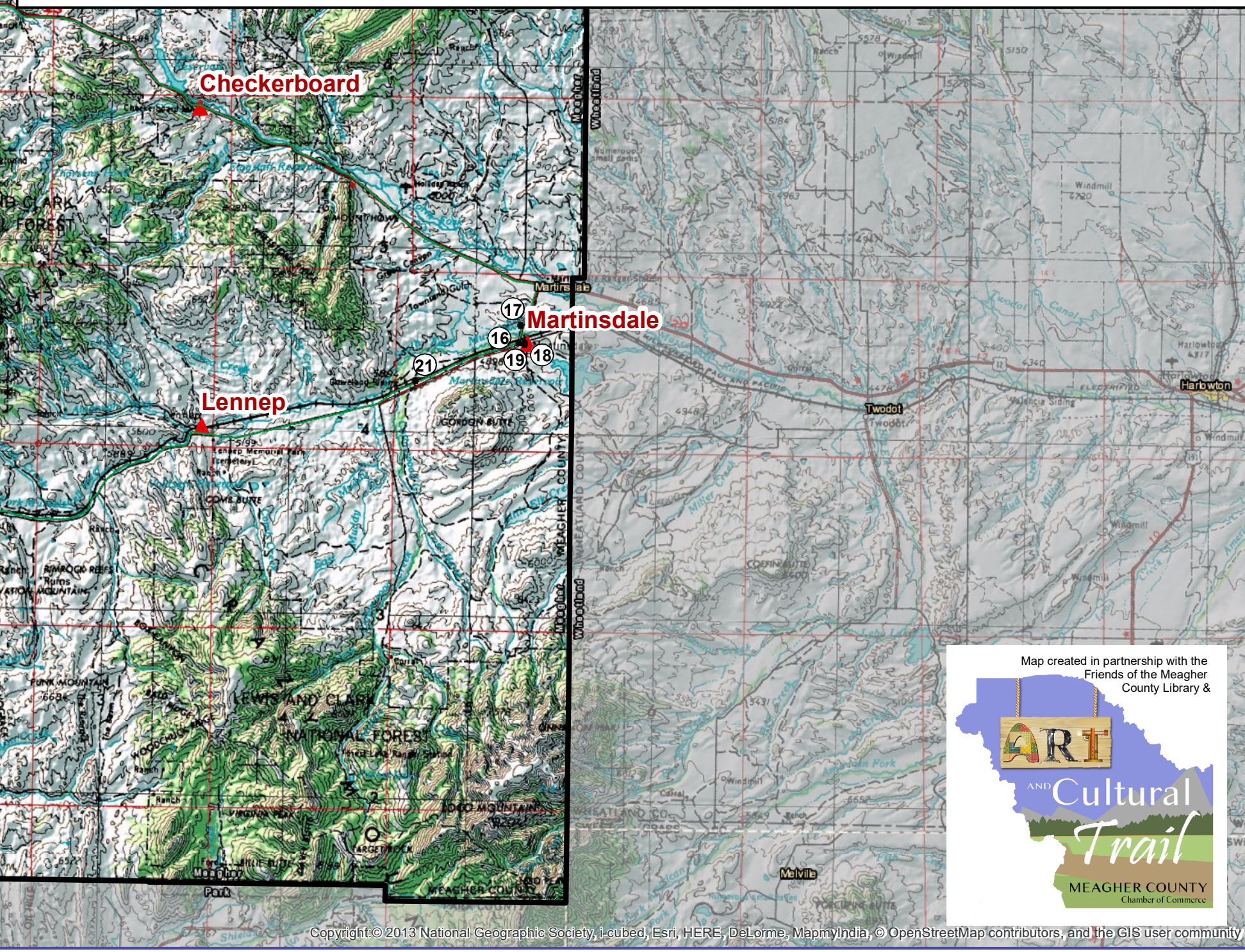
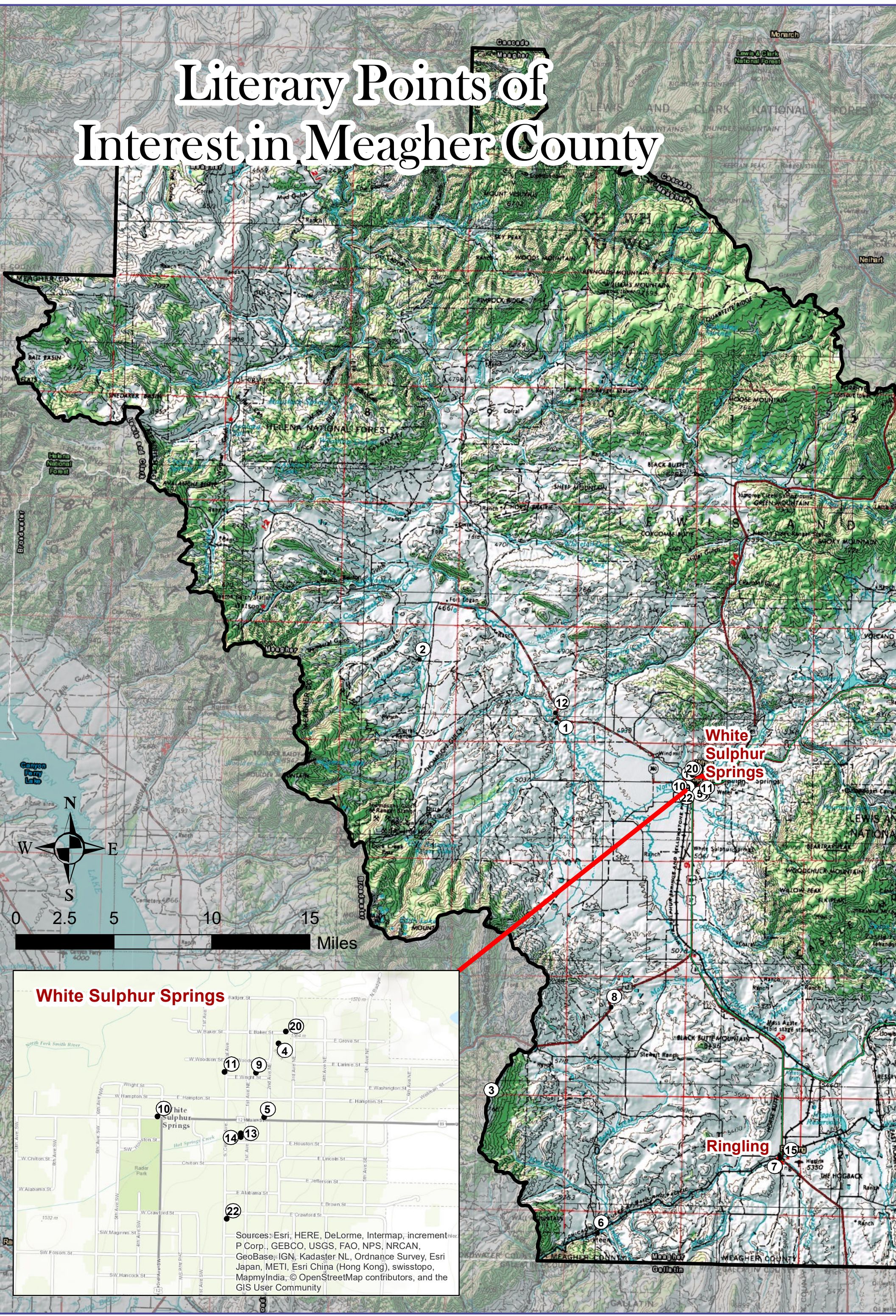
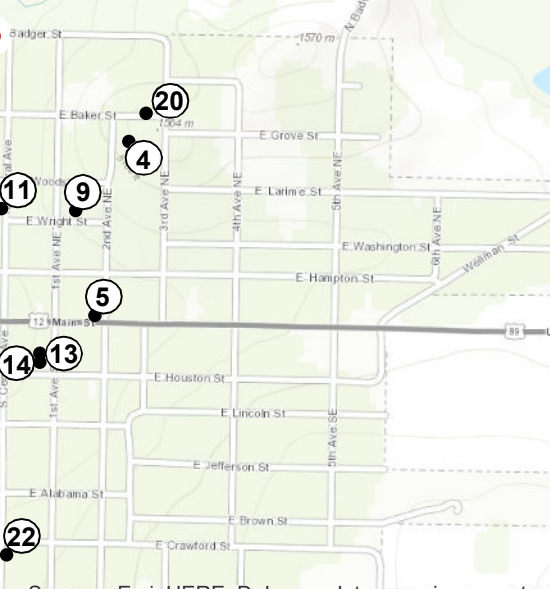


Literary Points of Interest in Meagher County

Map ID	Author	Title	Location	Quote / Information
1	Ivan Doig	This House of Sky	Smith River Valley	"It is not known just when in the 1860s the first white pioneers trickled into our area of southcentral MT, into what would come to be called the Smith River Valley. But if the earliest of them wagoned in one day when the warm sage smell met the nose and the clear air lensed close the details of peaks two days' ride from there, what a glimpse into glory it must have seemed."
2	Ivan Doig	This House of Sky	Camas Ranch	Ivan's father was hired by the Camas Ranch. "Somehow a crew had to be held together through the months of moving and raking and bucking and stacking of 150 butts of hay, some 1400 tons... Dad's reputation in the valley said he was the man to do it."
3	Ivan Doig	This House of Sky	Grassy Mountain	"Three of us, and the sheep scattered down meadow slopes like a slow, slow avalanche of fleeces. Before I was born, my mother and father had lived other herding summers, shadowing after the sheep through the long pure days until the lambs were fattened for shipping."
4	Ivan Doig	This House of Sky	The Castle	"One last landmark from those years, the gray stone house called the Castle. It appeared up from the top of the hill behind the Stockman, a granite presence which seemed to have loomed there before the rest of the town was ever dreamed of. A actually, a man named Sherman had built it in the early 1890s, with bonanza money from a silver lode in the Castle Mountains."
5	Ivan Doig	This House of Sky	Stockman Bar	"The flow of booze into his best friend or the behavior of anybody else in the Stockman, Dad took without a blink of judgment. I cannot know whether he ever thought it out entirely, but I believe that in him was the notion that anyone who began his night along the bar with us must have been tussling life in his own right, just as we were."
6	Ivan Doig	This House of Sky	Sixteen Railroad Depot	"I helped load what was left of a neighbor's sheep into boxcars there at Sixteen. Those sheep were so hungry they were eaten' the wool off each other."
7	Ivan Doig	This House of Sky	Ringling, Montana	"By the time Grandma and I moved there, Ringling stood as only a spattered circle of houses around several large weedy foundations. The adult population was about 50 persons ... livelihoods were a saloon, gas station, post office, Mike Ryan's store, depot, and exactly through the middle of town the railroad tracks which glistened and fled..."
8	David Folsom	Expedition of Cook, Peterson, and Folsom	Cook and Folsom ranch sites can be seen north from this vantage point above the valley	This trio visited and reported the many wonderful features of Yellowstone National Park in 1869. Their accounts of Tower Falls, Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone, Geyser Basins, and Mud Volcanos led to the Washburn expedition and the eventual creation of our first National Park.
9	Taylor Gordon	Born To Be	Mary Ann Gordon raised her children in this neighborhood.	Taylor Gordon's memoir describes his childhood life in WSS; from being a runner for the community's working girls to cowboy, chauffer for the Ringlings, working on the railroad, and then becoming an international Gospel singer during the Harlem Renaissance. Taylor Gordon came back to WSS, MT after his fame to live the last years of his life with family.
10	Taylor Gordon	Born To Be	White Sulphur Springs, Montana	"If God ever did spend any time here on earth, that must have been His hang-out, for every little thing that's natural and beautiful to live with is around White Sulphur."
11	Walt Coburn	Beyond the Wild Missouri; Pioneer Cattlemen in Montana, Sky Pilot Cowboy, and others	Walt Coburn was born in the house just east of this location.	After being born in WSS, Walt grew up in Malta and Great Falls. After a brief stint in California, he worked in the Arizona mines and then the Army. Walt became one of America's most prolific writers from 1922-1970. He authored over 1,000 short stories and close to a hundred books.
12	Jim Fuller	Socks, Marty's Mom, Mister Marty, & Marty's Town	Smith River Valley, Residence was located near Newlan Creek.	This local author has several books to his name. Though they are fiction, Mr Fuller drew upon his life experiences during the 1930s, simple living, and hard working lifestyle. He was a mechanic in the Army and ran a motel and auto repair business for 10yrs with his wife in WSS. Available on Amazon, Meagher County News, Cougar Merc, and the Castle and Bair Museums.
13	Cameron Lowe	Rankin Flats Supernatural Thriller Series	Meagher County Library	Cameron Lowe is a prolific writer of the Rankin Flats Supernatural Thriller Series. The fictional town of Rankin Flats is 100 miles west of WSS, MT. Please check out his webpage at www.rankinflatsobserver.com . His work is available on his website, Meagher County News and Cougar Merc.
14	Kyle Morrow	Belt Buckle Bunny; Black Iron Brandy	Meagher County Library	Kyle grew up on an isolated ranch in the Missouri River Breaks. Her goal is to be the Montana author people want to read for a fantastic escape into her western way of life. Find her work online at Amazon or Smashwords, or the Hot Springs.
15	Lee Rostad	Three Ringings of Montana	The Town of Leader changed its name to Ringling after John moved into the Valley.	John Ringling came to MT in 1903, built a railroad line from Ringling to WSS, and invested into the Hot Springs and dairy. Richard, a nephew, came in 1917 and settled in WSS. His son Paul became a rancher and legislator.
16	Jim Moore	Ride the Jawbone	The spot is located along the old roadbed of the Jawbone, which ran from Helena to Harlowton.	Jim Moore became an author during retirement as a rancher, teacher, and lawyer. He is settled outside Two Dot, Montana. The was one of his first fiction works, based on the era and lifestyles of the people around the valley during the time the 'Jawbone' railroad operated.
17	Lee Rostad	The House of Bair; Fourteen Cents and Seven Green Apples; the Life of Charles Bair	Bair Home, which is now incorporated into a museum.	Local Martinsdale author's book features the Bair family. The family built a sheep and cattle ranch centered near Martinsdale. Their legacy lives on today through their philanthropy (Art and Wellness Grants, scholarships, community grants, and museum).
18	Grace Stone Coates	Grace Stone Coates: Life in Letters; Black Cherries; Food of God and Starlings; Honey Wine & Hunger	Grace wrote from her home, behind the mercantile her husband managed.	Grace authored many poems, short stories, and articles. She received many awards for her work and in the 1930s served as the distict director of the WPA. Her work was in danger of being lost, however local author Lee Rostad has meticulously researched and contacted Grace's friends in order to compile her works and letters into a series of books.
19	Lee Rostad	A Meagher County Sketchbook; Mountains of Gold, Hills of Grass; Books about Grace Stone Coates	Martinsdale, Montana	Lee Rostad is a gifted researcher, writer, historian, and artist. She has authored and compiled historical books about Meagher County, as well as families and individuals in the area. Many of her works are available Amazon, Meagher County News, Cougar Merc, and the Castle and Bair Museums.
20	Taylor Gordon	The Man Who Built the Stone Castle	The Castle in White Sulphur Springs, MT	This publication coincides with the year this residence became the Castle Museum in 1967. It tells of the structures importance and history in the county. In 2017, the Meagher County Historical Association is celebrating its 50th anniversary.
21	Volney Steele	Wellington Rankin: His Family, Life, and Times	71 Ranch was purchased by Wellington Rankin in the 1970s. Today is owned by another family.	Wellington Rankin was one of the largest landowners in Montana. This biography explores his life as a Montana attorney, politician, land baron, and cattle baron.
22	Kelly Flynn	Goldpans, Guns, and Grit: Diamond City.	This building from Diamond City is the second oldest building in continuous use in Montana.	Diamond City is west of White Sulphur Springs, over the Big Belt Mtns near the mouth of Confederate Gulch, and was the original county seat of Meagher County. Now just a memory (no buildings remain), this book tells of its' glory years.



White Sulphur Springs



Sources: Esri, HERE, DeLorme, Intermap, increment P Corp., GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, GeoBase, IGN, Kadaster NL, Ordnance Survey, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), swisstopo, MapmyIndia, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community

