



Historic Sites and Facilities Board City Hall - 1711 Miner Street, Idaho Springs, CO 80452 Agenda

Monday, January 12, 2026

Tel: (303) 567-4421 Fax: (303) 567-4955

Video from Meetings are viewable on the City's Website.

You must join the Zoom Meeting
(<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86062099875>)
to participate in a meeting remotely.

1. **Call to Order (9:00 AM)**
2. **Roll Call**
3. **Public Comment**
4. **Conflict of Interest**
5. **Approval of Minutes**
 - a. Motion to approve the minutes from October 13th, 2025
6. **General Updates**
7. **New Business**
 - a. Approval of Brass Plaque Sign Proofs
 - b. 2026 Work Plan
8. **Old Business**
9. **Adjourn**

In-person and remote meeting public attendance and participation instructions:

Participation

- To provide scheduled public comment, either in person or remotely, please fill out and return the Public Comment Form on the City's website. All requests must be submitted to the City Clerk (cityclerk@idahospingsco.com) by 6 p.m. (Six) the Wednesday before the scheduled meeting.
- To provide unscheduled public comment, please join the Zoom Meeting, identify yourself with your full first and last name, and use the "Raise Hand" feature to indicate your desire to speak.

General Guidelines

- Each public comment, whether scheduled or unscheduled, is limited to three (3) minutes.

- Council typically does not provide feedback during public comment sessions.
- If you would like to provide materials for Council to review along with your Comment, please sign up for Scheduled Public Comment and provide those materials to the City Clerk by the Wednesday Deadline.



**HISTORIC SITES AND FACILITIES BOARD
MINUTES
October 13, 2025**

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Adams called the meeting to order at 9:00 am

ROLL CALL

Members present were Reba Bechtel, Chair Phyllis Adams and Vice Chair Michael Davenport. Board members Margaret Smith and Lue Howard were absent. Also present were Community Development Planner Dylan Graves, City Administrator Andrew Marsh, Deputy City Clerk Wonder Martell and Public Works Director Edward Sigward.

AGENDA APPROVAL

Member Bechtel moved to approve the agenda of October 13th, 2025, Vice Chair Davenport seconded, second followed by an all in favor voice vote. Motion carries.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Board member Bechtel moved to approve the minutes from July 14, 2025, Vice Chair Michael Davenport seconded, second followed by an all in favor voice vote. Motion carries.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no comments in person or virtually.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

There was no conflict of interest.

GENERAL UPDATE

America 250 / Colorado 150 Grant Application Update: - Mr. Graves advised the board that there was potential for a grant that could cover a walking tour, highlight preservation, the ARGO, our historic downtown and that this grant opportunity is being worked on in conjunction with the Historical Society. Vice Chair Davenport mentioned that Sandborn maps on the history of the railway thru town could be beneficial.

WATER WHEEL REFURBISHMENT – Public Works Director Mr. Sigward mentioned that the water wheel has been turned off for the season, and that the wheel was making a lot of noise. When the wheel was off it was discovered that there were many spokes that were split and there were buckets falling off so he was able to get a good quote from Scott Wallace to repair and seal the waterwheel. Mr. Wallace should be beginning this week. Chair Adams expressed concern that this quote was requested and received without any involvement from this board. Chair Adams stated that this board is supposed to be involved in all things related to the Idaho Springs Historic Sites.

LIBRARY DOORS

Mr. Graves mentioned that the Exterior Library doors had a quote already done and asked if the board would like it to be brought back to them or just proceed with the repairs in 2026? Vice Chair Davenport stated that it doesn't necessarily need to be brought back to them and Chair Adams stated that she somewhat disagrees and feels that this board should be a part of the entire process. Chair Adams stated that the board should be advised of when things are happening, be kept up to date on any work on the historic sites and that this can be added on staffs reports to council for example it can just state "Historic Sites and Facilities agrees and supports this". Board member Bechtel mentioned that Gilpin County just had their doors done and they look great, Ms. Bechtel stated she would gather that contractors information. City Administrator Andre Marsh asked Chair Adams when the library doors were done, Chair Adams stated 2009. Mr. Marsh agreed that the city should get a few good quotes and bring back to this group for recommendation. Chair Adams suggested reaching out to Spectrum as they did a great job on the powder house. Public Works Director Mr. Sigward advised the board that the city was going to be using Hose House #2 for storage. Board member Bechtel asked what type of stuff, water stuff or public works stuff. Mr. Sigward stated mostly water stuff. Board member Bechtel stated that as long as all of the items being stored did not produce more moisture, that it should be ok. Chair Adams stated that City Council has not approved that building for any use. Chair Adams agreed that the building needs to be secure before being used.

NEXT STEPS FOR AND POTENTIAL OPERATION OF THE TRAIN COACH

Community Development Planner Dylan Graves mentioned the success of the train coach excursion that was held in September of this year and mentioned that there has been some discussion of holding another similar excursion and there is a question on whether the coach will continue to be stored in Silver Plume or if the coach will be run. Chair Adams stated that this board should provide direction to council regarding this and is the Loop wants to use and run the coach, there should be some fee associated with them being able to do that, like rent or something like that. Vice Chair Davenport stated that the coach should be covered as soon as possible, but there is a business relationship with the Georgetown Loop. Chair Adams mentioned that the Loop has already inquired about a temporary cover and that they may want to use the coach during their Christmas train season. Board member Bechtel stated if we can recover any cost, then we should, if a formal proposal is made from the Georgetown Loop to use the coach and that this board should be provided opportunity to speak to council on this. City Administrator Mr. Marsh asked the board if he should ask the Loop if they want to run the coach, Chair Adams replied and stated not for free. Mr. Marsh advised the board that he thinks that the cover had already been ordered. Mr. Marsh also mentioned that if the train is covered and stays up in Georgetown and its still there next year that the city wants to have another excursion focused on Idaho Springs. Vice Chair Davenport mentioned that is good community relations. Chair Adams mentioned making a special excursion for the 4th graders.

POWDERHOUSE

City Administrator Andrew Marsh advised the board that the Powder House has been completed and to think about the use of the building. Chair Adams stated that it still needs a brass plaque and wayfinding signs to direct people to that park. Vice Chair Davenport stated that at least 3 wayfinding signs are needed. Vice Chair Davenport asked City Administrator Mr. Marsh if the parking garage and the building that it's being built around is city property or private. Mr. Marsh stated that its private and will most likely remain that way.

OLD BUSINESS

Sites and Facilities Signage

Community Development Planner asked the board if the existing plaques are actual brass or aluminum. Chair Adams suggested that Mr. Graves reach out to Jan Bowland to get that information. Mr. Graves mentioned that in the packet the first 7 sites have signage that is currently sufficient. Board member Bechtel mentioned to Mr. Sigward that the lights at the World War II Memorial are out. Chair Adams mentioned that there was a suggestion that there be 2 signs for the Cemetery, one to be placed on each pavilion. Mr. Graves asked the board about there being no dates on the Arrastra or the Veterans Memorial Tunnel, and Chair Adams stated that is correct. Mr. Graves also brought up that the Water Wheel already has signage but needs a historic site plaque. Chair Adams mentioned that the Blue Ribbon

Tunnel should have wordage from the preservation plan. Board member Bechtel mentioned that the wording from the plan/packet gives more information. Chair Adams suggested that the board may want to wait for the train signage decisions until the train shelter is decided on and built as it will be hard to design signage not knowing where the signage will be placed. Board member Bechtel stated that she has contacts at the South Rail Society, and she would reach out to them.

Chair Adams moved to approve the signage plan outlined in the packet excluding the train and the coach. Vice Chair Davenport seconded, second followed by an all I favor voice vote. Motion carries.

ADJOURMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 am. Next meeting will be January 12th, 2026 at 9:00 am.



Zuni Signs
P.O. Box 1835
Evergreen, CO 80439
303-670-8952



Brushed Brass



Black Leatherette Texture

Font used: Madley Regular

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- Quantity: 15
- Sides: Single-Sided
- Substrate: Brass Precision Architectural Plaque
- Brushed Brass Border, Black Textured Background (Leatherette)
- 5/16" depth is standard
- Blind Mount with Pattern

Customer Approval Signature

Date

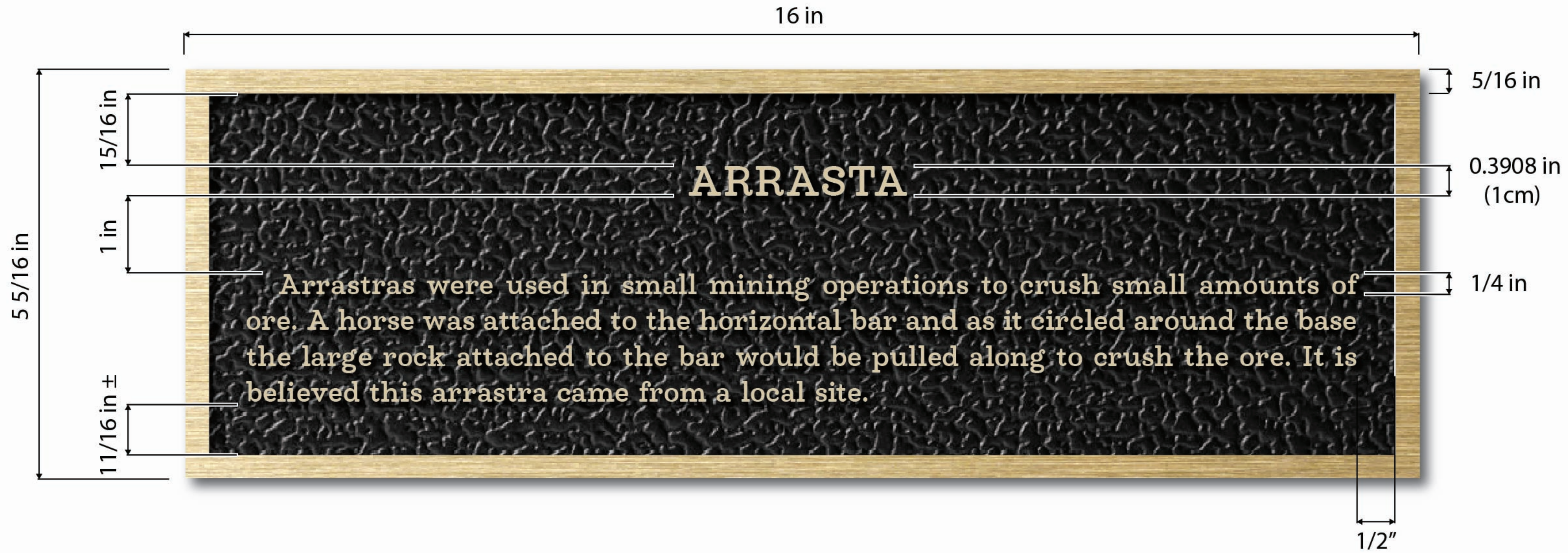
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 --- Blind Mount with Pattern

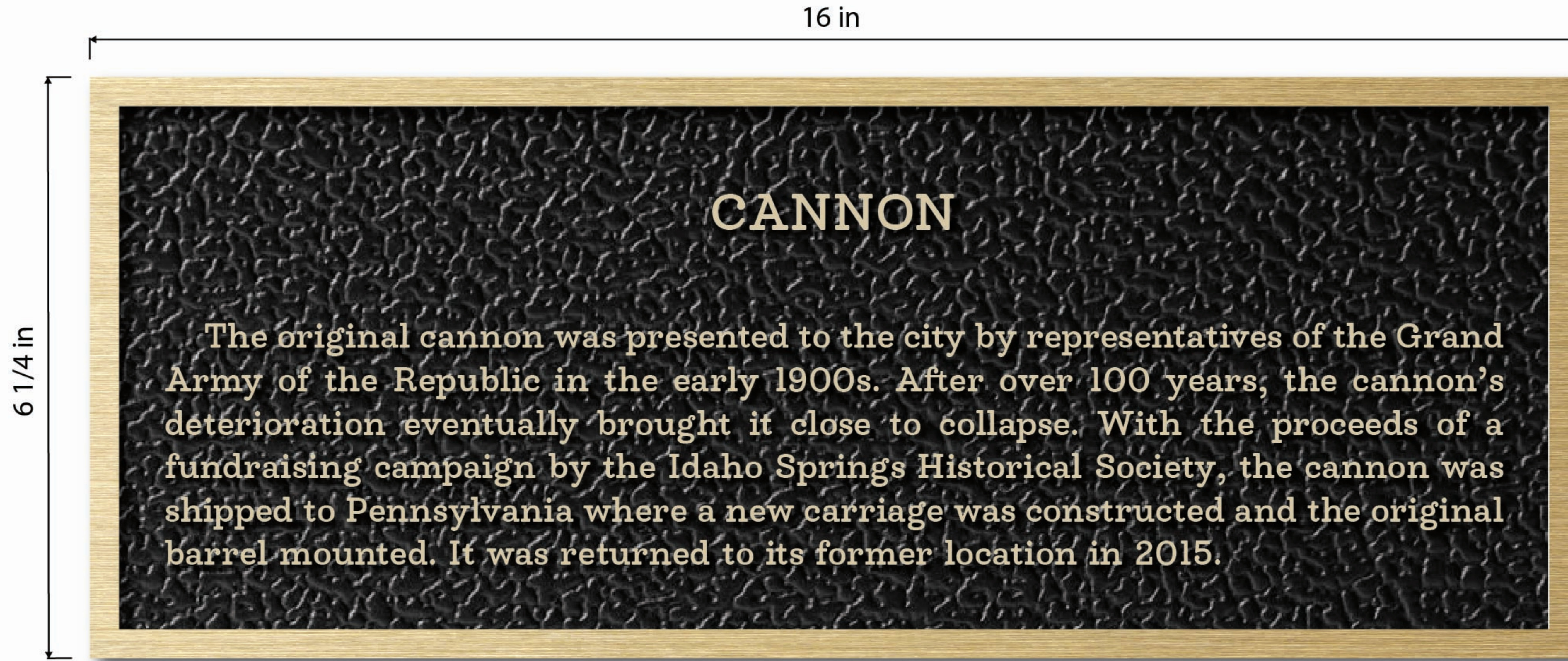
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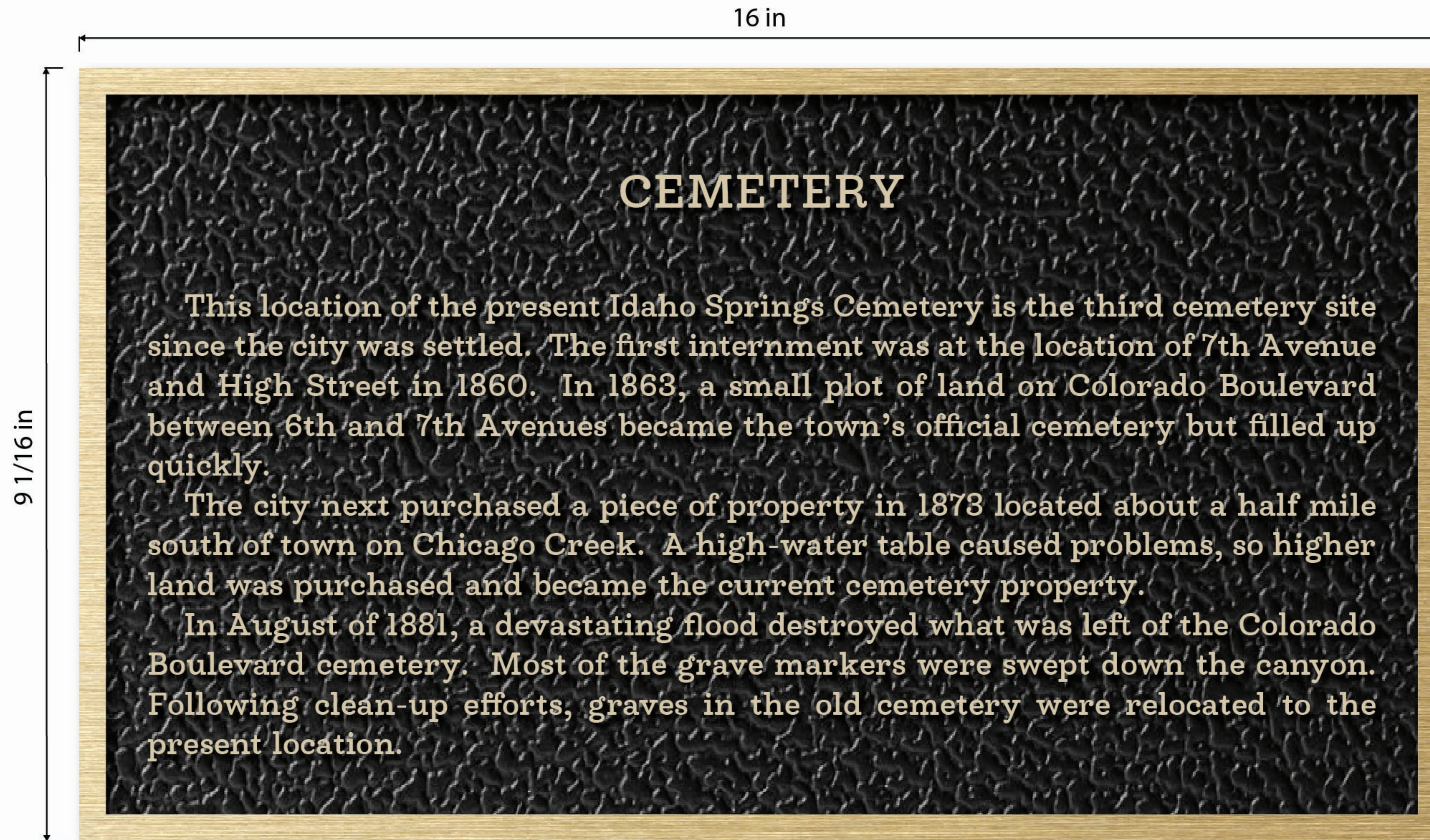
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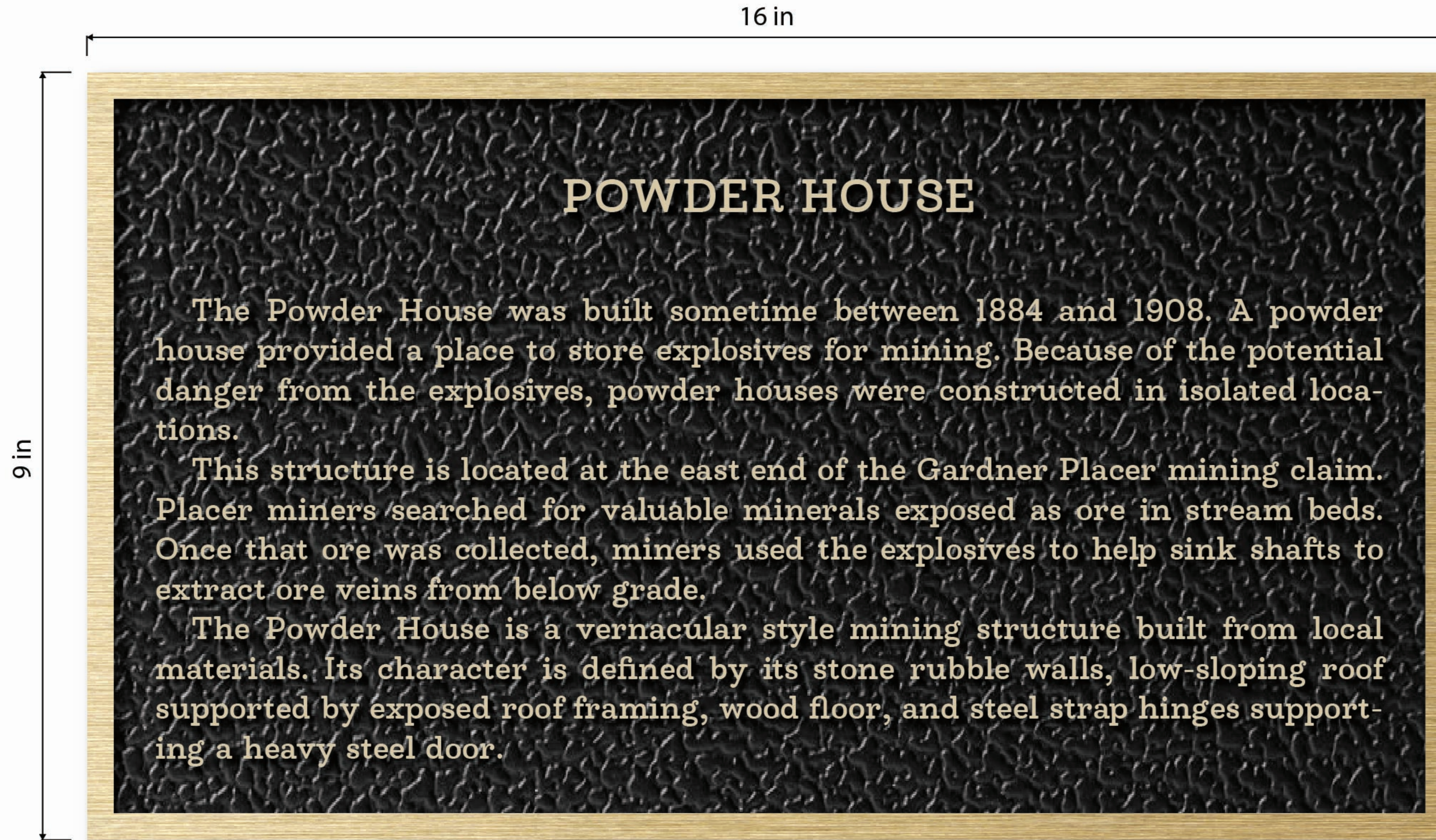
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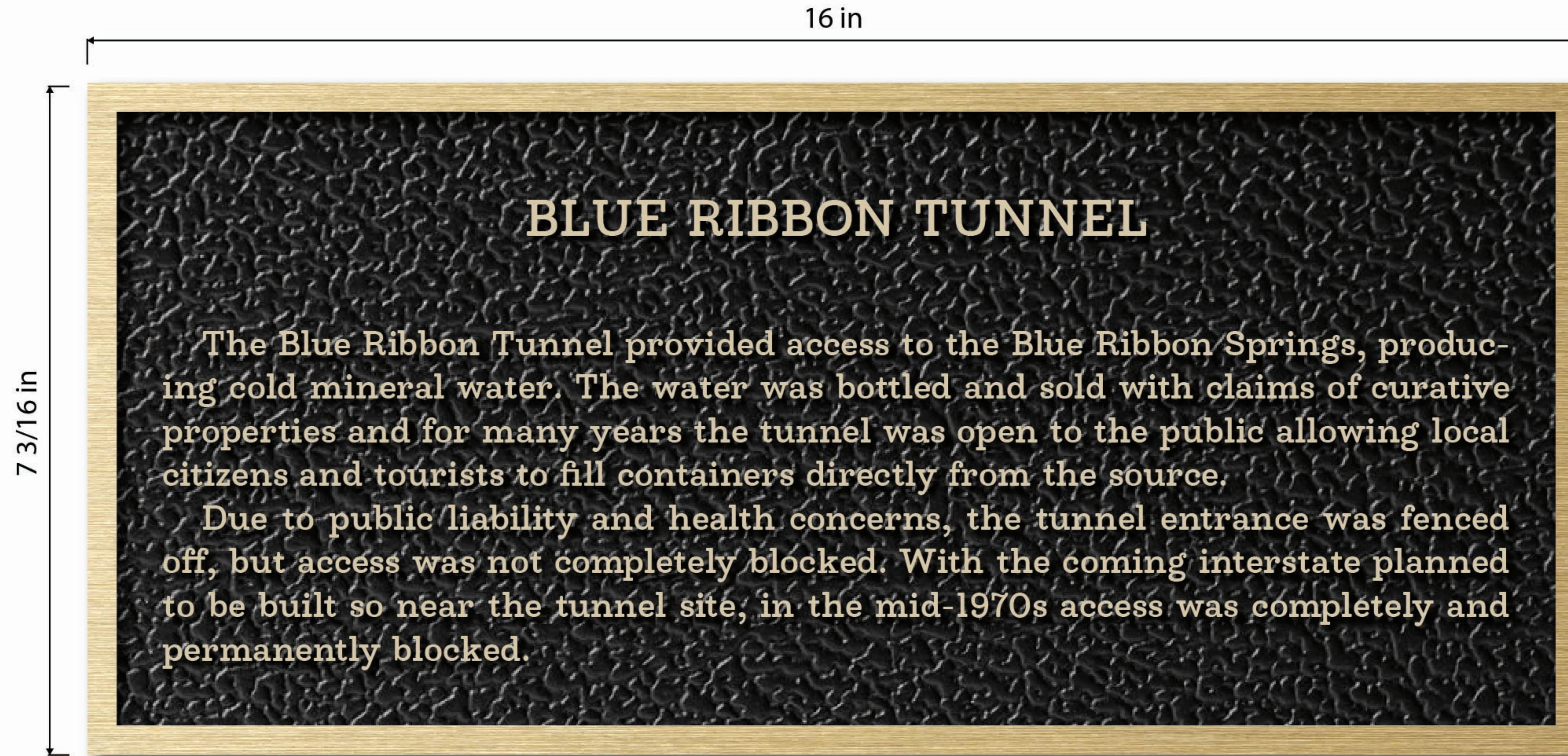
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Idaho Springs, CO, 80452-0907
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www.idahospringsco.com

Community Development Planner Communication

Meeting Date: January 12, 2026
To: Historic Sites and Facilities Board
From: Dylan Graves, Community Development Planner
RE: Community Development Report
Request for Action: N/A

Brass Plaque Sign Proofs

At the last meeting, we agreed on sign language and construction. I took the signs to a few vendors for quotes. Zuni Signs from Evergreen gave us a reasonable price and they are (relatively) local, so we asked them to provide proofs. I was going to go ahead with the order but thought that before we spend the money to get these constructed, the Board might like to have one final look to make sure sizes, materials, font, etc., are appropriate. I believe that they do but wanted input before making the final order.

I noticed a spelling error on the Arrastra. They spelled it as Arrasta. I will have this fixed.

I was curious whether the Board wanted the size of the plaques to be uniform across all sites. For example, the arrastra sign is 16" by 5 5/16" and the Veterans Memorial is 16" by 4 3/8". This minimizes the amount of empty space but results in varying heights across signs.

The proofs show 1/4" tall lettering – this is the same as the City Hall plaque. The width is the same as the City Hall plaque, as well.

Once the order is finalized, the return time should be approximately one month. This would allow the plaques to be installed in the spring when the weather is favorable. There are a few places where a post might need to be installed, which I will work with Public Works to locate and install.

REQUEST FOR DIRECTION: Besides the arrastra spelling error noted above, does the Board have any other changes that you would like made before we purchase the proposed signs?

Work Plan 2026

As this is the first meeting in 2026, it seems like a good time to discuss the work plan for the year. Looking at the Project Plan from the 2025-2028 Preservation Plan, there were a few projects we could not complete in 2025 and a few projects from 2026 that may need to be discussed, too. The Project Plan shows the following items that were not completed in 2025 but should be a focus for 2026:

- Repair masonry and scrape/paint wooden elements, including trim at the Carnegie Library.
- Repair roof and scrape and paint damaged wooden elements at the Central Hose House.
- Address threshold issues at Hose House No. 2.
- Evaluate deck at City Hall.

The plan will be to do the scrape and paint work at the Library and Central Hose House in 2026, matching existing colors. We also plan to get quotes to restore the doors on the front of the library. **Are these items that the Board wants to see presented before they are ordered, or are you satisfied with the work proceeding once the weather allows?**

Here are 2026 items:

- Purchase and installation of signage – this is planned for early 2026 as discussed above

- Address interior wall/plaster issues at the Hose House No. 2 and consider potential future uses. This can be combined with the threshold concerns.
- Determine use of Bryan Hose House; Public Works has considered using it for storage in the interim, but this might be a good discussion item for a follow up meeting.
- Construct train shelter, move track, and return coach.

This is reliant on funding, which has not been secured. The city has been looking into “temporary” shelter options that would be in the range of \$100,000 or so, which could be constructed in 2026 or 2027. This would allow the train and coach to be left in place until funding for a permanent shelter could be secured. Based on the city’s current budget and opportunities for funding, I have been told that this is not likely to be feasible in 2026, and would need to be pushed to 2027. Luckily, there are not a lot of major projects anticipated for

- Rebuild/restore deck at City Hall – this will be based on the evaluation that is still needed and should be performed in 2026.
- Rehabilitate front doors at the Library.

Other Items:

Talking with Andy, he wants to apply for a general grant from the State Historic Fund for the train locomotive reconstruction in 2026. The application deadline will be April 1, 2026, for the first round of funding. October would be the second round. We are planning to apply for this grant in 2026 so that, if awarded, funds can be fully executed and available in time for restoration work to begin in 2027. The grant is for up to \$250,000 with a 25% city match. This would accelerate this project slightly from the Preservation Plan and allow reconstruction to align with the construction of a temporary shelter that would allow the coach to come back to Idaho Springs.

Speaking of the coach, it is being stored outdoors in Silver Plume with a weatherproof cover installed on it for the winter. The Loop Railroad is open to the city running it for other city-sponsored events in 2026 to allow more people to enjoy the restored coach in action. There are no current plans to run it for the general public but I will let you know if there are any conversations about that in the future.

America 250 / Colorado 150 Grant Award

The city was awarded the \$25,000 State Historic Fund grant for the America 250 / Colorado 150 celebrations in 2026. The specific project that was awarded is the digital, multimedia historic tour of Idaho Springs. This will incorporate historical information, historical photos, multimedia materials (videos and storytelling, etc.) into the city’s Visit Idaho Springs website and can be used to help promote the city’s sites and facilities (achieving a clear goal of this board!). I am working on putting together the documentation necessary to execute the grant before the end of the month so we can get the money and start the project in February.

Wayfinding Project

The city’s Business and Community Promotions Board (BCPB) was awarded a grant to commission a wayfinding study for the city. This is underway to assess what wayfinding improvements are needed for both vehicular and pedestrian/cycling traffic in Idaho Springs. Part of this project will be analyzing wayfinding needs for existing city sites and facilities, including wayfinding to the waterwheel, powder house, and other city historical sites. This is anticipated to go through the first half of 2026, with installation being able to start in the second half of 2026 and into 2027. Additionally, the city plans to improve signage along the Clear Creek Trail greenway that runs through the city. This will improve pedestrian wayfinding along the trail and allow people to connect to the downtown from elsewhere in the city on foot or by bicycle. This will also allow the city to do pedestrian-scale wayfinding to historic sites that are along the trail, including the historic downtown and its sites; the Steve Canyon Statute; the waterwheel; and the Jackson Monument, at minimum.

Next Meeting Agenda Items

Other than review of projects that come up, are there any other items that the Board would like to discuss at the next meeting? The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 13, 2026.