



Exhibit Design

prepared for

Meeteetse Museum District, Bank Museum, Meeteetse, WY

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The Meeteetse Museum District consists of three museums—the Charles Belden Photography Museum, the Meeteetse Mercantile and the Bank Museum, former home of the First National Bank of Meeteetse.

The Bank Museum exhibit design facilitates interpretation of not only the history of the bank but also the history of the building which housed the bank and the history of the bank building's restoration.

The exhibit is designed to be installed on panels in the bank building's main floor area and provides the museum its first exhibit centering on bank history.

This slide provides an opportunity to compare and contrast exhibit logo, font and background colors with bank wall color



THE FOUNDERS

This slide provides an opportunity to compare and contrast exhibit logo, font and background colors with bank wall color



THE FOUNDERS

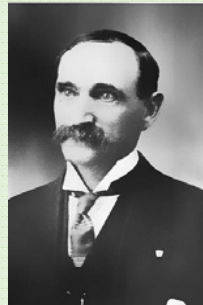


THE FOUNDERS





THE FOUNDERS



Harris E. Cheeseman

Harris E. Cheeseman was born in New York in 1857. He prospected in Leadville, Colorado, then relocated to the Wood River, Wyoming, area, near Meeteetse. One of the original organizers of The First National Bank of Meeteetse, he served as Vice President. He was also involved in mining at Kirwin.

Angus J. McDonald started the Meeteetse Mercantile Co. in 1899. In 1900, he joined Harris Cheeseman and W. T. Hogg in founding The First National Bank of Meeteetse, providing \$25,000 to capitalize the bank. He served as president of the bank from 1906 to 1922 and his nephew, Alex Linton, also served as bank president following McDonald's death.



Angus J. and Annie McDonald



W. T. Hogg

William T. Hogg was born in Scotland in 1854 and arrived in the United States at the age of 35. W. T. married Sarah Littlefair in 1900. Together with his brother, Adam F. Hogg, he purchased the YU Ranch. Adam also helped his brother found and operate The First National Bank of Meeteetse, where Adam served as cashier from 1907 to 1912.

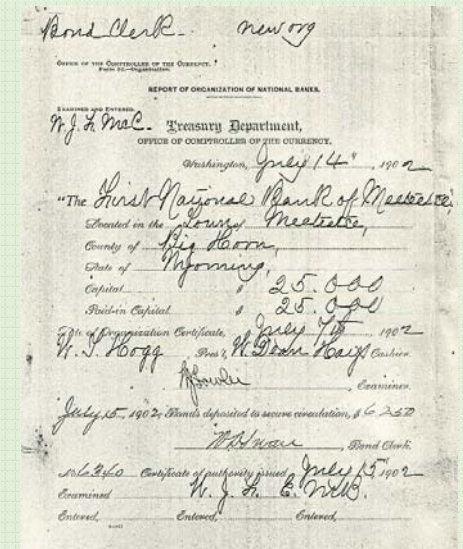


THE FOUNDERS

Alexander Angus Linton was born in Montreal in 1872, arriving in the Big Horn Basin in 1891. Linton was the nephew of Angus J. McDonald and managed McDonald's Meeteetse Mercantile as well as serving many years as president of The First National Bank of Meeteetse. Alexander's son, Angus E. Linton, also served as president of The First National Bank of Meeteetse until he retired with 45 years of service in 1969.

"We also started a small bank which in 1902 we made a national out of it and it is still running."

Alex A. Linton, July 1937



Report of organization as
a national bank, July 1902



BANK HISTORY—THE EARLY YEARS





BANK HISTORY—THE EARLY YEARS

In 1900, W. T. Hogg, Harris Cheeseman and Angus McDonald founded a bank in Meeteetse under the name of Hogg, Cheeseman, McDonald & Co. which operated out of Angus McDonald's store.

HOGG, CHEESEMAN, McDONALD & CO BANKERS

In 1901, Hogg, Cheeseman and McDonald moved their banking operations into a new two-story brick building, the building you are standing in now, and renamed their bank The First National Bank of Meeteetse.

The first cashier was W. Dean Hays. Hays was born in Virginia around 1870 and worked as a bank cashier at The First National Bank of Meeteetse from 1902 to 1903.



Hays, seen here in the 1920s, is noted for bringing the first automobile to Meeteetse



BANK HISTORY—THE EARLY YEARS

On July 15, 1902, The First National Bank of Meeteetse received its charter to operate as a federally chartered national bank, allowing the bank to issue bank notes.



First National Bank of Meeteetse
original charter, July 15, 1902

The First National Bank of Meeteetse 20/11/15 # 6340

-chartered in July, 1902 with a capital of \$ 25,000. 37 23 45
32 82 75

-Circulation Issued

-Third Charter Red Seals

5- 5- 5- 5 plate = \$	7,060. worth; serials	1 to 353
10-10-10-20 plate = \$	14,750. worth; serials	1 to 295

-Third Charter 1902-1908 Backs

5- 5- 5- 5 plate = \$	12,000. worth; serials	1 to 600
10-10-10-20 plate = \$	24,000. worth; serials	1 to 480

-Third Charter Plain Back Blue Seals

5- 5- 5- 5 plate = \$	13,560. worth; serials	601 to 1278
10-10-10-20 plate = \$	21,300. worth; serials	481 to 906

-Small Size

\$ 5. type 1 = \$ 7,980. worth; serials	1 to 266
\$ 10. type 1 = \$ 8,280. worth; serials	1 to 138
\$ 20. type 1 = \$ 4,920. worth; serials	1 to 41

-Total amount of circulation issued = \$ 113,850.

-Amount outstanding in 1935 = \$ 6,250.

-Amount of large out. in July, 1935 = \$ 430.

Small out 1929
2540 CIRC

Between 1902 and 1935, The First National Bank of Meeteetse issued \$113,850 worth of currency

Bank notes were printed by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing. \$5 notes were printed on one sheet with \$10 and \$20 notes sharing a sheet, three \$10 notes for every \$20 note.



BANK HISTORY—THE EARLY YEARS



\$5 Series 1902 national bank note issued by The First National Bank of Meeteetse. Unlike coins, the series date is not necessarily representative of the issue date



\$10 Series 1902 national bank note issued by The First National Bank of Meeteetse. Signatures of bank president and bank cashier are at bottom

Common during the national bank period, 1863-1913, The First National Bank of Meeteetse originally issued bank notes bearing the bank's name. The bank's charter number, 6340, is prominently displayed. Note that these national bank notes carry the signatures of the bank president and bank cashier. Do you recognize the names?



Reverse of Series 1902 \$5 note. This example is of similar notes, in this case notes known as "plain backs"



Reverse of Series 1902 \$10 note. This example is of similar notes, in this case notes known as "date backs"



BANK HISTORY—THE EARLY YEARS

If you noticed the president's signature on the \$10 note pictured on the previous panel, you might have been surprised to see it signed Sarah I. Hogg. Below left is an enlargement of the \$10 note from the previous panel in case you missed it. Take a look at the president's signature. The \$5 note, below right, has the president's signature of W. T. Hogg, Sarah's husband and a bank founder. Both W. T. and Sarah added "Vice" in front of "President" to clarify their position within the bank structure at the time these notes were issued.





BANK HISTORY—THE EARLY YEARS

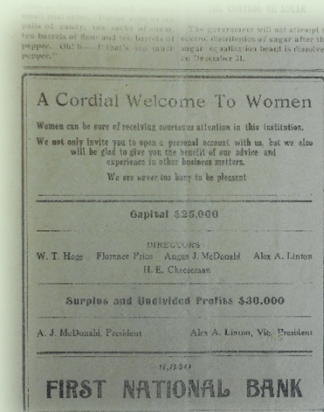
Sarah Hogg took over as bank vice-president in 1922 following her husband's death. It was not uncommon for women to assume the role their husband had played in business and in Wyoming, women had enjoyed more freedom and enjoyed it earlier than in other states, thus the state's nickname "The Equality State."



Sarah I. Hogg signed this Series 1902 national bank note indicating it was issued after her husband's death in 1922

FIRST NATIONAL BANK			
MEETEETSE WYO.			
CAPITAL \$25,000		SURPLUS \$12,500	
At the Close of Business Dec. 29th, 1922			
RESOURCES		LIABILITIES	
LOANS AND DISCOUNTS \$ 91,799 62		CAPITAL STOCK\$ 25,000 00	
OVERDRAFTS 296 25		SURPLUS AND UNDIVIDED PROFITS 19,163 56	
U. S. BONDS AND OTHER SECURITIES 29 219 00		CIRCULATION 6,250 00	
REDEMPTION FUND... 312 50		DEPOSITS 188,101 55	
CASH ON HAND AND DUE FROM BANKS... 105,732 76			
BANKING HOUSE AND FIXTURES 6,317 70			
REAL ESTATE 1,837 28			
TOTAL.....\$235,515 11		TOTAL.....\$235,515 11	
Angus J. McDonald, President.		S. I. Hogg, Vice President	
Directors:—		Alex. A. Linton, Cashier	
Angus J. McDonald	S. I. Hogg	R. W. Crane	Annie McDonald
	Alex. A. Linton		

Sarah I. Hogg served as vice president of the bank as well as a director, as was Annie McDonald



An ad in The Meeteetse News in 1919 suggests The First National Bank of Meeteetse recognized the value of attracting female customers



BANK HISTORY—THE EARLY YEARS



In this gathering of an earlier version of the Old Timers Association, the saloon can be seen to the right, next door to The First National Bank of Meeteetse

The second floor of the bank building provided office space for The Rocky Mountain Bell Telephone Company as well as a meeting place for the Meeteetse town council. The Hewitt Brothers Saloon was next door, with dumb waiter available to carry whiskey up to the town council room.



BANK HISTORY—THE EARLY YEARS

Today, the bank building seems somewhat removed, down a side street off the main highway through Meeteetse. But in the early 1900s, Meeteetse's main street was Park Avenue and the bank stood at the corner of Park Avenue and Warren Avenue.



Park Avenue, looking northeast towards the bank building.



Park Avenue, looking southwest with the bank building on the left



BANK HISTORY—THE EARLY YEARS

The First National Bank of Meeteetse had its share of connections with the famous—and the infamous.



W. Dean Hays, left, with William F. (Buffalo Bill) Cody, right

In 1901, the Hole in the Wall gang was rumored to be planning a bank robbery at Meeteetse. Henry River, who had a saloon upriver from town, wrote this note warning bank cashier Dean Hays to be on the lookout.

*Do not mention my name
in the matter*
1901
Meeteetse, Wyo June 17
Wm. Dean Hays, Esq. -
Dear Sir
It is rumored that
Meeteetse is going to
be held up and robbed by
the Hole in the Wall gang of
thieves; I wish you would
notify Red Lodge that they
are billed for the (23) of June
I do not know this for a fact
but I have reason to believe it
You can use your own judgment
about it and act accordingly
Hoping this may be of benefit
to you in all yours very—
Truly H. R.

Note from Henry River to Dean Hays
warning of potential bank robbery

do not mention my name

in the matter

1901,

Meeteetse, Wyo June 17

Mr. Dean Hays, Esq.

Dear Sir

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Meeteetse is going to

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BANK HISTORY—THE LATER YEARS

BANK CELEBRATES 50TH ANNIVERSARY

SEPT. — 1950

The First National Bank of Meeetsee this week received congratulatory messages and a beautiful floral offering from the Central Hanover Bank and Trust company of New York city on the occasion of its fiftieth anniversary, September 22, 1950.

Meeetsee's first financial institution was established in 1900 as the firm of Hogg, Chessman & McDonald with a capital of \$35,000.

In 1901, the bank moved to its present location, following the incorporation of the bank as The First National Bank.

Many prominent in the basin have been associated with the bank as officials; Paul R. Greever, Eugene Phelps, Alex J. Linton and Charles A. Webster. The bank has had a strong backing, withstanding all depressions.

Its present officers are: Henry Sayles, Sr., president; Henry Sayles, Jr., vice-president; Owen Webster, Margo Woodhouse, Angus Linton, cashier and director and Mrs. Li-



BANK HISTORY—THE LATER YEARS

In 1923, Angus J. McDonald died and Angus E. Linton began a career which would span 45 years at The First National Bank of Meeteetse



Father and son share signatures on this \$5 bank note with Alex A. Linton signing as president, right, and son Angus E. Linton signing as cashier



BANK HISTORY—THE LATER YEARS

In 1928, the government reduced the size of paper money to a size which had been experimented with in the Philippines. Our paper money today is known as Philippine size currency.



Bank note size of yesteryear



Bank note size today



BANK HISTORY—THE LATER YEARS



\$10 Series 1929 national bank note issued by The First National Bank of Meeteetse. Signatures of bank president and bank cashier are at bottom



\$20 Series 1929 national bank note issued by The First National Bank of Meeteetse. Signatures of bank president and bank cashier are at bottom



Representative example of reverse of Series 1929 \$10 note



Representative example of reverse of Series 1929 \$20 note

The government decided considerable savings could be achieved by reducing the size of paper currency while at the same time standardizing the look of each denomination. These notes, bearing Series 1929, were smaller than their Series 1902 counterparts and they too would eventually be phased out and replaced by Federal Reserve Notes, no longer bearing individual bank names nor bank officers' signatures.



BANK HISTORY—THE LATER YEARS

ALEX LINTON OF MEETEETSE SUCCEUMBS TO HEART ATTACK

Alex Linton, 70, pioneer resident of the Meeteetse country and one of the most influential and best loved residents of the inland area, succumbed last Wednesday to a heart ailment in a Billings hospital.

Several weeks were consumed and was on the second or third day after arrival from the Episcopal church in Cody and hotel was made at the Riverside country.

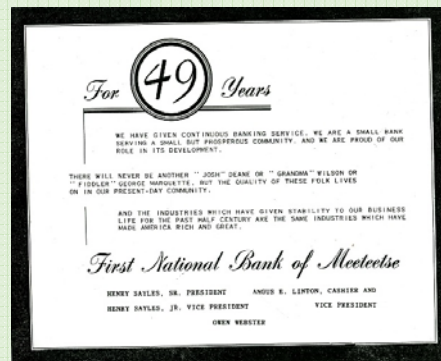
The president of the First National bank of Meeteetse died following an 8-week illness starting with a heart attack he suffered on Saturday day last. For six weeks he was cared for in the City Hospital, then after a week of rest in a hotel house he was moved to Billings where he died Wednesday, January 8.

Mr. Linton's passing draws to a close one of the most historic and successful careers in the Big Horn Basin. Coming here from his native place in Montana, Canada, 18 years ago to go to business with the world. Angus McDonald, what is now the L&S sheep ranch at Crocker, Wyoming. After a few years he moved into Meeteetse to take over the management of the Meeteetse Mercantile company, owned by a bank company, and opened it until he went into the bank in 1927.

During his years in the store and later as president of the bank his wisdom and kind heart had made him well known to all here and his home to all who lived with him.

In addition to his regular duties he served the town of Meeteetse in many several different ways.

Alex Linton passed away in 1943 at the age of 70



The bank celebrates 49 years in business

BANK CELEBRATES 50TH ANNIVERSARY

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Angus McDonald dies in Oklahoma City

Mrs. Angus (Lillian) Linton has received word from friends in Muskogee, Mont. of the death of Angus James McDonald, a former Meeteetse resident.

McDonald's father, A. J. McDonald, was one of the founders of the bank in Meeteetse and young McDonald worked at that bank during the 1940's.

The following obituary was printed in the "Muskogee."

Angus James McDonald, 62, a former Muskogee resident, died Friday of natural causes in Oklahoma City Hospital.

He was born Mar. 7, 1916, in Los Angeles, Calif. He attended grade school and part of high school in Muskogee, where he lived from 1922 to 1932. He received a degree in philosophy at Gonzaga University, Spokane, Wash., and earned a degree in engineering at the University of Wyoming, Laramie.

McDonald served in the Army in World War II. Since 1944 he had been a petroleum engineer for Phillips Petroleum Co., moving to Oklahoma City from Texas in 1950.

He was a member of the University Lions, American Legion Post No. 13 and Phillips Men's Club and was active in the Office of Family Life Group, all in Oklahoma City. He also was a member of the Sacred Heart Catholic Church of Oklahoma City.

Survivors include his wife, Merilee, and a brother, the Rev. Alexander McDonald, Seattle, Wash.

Burial was in St. Mary Cemetery, Muskogee, Mont.

The son of Angus McDonald, also named Angus McDonald, worked at the bank briefly during the 1940s

The First National Bank of Meeteetse turns 50, September 22, 1950



BANK HISTORY—THE LATER YEARS



During the 1950s and 1960s, the bank building underwent modernization, with acoustic ceilings and carpet appearing.



Eventually, the carpet and acoustic ceilings were removed.



BANK HISTORY—THE LATER YEARS

The First National Bank of Meeteetse successfully weathered many financial storms. Shortly after its founding, the Panic of 1907 struck the nation and an even worse economic downturn occurred during the 1930s. Unlike many banks, The First National Bank of Meeteetse managed to survive for 74 years. The bank was sold in 1975.



First National Bank of Meeteetse bank building, 1984, by this time vacant several years



The bank building in the 1990s, by this time a bank museum and archives



BANK HISTORY—THE LATER YEARS

On April 5, 1975, William H. Campbell, President of the First National Bank of Meeteetse, notified the newly founded Meeteetse Museums the bank was considering donating the bank building to be used as a museum as the bank was anticipating a move into a new building across the street. In 1977, the bank's successor, First Wyoming Bank, donated the building to the Meeteetse Museums.





THE BANK BUILDING



THE BANK BUILDING

Early 20th Century bank architecture followed classical lines with the image of a sound, secure financial institution viewed as more important than how the building functioned.



The First National Bank of Meeteetse, 1901

Corner locations were typical of late 19th and early 20th Century bank buildings where a cantered or angled entry door attracted customers from both streets.



Bank building,
Red Lodge, MT, 1899



Bank building, Powell, WY, 1909

Even today, modern bank buildings still incorporate this cantered corner design.



Modern bank building with
cantered design



THE BANK BUILDING

Bricks to construct The First National Bank of Meeteetse building as well as other town buildings including the Weller Hotel across the street which the bank would eventually purchase, came from the Iron Creek Foundry, three miles west of Meeteetse. The first town council was held September 23, 1901, and most likely The First National Bank of Meeteetse building served as host.



Iron Creek Foundry

Bank Purchases Hotel Building 2-11-70

The Meeteetse Hotel was recently sold to the First National Bank of Meeteetse. Mrs. Barbara Smith reported this week.

Mrs. Smith, who had owned and operated the hotel for the past several years, stated that she is retiring due to ill health and plans to live in Powell.

Wayne Messenger, president of the bank, reported that no immediate building plans are anticipated, but that the bank had acquired the property with the future in mind. "We feel this is one of the best locations in Meeteetse for a bank," he said. "and want to be prepared to serve the future."

The First National Bank of Meeteetse purchased the old hotel in 1970, with thoughts of relocating across the street at some future time.



THE BANK BUILDING

The First National Bank of Meeteetse was sold in 1975 and renamed First Wyoming Bank. A few years later, First Wyoming Bank moved out of this building and across the street into a new building constructed where the old Weller Hotel had stood.

From 1975 until 1988, the bank building stood mostly vacant, used periodically by various organizations like a newer version of the Old Timer's Association, this time the Old Timer's Club, founded in 1969



Viewing the bank museum in Meeteetse were (back row, l-r) Ralph White of Cody, commissioners Lloyd Barling of Meeteetse, Dennis Smith of Powell and Gary Lundvall of Cody, museum board president Ron Fulton of Powell; front row: Betty Jensen of Meeteetse, Mary Nielsen of Cody and Mildred Lawrence of Powell/Garland.

Bank becomes a museum

The Park County commissioners joined the county museum board in Meeteetse in April to view the historic bank museum of Meeteetse. The museum has been developed to preserve the unique history of Meeteetse, with the help of the Park County museum board.

The bank building dates to the turn

of the century. It was built of native stone in 1901 to house the McDonald, Hogg and Cheeseman Bank, named for its founders. Later it became the First National Bank of Meeteetse. The building has been restored. Meeteetse was founded in 1883 at the Andrew B. Wilson ranch on Meeteetse Creek.

Powell Tribune, May 3, 1988



The First National Bank of Meeteetse building, 1980s



Interior converted to museum, late 1980s



BANK BUILDING RESTORATION



BANK BUILDING RESTORATION

By the 1980s, buildings to the east, including the saloon, began to collapse and were removed. The bank vault, connected to the east wall adjacent to the saloon, may have been instrumental in saving the bank building from collapse.



What had been Hewitt Brothers saloon is about to fall along with other buildings east of the bank building, August, 1989



The First National Bank of Meeteetse bank building is listed on the National Register of Historic Places

On September 5, 1990, the bank building was added to the National Register of Historic Places.



BANK BUILDING RESTORATION

Ceilings restored to original character



Goals accomplished during interior restoration:

- Replace acoustical ceiling to restore original character
- Replace fluorescent light fixtures with period appropriate lighting to provide visitors with the feel of stepping back in time.
- Renovate teller cage area and cashier's door accommodating ADA guidelines



Light fixtures provide a period feel

Cashier's door made ADA accessible





BANK BUILDING RESTORATION

Goals accomplished during exterior restoration:

- Stabilize the foundation
- Repair, repoint and seal the brickwork
- Restore the original window sills
- Replace the vinyl sills with period appropriate ones



Foundation stabilization



Window sill prior to restoration



Crews work the foundation



BANK BUILDING RESTORATION

Along with a Wyoming Cultural Trust Fund grant there were several other partners which provided funds to finish the restoration of the first floor of The First National Bank Building:

- | | |
|---|-------------|
| • Meeteetse Museum District | \$3,500.00 |
| • Meeteetse Museum Foundation | \$5,000.00 |
| • WY State Loan and Investment Board | \$7,500.00 |
| • Mary A.H. Rumsey Foundation | \$1,000.00 |
| • Meeteetse Museum District Operating Funds | \$12,437.55 |
| • Total Cash Match and WCTF Award | \$54,427.55 |



Meeteetse Centennial, 1996



Grand reopening, February 26, 2011

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