



OFFICE OF AUDITOR OF STATE
STATE OF IOWA

Rob Sand
Auditor of State

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Des Moines, Iowa 50319-0006

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NEWS RELEASE

FOR RELEASE

August 24, 2021

Contact: Marlys Gaston
515/281-5834

Auditor of State Rob Sand today released an audit report on America's Agricultural Industrial Heritage Landscape, Inc., d/b/a Silos and Smokestacks National Heritage Area (Silos and Smokestacks) for the years ended December 31, 2020 and 2019.

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS:

Silos and Smokestacks' revenues totaled \$847,851 for the year ended December 31, 2020, a less than one percent increase over the prior year. Expenses for the year ended December 31, 2020 totaled \$870,295 an 18.7% increase over the prior year. The increase in revenues is due to higher public support while an increase in project expenses also occurred.

AUDIT FINDINGS:

Consistent with the prior year, Sand reported no findings related to the receipt and expenditure of Silos and Smokestacks' funds.

A copy of the audit report is available for review on the Auditor of State's web site at <https://auditor.iowa.gov/reports/audit-reports/>.

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**AMERICA'S AGRICULTURAL
INDUSTRIAL HERITAGE LANDSCAPE, INC.
D/B/A SILOS AND SMOKESTACKS NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA**

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORTS
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND
SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS**

DECEMBER 31, 2020 AND 2019

Silos and Smokestacks National Heritage Area



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August 17, 2021

Officials of America's Agricultural Industrial Heritage Landscape, Inc.,
d/b/a Silos and Smokestacks National Heritage Area (Silos and Smokestacks)

Dear Board of Trustees:

I am pleased to submit to you the financial and compliance audit report for Silos and Smokestacks for the year ended December 31, 2020. The audit was performed in accordance with U.S. auditing standards and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards.

I appreciate the cooperation and courtesy extended by the officials and employees of Silos and Smokestacks throughout the audit. If I or this office can be of any further assistance, please contact me or my staff at 515-281-5834.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rob Sand".

Rob Sand
Auditor of State

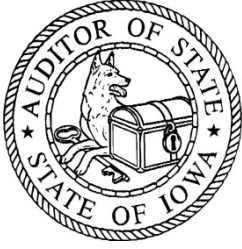
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Silos and Smokestacks National Heritage Area

Board of Trustees

<u>Name</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Term Expires</u>
Glen Keppy	Chair	Jun 2022
Steve Firman	Vice Chair	Jun 2021
Ray Steffens	Secretary	Jun 2022
Gail Carter	Treasurer	Jun 2023
John Frazier	Member	Jun 2021
Jeff Frost	Member	Jun 2021
Jim Hoyt	Member	Jun 2021
Rose Rohr	Member	Jun 2021
Mike Cook	Member	Jun 2022
Kellie Lasack	Member	Jun 2022
Barb Lykins	Member	Jun 2022
Chris Happ Olson	Member	Jun 2022
Kevin Blanshan	Member	Jun 2023
Carolann Jensen	Member	Jun 2023
Terry Johnston	Member	Jun 2023
Paula Mohr	Member	Jun 2023
Emily Staudacher	Member	Jun 2023
Gail Carter	Finance and Human Resources Committee Chair	Jun 2023
Rose Rohr	Partnership Panel Chair	Jun 2021
Cara Miller	Executive Director	Indefinite



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Independent Auditor's Report

To the Board of Trustees of Silos and Smokestacks National Heritage Area:

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of America's Agricultural Industrial Heritage Landscape, Inc., d/b/a Silos and Smokestacks National Heritage Area (Silos and Smokestacks), as of and for the years ended December 31, 2020 and 2019, and the related Notes to Financial Statements, which collectively comprise Silos and Smokestacks' financial statements listed in the table of contents.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles. This includes the design, implementation and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with U.S. generally accepted auditing standards and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to Silos and Smokestacks' preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of Silos and Smokestacks' internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of Silos and Smokestacks as of December 31, 2020 and 2019, and the respective changes in its financial position and its cash flows thereof for the years then ended in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

Other Matters

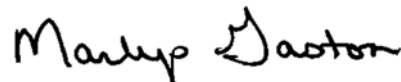
Supplementary Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the financial statements that collectively comprise Silos and Smokestacks' financial statements. The supplementary information included in Schedule 1 is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the financial statements.

The supplementary information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with U.S. generally accepted auditing standards. In our opinion, the supplementary information is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with Government Auditing Standards, we have also issued our report dated August 17, 2021 on our consideration of Silos and Smokestacks' internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of Silo and Smokestacks' internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with Government Auditing Standards in considering Silos and Smokestacks' internal control over financial reporting and compliance.



Marlys K Gaston, CPA
Deputy Auditor of State

August 17, 2021

Silos and Smokestacks National Heritage Area

Financial Statements

Exhibit A

Silos and Smokestacks National Heritage Area

Statements of Net Assets

December 31, 2020 and 2019

	2020	2019
Assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 469,376	553,880
Prepaid expenses	5,637	5,764
Equipment, less accumulated depreciation of \$57,750 in 2020 and \$49,580 in 2019	62,341	16,585
Leasehold Improvements, less accumulated depreciation of \$14,454 in 2020 and \$3,011 in 2019	102,606	114,049
Total assets	\$ 639,960	690,278
Liabilities and Net Assets		
Liabilities:		
Accounts payable	\$ 14,640	40,898
Payroll tax payable	5,224	5,111
Compensated absences	17,033	20,378
Advances from others	177,299	175,704
Total liabilities	214,196	242,091
Net assets:		
Net investment in capital assets	164,946	130,634
Unrestricted	260,818	317,553
Total net assets	425,764	448,187
Total liabilities and net assets	\$ 639,960	690,278

See notes to financial statements.

Silos and Smokestacks National Heritage Area

Statements of Activities

Years ended December 31, 2020 and 2019

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
Public support and revenues:		
Public support:		
Contributions	\$ 133,058	116,333
Federal support	<u>710,273</u>	<u>725,859</u>
Total public support	<u>843,331</u>	<u>842,192</u>
Revenues:		
Conference and workshop income	2,885	4,370
Advertisement sales	1,635	1,094
Miscellaneous	<u>-</u>	<u>84</u>
Total revenues	<u>4,520</u>	<u>5,548</u>
Total public support and revenues	<u>847,851</u>	<u>847,740</u>
Expenses:		
Project	782,129	641,731
Administration	55,294	54,555
Fundraising	<u>32,872</u>	<u>36,893</u>
Total expenses	<u>870,295</u>	<u>733,179</u>
Operating income (loss)	(22,444)	114,561
Non-operating revenue:		
Interest income	<u>21</u>	<u>24</u>
Change in net assets	(22,423)	114,585
Net assets beginning of year	<u>448,187</u>	<u>333,602</u>
Net assets end of year	<u>\$ 425,764</u>	<u>448,187</u>

See notes to financial statements.

Silos and Smokestacks National Heritage Area

Silos and Smokestacks National Heritage Area

Statements of Cash Flows

Years ended December 31, 2020 and 2019

	2020	2019
Cash flows from operating activities:		
Cash received from federal sources	\$ 721,408	710,000
Contributions received	123,518	117,942
Cash received from miscellaneous sources	4,520	5,548
Cash paid for goods and services	(403,883)	(247,148)
Cash paid to employees for services	(476,163)	(475,505)
Net cash provided (used) by operating activities	(30,600)	110,837
Cash flows from capital financing activities:		
Acquisition of equipment	(53,925)	(95,902)
Cash flows from investing activities:		
Interest received	21	24
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents	(84,504)	14,959
Cash and cash equivalents beginning of year	553,880	538,921
Cash and cash equivalents end of the year	\$ 469,376	553,880
Reconciliation of operating income (loss) to net cash provided (used) by operating activities:		
Operating income (loss)	\$ (22,444)	114,561
Adjustments to reconcile operating income (loss) to net cash provided (used) by operating activities:		
Depreciation	19,612	7,493
Changes in assets and liabilities:		
Prepaid expenses	127	(3,133)
Accounts payable	(26,258)	338
Payroll tax payable	113	2
Compensated absences	(3,345)	5,826
Advances from others	1,595	(14,250)
Net cash provided (used) by operating activities	\$ (30,600)	110,837
Non-cash investing, capital and related financing activities:		
Acquisition of capital assets through accounts payable	\$ -	35,203

See notes to financial statements.

Silos and Smokestacks National Heritage Area

Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2020 and 2019

(1) Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

A. Reporting Entity

America's Agricultural Industrial Heritage Landscape, Inc., d/b/a Silos and Smokestacks National Heritage Area (Silos and Smokestacks), was organized in 1991 as a non-profit corporation for charitable and educational purposes. Silos and Smokestacks provides technical assistance, youth education opportunities and grant funding to communities and partner sites in the heritage area. Silos and Smokestacks encompasses a 37-county region in northeast Iowa and is federally designated as a National Heritage Area and operates as an affiliate of the National Park Service. The primary source of public support is a grant from the National Park Service.

Silos and Smokestacks is exempt from tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and a similar section of the Iowa income tax law, which provides tax exemption for corporations organized and operated exclusively for charitable, religious or educational purposes.

B. Basis of Accounting

Basis of accounting refers to when revenues and expenses are recognized in the accounts and reported in the financial statements. Basis of accounting relates to the timing of the measurements made, regardless of the measurement focus applied.

The accompanying financial statements have been prepared on the accrual basis of accounting in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles. Revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded when the liability is incurred.

Purchases of equipment and leasehold improvements providing future benefits are capitalized and depreciated.

C. Basis of Presentation

Net assets and revenues, expenses, gains and losses are classified based on the existence or absence of donor-imposed restrictions. Accordingly, the net assets of Silos and Smokestacks and changes therein are classified and reported as follows:

Net investment in capital assets – Capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation.

Unrestricted net assets – Net assets not subject to donor-imposed stipulations.

Revenues are reported as increases in unrestricted net assets unless use of the related net assets is limited by donor-imposed restrictions. Expenses are reported as decreases in unrestricted net assets. Gains and losses on investments and other assets or liabilities are reported as increases or decreases in unrestricted net assets unless their use is restricted by explicit donor stipulations or by law.

D. Assets, Liabilities and Net Assets

Cash and Cash Equivalents – Silos and Smokestacks considers savings accounts and all other highly liquid investments with a maturity of three months or less when purchased to be cash equivalents.

Capital Assets – Capital assets, which include equipment and leasehold improvements, are stated at cost. Capital assets are defined by Silos and Smokestacks as assets with an initial individual cost of more than \$2,000 and estimated useful lives in excess of one year. Depreciation is computed using the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of 3 to 10 years.

Compensated Absences – Employees accumulate a limited amount of earned but unused vacation benefits payable. Amounts representing the cost of compensated absences are recorded as liabilities and have been computed based on rates of pay in effect at December 31, 2020 and 2019.

Advances from Others – Advances from others represents grant proceeds which have been received by Silos and Smokestacks but will be spent in succeeding years.

(2) Capital Assets

A summary of capital assets is as follows:

	December 31,	
	2020	2019
Equipment	\$ 120,090	66,165
Accumulated depreciation	(57,750)	(49,580)
Equipment, net	\$ 62,340	16,585
Leasehold Improvements	\$ 117,060	117,060
Accumulated depreciation	(14,454)	(3,011)
Leasehold Improvements, net	\$ 102,606	114,049

(3) Employee Benefit Plan

Silos and Smokestacks offers a SIMPLE IRA plan. Under the plan, an employee can defer up to \$13,000 for the years ended December 31, 2020 and 2019 to their SIMPLE IRA. In addition, employees over 50 years of age can defer an additional \$3,000 per year for the years ended December 31, 2020 and 2019 to their SIMPLE IRA. Investments grow tax-deferred, along with employer contributions. Silos and Smokestacks provides a dollar for dollar match for each participating employee's deferral, up to 3% of the employee's compensation. Plan expenses incurred by Silos and Smokestacks during the years ended December 31, 2020 and 2019 were \$10,591 and \$10,398 respectively.

(4) Risk Management

Silos and Smokestacks is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft; damage to and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters. These risks are covered by commercial insurance purchased from independent third parties. Settled claims for these risks have not exceeded commercial insurance coverage in any of the past three fiscal years.

(5) Matching Grant Activity

Through federal legislation passed in 2021 the spending cap for Silos and Smokestacks National Heritage Area is \$17 million cumulative grant funds over the life of the organization.

In 2013, President Obama signed a continuing resolution reinstating Federal funding through September 2014 allowing Silos and Smokestacks to continue its programs. Subsequent legislation changed the date from 2014 to 2021. The current agreement with the NPS continues to require a dollar for dollar match of Federal funds with non-Federal funds. The match can be leveraged by contributing to projects of other organizations and individuals. During the year ended December 31, 2020, federal funds were over 84% of total revenues.

(6) COVID-19

In March 2020, the COVID-19 outbreak was declared a global pandemic. The disruption to businesses across a range of industries in the United States continues to evolve. The full impact to local, regional and national economies, including that of Silos and Smokestacks, remains uncertain.

To date, the outbreak has not created a material disruption to the operations of Silos and Smokestacks. However, the extent of the financial impact of COVID-19 will depend on future developments, including the spread of the virus, duration and timing of the economic recovery. Due to these uncertainties, management cannot reasonably estimate the potential impact to Silos and Smokestacks' operations and finances.

Supplementary Information

Schedule 1

Silos and Smokestacks National Heritage Area

Schedule – Statement of Activities Information

For the years ended December 31, 2020 and 2019

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
Public support and revenues:		
Public support:		
Contributions	\$ 133,058	116,333
Federal support:		
National park service grant	<u>710,273</u>	<u>725,859</u>
Total public support	<u>843,331</u>	<u>842,192</u>
Revenues:		
Conference and workshop income	2,885	4,370
Advertisement sales	1,635	1,094
Miscellaneous	-	84
Total revenues	<u>4,520</u>	<u>5,548</u>
Total public support and revenues	<u>847,851</u>	<u>847,740</u>
Expenses:		
Project:		
Personnel	405,760	410,325
Consultants	141,001	8,400
Grant and loan projects	79,595	45,189
Printing and postage	5,982	8,368
Occupancy	37,149	30,765
Travel, mileage and lodging	5,276	20,644
Meetings and registrations	6,782	18,873
Education and promotion projects	23,664	47,704
Information technology	9,689	3,159
Website maintenance	7,392	7,145
Accounting	9,038	7,392
Depreciation	6,981	5,704
Insurance	7,789	6,484
Dues, memberships and subscriptions	3,849	2,238
Public awareness and promotion	4,555	11,102
Training and education	-	1,547
Legal services	15	152
Materials and supplies	16,034	-
Leasehold depreciation	9,779	-
Repairs and maintenance	1,799	-
Other	-	6,540
Total project expenses	<u>782,129</u>	<u>641,731</u>

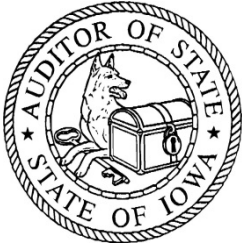
Silos and Smokestacks National Heritage Area

Schedule – Statement of Activities Information

For the years ended December 31, 2020 and 2019

	2020	2019
Administration:		
Personnel	44,538	44,796
Legal services	2	-
Consulting	293	-
Printing and copies	-	95
Public awareness and promotion	1	-
Occupancy	4,591	2,956
Travel, mileage and lodging	18	48
Meetings and registrations	-	10
Information technology	1,081	809
Accounting	1,008	1,894
Depreciation	779	1,462
Insurance	778	1,470
Leasehold depreciation	1,091	-
Dues, memberships and subscriptions	12	20
Training and education	-	123
Materials and supplies	695	-
Postage and shipping	36	-
Repairs and maintenance	201	-
Other	170	872
Total administration expenses	55,294	54,555
Fundraising:		
Personnel	22,632	26,263
Legal services	1	-
Consulting	154	-
Materials and supplies	365	-
Printing and postage	952	565
Public awareness and promotion	1	-
Occupancy	1,910	1,883
Travel, mileage and lodging	383	3,830
Meetings and registrations	50	680
Information technology	567	181
Accounting	529	425
Depreciation	409	328
Insurance	408	329
Dues, memberships and subscriptions	3,745	2,165
Training and education	-	28
Leasehold depreciation	573	-
Repairs and maintenance	105	-
Other	88	216
Total fundraising expenses	32,872	36,893
Total expenses	870,295	733,179
Operating income (loss)	(22,444)	114,561
Non-operating revenue:		
Interest income	21	24
Change in net assets	(22,423)	114,585
Net assets beginning of year	448,187	333,602
Net assets end of year	\$ 425,764	448,187

See accompanying independent auditor's report.



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Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control
over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters
Based on an Audit of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with
Government Auditing Standards

To the Board of Trustees of Silos and Smokestacks National Heritage Area:

We have audited in accordance with U.S. generally accepted auditing standards and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of America's Agricultural Industrial Heritage Landscape, Inc., d/b/a Silos and Smokestacks National Heritage Area (Silos and Smokestacks), as of and for the year ended December 31, 2020, and the related Notes to Financial Statements, which collectively comprise Silos and Smokestacks' financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated August 17, 2021.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered Silos and Smokestacks' internal control over financial reporting to determine the audit procedures appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of Silos and Smokestacks' internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of Silos and Smokestacks' internal control.

A deficiency in internal control exists when the design or operation of the control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent or detect and correct misstatements on a timely basis. A material weakness is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control such that there is a reasonable possibility a material misstatement of Silos and Smokestacks' financial statements will not be prevented or detected and corrected on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is a deficiency or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control which is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses may exist that have not been identified.

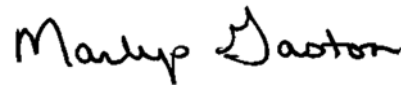
Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether Silos and Smokestacks' financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements, non-compliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and, accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of non-compliance or other matters required to be reported under Government Auditing Standards.

Purpose of this Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of Silos and Smokestacks' internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with Government Auditing Standards in considering Silos and Smokestacks' internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

We would like to acknowledge the many courtesies and assistance extended to us by personnel of Silos and Smokestacks during the course of our audit. Should you have any questions concerning any of the above matters, we shall be pleased to discuss them with you at your convenience.



Marlys K. Gaston, CPA
Deputy Auditor of State

August 17, 2021

Silos and Smokestacks National Heritage Area

Schedule of Findings

Years ended December 31, 2020 and 2019

Findings Related to the Financial Statements:

INTERNAL CONTROL DEFICIENCIES:

No material weaknesses in internal control over financial reporting were noted.

INSTANCES OF NONCOMPLIANCE:

No matters were noted.

Silos and Smokestacks National Heritage Area

Staff

This audit was performed by:

Marlys K. Gaston, CPA, Deputy
Deborah J. Moser, CPA, Manager
April R. Davenport, Staff Auditor
Sarah B. Roemer, Assistant Auditor