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GHOST TOWN PRESERVATION SOCIETY
TO MEET THURSDAY IN MISSOULA

MISSOULA--

The Missoula chapter of the Montana Ghost Town Preservation Society will hold its first organizational meeting at 7:30 p.m. Thursday (Nov. 18) at the Western Federal Savings and Loan Association Building, 100 E. Broadway, Missoula.

Donald C. Miller, an assistant professor of journalism at UM and a member of the society's board of directors, said Thursday's meeting is open to the public and everyone is encouraged to attend.

"People attending the meeting are not obligated to become members of the society," Miller said. "We just want to acquaint area residents with what we're trying to do."

Miller said slides of Montana ghost towns and the ghost town restoration project and also a 16-millimeter film about ghost towns in the state will be shown at Thursday's meeting.

Miller said the purpose of the Montana Ghost Town Preservation Society is to acquire, preserve and maintain ghost towns and historic sites in the state.

"The goal of the society is for these ghost towns and historic sites to become parts of a living museum to commemorate the establishment of the Western Frontier in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries," Miller said.

Miller has spent the past three summers photographing and researching Montana ghost towns. Recently he received a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities which enabled him to photograph ghost towns and mining camps in Utah, New Mexico and Arizona last summer. He is currently writing a book on ghost towns and it will contain photographs of relatively undiscovered sites.

Anyone desiring more information about the society may contact Miller at his home, 822 Whitaker Drive, or phone 549-6837.

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