

# Northside Neighborhood Association (Missoula, Mont.) Records, 1883-1992

## Overview of the Collection

<b>Creator</b>	Northside Neighborhood Association (Missoula, Mont.)
<b>Title</b>	Northside Neighborhood Association (Missoula, Mont.) Records
<b>Dates</b>	1883-1992 (inclusive) 1883 1992
<b>Quantity</b>	0.1 linear feet
<b>Collection Number</b>	Mss 473 (collection)
<b>Summary</b>	The Northside Neighborhood Association (NNA) was a community-based organization that worked through the Missoula City Council to solve the problem of pedestrian access to the Northside, which is separated from the rest of Missoula, Montana, by numerous railroad tracks. The collection contains correspondence between Montana Rail Link and the Northside Neighborhood Association from 1992.
<b>Repository</b>	<a href="#">University of Montana, Mansfield Library, Archives and Special Collections</a> Archives and Special Collections Maureen and Mike Mansfield Library University of Montana 32 Campus Dr. #9936 59812-9936 Missoula, MT Telephone: 406-243-2053 Fax: 406-243-4067 <a href="mailto:library.archives@umontana.edu">library.archives@umontana.edu</a>
<b>Access Restrictions</b>	Researchers must use collection in accordance with the policies of Archives and Special Collections, the Maureen and Mike Mansfield Library, and The University of Montana--Missoula.
<b>Languages</b>	English
<b>Sponsor</b>	Funding for encoding this finding aid was provided through a grant awarded by the National Endowment for the Humanities.

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## Historical Note

The Northside Neighborhood Association (NNA) was a community-based organization that worked through the Missoula City Council to solve the problem of pedestrian access to the Northside, which is separated from the rest of Missoula, Montana, by numerous railroad tracks. The NNA began as an unofficial "Northside Steering Committee"; the interest of the community generated formal organization. The NNA was officially recognized by the State of Montana on July 15, 1992. Bob Oakes served as the first president of the organization and was followed by Caitlin DeSilvey and Kathy Crowley-Haywood. In 1996, the NNA merged with the revived Westside Neighborhood Association to create the North-Missoula Community Development Corporation (NMCDC); the corporation was declared non-profit in

1998. The NMCDC representative area, which is north of the Clark Fork River from Madison Street to Russell Street, includes three neighborhoods in Missoula: Downtown, Northside, and Westside.

The NNA, and later the NMCDC, worked with the City of Missoula and Montana Rail Link (MRL) to fund and construct two pedestrian crossings to the Northside. The Northside Railroad Pedestrian Overpass was constructed in 1999 and allows pedestrian access from Railroad Street to North 1st Street. That same year, the city constructed the California Street Bridge, a pedestrian bridge spanning the Clark Fork River.

The NMCDC has grown to address multiple issues shared by the neighborhoods, focusing mainly on overcoming the stigma of poverty. A few of the programs that have grown from community involvement are Project Playground, constructed in 1998 adjacent to Lowell School; the Northside Greenway Project that builds trails and pocket parks in the North and Westside neighborhoods; and the School Nurse Health Aide Project, which helps the neighborhood schools control head lice. The Land Stewardship Program allows low-income families to purchase homes in the neighborhood. One of the most important accomplishments has been the Missoula City Council's ratification of the Joint Northside and Westside Comprehensive Neighborhood Plan, a citizen-initiated, government-funded and democratically crafted plan for the neighborhood's future.

## Content Description

The collection contains correspondence between Montana Rail Link and the Northside Neighborhood Association from 1992. There is a draft copy of the NNA's statement of neighborhood needs, a formal letter expressing MRL's objections to the statement, and NNA's response to those objections and expectations about MRL's reliability of information. The collection also contains Missoula City Council minutes from 1992 and a packet of information presented by the NNA to the City Council. That packet contains documents that outline the relationship of the railroad and the city. The collection also contains maps of the Northside neighborhood that were used as supporting documents.

## Use of the Collection

### Restrictions on Use

Researchers are responsible for using in accordance with 17 U.S.C. and any other applicable statutes. Copyright not transferred to The University of Montana.

### Preferred Citation

[Name of document or photograph number], Northside Neighborhood Association Records, Archives and Special Collections, Maureen and Mike Mansfield Library, The University of Montana--Missoula.

## Administrative Information

### Acquisition Information

Gift of Bob Oakes, 1992.

### Processing Note

Northside Neighborhood Association (Missoula, Mont.) Records, 1883-1992  
<http://archiveswest.orbiscascade.org/ark:/80444/xv16077>

The actions of the original processor are unknown. The collection was re-described in 2002.

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## Detailed Description of the Collection

Container(s)	Description	Dates
Folder		
1	Correspondence between Northside Neighborhood Association and Montana Rail Link	1992
2	Missoula City Council meeting minutes	1883-1992
3	Maps of the Northside	1884-1929

## Names and Subjects

### Subject Terms :

Citizens' associations--Montana--Missoula  
Footbridges--Montana--Missoula  
Pedestrians--Services for -- Montana--Missoula  
Railroads--Montana--Missoula--Crossings

### Corporate Names :

Missoula (Mont.). City Council  
Montana Rail Link  
Burlington Northern Railroad Company

### Geographical Names :

Missoula (Mont.)--Politics and government--20th century

Finding aid prepared by Ann Sullivan  
2002



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