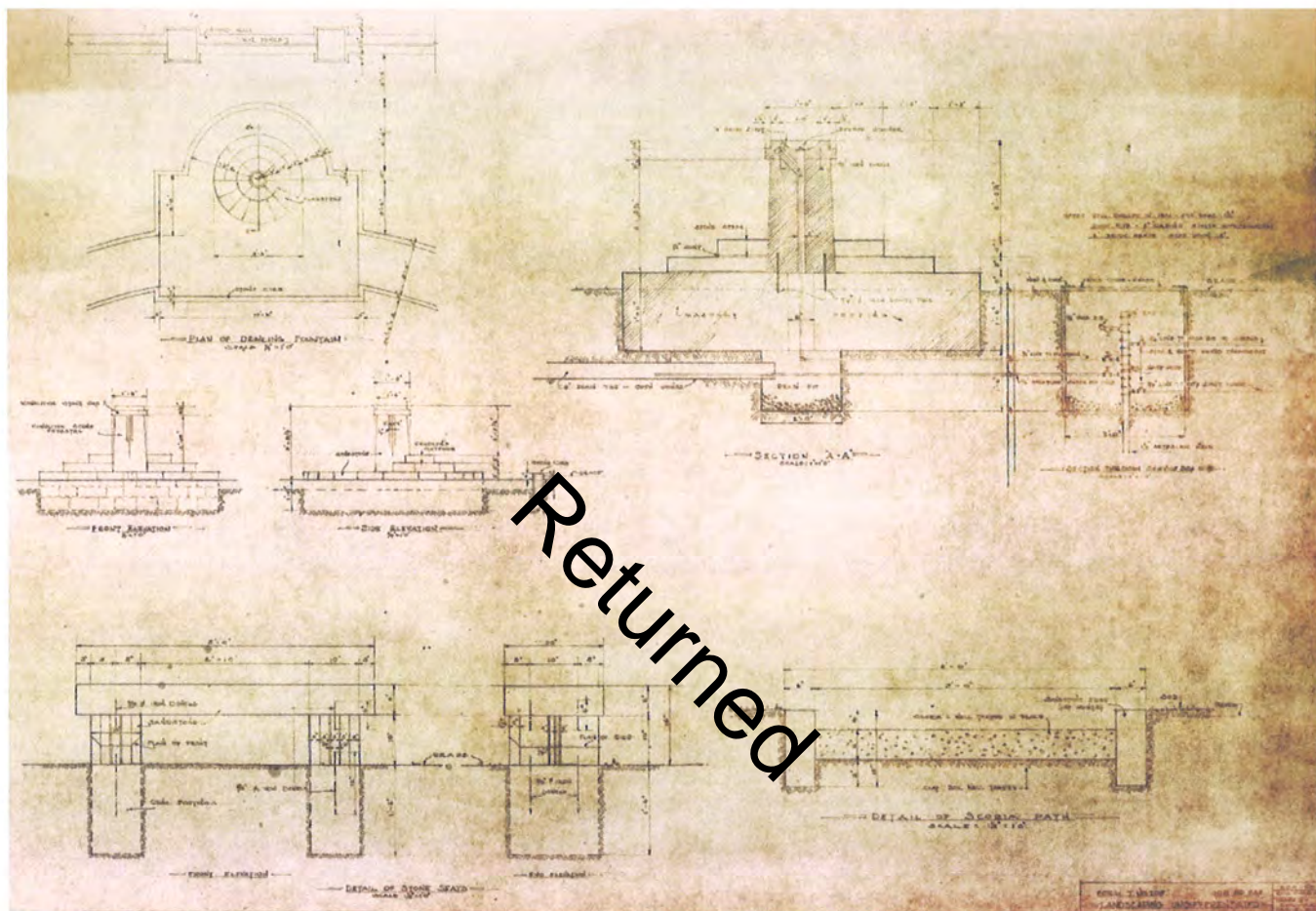


Figure 2: Plans for the drinking fountain and benches dated October 5, 1937 and drawn by what appears to be O.W.C. and B.R. Note the fountain setting in the upper left corner is from an early park plan that was revised prior to construction. SHSND AHP Historic Site files

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
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De Mores Memorial Park  
Name of Property  
Billings County, ND  
County and State  
Federal Relief Construction in North Dakota,  
1931-1943  
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

33. Section number 7

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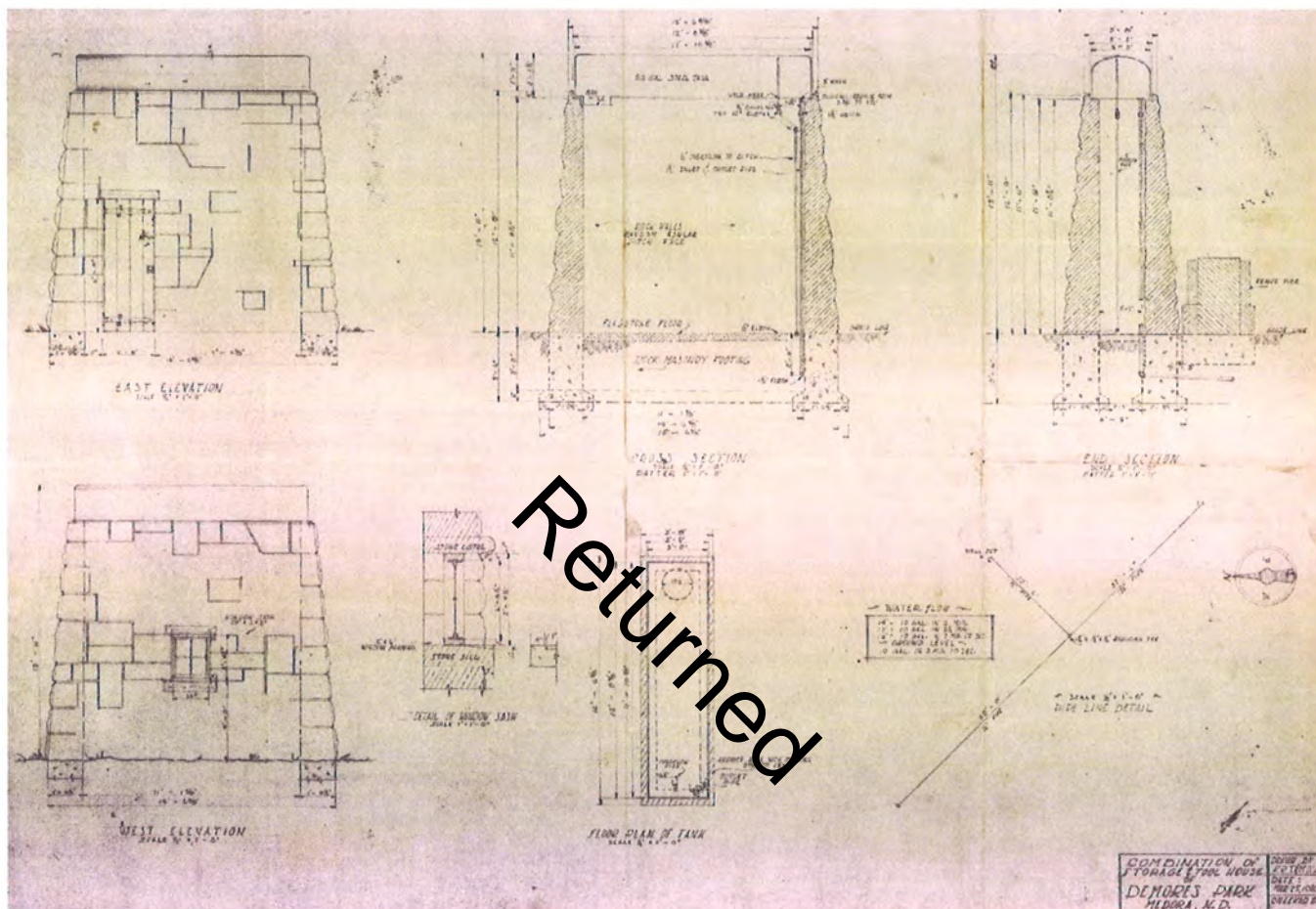


Figure 3: March 25, 1940 plans for the Combination of Storage and Tool House, drawn by R.R.T. and M.D.W. but with the "Checked By" block unsigned. SHSND AHP Historic Site files

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

De Mores Memorial Park
Name of Property
Billings County, ND
County and State
Federal Relief Construction in North Dakota, 1931-1943
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation Page 36

Figure 4: The  
Marquis de  
Mores in the  
Badlands,

SHSND 00042-  
078



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

De Mores Memorial Park
Name of Property
Billings County, ND
County and State
Federal Relief Construction in North Dakota, 1931-1943
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Figure 5:  
Photograph of a  
portrait of Medora  
Von Hoffman,  
SHSND AHP  
Chateau de Mores  
Collection

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

De Mores Memorial Park
Name of Property
Billings County, ND
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Figure 6: Copy  
from SHSND  
AHP Chateau de  
Mores Collection



*Family Coat of Arms of the Marquis de Mores*

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Requested Action:

Property Name:

Multiple Name:

State & County:

Date Received: 10/24/2018      Date of Pending List: 11/16/2018      Date of 16th Day: 12/3/2018      Date of 45th Day: 12/10/2018      Date of Weekly List:

Reference number:

Nominator:

Reason For Review:

- |   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal           | <input type="checkbox"/> PDIL            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Text/Data Issue |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SHPO Request     | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape       | <input type="checkbox"/> Photo                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Waiver           | <input type="checkbox"/> National        | <input type="checkbox"/> Map/Boundary               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Resubmission     | <input type="checkbox"/> Mobile Resource | <input type="checkbox"/> Period                     |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other | <input type="checkbox"/> TCP             | <input type="checkbox"/> Less than 50 years         |
|   | <input type="checkbox"/> CLG             |   |

Accept       Return       Reject      12/4/2018 Date

Abstract/Summary Comments: The property appears to be eligible for listing but the following technical and substantial issues must be addressed:  
Section 3: Box in second sentence not checked.  
Section 5: Only "site" is listed as a resource. In the case of the park, the statue should be included as an "object", especially as it pre-dates the park. Also, the wall and flagstone pavement should be included as substantial "structures" (2). Finally, the stone tool shed is part of the original design (just outside the wall but the same material) and included as a structure unless it is outside the proposed boundary (see need for sketch map, below).  
Section 7: The narrative description should include a statement regarding the impact of any changes made outside the period of significance, such as the removal of a section of wall.  
Section 8: The property includes a justification in the area of Social History under Criterion A. Rather than social history, the park appears to be significant under Entertainment/Recreation, based on our understanding as to how this small park was historically used. As stated in the nomination, "De Mores Memorial Park is historically Significant as an amenity provided by the family of its founder for public enjoyment and recreation...."  
Section 10: There is no sketch map showing the boundary of the property. The boundary justification should relate to the sketch map. In this case, the section of wall removed and how it relates to the surrounding properties should be noted.

Recommendation/ Criteria:



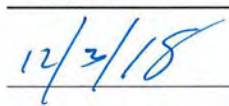
Reviewer Roger Reed



Discipline Historian

Telephone (202)354-2278

Date



DOCUMENTATION: see attached comments : No see attached SLR : No

If a nomination is returned to the nomination authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the National Park Service.