

**Montana Historical Preservation Grant
Paris Gibson Square Museum of Art (The Square)**

**Appendix C-1
Environmental review**

Projects: Two Climate Controlled Permanent Collection Vaults, Floor Replacement (classroom 18) and Window Shades
2-22-24

1. **Alternatives:** There are no reasonable alternatives to the three proposed projects: Two Climate Controlled Permanent Collection Vaults, Floor Replacement (classroom 18), and Window Shades.
2. **Mitigation:** The existing rooms that will serve as the controlled vaults for permanent collection and the education classroom floor (Room 18) show no signs of mitigation. In 1989 the City Health Department of Great Falls, Montana inspected and reported that there is no asbestos in the building or lead paint.
3. **EA or Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) required?** The proposed projects, Two Climate Controlled Permanent Collection Vaults, Floor Replacement (classroom 18), and Window Shades do not require an environmental assessment; therefore, these proposed projects are exempt or excluded from the MEPA review. The statutorily exempt from the MEPA under ARM 8.2.304(5) are minor repairs, operations, and maintenance for existing equipment of facility. Actions that are statutorily exempt from MEPA under ARM 8.2.328(2) are: Projects that involve only minor repairs or rehabilitation to an existing facility, including functional replacement of an existing facility or facility component.
4. **Public Involvement:** The Paris Gibson Square Museum of Art (The Square) hosted a public meeting on February 22, 2024, at 5pm in the museum's café. The notice was e-mailed to over 2,200 people, which included museum members and museum board members, on Saturday 2/17/24 and again on 2/20/24. The project was considered and discussed at the public meeting. The Paris Gibson Square Museum of Art, Sarah Justice (Executive Director) and Cortni Harant (Board President) approved the final environmental assessment.
5. **Person(s) Responsible for Preparing:** Sarah Justice, Executive Director of the Paris Gibson Square Museum of Art, was responsible for the preparation of this checklist.
6. **Other Agencies:** LPW Architecture Firm was consulted and helped contribute to the environmental review process.