

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, June 15, 2021 4:07 PM
To: Pamela Laflamme <plaflamme@berlinnh.gov>
Subject: Mt. Jasper

Kwai Pam, I hope that this finds you and your family well and in good spirits, and that you have maneuvered through the Pandemic unharmed.

The reason I am writing Pam, and I am sorry to bother you with this, but someone has decided to put a cross atop Mt. Jasper. It is enough to say that it just isn't appropriate, but as a matter historical and cultural significance, I would simply like to point out that of the following ten locations, none of them have crosses at their locations.

I would also like to note that I have been to five of these locations, and that I was personally responsible for the restoration of one of these sites. These locations, as prominent as they are in United States history, none of them are older than 4,000 years old. The mine at Mt. Jasper is 12,000 years old, making it unique, and very historically significant.

Ghost cave, Montana	Monks mound, Illinois
The Little Bighorn Battlefield, Montana	Cahokia, Illinois
Adena mound, Kentucky	Serpent mound, Ohio
Mesa Verde, Colorado	Newark earthworks, Ohio
Chaco Canyon, Arizona	America's Stonehenge, New Hampshire

It matters not what the persons intentions are, from an Indigenous perspective, it is seen as a fanatical display of ill perceived dominance/ conquering of an indigenous site, dismissing it's relevance to the original peoples, and it's true indigenous significance as one of the oldest sites in North America. No symbols are acceptable or appropriate.

The mine itself has been vandalized, and graffiti can be found on the walls. It is a shameful display of ignorance that cannot be overstated. When the EIS was being done, I had asked that the repelling anchors that were imbedded in the rock at the summit would be removed, returning the summit to it's natural state, and I was assured by Sally M. that they would be done.

Today there are two more locations of those anchors on the mountain. These could allow access to veins of Rhyolite, whose removal is strictly prohibited by the State of NH, and ultimately, it places the people in off trail locations, something that was again verbally agreed upon would not happen for cultural reasons, and all parties were aware of this.

I realize that many of you are not atop the mountain as much as some of us, and so I am alerting you to the deficiencies that are befalling the mountain, that require the City of Berlin's attention.

Sadly the dog situation has not improved. You need to know that last year two dogs were one inch from being shot. I was up the mountain, and having met two visitors from out of town and we were chatting about the history of the mountain when two of the dogs that had attacked me in the park in 2017 came up the mountain without their owners and when they got to us, (acting aggressive) I pulled out an air horn and scarred them off, but the man had a 9mm handgun, and he said "one more inch and I was going to shoot them both".

Six weeks later I was threatened by one of the owners of those dogs, while walking with my Mom. My Mom was with me that day and we both called the PD. What they don't realize is that I saved their dogs from being shot.

It's important that you know that the Berlin PD did help to get two signs up that say; DOGS NEED TO BE ON LEASH AT ALL TIMES AS PER CITY ORDINANCE. However, that has not changed the behavior of these folks, and one person was bit by one of these dogs, earlier this year, and then the male owner (the same one who threatened me) threatened the man who had been bit.

These dog owners have stated to me, my Mom and others, that the Mayor gave them permission to let their dogs off leash. But they don't walk with the owners, they run at large, and the owners can't control them. I don't understand how the mayor, if that is true, can circumvent NH. State law and Berlins own ordinance. Furthermore, the signs were put up because of these very people, and so according to them, these irresponsible dog owners, they can unleash their dogs that can't even follow basic commands, to the distress of other people who simply would like to walk in harmony with nature, and not be assaulted or threatened because they object.

Finally I am including two photos Pam, as I am asking you to share this correspondence with the City council, (they will be sent separately). One is a photo of where I fell when I was attacked in 2017. My right foot is where my head was when I woke up. I want everyone to understand that this is not a one off. I could have been killed, and to dismiss the situation is unacceptable. The other photo is of dog throw up, that has deer hide and hair in it that I took in the base parking lot, and I found a chipmunk that had been in a dogs mouth dead on the trail. There are state laws against dogs running at large and the killing wild life, which is another good reason to enforce the leash law.

I want to thank you Pam for wading down through this, and I would appreciate this correspondence reaching the City Council. I'm not blaming anyone for where we are, I am just hoping that we can adequately address the deficiencies that exist in a meaningful and timely manner.

Mtosa Michael Eastman