

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**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 PropertyHistoric name: Sacajawea/Miles Parks Historic DistrictOther names/site number: Sacajawea Island, McLeod Island, Sacajawea Park, Miles Park, 24PA0764

Name of related multiple property listing:

N/A

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

2. LocationStreet & number: Roughly bounded by West Butte Street, South 2nd Street, River Drive, a channel of the lagoon to the north and west, the Yellowstone River to the south, and River Drive to the eastCity or town: Livingston State: MT County: ParkNot For Publication: NA Vicinity: NA**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**MT State Historic Preservation Officer****Signature of certifying official/Title:****Date****State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government**

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ 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

8

Noncontributing

8

buildings

4

sites

11

5

structures

3

objects

23

16

Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

LANDSCAPE: Park

RECREATION AND CULTURE: Outdoor Recreation, sports facility

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instruction)

LANDSCAPE: Park

RECREATION AND CULTURE: Outdoor Recreation, sports facility

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resources include the Armory/Civic Center, tennis courts, a band shell, open space, playgrounds, a swimming pool, lagoon, gazebo, baseball fields, and horseshoe pits. Sacajawea/Miles Park incurred minor improvements in 1981 and again in 1997 with the construction of a levee, which now supports the Sacajawea Trail walking path, along the bank of the Yellowstone River to prevent flooding. The property retains a sound level of integrity due to its original location, setting, feeling, and association that remain intact. Later additions, including built resources, reflect a shift in materials and workmanship as the property evolved for the benefit for the greater number of people. The Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District remains a significant destination for the people of Livingston for their recreational pursuits, as it has for decades.

Narrative Description

The City of Livingston was established in December 1882 when the Northern Pacific Railroad arrived at this location with a plat of a town named Livingston, which originated at the railroad's headquarters in Minneapolis-St Paul, Minnesota. A 1922 map identifies both Sacajawea Island and McLeod Island (though McLeod Island displays the name Miles Island after Arthur Wellington Miles, an early pioneer businessman who established a tourist park on the island). The two parks witnessed a number of changes and hosted a variety of activities through the years, the largest undoubtedly, the arrival of the Works Progress Administration (WPA). The presence of the WPA was noted on a 1937 map of the area (See *Map of Livingston Montana 1937* under Map section below) that displays the location of dams and other resources constructed by the organization. During their time in Livingston, the WPA literally reworked the landscape, joining the two islands and creating a lagoon, with the material from the dredging of the lagoon serving as fill to connect the two islands on their southern ends. By this time, the property assumed much of the same appearance as it does today.

Setting and Location

Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District consists of two connected entities, Sacajawea Park to the west, and Miles Park to the east. Sacajawea Park, at approximately 15 acres (not including the lagoon acreage), is named in honor of the Shoshone woman who traveled near the island on July 15, 1806 while accompanying Captain William Clark and several members of the Lewis and Clark expedition on their return trip from the Pacific Ocean. Miles Park, at roughly 22 acres, is named in honor of Arthur Wellington Miles, a pioneer businessman in Livingston's early days. Together, the two parks are referred to as Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District (the District). The property boasts numerous resources including an Armory/Civic Center, six baseball diamonds, open space, a gravity park (skate park), swimming pool, an historic bridge, and a lagoon. Main vehicular access occurs via River Drive, Yellowstone Street, or 2nd Street. Three hundred forty-nine trees grace the property including 126 Green Ash, 68 crabapple and mountain ash, and 63 evergreens, with the rest white willow and white poplar growing along River Drive. Vehicle parking, mostly graveled lots, is scattered near the tennis courts, playgrounds, swimming pool, and the Armory/Civic Center.

The city of Livingston proper lies predominately north and west of Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District with adjoining residential neighborhoods that developed in the early 1900s. The Sacajawea Park area of the District draws many people of varying ages that participate in a variety of activities. Two covered shelters, fire pits, a playground, horseshoe pits, benches,

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tennis courts, an athletic field, and picnic tables welcome visitors. The Miles Park area hosts the annual Farmer's Market each summer, a music festival, Summerfest, and includes baseball fields, a gravity/skate park, a band shell, and, most importantly the Armory/Civic Center. The Armory/Civic Center houses the city recreation department that offers programs that focus on physical activity for people of all ages. The Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District also features a walking path, Sacajawea Trail, that parallels the south boundary and follows the Yellowstone River.

Sacajawea/Miles Park Resources

The following describes the resources found in the Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District. Locations of resources within the Sacajawea Park or Miles Park areas of the larger property are noted.

Spatial Arrangement and Open Space (one contributing site)

The Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District contains two major open spaces; one includes a large portion of Sacajawea Park and a second consists of a triangular-shaped area (sprinkled with a few trees, but generally open) immediately south and east of the lagoon within the Miles Park area. Smaller acreages that generally lack trees or display only limited number of trees also dot the property, including one immediately southwest of the intersection of McGee Drive and Yellowstone Street, one small parcel north of the lagoon called Fireman's Park, and another northwest of the Armory/Civic Center that hosts a statue of Sacajawea holding baby Pompey. These open, or nearly open areas, generally serve as locations for people to congregate and recreate away from shelters.

The largest of these open areas lies toward the north and west end of Sacagawea Park and was developed as a lighted turf athletic field in 1938 by the WPA. This area, approximately seven acres in size, appears today much as it did in 1938, except for the removal of the light standards. This expanse of turf, bounded on the north and west by McGee Drive, on the south by trees, and the east by the tennis courts, was used for years by the Park County Schools, mainly as a football field.² Today, it contains a few small-scale features (not counted toward the overall resources numbers) including soccer goal posts, a teeter-totter, and a small, new merry-go-round. Additional small-scale features dot the border of the open space and include a metal pole swing set, metal pole monkey bars, and wood benches (Photos MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0001-0003).

A variety of resources exist around the open space of the Sacajawea Park portion of the District. Beginning at the intersection of McGee Drive and South Yellowstone Street and moving south in a clockwise direction, one notes a noncontributing 2010 Military Memorial (Resource #12) beyond which and just west lie two WPA-built tennis courts (resurfaced in 2022) [Resource #1]. Continuing south are four tennis courts built in the 1950's (refinished with new surfaces in 2022) [Resource #1], a newer set of playground equipment (Resource #14) assembled in 1998 that

² "Scenic Lake At Livingston Is WPA Built", *Big Timber Pioneer*, September 1, 1938, p. 2.

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stands between the 1950s and WPA-constructed tennis courts,³ a three-sided concrete block shed roof shelter (Resource #8) immediately across the road from the four tennis courts, and a second military memorial situated in a triangular raised bed garden (Resource #12) at the intersection of Yellowstone Street and River Drive.

As one progresses west from the intersection of South Yellowstone Street and River Drive, the location of the triangular raised bed and memorial, a short dry-laid stone wall (Resource #19) and walking trail that that parallels River Drive on its south border is apparent; the trail lies atop a levee constructed in 1997 (Resource #15). Continuing west along River Drive on the north side of the road are 10 horseshoe pits (Resource #3), the foundation of the original band shell (Resource #4) once located in Sacajawea Park, a stone barbecue assembly (Resource #5), and an historic wading pool (Resource #6) repurposed as a location for meditation. Farther north toward the open space of Sacajawea Park stands one historic and several recently constructed Livingston Parks Department storage buildings (Resources #7, 9, 10, 11). As one approaches the intersection of River Drive and McGee Drive, a modern Kiwanis Picnic Shelter (Resource #16) is noted, as well as a gazebo (Resource #17) fabricated in 1985 by the Burlington R. R. Blue Streamers Club and the citizens of Livingston, and two modern vault toilets (Resource #18). An historic WPA flow gate and dam (now part of the levee) [Resource #27] remain in the old west channel that feeds the lagoon area at the intersection of River Drive and McGee Drive, the far southwest edge of the Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District. Turning north from the intersection of McGee and River drives, one encounters the large open area to the east, a pedestrian bridge (Resource #13) that crosses the old west fork channel to the north, and a gravel parking lot off McGee Drive.

Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District's second largest open space is located in the Miles Park portion of the property. A light alignment of trees borders this triangular, roughly 2.2-acre, shaped open area bounded by the Yellowstone River to the south, River Drive to the west and north and the Armory/Civic Center parking area to the east. This open area often serves to host the farmer's market as well as music events during the summer. A point of focus within this open space is the historic band shell (Resource 28).

The 1937 WPA-constructed Armory/Civic Center (Resource #21) stands just north-northeast of the previously described open space. Fabricated of poured concrete overlaid with stucco, this Art Deco-fronted building with a half-round roof serves as a location for meetings and recreational activities of all sorts. Immediately northeast of the Armory/Civic Center is the new McNair Gravity Park (Resource #22), a skateboard park. East of the Armory/Civic Center and McNair Gravity Park lie six baseball fields (Resource #29) encompassing approximately seven acres.⁴ The Sacajawea Trail (Resource #15) bounds the ball fields (Resource #29) and the gravity park (Resource #22) to the south paralleling the Yellowstone River, and Miles Park Road (displayed on Google Maps as River Road) runs north-south across the eastern edge of the ball fields.

³ The two WPA-constructed tennis courts may overlay previous courts constructed in 1924. "Livingston," *The Butte Miner*, September 14, 1924.

⁴ An aerial photo in the Parks and Trails Master plan indicated the original intent included six fields.

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The remaining resources that appear near the east boundary of the Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District include from east to west, the City Swimming Pool (enclosed by a chain link fence) [Resource #23], an office/bathhouse (Resource #24), a pump house (Resource #25). As the boundary moves west, resources of note include the WPA-constructed lagoon (Resource #26), a castellated stone wall and concrete curb (Resource #36) that fronts the lagoon and a small segment of West Butte Street, two modern climbing stones (Resource # 37) that stand immediately south of West Butte Street and east of the office/bathhouse (Resource #24), the historic Yellowstone Street Bridge (Resource #2), and the old west fork channel of the Yellowstone that feeds the lagoon.

The WPA constructed three dams (Resource #27) to form the lagoon: one near the intersection of River Drive and McGee Drive that holds a diversion gate; a second at the very south end of South Yellowstone Street that connected Sacajawea Island and McLeod Island, and the third near the south end of 3rd Street (this dam created a swimming hole at the northeast end of the lagoon, just west of the present Livingston public pool and office/bathhouse). The dredging of the channel created the lagoon that filled the area between to the two former islands, connecting the previously two independent parks into a single entity referred to as Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District in this nomination.

The Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District contains a variety of small-scale features not included within the resource counts. These small-scale features include lamp posts, signage, goal posts, scattered children's play equipment (teeter-totter, merry-go-round, swing set, monkey bars), wood benches, and picnic tables.

Circulation (one contributing site)

Entrance to the property may be accomplished via several city streets. The most commonly used entrance is South Yellowstone Street over the WPA-constructed Yellowstone Street Bridge across the former west channel of the Yellowstone River into Sacagawea Park (Photos MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0009, 0016, 0020, 0023). Another route is River Drive from the west into Sacajawea Park at its intersection with McGee Drive, also the beginning of the Sacajawea Trail that runs atop the levee along the Yellowstone River (Photo MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0020). A third approach occurs via 2nd Street, which enters on the north side of the swimming pool in Miles Park (Photo # MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0035). Third (3rd) Street dead ends at West Butte Street near the northeast end of Miles Park and is used infrequently for access. Pedestrian or vehicular circulation within the interior of Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District follows McGee Drive, Yellowstone Street, or River Drive. The pedestrian-only Sacajawea Trail that parallels the Yellowstone River from McGee Drive east past the baseball fields affords many benches for rest, a splendid view, and the opportunity for contemplation. The roads and paths generally follow the routes established after the work completed by the WPA; while the Sacajawea Trail that parallels the Yellowstone River dates to the levee's construction, an earlier trail that roughly paralleled the river existed in this location. Two informational signs where the path enters the area south of the band shell in Miles Park explain the route that the Corps of Discovery took past this location and Sacajawea's role with the Corps of Discovery.

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Resource Descriptions

The following resource descriptions are grouped according to their location within either the historic Sacajawea Island or McLeod Island (Miles Park) area of the Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District.

The footprints of several buildings within the Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District do not align in a strict north-south orientation. For descriptive purposes for this nomination, the walls of those resources that face northwest are referred to as the north wall, walls that face southwest are called the west wall, walls that face northeast are described as the east wall, and walls that face southeast are referred to as the south wall.

Resources within the Sacajawea Park Portion of Sacajawea/Miles Park

Resource #1, East and West Tennis Courts (counted as one contributing structure)

Immediately southeast from the large gravel parking lot off McGee Drive and southwest of the intersection of South Yellowstone Street and McGee Drive lie two sets of hard surface tennis courts. The WPA constructed the west courts circa 1937. It appears the WPA-courts may overlay earlier existing courts constructed in 1924.⁵ Resurfacing occurred in 2022 to allow the continued safe use of the courts and new fencing emplaced around the courts at that time. The pad associated with the two courts measures 110 feet by 120 feet in size (Photo MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0006).⁶ The four courts to the immediate east were installed in the 1950s and also resurfaced in 2022. The pad associated with the four courts measures 120 feet by 200 feet in size. Park County High School uses both sets of courts for both practice and school tournaments. The local tennis club, the Livingston Park County Tennis Association, and locals also regularly use the courts. The association provides tennis lessons during the summer for both adults and children (Photos MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0011, 0012).

Although some diminution of integrity occurred over the years due to improvements, the two sets of courts continue to retain sufficient integrity of location, feeling, setting, design, and association to be considered a contributing resource of Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District. The courts present much as they did when constructed.

Resource #2, Yellowstone Street Bridge (one contributing structure)

Northeast of the tennis courts and crossing the old channel of the North Fork of the Yellowstone River lies the sandstone Yellowstone Street Bridge. Built by the WPA in 1939 and replacing a deteriorating wooden bridge, the Yellowstone Street Bridge is constructed of sandstone quarried locally with three arched openings between the piers.⁷ The Romanesque-style bridge is a skewed three-span structure that measures 64 feet long and about 38 feet wide (Photos

⁵ The two WPA-constructed tennis courts may overlay previous courts constructed in 1924. "Livingston," *The Butte Miner*, September 14, 1924, p. 13.

⁶ "Tennis courts complete by WPA", *Livingston Enterprise*, September 14, 1937, p. 4.

⁷ "WPA Picture of Proposed Bridge to Replace Current Wood Structure", *The Livingston Enterprise*, August 28, 1938, p. 3.

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MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0023, 0024, 0025, 0026). Two 14-foot diameter steel culverts and one 20-foot diameter steel culvert, tied together by masonry headwalls, allow the passage of water. The walls feature regular coursed rock-faced ashlar with six pilasters on each wall and the headwalls extend into masonry wing walls. The round arches display stone keystones and voussoirs. The guard walls measure 3 feet high and 2 feet wide and flare at each end. Two 5-foot wide sidewalks flank the asphalt surfaced deck of the structure (Photos #41-44a).⁸

The beauty of the bridge was noted at the time of its construction:

Livingston people have been watching the progress of the bridge building job with a great deal of interest and all are agreed that it will be a beautiful and highly serviceable addition to the roadways leading to and from the park system.⁹

The bridge presents the same as it did when originally constructed with the exception being the removal of the lights atop the pilasters due to vandalism.¹⁰

The Yellowstone River Bridge is a contributing resource to the Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District. It retains very strong integrity of location, feeling, setting, workmanship, association, design, and materials.

Resource #3, Horseshoe Pits (one contributing structure)

On South Yellowstone Street near the intersection with River Drive are 10 horseshoe pits (Photo MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0011). Horizontal wood planks replaced in 2022 secured to metal piping and concrete comprise the material used for the backstops. Sand surrounds the stake and lawn covers the intervening distance between the opposite boxes. The horseshoe pits merited mention in an article about the area in the *Livingston Enterprise* in 1940.¹¹ They provide an opportunity for both organized and leisurely recreational activities.

The horseshoe pits retain their historic association with the parks and are counted as a contributing resource to the Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District as they retain integrity of location, association, feeling, setting, design and to a lesser degree, workmanship, and materials.

Resource #4, Band Shell Foundation (one contributing site)

Southeast of the historic infilled wading pool and southwest of the horseshoe pits on River Drive is the foundation of the original location of the band shell (Photo

⁸ Jon Axline, Montana Department of Transportation, Historic Bridge Site Form, MDT ID# M3407400-00101, August 1997, on file at the Montana State Historic Preservation Office, Helena, MT.

⁹ *The Livingston Enterprise*, April 30, 1939.

¹⁰ Warren Hampton, "Draft National Register Form for the Sacagawea Bridge", (24PA0764), July 20, 1982, on file at the Montana State Historic Preservation Office, Helena, MT.

¹¹ "City Commission Considers Improvements At City Parks," *Livingston Enterprise*, May 10, 1940, p. 6.

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MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0021). The band shell was erected in Sacajawea Park in 1931 by band director Joe Brooks for between \$1,500 and \$2,000. Mr. Brooks, the director of the Gateway City Band for 25 years at that time, donated the band shell in return for a commitment from the city to continue to fund the band.¹² The superstructure of the band shell was moved from this location in 1954 to the Miles Park portion of the Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District. The foundation remains and is presently filled with sand and a stationary child's backhoe for children to practice their excavation skills.

Although the superstructure no longer remains at this location, the foundation is counted as a contributing site of the district as it continues to impart information on the early appearance of the property, retaining its integrity of location, association, feeling, and setting.

Resource #5, Barbecue (one contributing structure)

Further west from the band shell foundation under a canopy of trees and just off River Drive sits an historic barbecue. Mortared stacked rock standing about 4 feet tall and 3 feet wide comprise the feature, which displays a partially enclosed hearth near the ground (Photo MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0005). The barbecue is associated with the annual Livingston Roundup Celebration held during the July 4th holiday that began in 1933. The local rodeo committee sponsored a barbecue for the attendees of the celebration in Sacajawea Park.¹³

This feature is a contributing structure of the Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District. The barbecue retains integrity of location, feeling, setting, workmanship, association, design, and materials.

Resource #6, The Wading Pool (one contributing structure)

An historic wading pool lies south of a cluster of buildings near the center of the Sacajawea Park portion of the district. The pool measures about 50 feet in diameter, only a few feet deep towards its center, and displays an approximately 1-foot tall sidewall (Photo MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0004). A concrete sidewalk encircles the pool. The wading pool was filled with sand and rock and converted into a meditation area in 2010 after the city decided its continued use as a wading pool required the presence of a lifeguard.

The wading pool was in use by at least the 1940s and is a contributing resource to the Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District. The pool retains integrity of location, feeling, setting, workmanship, association, design, and materials.

Resource #7, Large Historic Maintenance Building (one contributing building)

Amongst a cluster of non-historic buildings northwest of the infilled wading pool stands a large historic maintenance building (Photos MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic

¹² "Bandstand will be presented to city by Brooks", *Livingston Enterprise*, June 12, 1931, p. 4.

¹³ "Roundup committee to host bar-b-que in Sacajawea Park tomorrow", *Livingston Enterprise*, July 1, 1933, p. 8.

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District_0003, 0004). Although a date of construction is yet to be determined, the building is obviously over 50 years of age. The interesting roof features a gable except for a smaller saltbox portion near the center of building that extends above the main gable roofline. The gable roof portion features a metal ridge cap with end balls and open eaves with exposed rafters. The building features simple drop siding clad with wood corner boards. Person doors on each end of the south elevation and a large overhead door on the west wall provide entry. This building is likely associated with the historic supervisor house that once stood in this area but was razed in the early 2000s.

Although this building appears to be in need of some attention, it contributes to the Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District as it retains strong integrity of location, feeling, setting, workmanship, association, design, and materials.

Resource #8, Open Shed (one contributing building)

Directly east of the gravel parking lot that serves the east tennis courts on South Yellowstone Street stands a small, open, three-sided concrete block shelter that faces northeast (Photos MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0007, 0008). Raised metal roofing tops the shed roof, which is supported by horizontal 6-inch by 6-inch beams and vertical metal pipes. The building functions as a location to quietly sit and enjoy a view of the lagoon. The building also serves in the winter as a shelter while ice skating on the lagoon. Although an exact date of construction remains unknown, the building is believed to be 50 years of age.

The open shed contributes to the Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District. It retains strong integrity of location, feeling, setting, workmanship, association, design, and materials.

Resource #9, Large Restroom Building (one noncontributing building)

Immediately north of the infilled historic wading pool (Resource #6) and east of the large historic maintenance building (Resource #7) stands a modern restroom that measures 20 feet by 25 feet (Photos MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0003, 0004). A gable roof covered with ribbed metal roofing with three small skylights protects the building, which displays concrete block and stone quoining on its corners. A person door allows entry through the north wall and two doors in the south wall, fronted by concrete block screens, provide access to the women's and men's restrooms.

Resource #10, Small Shed #1 (one noncontributing building)

Fifty feet south of the large maintenance building stands a recently built small gable roof storage shed (Photos MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0003, 0004). Ribbed metal roofing tops the building, which is constructed of horizontal lap siding. A person door in the west wall allows entry.

Resource #11, Small Shed #2 (one noncontributing building)

Immediately northeast of the historic large maintenance building stands a small lap sided gable roof shed (Photos #3, 4). Asphalt shingles cover the roof. The east wall holds a person door.

Resource #12, Two Memorials (one noncontributing object)

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Two memorials stand in the Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District, one in the northern part of the District and a second in the southern portion. The northern Military Memorial is located immediately south of the Yellowstone River Bridge at the intersection of South Yellowstone Street and McGee Drive. The north memorial consists of a hexagonal base constructed of stone surmounted by a flagpole (Photo MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0019). Erected circa 2010 by the American Legion in Livingston, the memorial is noncontributing due to its age but is an important element to the citizens of Livingston, which boasts of a strong, vibrant, active American Legion.

The second military memorial lies to the south at the intersection of South Yellowstone Street and River Drive. This memorial consists of a small triangular raised bed garden that holds a another small military memorial (Photos MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0009, 0010). The bed garden sits in the area created from fill obtained when the WPA created the lagoon and built the dam that joined Sacajawea and McLeod islands in 1938 (Photos MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0017-0019).

Resource #13, Walking Bridge (counted as one contributing structure)

A steel walking bridge constructed in 1976 spans the distance from Sacajawea Park to the intersection of West Crawford Street and South 7th Street (Photo MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0027). It consists of 4-5-inch steel tubing that form the handrails and vertical supports with smaller 2-inch vertical grating covering the area between the vertical supports. The top of the bridge stands about 4 feet tall and the walkway consists of pavement. The bridge measures about 60 feet in length. This bridge replaced an earlier crossing.

Because the walking bridge falls short by only three years of 50 and not the primary focus of the nomination, but one of many features in the District, it is counted as a contributing resource. The walking bridge retains strong integrity of location, feeling, setting, workmanship, association, design, and materials.

Resource #14, Playground (one noncontributing structure)

West of the tennis courts off South Yellowstone Street stands the noncontributing "Pompey's Playground," assembled at this location in 1998 (Photo MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0018). The mostly wood playground features a variety of towers, swings, slides, and elevated pathways to climb and walk. A wood picket style fence encloses the playground, which serves as a wonderful spot for youngsters to recreate.

Resource #15, Sacajawea Trail and Levee (one noncontributing structure)

In 1981, a group of local volunteers began constructed a walking path known as Sacajawea Trail along the north bank of the Yellowstone River. The trail lasted for several years until the construction of a levee along the bank of the Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District in the mid-

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1990s.¹⁴ A new primarily gravel trail was then introduced along the top of the levee. The trail runs the entire length of the Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District and represents the southern boundary of the District. The levee stands about 1-2 feet above the surrounding park terrain and measures about 7 feet wide. The trail across from the Sacajawea Park portion of the District measures about 5 feet wide, increasing to about 6 feet wide near the Miles Park portion of the District (Photos MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0020, 0049, 0050).

Resource #16, Kiwanis Picnic Shelter (one noncontributing building)

On the north side of River Drive and south of the historic wading pool stands an open gable roof picnic shelter built and donated by the local Kiwanis organization to the City of Livingston in 1984. The shelter features vertical post construction that supports the roof. Today, the shelter houses several picnic tables and is used as a shaded gathering location. The shelter is a noncontributing structure to the Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District (Photo MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0017).

Resource #17, Gazebo (one noncontributing building)

Near the intersection of McGee Drive and River Drive stands a gazebo fabricated in 1985 by the Burlington Railroad Blue Streamers Club and the citizens of Livingston. This building exhibits a hexagonal roof topped with wood shingles, wood pole construction and railing, and a concrete floor. It serves as a location for various gatherings throughout the year. Due to its recent time of construction the building is counted as a noncontributing element (Photos MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0013, 0014).

Resource #18, Six Vault Toilets (counted as one noncontributing building)

Six modern vault toilets stand within the Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District. Two of the toilets stand near the Kiwanis Picnic Shelter within the Sacajawea portion of the District. The remaining four toilets stand within the Miles Park portion of the District, two south of the Armory/Civic Center on the west side of the Armory/Civic Center parking lot (Photo MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0029), and two near north edge of the baseball fields off River Drive; one stands between the cluster of four ball fields and the two eastern ball fields, and the second stands toward the far east end of River Drive, across from the high school track. The modern vault toilets all bear shed roofs, stucco cladding, and large ventilation pipes projecting from their roofs. Metal vented steel doors provide ingress (Photos MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0001, 0015, 0053).

Resource #19, Dry-laid stone wall (counted as one noncontributing structure)

A dry-laid stone wall that stands about 2 feet tall and 1-2 feet wide runs along the south edge of River Drive. It acts as a median between River Drive and the Sacajawea Trail that follows the Yellowstone River to the south. The wall begins at the intersection of River Drive and McGee Drive and terminates near the location of where River Drive enters the Miles Park portion of the District. It measures approximately 1200 feet long. Five small concrete staircases that feature

¹⁴ Trials RX, A recreational trail guide for Livingston, Montana. Available online at <https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5d2371db887b590001831b41/t/5ee1246839293c4e069be354/1591813237154/Livingston-Trails-Map.pdf>, accessed November 11, 2022.

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four or five steps with steel tubing handrails are positioned along the wall to provide access to the trail. While sympathetic to the park setting and feeling and constructed in the spirit of the District's setting, the wall and staircases were likely constructed the same year as the levee, 1997, and thus fall outside the period of significance and considered noncontributing (Photo MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0049).

Resources in the Miles Park Portion of Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District

Resource #20, Sacajawea Sculpture (one noncontributing object)

Directly across River Drive from the Civic Center stands a 9-foot tall monument commemorating the two hundredth anniversary of Sacajawea's journey down the Yellowstone River with William Clark and some of the Corps of Discovery (Photo MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0040). The raised statue depicts Sacajawea on horseback holding her son Pompey as a toddler. Gracefully rounded 3-foot tall brick walls with built-in brick benches surround the statue accompanied by a narrow concrete walk; a small, short, wood dock extends into the lagoon. Dedicated on July 15, 2006, the piece titled "At the Yellowstone," by Montana artist Mary Michael refers to when Sacajawea, Pompey, and the other members of the Corps, rested and watered their horses on July 15, 1806. The dedication featured a decedent of William Clark and a member of the Shoshone tribe who gave the blessing in her native tongue. The monument is a noncontributing object due to its age.

Resource #21, The Armory/Civic Center (one contributing building)

The impressive WPA-constructed Armory/Civic Center, originally built as an armory, sits on about 1.7 acres in the Miles Park portion of the district. Construction began in 1936 with the building dedication celebration held on July 1, 1937.¹⁵ The 1937 Armory/Civic Center is a two-story Art Deco building that features a symmetrical multiple bay façade, roughly facing north (Photos MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0041-0046, 0048). Two large projecting full-façade height columns define the center three bays. Full-façade projecting walls bound the interior bays. To each side of the projecting full-façade walls are recessed ¾-height walls atop single-story height walls. The façade is completed by a slightly taller than single-story recessed wall that aligns with the ¾-height wall. The east and west elevations consist of single-story full-length extensions covered by dropped-shed roofs.¹⁶ The south half of the west extension elevation projects a few feet further than the northern half. The poured concrete building features yellow stucco cladding. Cultural resources consultant and historian Jessie Nunn wrote that the building "represents Depression Era cultural movements, communalism, and escapism, as well as an increasingly modernist aesthetic."¹⁷

¹⁵ "Dedication program is taking form", *Livingston Enterprise*, June 25, 1937, p. 8; "Civic Center dedication dance to be held", *Livingston Enterprise*, July 1, 1937, p. 8.

¹⁶ "The east extension housed a firing range in the lower level", Kommers, McLaughlin & Leavengood Architects, *Livingston Civic Center and Swimming Pool Study-An Evaluation and Review*, Livingston, MT, December 1979.

¹⁷ Yellowstone Gateway Museum, December 15, 2021, A Facebook post with regard to a 1937 photo of the Civic Center.

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A segmental roof supported by steel trusses tops the Armory/Civic Center and shed roofs cover the dropped side extensions. The roof appears to be covered with EPDM (ethylene propylene diene terpolymer), a rubber roofing membrane.

A small, centered, two-story concrete block addition covered by a nearly flat roof projects off the south (rear) wall of the Armory/Civic Center; this addition remains associated with the National Guard. Connecting to the south side of this centered addition is a second nearly flat roof concrete block garage addition used for vehicle storage. Both the small, centered addition and garage were constructed in the late 1950s.¹⁸ Another small single-story addition that projects off the south end of the full-length west extension connects to both the centered south addition and the concrete block garage addition; a date of construction of this small addition remains unknown, however, it is of recent construction. The west wall of the garage addition boasts a mural designed in 2014 by a local artist, Parks Reese, and painted by local artists and members of the community with help from several visiting artists from China.

Access to the Armory/Civic Center interior occurs via three sets of paired steel person doors aligned within the three centered bays in the north facade elevation; these doors open into a vestibule. Other entrance occurs through a single metal door in the south wall approached by a two-step concrete landing, a single wood door approached by a flight of eight steps covered by a small gable-roofed porch on the east wall, and a single person wood door approached by a two-step concrete landing in the west wall. A single window appears in the south wall (rear) and consists of a replacement two-light sliding unit in the far east portion of the elevation. The east wall holds eight replacement two-light sliding units in the lower story extension and five ribbons of either four or five fixed units above the extension in the main block. The west wall lacks windows.

Access to the south additions occurs via two oversized overhead garage doors and a wood person door in the east elevations, and a wood person door in the south wall, all in the cinder block garage addition. The east wall of the centered addition holds a replacement two-light sliding unit in both the upper and lower story.

The north façade originally held a variety of window that included fixed 18-light units and fixed nine-light units; except for the replacement sliding unit in the east end of the north extension, none of the openings remain visible. The east and west elevations of the Armory/Civic Center originally displayed 24-light units and 18-lights units. None of the openings remain on the west wall and the east wall units are replaced with the above described units.

Although some changes have occurred to the Armory/Civic Center since its construction by the WPA, notably to the windows and doors through the covering of much of the façade's fenestration, resulting in a degradation of integrity of workmanship, design and materials, the Armory/Civic Center stands as a major contributing resource to the Sacajawea/Miles Park

¹⁸ Kommers, McLaughlin & Leavengood Architects, *Livingston Civic Center and Swimming Pool Study-An Evaluation and Review*, Livingston, MT, December 1979.

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Historic District. It retains integrity of location, feeling, association, and setting, with diminished integrity of workmanship, design, and materials.

Resource #22, Gravity Park (one noncontributing structure)

Immediately northeast of the Armory/Civic Center is the most recent addition to the Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District, the McNair Gravity Park. The noncontributing skate park opened in 2018 and includes a multitude of decks, pipes, and bowls. Kids of all ages indulge their love for gravity sports at this location (Photo MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0032).

Resource #23, The City Swimming Pool (one contributing structure)

The City Swimming Pool, built in 1949 by local firm McLaughlin Construction Company, occupies one third of an acre west of South 2nd Street and south of West Butte Street (Photos #35-37).¹⁹ It replaced the original lagoon “swimming pool” at the foot of 3rd Street.²⁰ The lagoon “swimming pool,” although used for more than 10 years, had several drawbacks. It was “invaded by beavers” in 1937 and required the placement of the dam at the foot of 3rd Street and the sanding of the beaches every year before opening (Photo MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0039).²¹ The pool tank is constructed of concrete and measures 106 feet by 50 feet; with the inclusion of the concrete surround, the pool measures about 140 feet by 70 feet. The pool looks much as it did when constructed, though maintenance has occurred. A cyclone fence conscribes the swimming pool and associated pump house.

The City Swimming Pool retains integrity of location, feeling, association, and setting. Some maintenance over the years has resulted in a diminishment of integrity of workmanship, design, and materials. The City Swimming Pool is counted as a contributing structure to the Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District

Resource #24, Office/Bath House (one contributing building)

Standing immediately west of the pool is the 1949-constructed pool office and bath house used to conduct business, gain entrance to the pool, and change clothing.²² While generally utilitarian in its presentation, it does display subdued Craftsman touches (Photos MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0035-0038). The building measures about 35 feet by 65 feet. A hipped roof topped with green asphalt shingles with open eaves and exposed rafters protect the building. Lapped siding and wood corner boards clad the walls. Three large circular vents pierce the roof, two being ridge vents and the third positioned on the east roof slope. Paired person doors center in the west wall with a large two-over-one window unit positioned beside each door. Three smaller windows aligned horizontally appear in the upper wall on each side of the larger windows. The east wall holds two person doors that lead to the changing rooms. North wall fenestration includes three horizontally aligned windows and the south wall holds four similar units. The building rests on a concrete foundation.

¹⁹ “Swimming Pool Bid Accepted”, *Livingston Enterprise*, January 4, 1949, p. 1.

²⁰ “Scenic Lake at Livingston is WPA Built”, *Montana Labor News*, October 20, 1938, p. 5.

²¹ “Beavers invade new swimming pool”, *Livingston Enterprise*, July 13, 1937, p. 3.

²² “Swimming Pool Bid Accepted”, *Work Is Ordered to Proceed*, *Livingston Enterprise*, January 4, 1949, p. 1.

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The office/bath house contributes to the Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District. It retains integrity of location, feeling, setting, workmanship, association, design, and materials.

Resource #25, Pump House (one contributing building)

East of the swimming pool stands a pump house that serves to filter the pool water (Photos MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0036, 0037). Constructed circa 1949, the nearly square pump house sports a hipped roof covered with green asphalt shingles with open eaves and exposed rafters. A large diameter circular vent projects from the east roof slope. Lapped siding and wood corner boards clad the walls. The north elevation holds two person doors, one that displays the stencil "ACID ROOM" and the other "FILTER ROOM." The west, south, and east walls hold two horizontal vents near the top of the wall. The building sits on a concrete block foundation.

The pump house contributes to the Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District. It retains integrity of location, feeling, setting, workmanship, association, design, and materials.

Resource #26, The Lagoon, (one contributing site)

The lagoon, built in 1937 and 1938 by the WPA, encompasses over 7 acres.²³ The construction of three dams by the WPA resulted in the creation of the lagoon (Photos MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0025, 0028, 0038, 0039, 0047, 0060, 0061). One dam was placed in the area of the current below-surface swimming pool, office/bath house, and pump house at the foot of 3rd Street. The placement of this dam effectively staunched the Yellowstone River's flow along the former channel of the river and created the original "swimming pool" at the foot of the dam. A small box type weir was installed in this dam in the early 1980s when work occurred to rehabilitate the lagoon.²⁴ The WPA constructed a second east-west trending dam closer to the main channel of the river that prohibit the entrance of water between Sacajawea Island and McLeod Island; this dam now serves as River Drive and parallels the river. A third dam constructed by the WPA was placed at the south end of McGee Drive at the intersection with River Drive where the former west channel of the river began. This dam, along with gate installed the same time, allowed for the regulated flow of water into the newly created lagoon. Water also reportedly entered the lagoon via Fleshman Creek, toward the northeast end of Sacajawea Park.

Much of the soil used for the dams' construction came from the areas dredged to form the lagoon itself. The lagoon represents an important contributing site. The lagoon strongly contributes to the Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District as it retains integrity of location, feeling, setting, workmanship, association, design, and materials.

Resource #27, Three Earthen Dams (counted as one contributing structure)

²³ City of Livingston, Property Inventory and Classification, October 2004.

²⁴ Thomas Patrick Clancy, "Effects of Renovation on the Sacajawea Park Lagoon System in Livingston, Montana", *MA Thesis, Montana State University*, May 1983, p. 6.

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The three dams constructed by the WPA that tie the two islands together (Sacajawea and McLeod), regulate the amount of water entering the area of the lagoon, and prohibit the pass-through of water along the smaller west channel of the Yellowstone River (Photos MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0020, 0022, 0038, 0039, 0049). The dams comprise the elements that brought the construction of the lagoon to fruition. As previously noted, one dam appears immediately west of the bathhouse and two lie in the south part of the district along the Yellowstone River. The dam near the bathhouse contains a small discharge weir protected by metal fencing and metal handrail. The dam located at the intersection of McGee Drive and River Drive holds a diversion gate that consists of an upper metal frame with hand wheel gear to raise and lower the gate allowing the regulation of the passage of water through a culvert that runs through the dam (and under River Drive) into the lagoon (Photos MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0039, 0040, 0087). The WPA installed this gate in 1937, which serves as an integral part of the lagoon system.²⁵ The dams display earthen construction with the fill derived from the excavation of the lagoon itself. River Drive lies across the two southern dams and allows movement between the two former islands. Cottonwoods border much of River Drive near the river. With the passage of decades since the WPA constructed the dams, the associated park maintenance, and the general growth of vegetation, most people who presently visit the park are likely unaware of the history of, or the existence of these earthen dams as they now meld into the surrounding landscape.

The earthen dams strongly contribute to the Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District. They retain integrity of location, feeling, setting, workmanship, association, design, and materials. Without the dams, no lagoon exists, and without the dams the nature and presentation of the Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District would be entirely different.

Resource #28, The Band Shell (one contributing structure)

The band shell was constructed in Sacajawea Park in 1931 and moved from that location to its present location in the Miles Park portion of the Sacagawea/Miles Park Historic District in 1954 (Photos MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0030, 0031). The band shell faces northeast and measures approximately 30 feet by 34 feet. The façade displays a semicircular recess bordered by façade-height slightly projecting square columns. Two narrow person-sized doors in the back of the recess provide entrance and egress from the elevated stage. A half-hipped roof topped with asphalt shingles protects the rear portion of the band shell. Walls feature stucco cladding.

Although the band shell was moved from its original location, the move to its present location placed it in a similar setting. In addition, the move occurred in 1954, within the period of significance. It is considered a contributing structure. The band shell retains strong integrity of location, feeling, setting, workmanship, association, design, and materials.

Resource #29, Baseball Fields (one contributing structure)

Six baseball fields that occupy an area of approximately 7 acres lie immediately east of the Armory/Civic Center, in an area known as Miles Park Athletic Complex (Photos

²⁵ Yellowstone Gateway Museum Collections, A 1937 map of Livingston, Montana.

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MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0033, 0034).²⁶ The ball fields were developed in 1969 in the location of the 1927 city tourist park; their construction occurred shortly after the completion of the new Park County High School.²⁷ All of the ball diamonds feature some degree of cyclone fencing around the edges. The ball fields occupy the same location as earlier ball fields and are counted as a contributing structure (Photos MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0055-0057). The cluster of the four western diamonds are numbered beginning with the northwest diamond and moving clockwise, #1, 2, 3, and 4.

The Baseball Fields retain integrity of location, feeling, association, setting, design, workmanship, and materials and is counted as a contributing structure to the Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District

Resource #30, Six Modern Sheds (counted as one noncontributing building)

A number of non-permanent modern sheds are scattered around the ballparks (Photos MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0053-0056). All are relatively small in size and sit on concrete blocks; their actual number varies by year as new sheds are introduced and older sheds removed. At the time of the nomination preparation, three small gable roof sheds, two that measure 12 x 16 feet and one that measures 12 x 14 feet stand within the walking areas between the group of four fields; the two 12 x 16-foot sheds stand just south of a gambrel roof shed and the 12 x 14-foot storage shed sits near ball field #2. An 8 x 10-foot shed topped with a shed style roof stands north of a batting cage near ball field #3. All the gable roof sheds sport asphalt shingles and walls of either horizontal clapboard, simple drop, or vertical pressed board siding. The shed roofed shed displays metal sheeting roofing and cladding. Entry to the sheds occurs through person doors positioned in the south walls of the gable roof sheds, the north wall of the shed roof structure; one of the 12 x 16-foot sheds also holds a small rollup garage-style door. Suggestive of the transitory nature of these buildings, all rest on concrete blocks. The sheds house the different materials and equipment used to maintain the ball fields. Because none of the sheds are over 50 years old, often moved and not considered permanent improvements to the ball fields, the sheds are counted as a single noncontributing resource to the District.

Resource #31, Electrical Shed (one noncontributing building)

Just south of the gambrel roof shed is a small, rectangular, 12 x 22-foot electrical shed (Photo MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0053). The building sports a ribbed metal roof with ridge cap and ribbed metal paneling that clads the walls. Two person doors provide access via the north wall and the east wall. A number of electrical boxes cling to the north wall immediately east of the door. A covered window opening is in the south wall. This building is counted as a noncontributing element due to its recent construction dating less than 50 years.

²⁶ An aerial photo in the Parks and Trails Master plan indicated the original intent included six fields; CTA Architects Engineers Planners, "Livingston Parks and Trails Master Plan," 2011.

²⁷ *Park County News*, April 28, 1969.

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Resource # 32, Concession Building (one contributing building)

A concrete block concession building stands immediately north of baseball field # 4 (Photo MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0052). It sports a shed roof with slight overhang on its north façade to protect customers from inclement weather. Corrugated sheet metal tops the roof. The north façade holds a large, oversized window opening, currently covered with plywood sheeting, to serve patrons. The west wall holds two person doors. The east and south walls lack fenestration. Although an exact date of construction is unknown for the concession building, its similar appearance and construction to the concrete block restroom and dugouts suggests a construction date of the mid-1970s, numbering the building as a contributing resource of the district.

The Concession Building retains integrity of location, feeling, association, setting, design, workmanship, and materials and is counted as a contributing building to the Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District

Resource #33, Ballpark Restroom (one contributing building)

A concrete block restroom stands near the center of the cluster of four ball fields (Photo MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0051). A shed style roof covered with rolled asphalt roofing tops the building, from which two vent pipes project. The restroom measures 13 feet x 21 feet and holds two person entries in the south (southeast) façade, one for men and one for women. Horizontal plank blinds screen the entries. Two one-by-one light sliding windows puncture the rear, north (northwest), wall of the building and a single opening appears in both the east (northeast) and west (southwest) walls. The building is painted brown. Construction is believed to have occurred in the mid-1970s, the building is therefore considered a contributing building.

The Ballpark Restroom retains integrity of location, feeling, association, setting, design, workmanship, and materials and is counted as a contributing building to the Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District

Resource #34, Dugout Shelters (counted as one contributing building)

Twelve dugout shelters grace the sidelines of the six ball diamonds, two per diamond (Photo MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0057). The dugout shelters provide an area for the opposite teams to stand or sit during the games. The dugout shelters display the same construction, all concrete block, and are covered by shed roofs with the portion of the building that faces the diamond open and lacking a wall. The smallest of the dugouts measure 7 feet x 15 feet, eight measure 6 feet x 16 feet, and the largest that stand near field #1 measure 8 feet x 30 feet. Ten of the dugouts were constructed circa 1969, the same time as the installation of the ball diamonds. The two dugouts near field #1 suggest a date of less than 50 years of age. However, as the dugouts are being counted as a single entity, and because the vast majority are historic in age, the dugouts are counted as one contributing building.

The Dugout Shelters retain integrity of location, feeling, association, setting, design, workmanship, and materials. They are counted as a single contributing building to the Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District

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Resource #35, Entry Sign and Ticket Booth (counted as one noncontributing structure)

A wood entry pass-through that consists of four vertical railroad tie uprights, two bolted together on each side, spanned by a large timber crossmember lettered with "Welcome To Miles Park," fronts a small three-sided stone ticket booth topped with an open shed roof. The sign and stone booth are of recent construction and are considered noncontributing to the district (Photo MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0058).

Resource #36 Stone Wall and Poured-Concrete Curb (counted as one contributing structure)

A castellated stone fence (that in spots also serves as a retaining wall) that displays both mortared and unmortared portions mostly runs east-west and begins at the northeast end of the WPA-constructed Yellowstone Street Bridge (Photos MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0059-0062). The wall stands about 3 feet tall, measures 1-2 feet wide, and displays castellation across the top rows of stones; the castellated portion of the wall is mortared. The wall alignment runs east, fronting houses that face south toward the water. A small segment of the wall exhibits repair using concrete block. The stone wall turns north just south of the intersection of West Butte Street and South 3rd Yellowstone Alley, southwest of the City Swimming Pool and office/bathhouse. The short north-south section of stone wall serves to separate the Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District, specifically the Fireman's Park area, from the private property immediately to the west. Near the intersection of West Butte Street and South 3rd Yellowstone Alley, the stone wall trends northeast and supports a short, poured-concrete retaining curb along West Butte Street. Although unknown, it appears the castellation of the stone wall along West Butte Street was removed with the concrete curb laid atop the now decastellated stone wall. This poured concrete curb and stone wall serve as the southern curb for West Butte Street and terminates just west of the swimming pool and office/bathhouse. The concrete curb projects 1 ½ feet above the road surface and measures about 1-foot thick.

The castellated stone wall certainly suggests WPA-work as the castellation bears strong similarity to that of the bridge. The age of the poured-concrete curb, while less than the stacked stone wall it overlays also appears to be at least 50 years old. The stone wall and poured concrete curb retains integrity of location, feeling, association, setting, design, workmanship, and materials and is counted as a contributing building to the Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District

Resource #37, Two Climbing Stones (one noncontributing object)

Fireman's Park, mentioned in the Parks and Trails Master plan, is a small triangular open space. About 300 feet of its south edge parallels the lagoon, and 100 feet of its west edge is bounded by the castellated wall mentioned above. The small parcel's north boundary is defined by West Butte Street and the associated stone wall and concrete curb. In 2017, two climbing rocks were installed for children to hone their skills on. One stands about 10 feet tall and the other about four feet tall (Photo MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0060).

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Resources in the Sacajawea Park Portion of Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District

<i>Resource #</i>	<i>Resource</i>	<i>Contributing (C) Noncontributing (NC)</i>	<i>Date of Construction</i>
#1	East and West Tennis Courts	counted as one C structure	c. 1937/1950s
#2	Yellowstone Street Bridge	C structure	1939
#3	Horseshoe Pits	C structure	c. 1940
#4	Band Shell Foundation	C site	1931
#5	Barbecue	C structure	c. 1933
#6	Wading Pool	C structure	c. 1940s
#7	Large Historic Maintenance Building	C building	greater than 50
#8	Open Shed	C building	greater than 50
#9	Large Restroom Building	NC building	modern
#10	Small Shed #1	NC building	less than 50
#11	Small Shed #2	NC building	less than 50
#12	Two Memorials	NC object	less than 50
#13	Walking Bridge	C structure	1976
#14	Playground	NC structure	1998
#15	Sacajawea Trail and Levee	counted as one NC structure	c. 1997-1998
#16	Kiwanis Picnic Shelter	one NC building	1984
#17	Gazebo	one NC building	1985
#18	Six Vault Toilets	counted as one NC building	modern/recent
#19	Dry-laid Stone Wall	one NC structure	1997

Resources in the Miles Park Portion of Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District

#20	Sacajawea Sculpture	NC object	2006
#21	The Armory/Civic Center	C building	1937
#22	Gravity Park	NC structure	2018
#23	City Swimming Pool C	structure	1949
#24	Office/Bath House	C building	1949
#25	Pump House	C building	1949
#26	Lagoon,	C site	1937-1938
#27	Three Earthen Dams	counted as one C structure	1937-1938
#28	Band Shell	C structure	1931 (moved 1954)
#29	Baseball Fields	counted as one C structure	1969
#30	Six Modern Sheds	counted as one NC building	less than 50
#31	Electrical Shed	NC building	less than 50
#32	Concession Building	C building	mid-1970s
#33	Ballpark Restroom	C building	mid-1970s
#34	Dugout Shelters	counted as one C building	1969
#35	Entry Sign and Ticket Booth	counted as one NC structure	modern/recent
#36	Stone Wall and Poured-Concrete Curb	counted as one C structure	c. 1937-1950
#37	Two Climbing Stones	counted as one NC object	2022

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Spatial Arrangement/Open Space C site
Circulation C Site

1937-1938
1937-1939

Integrity:

Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District retains excellent integrity of location, setting, feeling, and association, and good integrity of design, materials, and workmanship allowing the District to evoke many of its early characteristics.

The city fathers realized early the need for a park that allowed citizens the opportunity for recreation. Sacajawea Island served as the location for band concerts and barbecues long before the arrival of the WPA in 1935. The Sanborn Maps from 1927 show bridges across the west channel of the Yellowstone River at Main Street (east and outside the National Register boundary), South 2nd Street, and South Yellowstone Street. A wooden bridge at South Yellowstone Street permitted citizens to access Sacajawea Island and participate in activities there. The South 2nd Street bridge accessed McLeod Island where an early tourist camp established by A. W. Miles existed (Photo #88), resulting in the present moniker of this location.

Starting in 1935, plans by the WPA included connecting the two separate islands into the beautiful, unified recreation area found and enjoyed today. By the mid-1930s, WPA planning and construction began in earnest with the Armory/Civic Center on McLeod Island (Miles Park), three small dams, dredging to create the lagoon (and associated “swimming pool”), the construction of a beautiful new permanent bridge from South Yellowstone Street to Sacajawea Island, installation of a turf athletic field, and two hard surface tennis courts on Sacajawea Island. As with most parks that hold historic roots, the Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District reflects later improvements and updates. However, WPA-associated resources, including the dams and the lagoon, that afforded the area its present configuration remain, as do other WPA-resources, a few albeit, in reduced, replaced, or modified fashion. The presence of these early resources, however, continues to impart the history of the area that dates to that period.

More recent alterations or additions to the Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District represent the continued evolution of the landscape with changes directed to improve usage of the area for activities that have increased in importance or popularity through the decades. A few memorials were installed to celebrate different groups. A few resources, such as the 1950s tennis courts and swimming facilities constructed after the departure of the WPA continue to reflect the ongoing importance of these activities to the local population. Although many newer improvements don’t contribute to the overall District in a National Register sense, their installation reflects the ever-changing and evolving preferences of the parks’ users at different times. These smaller improvements don’t obscure the more substantial contributions of the WPA, nor the later city efforts that continued to meet the needs of the local Livingston public.

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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.)

ENTERTAINMENT/RECREATION

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1922-1973

Significant Dates

1922

1935-1940

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

WPA

City of Livingston, Parks and Recreation Department

McLaughlin Construction Company

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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.

The Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District is eligible for listing in the National Register under criteria A and C at a local level of significance in the areas of community planning and development and entertainment/recreation.

Under Criterion A, the City of Livingston realized early in the 20th century that a need existed for a location to allow residents, as well as travelers, to rest and recreate. The early use of Sacajawea Island partially fulfilled the recreational need. The proximity of McLeod Island, the location of Miles Park, further enhanced the attraction of the area south of town. The WPA upped the ante of the islands as a recreation destination with their arrival in the mid-1930s by the group's literal synthesis of the two islands, manipulating the landscape that established a connected landform. The Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District continues to display a few touchstones of its earliest use, namely concentrations of trees and the proximity of the Yellowstone River. The strongest developmental overtones, however, harken to the presence of the WPA through the organization's efforts, including the construction of several resources, such as the Armory/Civic Center and the centerpiece of the District, the lagoon. Many of the improvements wrought by the WPA continue to serve the Livingston populace to the present. Post-WPA improvements occurred as the district responded to changes in recreational priorities.

Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District is also locally significant under Criterion C. The earliest use of Sacajawea Island for recreational purposes occurred by at least 1922. The 1927 Sanborn map notes the northern portion of Miles Park (outside the defined National Register boundary and referred to as McLeod Park on the map), received use as an organized tourist camp and a location to dance. The arrival of the WPA in 1935 signaled work in earnest on a designed landscape of the District. Although no formal plan for the two parks' development has been located, it seems highly unlikely that the work conducted by the WPA occurred without any blueprint. The WPA joined the two islands in 1937 through the construction of the three dams between the main channel of the Yellowstone River and the west channel of the Yellowstone River. The dredging of the channel between the islands created the lagoon and provided fill to join the two islands resulting in the present landscape that now exists. Like many parks, later less intensive modifications related to recreation occurred as different physical pursuits changed through the years, resulting in an evolving landscape that caters to Livingston and visitors to the city.

The presence of the Armory/Civic Center also provides additional significance under Criterion C, conforming to the architectural style advanced and constructed by the WPA. The Armory/Civic Center stands as one of many such buildings constructed by the WPA, but the only such example in Livingston.

The period of significance begins in 1922, the earliest date found where both Sacajawea and Miles parks were called out as parks, indicating that their use for recreation began minimally by

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this date. The year 1973 marks the end of the period of significance, the end of the historic period. Significant dates include 1922, the first documented reference to the Sacajawea and Miles parks by their proper name. Other significant dates include the years 1935 through 1940; the year 1935 marking the arrival of the WPA, and 1940 noting the end of the organization's efforts in the area.

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

Livingston Montana

The first Euro-Americans to visit the Yellowstone River Valley other than trappers occurred on July 15, 1806, when 12 members of the Corps of Discovery, including Sacajawea and her son Pompey, entered the valley on their return west from the Pacific Ocean. The party stopped to rest and water their horses on a bend of the river just east of present-day Livingston. At that time, the Crow called the area home. Subsequent visits by more trappers, prospectors, homesteaders, and explorers soon occurred.

Following the Fort Laramie treaty of 1868, Fort Parker was established about eight miles east of present-day Livingston. Around 1873, a ferry community established by Amos Benson popped up about three miles downstream from Livingston.²⁸ Nine years later, in July of 1882, a new settlement just upriver from Benson's Landing was born, Clark City, named for Herman Clark, a principal contractor for the Northern Pacific Railroad (NP).²⁹ Clark's presence hailed the arrival of the NP to the area in January of 1883.³⁰ The town of Livingston was soon surveyed and 300 acres platted. Some confusion exists regarding if the town derived its moniker from Crawford Livingston, a major investor in the NP, or Crawford's uncle, Johnston Livingston, an NP director at that time.³¹

Livingston's future prospects materialized with the arrival of the railroad and the branch line south toward the new Yellowstone National Park. The establishment of railroad machine shops, the roundhouse, and stockyards by the early twentieth century yielded Livingston a significant commercial district. As the commercial district grew, so too did the residential neighborhoods. The prosperous community soon boasted a city hall, several theatres, a Carnegie library, two hospitals, a golf course, and seven schools. Tourism helped drive the establishment of hotels, banks, restaurants, bars, and other sources of entertainment. Livingston advanced from frontier town to prosperous city, railroad hub, agricultural center, and tourist destination, where in the summer of 1883, an estimated 20,000 visitors changed trains to continue their journey to Yellowstone National Park.³²

²⁸ Rick and Susie Graetz, "The Upper Yellowstone," *The Billing Gazette*, August 24, 2002.

²⁹ History of Park County Montana, 1984, Towns of Park County, Livingston History, p. 5.

³⁰ Yellowstone Gateway Museum, Transportation Room exhibit, January 26, 2016.

³¹ Ramsey County History, St Paul, Minnesota. Fall 1999, p. 22.

³² *Livingston Enterprise Souvenir Edition*, March 17, 1900, p. 2.

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Sacajawea and McLeod Islands/Parks

Accessing the Islands

Early in its history, McLeod Island appears to have supported a great number of events and happenings of a generally less structured nature compared to Sacagawea Island. These events began soon after the platting of the town of Livingston and included large group gatherings and picnicking. Presumably, much of the reason for this greater use related to access—a bridge that connected the mainland to McLeod Island existed earlier than a bridge that connected to Sacajawea Island.

The 1889 Sanborn map shows a bridge originating from Main Street crossing a channel of the Yellowstone River to the north end of McLeod Island. The bridge connected to a county road on the island, which allowed wagon access to and from Livingston.³³ This crossing, which lies outside the defined National Register boundary, also appears on the 1891 and in 1896 Sanborn maps.³⁴ The 1901 plat map of Livingston also shows the South Main Street Bridge providing access from the mainland. The bridge connected to a county road, today's View Vista Drive; this county road trended northeast across McLeod Island to another Yellowstone River crossing at the far northeast end of the island (also outside the defined National Register boundary).

The 1901 plat map notes Sheffield and McLeod owned the southern third of McLeod Island, land within the present Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District and within the National Register boundary. The map noted the remaining northern two-thirds of McLeod Island owned by William Hurza. Sacagawea Island, not labeled as such on the 1901 map, displays an overlay of potential future streets and lots and is referenced as the Nolan Addition. The map fails to note any bridge or crossing from the mainland to Sacagawea Island (Photo #85).³⁵

Early Recreation

The earliest reference regarding recreational activities that occurred on either Sacajawea or McLeod islands appeared in the August 30th, 1884 edition of the *Livingston Enterprise*, which reported, "The children of the Hand of Hope are picnicking to-day (sic) on McLeod's Island."³⁶ That the date of the picnic preceded by five years the 1889 map that noted a bridge extending south from Main Street suggests either a bridge existed before the drawing of the 1889 map or the 1884 picnickers crossed the water in boats. However, subsequent events on McLeod Island prior to the penning of the 1889 Sanborn map strongly indicate the presence of a bridge by 1884.

In June of 1887, McLeod Island served as the location of the July 4th celebration.³⁷ McLeod Island appears to have hosted such gatherings for a number of years as similar announcements occurred routinely.³⁸ Although the owners of the island apparently condoned certain

³³ Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps 1889, Sheet 3; "State News-Livingston," *The Butte Miner*, August 4, 1923.

³⁴ Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps 1891, Sheet 9; Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps 1896, Sheet 11.

³⁵ Yellowstone Gateway Museum Collections.

³⁶ "Local Layout," *The Livingston Enterprise*, August 30, 1884, p. 3.

³⁷ "Grand Celebration," *The Livingston Enterprise*, June 18, 1887, p. 3.

³⁸ "Fourth of July Celebration," *The Livingston Enterprise*, June 28, 1890, p. 2.

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celebrations, other use that included hunting or shooting fell outside their goodwill. A notice printed in the *Livingston Enterprise* stated, "WARNING—Notice is hereby given that any person who shall hereafter be guilty of rifle shooting upon the Cook or McLeod islands will be prosecuted to the full extent of the law."³⁹ This issue soon resolved itself as by November of 1892, the owners of McLeod Island allowed a turkey shoot, an apparently not uncommon event for several years.⁴⁰

Other early McLeod Island gatherings included an annual camp meeting of the Seventh Day Adventists in 1893 in the "grove," and a Baptist Sunday School picnic.⁴¹ By 1907, lest one forgets, the Sons of Herman also held their yearly picnic at McLeod Island, a gathering that included the "...usual merrymaking... Games, races, sports of all kinds."⁴² Also in 1907, McLeod Island hosted a group of bankers from across the nation after the conclusion of their meeting in Livingston; the bankers were "regaled" by a band concert and refreshments.⁴³ Other 1907 events on McLeod Island included the Livingston unions fetes and gatherings.⁴⁴ By 1921, McLeod Island boasted a "Dance Pavilion" with electric lights, but no heat; this dance pavilion would have stood north and outside the defined National Register boundary.⁴⁵

The establishment of the Yellowstone Trail in 1913 and the opening of Yellowstone National Park to automobiles in 1915 encouraged the automobile traveler to pass through or visit Livingston.⁴⁶ By 1919, a tourist park was established on the east side of the Main Street Bridge (today along View Vista Drive) outside the defined National Register boundary. An historic photograph from the Whithorn Collection reads, "In 1919 there was located at the foot of the bridge "a campground so attractive that tourist named it linger longer."⁴⁷ The 1927-1942 Sanborn map notes the site referred to as "Yellowstone Campground and Tourist Cabins." A combination mobile home/apartment complex now occupies this location.

As Livingston grew and visitation increased, the city fathers undoubtedly recognized the need to incorporate parks into their vision for an improved quality of life for Livingstonites. In 1920,

³⁹ "Warning," *Livingston Enterprise*, May 16, 1891, p. 4.

⁴⁰ "Local Layout," *Livingston Enterprise*, November 26, 1892, p. 5; "Local Layout", *Livingston Enterprise*, December 24, 1892, p. 5.

⁴¹ "Livingston," *The Daily Independent*, June 10, 1893, p. 3; "In Livingston," *The Anaconda Standard*, September 7, 1896, p. 1.

⁴² "Special to the Gazette, Livingston," *The Billings Gazette*, June 28, 1907, p. 8.

⁴³ "Special to the Gazette, Livingston," *The Billings Gazette*, August 16, 1907, p. 1.

⁴⁴ "Labor Day In Montana," *The Billings Gazette*, September 3, 1907, p. 1; "Intense Interest Manifested In Two Great League Meetings Attended By Organized Labor," *The Montana Nonpartisan*, August 30, 1919, p. 1; "W.F. Dunn Chief Speaker At Livingston Labor Day," *The Butte Daily Bulletin*, September 2, 1919, p. 1.

⁴⁵ Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps 1921, Sheet 26; Not all activities that occurred on the island were jovial; in June of 1909, Alexander McDonald was beaten in the park and tossed in the Yellowstone River to die. "Robbed and Thrown Into Yellowstone," *The Daily Missoulian*, June 19, 1909, p.1.

⁴⁶ Meeks, Harold A., *On the Road to Yellowstone* (Missoula, MT: Pictorial Histories Publishing Company, 2000), p. 169.

⁴⁷ Whithorn Photographic Collection, Yellowstone Gateway Museum, Photo #2006-044-2708.

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Livingston voters cast their ballots to support or reject a bond of \$20,000 to purchase McLeod Island and maintain the existing equipment.⁴⁸ The island was valued at \$10,000 and an additional \$10,000 was requested to purchase and maintain the existing park equipment. If approved, the bond would also provide for “a modern camping ground for tourists. The outcome of the bond vote remains unclear as no follow-up article was found in the newspapers.

Adding confusion to whether the city purchased the island in 1920 was an article dated two years later that reported local Livingston businessman A. W. Miles presented the city a gift of 30 acres on McLeod Island for the location of a permanent tourist camp; the location of this camp is possibly represented on the 1927 Sanborn map that notes a “City Tourist Park” that occupied the most southern part of Miles Park, within the defined National Register Boundary.⁴⁹ Both sheets 1 and 15 of the 1927 Sanborn maps acknowledge a road (now River Drive) running south from the east side of the Main Street bridge to the southern area of McLeod Island, presumably the auto camp associated with Miles’ land gift. Although an exact date of when the City of Livingston purchased McLeod and Sacajawea islands remains ambiguous, an August 1923 article noted that the Livingston city council passed a resolution to include the now-called Miles Park, undoubtedly a nod to land gift from Miles, and Sacajawea Park in the city limits, suggesting public ownership of both islands by this time.⁵⁰

The earliest acknowledgment that references both islands’ current nomenclature, Sacajawea Park and Miles Park, appears on a 1922 Livingston plat map (see “Maps” below). The use of the word “Park” instead of “Island” strongly indicates that by 1922, the two islands served in recreational capacities. This map also provides the first record of a bridge from South Yellowstone Street crossing to Sacajawea Island.⁵¹ The 1927 Sanborn map represents the first time that Sanborn maps call-out Sacajawea Park using that appellation; with the use of the word “park” in both Sacajawea and McLeod map labels (Sanborn maps still referred to Miles Park as McLeod Park), the map recognized and incorporated the burgeoning recreational opportunities afforded by the proximity of the two islands.

Although Sacajawea Park likely played host to some groups in the later part of the 1800s and early decades of the 1900s, greater organized use of it appears to have increased in the mid-1920s. The year 1924 witnessed the installation of tennis courts in the park.⁵² In 1926, the city decided to flood the athletic fields in Sacajawea Park to serve as an ice rink for the town, complete with the installation of lighting.⁵³ In the fall, Sacajawea Park served as the location for high school football games.⁵⁴ The use of Sacajawea Park for organized sports continued to grow

⁴⁸ “Montana Notes,” *The Circle Banner*, January 23, 1920, p. 7.

⁴⁹ Sanborn Fire Insurance Map 1927, Sheet 1; “City Receives Land Gift As Site For Camp Ground,” *The Great Falls Tribune*, September 9, 1922, p. 10.

⁵⁰ “Increase Municipal Levy To Allow Band Concerts,” *The Great Falls Tribune*, August 10, 1923, p. 4.

⁵¹ Yellowstone Gateway Museum Collections.

⁵² “Livingston,” *The Butte Miner*, September 14, 1924.

⁵³ “Livingston,” *The Conrad Independent Observer*, November 25, 1926, p. 6.

⁵⁴ “High School Youth Suffers Injuries In Football Game,” *The Helena Daily Independent*, October 21, 1928, p. 16.

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evidenced by the collaboration between the city park commission and the Livingston Kiwanis Club to construct a grandstand to seat 2000 people for county high school games and other events.⁵⁵ Fundraisers soon followed in 1929 and 1930 to raise money for the construction of a “stadium,” likely an allusion to the bleachers, in Sacajawea Park.⁵⁶ By 1930, Sacajawea Park received a new athletic field to envy: “when completed will give Livingston and Park county one of the most modern athletic fields in the state.”⁵⁷ The project included both a football field and a track with the field “patterned after those used by the large colleges and universities.”

Sacajawea Park received enough visitation that by June 1931, a new band shell was constructed. Businessman and Gateway City Band director Joseph Brooks financed the band shell for a cost of between \$1,500 and \$2,000.⁵⁸ The new band shell dedication culminated with a concert on July 2 followed by another on July 7th. The band shell’s donation passed with the understanding the city would continue to provide financial support for the band.⁵⁹ The band shell was later moved in 1957 to Miles Park when the city commission “accepted a bid from Mitch Percival for \$700.00 for removal of the band stand to the triangular area southwest of the civic center building and for the erection of a foundation of the stand at the new location.”⁶⁰ The band shell continues to occupy this location.

In 1933, the Park Board issued instructions for the cleanup of Sacajawea Park, especially the southern portion, which retained a barn and some outbuildings dating to the island’s earlier history.⁶¹ After the removal of the buildings the area was seeded with grass “to bring that section of the park on a par with the other sections.” Camping in Sacajawea Park was discouraged with the option to instead camp in Miles Park.

In 1936, an infestation of tent caterpillars ate their way through Livingston. Despite men posted at the three bridges that led to town, and armed with spray guns, oil, and other equipment to stem the flow of the caterpillars, trees were devoured and laid bare. “The tent caterpillars have cleaned nearly every tree in Miles and Sacajawea parks...the area is as bare and desolate as in mid-winter.”⁶²

Flooding

⁵⁵ “Livingston Kiwanis Will Co-Operate in Athletic Bleachers,” *The Great Falls Tribune*, October 17, 1929, p. 4; “Park Stadium Find Made \$75.75 Richer,” *The Helena Daily Independent*, April 12, 1930, p. 6.

⁵⁶ “Big Audience Enjoys Kiwanis Club Comedy,” *The Montana Standard*, December 15, 1929, p. 19; “Park Stadium Find Made \$75.75 Richer,” *The Helena Daily Independent*, April 12, 1930, p. 6.

⁵⁷ “Athletic Field To Be Completed In Few Days,” *The Montana Standard*, September 28, 1930, p. 15.

⁵⁸ “Bandstand Will Be Presented To City By Brooks,” *Livingston Enterprise*, June 12, 1931, p. 4.

⁵⁹ “First Concert In The New Bandstand,” *Livingston Enterprise*, July 2, 1931, p. 6.

⁶⁰ “Board Accepts Bid For Bandstand Move,” *Livingston Enterprise*, April 27, 1954, p. 4.

⁶¹ “Sacajawea Park in Livingston Having Spring Cleaning,” *The Helena Daily Independent*, March 19, 1933, p. 16.

⁶² “City of Livingston Falls Victim to Raid by Millions of Tent Caterpillars,” *The Big Timber Pioneer*, June 18, 1936, p. 1.

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Public use of Sacajawea and Miles parks during the spring and early summers often proved challenging due to incessant flooding caused by the high water levels of the Yellowstone River spring runoff. The high water inundated areas of both Miles and Sacajawea parks regularly.⁶³ Dike improvements slated for Miles Park in 1923 suggest the Yellowstone River took its toll on the area.⁶⁴ In response, the Park County Commissioners allocated \$700 toward work. In one instance, flood water proved serious enough to destroy “two supports of the bridge connecting the mainland with the island covered by Sacajawea Park...”⁶⁵ The perpetual flooding around the parks spurred the city and county to address the issue and find a solution. In 1928, the two entities pursued a plan to further extend the wing dam that led from Miles Park to the shore of Sacajawea Park to create a “permanent obstruction thus relieving the channel running under the Main Street Bridge and Miles bridge from its burden of carrying the excess flood waters.” This wing dam appears to have been either removed or incorporated into the WPA-constructed dam near the south end of Yellowstone Street that connected the two islands on their east side and closed the flow of the river between them. While the success of extending the wing dam to alleviate flooding likely helped, the arrival of the WPA in 1935 and the organization’s subsequent dam installation projects at Sacajawea and Miles parks, though not directed toward flood control, proved a greater benefit in both the parks and the area of town near the parks.

The Works Progress Administration Arrives in Livingston

The Great Depression brought big change to the Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District with the arrival of the Works Progress Administration (WPA) in 1935. The WPA was the largest of the New Deal public works programs created to assuage mass unemployment. A three-tier process was involved to acquire WPA assistance. Beginning at the local level, city and county governments assessed needs and unemployment numbers with proposals sent to the WPA state office for vetting before forwarding to the Washington D.C. headquarters for presidential approval.⁶⁶ Projects that fell under the umbrella of the WPA included bridges, schools, airports, and importantly for Livingston, parks. The establishment of the WPA in Livingston and their work on Sacajawea and Miles parks indicates the two islands were popular and important to the community as their inclusion for WPA consideration obviously cleared the bar for such work. Sacajawea and Miles parks, which constitute the Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District, weren’t alone in the attention they received from the WPA as 8000 parks were either constructed or received improvements by the organization nationwide, including 105 in Montana.⁶⁷

⁶³ “Yellowstone May Flood Sacajawea Children’s Park,” *The Helena Daily Independent*, June 4, 1925, p. 7.

⁶⁴ “Better Livingston Parks,” *The Billings Gazette*, March 2, 1923, p. 3.

⁶⁵ “Park County Bridges Taken By Yellowstone,” *The Helena Daily Independent*, May 27, 1928, p. 1.

⁶⁶ “Works Progress Administration (WPA) (1935) [Essay],” *The Living New Deal*. Available online at: <https://livingnewdeal.org/glossary/works-progress-administration-wpa-1935/>, accessed on August 5, 2020.

⁶⁷ United States, Federal Works Agency, *Final Report on the WPA Program, 1935-43*, (Washington, DC: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1947), p. 135. Available online at https://www.google.com/books/edition/_/P3TaAAAAAMAAJ?hl=en&gbpv=1&pg=PP9, accessed on October 30, 2022.

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Early movement in Montana regarding possible projects funded by the nascent WPA occurred with "...the announcement from D.A. McKinnon, state PWA engineer, that a total of 1,901 projects had been submitted at an estimated cost of \$253,925,409." Ideas from nearly every corner were offered as "City and county planning boards, public officials and interested citizens...were asked to submit every possible project which they felt was feasible and was needed or would be of lasting benefit to their communities."⁶⁸

In May of 1935, a number of potential project ideas crossed the desk of the Livingston Chamber of Commerce. One of the topics focused on the construction of an armory for the national guard. It was noted that, "As part of the national defense program it has been proposed in Washington that armories be provided in cities now maintaining nation guard units. The Chamber... has asked our senators to give support in the matter...It will be observed that nearly all of the Chamber of Commerce projects are tied up in some way with the national works program..." and "as this program is being developed...it will be seen that if even a part of these projects may be successfully concluded it will mean added employment in Livingston for about every class of both skilled and unskilled labor as well as bringing about very desirable permanent improvements."⁶⁹ With momentum running high, Ray Hart of Billings was appointed Montana State Works Progress Administrator in May of 1935.⁷⁰

Helping to kick off the relief efforts, four federal relief heads that included Associate Director of the National Re-employment Service Walter Bridges, Director of Labor Relations for the WPA Joe Watson, Director of Social Science for the Montana Relief Commission Samuel Gerson, and Assistant Administrator for the Montana Relief Commission F.M. McCarthy visited Montana's principle cities to "inform the heads of the various departments on matters relating to the new works progress program..." The group visited Livingston on August 2.⁷¹

The WPA quickly found success in their quest to increase employment. By November 6, 1935, Montana's efforts to provide work to willing participants on WPA projects exceeded the state's goals as "District one from Havre came in with 829 assignments; district two, with headquarters at Billings, registered 832; district three, with headquarters at Great Falls, 724; and district four at Butte had put 2,819 workers on the job."⁷²

⁶⁸ "Suggested Projects Under Work Program Sent to Washington," *Livingston Enterprise*, March 2, 1935, p. 8.

⁶⁹ "Various Activities Of Local Chamber Of Commerce Listed," *Livingston Enterprise*, May 3, 1935, p. 3.

⁷⁰ "Hart Named Works Progress Official In Treasure State," *Livingston Enterprise*, May 24, 1935, p. 1.

⁷¹ "Federal Relief Heads Visit In City yesterday," *Livingston Enterprise*, November 2, 1935, p. 4.

⁷² "Montana WPA Goes Over Top In Work Drive," *Livingston Enterprise*, November 7, 1935; Reports regarding WPA workers proved positive with newspapers reporting, "...from all sections of the state workers are eager and willing to work and are delivering excellent service on WPA projects." "State WPA Speeding Campaign To Provide Jobs For Needy Men," *Livingston Enterprise*, November 17, 1935, p. 1.

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To say that the work conducted by the WPA in Livingston proved substantive grossly understates its impact. The WPA literally moved land and water to make the Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District a single entity, as well as constructing the largest building in the District.⁷³

Armory/Civic Center

Early on, the idea to construct an armory was floated and gained traction.⁷⁴ Such a building undoubtedly represented a preferred and important improvement for the town. Construction of an armory often appeared in requests and proposals to the WPA. These requests tied to both larger projects that included a variety of tasks and individual proposals and cost estimates that focused solely on an armory. Initial requests began in 1935 and continued for several years thereafter.

By August 25 of 1935, Livingston received word on their hoped for and truly anticipated armory project with the headlines in the *Livingston Enterprise* proclaiming, "Livingston Gets \$78,000 WPA Project," "Large Sum Will Be Spent To Beautify City, Build Armory," and "Plans Given Approval By City Council."⁷⁵ The paper reported that Livingston "will be the site of a \$35,000 federal armory and civic center, combined with a \$43,000 city beautification program."⁷⁶ The City Council moved forward with plans for completion of "...the construction of the armory-community center to be located at Miles park. Combined with the building will be a program of beautification, such as the improvement of the municipal swimming pool, construction of driveways, clearing of trees, planting lawn, etc." The article continued, "The armory, which will be the new headquarters of the Howitzer company, local unit of the Montana National Guard, as well as a community center, will be located in Miles park..." Reassuringly, the article noted that "the building will be open to the public for all lawful purposes." Despite the initial investment, it appeared likely the needed funds to complete the projects would increase.

The same article noted that, "It is highly probable under the WPA program that a new dam will be built at the municipal pool to provide better drainage. Head gates at the entrance of the pool from the Yellowstone river may be built, the sides of the pool were riprapped much better than at present and a wading pool for youngsters constructed."⁷⁷

Although some monies appear to have already been obtained for the construction of a Livingston armory, an application was submitted to the WPA a month later, in September of 1935, for a sum of \$1,500,000 to finance the construction of 17 national guard armories across the state. The

⁷³ Microfiche WPA records for projects at the Sacajawea and Miles Park area were reviewed at the Montana Historical Society. These records were often very poorly scanned with the result that sometimes words, sentences, paragraphs and not uncommonly, entire pages proved impossible to read.

⁷⁴ "Works Progress Administration Project Proposal," Works Progress Administration of Park County, approval date September 8, 1935 (449-178-1029).

⁷⁵ "Livingston Gets \$78,000 WPA Project," *The Livingston Enterprise*, August 25 1935, p. 1A; "Large Sum Will be Spent To Beautify City, Build Armory," *The Livingston Enterprise*, August 25 1935, p. 1B; "Plans Given Approval By City Council," August 25 1935, p. 5C.

⁷⁶ "Plans Given Approval By City Council," August 25 1935, p. 5C.

⁷⁷ "Plans Given Approval By City Council," August 25 1935, p. 5C.

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request represented the largest filed with the WPA in Montana. The cost of an armory in Livingston was estimated at \$150,000, the same estimate for armories in Bozeman, Lewistown, and Kalispell.⁷⁸

On March 2, 1936, the continuing dire economic conditions moved the Livingston City Council, with approval by the mayor, to pass Resolution 940, "A Resolution Declaring That An Emergency Exists In The City of Livingston, Montana, And Stating The Facts Constituting Such Emergency." This resolution not only acknowledged the hardships of the time, but also articulated the city's intention of working with the WPA to secure future Federal funds for use toward "...the prosecution of such public works...". Further, the resolution noted, "The Works Progress Administration has approved a project to the building of an armory building and civic center within said City of Livingston..."⁷⁹

Construction of the Armory, also known and referred to as the "Civic Center," commenced in 1936. Fabricated of poured concrete overlaid with stucco, this Art Deco fronted building with a segmental roof supported by steel trusses, served and continues to serve as a location for a variety of meetings and recreational activities. Cultural Resources Consultant Jessie Nunn wrote that the building "represents Depression Era cultural movements, communalism, and escapism, as well as an increasingly modernist aesthetic."⁸⁰

The heavy involvement of the City of Livingston with the construction of the Armory/Civic Center resulted in the city serving as co-sponsors of the building, along with the National Guard.⁸¹ The city went so far as to enact a resolution that "sponsored and contributed certain funds toward the construction of an armory and civic center building..." The city's involvement extended to "...certain plans and specification...drawn up by the City Engineer... working in conjunction with the Chief Engineer of the Works Progress Administration..."⁸²

A report that discussed the building detailed a few interesting facets: "The building has a semi-basement under the east side addition which will be used as rifle range. The elevation of this floor is about 6" higher than the flood stage surface elevation of swimming pool. No trouble should be encountered with water in this semi-basement..." Other information related to potential natural disasters stated, "The building is designed for not less than twenty pounds per square for wind stress and when about 75% complete withstood a wind which attained a velocity of 108 miles per hour. Livingston is not considered to be located in an earthquake zone,

⁷⁸ "National Guard Armories May Be Built In State," *Livingston Enterprise*, September 8, 1935, p. 6.

⁷⁹ City of Livingston Resolution 940, "A Resolution Declaring That an Emergency Exists in the City of Livingston, Montana, and Stating the Facts Constituting Such Emergency," March 2, 1936.

⁸⁰ Yellowstone Gateway Museum December 15, 2021, Facebook post regarding a 1937 photo of the Civic Center.

⁸¹ Letter from J. Brad Seely, Project Engineer to Jerry Sullivan, General Foreman, Works Progress Administration, March 31, 1938.

⁸² Resolution No. 944, "A Resolution Approving Plans and Specifications for the Armory and Civic Center Building, also Known as Works Progress Administration Project Number 749 and 750", June 8, 1936, approved by W.C. House, Mayor.

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however, the building is of column and girder design tied together with trusses and designed to minimize the effect of earthquakes.”⁸³

The building dedication occurred on July 1, 1937, in conjunction with a dance held during the annual roundup celebration.⁸⁴ Upon obtaining approval for the WPA to complete the project, the building’s future and its central position within the newly reimagined park were assured. Upon its completion, the building served as the home to the 57th Howitzer Company of the National Guard.⁸⁵

Construction of the building wasn’t without complication. Correspondence reveals that problems encountered by the City of Livingston and the WPA during and after the building’s construction occasionally strayed outside the garden variety:

...the new roof being added to the Armory originated due to a heavy wind which they experienced in Livingston...after this job had been completed. A straight wind blew at the speed of approximately 108 miles per hour...straight across the comb of this roof and lifted off approximately 6 squares (600 sq. ft.) of copper shingles. ...this same wind...did a great deal of other damage in the town of Livingston, although the Armory Building suffered no damage whatever except for the small amount of roof that was torn loose.⁸⁶

As initially built, the large and open Armory/Civic Center interior continues to boast a hardwood floor suitable for any activity ranging from basketball to roller skating to large meetings. The Armory/Civic Center also houses a complete kitchen. The Armory/Civic Center has hosted several National Guard companies, the latest in the 1960s. It now serves the community as a location for organized recreation ranging from mother/baby social activities, to basketball and pickle ball games. The building also now houses the Livingston Parks and Recreation Department offices on the north side with additional storage for Parks and Recreation Department vehicles and oversized materials in the eastern additions off the rear of the building. In 2014, local artist Parks Reese designed a mural that graces the south side of the additions. The mural proved a community effort undertaken by local artists, members of the community, and several visiting artists from China.

Yellowstone Street Bridge

The WPA also lent a huge hand toward the replacement of the bridge on Yellowstone Street that spanned the old west channel of the Yellowstone River. In addition to its obvious functional contribution, the bridge stands as a beautiful architectural addition to the city with its

⁸³ Untitled and undated information for the Livingston Armory building in WPA records, microfiche. Additional undated information relates to the heating specifications of the Armory.

⁸⁴ “Civic Center Dedication Dance To Be Held,” *Livingston Enterprise*, July 1, 1937, p. 8.

⁸⁵ “WPA Projects Approved,” *Livingston Enterprise*, August 24, 1938, p. 8.

⁸⁶ Works Progress Administration Inter-Office Correspondence from Gordon D. Paxson to Mr. M.S. Kennedy, December 28, 1938.

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Romanesque attributes. The newspaper coverage of the construction elicited an artist's rendition of the proposed structure to replace the "deteriorating current wood structure."⁸⁷

WPA records indicate the complexity associated with the bridge's construction from the time of its original design. In a letter dated May 3, (possibly 5) 1939, City engineer, J.R. Cortese wrote, "Mr. Bowman... you will appreciate the construction of this bridge has developed into a more elaborate project than anticipated at the time of the design of this bridge... some unforeseen circumstances found during the (illegible), (illegible) plate arch footings were constructed. It was necessary to excavate some deeper footings and of course it became necessary to use more concrete... considerable more cement mortar than... anticipated." Despite the issues, Cortese continued, "... this bridge has created much enthusiasm among the citizens of the city of Livingston..."⁸⁸ Another letter from Joseph Parker, State Administrator of the WPA to Fred Seeley, discussed one of the changes to the bridge from its original concept: "I would like to draw your attention to the fact that the Sacajawea bridge which was originally planned as a being a single structure to be made of concrete has been changed to a three-metal-arch structure."⁸⁹

Notes often typed near the long edge of the left side of WPA forms yielded specific information related to the bridge's construction, materials, and progress: "Oil Mat Road Surfacing on Bridge, 420 sq. yds," "Bridge Fill, 1850 cu. Yd. Rock, 609 cu. dd. Earth," "Concrete Sidewalk, Cutter and Cornice 4," "Thick 2377 sq. ft. in Place," "3 Multi-Plate Arches In Place," "Quarrying Rock and Const. of Masonry, (illegible) yds. Masonry in Place," "Sacajewa (*sic*) Bridge Abutments, 148 cu. Yds. Concrete in Place."⁹⁰ Such notes along the edge of forms were not unique to the bridge, but also appeared on other forms for non-bridge-related projects.

Similarly, notes on manpower and materials necessary to complete a project also often appeared in the margins of forms. Such information related to the bridge included: "Bridge Fill, 1850 cu. yd. Rock, 609 cu. Yd. Earth." Also needed and noted was common labor, a 1 ½ ton truck driver, powder man, jackhammer man, blacksmith, compressor operator, 1 ½ ton truck rental (1260 hrs.), 1550 lbs. of dynamite, compressor rental, blasting caps (590 each), fuse (3500 linear feet), supervision, and 1850 cubic yards of rock.⁹¹

⁸⁷ "WPA Picture Of Proposed New Bridge," *Livingston Enterprise*, August 28, 1938, p. 3.

⁸⁸ A letter from Livingston City Engineer J.R. Cortese to Frank Bowman, Field Engineer, W.P.A, Billings, MT (May 3 (5?), 1939 665-91-2-11 roll 25).

⁸⁹ A letter from Joseph Parker, State Administrator, Works Progress Administration, Butte, Montana, to J. Brad Seeley, November 25, 1938, (665-91-2-11 roll 25).

⁹⁰ The pages that list the bridge notes lack a date but may be related to a "Federal Works Agency Works Progress Administration, Report of Accomplishment" dated April 1, 1941, that appears a few pages before in the microfiche (665-91-2-11 roll 25).

⁹¹ The pages that provided this information lack a date but may be related to a "Federal Works Agency Works Progress Administration, Report of Accomplishment" dated April 1, 1941, that appears a few pages before in the microfiche (665-91-2-11 roll 25).

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Livingston was kept informed as progress on the bridge moved forward: "the new bridge leading to Sacajawea Park is nearing completion. Work started early last winter."⁹² With the arrival of November 1938, the new bridge stood complete.⁹³ Finalization of the bridge resulted in a stamp placed on the sidewalk on the west end of the structure commemorating its completion (Photo #26).

Landscaping and Grounds

In addition to projects that focused on buildings and structures, the WPA embarked on an extensive reconfiguration of the Sacajawea and Miles parks area every bit as impressive as the Armory/Civic Center and the Yellowstone Bridge. This reimagining of the two parks occurred concurrently with the construction of the Armory/Civic Center and bridge, with proposals and estimates often mentioning at least two of the disparate projects. Many proposals listed earthmoving, landscaping, and the installation of different recreational areas, such as a swimming pool.

An early report (noting a close date of February 19, 1936) provides background on some of the large scale earth moving projects that occurred in the parks: "Gravel was excavated from the swimming pool and utilized in constructing a new gravel road around the park."⁹⁴ This activity contributed in the connection of the two parks at that time, unifying the two areas. Although the project closed due to insufficient funds, work continued to carry on under "another project."⁹⁵

Another proposal from the City of Livingston in August of 1935 offered, "Work in Sacajawea and Miles Park on South side of city. Work consists of grading, graveling roads, tennis courts, swimming pool, landscaping, improving playgrounds and construction of head gate on river to contour water in swimming pool. This project was started by FERA and should be completed as it will afford a wonderful civic improvement."⁹⁶

Only a month later, a project proposal approved on September 8, 1935, notes not only the intent to construct the Armory/Civic Center but also the construction of two spillway dams: "Project proposes the construction of a Civic Center on the Parking System in Livingston; also the landscaping, levelling and planting to lawn on of some forty acres; also the construction of two dams with spill-ways to control water for a swimming pool or lagoon; and rip-rapping of 400' of

⁹² "New Bridge Leading To Sacajawea Park Nearing Completion. Work Started Last Winter," *Livingston Enterprise*, April 28, 1939, p. 4.

⁹³ Montana Works Progress Administration form (no form title), circa November 28, 1938 (665-91-2-11 roll 25).

⁹⁴ "Closed Project Report, Park County," for "Project:?P 1?0, ?P 1027, Livingston, Work in Sacajawea Park"(65-091-1027), no date.

⁹⁵ "Closed Project Report, Park County," for "Project:?P 1?0, ?P 1027, Livingston, Work in Sacajawea Park"(65-091-1027), no date.

⁹⁶ "Works Progress Administration Project Proposal," Works Progress Administration of City of Livingston, dated August 14, 1935 (65-091-1027); "FERA referred to the Federal Emergency Relief Administration, which started in 1933. The WPA replaced FERA in 1935.

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river bank; the removing of earth and gravel from the swimming pool and otherwise beautifying it and making it better suitable to use...⁹⁷

The WPA commenced re-contouring different areas with the construction of dams at the foot of 8th Street (the present intersection of McGee and River drives), placement of a culvert under River Drive with a water diversion gate that regulated the river water flow into the west channel of the river, and the construction of a dam at the foot of South Yellowstone Street that blocked the flow of the west channel of the Yellowstone River between Sacajawea and McLeod Islands. The WPA dredged the old river channel between Sacajawea Island and McLeod Island (Miles Park) forming the lagoon and the associated natural “swimming pool” at the dam-end of the lagoon.

The plan for the construction of the dams proved enormous in terms of the present configuration and circulation pattern of the Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District. Specific appropriations for the construction of the dams that provide the park its current configuration were apparently rolled into larger and more general project expenditures, suggesting the construction of these features occurred under the description of “landscaping.” Required manpower for such projects can be viewed through a labor breakdown provided in proposals that sought positions that included, truck drivers, common laborers, concrete mixer operator, safety man, carpenter, cement finisher, foreman, assistant engineer, timekeeper, assistant supervisor and supervisor.

Discussion of a new swimming location occurred concurrently with the planning of the dams. The need for an improved swimming area was phrased succinctly: “swimming facilities in this park are now limited to using a poorly constructed dam in a stream flowing through the park, which has been condemned by the State Board of Health.”⁹⁸ Selection of a new swimming location and the manner in which it was constructed resulted in an early act of recycling; the soil dredged to create the lagoon pool was reused to construct the dams to connect the previously independent islands. Thus, by 1938, Sacajawea Island and McLeod Island were joined and the west channel of the Yellowstone River manipulated to become the lagoon. It was at this time that the area assumed much of its present appearance and the landscape seen today.

WPA projects in the parks remained a constant focus of the City of Livingston with verbiage consistent through succeeding years of proposals. A Statement of Project Estimate Detail dated November 4, 1938, presented a consistent reiteration of language used in earlier years:

Develop park, recreational area and athletic field, in and near the city of Livingston, Park County. Work includes excavating, placing fill, completing Civic Center and Armory building, building swimming pool, installing playground equipment, erecting fences, landscaping, improving and extending driveways and parking areas, constructing bleachers and sidewalks, installing lighting systems, riprapping, constructing bridge and performing incidental and

⁹⁷ “Works Progress Administration Project Proposal,” Works Progress Administration of Park County, approval date September 8, 1935 (449-178-1029).

⁹⁸ “Works Progress Administration, Project Application,” September 16, 1940 (165-1-91-53).

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appurtenant work. In addition to projects specifically approved. City owned property. Sponsor: city of Livingston.⁹⁹

As the 1930s rolled to the 1940s, work continued, with project descriptions assuming the tried-and-true: "Improve Sacajawea Park Livingston, Park County," followed by the slightly wordier narrative, "Improve Sacajawea park. Work includes construction swimming pool, bathhouse, fences, septic tank and sidewalks, landscaping, riprapping banks and performing incidental and appurtenant work."¹⁰⁰ Such general wording proved the norm rather than the exception in proposals.

Although the in-ground swimming pool dates to after the WPA, some confliction occurs regarding the date of construction of the bath house west of the pool, based on WPA records. One source suggests construction of the bath house occurred in 1949; however, WPA documents indicate the intent to build a bath house appeared on several project proposals. A September 1940 proposal featured a project not previously included in earlier proposals, the "... construction of a bathhouse to include such work as excavation and fill, carpentry, millwork, roofing, masonry and concreting; painting and metal work; installation of insulation and plumbing, heating and electrical facilities; performing appurtenant and incidental work."¹⁰¹ The application itemizes materials for a 30-foot by 60-foot frame building (the same dimensions of the bath house in the Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District). The proposal details the need for millwork, insulation, plumbing installation, electrical installation, and the construction of benches, cupboards, shelves, basket racks, and dressing rooms.¹⁰² Hence, although construction of the bathhouse appears to have occurred after the departure of the WPA, that the agency planned to build a bathhouse is unquestionable.

Applications continued to roll in to complete ongoing projects: "It is proposed to develop the park, recreational area and athletic field... completing the Civic Center and Armory, buildings, swimming pool, work to consist of installing, constructing or performing the following: fire escapes, doors, steel bars at windows, painting, sanding floors, tennis courts, playground equipment, bleachers, lighting system, sidewalks, (illegible) grading, fencing, landscaping, rock walls, to improve and extend driveways parking areas, rip-rapping and the construction of a (illegible) of stone masonry and concrete."¹⁰³

In 1938, the *Big Timber Pioneer* reported (and included two associated photographs):

Looking across the lake in Livingston's Sacajawea Park, these two pictures indicate the scope of the body of water created this spring through the diversion of the Yellowstone River, under a WPA project. Along with swimming and boating facilities, which the project provides, WPA has also carried on an extensive

⁹⁹ Statement of Project Estimate Detail, dated November 4, 1938 (665-91-2-11 roll 25).

¹⁰⁰ "Works Progress Administration, Statement of Progress Estimate Detail," November 15, 1940 (165-91-53).

¹⁰¹ "Works Progress Administration, Project Application," September 16, 1940 (165-1-91-53).

¹⁰² "Works Progress Administration, Project Application," September 16, 1940, (165-1-91-53), p. 4 of 7.

¹⁰³ "Works Progress Administration, Project Proposal," undated (665-91-2-11).

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improvement program in the park. This includes construction of the \$100,000 civic center-armory building seen through the trees in the lower picture, a lighted turf athletic field, and a spacious hard surface tennis court area. The park is now considered one of the most scenic and completely equipped in Montana.¹⁰⁴

At present, other extant WPA projects that remain include the lighted turf athletic field (now missing the lights) and two hard surface tennis courts in the Sacajawea portion of the district.¹⁰⁵ These two courts, likely overlying two earlier courts, represent the location of the earliest courts constructed in the Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District; their continued use spurred the city to build four more courts in the 1950s.

Although not documented, the castellated stone wall and un-mortared dry-laid stone base (Resource #36) that runs predominately from the northeast corner of the WPA-constructed Yellowstone River Bridge (Resource #2) to the east sports a similar WPA look as the bridge, suggesting its origins harken back to the WPA efforts in the District.

The Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District After the WPA

With earth moving activities courtesy of the WPA, a new “swimming pool” was created toward the lagoon’s northeast terminus. This area hosted swimmers until 1949 when the Livingston city council awarded local contractor McLaughlin Construction the rights to build a new concrete in-ground swimming pool in the Miles Park portion of the Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District. The in-ground swimming pool and associated pool resources lie immediately northeast of the lagoon and dam.¹⁰⁶

Park improvements continued as the 1950s unfolded. A city park board meeting on March 24, 1953, found the board supporting a motion to move the band shell from the Sacajawea Park area to the Miles Park area; no explanation was given for the move.¹⁰⁷ Acceptance of a bid to relocate the band shell passed on April 27, 1954.¹⁰⁸ Two months later, the band shell assumed its present location in the Miles Park portion of the Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District.¹⁰⁹

A major change in tourism that directly affected Livingston, and the parks to a lesser degree, occurred after WWII. Prior to the War, train travel represented a popular and important mode of transportation. However, with the cessation of WWII, a major shift from the use of rail passenger service to automobiles transpired, directly affecting Livingston and the tourist trade that travelled to Yellowstone National Park. By 1948, the ever-decreasing number of passengers travelling via the railroads culminated with the demise of spur-line service to Gardner, Montana, restricting the line for freight use only until 1975. A second blow to the rail tourist trade fell in

¹⁰⁴ “Scenic Lake At Livingston Is WPA Built,” *The Big Timber Pioneer*, September 1, 1938, p. 2.

¹⁰⁵ “Scenic Lake At Livingston Is WPA Built,” *Big Timber Pioneer*, September 1, 1938, p. 2.

¹⁰⁶ “McLaughlin Construction Awarded Bid For New Pool,” *Livingston Enterprise*, June 7, 1949, pp. 1, 4.

¹⁰⁷ “Park Board Finalizes Band Shell Move,” *Livingston Enterprise*, March 24, 1954, p. 6.

¹⁰⁸ “Park Board Accepts Band Shell Move Bid,” *Livingston Enterprise*, April 27, 1954, p. 4.

¹⁰⁹ “Band Shell Now In Miles Park,” *Livingston Enterprise*, June 17, 1954, p. 5.

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1979 when Amtrak suspended passenger service on its southern route, directly impacting Livingston. Only six years later, the final hardship to Livingston's rail economy came as the Livingston-based employees of the Burlington Northern Rail Road's maintenance shops were notified regarding the shop's future closure, a closure that resulted in the layoffs of about 600 employees between 1979 and the end of 1985.¹¹⁰

By the late 1950s, concern arose regarding the condition of the lagoon. Continued deposition since its establishment resulted in a loss of depth and greatly impacted fish populations. The mid-1970s witnessed the organization of the Save Our Lagoon Committee to determine how to rehabilitate the body of water. In 1980, the US Environmental Protection Agency entered into an agreement with the State of Montana to rehabilitate the lagoon under the Clean Lakes Act of 1977.¹¹¹

As with almost all parks, changes occur over time as tastes and interests shift. Such changes to the Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District reflect the evolution of the property as appurtenances were added to enhance the outdoor experience. By 1981, rehabilitative efforts focused directly on Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District as a whole. Fronting these efforts was retired railroad employee and Park Board member Warren McGee and a group of volunteers from Livingston. Improvements McGee and the volunteers embraced included "planting and watering over 196 trees, revitalizing the lagoon and stream area, along with nurturing the duck and geese populations, to make the park the showplace it is today."¹¹² The group also stabilized the Sacajawea Trail along the river to prevent bank erosion and flooding. (Photo #45).¹¹³

Along with or soon after the efforts of Warren McGee and his group of volunteers, additional work occurred in the Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District. The work conducted in the early 1980s and later allowed the Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District to continue to serve its original goal of providing outdoor recreational opportunities to Livingston. The introduction of new resources and the continuing maintenance kept and continues to keep the District viable.

Improvements that occurred since the early 1980s to the present include the erection of the picnic shelter and gazebo, several utilitarian sheds, likely a few of the buildings scattered around the baseball fields, and the construction of the levee in 1997 along the southern boundary of the District; this latter improvement included the refurbishing of the Sacajawea Trail, and likely the construction of the dry-laid stone wall and steps that parallels River Drive. More recent additions include the playground near the tennis courts, the entry sign/ticket booth near the ballfields, the gravity park, and of course, new restrooms, stand at a number of locations throughout the District, an improvement no doubt with which few would quibble. The

¹¹⁰ Yellowstone Gateway Museum, Transportation Room exhibit, January 26, 2016.

¹¹¹ Thomas Patrick Clancy, "Effects of Renovation on the Sacajawea Park Lagoon System in Livingston, Montana" (MA Thesis, Montana State University, 1983), p. 1.

¹¹² "Warren Russell McGee," *Franzen-Davis Funeral Home & Crematory*, Tribute Archives, 2017-2022. Available online at: <https://www.tributearchive.com/obituaries/19692639/Warren-Russell-McGee>, accessed September 21, 2022.

¹¹³ Warren McGee's Documentation by Photo Album, Livingston Park County Library, 1981.

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Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District continues to create an atmosphere conducive to attracting all ages. By 2006, the first of three monuments appeared with the erection of the Sacajawea and Pompey statue west of the Armory/Civic Center, soon followed by the two smaller military monuments. Around 2010, the wading pool was converted to an area of meditation, a nice example of reuse and not removal. The addition of the gravity park marks the largest addition to the District, reflecting the continued popularity of skateboarding; although large in horizontal extent, its low profile reduces its visual impact in the District. The latest addition is the placement of two climbing boulders in the northeast portion of the District. Maintenance work occurred through the decades and as recently as 2022 with the resurfacing of the tennis courts and installation of new backboards on the horseshoe pits.

LANDSCAPE SIGNIFICANCE

Urban park history generally follows four models, each associated with a distinct era and characteristics. These include: the Pleasure Ground (1850-1900), the Reform Park (1900-1930), the Recreation Facility (1930-1965), and the Open-Space System (1965-Present).¹¹⁴ Like many parks in the country, the Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District displays elements that reflect different models.

Central Park, designed by Frederick Law Olmsted in 1858 for New York City, illustrates the classic example of a Pleasure Ground Park. Central Park is characterized partly by its meandering, wooded walkways. The Pleasure Ground featured a large, landscaped park designed to simulate a countryside or nature but not as wild.¹¹⁵ These parks often lay near the edges of cities, similar to the Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District. Although much of the Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District displays traits of the later Reform Park and Recreational Facility models, sufficient landscaping, vegetation, and the presence of the lagoon (although constructed by the WPA) harken back to the Pleasure Ground model. Early access to both Sacajawea and McLeod islands existed as bridges to both are noted on early maps, suggesting the likelihood that prior to the development of either for recreation, people visited while much of the landscape remained in its natural state.

The Reform Park model, roughly dating from 1900 to 1930, differed from its predecessor as the main approach focused on organized activity and engagement, a view that reflected the thinking of many urban park planners at the time who believed people inherently incapable of undertaking recreation to their betterment. This perceived lack of self-motivation necessitated organized activities as a design goal instead of the earlier unstructured passive pursuits associated with the Pleasure Ground. The belief in the need for playgrounds and local parks helped further the

¹¹⁴ Galen Cranz, "Changing Roles of Urban Parks: From Pleasure Garden to Open Space," *The Urbanist*, June 1, 2000. Available online at: <https://www.spur.org/publications/urbanist-article/2000-06-01/changing-roles-urban-parks>, accessed September 30, 2022.

¹¹⁵ Galen Cranz, "Urban Parks of the Past and Future," *Project for Public Spaces*, January 1, 2009. Available online at: <https://www.pps.org/article/futureparks>, accessed July 13, 2020.

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advancement of Reform Parks. Additional impetus for the development of Reform Parks came from social reform movements, such as Labor. Labor reform in the early 1900s resulted in many working shorter weeks, receiving greater incomes, more vacation time, and earlier retirements, all which provided extra leisure time and the simultaneous desire to find ways to enjoy those hours. Reform Park organizers, play directors, and experts in recreation often assumed the role of park designers. Municipal facilities generally featured as an element of these new parks and could include stadiums, golf courses, tennis courts, and picnic areas, a decided contrast to the Pleasure Ground parks that provided few of these resources. The rise of Pleasure Ground parks as an analgesic to the scarcity of free space in urban areas was countered by Reform Parks that came to be viewed as a bulwark to the now-anticipated social threat of too much free time. Reform Park developers believed organized activities provided a worthwhile option to frequenting unsavory dance halls and saloons.¹¹⁶ The Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District continues to retain picnic areas and likely a set of tennis courts associated with the Reform Park period. The WPA is widely credited for two of the tennis courts in the Sacajawea Park area; however, two earlier courts built in 1924 existed, suggesting the WPA improved these courts during their time in Livingston.¹¹⁷

Paths found in Reform Parks tended to follow straight routes. The circulation pattern found in the Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District presents several paths, often overlaying or aligned beside the major automobile travel routes. These routes tend to be fairly straight, and when the path or road does curve, it tends display a gentle arc. The travel ways are such that pedestrians take in a view of the District from the edges, always looking toward the center and activity, or in the case of the path/road that follows River Drive, the ability to view both the activities in the center of the area and also a fabulous view of the Yellowstone River.

Obviously, overlap occurred between the models of parks. An end date of 1930 for the Reform Park model didn't signify a hard-and-fast shift in park design or a new model's embrace by a person or community. The Reform Park model aimed at year-round use, including during the evening or inclement weather. Part of the year-round opportunities related to the construction of buildings or covered structures. Galen Cranz noted the introduction of a new type of building within parks: the field house, generally restrained and conventionally designed.¹¹⁸ These buildings often housed community and meeting rooms, showers, and a gymnasium. Though the construction of the Armory/Civic Center in the Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District in the 1930s occurred post-Reform Park, the Livingston city council and the WPA were fully aware of the trend to construct such buildings in parks. And although technically not a field house, the

¹¹⁶ Nicholas Powell, John Boughton and Kate Hampton, Pioneer Park National Register nomination (listed April 4, 2021, NR #SG100006391), on file at the Montana State Historic Preservation Office, Helena, MT; Galen Cranz, "Changing Roles of Urban Parks: From Pleasure Garden to Open Space," *The Urbanist*, June 1, 2000. Available online at: <https://www.spur.org/publications/urbanist-article/2000-06-01/changing-roles-urban-parks>, accessed April 7, 2021.

¹¹⁷ The two WPA-constructed tennis courts may overlay previous courts constructed in 1924. "Livingston," *The Butte Miner*, September 14, 1924, p. 13.

¹¹⁸ Galen Cranz, "Changing Roles of Urban Parks: From Pleasure Garden to Open Space," *The Urbanist*, June 1, 2000. Available online at: <https://www.spur.org/publications/urbanist-article/2000-06-01/changing-roles-urban-parks>, accessed April 7, 2021.

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Armory/Civic Center provided similar services and opportunities. That the Armory/Civic Center construction occurred after the recognized end of the Reform Park movement (1930) in no way diminishes its roots to the Reform Park model. Not all activity in Reform Parks required indoor protection either as fair-weather use proved inconsequential as the infrastructure often associated these parks purposefully included resources that appealed to winter use, such as ice skating or cross-country skiing, competed with out-of-season golfing and tennis.¹¹⁹ Such activities undoubtedly occurred, and continue to occur, in the Sacajawea/Mile Park Historic District — in 1926, the city flooded the athletic fields in Sacajawea Park for ice skating.¹²⁰ After the construction of the lagoon by the WPA, ice skating occurred on its ice.

Around 1930, trends in park design again evolved to include the “Recreation Facility” (1930 – 1965) and “Open Space” (1965 – present) periods. With the rise of the Recreational Facility model, recreation became accepted as a municipal function. Recreation and activity were important to all with no link to social change as the trigger for a park’s establishment. Swimming likely occurred within the Sacajawea/Miles Historic District as early as the Sacajawea and McLeod islands were used by the local populace. Swimming’s popularity continued and local officials responded by ensuring accommodations were made to pursue this activity during both its early years, then with the construction of the WPA lagoon, and again in the late 1940s with the installation of an in-ground pool. Resources to accommodate field activities were also often included in the Recreational Facility model; such resources in the Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District include the WPA-tennis courts, later municipal-constructed tennis courts, the open field where high school football played, and later city-built baseball/softball fields.

The Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District’s maturation during the early twentieth century, and especially the 1930s, resulted in the general layout encountered today. The District features open areas, walking areas, picnic areas, a lagoon, recreational facilities, and memorials. The District evolved through the decades as recreational interests changed and the needs of the community grew. The Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District developed through local community involvement along with a huge boost from the WPA. Hyperbole aside, the WPA’s significant re-contouring and massaging of the two parks, previously separate islands, to create a connected and unified entity represents a major undertaking to mold the District in a specific manner, either by design or merely intent. And while earlier and later resources appear within the District boundary, it is the WPA-related resources, especially the lagoon, Yellowstone Street Bridge, and Armory/Civic Center (that alone speaks to the architectural trends associated with WPA-construction) that dominate both the landscape and history of the Sacajawea/Mile Park Historic District. As it has for over a century, the Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District continues to offer Livingstonites the freedom to engage in a variety of activities or merely relax in a beautiful and accessible setting.

¹¹⁹ Galen Cranz, *The Politics of Park Design: A History of Urban Parks in America* (Cambridge: The MIT Press, 1989), pp. 62-69

¹²⁰ “Livingston,” *The Conrad Independent Observer*, November 25, 1926, p. 6.

Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District--Maps
Name of Property

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9. Major Bibliographical References

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Name of Property

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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
- ☐ University
- ☐ Other
- Name of repository: _____

Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District--Maps
Name of Property

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Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

9. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 54 correct-got it from Kyler

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: _____

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

A. Latitude: 45.656700	Longitude: -110.557000
B. Latitude: 45.656500	Longitude: -110.556570
C. Latitude: 45.656180	Longitude: -110.556850
D. Latitude: 45.655800	Longitude: -110.556620
E. Latitude: 45.655820	Longitude: -110.550520
F. Latitude: 45.654640	Longitude: -110.550570
G. Latitude: 45.651340	Longitude: -110.560860
H. Latitude: 45.653470	Longitude: -110.562060
I. Latitude: 45.654730	Longitude: -110.560810
J. Latitude: 45.655370	Longitude: -110.558390
K. Latitude: 45.655650	Longitude: -110.558090
L. Latitude: 45.655910	Longitude: -110.558250

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

Starting at the southwest corner of South 2nd Street and West Butte Street (Point A), the boundary follows southeast along South 2nd Street to its intersection with River Drive (Point B). The boundary then turns southwest and parallels the south edge of the swimming pool to a point that meets the east edge of the lagoon (Point C). From Point C, the boundary moves to Point D, the intersection (on Google maps) of Miles Park Road and River Road (near the west end of the gravity park). The boundary then moves east for a distance of approximately 1500 feet (paralleling the north edge of the ball fields) to Point E, the northeast corner of the National Register boundary, where it then turns south and parallels the ball fields to the southeast corner of the boundary (Point F). From this point, the boundary moves west and southwest for almost 3000 feet along the outside edge of the Sacajawea Trail to Point G, the intersection of River Drive and McGee Drive. The boundary then moves north and crosses River Drive to the north bank of the old west channel of the Yellowstone River (now the inlet to the lagoon) where it continues to runs north, before slowly curving to the northeast to Point H, the southwest edge of a small parcel of land referred to as Fireman's Park (from the northeast edge of the Yellowstone River Bridge, the boundary encompasses a castellated retaining wall that fronts the lagoon). From Point H, the boundary runs north-northwest for about 100 feet to West Butte Drive (Point I), where it turns northeast and returns to Point A. The aerial map on page 58 confirms this boundary.

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Per the Montana Cadastral, S24, T02S, R09E Sacajawea Park in NE1/4 and S24, T02S, R09E, Miles Park in NE1/4

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The historic boundary is drawn to encompass all of the property held by, and designated by, the City of Livingston Montana and by the Parks and Recreation Department as Sacajawea and Miles parks. The historic boundary encompasses the entirety of the 39.5 acreage associated with the parks, all known historic resources, and the park's historic setting.

10. Form Prepared By

name/title: John Luther
organization: Park County Historic Society
street & number: 104 S. 5th Street
city or town: Livingston state: Montana zip code: 59047
e-mail: jlduthur@gmail.com
telephone: 406-222-5275
date: September 2022

and

name/title: John Boughton
organization: Montana State Historic Preservation Office
street & number: 1301 E. Lockey
city or town: Helena state: Montana zip code: 59620-1202
e-mail: jboughton@mt.gov
telephone: 406-444-3647
date: September 2022

Additional Documentation

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.)

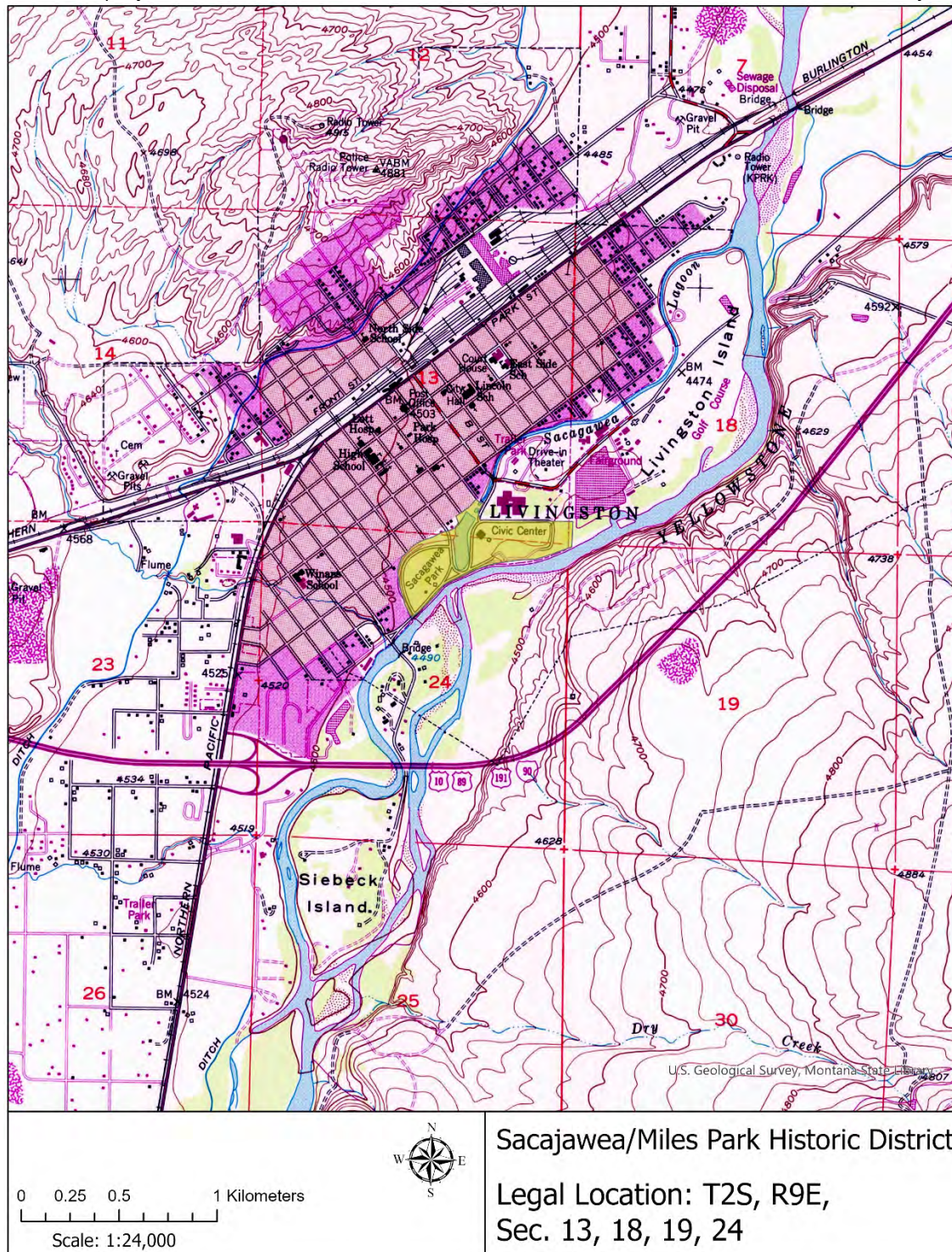
Maps

Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District--Maps

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Location of Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District, Highlighted in Yellow. Found on the Livingston 7.5' quadrangle map, Section 13, T2S R9E.

Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District--Maps

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**Aerial View of Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District, Section 13, T2S R9E.
Associated Latitude/Longitude Points found on following page.**

Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District--Maps
Name of Property

Park Co., Montana
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Latitude and Longitude Coordinates for above Aerial View Map

A. Latitude: 45.656700	Longitude: -110.557000
B. Latitude: 45.656500	Longitude: -110.556570
C. Latitude: 45.656180	Longitude: -110.556850
D. Latitude: 45.655800	Longitude: -110.556620
E. Latitude: 45.655820	Longitude: -110.550520
F. Latitude: 45.654640	Longitude: -110.550570
G. Latitude: 45.651340	Longitude: -110.560860
H. Latitude: 45.653470	Longitude: -110.562060
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J. Latitude: 45.655370	Longitude: -110.558390
K. Latitude: 45.655650	Longitude: -110.558090
L. Latitude: 45.655910	Longitude: -110.558250

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Location of Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District Resources

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Map of the City of Livingston, Park County, Montana, 1901. Sacajawea Island (labeled “Nolan Add”) and McLeod Island along with the original course of the Yellowstone River appear bottom center. Map courtesy of the Yellowstone Gateway Museum Collections.

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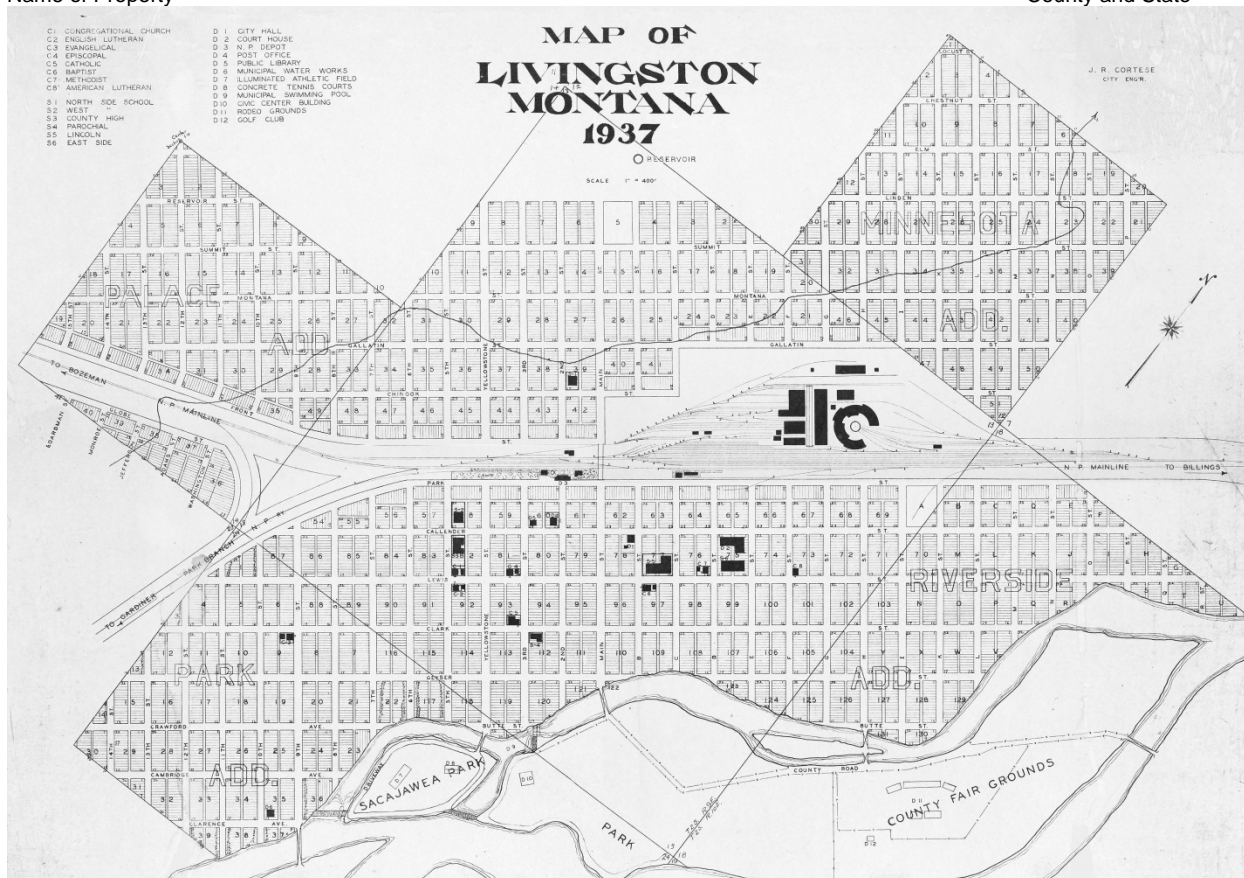
Map of the City of Livingston Park County Mont 1922 Sacajawea Park and Miles Park center bottom. Original bridge on Yellowstone Street crossing the west channel of the Yellowstone River also visible. Map courtesy of the Yellowstone Gateway Museum Collections.

Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District--Maps

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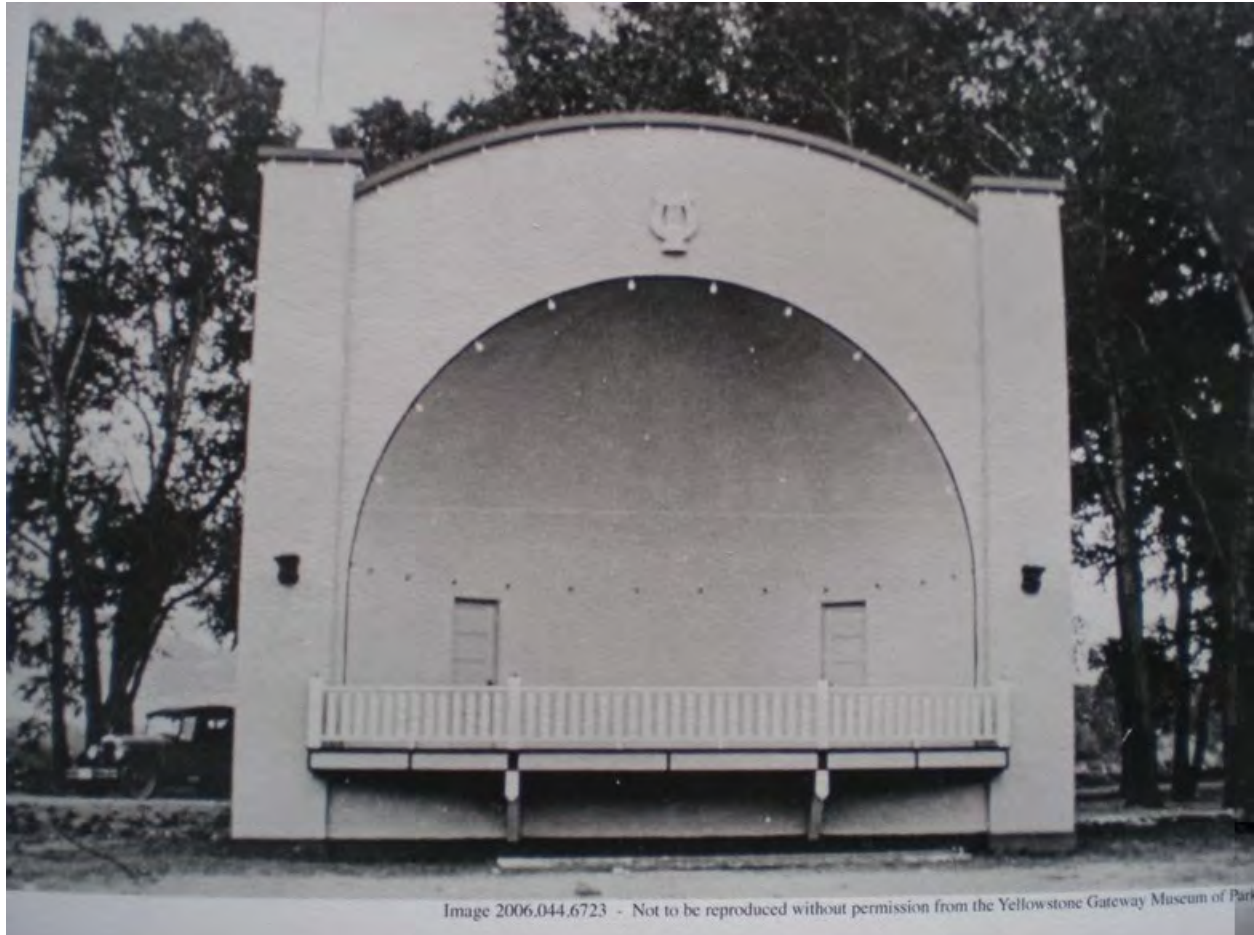


Map of Livingston Montana 1937 highlighting the Works Progress Administration efforts in the parks. The Sacajawea Park area displays the turf athletic field (D7) and the concrete tennis courts (D8). Also noted are the swimming pool (D9) and the Armory/Civic Center (D10). Also illustrated on the map are the three dams that diverted the river and created the lagoon. Map courtesy of the Yellowstone Gateway Museum Collections.

Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District—
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Historic Images



The band shell in Sacajawea Park in 1931, built by local businessman and band director Joseph Brooks. Photo from the Yellowstone Gateway Museum Collection.

Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District—
Historic Images

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Undated photograph looking south across the west channel of the Yellowstone River near the bridge on 2nd Street. View toward McLeod Island.

Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District—
Historic Images

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View of 1949 Swimming Pool. View to the northeast from River Drive. Photograph dated July 4, 1950. Photo courtesy of the Yellowstone Gateway Museum Collections.

Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District—
National Register Images
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National Register Photographs

Photo Log

All Photographs

Name of Property: Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District

City or Vicinity: Livingston

County: Park

State: Montana

Photographer: John Luther

Date Photographed: October 2021-November 2022

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera.



MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0001

New playground equipment near the Open Space (turf athletic field) with two of six Vault Toilets in background, southwest corner of Sacajawea Park area of Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District. View to the south from McGee Drive toward River Drive.

Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District—
National Register Images

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MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0002

West side of the Open Space (turf athletic fields) built by the Works Progress Administration in the Sacajawea Park area of Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District. View to the south toward River Drive from McGee Drive.

Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District—
National Register Images

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MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0003

Park department storage buildings (Resources #7, 9, 10, 11) in Sacajawea Park area of Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District. View to the south toward River Drive from the turf athletic field.

Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District—
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MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0004

Wading Pool (Resource 6) and park department storage buildings (Resources #7, 9, 10, 11), southeast area of Sacajawea Park area of Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District. View to the northwest from River Drive.

Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District—
National Register Images

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MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0005

Barbecue (Resource #5) with Wading Pool (Resource #6) in the background, Sacajawea Park area of Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District. View to the north from River Drive.

Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District—
National Register Images

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MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0006

Two WPA-era Tennis Courts (Resource #1) in Sacajawea Park area of Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District. View to the south from McGee Drive.

Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District—
National Register Images

Park Co., Montana

Name of Property

County and State



MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0007

Open Shed (Resource #8) in Sacajawea Park area of Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District, west edge of Lagoon, east side of Yellowstone Street. View to the east across Yellowstone Street.

Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District—
National Register Images

Park Co., Montana

Name of Property

County and State



MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0008

Open Shed (Resource #8) with Lagoon (Resource #26) in foreground and 1950s-era Tennis Courts in background in Sacajawea Park area of Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District. View to the west from east side of Lagoon.

Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District—
National Register Images

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MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0009

South Memorial with triangle garden (Resource #12) at intersection of River Drive and South Yellowstone Street. View to the east, River Drive to the right and South Yellowstone Street to the left.

Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District—
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MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0010

North Memorial near intersection of South Yellowstone Street and McGee Drive. View to the northwest from River Drive (Resource #12).

Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District—
National Register Images

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MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0011

Horseshoe Pits with 1950s-era Tennis Courts in background (Resources 2 and 3) in Sacajawea Park portion of Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District. View to the north from River Drive.

Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District—
National Register Images

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MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0012
Nineteen-fifties-era Tennis Courts (Resource #1). View to the west from the intersection of
River Drive and Yellowstone Street.

Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District—
National Register Images

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MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0013

Gazebo (Resource #17), near southwest corner of Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District. View to the north from the corner of McGee Drive and River Drive.

Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District—
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MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0014
Gazebo plaque acknowledging the builders. View up.

Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District—
National Register Images

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MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0015

Two of the six Vault Toilets (Resource #18) south of the Armory/Civic Center in Miles Park portion of Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District. View to the east from the south side of the Armory/Civic Center parking lot.

Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District—
National Register Images

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Park Co., Montana

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MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0016

McGee Drive around Sacajawea Park portion of the Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District.
View to the south from South Yellowstone Street and River Drive.

Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District—
National Register Images

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MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0017

Kiwanis Picnic Shelter (Resource #16) with Wading Pool (Resource #6) in background,
Sacajawea Park portion of the Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District. View to the north from
River Drive.

Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District—
National Register Images

Park Co., Montana

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MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0018

Pompey's Playground (Resource #14) in Sacajawea Park portion of the Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District. View to the east from the turf athletic field.

Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District—
National Register Images

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MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0019

North Memorial (Resource #12), near north side of Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District.
View to the southwest.

Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District—
National Register Images

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MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0020
Sacajawea Trail and Levee (Resource #15) to right and River Drive to left. View to the northwest from the intersection of McGee Drive and River Drive.

Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District—
National Register Images

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MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0021

Band Shell foundation (Resource #16) with 1950s-era tennis courts in background in Sacajawea Park portion of the Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District. View to the northeast from River Drive.

Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District—
National Register Images

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MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0022

Close-up showing the southwest dam constructed by the WPA with flow gate allowing Yellowstone River water into the Lagoon. View to the south from the intersection of River Drive and McGee Drive.

Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District—
National Register Images

Park Co., Montana

Name of Property

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MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0023

Yellowstone Street Bridge (Resource #2) over the Lagoon to Sacajawea Island portion of the Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District. View to the north from the intersection of South Yellowstone Street and McGee Drive.

Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District—
National Register Images

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MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0024

Yellowstone Street Bridge (Resource #2) spanning the Lagoon. View to the northwest from South Yellowstone Street.

Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District—
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MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0025

Yellowstone River Bridge (Resource #2). View to the west across the Lagoon (Resource #26)
taken from River Drive.

Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District—
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MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0026
Yellowstone River Bridge (Resource #2) stamp on northeast sidewalk.

Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District—
National Register Images

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MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0027

Walking Bridge (Resource #13) in northeastern portion of Sacajawea Park in the
Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District. View to the northwest from McGee Drive.

Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District—
National Register Images

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Park Co., Montana

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MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0028

Informational sign in Miles Park area of Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District. View to the west with Lagoon (Resource #26) in the background.

Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District—
National Register Images

Park Co., Montana

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MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0029

Lagoon (Resource #26) with Sacajawea Park welcome sign in foreground and Yellowstone Street Bridge (Resource #2) in the background. View to the west across River Drive.

Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District—
National Register Images

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MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0030

Band Shell in Miles Park area of Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District (Resource #28). View to the southeast across River Drive.

Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District—
National Register Images

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MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0031

Band Shell (Resource #28) in Miles Park portion of Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District.

View to the southwest from the gravel parking lot on the south side of the Armory/Civic Center.

Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District—
National Register Images

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Park Co., Montana

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MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0032

Gravity Park (Resource 22) in Miles Park portion of the Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District.
View to the east.

Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District—
National Register Images

Park Co., Montana

Name of Property

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MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0033

Overview of Baseball Fields (Resource #29) with High School (outside the Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District) in background. View to the east across the gravel parking area.

Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District—
National Register Images

Park Co., Montana

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MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0034
Baseball Fields (Resource #29). View east across the Armory/Civic Center gravel parking area,
Miles Park portion of the Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District.

Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District—
National Register Images

Park Co., Montana

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MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0035

Office/Bathhouse (Resource #24) [west and south walls], City Swimming Pool (Resource #23), and Pump House (Resource #25) [west and south walls]. View to the north across River Drive toward South 2nd Street.

Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District—
National Register Images

Park Co., Montana

Name of Property

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MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0036

Pump House (Resource #25) [south and east walls], City Swimming Pool (Resource #23), and Office/Bathhouse (Resource #24)[south and east walls]in background. View west across 2nd Street from River Drive.

Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District—
National Register Images

Park Co., Montana

Name of Property

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MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0037

Overview of Pump House (Resource #25) [north wall], City Swimming Pool (Resource #23), and Office/Bathhouse (Resource #24) [east and north walls] in background. View to the southwest across 2nd Street from intersection of West Butte Street and South 2nd Street.

Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District—
National Register Images

Park Co., Montana

Name of Property

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MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0038

Eastern-most WPA-constructed dam (Resource #27) and Office/Bathhouse (Resource #24) [west wall] with dam weir on left side of image. View to the east from River Drive.

Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District—
National Register Images

Park Co., Montana

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MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0039

Eastern-most WPA-constructed dam (Resource #27) near the foot of South 3rd Street, north end of the Lagoon (Resource #26), and Office/Bathhouse (Resource #24) [west wall] in the background. View to the east from West Butte Drive. This portion of the Lagoon served as the original “swimming pool.”

Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District—
National Register Images
Name of Property

Park Co., Montana
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MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0040
Sacajawea Sculpture (Resource #20) in Miles Park portion of Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District. View to the west from River Drive.

Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District—
National Register Images

Park Co., Montana

Name of Property

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MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0041
Armory/Civic Center (Resource #21) [east wall and north facade] in Miles Park portion of
Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District. View to the south from River Drive.

Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District—
National Register Images

Park Co., Montana

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MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0042

Armory/Civic Center (Resource #21) showing rear additions [west and south walls of main block and west walls of additions]. View to the north from gravel parking lot.

Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District—
National Register Images

Park Co., Montana

Name of Property

County and State



MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0043

Armory/Civic Center (Resource #21) showing rear additions [south wall of main block and west wall of additions]; mural painted 2014. View to the north from gravel parking area.

Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District—
National Register Images

Park Co., Montana

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MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0044

Armory/Civic Center (Resource #21) showing rear additions [east wall of additions and south and east walls of main block]. View to the southwest.

Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District—
National Register Images

Park Co., Montana

Name of Property

County and State



MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0045

Armory/Civic Center (Resource #21) with rear additions [west walls of main block and additions] in Miles Park portion of Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District. View to the east across River Drive.

Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District—
National Register Images

Name of Property

Park Co., Montana

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MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0046
Armory/Civic Center (Resource #21) [west wall]. View to the north from the across the gravel parking lot.

Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District—
National Register Images

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Park Co., Montana

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MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0047

Lagoon (Resource #26) with the Armory/Civic Center (Resource #21) in the background. View to the south from Butte Drive across the Lagoon.

Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District—
National Register Images

Park Co., Montana

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MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_048

Interior of the Armory/Civic Center (Resource #21) with a small stage to the rear and bleachers on the right.

Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District—
National Register Images

Park Co., Montana

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MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0049

Sacajawea Trail and Levee (Resource 15) with dry-laid stone wall and steps (Resource #19) in foreground. View to the south from the intersection of Mc Gee Drive and River Drive.

Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District—
National Register Images

Park Co., Montana

Name of Property

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MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0050

Levee and the Sacajawea Trail (Resource #15), east of the Band Shell in Miles Park portion of the Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District. View to the east.

Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District—
National Register Images

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MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0051

Ballpark Restroom (Resource #33) [south facade] at the Baseball Fields (Resource #29). View to the northwest.

Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District—
National Register Images

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MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0052
Concession Building (Resource #32) [north wall] at the Baseball Fields (Resource #29) near
field #4. View to the south.

Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District—
National Register Images

Park Co., Montana

Name of Property

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MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0053

Electrical Shed (Resource #31), south end of the Baseball Fields (Resource #29) with one of six Modern Sheds (Resource #30) to the immediate left and one of six Vault Toilets (Resource #18) to far left. View to the east.

Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District—
National Register Images

Park Co., Montana

Name of Property

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MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0054

Two of six Modern Sheds (Resource #30) used for storage at the Baseball Fields. View to the
?????

Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District—
National Register Images

Park Co., Montana

Name of Property

County and State



MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0055

One of six Modern Sheds (Resource #30) used for storage at the Baseball Fields. [View to the](#)
[?????](#)

Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District—
National Register Images

Park Co., Montana

Name of Property

County and State



MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0056

One of six Modern Sheds (Resource #30) used for storage at the Baseball Fields. [View to the](#)
[?????](#)

Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District—
National Register Images

Park Co., Montana

Name of Property

County and State



MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0057
Representative photograph of Dugout (Resource #35) with Baseball Field in background
(Resource #29). View to the

Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District—
National Register Images

Park Co., Montana

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MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0058

Entry Sign and Ticket Booth (Resource #35) with Baseball Fields (Resource #29) in background and Ballpark Restroom (Resource #33) to the left. View to the southwest.

Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District—
National Register Images

Park Co., Montana

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MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0059

Stone Wall and Poured Concrete Curb (Resource #36). View to the north at middle of the wall from north side of the Lagoon.

Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District—
National Register Images

Park Co., Montana

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MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0060
Stone Wall and Poured Concrete Curb (Resource 36) and Two Climbing Stone (right side of image) [Resource #37]. View to the north from south side of Lagoon (Resource #26).

Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District—
National Register Images

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MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0061
Stone Wall (Resource #36) east of Yellowstone Street Bridge with Lagoon (Resource #26) in foreground. View to the north across the Lagoon.

Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District—
National Register Images

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MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0062
Stone Wall (Resource #36) bounding west edge of Fireman's Park. View to the west from
Climbing Stones.

Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District—
National Register Images

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MT_ParkCounty_Sacajawea/Miles Park Historic District_0063
Informational signs on the Corps of Discovery. View to the east from River Drive.