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Agenda

New Castle Historic Preservation Commission

Monday, January 19, 2026, 6:30 PM

[Zoom URL: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7096588400](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7096588400)

If you prefer to telephone in:

Please call: 1-346-248-7799

Meeting ID: 709 658 8400

Follow the prompts as directed. Be sure to set your phone to mute until called on.

Call to Order

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

Meeting Notice

Conflicts of Interest

Citizen Comments on Items NOT on the Agenda

-Comments are limited to three minutes-

Agenda Changes

Items For Consideration

- A. Discussion of Historical Preservation Commission at Founder's Day Celebration February 7, 2026**
- B. Consider Wording on Highland Cemetery's Historical Designation Plaque**
- C. Consider Location of Highland Cemetery's Plaque**
- D. Consider Approval of October 20, 2025, Minutes**

Commissioner Comments

Adjourn

1 **New Castle, Colorado**
2 **Historic Preservation Commission Meeting**
3 **Monday, October 20, 2025, 6:30 PM**

4
5 **Call to Order**

6 Commission Chair Mari Riddile called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m.

7
8 **Pledge of Allegiance**

9
10 **Roll Call**

11 Present Chair Mari Riddile
12 Commissioner Richard Parks
13 Commissioner Brandy Copeland

14
15
16
17 Absent Commissioner Ruth Fletcher
18 Commissioner Richard Fletcher
19 Alternate Commissioner Tom Fuller
20

21
22 **Meeting Notice**

23 Professional Assistant to the Town Clerk, Michelle Huster verified that her office gave
24 notice of the meeting in accordance with Resolution TC 2024-1.
25

26 **Conflicts of Interest**

27 There were no conflicts of interest.
28

29 **Citizen Comments on Items NOT on the Agenda**

30 There were no citizen comments.
31

32 **Agenda Changes**

33
34 **Items for Consideration**

35
36 **Historic Map Presentation with Councilor Grady Hazelton**

37 New Castle Town Councilor Grady Hazleton presented a series of historical maps of New
38 Castle, focusing on Sanborn maps from 1893, 1898, and 1903. Mr. Hazelton said these
39 maps were created for insurance purposes and provided valuable insights into the town's
40 development.

41 Mr. Hazleton described how he received the first map from Steve Rippy and subsequently
42 found additional maps through the Library of Congress. He detailed his process of
43 analyzing the maps, identifying existing structures, and noting changes in the town's
44 layout over time.

45 Key points from Hazleton's presentation included: population changes reflected in the
46 maps, showing a decrease from 1800 to 900 people after the first mine explosion and the
47 identification of approximately 80-90 buildings in New Castle that still exist from the
48 1893-1903 period. Another feature Mr. Hazelton discussed was the straightening of Elk
49 Creek between 1893 and 1898, which was done to accommodate road construction. Mr.

1 Hazelton said the distinct colors used on the maps to indicate building materials (red for
2 brick, yellow for wooden structures, blue for stone). Mr. Hazelton said he recently
3 discovered an 1888 map of New Castle, which Hazleton plans to have professionally
4 preserved.

5 Charles Engelbert, New Castle resident, joined the presentation and talked about the
6 gravity-fed water system mentioned in the 1888 map and shared his interest in
7 photographing historical figures in the town. Hazleton and Engelbert expressed their
8 enthusiasm for the project and its potential to preserve and share New Castle's history.
9 They discussed plans to have the original 1888 map evaluated and possibly restored,
10 noting that it might require funding from the Historic Preservation Commission in the
11 future.

12 **Update on the Videography Project**

13 Chair Riddile said she and Vice Chair Ruth Fletcher visited Colorado Mountain College
14 (CMC) on October 15, 2025, to conduct interviews for the videography project. Two
15 interviews were conducted simultaneously in separate rooms. Vice Chair Fletcher
16 interviewed Eric Williams, whose father owned Castle Valley and Chair Riddile interviewed
17 Jim Shrull, who owned the Historical Texaco Building on Main Street.

18 Chair Riddile said both interviewees were initially nervous but provided valuable
19 information, including suggestions for future interviewees. Chair Riddile informed the
20 commission that CMC had agreed to conduct more interviews next fall, suggesting that
21 the commission would plan for two interviews per year in their budget. She encouraged
22 other commissioners to participate in future interviews, either as interviewers or
23 observers.

24 The commission briefly discussed potential future interviewees, including the Riddens
25 (Charles and Angela) and the Jolly Brothers.

26 **Consider Resolution HP 2025-2, A Resolution of the New Castle Historic 27 Preservation Commission Approving the Historical Landmark Designation of 28 Highland Cemetery 1009 Clubhouse Drive.**

29 Chair Riddile opened the public hearing at 7:17 p.m.

30 Public Hearing for Resolution HP 2025-2, concerning the historical landmark designation of
31 Highland Cemetery.

32 Professional Assistant to the Town Clerk, Michelle Huster, provided an overview of the
33 application process. Professional Assistant Huster said the town owns the property, which
34 required a different approach for the designation. The Town Council had previously given
35 their blessing to move forward with the designation, allowing Town Administrator Dave
36 Reynolds to sign the application.

37 Professional Assistant Huster guided the commission through the criteria for designation,
38 as outlined in the town code 15.44.160. The commission discussed each criterion,
39 determining that the cemetery met many of the criteria, including its existence for over 50
40 years, its association with significant events and people in the town's history, and its
41 exemplification of the cultural and historic heritage of New Castle.

42 The commission also considered the approval criteria, focusing on the cemetery's
43 historical and geographic importance. They agreed that no additional conditions were

1 necessary for the designation, emphasizing that the intent was not to change anything
2 about the cemetery but to recognize its historical significance.

3 Professional Assistant Huster presented staff comments, highlighting the cemetery's role
4 as the final resting place for people who shaped the town, its continuation of interring
5 family and friends for multiple generations, and the artistry of the gravestones reflecting
6 various historical periods.

7 The public hearing was opened for testimony, but no members of the public wished to
8 speak. The hearing was then closed, and the commissioners deliberated on the evidence
9 presented.

10 **Motion: Chair Riddile made a motion to approve Resolution HP 2025-2**
11 **designating Highland Cemetery as a historical landmark. Commissioner Parks**
12 **seconded and the motion passed unanimously.**

13 **Consider Approval of September 15, 2025, Minutes.**

14 **MOTION: Commissioner Parks made a motion to approve the minutes from**
15 **September 15, 2025. Chair Riddile seconded the motion, and it passed**
16 **unanimously.**

17
18 **Commissioner Comments:**

19 Professional Assistant Huster informed the commission that according to New Castle code,
20 they need to appoint a chair every year, which should have happened in April.

21 Professional Assistant Huster said this item would be on the next meeting's agenda.

22 Professional Assistant Huster mentioned that she would include a budget update at the
23 next meeting to determine what funds remain from the 2025 HPC Budget.

24 The commissioners briefly discussed ideas for displaying the newly approved historical
25 landmark designation for Highland Cemetery. Suggestions included attaching it to an
26 existing monument for miners or creating a new stone structure.

27
28 **Adjourn**

29 **MOTION: Chair Riddile made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Parks seconded**
30 **the motion, and it passed unanimously.**

31
32 The meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

33
34 Respectfully submitted,
35
36

37
38 _____
39 Mari Riddile, Chair

39 _____
40 Professional Assistant to the Town Clerk
Michelle Huster