

FORMER OLD CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

CORNER OF FORESTRY RD & SUNBEAR AVE, LAME DEER, MT



Before



After

Site Background

The Old Chamber of Commerce building was a two-story, 1,500 square foot commercial building located in Lame Deer, Montana within the Northern Cheyenne Reservation. The building was reportedly constructed in the 1930's, and the log cabin and patio coverings construction dates are unknown. Given the age of the structures, asbestos-containing building materials (ACBMs) and lead-based paint (LBP) were identified as potential environmental concerns. In addition, both the Old Chamber of Commerce building and log cabin were unoccupied for some time and became a public safety hazard.

In 2019, the Northern Cheyenne Environmental Protection Department (EDP) completed a Phase II Environmental Site Assessment (ESA) at the Old Chamber of Commerce building and the log cabin. ABCMs and LBP were identified in both structures, and lead contaminated soil was identified around the Old Chamber of Commerce building.

Cleanup Actions

In 2022, the log cabin burned down. Later that year, EDP contractors successfully removed ACBMs and lead contaminated soil around the Old Chamber of Commerce building, and the building was prepared for demolition. LBP remained on the outside and inside of the building. Log cabin roofing material and debris were removed from the ground surface at the time of abatement, but friable asbestos debris remained in the cabin crawlspace.

In 2023, the friable asbestos debris was safely abated from the log cabin crawl space. LBP was abated from the Chamber of Commerce building during lead-safe building demolition. All structures and foundations were demolished and removed following lead-safe demolition practices and appropriate asbestos abatement procedures. After demolition, final visual inspections, perimeter air sampling, and lead-in-soil samples were collected to confirm no lead or asbestos remained onsite. All sample results were below current standards, and the property was deemed ready for redevelopment and re-occupancy.

Redevelopment Plans

The Old Chamber of Commerce site is safe and ready for redevelopment. The Northern Cheyenne Tribe plans to construct a new homeless shelter at location, offering essential health and safety provisions to the most vulnerable members of the Northern Cheyenne community.

