

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Property:** Oregon Short Line Passenger Depot

**Address:** 125 So MT St, Dillon, Beaverhead

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** railroad stations           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The Union Pacific Railroad entered Montana Territory via the Utah and Northern narrow gauge branch line in 1880. The newly platted town of Dillon, named for Utah and Northern president Sidney Dillon, stood ready as a stopping point between Utah and the mining town of Butte. By 1907, Dillon's Oregon Short Line Depot was handling \$1,000 a day in passenger and freight traffic. The old depot building, dismantled elsewhere and moved to Dillon in sections in 1880, was inconveniently located, "...dingy, dirty and absolutely unfit..." Dillon businessmen feared its wretched condition might encourage passengers to choose an alternate route. Mayor B. F. White secured the promise of a new depot from Union Pacific officials, thereby assuring the survival of this railroad-dependent town. On New Year's night, 1908, townspeople christened their new depot, declaring it "...a credit to a town ten times the size of Dillon." The Arts and Crafts style brick depot features quoining and banding of cast concrete, multi-paned windows, and wide eaves supported by wooden brackets. Its central presence enhances the architectural character of the community. Rail traffic dwindled in the 1970s and in 1989, the Union Pacific acknowledged the end of an era, transferring its depot keys to Beaverhead County Museum officials. The elegant depot, a splendid example of period railroad architecture, symbolizes Dillon's roots.

**Property:** Dillon City Library

**Address:** 121 S. Idaho, Dillon, Beaverhead

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** libraries (buildings)           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

As early as 1888, the Reverend and Mrs. Sidney Hooker of the Episcopal Church launched a book club, laying the foundation for this impressive public library. A town meeting in 1890 established a library association, and soon contributions of books, time, and money for the "free library" yielded a modest collection. The books were housed in a variety of settings: a Masonic Lodge room, a grocery store, a bank, and finally, in 1894, the parish house of the Episcopal Church. In 1896, the mayor appointed the first library trustees. Among them was Mrs. Hooker, the grandniece of author Harriet Beecher Stowe, who served as chief librarian. By 1901, the library had enlarged to 2,438 volumes and outgrown its parish home. Trustee secretary Reverend Henry Cope applied to the Andrew Carnegie Endowment Fund. A sum of \$7,500 toward the \$8,600 cost of a new building was granted. Distinguished Helena architect C. S. Haire designed the Romanesque Revival structure, completed in 1902. A steep gable, octagonal tower, semicircular arches, and carved faces lend a medieval quality to this dignified library built with such civic pride. One of seventeen Montana libraries constructed with Carnegie funds, the Dillon City Library is a tribute to the townspeople who supported its creation and to those who continue to nurture it.

**Property:** Bannack Historic District

**Address:** , Bannack, Beaverhead

**Historic District:** Bannack Historic District           **Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** historic districts           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Bannack epitomizes the tough, primitive towns that sprang up with gold discoveries. Its story also illustrates a century of survival, through boom and bust periods associated with resource extraction and technological advances. On July 28, 1862, prospectors John White and company made a lucky strike, triggering Montana's first

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

major gold rush. Miners—many from Idaho’s crowded Salmon River diggings—swarmed over the Continental Divide. By spring 1863, Bannack had 3,000 inhabitants. The town saw six vigilante hangings, including that of its infamous sheriff, Henry Plummer. Briefly designated capital of the new Montana Territory in 1864, the first legislature met here in a crude log cabin. While other gold strikes stole Bannack’s initial population, the town rebounded in the 1870s and served as the Beaverhead County seat until 1881. The Masonic Lodge Hall/School (1874), Methodist Church (1877), and the Hotel Meade built as the Beaverhead County courthouse (1875) reflect this period. Evidence of hydraulic, dredge, and hard rock mining interrupt the landscape. Montana’s first quartz claims initiated hard rock mining here in 1862 and stamp mills soon operated alongside placer mining. Changing technologies produced new boom periods and other changes to Bannack. Electrification of the mines in 1930 brought electricity to the town. Despite its varied fortunes, the community held together while local mills operated sporadically until World War II. The State of Montana acquired most of the town in 1954, and a few residents remained until the early 1970s. Bannack features multi-period buildings spanning the primitive 1860s, urbanized 1870s-1880s, and early twentieth century. In 1961, Bannack earned status as a National Historic Landmark.

**Property:** Hotel Metlen

**Address:** 5 South Railroad Avenue, Dillon, Beaverhead

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** hotels (public accommodations)

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

As a ranching and agricultural center and major railroad stop between Butte and the Idaho line, Dillon’s future looked very bright in the late 1890s. The recent invention of the gold dredge and resurgence of gold mining brought added prosperity to the county. With optimistic vigor in 1897, pioneer politician and businessman Joseph Metlen expressed his support of the community and belief in Dillon’s potential with the construction of a \$30,000 sixty-room hotel. Grand in scale and rich in detail, Metlen spared no expense on the three-story Second Empire style building. White quarry-faced sandstone, white brick, a tin-covered mansard roof, and interior finishing of Michigan and Oregon pine reveal the best quality materials. The hotel boasted all the most modern conveniences: call bells in every room, electricity, hot and cold water, and a steam heating system “absolutely free from hammering.” Over 200 distinguished guests attended the formal opening on February 11, 1898, including Governor R. B. Smith and Chief Justice Pemberton. One of Dillon’s three surviving landmarks of the early community, the Metlen Hotel remains an important economic and social fixture, providing similar services for over ninety years.

**Property:** Martin Barrett House

**Address:** 733 S. Pacific, Dillon, Beaverhead

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:** ranches (agricultural complexes)

**Sign Text:**

The Martin Barrett House, built in 1912, was the in-town retirement home of prominent pioneer rancher, politician and philanthropist Martin Barrett and his wife Alice. One of the finest examples of early-twentieth-century architecture in Dillon, the Barrett House combines the grace and symmetry of the Colonial Revival style with the horizontal rooflines of the Prairie style. Born in Ireland, Martin Barrett arrived in Montana Territory in 1863, wisely choosing to make his fortune in the goldfields by raising stock at Horse Prairie. By 1871, he ran 2,000 head of shorthorn cattle on 4,500 acres. He was elected to two terms in the territorial legislature and was the Beaverhead County Stock Commissioner for six years in the early 1900s. He served on the Dillon School Board, but was defeated by his wife, who then served as a board member for the next twenty-two years. Martin Barrett also

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

was a founding member and vice president of the Dillon State Bank. In 1921, he donated \$100,000 towards the construction of a new hospital in Dillon, named for him as its major benefactor.

**Property:** James Reid's Pool Hall

**Address:** 204 N. Center, Hardin, Big Horn

**Historic District:** Hardin Commercial      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** pool halls                      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The elaborate corbelling on the front façade and the parapet above the transom evoke the glory days of this building, which long provided recreation for Hardin residents. German immigrant Anton Becker, owner of the hotel next door, constructed the one-story building in 1910, only three years after Hardin was founded. The town's earliest map shows the building as a dance hall, but by 1911, the brick structure housed the Pioneer Pool Parlor. Popular Hardin barber Matt Larkin shared the space from 1912 to 1918. In 1918, pool hall owner James Reid constructed a forty-foot addition at the back of the building and installed a double bowling alley. In the 1920s, in response to golf's rising popularity, owners installed a nine-hole indoor golf course with a sand green. In later years, the space served as a meat market, grocery store, and then the Pastime Café. The plate glass storefront, glass block transom, and aluminum awnings are later modifications, but the top of the building remains as it was during Hardin's boom years.

**Property:** Chief Plenty Coups Home

**Address:** 1/2 mile west on Edgar Rd, Pryor, Big Horn

**Historic District:**                      **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures                      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Aleek-chea-ahoosh, or "Many Achievements," was a fitting name for the influential Crow chief who was esteemed among his people and honored by both statesmen and presidents. White men called him Plenty Coups for the 80 feathers he wore with earned authority on his coup stick. A veteran warrior and shrewd negotiator, Plenty Coups was also a true, if sometimes critical, patriot and friend to the white man. At the age of ten, Plenty Coups had a dream, which foretold the demise of the buffalo. His tribe realized the poignant truth this vision held and, unlike others, the Crow resignedly "pointed their guns with the white man's." The passing of the buffalo brought irreparable change, and Plenty Coups served as a bridge for his people between the old ways and the new. On the reservation he learned to farm and in 1888 chose this spot to build a home of square hewn logs; in keeping with native custom, the door faces east. Completed in 1906, it was the reservation's only two-story building. Plenty Coups and his wife, Strikes-the-Iron, executed a Deed of Trust, providing that 40 acres of the farm be "set aside as a park and recreation ground for members of the Crow Tribe of Indians and white people jointly...." The government symbolically accepted this gift at a great ceremony in 1928. Plenty Coups died in 1932 at the age of 84. He was the last chief of the Crow Nation, so venerated that his people never named a successor. The designation of Chief Plenty Coups Memorial State Park in 1965 would have been in accordance with his wishes.

**Property:** Schneider Harness and Confectionery

**Address:** 206 N. Center, Hardin, Big Horn

**Historic District:** Hardin Commercial      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings                      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Charles and Rushann Schneider built this two-story brick business block in 1910. Anticipating the arrival of

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

electricity by four years, the Schneiders had their building wired during its construction. The exterior's relative simplicity reflects the styles of the day. Simple brick bands adorn the building's façade, whose main decoration is a denticulated cornice. (The term "denticulated" comes from the Latin word dentil, meaning teeth.) In 1910, the Schneiders lived upstairs. The first floor housed both Charles' harness shop and Rushann's confectionery. The popular Hardin couple celebrated their tenth wedding anniversary in 1913 by inviting all their friends to the store for refreshments. The confectionery, which boasted a soda fountain, proved the more successful and longer lasting of the two businesses. In 1918, only four years after expanding the building, Charles closed his harness shop to help Rushann with the confectionery. Perhaps the growing popularity of tractors and automobiles influenced his decision. Charles died in 1945. The next year, Rushann moved to her daughter's home in Forsyth, closing the successful thirty-six-year business.

**Property:** Francis Kopriva House

**Address:** 416 N. Crawford, Hardin, Big Horn

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

In 1900, John Svaren left his home in Bergen, Norway, to join family in South Dakota. There he learned English before homesteading to North Dakota in 1909. With his bride, Betsy, Svaren arrived in Hardin in 1917 to build a home. He applied his considerable talents as a carpenter to the construction of this one-and-one-half-story Craftsman style bungalow, probably relying on a pattern book for its design. Typical Craftsman elements are the combination of lap and shingle sidings, gabled dormers, wide eaves with exposed rafter ends, low-pitched roof, and high ceilings. To these basic specifications, Svaren tastefully added doors with fine beveled and leaded glass, hardwood floors, wide interior moldings, and an upstairs wall of built-in cupboards. Francis Kopriva bought the property in 1921, and Svaren moved on to build other houses in Hardin, helping the town grow from a "mud-streeted little village" into a vibrant community. Kopriva, co-proprietor of the Hardin Mercantile Company, owned the home until 1937. The late Don Stacey purchased the home in 1989, adding custom-made wooden storm windows and a new roof. Today the well-kept residence, with its beautiful landscaping, reflects the home's picturesque early-twentieth-century charm and reveals the continuing care of its current owner.

**Property:** St. Joseph's Catholic Church

**Address:** 710 North Custer Ave, Hardin, Big Horn

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** churches (buildings)           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Bishop John Brondel founded St. Joseph's Parish in 1902 to serve the varied ethnic groups settling on Butte's south side. Father P. A. Quesnel celebrated the parish's first Mass in a makeshift public hall. In 1907, a combination parish church and school was built on Delaware Street, which served until it was destroyed by fire in 1911. Once again, services were held in a public hall while the present church was under construction. On Christmas Day of 1911, the first Mass was offered in the grand new church, which was dedicated by Bishop John Carroll, the following April. Albert O. Von Verbulis, the Austrian-born architect who designed Helena's famed St. Helena Cathedral, drew the plans for this impressive Greek Revival style building. Ionic columns supporting a full-height entry porch, denticulated cornice, and beautiful stained glass enhance the tall windows and light-colored brick. Today, St. Joseph's Parish maintains its vibrant ethnic diversity, counting many of the original families among its membership.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Property:** Lee Building

**Address:** 10 West 4th St., Hardin, Big Horn

**Historic District:** Hardin Commercial      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Montana created twenty-six counties during its 1910 county-splitting craze. Among them was Big Horn County, carved from portions of Yellowstone and Rosebud Counties in 1913. Private entrepreneurs constructed the new county's first courthouses. In 1913, the county leased offices in the Sullivan Block. In 1918, W. O. Lee won the contract "to furnish 20 rooms for courthouse purposes." To fulfill the contract, he hired Percy Wilcox to construct this \$60,000, two-story building. The Prairie style likely inspired the handsome building's geometric decoration, bands of windows, and horizontal emphasis. Sibley Drug Store and Stockman Bank shared the business block with the county. The bank personalized its interior with mahogany wainscoting, marble trim, and a marble floor. In 1923 the bank closed, a victim of the agricultural depression. That year, the county also moved its offices back to the Sullivan Block. A post office, a clothing store, and a dance hall (on the second floor in the former courtroom) were among the building's later occupants. The Wilson Building sign dates from the 1960s or 1970s, when Judge Robert Wilson owned the property.

**Property:** St. Xavier Mission Church and Rectory

**Address:** PO Box 138, St. Xavier, Big Horn

**Historic District:**      **Building Type:**

**Subject 1:**      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Determined to "Christianize" and "civilize" the Indians, the federal government encouraged churches to establish reservation schools and missions. Government support of Christian missionaries aided the efforts of Jesuit priests who began visiting the Crow reservation in 1880. The Jesuits established a permanent mission here in February 1887. Fathers Peter Prando and Peter Bandini resided in a tent before constructing the first permanent building at St. Xavier, a two-story boarding school staffed by Ursuline nuns (since replaced). Construction of the 1888 wooden Gothic style church and the 1889 rectory soon followed. Money to build the church came from Philadelphia heiress Katherine Drexel, who founded the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament and donated her entire fortune to mission work. An excellent linguist, Father Prando soon translated hymns, Bible stories, and the catechism into Crow. However, the Jesuits saw the school as their best tool for gaining converts—both among the pupils and their parents. Punishments at the school could be harsh, and close-knit Crow families disliked the boarding school system because it took their children away from home. Nevertheless, most parents preferred the mission school to the agency school, and many families established camps nearby in order to see their children as often as possible. The mission served as an orphanage and a hospital in addition to a school; Father Prando particularly was well known as a healer. Today the church operates Pretty Eagle parochial day school and continues to minister to families in the St. Xavier area.

**Property:** Alvin Young Barn and Cabin

**Address:** near Busby, Busby vicinity, Big Horn

**Historic District:** Alvin Young Barn and Cabin      **Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** homesteads      **Subject 2:** battlefield

**Sign Text:**

A potent symbol of the area's contested history, the June 17, 1876, Battle of Rosebud Creek occurred near here. Eight days before the infamous Battle of the Little Bighorn, Crazy Horse's warriors attacked General George Crook's encampment, fatefully delaying Crook's rendezvous with Custer's Seventh Cavalry. Twenty years later,

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

Alvin Young and his brother Charles took out 160-acre homesteads on the battlefield. Alvin steadily increased the size of his holdings. By 1928, he had amassed 970 acres of grazing and agricultural land. With improvements—particularly a massive stone barn and “hall-and parlor” cabin—his property valued at \$9,380 (approximately equivalent to \$100,000 in 2009). Constructed of square-hewn logs, the 16-by-20-foot log cabin is an excellent example of a homesteader’s first dwelling, and its dovetail notching reflects the work of a particularly skilled builder. The cabin was moved to its present location prior to 1920. Faded red painted numbers reveal that Young numbered each log before dismantling the cabin for the move. In contrast to the modest log cabin, the massive stone barn reflects the emphasis ranchers placed on protecting livestock. A local supply of tertiary and red clinker sandstone, and a shortage of timber, made stone the logical choice for the gable-roofed barn. The substantial sandstone barn, constructed c. 1896-1902, exhibits a high level of craftsmanship. So does the red clinker stone loafing shed extension, which provided the stock shelter in harsh weather. Likely they are the work of Frederick Kollmar, Young’s closest neighbor and an experienced German stonemason.

**Property:** Hardin Commercial Historic District

**Address:** Historic District, Hardin, Big Horn

**Historic District:** Hardin Commercial      **Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** historic districts      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Long before fur trappers entered the Bighorn Valley, Crows, Sioux, and Cheyennes vied for the area’s abundant game. In 1876, Sioux and Cheyenne warriors defeated the U.S. Army at the Battle of the Little Bighorn; the following year, the Army established Fort Custer just across the river. After the Chicago, Burlington, and Quincy Railroad laid its tracks into the Crow Indian Reservation in 1894, the tribe faced enormous pressure to open the reservation to homesteaders. In its last and smallest land cession, the Crows relinquished territory south of the Yellowstone River in 1904. To serve the anticipated flood of settlers, the Lincoln Land Company platted Hardin in 1907. Owned by the same men who owned the railroad, the land company founded some three hundred towns across the West. It gave Hardin a variation of its T-town plat, with Center Street forming a T with the tracks. Forty men arrived from Billings to place bids the morning town lots were sold. Edwin Spencer bought the first lot for \$900, where he built a general store and post office. In the 1910s architectural fashion dictated restrained, symmetrical buildings, and solid brick business blocks, some designed by Billings architects, came to dominate Hardin’s commercial district. After World War I, low commodity prices slowed the growth of this agricultural shipping point. However, Hardin continued to serve as Big Horn county seat, a role represented by its 1937 Moderne style courthouse.

**Property:** Kendrick House

**Address:** 206 N. Custer, Hardin, Big Horn

**Historic District:** Hardin Commercial      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** boardinghouses      **Subject 2:** hospitals (buildings for health facility)

**Sign Text:**

Elizabeth and John Kendrick arrived in Hardin in 1914 and soon opened a boarding house downtown. The following year, Elizabeth purchased this lot, hiring Billings architect Charles Bloedel and contractor Ernest Adler to design and build a new boarding house. The modern, brick structure boasted eleven bedrooms, each with hot and cold running water. After her divorce from John in December 1915, Elizabeth relied on the boarding house for her support. Elizabeth moved to Sheridan, Wyoming, in 1917 and sold the Kendrick House for ten thousand dollars. In 1920, tenants included an engineer, musician, mechanic, grocer, rancher, and physician. In 1943, the boarding house was converted into an emergency hospital. The living room became the operating room, and surgical patients recuperated in the parlor. Upstairs rooms housed maternity patients. The hospital only remained open

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

for two years. After completion of the Big Horn County Hospital in 1945, the Kendrick became a boarding house once more. Although a fire destroyed much of the interior in 1990, the elegant foursquare home was lovingly restored to a bed and breakfast, named after the original owners.

**Property:** Haverfield Hospital

**Address:** 520 West Third Street, Hardin, Big Horn

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:**

**Subject 1:**                   **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Orville Snell Haverfield came to Montana in 1909, newly graduated from St. Louis College of Physicians and Surgeons. Haverfield set up practice in Hardin and eventually became county physician, health officer, and coroner. During the early years of his practice, Hardin doctors treated patients in a private residence. Better facilities were needed, however, and Haverfield began construction of a new private hospital. Completed in 1916, the structure demonstrates an institutional form of the Craftsman style that enjoyed great popularity during Hardin's formative years. The cross-shaped building features a horizontal orientation, emphasized by low-pitched gable rooflines, wide eaves with exposed brackets and rafter ends, and bands of windows. The screened porches were enclosed in 1929 to add more rooms, and a modest Bungalow style cottage was moved onto the property in the early 1930s for use as a nurses' residence. At the height of Haverfield's practice in 1918, Hardin suffered a severe influenza epidemic. Haverfield permanently damaged his own health caring for patients and died six years later at the age of thirty-seven. His hospital continued to function, however, and eventually all four of the town's doctors, including Haverfield's brother, practiced here. The hospital served the community until the county hospital was built in 1958.

**Property:** Charles S. Eder House

**Address:** 416 West Third Street, Hardin, Big Horn

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

As Hardin's residential neighborhoods began to take shape during the 1910s and 1920s, the new Craftsman style emerged as a favored design. Its popularity was partly due to the ready availability and low cost of the machine-made, mass-produced materials the style utilized. The Eder House displays the characteristic elements of the Craftsman style: a heavy horizontal emphasis to the composition, projecting shed dormers, a combination of narrow lap siding on the first level with wooden shingling in the gable ends, and a gently pitched roof with overhanging bracketed eaves. A flat-roofed sunroom with rows of six-over-one double hung windows further enhances the Craftsman characteristics. The home's first owner was prominent local businessman Charles S. Eder, who operated a hardware business in town from 1911 to 1950. Charles also owned Hardin's first Ford automobile dealership and helped promote automotive transportation in the young town. In 1913, Charles and his bride, Marie, commissioned local builder Peter Beck to construct a new home. Like many early Hardin builders, Beck probably relied on mail-order plans and ready-made materials for the design. The residence appears today much as it did when the newlyweds moved into their new home in 1914.

**Property:** Burlington Northern Depot

**Address:** 10 East Railway Street, Hardin, Big Horn

**Historic District:** Hardin Commercial           **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** railroad stations                   **Subject 2:**

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

### Sign Text:

Hardin's first railroad depot was moved from Fort Custer after being cut into small sections and transported by train over the Big Horn Bridge. That depot was expanded in 1909, but was deemed inadequate after the homestead boom dramatically increased freight and passenger traffic during the teens. Modeled on Burlington depots in Nebraska, the 1923 depot is a hollow clay tile structure with a brick and stucco veneer. The interior included a general waiting room, men's waiting room, ticket office, and baggage and express room. Segregation was in effect in Hardin, and in addition to men's and women's bathrooms, there was a separate bathroom for Indians. Like other depots, the back of the building (facing the town) is equally as prominent as the building's front (facing the tracks). Declared by the Hardin Tribune to be "one of the best depots" for a city Hardin's size "between the Missouri river and the coast," the building, at an estimated \$100,000 price tag, showed the railroad's faith in Hardin's future.

**Property:** T.E. Gay Building

**Address:** 10 West 3rd St, Hardin, Big Horn

**Historic District:** Hardin Commercial      **Building Type:**

**Subject 1:**                      **Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

On May 4, 1917, Hardin celebrated the "formal opening of the Gay block . . . with a grand ball in the south store room of this magnificent structure." The storage area's hardwood floor was perfect for dancing, and construction of the two-story brick business block merited a celebration. Merchant T. E. Gay had hired the Billings architectural firm of Link and Haire to design the structure, only the second architect-designed building in Hardin. His investment in the \$50,000 business block reflected his confidence in the town's future. In the understated style of the day, Link and Haire ornamented the building with a bracketed cornice, decorative parapet, and a large glass block clerestory that visually separated the first and second floors. Recognizing that many of his customers would be farmers in town for the day, Gay had a "commodious ladies' rest room" included in the plans. Among the five businesses occupying the first floor, Gay's hardware and implement store was by far the largest. Tenants of the second-floor's twenty-two offices included attorneys, physicians, and the Hardin Chamber of Commerce.

**Property:** Big Horn County Courthouse

**Address:** 121 W. 3rd St, Hardin, Big Horn

**Historic District:** Hardin Commercial      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** county courthouses      **Subject 2:** courthouse

### Sign Text:

In the midst of the Great Depression, the federal Works Progress Administration created jobs across the country in an effort to jumpstart the economy. From 1935 to 1937, the WPA spent \$24.6 million in Montana alone, which was matched by \$3.4 million in local contributions. Among the larger projects in 1937 was the Big Horn County Courthouse, designed by Billings architect J. G. Link, whose firm designed eighteen of Montana's fifty-six courthouses. Constructed at a cost of \$150,000, the project put over a hundred men to work. Because regulations stipulated that 90 percent of workers paid with WPA funds had to be on relief, WPA projects often employed unskilled and semi-skilled laborers. Conveniently, the clean lines of the highly fashionable Monumental Deco style used for many WPA projects, including this courthouse, required less skill to build than did other styles. Simple cast concrete elements decorate the courthouse's rose-colored ashlar limestone, quarried forty miles south of Hardin. In addition to the courtroom, the two-and-one-half-story building housed a jail, public auditorium, living quarters for the sheriff, and county offices.



## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Property:** Hotel Becker

**Address:** 200 N. Center, Hardin, Big Horn

**Historic District:** Hardin Commercial      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** saloons (bars)      **Subject 2:** hotels (public accommodations)

**Sign Text:**

German immigrant Anton Becker had great faith in Hardin's future. Becker bought this lot on May 30, 1907, the day town lots went on sale. He soon constructed a two-story brick building, in front of which he installed Hardin's first cement sidewalk. He and his wife, Katie, and their six children lived upstairs; downstairs was Becker's Montana Saloon. In 1917, the Beckers hired Billings architect Curtis Oehme to convert the saloon into a hotel, adding a third story and extending the entire building to the alley. Oehme's design drew attention to the hotel's canted entrance through a square tower decorated with pressed metal, a metal roof, and an ornamental flagpole. According to the Hardin Tribune, the hotel, which cost \$60,000 to build, included "a large lobby on each of the three floors, a barroom, dining room, kitchen and parlor ... [and] thirty-eight handsomely furnished rooms, some of them en suite with private bath." Ghost signs on the west and north walls still advertise rooms for "\$1 up" and "\$1.50 up," respectively. Although Anton died in 1920, the hotel remained in the Becker family until 1954.

**Property:** Adler Storefronts

**Address:** 412 North Custer, Hardin, Big Horn

**Historic District:** Hardin Residential      **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Building contractor Ernest Adler constructed these attached, flat roofed storefronts between 1914 and 1920. A German immigrant, Adler was one of Hardin's most prolific builders. Situated on the edge of the business district, the one-story brick business block housed a plumbing supply store in the north storefront and a sheet metal warehouse and paint and wallpaper store in the south. A car garage, gas station, and electrical supply house later occupied the building's southern portion, as did the Hardin Creamery from 1932 to 1950. The building remained a creamery, manufacturing butter and ice cream until 1960, when Bud and Doris Novark opened Bud's Freezer and Locker Service. Several rear additions (including concrete block apartments) expanded the structure, and the front façade was remodeled in 1984. Nevertheless, elements from the historic period remain. The use of glass block for the transom suggests that Hardin in the 1910s was an up-to-date and forward-looking community. A material originally developed in the early 1900s, glass block was first used in manufacturing plants to brighten up the interior with natural light while providing durability and insulation.

**Property:** Big Horn County Library

**Address:** 419 N. Custer Avenue, Hardin, Big Horn

**Historic District:** Hardin Commercial      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** libraries (buildings)      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Hardin women began raising money for a library in 1909. Numerous fundraisers followed, and in 1912 a hundred-book library opened in the home of Walter and Ella Fearis. After the city passed a mill levy in 1914, Walter Fearis wrote library benefactor Andrew Carnegie to solicit funds for a library building. Fearis argued that farmwomen needed somewhere to go while their husbands conducted business. He also believed a library could keep young men from frequenting the community's saloons. Carnegie's secretary initially refused the request because the young town of Hardin did not appear on his outdated map. Ultimately, however, Carnegie donated \$15,000 on condition that the county provide a building site and \$1,500 in annual support. The county did so, noting that a "Free Library would be a good thing." Architect C. L. Pruett designed the Neoclassical one-and-one-half-story

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

building in accordance with Carnegie guidelines. A 1987 addition expanded the library while shifting the entrance from the west to the south. However, visitors can still distinguish the original hipped-roof structure, welcomed amid much fanfare when it opened its doors in 1919.

**Property:** Hardin Residential Historic District

**Address:** , Hardin, Big Horn

**Historic District:** Hardin Residential      **Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** historic districts      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The Lincoln Land Company, the development arm of the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railroad, purchased Crow Reservation allotments and platted the Hardin townsite on a sage brush flat in 1907. Surveyor Carl Rankin—who later served two terms as the town’s mayor—sold the first lots in May. Buyers immediately ordered construction materials, and within a week, building began. The town took its name from Wyoming cattleman Samuel H. Hardin, who was a friend of the land company’s president. By fall the streets had been graded and the town took shape. Rankin named the streets, choosing numbers and words that began with the letter “C,” like Custer and Crow. He built his own residence on North Crow in this residential district—the second home in Hardin. Others followed suit, including livery owner W. E. Reno and bank founder E. A. Howell. Because there were no trees in sight, boosters billed the neighborhood as “cozy” with “plenty of space on every side to let in the air and sunlight.” The town incorporated in 1911. Dubbed “the City with a Reason” for its agricultural ties and hydroelectric potential, Hardin catered to local farms, including the Campbell Farming Corporation’s huge 95,000-acre wheat operation. Hardin’s residential district includes a church, library, and neighborhood grocery. The district’s importance, however, lies in the small-town rural architecture characteristic of the homestead boom. The well-preserved vernacular cottages and post-1910 Craftsman style bungalows visually reflect the shift from simple dwellings to defined architectural styles. This trend, common throughout the 1910s in the American West, is rarely so evident.

**Property:** Young Brothers Chevrolet Garage

**Address:** 201 Pennsylvania Street, Chinook, Blaine

**Historic District:**      **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** automobile showrooms      **Subject 2:** service stations

**Sign Text:**

A garage/automotive business has served the motoring public at this location since 1912, establishing a long pattern of similar use rarely found in Montana buildings. Although the building was possibly built as a livery stable, it was soon converted to an auto garage, which catered to US 2 travelers and local residents. In 1929, brothers Neil and Hollis Young bought the business, known in the 1920s as the Triple A Garage, and moved their automotive shop here from across the street. The Youngs owned the local Chevrolet dealership, and within five years they had also purchased Pontiac and Oldsmobile franchises, offering Chinook residents a fine choice of General Motors products. Typical of most small-town dealerships, gasoline and petroleum sales supplemented automotive sales and repair. Primarily an outlet for Conoco, the pumps also dispensed Grizzly gas from Cut Bank and Silver gas from Great Falls. In 1939, S. L. Taylor purchased the business and it remained the Taylor Motor Company until 1977. The gas pumps were removed and the franchise closed under owner Mike Tilleman in 1979. Former Tilleman employee Wesley Bevis purchased the facility in the early 1980s and opened his own business, Precision Auto Body, continuing the long tradition of auto service at this location. The building itself is an outstanding example of the Mission style, an architectural form not often found in the Rocky Mountain/Great Plains region. A splendid curvilinear parapet, capped pilasters, horizontal relief banding, and a smooth stucco exterior provide excellent expression of this style; its bold modernity reflects the spirited progressiveness of the early automotive era.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Property:** Lodgepole Community Hall

**Address:** BIA Route 8, Lodgepole, Blaine

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** community centers           **Subject 2:** recreation

**Sign Text:**

The Lodgepole Community Hall was dedicated in November 1936 in a ceremony the Harlem News called an interesting mix of “Indian tribal tradition and modern governmental activity.” In fact, that mix can be seen in the hall itself. Works Progress Administration (WPA) crews built the hall with timber likely logged in the Little Rockies by members of the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC). Both the WPA and CCC were New Deal programs aimed at putting people to work in the midst of the Depression. The hall’s log walls—now concealed by exterior siding—reflected the Rustic style often favored by the WPA. Inside the hall evenly spaced vertical logs line the walls to provide structural stability. An eighteen-foot-ceiling shelters the expansive dance floor, which is also marked out for a basketball court. Bleachers overlook the dance floor and a raised stage sits at one end. The hall’s irregular shape echoes the shape of round halls built on Fort Belknap at the turn of the century. These, in turn, mirrored the temporary arenas Assiniboines created for dances by circling their wagons. In the 1930s, the hall was the site of children’s programs, basketball games, “white dances,” and such feature films as Call of the Rockies and Last of the Mohicans. Such programs nurtured the community by providing opportunities to gather. So, too, did the frequent traditional feasts and dances—including weeklong dances held at Christmastime—that played an essential role in sustaining Assiniboine cultural traditions.

**Property:** Anna Scherlie Homestead Shack

**Address:** MT 241, Turner, Blaine

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** homesteads           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The Enlarged Homestead Act of 1909 brought settlers to Montana and to this area called the Big Flat. Neil J. Scherlie was among the first to file a homestead claim and over the course of four years, three sisters and two brothers made claims nearby. Thirty-two-year-old Anna Scherlie arrived in 1913, becoming part of a long tradition of women homesteaders in Montana. In fact, in the four surrounding townships, women made up about one-fourth of the total homestead applicants. By 1916, Anna had forty acres planted in wheat, oats, and flax. Isolation on the Big Flat led many settlers to winter elsewhere and Anna followed suit. Legend has it that she went to St. Paul to work for the family of railroad magnate James J. Hill. Over the decades, Anna made few changes to her small woodframe shack, adding only a vestibule for use as a summer kitchen, a storage shed, and laundry. Droughts, depression, and two world wars passed. Anna remained here long after her neighbors had build modern homes, insisting that she was “too old for modern conveniences.” The Spartan lifestyle seems to have been Anna’s preference. When she died in 1973, an estate of more than \$100,000 was divided among eighteen nieces and nephews; her ashes were scattered beneath a lilac bush on the property. Leon and Nellie Cederburg purchased the homestead when its seasoned resident moved to Havre in 1968. Rather than return the site to crop land, the Cederbergs maintain the homestead exactly as Anna left it.

**Property:** State Bank of Townsend

**Address:** 400 Broadway, Townsend, Broadwater

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** banks (financial institutions)           **Subject 2:**

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

### Sign Text:

J. P. Kearns came to Townsend from Benton, Wisconsin, in 1899. Business-educated and experienced, Kearns astutely recognized the town's need for a new financial institution and founded the State Bank of Townsend only three months later. The bank was first located at 312 Broadway Street. Then in 1916, plans for a new building were begun. Albert Mooreman and Company of St. Paul, Minnesota, a firm specializing in bank plans and construction, designed the Neo-classical style building. The structure features an imposing entrance in temple motif framed by columns and pilasters with a pediment of colored sandstone. Completed in 1918, its secure and commanding presence came to be especially significant during the hard financial time ahead. Despite drought, depression, and the area's dependency on an agricultural economy so devastated by these circumstances, the State Bank of Townsend managed to survive when many small-town banks did not. J. P. Kearns' cautious loan policies and conservative banking methods provided a solid foundation for long-term success. For almost a century, the State Bank of Townsend has been owned and operated in principal by members of the same family that chartered it, thus setting a record unmatched by any other bank in Montana.

**Property:** St. Joseph's Catholic Mission Church

**Address:** 3497 Hwy 284, Townsend, Broadwater

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** churches (buildings)           **Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

St. Joseph's Catholic Church of Hardin was founded by Jesuit missionaries to the Crow Indians. Fr. Thomas Grant of St. Francis Xavier's Mission purchased three town lots for \$425 in 1908. The Jesuits constructed a plain, gable-front wooden building at the corner of Custer and Fourth, where each month one of the Fathers would come to say mass. In 1913, Fr. Grant paid \$1,000 for a block of land on which to build a permanent church. Under canon law, only masonry churches—which were expected to hold at least 250 parishioners—could be consecrated as permanent structures. St. Xavier Mission Superior Father Louis Taelman estimated in 1916 that such a church would cost \$6,000 to build. Post-World War I inflation and design changes brought the building's final cost to between \$15,000 and \$20,000. To help fund construction, the parish sold the temporary church in 1917. While Omaha contractor J. W. Russell began work on the new church in spring 1919, Fr. Taelman held services in the downtown Sullivan Block. Fr. Taelman held the first mass in the new church on Christmas Day 1919. The church basement served as both rectory and parish hall. Although the interior was remodeled in 1938, the exterior retains the classic Gothic Revival elements that Hardin's early congregations favored for their churches. In St. Joseph's case, these include a steeply pitched roof, pointed windows, simple tracery, a tall tower with an octagonal steeple, brick buttresses, and a raised concrete foundation tooled to look like stone.

**Property:** Toston Bridge

**Address:** Abandoned segment of Old US Route 287, Toston, Broadwater

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** bridges (built works)           **Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

Norwegian immigrant Tom Toston established a ranch and ferry near here in 1871. Strategically located at the junction of the Helena-Gallatin Valley Road and the road to Radersburg, a settlement quickly grew up around Toston's ranch. Soon the town boasted a post office, mercantile, hotel, and a smelter to process ore from the Radersburg mines. A bridge replaced Toston's ferry in the 1890s, but by the 1910s it had become unsafe. Local residents petitioned the Broadwater County commissioners to replace it. State Highway Department engineer Charles A. Kyle developed a riveted steel Warren through truss design for this Missouri River crossing in 1918. Inexpensive to build and known for its durability, the "W" configuration of the trusses is its trademark. In July

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

1919, the county commissioners awarded a contract to the Billings-based Security Bridge Company, a firm known for its high quality work. The company employed eleven men on the project, many of them local. Among these was long-time Toston resident William Lorentz. A native of Pennsylvania, Lorentz came to Toston in 1884 working for the Northern Pacific Railway. A carpenter by trade, he also served as the last superintendent of the Toston smelter and helped build bridges for the Montana Railroad Company. Completed in July 1920, the Toston Bridge became an integral part of the community because of its location on the highway between Helena and Bozeman. During the 1920s, teenage girls would parade across the bridge on summer evenings for lack of something better to do. The highway bypassed Toston and the bridge in 1955.

**Property:** Stone Hill Prehistoric District

**Address:** , , Broadwater

**Historic District:** Stone Hill Prehistoric District **Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** historic districts

**Subject 2:** pre-contact archaeology

**Sign Text:**

Numerous archaeological sites scattered over 2,000 unspoiled acres form a cohesive unit that together illustrate subsistence activities of Native people before contact with Euro-Americans. For the earliest people and tribes who later utilized the area, this landscape furnished amenities critical to survival. Its fresh-water springs and plentiful grasses attracted humans and wildlife. Its natural landscape also facilitated the hunting and processing of large numbers of bison. Before acquisition of the horse circa 1750, cliff-jumps and impoundments were typical means of procuring bison. The district includes a cliff jump, adjacent steep-sided impoundment area, extensive processing site, and a prominent ridge system providing overviews of the terrain and bison loafing area. Two converging drive lines of more than 300 strategically placed rock piles, or cairns, facilitated funneling bison over the cliff or into the impoundment area. Larger cairns positioned on knolls and a rock-walled blind on the ridge may have aided the hunt. A stone-lined pit likely functioned as an eagle catch and/or vision quest site. More than fifty stone rings, or circles, grouped into three major concentrations, indicate places where tipis were erected. Charcoal from the hearths in the processing area yield environmental clues about life in earlier eras. Maple, chokecherry, and willow—not found in the area today—along with juniper, provided nutrition, medicine, and building materials. The earliest discovered artifacts at Stone Hill date to 1500 B.C., but most span a period of use from A.D. 1167-1800. The district's pristine foothill terrain and remarkable human-made features afford a rare opportunity to better understand the lifeway of the first Montanans.

**Property:** Red Lodge Commercial Historic District

**Address:** Historic District, Red Lodge, Carbon

**Historic District:** Red Lodge Commercial **Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** historic districts

**Subject 2:** mining towns

**Sign Text:**

Rapid growth of the young town of Red Lodge coincided with the arrival of the Northern Pacific Railroad's branch line in 1889. The area became Montana's leading coal mining region. Town lots were platted by the secretary of the Rocky Fork Town and Electric Company, a subsidiary of the mining company, in turn owned by the railroad. By the mid-1890s, businesses had moved from the old town site, and Red Lodge's commercial center developed rapidly. Although half of Red Lodge's population was foreign-born, buildings erected between 1895 and 1936 generally reflect American trends rather than traditions of the various ethnic groups. Fraternal organizations, doctors' offices, ethnic clubs, bawdy houses, and hotels occupied the upper floors of downtown buildings. As miners poured into Red Lodge, some slept in shifts at the hotels until other housing became available. The town

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

reeled from the closing of the last coal mine in 1932, but within four years the Beartooth Scenic Highway began to reveal Red Lodge to tourists, and a new era of development began.

**Property:** Robbins / Wiggenghorn House

**Address:** 602 N Hauser, Red Lodge, Carbon

**Historic District:** Hi-Bug **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

A steep-roofed gable-front cottage with a wraparound porch stood on this lot by 1901. Sometime before 1907 Rose Robbins—who owned the one-and-one-half-story home along with many other lots in the neighborhood—expanded the residence, adding a rear addition with a second porch. According to the 1907 city directory, Rose’s children—teacher Eva and her two younger brothers, both still in school—lived here. Rose’s official address was a nearby homestead. Their father, the secretary treasurer of the Carbon Mercantile Company, lived around the corner on Word. In 1913, Rose sold the home to attorney R. G. Wiggenghorn and his wife Maud who in turn sold it to druggist Edgar Allen in 1921. Sometime after 1940, owners removed the wraparound porch, replacing it with a Craftsman style entryway. The new porch featured a fascia board shaped into three arches with solid knee braces flanking the door, a stylistic element popular in Red Lodge in the early 1940s. A Victorian-style hairpin fence, manufactured by Stewart Iron Works in Cincinnati, separates the residence from the street, providing the home symbolic protection from the outside world.

**Property:** Chapman House

**Address:** 715 North Hauser, Red Lodge, Carbon

**Historic District:** Red Lodge Hi Bug **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Forty-five guests enjoyed a sumptuous dinner and housewarming at the home of John and Alpha Chapman on November 12, 1903. Begun in 1902, completion of the residence was delayed when contractor Walter S. Smith suffered a serious fall from the porch scaffolding in May 1903. Seth Hunnywell, the architect who played a major role in shaping the local streetscapes, adapted the patternbook plans according to Mrs. Chapman’s specifications. The Red Lodge Picket declared the five-bedroom home “pretentious,” especially since the Chapmans had no children. John and Alpha Chapman ran a large cattle business as equal partners and adopted Red Lodge as their headquarters in 1892. Chapman later entered the banking business, serving as president of the Meyer and Chapman State Bank from 1912 until his death in 1934. The Chapmans always closed the house during the winter months and lived above the bank. The gracious Queen Anne style residence with its intersecting gables, graceful veranda, ornate leaded glass, and classical details was long the center of Red Lodge society.

**Property:** McDowell House

**Address:** 606 N. Hauser Ave, Red Lodge, Carbon

**Historic District:** Hi Bug **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The sloping roof of this one-and-one-half-story house once shaded an open porch. The curved roofline and shed dormer add Craftsman style elegance to the home, constructed on a double lot after 1907. The interior also reflected Craftsman ideals with space-saving built-in bookshelves and a living room fireplace, a symbolic focal point for domestic life. Dentist Elmer McDowell and his wife lived in the side-gabled residence by 1912. Both Mr. and Mrs. McDowell enthusiastically participated in Red Lodge's genteel society. He was a member of the Masons

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

and contributed money for the new Elks Lodge. She was an officer in the Eastern Star and took an active role in the Red Lodge Woman's Club. That organization helped establish the public library and encouraged the study of literature and music. Members took turns holding the weekly club meetings in their homes, and Mrs. McDowell hosted an "interesting and instructive" program for the club's musical department here in February 1914.

**Property:** Bearcreek Bank

**Address:** Main and 2nd Streets, Bearcreek, Carbon

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** banks (financial institutions)           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

A coal-mining town established in 1905, Bearcreek developed quickly, and after just one year the town boasted telephones, city water, and electric streetlights. Bert Vaill, a cashier with the Carbon County Bank of Red Lodge, purchased this lot from the townsite company for \$800, and in 1906 he hired John Russell to construct a one-story Romanesque style bank from native sandstone quarried just north of town. Symbolizing Vaill's faith in Bearcreek's future, the bank's thick stone walls were also meant to assure customers that their money was safe from theft and bank failure, a tenuous assumption in the days before Federal Deposit Insurance. Part of a vibrant commercial district, the bank—owned for a time by Butte copper magnate William A. Clark—played a significant role in Bearcreek's development through loans and investments. It also provided currency exchange for the community's immigrant miners. When the International Coal Company defaulted on a \$170,000 loan in 1921, the bank went into receivership. Former mine foreman Tom Frasure purchased the property and reopened the bank under the name Miner's State Bank in 1922. In 1928 it, too, closed. The building then housed a restaurant until 1943. That year an explosion at the Smith Mine killed 74 miners. The disaster started an exodus from Bearcreek, causing the restaurant and many other businesses to close. Used for storage, the building was rehabilitated in 1967 for use as the Bearcreek City Hall, a function it has served ever since.

**Property:** Alderson House

**Address:** 313 N Hauser, Red Lodge, Carbon

**Historic District:** Hi Bug **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:** boardinghouses

**Sign Text:**

Over a quarter of the houses in the elite "Hi Bug" neighborhood were built between 1900 and 1901, including this one-and-one-half-story home, erected as a real estate investment by Red Lodge merchant Walter R. Hall and his wife Louisa. After leasing it briefly, Red Lodge Picket owner and editor Walter Alderson and his wife Anna purchased the home, where they lived for twenty-four years. Sometime before 1907 they added an open front porch. Upwind from the coal mines and separated from the railroad depot by the city's first park, the Aldersons raised three children here. When Walter died in 1924 following a long illness, Anna lost the property. J. F. Montgomery, owner of the Golden Rule Store, purchased the residence in a sheriff's sale in 1925. In the 1930s local contractor Leo Ranta was likely hired to update the house by enclosing the front porch and adding distinctive Craftsman style detailing. The tri-arched fascia over the sun porch and front door is a Ranta hallmark. Though rare in this neighborhood, the design elements are found on homes throughout Red Lodge.

**Property:** Bearcreek Cemetery

**Address:** 1 mile west of Bearcreek, Bearcreek, Carbon

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** site

**Subject 1:** cemeteries           **Subject 2:**

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

### Sign Text:

A large red granite monument commemorates the 75 miners who died in the 1943 explosion at the Smith Mine. The United Mine Workers of America installed this memorial in 1947 to memorialize Montana's worst coal mining disaster. Twenty-two of the Smith Mine's victims are buried here in family plots. The death date—February 27, 1943—carved onto their grave markers recalls the tragedy. Other headstones express other, individual losses. Of the 473 people buried here, 107 are children, including the first person interred in the cemetery in 1909, six-year-old Helen Markovich. Marble tombstones decorated with carved lambs and other tokens of innocence mark many of the children's graves. They communicate parents' great grief, while also suggesting the toll poverty, infant mortality, and childhood diseases historically took on families. Grouped in the cemetery's southeastern corner are headstones marked with Cyrillic lettering, many displaying photographs, burned into porcelain to produce a permanent image of the deceased. These markers reflect the Eastern European roots of many Bearcreek miners and their families. At the community's height, in 1920, a third of its residents were immigrants while another third were the children of immigrants. Headstones marked with Croatian, Montenegrin, Slavic, Italian, Scottish, German, Finnish, French, and English surnames attest to Bearcreek's ethnic diversity. After the Smith Mine disaster, Bearcreek became a near ghost town as many residents departed, fleeing bad memories. They left behind this simple rural cemetery, whose sandstone, granite, and marble headstones provide mute testimony to Bearcreek's coal mining heritage and to the people buried here.

**Property:** B.P.O.E. Lodge #534

**Address:** 112 N Broadway, Red Lodge, Carbon

**Historic District:** Red Lodge Commercial **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** fraternal lodges

**Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

Americans organized much of their social life around fraternal groups at the turn of the twentieth century. The Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks provided an important social and charitable outlet for Red Lodge's professionals, who circulated the charter petition in 1899 and established the Beartooth Lodge in 1900. By 1914, membership had grown from the original 40 members to over 160, and the organization needed "larger and more commodious" quarters than its rented rooms. The Elks raised building funds through membership dues, donations, concerts, and vaudeville-style performances. Billings architect C. C. Oehme designed the Elks Lodge in the "bungalow style." Stucco and cobblestones adorn the exterior, which at one time also featured a parapet along the roofline. The thoughtfully designed interior included a first-floor lodge hall, pool hall, card room, and bar. The basement included a banquet hall, kitchen, washroom, and coal room. The Red Lodge Picket declared the handsome building's grand opening on December 18, 1914, "a big hit," predicting that the Elks' new lodge would "become the most popular social place in the city."

**Property:** W.R. Hall Building

**Address:** 113 South Broadway, Red Lodge, Carbon

**Historic District:** Red Lodge Commercial **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings

**Subject 2:** fraternal lodges

### Sign Text:

This fine example of masonry architecture, with its unusually preserved storefront and recessed entry, appears almost as it did in 1900 when Walter Hall opened his first-floor grocery. Sandstone banding, corbelled arches, and original stained glass lend elegance to the simple façade. The second floor, connected to the building next door, functioned as a lodge hall used by various organizations, including the Red Lodge Labor Union and the I.O.O.F. In 1909, the ground floor housed the fashionable New York Store, and from 1910 to 1918 saloons occupied the



## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

commercial space. During Prohibition the ground floor served a more sedate clientele as a soft drink and ice cream parlor.

**Property:** The Rocky Fork and Cooke City Railway Depot

**Address:** 11 West 8th Street, Red Lodge, Carbon

**Historic District:** Red Lodge Commercial **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** railroad stations

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Coal was discovered in the upper Rock Creek Valley in 1866. The Rocky Fork Development Company purchased the mines in 1887 and actively lobbied the Northern Pacific Railway for a branch line to carry the coal to markets throughout Montana. In 1889, the Rocky Fork and Cooke City Railway reached Red Lodge, causing a boom in the population and fortunes of the new community. The Northern Pacific formally acquired the line in 1890 and abandoned it after World War II. Built in 1889 and expanded in 1904, this classic Craftsman style depot provided, for many, their first glimpse of Red Lodge and the Beartooth Mountains. The flared eaves, eave brackets, shiplap siding, and irregular configuration of the building were hallmarks of Northern Pacific depots along the railroad's main and branch lines. At one time, this building sported a second floor which served as the living quarters for the railroad's agent in Red Lodge. Since 1982, the old depot has been the home of the Carbon County Arts Guild.

**Property:** Rock Creek State Bank

**Address:** Main Street, Joliet, Carbon

**Historic District:** **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** banks (financial institutions)

**Subject 2:** fraternal lodges

**Sign Text:**

The Bank of Joliet opened in 1904 and began planning construction of this stately one-story building soon after. By the time the \$8,000 building was completed in 1907, the bank had new owners and a new name. Built on Joliet's most visible corner, the bank's canted entrance welcomed passersby from both directions. Its design, according to the 1907 Joliet Journal, represented "both beauty and strength, thus adding materially to the appearance of ... our rapidly-growing little city." The symmetrical façade and use of stone and brick exemplified small-town bank design, which endeavored to relieve depositors' fears of losing their savings to theft, fire, or bank failure by conveying the impression of permanence and stability. When drought and low commodity prices shattered the homestead economy in the 1920s, however, over half of Montana's banks closed, including Rock Creek State Bank in 1923. Three years later, Lodge #77 of the International Order of Odd Fellows purchased the bank for \$2,750 and six months' back taxes. A fraternal organization, the Odd Fellows advocated love, friendship, and truth while offering fellowship and a social safety net for its members. Lodges paid members sick benefits and funeral expenses, contributed to a statewide retirement home, and supported local and national charities. The Odd Fellows and their sister organization, La Cuesta Rebekah Lodge #56, shared the building until 1979, when the Odd Fellows Lodge disbanded and sold the building to the Rebekahs for \$10. The Rebekahs still meet here—continuing the longstanding tradition of Odd Fellowship in Joliet.

**Property:** Camp Senia Historic District

**Address:** Custer Nat'l Forest; 16 Miles South of Red Lodge, Red Lodge, Carbon

**Historic District:** Camp Senia Historic District **Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** camp sites (recreation spaces)

**Subject 2:** historic districts

**Sign Text:**

As a teenager, Alfred Croonquist guided fishing trips and dreamed of a place where eastern visitors could enjoy Montana's bounty. In 1919, the first building on the banks of the West Fork of Rock Creek was completed. Camp

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

Senia, named for Alfred's wife, was the first, and is now the only intact survivor, of four dude ranches and fishing camps in the Beartooth Mountains. Forty-five dollars a week included plenty of good food and a horse. Visitors were instructed to bring "western togs" and hang their "city clothes on the hitching post." With the help of friends, Alfred added nineteen buildings over the next decade that reveal sophistication and skill in the use of native materials. The summer of 1929 marked a record-breaking tourist year in the West, but the Great Depression brought an end to dude ranching at Camp Senia in the 1930s. Alfred, an organizer of the Dude Ranchers Association and an active conservationist, did much to pioneer tourism in Montana and Carbon County. Today the Western Rustic style cabins of lodge pole pine and native river cobble stand as a reminder of the Croonquists' foresight, surrounded by the forest wilderness they both loved.

**Property:** Joliet Christian Church

**Address:** 101 South 1st Street, Joliet, Carbon

**Historic District:** Joliet Residential      **Building Type:**

**Subject 1:**                      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

"Chief shepherd"" Walter Jordan and ""singing evangelist" Lucile Park preached to a packed house at an October 1908 revival meeting, held above the meat market on Joliet's Main Street. Forty-five charter members joined together to found the Joliet Christian Church that night, including high school principal and ordained Christian minister Oliver Shanklin, who served as the congregation's first pastor. Shanklin led services at the Opera House while women members of the Christian Workers took the lead in raising money for a permanent sanctuary. Proceeds from events like their Election Day luncheon, soon a Joliet tradition, combined with contributions from more established Christian Churches to provide the needed funds. Local carpenter Charles Hemery and his son Raymond designed the vernacular building and, assisted by many community volunteers, completed the wood-frame church in time for a June 2, 1909, dedication service. Precise attention to detail reflects the care paid during construction. The gable-roofed church, ornamented by Palladian windows, features a flared-roof belfry. A growing congregation supported remodeling of the basement in 1956, but the church's exterior still looks much as it did in 1909."

**Property:** A.H. Davis Jewelry Store

**Address:** 16 N. Broadway, Red Lodge, Carbon

**Historic District:** Red Lodge Commercial **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

This distinctive two-story brick building designed by W. H. Perham of Butte enlivens the district's architectural landscape. Red Lodge jeweler Allen H. Davis opened his well-equipped new shop here in the original one-story building in 1902. Expansion in 1906 added the second floor with its false-front, sheet metal cornice and wood-paneled oriel windows. The lovely bays, through common in vernacular western architecture, are the town's only example of this detail. The tin ceiling that graced the interior of Davis' shop remains today.

**Property:** Iarussi Building

**Address:** 6 South Broadway, Red Lodge, Carbon

**Historic District:** Red Lodge Commercial **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings      **Subject 2:** saloons (bars)

**Sign Text:**

In the 1920s Italian shoemaker Ludovico Iarussi (later changed to Jarussi) owned this property containing his shop

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

and several frame commercial buildings. In 1929, Larussi razed the older shops and constructed the present building. Financially disabled in the stock market crash later that year, Larussi was unable to afford occupancy himself. He leased part of the commercial space and sold the remainder. The Yugoslavian families of Yelich and then Thiel ran a saloon in the north portion until 1985, while various businesses occupied the additional space. Polychromatic brickwork, a recessed double entry, original transom glass, and intact commercial glazing form a superior example of 1920s vintage architecture.

**Property:** Montana Bakery

**Address:** 110 S Broadway, Red Lodge, Carbon

**Historic District:** Red Lodge Commercial **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

These two turn-of-the-twentieth-century wood-frame commercial buildings with a tiny shop sandwiched in between today share one façade. In 1900, Biagio Sconfienza opened a bakery in the one-story building. In 1903, as the business prospered, Biagio purchased the two-story building, formerly a plumbing shop, as a rental property. He then built the diminutive shop between the two buildings, which originally displayed C. Cottino's terra cotta and then housed Filomino's Tin Shop. For many years, the Sconfienza family tempted passersby with Italian delicacies displayed in their bakery storefront. Four ovens and a two-story bake house added to the back between 1901 and 1927 provide a unique construction history chronicling the Montana Bakery's long-term success. The Italian bakery tradition continued from 1938 to 1947, under the ownership of Steve and Verna Buffo, who renamed the business Treasure State Bakery.

**Property:** Sichler-Davis House

**Address:** 401 N Hauser, Red Lodge, Carbon

**Historic District:** Hi Bug **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

A prestigious corner site contributes much to the elegance of this Queen Anne style cottage, built by rancher and businessman Louis Sichler in 1902. The steep and asymmetrical roofline, projecting gables, and two-storied bay epitomize the Queen Anne style. Between 1907 and 1912, second owner A. H. Davis, a prominent local jeweler, added the Classical Revival style porch with its Tuscan Columns and upper balustrade. Such classical details, popular in Red Lodge during this period, today architecturally unify the neighborhood.

**Property:** Lovering House

**Address:** Address

301 South Park Street, Joliet, Carbon

**Historic District:** Joliet Residential

**Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

With its gambrel roof, multiple dormers, shingle siding, and semicircular arches in the gable ends, this prominent Shingle style residence stands out among Joliet's more modest homes. When Guy and Cora Lovering purchased the house in 1907, it was one story without a front porch. They lived here with Cora's parents and brother in 1910, and before their only child Gladys was born in 1911, they decided to expand. They hired an efficient contractor, whose crew "tore the old roof completely away, put down an upstairs floor, raised the roof joist, sheeted and covered the new roof all the same day." The remodel included the addition of a wraparound front porch (now enclosed) with an oblique corner entrance. Guy Lovering and his uncle built Joliet's first brick business

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

block in 1902, from which they operated a general store. During the agricultural depression of the 1920s, Lovering became known for his generosity in extending credit. Guy died in 1937 and Cora in 1953, but daughter Gladys and her husband Virgil Dowell resided here into the 1980s. Behind the home stands a barn, a reminder of earlier days.

**Property:** Carbon County Hospital and Sanitarium

**Address:** 206 N Broadway, Red Lodge, Carbon

**Historic District:** Red Lodge Commercial **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** hospitals (buildings for health facility)      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

When prominent local physician and surgeon Dr. Samuel Souders built this magnificent hospital in 1909, it was considered "state-of-the-art." Amenities included a central heating system, wide doorways and hallways, an elevator, and private telephones in patients' rooms. The operating room featured white enameled walls and a white marble tile floor, then considered the best surfaces for sterilization. The Craftsman style facility follows a domestic floorplan common in period hospital construction and could accommodate thirty to fifty patients. Although a large classical style front porch, balcony, and covered ambulance entrance were removed in the 1940s, the splendid building endures as a significant element of the district.

**Property:** The Iris Theater

**Address:** 7 South Broadway, Red Lodge, Carbon

**Historic District:** Red Lodge Commercial **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** theaters (buildings)      **Subject 2:** theaters (buildings)

**Sign Text:**

Originally intended as a meeting hall with storefront space, tenants Byton Down and Robert Pryde redesigned the building's ground floor before its completion for use as a theater. When the Iris opened in 1925, residents viewed it as welcome competition since ownership of Red Lodge theaters had previously been monopolized by one family. The Slavonian National Protective Society used the upper floor meeting hall while the front section held an apartment. Sound equipment was added in 1929 and the Iris, later the Park Theater, operated until 1961. Distinctive brickwork in red and buff and the 1930s marquee distinguish this Red Lodge landmark.

**Property:** Montana Bakery

**Address:** 110 South Broadway, Red Lodge, Carbon

**Historic District:** Red Lodge Commercial **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

These two turn-of-the-twentieth-century wood-frame commercial buildings with a tiny shop sandwiched in between today share one façade. In 1900, Biagio Sconfienza opened a bakery in the one-story building. In 1903, as the business prospered, Biagio purchased the two-story building, formerly a plumbing shop, as a rental property. He then built the diminutive shop between the two buildings, which originally displayed C. Cottino's terra cotta and then housed Filomino's Tin Shop. For many years, the Sconfienza family tempted passersby with Italian delicacies displayed in their bakery storefront. Four ovens and a two-story bake house added to the back between 1901 and 1927 provide a unique construction history chronicling the Montana Bakery's long-term success. The Italian bakery tradition continued from 1938 to 1947, under the ownership of Steve and Verna Buffo, who renamed the business Treasure State Bakery.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Property:** Norther Pacific Railroad Depot

**Address:** 101 East River, Fromberg, Carbon

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** depots                   **Subject 2:** railroad

**Sign Text:**

The Gebo Mine, founded in the Clarks Fork Valley in the late 1890s, brought the tracks of the Northern Pacific to this area. The railroad, however, bypassed the coal mine and the town of Gebo that flourished near it because of difficult accessibility. A spur line to the mine was constructed in 1898, and by early 1899, a small wood-frame depot stood ready north of where the Gebo spur left the main tracks. The railroad named the station "Fromberg" after Northern Pacific stockholder Conrad Fromberg, and it immediately provided local ranchers with a link to distant markets. William Swallow recognized that his land near the depot offered potential for a new townsite. The original six-block townsite of Fromberg was platted in "T-town" form, with the main street perpendicular to the tracks. The depot, constructed by the railroad from standardized plans for "fourth class combination stations," originally included a ticket office and waiting room on one end, freight room on the other end, and central living quarters for the agent. Remodeling in 1909 expanded the waiting area into the central apartment, and clapboard siding was applied over the board-and-batten walls. The depot served passengers and freight until 1970. Later moved seventy-five feet to its present location, the building today is the only remaining Northern Pacific depot along the historic Clarks Fork branch line and the last railroad building in Fromberg. In its new function as the Clarks Fork Valley Museum, this railroad veteran is an appropriate ambassador of the region's rich history and a significant reflection of Fromberg's roots.

**Property:** Frank Church Building

**Address:** 22 N Broadway, Roscoe, Carbon

**Historic District:** Red Lodge Commercial **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** hospitals (buildings for health facility)           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Local rancher Frank Church purchased this property as an investment in 1905. Its history is intertwined with the community's early medical needs. W. A. Talmage constructed the building in 1906 as the Carbon County Hospital and Sanitarium under Dr. S. M. Souders. It was the county's first modern medical facility offering trained nurses, steam heat, x-rays, and electric and thermal treatments. Dr. Souders moved to a larger hospital in 1909 and throughout the 1910s the upper floor of this building housed the private hospital of Dr. Edwin Adams, longtime Red Lodge physician and local civic leader. By 1912, undertaker R. B. Mooney occupied the ground floor advertising "prompt and careful attention" to out-of-town calls. R. G. Martin later operated his undertaking business here until 1920. By 1927, a millinery shop had replaced the funeral parlor. The Western Commercial style building features locally produced concrete blocks, which form a rusticated pattern. The ground-floor retains its original wood-framed storefront, recessed entry, and separate doorway accessing the second story. Original window placements and decorative cornice make this a wonderful example of sensitive rehabilitation.

**Property:** Samuel and Jennie Greenblatt Residence

**Address:** 411 E River St, Fromberg, Carbon

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Jewish merchant Samuel Greenblatt moved to Fromberg from Gebo in 1900. An immigrant from Russia, Greenblatt built the town's first commercial building. Two years later he married Jennie Hetch of Chicago at Temple Emanu-El in Helena. Greenblatt built his "cash only" mercantile at a time when store credit was the norm.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

Although the couple and their two daughters moved to Denver in 1909, they returned to Fromberg at the peak of its prosperity in 1911 and built this Colonial Revival home. Local carpenter W. C. Parker constructed the “modern” residence, promising it “would be one of the best buildings in town.” A skilled craftsman, Parker distinguished the home with a half-story “great room” and ornamental woodwork; the gambrel roof, a hallmark of Parker’s, featured a tri-foil window in the front gambrel. The home was built in front of a 1905 two-story wooden barn that Greenblatt used to store hay for his horse. As a pioneering businessman, Samuel considered himself a “square dealing merchant” who operated “with justice to all; special favors to none.” His store offered clothing, fabric, and furniture; he also sold sugar, lard, and other groceries. Grenblatt bought hides and pelts as well as old rubber, copper, and brass. Despite his enterprising nature, the mercantile failed in 1913 and the family moved to Billings. Coal company owner W. E. Pinkney purchased the home in 1914, but then sold it in the 1920s to Martin and Bertha Halpin of Fromberg Pressed Brick and Tile.

**Property:** Raymond Hough House

**Address:** 312 S. Second, Bridger, Carbon

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Raymond Hough, one of six entrepreneurial brothers who settled in this area, came to “String Town” in 1900. Mining, ranching, banking, and business ventures accorded the Houghs prominence in the community. Raymond served as bookkeeper and later as both manager and secretary of the Bridger Coal Mine under brother George, president of the mine. Raymond resigned in 1909 to pursue other business interests and opened a grocery store in 1912. Raymond and his wife, the former Bertha Barlow, built this residence in 1910. The Bridger Times predicted that the home would be a “handsome building,” and indeed it was the most refined residence in the community. Two polygonal bays and a spacious clipped-corner porch with Doric columns highlight the combination Queen Anne/Colonial Revival style home. Untouched by alterations or additions, this beautiful residence retains its original irregular shape. Between 1914 and 1916, the Hough brothers suffered financial misfortune. George, Clint, and Guy filed bankruptcy, Bodley joined the army, and banker William, accused of forgery and grand larceny, allegedly escaped to Mexico with \$34,000. Though Raymond fared better than some of his brothers, foreclosure of his grocery business in 1915 prompted a move to Cody. This fine home remains today, illustrating the Houghs’ former importance in the founding of this small community.

**Property:** Talmage House

**Address:** 716 North Hauser, Red Lodge, Carbon

**Historic District:** Hi Bug **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

W. A. Talmage arrived in Red Lodge in 1888 to manage a branch of a Billings mercantile. By 1894, the ambitious businessman owned his own large hardware and farm implements store on Billings Avenue. Undoubtedly, his business connections helped Talmage locate first-rate material and workmen to build this impressive two-and-one-half-story home in 1903. In fact, local sources note that Talmage contracted with an Iowa carpenter, who arrived with a boxcar of oak, to install the home’s interior trim, including the staircase, paneling, and parquet floors. The exterior of the “free classic” style Queen Anne residence matches the interior’s elegance and attention to detail. Classical elements include paired Tuscan porch columns, banded friezes, molded cornices, and the symmetrical front pediment. Queen Anne style decoration includes the delicate balustrade, beveled glass windows, and prominent curved brackets under the side eAvenue The cross-gabled roof, multiple porches, bay

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

windows, and varying wall textures—including a river rock foundation and patterned shingles—also reflect Queen Anne’s emphasis on assembling elements in interesting and artistic combinations.

**Property:** Corey House

**Address:** 106 North "E" Street, Bridger, Carbon

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

In 1906, speculative investor Leonard A. Corey and wife Mary set up housekeeping in a tent along the Clark’s Fork River, awaiting completion of their new home. Several years before, Corey, brother-in-law Samuel H. Glidden, and others had formed the Bridger Canyon Oil Company. Company stock rapidly increased until the firm was capitalized at \$1,500,000. In July of 1907, Corey filed thirty oil placer locations, and within two weeks twenty-two tons of drilling equipment was enroute to Bridger. The Coreys moved into their fine new residence at the height of this financial prosperity. Completed in May of 1907, the home reveals the architectural transition from Queen Anne to Arts and Crafts styles. An irregular floor plan, two-story polygonal bay, and gabled roof reflect the older Queen Anne charm, while the broad porch, wood shingles, sandstone, and masonry work display fashionable Arts and Crafts characteristics. Beautiful beveled, leaded, and stained glass windows further reveal quality craftsmanship. Though Corey never struck oil and suffered financially, he remained undaunted. A mining venture took him to Alaska in 1913, and Corey was never heard from in Bridger again. Today, the stylistically sophisticated Corey House and the Glidden House next door recall the short-lived wealth of these early speculators.

**Property:** Nutting Rental

**Address:** 305 N. Word Avenue, Red Lodge, Carbon

**Historic District:** Red Lodge Hi Bug           **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

One of nine remaining homes on Nutting Row, this foursquare cottage features a hip-roofed main block with ornate dormers with shingles in an imbricate pattern. The design and plan of this 1907 home reflects William B. Nutting’s role in the development of rental housing in Red Lodge. The original front entryway has been replaced with a gable-front wing of Tudor Revival design that features a layered cornice and octagonal multi-light window. A picket fence and curved sidewalk highlight the entrance. From 1907 to 1918 various tenants, including Gunnar Wingard, proprietor of the Wingard Drug Company, occupied the residence. Nutting sold this lot to his son and daughter-in-law, Roy and Mae Nutting, in 1918. Chester Hagen bought the property in 1929. During the 1930s, he hand-dug the basement with the help of some miner friends and completed the garage addition. Hagen owned the property until 1986.

**Property:** Yodeler Motel

**Address:** 601 Broadway, Red Lodge, Carbon

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** motels           **Subject 2:** residential structures

**Sign Text:**

Red Lodge was at the heart of a tourism boom in the 1950s when the federal Mission 66 program brought improvements to national parks. Visitors by the hundreds traveled over the stunning Beartooth Highway to Yellowstone Park. The Yodeler Motel, once one of several busy nearby hostelrys during the “golden age” of motels, is Red Lodge’s most unique roadside inn. Its architectural layers illustrate its history first as an apartment

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

building and later as Red Lodge's first and only theme motel. Daniel O'Shea originally built the complex as an apartment building for working-class families in 1909. Residents were primarily European immigrants who worked in the Rocky Fork Coal Company's nearby East Bench Mine. After the closure of the mines in the 1920s, many of its tenants stayed in Red Lodge to help build the Beartooth Highway during the Great Depression. For a short time beginning in the 1940s, a grocery store occupied the north end of the building. In 1961, local building contractor Al Sloulin purchased the property and transformed the simple brick apartments into a Bavarian-themed motel. Its guest rooms, large chalet entrance, decorative scrolled woodwork, historic signage, and southern German motifs continue to appeal to tourists and skiers who come to Red Lodge to enjoy the area's recreational and scenic opportunities. The Yodeler Motel and its unique architecture symbolize Red Lodge's history, first as a hard-working mining community and melting pot of different ethnic groups, and, more recently, as a popular destination for visitors from around the world.

**Property:** Labor Temple

**Address:** 224 N Broadway, Red Lodge, Carbon

**Historic District:** Red Lodge Commercial **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** assembly halls

**Subject 2:** fraternal lodges

**Sign Text:**

Red Lodge Miner's Local No. 1771 had grown to more than a thousand members when this labor temple was built in 1909. The United Mine Workers of America organized nationally in 1896 and by 1898, Local No. 1771 had 200 members. The building is a testament to the labor struggles of Red Lodge coal miners and the primary symbol of labor history in the area. John Horne of Laurel designed the \$36,000 building and Butte Local #22 contributed major funding. John Massow, building committee chairman, took the train to Butte and returned with a \$10,000 loan in his pocket. Carved sandstone with the words "Labor Temple" at the center of the parapet proclaims the building's purpose. The temple included a union meeting hall, union offices, a library, and a saloon for members called the Workers' Club of Carbon County. Old-timers say club patrons were mostly Welsh, Scottish, and Irish; miners of other ethnic groups frequented local establishments run by their compatriots. The Finnish Kaleva Cooperative Mercantile, a reflection of the town's colorful ethnic diversity, was the original ground floor tenant.

**Property:** Pollard Hotel

**Address:** 2 N Broadway Ave, Red Lodge, Carbon

**Historic District:** Red Lodge Commercial **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** hotels (public accommodations)

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The Rocky Fork Coal Company constructed this hotel, originally the Spofford, which welcomed its first guests on July 4, 1893. This architectural landmark, built before the commercial district was platted, originally had its main entrance on 11th Street, which was the busy roadway leading to the Eastside coal mines. Early guests included Buffalo Bill Cody, Calamity Jane, and William Jennings Bryan. In 1903, an annex added twenty-five guest rooms and the Golden Rule Store. By 1907, the entrance was relocated to Broadway. The Pollard's commercial space housed the post office, a bank, and other tenants, and it soon became a primary business and social center. Today the brick walls chart a century of remodeling and change.

**Property:** Neithammer Brothers Meat Market

**Address:** 201 South Broadway, Red Lodge, Carbon

**Historic District:** Red Lodge Commercial **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings

**Subject 2:**



## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

### Sign Text:

German-born Victor and Otto Neithammer first established their meat market on North Broadway in 1912, raising their own livestock to supply this and other local family-run stores. Because the Neithammers's employees represented many ethnic groups, the shop enjoyed wide patronage despite local competition. In 1916, the prosperous brothers constructed a new meat-packing plant at this location. The poured concrete and brick building featured a brightly lit retail shop in the front. A walk-in refrigerator, kitchen, and smokeroom outfitted with the latest equipment filled the back and basement space. The shop continued to operate under various owners until the 1970s.

**Property:** Calvary Episcopal Church

**Address:** 9 North Villard, Red Lodge, Carbon

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** churches (buildings)           **Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

The little log schoolhouse was comfortably full on a spring evening in 1889 when the Reverend Charles Linley, an Episcopal minister from Billings, delivered the first formal sermon in Red Lodge. Father Linley continued to visit Red Lodge once a month, and a tiny congregation organized the Calvary Mission in late 1889. Early members may have been few, but their resolve was firm. By 1900, there were twenty communicants. The small congregation purchased the land on which to build this frame church in 1900. The vernacular, residential-scale building was one of six small distinctive carpenter-built churches constructed in Red Lodge between 1890 and 1900. All were important social institutions reflecting the early prosperity of this coal mining community. The Calvary Episcopal Church was the last of the six constructed. A steeply pitched gable roof, Gothic arched windows, patterned shinglework, and applied religious motifs reveal the skill and craftsmanship of its builders, E. S. Donnell and B. B. Baker. The beautiful European stained-glass windows demonstrate the meticulous planning that went into its construction. This quaintly picturesque house of worship is a physical expression of the early community and a symbol of the significance of spiritual guidance in the lives of Red Lodge pioneers.

**Property:** Meyer House

**Address:** 705 N. Hauser, Red Lodge, Carbon

**Historic District:** Hi Bug **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

Celebrated lawyer, banker, and state senator William F. Meyer fulfilled his resolve to have the town's finest residence with the construction of this Queen Anne style home in 1899. The plan, adapted from an architectural pattern book, was lavishly ornamented with spindle balustrades, scrolled brackets, stained glass windows, and applied floral garlands. Shortly after construction, remodeling increased usable space by squaring off the corner turret. Meyer's wife, Alice, a co-founder of the local public library and an educated, cultured hostess, often welcomed guests into the elegant hall. Its golden oak staircase features a landing "large enough to accommodate a string quartet."

**Property:** Smith Mine Historic District

**Address:** , Bearcreek, Carbon

**Historic District:** Smith Mine   **Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** historic districts           **Subject 2:** mining towns

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

### Sign Text:

Thirty-nine corrugated metal structures mark the site of the Smith Mine, a ghostly reminder of a once vibrant mining district. The Montana Coal and Iron Company (MCI) began developing the Smith Mine in earnest after the arrival of the Montana, Wyoming and Southern Railroad, producing 8,000 tons of high-grade coal in 1907. MCI electrified its operation by 1915, completely mechanizing it by 1929. Throughout the 1930s, the company continued to invest in new equipment, building a new crushing plant, elevator, cleaning plant, coal sheds and scales, electrical substation, and other above-ground structures to support the underground operation. By 1943, miners working three shifts a day, six days a week produced almost 500,000 tons of coal annually, "to meet coal needs for a nation at war." Investments in safety lagged behind other improvements, however, and in the 1940s many Smith miners still used open-flame carbide headlamps (as opposed to safer electric lamps). The highly gaseous mine also lacked good ventilation or rock-dusting equipment to control coal dust. On February 27, 1943, this proved a deadly combination, when a methane gas explosion in Smith Mine #3 killed seventy-four miners (and later one rescuer) in the worst coal mining disaster in Montana history. Only three of the men working that day survived. Although MCI closed the Number 3 adit after the explosion, it continued to work its other mines, raking in record profits through 1945. Declining demand, lower quality coal, competition from diesel and natural gas, and bad management led to the operation's closure in 1953.

**Property:** Kent Dairy Round Barn

**Address:** 2 Mi North of Red Lodge, Red Lodge, Carbon

**Historic District:**            **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** barns                    **Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

Finnish immigrant Ephraim Kent settled in Red Lodge in the early 1900s to work in the coal mines while his wife, Fiina, began a small dairy business. It was a family venture from the start, with all the children pitching in to deliver raw milk in buckets, and later bottles, to local customers. The business grew, and by 1938 the Kent sons and their wives were all involved in the dairy. When a city ordinance prohibited cows in town, the family moved, purchasing this land and an abandoned building in Bear Creek. They meticulously salvaged its bricks, wood joists, and decorative tin ceiling, which they used to build their barn. Eighty-one-year-old Emery McNamee, an expert on round barns, served as building consultant, but the work was accomplished by Ephraim and his sons. Although none of the Kents had ever laid brick, they quickly learned, displaying uncanny ingenuity in adapting materials at hand along the way. Steam pipes recovered from a nearby mine served as stall dividers, hand-hewn beams were finished with a plane whose cutting bit was a piece of leaf-spring from a car, and thirty-seven log support posts were shaped with a draw knife. Built with the determination, perseverance, and fortitude the Finnish call "sisu," the round barn served the industrious, hard-working Kents for thirty years. Many locals remember summer dances held in the spacious second floor before it was filled with winter feed. When Armas and Sylvia Kent retired in 1969, the barn was converted for use as a restaurant. Its historic function remains evident, however, and the cherished Red Lodge landmark is today an excellent example of adaptive reuse.

**Property:** Red Lodge City Hall and Fire Station

**Address:** 1 Platt Avenue, Red Lodge, Carbon

**Historic District:** Red Lodge Commercial **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** city halls                    **Subject 2:** fire stations

### Sign Text:

"A hook and ladder outfit stored at a central point" and a loosely organized volunteer company served as Red Lodge's defense against fire in 1897. A disastrous fire in 1900, which killed one man and destroyed four brick business blocks, highlighted the need for more comprehensive protection. By 1901, Red Lodge boasted a wooden

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

fire hall, a reorganized volunteer fire department, a municipal water system, two hose carts, one hook-and-ladder truck, and two thousand feet of well-maintained hose. Attached to the fire station was a small city hall. By 1939, the structure had become dilapidated, and the city needed more office space. The city applied to the Works Progress Administration for money to replace the old building. A federal Depression-era jobs program, the WPA funded hundreds of projects in Montana including this one, constructed in part from material salvaged from the original structure. The 1939 building housed the city hall, fire and police departments, and jail. The design features stone, wood, and concrete, which creates a textured façade, and stepped parapets, which visually unite the one- and two-story sections.

**Property:** Labor Temple

**Address:** 224 North Broadway, Red Lodge, Carbon

**Historic District:** Red Lodge Commercial **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** assembly halls

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Red Lodge Miner's Local No. 1771 had grown to more than a thousand members when this labor temple was built in 1909. The United Mine Workers of America organized nationally in 1896 and by 1898, Local No. 1771 had 200 members. The building is a testament to the labor struggles of Red Lodge coal miners and the primary symbol of labor history in the area. John Horne of Laurel designed the \$36,000 building and Butte Local #22 contributed major funding. John Massow, building committee chairman, took the train to Butte and returned with a \$10,000 loan in his pocket. Carved sandstone with the words "Labor Temple" at the center of the parapet proclaims the building's purpose. The temple included a union meeting hall, union offices, a library, and a saloon for members called the Workers' Club of Carbon County. Old-timers say club patrons were mostly Welsh, Scottish, and Irish; miners of other ethnic groups frequented local establishments run by their compatriots. The Finnish Kaleva Cooperative Mercantile, a reflection of the town's colorful ethnic diversity, was the original ground floor tenant.

**Property:** Croonquist House

**Address:** 521 N. Word, Red Lodge, Carbon

**Historic District:** Hi Bug **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Perched high on a hill overlooking the district, this Craftsman style bungalow reflects the original owners' love of nature and natural surroundings. The distinctive home served as the winter residence of Alfred and Senia Croonquist. Well known for promoting Montana tourism in the 1920s and 1930s, the Croonquists were owners and proprietors of Camp Senia, a dude ranch and fishing camp in the Beartooth Mountains. With the help of local Finnish craftsmen, Alfred built the bungalow of lodge pole pine and native river cobble in 1922. Its rustic architecture mirrors that of Camp Senia.

**Property:** Robbins House

**Address:** 401 North Word Avenue, Red Lodge, Carbon

**Historic District:** Red Lodge Hi Bug **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Prominent Red Lodge businessman William B. Nutting subdivided this northwestern neighborhood as the Nutting Addition circa 1899. Beginning in 1900 with this home, he built five cottages north of his own residence that became known as Nutting Row. J. S. Robbins, secretary/treasurer of the Carbon Mercantile Company, arranged for Nutting to build this first cottage for him. Rose Robbins bought it for \$1500 in 1902. The gable-front residences

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

with a one-story kitchen wing at the back and front porch spanning the front were modest, simply ornamented, well-built homes. Ship-lap siding, a material not often used in the Hi Bug neighborhoods, originally covered all five cottages. The bay window on this home is a unique feature. By 1907, a stable and coal shed had been added to the property and soon after, a north kitchen wing and bedroom enlarged the original floor plan. Among the residents have been the families of Manus Wentworth, W. A. Beans, and M. J. McCabe.

**Property:** Carnegie Library

**Address:** 3 West 8th, Red Lodge, Carbon

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** libraries (buildings)           **Subject 2:** museum (buildings)

**Sign Text:**

The Red Lodge City Library opened in the Savoy Hotel in 1914 thanks to the efforts of the Women's Club of Red Lodge. The hotel, however, was just a temporary home. The Club soon took up the campaign to secure a permanent library facility. The city appropriated \$1,000 toward the effort and agreed to apply to the Carnegie Foundation for assistance. The Foundation awarded Red Lodge \$15,000. In return, the city promised to provide land upon which to build and annual maintenance. Before the issue could be put to public vote, World War I intervened. At the close of the war, the city successfully applied again. Billings architect W. K. Kendrick drew the plans to conform to Carnegie standards, which included modest Classical detailing, meeting room space, open stacks and a central desk for the librarian. Construction began in 1919, and in March of 1920, the city library moved into its new quarters. The library, still in use today, is a tribute to the Carnegie Foundation and the determination of the Red Lodge Women's Club.

**Property:** Hawkes and Son Photography Studio

**Address:** 113 N. Broadway, Red Lodge, Carbon

**Historic District:** Red Lodge Commercial **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Photographer Mark E. Hawkes and his son Charley built a photography studio at this location where much of Red Lodge's history was documented in pictures. Charley later struck out for Great Falls, and son Harry joined Mark. Hawkes and Son sold the business in 1919 to William Lewis. The son of a Welsh coal miner, Lewis ran the studio and continued to document the town's history. In 1926, a depressed economy threatened the business, forcing Lewis to relocate to Seattle. Katie Psenda Egenes, who apprenticed with Lewis, eventually came to own Flash's Studio, where the valuable Red Lodge collections of Hawkes and Lewis came to reside. Jewelers Berne Rydberg and later Peter Micheletto occupied the north half of the building from 1914 through the 1960s. The one-story brick block features the unusual preservation of the original storefront with recessed double entry and large display windows framed in wood. A large north-facing window at the rear allowing maximum use of natural light is a unique reminder of the original owner's profession.

**Property:** Dr. Theodore J. Benson House

**Address:** 12 N. Montana, Fromberg, Carbon

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Homesteaders who came to farm the Clarks Fork Valley in the early 1900s profoundly affected Fromberg's growth, adding to its population and elevating its status as a regional trade and shipping center. Dr. Ted Benson, a

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

recent graduate of the University of Minneapolis, saw Fromberg's potential. In 1907, Dr. Benson set up practice in a two-room building (now relocated) adjacent to his newly constructed, one-story home. Expansion in 1912 added a second story and rear addition to the home, which was again enlarged in 1915. The front-facing gambrel roof with continuous dormers, wide eaves with decorative rafter and purlin tails, and a full-length front porch (enclosed circa 1927) characterize this architecturally sophisticated Colonial Revival style residence built by Edgar J. Schofield. A gable-roofed horse barn built in 1907 was enlarged in 1912 to accommodate the doctor's Ford runabout. Two years before his retirement in 1950, Fromberg celebrated Dr. Benson's seventy-fifth birthday, honoring him with a parade of 125 of "Doc's babies," a mere fraction of the some three thousand children the doctor delivered during his long practice. This attractive home today is a Fromberg landmark, representing the town's early years and a tribute to a pioneer who served his adopted community long and well.

**Property:** McDonald House

**Address:** 501 N Hauser, Red Lodge, Carbon

**Historic District:** Red Lodge Hi Bug

**Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** boardinghouses

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Rocky Fork Town and Electric Company sold this lot and the one next door to F. P. Musser for \$84 in 1896. Immediate resale to real estate agent T. P. McDonald for \$177 netted Musser a handsome profit. This four-square cottage was either moved or built here by 1898 when the property again changed hands. In 1899, Frances Harney moved into the cottage with her small son. The 1900 census lists her occupation as "landlord." Mrs. Harney, who was either widowed or divorced, took boarders into her home and after 1912, rented out a small dwelling on the alley as well. Red Lodge businessman Frank Lyle, a longtime boarder, inherited the property in 1937. This cozy cottage is contemporary with a number of similar four-square cottages in the neighborhood. Charming Craftsman style elements including the sunporch and wings added circa 1930 illustrate the changing architectural tastes of Hi Bug residents.

**Property:** Flager House

**Address:** 523 N. Hauser, Red Lodge, Carbon

**Historic District:** Hi Bug **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Architect Seth Hunneywell designed and built this Colonial Revival two-and-one-half-story home for Alfred and Ruth Flager, who lived here from 1902 to 1911. Costing approximately \$3,500 to build and boasting "all the modern conveniences," its "eight large, airy rooms" and third-floor billiard parlor were heated by "a steam plant located in the basement." Alfred Flager was the proprietor of the old Carbon Mercantile Co. The civic-minded merchant actively promoted the city water system and was instrumental in organizing the telephone company. He also served on the school board, as an alderman, as city clerk, and as a director of the Red Lodge Building and Loan Association. The Flaggers left Red Lodge in 1911. From 1911 to 1921 the house became a rental property, whose tenants included Thomas Pollard, proprietor of the Pollard Hotel. Maude and William Robinson, who owned the home from 1921 to 1948, added the garage in 1935. The three-story tower was built in 1975. The interior features an oak staircase, a pressed tin ceiling in the kitchen, maple floors, and a richly carved fireplace mantel.

**Property:** Red Lodge Brewing Company / Red Lodge Canning Company

**Address:** 904 N Bonner Street, Red Lodge, Carbon

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:**

**Subject 1:**                   **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Pure Rock Creek water and a ready market of thirsty coal miners struck Bozeman beer baron Julius Lehrkind as a recipe for success. With nephews Fred and Paul, Julius incorporated the Red Lodge Brewing Company in 1910, hiring the prominent architectural firm of Link and Haire to design the monumental brick brewery as well as the bottling plant next door. Red Lodge contractor Anton Roat constructed both buildings. The brewery design—modified from plans John Link created for the Washoe Brewery in Anaconda—reflected the owners’ prosperity, pride in their product, and European heritage. It also reflected the building’s function. The ornamental tower was an integral part of a gravity flow system that moved huge quantities of liquid through the brewing process without the use of pumps. The owners’ widely advertised decision to use local Fromberg brick and union labor tied the brewery to the Red Lodge patrons it hoped to serve. Prohibition spelled the end of the brewery, but the building received a second life when a Billings capitalist purchased it in 1925. Sturdy construction, an established railroad spur, connection to city water, and room for expansion made the property the perfect site for a factory—and the former brewery was soon converted into a pea cannery. Cannery owners constructed the three-story wood addition in 1927. The cannery, which operated through 1975, was an important part of the Red Lodge economy, seasonally employing up to 300 people in the rush to preserve the highly perishable product.

**Property:** Roman Theatre

**Address:** 120 S Broadway, Red Lodge, Carbon

**Historic District:** RED LODGE COMMERCIAL           **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** theaters (buildings)                   **Subject 2:** theaters (buildings)

**Sign Text:**

Original rusticated and ashlar concrete blocks and the 1935 ROMAN marquee distinguish the façade of this early movie theater. Austrian immigrant Steve Roman built the theater in 1917. One of fourteen sons, nineteen-year-old Roman came to Red Lodge in 1897 to work in the mines. He launched into the theater business, operating several local theaters before he built the Roman. Roman’s wife, Librera, ran the upstairs Hotel Isabella, and at various times Roman’s six children took tickets, performed on the theater’s stage, accompanied silent movies on the organ, operated the projector, and ran the box office. In 1935, Roman extensively remodeled the theater adding air conditioning, new seats, draperies, lighting, and the eight-foot Art Deco style neon marquee. The remodel, by architect Bjarne Moe and contractor C. W. Hamrick, both of Seattle, caused considerable local excitement. The opening gala featured special appearances by the nationally renowned Crockett Family. Admission cost 35 cents for adults and 15 cents for children. Daughter Mary managed the theater until 1977. The Roman retains much of its 1935 façade and is Montana’s oldest, continuously-running moving picture theater.

**Property:** W.A. Talmage Company Hardware

**Address:** 23 N Broadway, Red Lodge, Carbon

**Historic District:** Red Lodge Commercial **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings                   **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

A keen sense of the town’s future prompted businessman William Talmage to move his hardware business away from the busy commercial center a few blocks south to this building in 1894. When other businesses began to move to the newly platted main street in 1895, owners “lined up” their buildings with Talmage’s storefront. The original one-story sandstone building acquired its second floor in 1902, and Talmage moved the iron lettering to the top of the parapet. By 1907, commercial space included a hardware and grocery with an office at the rear.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

Elegant arched tripartite windows and a Greek-patterned fret band embellish the locally manufactured brick of the upper floor.

**Property:** L. Chapman Rental

**Address:** 118 5th St W, Red Lodge, Carbon

**Historic District:** Red Lodge Hi Bug **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

One of seven side-gabled cottages built in this neighborhood at the turn of the twentieth century, the Craftsman style tri-arched façade later added to the porch and front window make this charming example unique. The first owner was Louis Chapman, who purchased several lots on this block and built three rental homes. This was the first constructed between 1901 and 1907. Chapman had a varied career in hardware, lumber, and oil, but he is remembered for surviving a well-publicized appendectomy performed by Dr. Souders in 1903. City Treasurer George Mushback was one of Chapman's first tenants at this address; another was Paul Lehrkind, secretary of the Red Lodge Brewing Company. Exceptional preservation of the appealing home belies its long rental history. The interior features an unusually spacious first floor planned around a central staircase and lovely oak finishing. The original water closet fixtures, including vintage tub, commode, and copper-lined wooden flush box with pull chain, are remarkably intact and functional.

**Property:** Hi Bug Historic District

**Address:** , Red Lodge, Carbon

**Historic District:** Hi Bug **Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** historic districts **Subject 2:** residential structures

**Sign Text:**

Hi Bug was a schoolyard term coined in the 1920s in reference to the wealthy and high-society residents of north Red Lodge. Developed between 1890 and 1930, the area's location north of the coal mines yet near the railroad station, city schools, churches, and business district made it ideal for the privileged class. Before 1910, it was an enclave of the English-speaking citizens. Bankers, lawyers, mining engineers, businessmen, and ranchers brought their families to the district. White-collar workers often boarded in the larger homes, while Nutting Row provided rental housing both for newlyweds awaiting construction of their own homes and families of area ranchers spending the school year in town. In planning homes, most families chose the popular "pattern book" styles of the era, but a select few hired local architect Seth Hunneywell. Several houses located at the north end of Hauser Avenue stand out as the largest, grandest homes in the city. Built by prominent businessmen, they served as symbols of the success and affluence attainable in Red Lodge.

**Property:** 105 North Broadway

**Address:** 105 North Broadway, Red Lodge, Carbon

**Historic District:** Red Lodge Commercial **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Local physician Dr. Samuel Souders owned this commercial lot in 1909, when Dan Davis, an advocate for the construction of a fancy opera house, proposed it for the construction of his vision. The newspapers reported weekly for several months on Davis' progress toward securing financial backing, but it was not until 1920 that the fabulous Theatorium was finally constructed elsewhere at 11th and Platt Street. Jeweler A. H. Davis purchased the lot from Souders as an investment in 1910, constructing the present building four years later. The one-story

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

masonry building, which originally housed a dry goods store, features brick piers with recessed panels and a glass block and tile transom spanning the front façade.

**Property:** Methodist Episcopal Church and Parsonage

**Address:** 220 West Broadway, Bridger, Carbon

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** churches (buildings)           **Subject 2:** parsonages

**Sign Text:**

Organization of the Bridger Methodist Episcopal Church and the Ladies Aid took place in 1899, pre-dating by one year the founding of the town itself. As in other small Montana communities, itinerant ministers like the Reverend John G. Clark served the early congregation. Services were conducted in the dining room of the Barlow Hotel or in the hall above Hiram Haskin's hardware store. Land for the church was donated when the townsite of Bridger was platted in 1900, but ground-breaking did not take place until March of 1905. The Ladies Aid raised funds for the building by giving dinners and selling handmade quilts, clothing, and other items. Under the direction of Reverend Clark, stonemason Eric Forsman prepared the foundation, and construction began with donated materials and labor. By December the steeple was ready to receive its 700-pound bell. The community-built Methodist Episcopal Church was dedicated on May 27, 1906, the first in the Clarks Fork Valley. The Bridger landmark is a fine example of Methodist Church design, typified by the L-shaped plan, corner bell tower, and simplified Gothic windows. Fretwork in the open bell tower, decorative shingles, and stained glass enrich the basic plan. The adjacent gable-roofed parsonage, now detached from this property, was finished in 1914. Three congregations merged in 1939 to form the Methodist Church, and in 1949 an addition was completed to accommodate growing membership. Renamed the United Methodist Church in 1968, the church today represents the valley's early religious development, and its continued use is a fitting tribute to the pioneer congregation responsible for its construction.

**Property:** Peters House

**Address:** 317 N Hauser, Red Lodge, Carbon

**Historic District:** Hi Bug **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

"Coziness" was the watchword of progressive builders in the early twentieth century. Small, well-designed houses proliferated after 1900 in part to compensate for the expense of such modern conveniences as indoor plumbing. Plans for bungalows—including for this house and its mirror image at 111 W. Eighth St.—were published in popular magazines and specialized pattern books. America's growing middle class embraced these plans, which emphasized simplicity, efficiency, and affordability. John and Hulda Peters purchased this lot in 1910 and in 1912 constructed a home, the first of seven Craftsman bungalows built in the Hi-Bug neighborhood. The residence originally included a front porch. Peters owned a tailor shop and men's clothing store on Broadway. The civic-minded merchant held offices in the Odd Fellows and the Elks, served as president of the Chamber of Commerce, and was a charter member of Red Lodge's Eagles Lodge and Rotary Club. The pride he and his wife felt for their home, where they lived until 1945, is apparent: the cement sidewalk leading to their front door is still inscribed with the Peters name.

**Property:** Pippinger House

**Address:** 114 6th Street West, Red Lodge, Carbon

**Historic District:** Red Lodge Hi Bug           **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** boardinghouses           **Subject 2:**



## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

### Sign Text:

During the summer of 1887, Ben F. Pippinger became Red Lodge's first teacher, hired to teach the children of the Rocky Fork Coal Company miners opening the area's first coal mines. Pippinger later ran the Cloverdale Dairy on a ranch north of town. He and his wife Cora built this nine-room gable-front cottage in 1902, as an "in town" residence. The house was for sale in 1904 at an asking price of \$2,600, "...furnished throughout and nicely suited for boarding and rooming purposes" because of its interior arrangement around a central hall. John and Mary Conway purchased the home in 1907 for \$2,500. Mary operated a boardinghouse, one of the few such establishments in the Hi Bug area, until 1920. Her tenants included school superintendent A. C. Carloon and railway weighmaster John McLennan. The distinctive roofline sets this residence apart from the neighborhood's twelve other similar cottages. Cornice returns and stained and leaded glass enhance its vintage appeal.

**Property:** Roysdon House

**Address:** 517 Hauser Ave. N., Red Lodge, Carbon

**Historic District:** Hi Bug **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

Real estate speculation abounded after the Northern Pacific Railroad constructed a branch line to Red Lodge to take advantage of the area's rich coal deposits. In 1891 Nathan Smethurst purchased this lot for \$36, selling it for a profit the same day. The lot sold again in 1896, and a fourth time in 1899, this time to Andrew Chapman, who constructed this one-and-one-half-story duplex as an investment property. Two front dormers and a full-length front porch distinguish the façade of the hipped roofed residence. The current porch was added in the extensive renovation completed in 2009. Builders placed the kitchens at the back of the house under a separate, single-story roof, a common nineteenth-century practice to minimize fire risk. Bucket brigades could more easily reach a one-story roof, perhaps saving the main house in case of a kitchen fire. Morris and Keziah Roysdon purchased the home in 1909, only a year before Keziah died, leaving eight children between the ages of five and twenty. The owner of a livery stable and then a lumberyard, Morris lived here until 1931

**Property:** Talmage / Crockett House

**Address:** 423 N Hauser, Red Lodge, Carbon

**Historic District:** Red Lodge Hi Bug **Building Type:**

**Subject 1:** **Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

According to an oral tradition handed down in the Crockett family, this gable-front cottage was moved here from "Old Town." It was remodeled circa 1901 when it is first recorded on this lot. At that time, prominent merchant W. A. Talmage owned the property and lived here between 1902 and 1903 while his elegant residence at 716 N. Hauser was under construction. Postmaster William R. Crockett purchased the property in 1906, and it remained in his family through grandson A. H. Davis, Jr., until the 1970s. One of thirteen such cottages in the Hi Bug neighborhood, this example is particularly distinguished by the unusual addition of pedimented window heads. The barn, now an auto garage, is contemporary with the residence and one of few such outbuildings that remain in the neighborhood.

**Property:** 612 North Hauser Avenue

**Address:** 612 North Hauser Avenue, Red Lodge, Carbon

**Historic District:** Hi Bug **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

### Sign Text:

The manager of the Red Lodge Brewery, Paul Lehrkind, purchased this lot in 1920, likely with the intent of building a home. However, despite efforts to survive Prohibition by manufacturing the "near beer" Bud-O ("Always on Top"), Lehrkind was forced to close the brewery in 1921. He left Red Lodge soon after, selling the property to Walter Helm, a butter-maker at (and later owner of) the Carbon County Creamery. Borrowing \$1,500 from the Carbon Building and Loan Association, Walter and his wife Margaret constructed this one-and-one-half-story Craftsman bungalow. The residence is one of the best executed examples of the Craftsman style in Red Lodge. Its careful detailing includes vertical stick work in the main gable, wide overhanging eaves, exposed rafter tails, and angled knee braces. "Battered" square columns support the large, inviting front porch. Craftsman style design emphasized "coziness, comfort, function, and economy" and embraced the idea that "beauty does not imply elaboration." The results were highly livable homes like this one, which remained in the Helm family until 1971.

**Property:** Red Lodge Communal Mausoleum

**Address:** Montana Highway 78, Red Lodge, Carbon

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** site

**Subject 1:** cemeteries           **Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

The Consolidated Mausoleum Company made the case for constructing a communal mausoleum in a full-page newspaper advertisement in 1921. "The present high state of civilization demands for the masses a more humane and sanitary method of taking care of the dead, than found in earth burial," it asserted. Intrigued by the "opportunity ... to sleep through eternity ... secure against the ravages of time," over 200 people subscribed to the project, and construction of the 232-crypt mausoleum began. Designed as a "time-defying" monument, the mausoleum's architecture emphasizes strength and permanence. A simple, but massive temple front frames heavy bronze doors flanked by two enormous Tuscan columns. Alaskan marble lines the interior. The reinforced concrete walls, which taper from thirty-eight inches at the base to thirty inches at the top, appear indestructible. Durable and moisture-tight (prime prerequisites for a mausoleum intended to stand in perpetuity), reinforced concrete became accepted as a replacement for stone after 1900. The new inexpensive construction material made building large multiple crypt facilities economically feasible. At the same time, Progressive-era ideology was encouraging individuals to join together for community improvement. Thus, the communal mausoleum movement was born, placing above-ground entombment within financial reach of ordinary citizens. Nationwide, hundreds of communities joined the movement, but the Red Lodge Communal Mausoleum is only one of three identified in Montana. True to plan, the mausoleum housed Red Lodge citizens of all classes. Here lie wealthy businessmen, immigrant coal miners, and their families, entombed together "within the walls of one building ... imposing and everlasting."

**Property:** Heatherington Boarding House

**Address:** 209 E. Broadway, Bridger, Carbon

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** boardinghouses           **Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

The coal found near here so impressed Butte's William A. Clark that he formed a company to mine it two miles west of the center of present-day Bridger. The company town he began in 1898 included boarding houses and family housing, a school, and a general store. But miners and their paychecks soon attracted other entrepreneurs, even though the only land available was the county road right-of-way. Undaunted, they built saloons and shops end to end on the narrow strip, forming "Stringtown," where a person could walk out one building's back door and into the next one's front. Charles A. and Grace Heatherington built this boarding house in Stringtown in 1899,

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

providing the only housing besides a hotel for new arrivals not employed by the mine. Charles, known as “Curley,” also operated a livery and ran the stage line that brought Bridger’s mail from Red Lodge—and, in summer, he sold ice cut from the Clark’s Fork. When Bridger townsite was surveyed in 1900, Heatherington was among many Stringtowners who moved their buildings here, and he continued to operate the boarding house. Today, this is one of very few buildings surviving from the original settlement.

**Property:** O’Shea House

**Address:** 723 N Hauser, Red Lodge, Carbon

**Historic District:** Hi Bug **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Irish immigrant Daniel G. O’Shea arrived in Carbon County in 1887. The eager eighteen year old took a position with the Rocky Fork Coal Company, serving as paymaster and bookkeeper until 1899 when he was appointed manager. He resigned from RFCC in 1903 to become cashier at the Red Lodge State Bank. By 1912, O’Shea was president of the bank and an established community leader. He was treasurer of the Carbon Building and Loan Association, director of Carbon County Bank, trustee and president of the Rocky Fork Town and Electric Company, and served two terms in the state senate. O’Shea built this grand Queen Anne style cottage as a reflection of his life as a banker and businessman. Constructed circa 1906, the home features a free classic L-shaped porch, bay windows, a hipped and gabled roof, and complements the neighboring grand homes on the block in style and detail.

**Property:** Frank Brooder House

**Address:** 303 North Street, Fromberg, Carbon

**Historic District:** **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:** hospitals (buildings for health facility)

**Sign Text:**

Fromberg prospered in the first decades of the twentieth century as an important agricultural shipping and trade center. The town’s status precipitated construction of several impressive houses for prominent members of the emerging business and professional community. Foremost among them was the Brooder House, perhaps the most architecturally sophisticated residence to grace the streets of Fromberg during this period. Archibald McLean, a builder from Bridger, designed this nine-bedroom residence for Clark Fork Valley bank cashier Frank Brooder. Constructed in 1909 by talented local builder/carpenter W. C. Parker, its square plan, three-sided front pavilion, Palladian window, and open porches (now enclosed) at both front and back are a refined and elegant expression of the Colonial Revival style. Brooder left Fromberg in 1911 and sold the house to out-of-town resident Dr. David Williams. After service in the U.S. Army medical corps during World War I, Williams returned to Fromberg in 1921 and opened the home as a hospital for the critically ill. The hospital closed when Williams left Fromberg in 1924, and for many years the splendid residence stood vacant. The home’s more recent history has not been so bleak: in the last decades one owner has raised nine children and another, eleven.

**Property:** Plunkett's Hardware

**Address:** 21 S Broadway, Red Lodge, Carbon

**Historic District:** Red Lodge Commercial **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:** recreation

**Sign Text:**

High transom windows that provide interior light for a mezzanine commercial display area are an interesting design feature of this well-constructed commercial building. The simple chain-patterned ornamentation of buff

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

brick across the tall parapet continues the rhythm of the district's historic streetscape. James Plunkett moved his plumbing and hardware business to an earlier building at this location after 1909, and by 1917 he had completed this masonry replacement. During the 1930s, avid Red Lodge bowlers enjoyed a basement four-lane bowling alley accessed by the rear entrance. Surviving portions of the alleys and both women's and men's rooms reveal that women players, new to the sport in the 1930s, were welcomed. Today the building houses important historic photographic collections of the Red Lodge area, which current owners have made available to the public.

**Property:** Charles Antilla Building

**Address:** 17 South Broadway, Red Lodge, Carbon

**Historic District:** Red Lodge Commercial **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

This two-story building was under construction in 1907, and for a short time housed part-owner Charles Antilla's dry goods store. In 1912, new owners Ed Ricketts and C. V. Lucas located their Okay Meat Market, later the Red Lodge Meat Market, on the ground floor. The photography studio of Tofferi and Hongell occupied the upper floor from 1908 to 1918. Though the lower storefront has been remodeled, the upper façade retains the buff masonry, attractively corbelled parapet, and sandstone trim typical of local early-twentieth-century commercial architecture.

**Property:** Joliet Residential Historic District

**Address:** Historic District, Joliet, Carbon

**Historic District:** Joliet Residential **Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** historic districts **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The area surrounding Joliet remained Crow country until 1892, when the Carbon Reserve Agreement cut the size of the reservation almost in half. By that time, railroads already ran through the reservation, including the Rocky Fork and Cook City Railroad, a spur line connecting the Red Lodge coal mining district to the main Northern Pacific line. Harry Duffield and John McMonigle were among the early homesteaders to file claims along the tracks. By 1896, a small town had grown up on McMonigle's claim, with a post office, four stores, three saloons, two hotels, and several residences. According to local legend, McMonigle would pretend to discourage squatters (he was still proving up and wanted to avoid legal complications) while Duffield would tell newcomers to ignore McMonigle. The charade apparently continued until McMonigle received his homestead patent in 1899. That year, "a number of energetic citizens" incorporated a town site company, which bought thirty-two acres from McMonigle for \$1,600. One hundred residents called Joliet home by 1900. The population grew quickly in 1901 when the coal mine in nearby Carbonado closed, prompting several businesses and home-owners to move their buildings to Joliet. Joliet incorporated in 1906 in order to initiate electrification and construction of a waterworks, "two essentials necessary to the progress of any live, up-to-date town." By 1907, this "city of pleasant homes" boasted forty-seven residences. Many of these houses still stand today. They serve as a continuing testament to the era when Joliet was the trading center for a substantial farming district.

**Property:** John Gibson House

**Address:** 219 West River, Fromberg, Carbon

**Historic District:** **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

### Sign Text:

Norwegian-born immigrant John Gibson arrived in the Clarks Fork Valley at the turn of the twentieth century and soon opened brickyards in Fromberg and nearby Belfry. Gibson became one of the area's most prominent contractors, constructing Fromberg's first brick building, the I.O.O.F. Hall, in 1906. Gibson's future, however, did not lie in bricks. When a competitor supplanted his company in 1909, the resolute contractor established a small concrete plant adjacent to this property. Here Gibson began to manufacture concrete block for building construction, sidewalk blocks, drain tile, flue liners, and fenceposts. By the 1910s, his patented culvert design was acclaimed the best on the market, and in 1914, Gibson supplied the concrete for the construction of the Fromberg Concrete Arch Bridge. To promote the use of concrete and demonstrate its viability in residential construction, Gibson built his own home of concrete block next to the factory circa 1909. It was, and still is, unique to Fromberg. Gibson subsequently enlarged the home and in 1929, tastefully remodeled it adding Craftsman style detailing. A gable-roofed front porch and extended eaves with exposed rafters add the characteristic elements of this popular style. Concrete lug sills and stucco with an unusual mixture of rock and colored glass reveal Gibson's exceptionally fine craftsmanship.

**Property:** Carbon County Courthouse

**Address:** 100 N. Broadway, Red Lodge, Carbon

**Historic District:** Red Lodge Commercial **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** county courthouses

**Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

Butte architect P. J. Donahue drew the plans for the 1899 landmark after fire destroyed its predecessor. Situated at the busy northern end of the commercial district, the building today provides an excellent example of restrained, classically proportioned public building design. When foundation settling after construction produced a wide crack on the northeast wall, fear of collapse caused rapid evacuation of the courtroom on several occasions before it was stabilized in the 1940s. Despite numerous alterations and additions, the courthouse retains its prominence as a sturdy reminder of the town's role as the political and economic center of Carbon County.

**Property:** Hasterlik House

**Address:** 118 West 6th St, Red Lodge, Carbon

**Historic District:** Hi-Bug **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

Prominent lumber merchant C. C. Bowlen purchased this lot in 1901. Two years later, when attorney George Pierson decided to build a larger home, Bowlen purchased Pierson's front-gable residence and moved it a block south to this location. Constructed before 1894, the one-and-one-half-story wood-frame home has a prominent wraparound porch. The porch's turned posts and sawn-work brackets mark the home as Folk Victorian, a style defined by Victorian decorative detailing on simple house forms. In 1907, I. Joseph Hasterlik and his wife Henrietta purchased the residence, adding the back wing sometime before 1912. Born in Germany, Hasterlik immigrated to Chicago at age seventeen in 1867. He and Henrietta moved to Red Lodge in 1902, following Simon, Joseph's son from his first marriage. Thought to be Red Lodge's first Jewish family, the Hasterliks quickly integrated into the Red Lodge community. The newspaper frequently mentioned members of the family, who enthusiastically participated in fundraisers held by both the Episcopal and Congregational churches. The couple lived here until their deaths, Henrietta, at age 75 in 1939, and Joseph in 1941, at the age of 91.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Property:** Alcazar (Star) Theater

**Address:** 9 So Broadway, Red Lodge, Carbon

**Historic District:** Red Lodge Commercial **Building Type:**

**Subject 1:**

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

**Property:** Picket Block

**Address:** 20-22 North Broadway, Red Lodge, Carbon

**Historic District:** Red Lodge Commercial **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings

**Subject 2:** fraternal lodges

**Sign Text:**

Designed by Red Lodge carpenter and amateur architect Frank A. Sell and built by W. T. Pernham in 1902, this impressive brick commercial building was home to the Red Lodge Picket and, after 1918, the Picket-Journal, the primary news sources for the community and Carbon County for over fifty years. Publisher Walter Anderson, who came to Red Lodge in 1893, was the original owner. The newspaper's offices and print shop were located on the second floor while a succession of businesses, including a millinery shop, undertaking parlor, and hardware stores, occupied the ground floor. When the Carbon County News acquired the Picket Journal in 1943, Red Lodge grocer Frank Romersa purchased the building and turned the second floor over to the Fraternal Order of the Knights of Pythias, a benevolent society dedicated to universal peace and good will among men. With its distinctive second floor-brick arches, this imposing building has been a significant fixture on Red Lodge's Main Street for over a century.

**Property:** Fromberg Methodist-Episcopal Church

**Address:** Corner of School & Montana, Fromberg, Carbon

**Historic District:** **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** churches (buildings)

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The first Protestant services in the Clarks Fork Valley were held in 1897. The Reverend John G. Clark of Red Lodge officiated in a company boardinghouse tent at the nearby coal mining town of Gebo. By 1905, the growing congregation needed a more permanent location, and the thriving town of Fromberg was chosen as the logical site. On donated land, local contractor Charles Darnall began construction of Fromberg's first church in April 1907. When Darnall abruptly left town, a force of volunteers completed the building in January 1908. By 1911, the new church was paid for, and a special service was held to burn the mortgage notes. A gabled roof, Gothic windows, and a steeple with square tower and open belfry furnish the clapboard building with an unpretentious elegance that reflects vernacular church designs of the era. In 1921-1922, a Craftsman style addition expanded the church. Paid for with funds raised by the Ladies' Aid and built with volunteer labor, the new wing included an office, study room, and social room. The south room of the addition soon opened as a library, making the church's book collection available to the public. Now the United Methodist Church, the building graces Fromberg's streetscape, representing the collective efforts and community spirit of its pioneer congregation.

**Property:** Marino and Blackburn Building

**Address:** 11 S Braodway, Red Lodge, Carbon

**Historic District:** Red Lodge Commercial **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings

**Subject 2:** saloons (bars)

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

### Sign Text:

Early Red Lodge businessmen James Blackburn and Dominic Marino jointly built this fine two-story commercial building circa 1905 to house a mercantile business. A series of saloons later occupied the ground floor. An upstairs boarding house, first advertised as The Pleasanton in 1909, operated until the 1940s. According to local lore, The Pleasanton was a popular house of ill-repute, and its sign in the window boasting steam heated rooms became a long-standing joke among the town's young people. Severe fire damage to the interior occurred in the 1970s, but something of the building's original frontier elegance remains in the pressed tin ceiling that still adorns the first floor. The upper façade, with its well-worn nameplate, is one of the best-preserved examples of rusticated cut sandstone within the historic district.

**Property:** McCleary House

**Address:** 119 W 7th, Red Lodge, Carbon

**Historic District:** Red Lodge Hi Bug **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

A four-square plan, tapered porch pillars, and flared overhanging eaves reflect the Craftsman style influence that affords this distinctive home a more modern appearance than its contemporary neighbors. Decorative cresting and leaded glass add exterior elegance while fine interior appointments include paneled oak pocket doors, Tuscan columns, an oak staircase, and decorative moldings. Businessman Frank McCleary, who served as county assessor, state representative, and senator, built the home circa 1910 for his wife Ella and two children. In 1914, The Red Lodge Picket reported that a profusion of flowers and potted plants adorned the McCleary home as Ella, always a gracious hostess, entertained sixty ladies at a "floral whist party" followed by a midnight supper.

**Property:** Davis House At Brewery Hill

**Address:** 504 W. 3rd St, Red Lodge, Carbon

**Historic District:** Hi Bug **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** breweries **Subject 2:** residential structures

### Sign Text:

A natural springs and pond provided ice and water for a brewery established here in the early 1890s. In 1894, arson destroyed the ice house and brewery buildings, but a small, one-room log residence escaped the blaze. Dan Davis purchased the property in 1903 where he and his wife, Mary Ann, long made their home. Davis cut tons of ice from the pond for domestic use and operated a saloon that stood next to the house. Brewery Hill offered Davis' patrons a sweeping bird's-eye view of Red Lodge; he advertised his beer garden in 1904 as a "pleasant place to sit out under the bushes." Fire again soon destroyed the business, but Davis remained a dealer of ice and liquor. In 1910, he helped organize the Red Lodge Brewing Company and was its sales manager. Davis also served a term as mayor of Red Lodge from 1912 to 1914. This side-gabled cottage, built between 1901 and 1907, encompasses the original one-room log house. Recent renovation exposed the original logs, covered in 1890 newspapers.

**Property:** First National Bank of Ekalaka / Rickard Hardware Building

**Address:** 103 and 105 N Main St, Ekalaka, Carter

**Historic District:** **Building Type:**

**Subject 1:** **Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Property:** Masonic Temple

**Address:** 821 Central Ave, Great Falls, Cascade

**Historic District:** Great Falls Central Business **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** fraternal lodges

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Seventeen charter members formed Kalispell Lodge No. 42 in 1892. Masons first held lodge meetings in several locations. Work began on this building in 1904, but when the Great Northern Railway moved its division point to Whitefish, the town paused and construction stopped. In a show of faith in the town's future, the Renaissance Revival style temple was completed in 1905. Designed by architect George Shanley, the lodge hall was upstairs while commercial tenants, including J. C. Penney's from 1924 to 1956, occupied the ground floor. During World War I, the Century Club ran a store in the basement. There, 115 "liberty-loving women"—including one who had also knitted during the Civil War—sewed and knit everything from surgeons' gowns and bed caps to sweaters and socks for men in the trenches. The store raised \$2,000 for the Red Cross. By 1922, Lodge No. 42 had grown to 400 members who filled the upstairs lodge hall. Despite some changes, the Renaissance Revival style upper story remains pristine, featuring grand arched windows with keystones, intricate brickwork, and ornamental concrete and rough-cut stone.

**Property:** Lemon Boarding House

**Address:** 12 Sixth St. S., Great Falls, Cascade

**Historic District:** Great Falls Central Business **Building Type:**

**Subject 1:**

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

**Property:** Oriental Saloon

**Address:** 66 Castner St, Belt, Cascade

**Historic District:** Belt Commercial **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** saloons (bars)

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

A one-story wood-frame building stood here between 1897 and 1907. Reflecting the mining town's early hard-drinking culture, it first originally housed two saloons. When Swedish immigrants Charles Carlson and George Edman purchased the lot in 1907, the town's prospects looked strong. The Anaconda Company had just expanded its coal mining operation, and in response to the influx of newcomers, Belt had incorporated as a third-class city. Main Street businessmen, including Carlson and Edman, began replacing their wooden false-front buildings with more permanent structures. Carlson and Edman relied on locally quarried, rough-faced sandstone to construct their two-story commercial block. The first floor housed the Oriental Saloon, which "boasted electric lights, running water and a bar and back bar of mahogany in a colonial style." Iron pilasters and an iron header allowed the contractor to install large plate-glass windows, letting natural light into the interior. Although the windows are gone, the iron framing remains. Carlson converted the saloon into a pool hall and then a "soft drinks parlor" during Prohibition, before retiring in 1926. Later businesses included a butcher shop and a grocery store.

**Property:** Masonic Temple

**Address:** 821 Central Ave, Great Falls, Cascade

**Historic District:** Great Falls Central Business **Building Type:** building | contributing



## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Subject 1:** fraternal lodges

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The first Masonic Lodge in Butte was chartered October 3, 1876. With a membership of 550 after the turn of the twentieth century, the organization had outgrown its old quarters on West Park. The new temple, completed in 1902, provides an early example of the grandly scaled Beaux-Arts style that came to dominate Butte's later civic structures. Link and Carter, the forerunner of the prestigious architectural firm of Link and Haire, created the new temple, enhancing its façade with Ionic columns, a cornice of lions' heads, and decorative borders of acanthus leaves and geometric designs.

**Property:** William and Isabel Shea House

**Address:** 305 3rd St NW, Great Falls, Cascade

**Historic District:** Great Falls West Bank **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

William and Isabel Shea built this cozy one-story brick home in 1929. With its distinctive low profile, clipped-gable shingle roof, stucco siding, exposed rafter tails, and multi-pane windows, the inviting residence is a classic Craftsman style bungalow. Its horizontal orientation, sheltering roofline, subtle decorative elements, and use of varied natural materials, like wooden shingles, speak to the style's desire to "sing into the landscape." The Sheas lived here over thirty years, until their deaths in 1959 and 1962. Great Falls' longtime sanitarian, William was among Montana's first health officials to establish a mosquito control program. However, he is best remembered as the driving force behind the Montana Cowboys Association. The organization's first president, Shea donated a portion of his property to construct the Montana Cowboys Association Bar and Museum to the north. He also organized dances to raise money for the construction. In 1941, the National Youth Association finished building the museum, turning Shea's vision of a place to celebrate the romance of the Old West into a reality.

**Property:** Edward H. Cooney Residence

**Address:** 226 3rd Ave N, Great Falls, Cascade

**Historic District:** Northside Residential **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

A planned, tree-lined neighborhood away from the town's industrial activity, the Northside welcomed Great Falls' business and professional community. Charles Lemley, owner of the Bon Ton Confectionery, chose to build his family home here in 1900. The well-maintained home preserves Victorian-era ambience in its asymmetry, steep roof lines, lovely leaded and beveled glass, and charming curb appeal. By 1910, Edward H. Cooney and his wife Georgina owned the property. Cooney, whose family came to Montana in 1865, grew up in Meagher County. At White Sulphur Springs, he found his life's calling at the Rocky Mountain Husbandman setting type after school. A seasoned newspaperman by 1896, Cooney came to Great Falls to manage the Great Falls Leader. He soon became editor and part owner. While in residence here on Third Avenue, Cooney also served as the Great Falls postmaster, under appointments by presidents Roosevelt and Taft, and ran unsuccessfully for governor in 1912 and 1916. Cooney's legacy includes Montana's most beloved, often published Yuletide poem, "The Little Brown Gingerbread Man," penned shortly before his death in 1930.

**Property:** Robert Vaughn Homestead

**Address:** rural, Vaughn, Cascade

**Historic District:** **Building Type:**

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Subject 1:**

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

**Property:** Sunburst Office

**Address:** 216 4th Ave NW, Great Falls, Cascade

**Historic District:** Great Falls West Bank **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Since the mid-1930s, this hipped-roof building with exposed rafter tails and wide overhanging eaves has served as a private residence. However, its tranquil, domestic appearance masks its earlier history as the Sunburst Oil Refinery Office. Built in 1923 as part of a 3,000 barrel-per-day refinery, the one-story building is the only remaining evidence of the large-scale, industrial development. Sunburst chose to build on the West Bank to be near both the junction of two railroad lines and the Missouri River, which provided inexpensive access to the water essential to refining. Proximity to the Great Falls market and labor force was also a plus. The refinery processed crude from the Kevin-Sunburst Oil Field near Shelby, then Montana's largest oil field, discovered in 1921. Sunburst shipped its first ten carloads of gasoline in June 1923. During the 1920s, the refinery distributed its product to gas stations throughout northern Montana and western North Dakota under the trade names Sunreco, Sunburst, and Powerized. The California Eastern Oil Company purchased the locally owned refinery in 1927, closing the plant in 1933.

**Property:** Anaconda Company Manager's House

**Address:** 301 3rd Ave North, Great Falls, Cascade

**Historic District:** Northside Residential **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:** industrial housing

**Sign Text:**

The Boston and Montana Consolidated Copper and Silver Mining Company, later acquired by the Anaconda Company, chose a treeless bluff overlooking the river to locate its smelter and refinery in 1892. Among the seventeen managers' houses built at Black Eagle in the mid-1890s, this Queen Anne style home was the largest. Although built circa 1893, its first resident manager was Charles W. Goodale (1902 to 1913). A later manager, Al Wiggin (1918 to 1941), had many trees planted on barren Smelter Hill, transforming it into a pleasant, shaded neighborhood. Managers continued to use the residence until the refinery closed in 1980, jeopardizing the future of the company houses. Most were saved and moved to new locations. This home, weighing 120 tons, was moved to its present site by Richard and Carol Ecke in 1983. The lovely vintage residence features oak floors, carved ceiling beams, and rain gutters of copper, a material readily available at the refinery. Mahogany trim and original pewter and crystal fixtures hint at the refined lifestyle of a high-ranking company official.

**Property:** Lee M. Ford Home

**Address:** 401 4th Ave North, Great Falls, Cascade

**Historic District:** **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Robert S. Ford, pioneer, cattleman, and organizer of the Great Falls National Bank, built this splendid home as a wedding gift for his son. Lee M. Ford, who later succeeded his father as bank president, brought his bride to the new residence in 1908. Great Falls architect Henry N. Black skillfully combined elements of Arts and Crafts and Prairie School styles to achieve an impressive statement of affluence and prestige. The dignified stone residence

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

of locally quarried sandstone features a pyramidal hip roof with wide eaves and a deep wraparound porch. A coal-fired boiler, now converted to gas, and hot water radiators that still function perfectly reflect the latest technological innovations of the historic period. Original light fixtures grace the interior throughout, while authentic tapestry above a six-foot oak wainscoting covers the walls in the dining room. A garage (1909), a house for the homing and racing pigeons Ford raised (1910), and a playhouse for daughter Rachel Sue (1912) complete the grounds. Trees and bushes gathered by the family on motor outings enhance the mature landscaping. The fine craftsmanship and up-to-date amenities of this elegant home reflect both the personality of its owner and popular tastes of the early twentieth century.

**Property:** J.C. Adams Barn

**Address:** NE of Sun River off Hwy 89, Sun River, Cascade

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:**

**Subject 1:**                   **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

**Property:** Heikkila-Mattila Homestead

**Address:** Little Belt Creek, Belt, Cascade

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** homesteads           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Finnish immigrant Gust Heikkila filed his 160-acre homestead claim along the Little Belt Creek coulee in 1902. By 1905, other Finnish settlers had homesteaded the area, calling it Korpivaara, “potentially dangerous wilderness,” for the remote wooded surroundings. Here the Heikkilas raised eleven children, expanded their holdings to 639 acres, and were among the first to shift from farming to ranching. The skills of Gust and local Finnish builders Victor Mattila and Matt Maki reveal an outstanding folk vernacular building style that transfers the Finnish farmstead to a New World setting. Early buildings such as the traditional sauna (1905), spring house (1905), and main house (1916) of Fenno-Scandian log construction crafted with Old World tools (vara, broadaxe, and awl) attest to the talents of these builders. Multiple rooflines and special use buildings convey a classic Finnish open courtyard appearance. In 1938, the sons of Victor Mattila, whose skilled craftsmanship contributed to the building of the homestead, bought the property. John Mattila, trained in carpentry by Matt Maki, expanded some of the existing buildings and, with his brother, also built new ones. American in design but Finnish in construction, the 1938 barn in particular represents a masterful blending of the two cultures by second-generation Finnish builders. In 1986, the homestead was deeded to Gilbert and Eugene Myllymaki, descendants of Victor’s wife, Fannie Jussila.

**Property:** Lee Forest Garage

**Address:** 119 1st Ave. North, Great Falls, Cascade

**Historic District:** Great Falls Central Business   **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** garages                   **Subject 2:** automobile showrooms

**Sign Text:**

Winged automobile wheels frame the word “Garage” above this building’s center bay. Two other terra cotta panels, reading “Lee Forest” and “Machinists,” offer additional clues to the building’s original owner and use. Ford distributor Lee Forest hired architect George Shanley in 1916 to design a two-story addition to what had been a one-story garage. Three years earlier, Ford had revolutionized the auto industry with the introduction of the assembly line. Business boomed for distributors like Forest, who sold five hundred cars in the first quarter of 1916

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

alone. The dramatic increase in Forest's business made the \$20,000 addition necessary. The unusual design included a rear elevator to bring cars to the third-floor repair shop or second-floor showroom. The second floor also included a parking garage, which held up to 150 cars. The concept was new enough that the newspaper called the parking garage "storage ... for patron cars and for transient cars ... and for machines that Mr. Forest keeps for hire or for automobile livery service."

**Property:** Charlie and Nancy Russell Honeymoon Cottage

**Address:** 20 So. Russell Drive, Cascade, Cascade

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The son of a wealthy St. Louis family, Charles M. "Charlie" Russell longed for western adventure. In 1880, at fifteen, he convinced his parents to let him visit Montana. He never looked back. For over ten years, he worked as a night herder during the summer and rode the grub line in the winter, all the while painting and sculpting western scenes. Russell met Ben Roberts in 1882. The two became friends, and after Roberts married Lela Gorham and moved to Lela's hometown of Cascade, the cowboy artist often visited him in the off season. Roberts supported Russell's artistic ambitions, and in 1890 he published Russell's first book of illustrations. While visiting Cascade in October 1895, Russell met sixteen-year-old Nancy Cooper, who lived with, and worked for, the Roberts. Nancy and Charlie married a year later in the Roberts' parlor. After the ceremony they moved into the small bunkhouse and studio behind the Roberts' house where Russell always stayed when he visited the family. Russell spent \$75 adding a lean-to kitchen and otherwise fixing up the place. "Our wedding trip," Charlie remembered, "was a hundred yards to that one-room shack—and we walked." Charlie's marriage to Nancy marked a turning point in his career, and Nancy's business acumen is often credited for his professional success. Her management started early, and within a year of their marriage the Russells had moved to Great Falls, where Nancy correctly felt there would be a larger market for Charlie's work.

**Property:** Victor Arios#2 / Belmont Hotel

**Address:** 308 (310) 1st Avenue South, Great Falls, Cascade

**Historic District:** Great Falls Central Business   **Building Type:**

**Subject 1:**                   **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

**Property:** McCulloh Residence

**Address:** , Great Falls, Cascade

**Historic District:** Great Falls Residential   **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Carroll B. McCulloh and his wife Ella constructed this elegant two-story brick home in 1911, raising their two children here. Its two-and-one-half stories, simple box shape, low-hipped roof, large central dormer, wide overhanging eaves, and offset front porch mark it as a Prairie style foursquare. Light colored bricks decorate the eavelines; dark bricks mark the corners, mimicking stone quoins, which are stylistically associated with the Italian Renaissance. The most popular house type in the 1910s, foursquares had a reputation for economy and efficiency—their straightforward layout maximized a family's living space. The style's practicality and commitment to comfort may have appealed to Carroll, who spent his career improving Montanans' living conditions. In the 1900s and 1910s, he worked as a civil engineer, helping to modernize the infrastructure (especially sewer and

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

water) of towns across Montana. In the 1920s and 1930s, he became a businessman, serving as secretary of an ice company and manager of the People's Finance and Thrift. Carroll died in 1937; Ella continued to live here through 1940.

**Property:** Great Falls Gas

**Address:** 725 Central Avenue, Great Falls, Cascade

**Historic District:** Great Falls Central Business      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** power plants      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

A used car lot occupied this site before contractor John Sletten decided to build this commercial structure in 1941. The timing for the speculative project was right: the worst of the Depression was over, and civilian contractors still had access to supplies. Once the United States entered World War II, the government began rationing steel and other "controlled materials," making this one of the few commercial buildings constructed during the war years. The decorative brick frieze and dark concrete block at the waterline enhance the building's horizontal emphasis, while a diamond marked with an "S" for Sletten reflects the contractor's pride in his work. Overall, however, the design of the single-story, brick building reflects an architectural trend toward simplicity. Originally occupied by a gas appliance store, the building became home to Great Falls Gas in 1955. Founded in 1909 to supply gas for streetlights, the company boomed after pipelines were constructed from natural gas fields in northern Montana. By 1959, Great Falls Gas supplied almost every home in the "electric city" and served over 15,000 local customers.

**Property:** 10th Street Bridge

**Address:** 10th Street, Great Falls, Cascade

**Historic District:**      **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** bridges (built works)      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

When this critical link between Great Falls and Black Eagle opened in December of 1920, the Great Falls Tribune described the Tenth Street Bridge as "a carved monument above the water." Reflecting the pride and optimism of the community and the vision of Paris Gibson, the founder of Great Falls, the imposing structure of eight sweeping arches spans 1,130 feet across the Missouri River. It is Montana's longest and oldest reinforced concrete, open-spandrel, ribbed-arch bridge. Cascade County could not consider citizens' pleas for a new bridge until state legislation in 1917 authorized use of county funds with city limits. Voters approved more than \$224,000 for construction of the bridge in 1918. When bids exceeded available funds, county commissioners held a design competition. Spokane structural engineer Ralph Adams and Great Falls architect George Stanley collaborated on the winning plans. State Highway Commission engineer Evarts Blakeslee supervised construction. Crews built a railroad trestle across the river and used handcars to transport the mixed concrete to wooden forms for the cast-in-place arches. When completed in 1920 it represented "the most advanced ideas of modern bridge building" according to the Montana Highway Commission. Construction of the access to the south end of the bridge proved a major financial problem for the city, while the county completed the north approach as part of a federally aided project. Historically and aesthetically important, the Tenth Street Bridge combines skillful engineering with graceful elegance to complement Great Falls' most significant natural resource: the Missouri River.

**Property:** Abe and Carrie Kaufman Residence

**Address:** 617 4th Ave. N., Great Falls, Cascade

**Historic District:** Great Falls Northside Residential      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

### Sign Text:

A dramatic living room fireplace, crystal chandelier, and boxed-beam dining room ceiling are among the original fixtures continuing to decorate the interior of the Abe and Carrie Kaufman residence. Neoclassical, Craftsman, and Victorian detailing combine in this two-and-one-half-story residence, whose exterior ornamentation includes elaborate wooden brackets beneath the eaves, stickwork in the gable ends, lead glass windows, and a large wraparound porch. Abe Kaufman arrived in Great Falls in the 1890s, joining his brother-in-law, merchant Nathan Wertheim, to operate a clothing store on Central Avenue. Among their competitors were Mose Kaufman (no direct relation) and Arge Nathan. All four men were members of an extended network of pioneering Jewish businessmen, whose access to capital and merchandise were instrumental to Montana's commercial development. Great Falls' promising business climate spelled prosperity, and Abe's economic success is evident in this showcase home, constructed in 1906. Arge Nathan's son Robert, who inherited the store his father founded, purchased the residence in 1923 when the Kaufmans moved to San Francisco. He lived here with his family into the 1940s.

**Property:** Dubbs Block

**Address:** 815 1st Avenue North, Great Falls, Cascade

**Historic District:** Great Falls Central Business **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:** automobile

### Sign Text:

A shortage of steel and limited purchases of nonessential goods during World War II caused the automobile industry to skyrocket after the war ended. As the troops came home and the economy recovered, Montana experienced this boom as well. By the late 1940s, Great Falls consumers could choose from nearly a dozen makes of automobiles. North Dakotans Edmund and Clara Dubbs, in partnership with Frank P. McGrath, founded McGrath-Dubbs Motors in 1949 and constructed this building at what was one of the premier car sales locations of the time. Leonard Haggarty came to Great Falls in the early 1950s to manage the business, then known as Great Falls Motor, Inc. He purchased the company in 1952 and later changed its name to Haggarty Motors, Inc. The firm sold new Chryslers and Plymouths, used cars, and offered repair services. Three generations of Haggartys managed the business until the late 1990s. Streamline Moderne, a 1930s product of the Art Deco style, influenced the building's design. The rounded corner, horizontal band of windows on the second story, and wraparound showroom storefront create a streamlined effect.

**Property:** Arvon Block

**Address:** 114-118 1st Ave So, Great Falls, Cascade

**Historic District:** **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** boardinghouses **Subject 2:** livery stables

### Sign Text:

During the busy 1890s, Great Falls' business district swarmed with activity. City boosters such as pioneer rancher Robert Vaughn expressed confidence in the town's future by investing in commercial real estate. Vaughn commissioned an unknown designer to create this unusual combination stable and hotel. The Axtell Stables occupied the western portion of this splendid 1890 Renaissance-inspired building. Montana's most complete livery stable provided passenger, express, draying, and transfer services. While basement stalls accommodated fifty-eight horses, ground-floor harness and carriage showrooms displayed the newest equipment. Stable hands shared second-floor sleeping quarters with huge hay chutes that ran to the basement. On the east, a three-story boardinghouse boasted forty rooms for offices and lodgings. The Derrig Fruit Company had moved into the main floor area below the hotel by 1895, and in that year, the company paid out over \$76,000 in freight charges alone. Shipped by rail to the station a block away, the goods were no doubt then delivered to Derrig's by Axtell's wagons.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

One of few local Victorian-era commercial structures to have escaped natural and manmade destruction, this “grand old survivor” recalls the necessity of horse-drawn services before the advent of the automobile.

**Property:** 315 Fourth Avenue North

**Address:** 315 Fourth Avenue North, Great Falls, Cascade

**Historic District:** Great Falls Northside Residential

**Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Great Falls’ premier residential street, Fourth Avenue North, gained 24 new homes between 1900 and 1910. Among them was this substantial residence, constructed in 1904 for bookkeeper Edgar Newlon and his wife Anna. The home is a classic American foursquare, a style so named for its boxy shape. Like most foursquare residences, this dignified clapboard home is two-and-one-half stories and features a hipped roof with a centered dormer, a symmetrical façade, and a full-length front porch (now enclosed). The residence’s efficient use of space—a hallmark of the foursquare style—must have appealed to civil engineer Frank Scotten who, with his wife Lola, purchased the home in the early 1920s. Scotten came to Great Falls in 1889 and was said to know more about the town’s construction than any other resident. He supervised construction of several branch railroads, the city’s streetcar lines and street lighting system, two smelters, and the four hydroelectric dams that gave meaning to the moniker “the Electric City.” An engaged philanthropist, he also founded a local Community Chest—a forerunner to the United Way.

**Property:** Great Falls Central School

**Address:** 1400 First Avenue North, Great Falls, Cascade

**Historic District:**

**Building Type:**

**Subject 1:**

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

**Property:** Clark Apartments

**Address:** 212-214 1/2 4th Ave N, Great Falls, Cascade

**Historic District:** Great Falls Northside Residential

**Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** apartments

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Newcomers flooded into Great Falls in the 1910s as the mining industry boomed and businesses grew. Waiting lists for apartments, hotels, and boarding houses encouraged building on speculation. Joseph Bullock, a retired laborer for the B and M Mining Company, was one such investor who built these apartments in 1916. Light-colored brick with darker polychrome accents recall commercial architecture of the period, but the tapered columns, decorative railings, and a wood stairway for each entry lend an inviting, homey appeal. Four street-level entries, two of them with original decorative sidelights, access the separate units. Early residents included a bank teller, dentist, gas company superintendent, newspaper editor, and the organist at the Fox Liberty Theatre. In 1920, Anna Clark was in residence. Federal census information suggests that Anna held the building’s mortgage. Her husband, Charles F. Clark, owned a successful skylight and sheet metal business. Having survived the deadly 1918 Spanish flu, he died a few weeks later of an allergic reaction during a dental procedure. The inscription “Clark 1919,” added after the original construction, likely commemorates Anna’s husband.

**Property:** Great Falls West Bank Historic District

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Address:** Historic District, Great Falls, Cascade

**Historic District:** Great Falls West Bank **Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** historic districts

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

An eclectic cultural landscape has long characterized the West Bank. Separated from downtown Great Falls by the broad Missouri River, the larger neighborhood has hosted a varied mix of industrial, residential, and commercial development since the 1880s. The site of Johnstown, the earliest permanent Euro-American settlement, the greater West Bank area was also home to historic-era Chippewa-Cree encampments. The area began developing an industrial character after 1887, when the railroad arrived in Great Falls and constructed a roundhouse and shops nearby. A Great Northern spur line ran northeast along the West Bank to the Boston and Montana, later Anaconda Company's Black Eagle smelter, encouraging nearby industrial development. The most prominent West Bank industry of the early twentieth century was the Sunburst Oil Refinery, which operated from 1923 to 1933. Two buildings remain as a tribute to the West Bank's role in this early oil boom. Non-industrial development also increased in the early 1900s. Attracted by inexpensive land prices and the proximity of downtown, more residents constructed permanent homes. Improved roads and the construction of the Northern Montana Fairgrounds in 1931 drew retail and entertainment establishments. During the Great Depression, New Deal programs sponsored the construction of two of the district's most notable landmarks: the WPA warehouse, built in 1939 as an operations base for the Works Progress Administration; and the 1940 Cowboys Bar and Museum, home of the Montana Cowboys Association. Today, six well-preserved residential, commercial, and industrial buildings compose this small, historic district, which epitomizes the West Bank's diverse history.

**Property:** Great Falls Building and Loan Association

**Address:** 13 5th Street North, Great Falls, Cascade

**Historic District:** Great Falls Central Business **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** banks (financial institutions)

**Subject 2:** commercial buildings

**Sign Text:**

Prominent early business leaders founded the Great Falls Building and Loan in 1916 for a dual purpose: to provide loans to aspiring homeowners and to pay regular dividends to shareholders. Unlike banks, building and loans were non-profit corporations partially motivated by the desire to improve Americans' lives and morals by encouraging thrift and placing homeownership within reach. Fortuitously, accessible mortgages also helped build the community—a central goal of Great Falls' Progressive-era businessmen. By 1940, the thriving building and loan was ready to construct its own building. Intended "to last a lifetime," the building featured high quality materials and a cutting-edge Moderne style design that displayed a forward-looking image. Moderne characteristics include its spare, geometric detailing, flat roof, and bold asymmetry. In 1958, the renamed Great Falls Federal Savings and Loan Association expanded into a new building down the street. However, its Moderne monument still promises to provide Great Falls with office space for the intended lifetime—and beyond.

**Property:** Cowboy Bar and Museum

**Address:** 311 3rd St NW, Great Falls, Cascade

**Historic District:** Great Falls West Bank **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** museums (buildings)

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Former Great Falls "cowhands" held a reunion in 1938. Now grown men, as boys they had earned money herding local milk cows in and out of town each day or driving range cattle through the city streets. Membership soon expanded beyond Great Falls, and over 300 former cowboys attended the Montana Cowboys Association's second annual reunion banquet in 1939. Association President Bill Shea donated the land for a meeting hall and museum



## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

dedicated to preserving memories of cowboy life. The Cowboys worked with the National Youth Association (NYA) to build the museum, completed in 1941. A New Deal program designed to provide work for youth between sixteen and twenty-five, the NYA intentionally adopted labor intensive designs and techniques to maximize employment. The result was a well-crafted stone and log building, whose Rustic style evoked the museum's intention of glorifying the Old West. Later additions expanded the facility, which houses a bar, noted for its cowboy hospitality, and a museum of over 500 artifacts—from rifles and saddles to a Kimball-Reed organ, brought to Montana by steamboat in 1876.

**Property:** Masonic Temple

**Address:** 821 Central Ave, Great Falls, Cascade

**Historic District:** Great Falls Central Business      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** fraternal lodges      **Subject 2:** commercial buildings

**Sign Text:**

Terra-cotta medallions sporting the Masonic emblem of square and compass and the words “Masonic Temple” centered beneath the cornice proudly announce this building’s primary purpose. Chartered in 1898, the Forsyth Masonic Lodge met in borrowed quarters until 1905, when enthusiastic Mason Hiram Marcyes included a lodge room in his new Commercial Hotel. Six years later, the Masons hired Miles City architect Brynjulf Rivenes to design this Beaux Arts style temple, constructed of local brick from Marcyes’ brickyard and finished with a façade of high-fire Hebron brick trimmed with Bedford limestone. Rent from the first-floor storefronts subsidized the building’s \$21,000 price tag. The second floor boasted the lodge room as well as a cloakroom and clubroom designed for members of the short-lived Forsyth Club. During the 1918 flu epidemic, clubrooms were converted into a temporary hospital. In 1921 the public library, founded by the Forsyth Woman’s Club, occupied the space. While the library moved to the old courthouse in 1927 and into its current building in 1971, Masons continue to meet in this lodge, built by their predecessors in 1911.

**Property:** Rainbow Hotel

**Address:** #20 3rd St North, Great Falls, Cascade

**Historic District:** Great Falls Central Business      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** hotels (public accommodations)      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Architects George Shanley and John Kent designed the 1911 Rainbow Hotel for the Great Falls Townsite Company. The Townsite Company’s board included two of the most powerful men in America: Anaconda Company president John D. Ryan and Great Northern Railway president James J. Hill. The five-story hotel expressed their belief in Great Falls’ future—as an industrial center and hub for a large, prosperous agricultural district. As Ryan explained, they did not design the Rainbow for Great Falls as it existed, but for the much larger city they expected it to become. Decorated with terra cotta, the luxurious brick building cost \$400,000 to construct and furnish, making it the most expensive establishment in the state. The hotel boasted a café, buffet, banquet hall, sample rooms, and 150 sleeping rooms, 120 of which connected to their own bathrooms. Finished in white marble, ivory, and copper, the lobby exuded elegance. So, too, did the Palm Room, which the Tribune complimented as “the most pretentious public room in a hotel between the Twin Cities and the Pacific coast.”

**Property:** Bungalow Bakery

**Address:** 509 1st Ave. N., Great Falls, Cascade

**Historic District:** Great Falls Business      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings      **Subject 2:**

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

### Sign Text:

Edward and Celia Harberson constructed this building for their bakery in 1946. Its simple plan and design, typical of the period, reflect the post–World War II boom as the work force returned and small businesses, like the Harbersons’ bakery, prospered. Edward Harberson came to Great Falls from Billings as an orphan in 1909. He was among the first children taken into St. Thomas Orphans’ Home where Sister Hermina taught him the art of baking. Harberson worked for the Eddy Bakery but later started baking in his home and delivering the baked goods by wagon. He and his wife, also a baker, established the Bungalow Bakery in 1937. In 1952, one of the Harbersons’ three sons died of polio. The following year, the Harbersons created Doughnut Day at the bakery to raise funds for the March of Dimes; it became a Great Falls tradition. The Harbersons closed the bakery in 1957. A series of tenant businesses then occupied the space until Carroll and Virginia Blend purchased the property for their small business, Blends’ Copy Shop, in 1981.

**Property:** Great Falls Central Business Historic District

**Address:** Historic District, Great Falls, Cascade

**Historic District:** Great Falls Central Business      **Building Type:**

**Subject 1:**

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

**Property:** C.E. Davis Residence

**Address:** 817 4th Avenue North, Great Falls, Cascade

**Historic District:** Northside Residential      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Charles E. Davis, “expert watchmaker and jeweler,” arrived in Great Falls with his wife, Grace, in 1900. With Charles’ two brothers, the couple opened a store on bustling Central Avenue, selling jewelry, watches, cut glass, gifts, and eyeglasses. Their son, William, continued the family business, and Davis Jewelry remained a Central Avenue institution until 1983. The Davises built this two-story residence in 1902. The home’s architecture bridges the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. The fish-scale shingles in the gable end evoke the Queen Anne style, but most of the home’s features reflect the cleaner lines of the Colonial Revival style, which became increasingly popular after the turn of the century. Charles and Grace raised four children, three of whom continued to live here into adulthood. In 1930, the residence, valued at \$10,000, sheltered Charles and Grace, two grown sons, a teenage daughter, and a live-in servant. When Charles died at the age of seventy-seven in 1948, he was thought to be Central Avenue’s oldest active businessman. Grace remained in the family home until 1958.

**Property:** A. W. Kingsbury House

**Address:** 627 4th Ave North, Great Falls, Cascade

**Historic District:** Northside Residential      **Building Type:**

**Subject 1:**

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

**Property:** F.W. Woolworth Building

**Address:** 500 Central Building, Great Falls, Cascade

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Historic District:** Great Falls Central Business **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:** hotels (public accommodations)

**Sign Text:**

A close look at the Woolworth Building's upper floors makes evident that it was originally two separate, but closely related edifices. Connecting arches over second-story windows, a decorative metal cornice, and a crowning brick parapet distinguish the eastern portion from its less ornate neighbor. Constructed in 1890 and 1891, the buildings featured connecting second and third floors. Cascade County's court and offices occupied the second floor in 1891. By 1897, the building was home to the Hotel Grand, which provided rooms for \$2.00 per day. Free carriages met all trains, and the hotel boasted a "well-lighted sample room," dining room, and billiard room on the first floor. Under new management and a slightly different name, the Grand Hotel opened in 1907 with sixty-two rooms. The residential hotel provided "first-class lodging" for businessmen, "local and transient, alike." By 1916, the Golden Rule Store (a precursor to J.C. Penney) occupied the first floor. The ground floor was remodeled several times by mid-century, and again when the F. W. Woolworth's Company moved here in 1956.

**Property:** Union Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church

**Address:** 916 5th Ave South, Great Falls, Cascade

**Historic District:** **Building Type:**

**Subject 1:** **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

**Property:** Belt Commercial Historic District

**Address:** Historic District, Belt, Cascade

**Historic District:** Belt Commercial **Building Type:**

**Subject 1:** **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

**Property:** First United Methodist Church Parsonage

**Address:** 610 Second Avenue North, Great Falls, Cascade

**Historic District:** **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** churches (buildings) **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The pioneer Methodist circuit rider William Wesley Van Orsdel—better known as "Brother Van"—arrived in Fort Benton, Montana, on the steamboat, Far West, in 1872. For forty-five years, he traveled on horseback, by wagon, by rail, and, finally, as a passenger, by car, holding services and establishing churches across the state. In the early days, he held prayer meetings in stores, barns, living rooms, and even, at times, saloons. He is credited with having helped found more than a hundred churches, a college, six hospitals, and a children's home, which, in the years since, have contributed enormously to Montana's welfare. Because he never married and spent most of his time traveling, Brother Van did not have a home of his own, even though he oversaw the building of approximately fifty parsonages. According to legend, saloonkeepers once gave him a thousand dollars to build himself a home; instead, he donated the money to the Great Falls hospital to help construct a nurses' residence. When Rev. J. A. Martin had this classic American four-square home built in 1909, he included a room for Brother Van. A lively place, the six-bedroom parsonage also sheltered Martin, his wife, their three children, three boarders, and frequent guests. Brother Van's room was located at the head of the stairs on the second floor, so

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

he wouldn't disturb the family when he came in late at night. When Brother Van died in 1919, the governor ordered flags to half-mast. Montana had lost one of her best-loved sons.

**Property:** Quigley House

**Address:** 709 4th Avenue North, Great Falls, Cascade

**Historic District:** Northside Residential **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

By 1908, Montana's agricultural boom was in full swing, and real estate agents like John Quigley, whose firm offered farms "on 20 years payments," seemed poised to make a fortune. That year forty-eight-year-old Quigley built this large Colonial Revival style home on the prestigious block of Fourth Avenue North, where he and his wife, Katherine, reared three children. The hip-roofed, clapboard residence, whose symmetrical façade and columned front porch bespoke of propriety and tradition, reflected the fashion of the day. In 1910 the Quigleys owned the home free of mortgage, though two boarders lived with the family to help make ends meet. Post-World War I drought and low commodity prices ended the boom that built this home, and the Quigleys, like other Great Falls residents, felt the effects of the agricultural depression. From 1927 to 1930, John worked first as a laborer and then as a night watchman, and the family once again shared its home—worth \$9,000 in 1930—with renters.

**Property:** Great Falls Railroad Historic District

**Address:** Historic District, Great Falls, Cascade

**Historic District:** Great Falls Railroad **Building Type:**

**Subject 1:** **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

**Property:** Belt Jail

**Address:** Castner Street, Belt, Cascade

**Historic District:** **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** jails (buildings) **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Lewis and Clark named nearby Belt Butte for its girdle of rocks and, in 1877, John Castner named his town Belt. Coal brought Castner here, and Fort Benton was the first market for his Castner Coal Company. Then, in 1889, the Boston and Montana Consolidated Copper and Silver Mining Company built their reduction works at Great Falls—in part because of the availability of Belt coal. Castner sold his claims to the Anaconda Copper Mining Company, which had absorbed the Boston and Montana, and their mine soon employed a thousand men. The town experienced a boom time and in 1900 was Cascade County's second-largest community, with a population above 2,800, including French, Finnish, Slav, German, and Swedish immigrants. It was during this boom that the jail was constructed, late in the 1890s, when 32 saloons flourished in town. Fire destroyed the Anaconda mine in 1915 and, in 1930, the smelters stopped using coal. Belt's population fell off, but it remained a center for this agricultural area. The jail itself survived major floods in 1909 and 1953, and a 1976 fire caused by a train derailment, which destroyed five homes and three businesses.

**Property:** W.K. Floweree House

**Address:** 825 4th Avenue North, Great Falls, Cascade

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Historic District:** Northside Residential **Building Type:**

**Subject 1:** **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

**Property:** Ursuline Academy

**Address:** 2300 Central Avenue, Great Falls, Cascade

**Historic District:** **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** academies (buildings) **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The Sisters of the Order of St. Ursula came to Montana in 1884 to establish schools for Indians. When the homestead movement created a need for more urban educational facilities, the Great Falls Townsite Company offered the sisters any two city blocks. This site overlooking the city was chosen for its tranquility, removed from the bustle of the city's center. In 1912, the Ursuline Academy opened its doors to day and boarding students of all denominations. The academy, a detached gymnasium, two shrines, and the grounds comprise the campus. Iconography by Sister Raphael Schweda graces the academy's interior. Great Falls architect George Shanley chose the Collegiate Gothic style to reflect the academy's commitment to learning and its ecclesiastical associations. But the building also represents the culmination of the Ursulines' mission to bring education and culture to Montana's youth. From a log cabin to this grand and noble institution of learning, the "lady black robes" have touched the lives of thousands of Montanans. The sisters continued their mission teaching at the academy until it became the Ursuline Centre in 1971. The sisters who reside within its lofty halls continue to serve in the community and graciously open their home to ecumenical activities.

**Property:** Toole Residence

**Address:** 512 4th Avenue North, Great Falls, Cascade

**Historic District:** Northside Residential **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The front canted bay window hints at the modest one-story Queen Anne style residence that lies at the core of this elegant home. In 1891, the house was one of only two on the block. A small back addition had been added by 1900, when Mandeville Philips purchased the home. Philips owned the Stockholm Concert Hall, a vaudeville house, and was co-proprietor of the Silver Dollar Saloon, a favorite spot of artist Charlie Russell. Between 1900 and 1929, the residence underwent a series of significant renovations. Homeowners added a second story to the original footprint, a large one-story addition to the front northeast side, and a west-side bay. The transformed residence mirrored the latest architectural fashion, with its flared hipped roof, casement windows, and general massing reflecting the popular Prairie style. Lawyer and president of the Montana Wildlife Association John Thelan lived here with his wife, Vera, from 1911 to 1923. Democratic Party activist Eulalie Toole and her husband Warren lived here from 1925 to 1937. Son of Montana's first governor, Warren was a lawyer and state legislator.

**Property:** Great Falls Civic Center

**Address:** Park Drive and Central Avenue, Great Falls, Cascade

**Historic District:** Great Falls Railroad **Building Type:**

**Subject 1:** **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Property:** St. Ann's Cathedral

**Address:** 701 3rd Ave. N., Great Falls, Cascade

**Historic District:** Northside Residential **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** churches (buildings)

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Shortly after Pope Pius X established the Diocese of Great Falls in 1904, Great Falls' first bishop, Matthias Lenihan, hired Montana architect John Hackett Kent to design a cathedral equal to those in Europe. Kent, who helped design the Montana state capitol, looked to thirteenth-century England for inspiration. St. Ann's shares all the features of the Gothic Revival style: an "exaggerated verticality" that makes the building itself look as if it were reaching toward heaven, a cruciform plan, pointed arches, window tracery, and a ribbed interior vault. According to the Great Falls Tribune, its red and cream sandstone was quarried locally, with "each block ... cut for a particular place in the structure and ... marked [to] ... designate it for that one particular place." Bitterroot Valley sculptor W. R. Gifford carved the two-ton exterior figure of Christ, which graces the top of the gable end arch. Construction of the cathedral, which seats five hundred people, cost approximately \$100,000. Money for the project came from the four hundred parishioners living in Great Falls in 1906.

**Property:** Murphy Maclay Hardware Store

**Address:** 200 Central Avenue, Great Falls, Cascade

**Historic District:** Great Falls Central Business **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

In the 1880s Murphy, Maclay and Co. sold everything from flour and fine teas to window glass and blasting powder. Edgar Maclay and John Murphy established the firm with stores in Helena and Fort Benton in 1882. Two years later they sent Worden Wren here to open a branch in a canvas tent; Great Falls was only a few months old. They constructed this stone and brick building in 1886. They expanded the building in 1888, remodeled again before 1900, and again sometime before 1929. Later remodels reflect Murphy Maclay's continued prosperity but disguised the building's historic character. A look at the west wall, however, reveals the original rubble stone construction. Locally available rubble stone supplied fire-resistant and sturdy building components before the railroad arrived in 1887, expanding the choice of construction material. By 1891 the one-story stone building housed both the Great Falls National Bank and the Murphy Maclay hardware and grocery store. One of the longest operating businesses in Great Falls, the firm sold hardware from this building from 1886 into the 1960s.

**Property:** Bus Depot and Garage

**Address:** 326 1st Avenue South, Great Falls, Cascade

**Historic District:** Great Falls Central Business **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** bus terminals

**Subject 2:** garages

**Sign Text:**

Streamline Moderne architecture celebrated America's engineering prowess. The style—which offered an optimistic response to the woes of the Great Depression—promised a better future through technology. Its celebration of speed and efficiency provided a perfect match for Greyhound Lines, which adopted the style as part of its corporate identity. Founded in 1914, the bus company built dozens of Streamline Moderne depots during its dramatic post-World War II expansion, including this one in 1947. Complementing the sleek aesthetic of Greyhound's Silverside buses, the depots incorporated modern materials, including glass block and aluminum, which gave the buildings a progressive feel. In typical streamlined fashion, the depots hugged the ground while

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

their smooth, aerodynamic surfaces, rounded corners, and curved plate-glass windows echoed the company's commitment to fast, efficient transportation. The site of the Great Falls depot had once housed a livery stable. After 1947, it provided access to a more modern form of transportation, conveniently located near the city center.

**Property:** Cascade County Courthouse  
**Address:** 15 Second Ave North, Great Falls, Cascade  
**Historic District:** Northside Residential **Building Type:**  
**Subject 1:** **Subject 2:**  
**Sign Text:**

**Property:** Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Depot  
**Address:** River Drive N., Great Falls, Cascade  
**Historic District:** **Building Type:** building  
**Subject 1:** railroad stations **Subject 2:**  
**Sign Text:**

The Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railway was constructed between 1907 and 1909, the last transcontinental railroad to cross Montana. Its service to Great Falls during the homestead boom supported the city's establishment as a major urban center for central Montana. When the Milwaukee Road completed this passenger depot in January of 1915, railway officials hailed it as the finest of its kind between Spokane and Chicago. The terminal is the only building in Great Falls made of "flash" brick, which is burned and unevenly fired. The 135-foot tower became a Great Falls landmark, acting as a giant marker of the depot's location. The corporate logos 100 feet up on each side of the tower were the first of this type, designed to be used on any railway station in the United States. They are composed of small, high-grade tiles pointed with tinted mortar to create a seamless effect—even if viewed close up. Each sign measures 17 feet by 10 feet. This grand railroad depot compares favorably with the Milwaukee Road's passenger depots in Miles City (1909), Butte (1916-17), and Missoula (1910).

**Property:** Great Falls Northside Residential Historic District  
**Address:** Historic District, Great Falls, Cascade  
**Historic District:** Great Falls Northside Residential **Building Type:** district  
**Subject 1:** historic districts **Subject 2:** residential structures  
**Sign Text:**

Great Falls founder Paris Gibson was drawn to the power of the falls of the Missouri where he vowed to found an industrial center of "unsurpassed beauty." Backed by railroad magnate James J. Hill, Gibson hired H. P. Rolfe to plat the townsite in 1883. Industry harnessed the river's power and the advent of the railroad in 1887 assured the town a future. The Northside District, part of the original townsite, was planned as a neighborhood removed from industrial activity but still convenient to it. By the 1890s doctors, lawyers, politicians, businessmen, and smelter officials had begun to settle in its neighborhoods. More than 200 beautifully preserved homes and buildings span the period from 1885 to 1945, offering a medley of period architectural styles including Queen Anne, Colonial Revival, Craftsman Bungalow, Prairie, and Moderne. The work of renowned architect George Shanley, a Northside resident, indelibly colors the district. The Classical Revival style Sacred Heart Convent and the Romanesque Revival style Cascade County Jail showcase his talents. Paris Gibson himself, first mayor of Great Falls, also built a Northside home. Gibson believed that beautiful surroundings molded a diverse population into a contented community. Gibson Park which skirts the district and the double-lined boulevards, resplendently shaded by huge trees planted between 1888 and 1913, are central to Gibson's legacy. Today the Northside's residential streets,

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

magnificent churches, and impressive public buildings reflect the economic, social and political flowering of Gibson's vision.

**Property:** New Park Hotel

**Address:** 100 Central, Great Falls, Cascade

**Historic District:** Great Falls Central Business      **Building Type:**

**Subject 1:**                      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

**Property:** Liberty Theatre

**Address:** 301 Central Avenue, Great Falls, Cascade

**Historic District:** Great Falls Central Business      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** theaters (buildings)                      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Thirty-six hundred people watched Nomads of the North at the grand opening of the Liberty Theatre in August 1921. A musical score, played on a \$47,000 Wurlitzer organ, accompanied the silent film. An overflow crowd of two thousand toured the theater's lavishly appointed interior. The Renaissance Revival style building, designed by Great Falls architect George Shanley, also housed shops, apartments, offices, and a bowling alley. Outside, floodlights illuminated decorative terra cotta while cascading lights mimicked an Italian fountain, and other lights spelled out the name of the eighteen-hundred-seat theater. Two glowing terra-cotta torches atop the cornice emitted red smoke, an illusion created through the use of red lights and forced steam. Like other movie palaces of its day, the Liberty Theatre promised excitement and luxury with décor that alluded both to American patriotism and old world extravagance. Thirty cents transported moviegoers into a world of wealth and privilege—and not just on the screen. The Liberty's rest rooms and men's smoking room offered patrons "every convenience from maid service to engraved stationery and telephone."

**Property:** T.E. Collins Mansion

**Address:** 1003 2nd Ave NW, Great Falls, Cascade

**Historic District:**                      **Building Type:**

**Subject 1:**                      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

**Property:** S.H. Kress and Company

**Address:** 409-411 Central Avenue, Great Falls, Cascade

**Historic District:** Great Falls Central Business      **Building Type:**

**Subject 1:**                      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

**Property:** Boyd House

**Address:** 313 2nd Street North, Great Falls, Cascade



## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Historic District:** Great Falls Northside Residential **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

By 1910, the Queen Anne style had lost much of its allure. Once admired, its artistic jumble of angles, textures, and colors had become reviled as cluttered and artificial. This rejection of complexity was gradual, and many houses—like this transitional Queen Anne/Colonial Revival style home—pursued a cleaner look while retaining some traditional late Victorian features. In this case, those features include a wraparound porch, corbelled chimney, beveled and leaded glass windows, and a shingled front gable. The rough-dressed sandstone windowsills and lintels contrast with the home’s dark brick. The 1908 home’s hipped roof, pedimented entranceway, and relative simplicity reflect a more modern taste. James and Frances Boyd, who built this house, lived here until their deaths in 1946 and 1947, respectively. The Boyds took in middle-class boarders, who included at various times an accountant, a student, and a librarian. James’s brother and business partner, Gilbert, also shared their home. The Boyd brothers owned a large plumbing business and invested in real estate. Their projects included plumbing the Deaconess Hospital and constructing the nearby Teton Apartments.

**Property:** 305 Third Avenue North

**Address:** 305 Third Avenue North, Great Falls, Cascade

**Historic District:** Northside Residential **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

A graceful wraparound porch with square posts, a central entry beneath a projecting gable, and transomed windows distinguish this charming vernacular example of the Greek Revival style. Inside, a rounded hall ceiling adds lovely period elegance. The single-story frame dwelling beautifully illustrates the Greek Revival style in transition. This popular architectural form evolved from the mid-1800s into the twentieth-century gable-front-and-wing, the nation’s most popular form of folk housing. Great Falls pioneer realtor Matthew Dunn purchased the property in 1888, built the home soon after, and was the first occupant. A succession of other early residents included the David Craig family who, along with five boarders, were tenants in 1900. Prominent pioneer attorney James W. Speer and his wife, Grace, owned the property circa 1907 to 1910. Grace taught piano while her husband built his law practice and served as county attorney in 1908 and 1909. He was later elected mayor (1911-1913), state senator (1923 and 1925) and district judge (1948-1956). The Speers’ household in 1910 included their two small children, Grace’s mother, a brother-in-law, and two servants.

**Property:** Terrill Apartments

**Address:** 312 3rd Ave. N., Great Falls, Cascade

**Historic District:** Northside Residential **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** apartments **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Apartment buildings were good investments in rapidly expanding communities like Great Falls, which grew from 17,000 to 26,000 between 1910 and 1920. Owners reported waiting lists for units, which ranged from rooms in old-fashioned “apartment hotels” to elegant flats in modern buildings constructed specifically as apartments. By 1923, Great Falls boasted fifty-two apartment buildings. That year, Genevieve and Clarence Terrill hired the prominent contracting firm Pappin and Sons to construct this three-story, twelve-unit building, worth \$30,000 by 1930. Genevieve managed the apartments; Clarence worked as a buyer for the Standard Furniture Company. A pedimented entrance, with the name “Terrill” embossed on the gable, and a frieze distinguished by diamond-patterned brickwork ornament the otherwise simple but solid western commercial style building. Rent in 1930 ranged from \$45 to \$62 per month, and the building attracted middle-class tenants: engineers, salesmen, small

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

business owners, and stenographers. The Terrills also made their home here, Clarence until his death in a tragic car accident in 1931, and Genevieve into the 1940s.

**Property:** Geraldine Milwaukee Depot

**Address:** Railroad Avenue, Geraldine, Chouteau

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** railroad stations           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railway completed its line across Montana in 1909 as soldiers began to populate rural areas under the Homestead Act. In 1913, a branch line stretching from Harlowton to Great Falls was nearly finished. Midway between Lewistown and Great Falls, the brand-new town of Geraldine, named for the wife of Milwaukee Railroad financier William G. Rockefeller, anticipated a bright future. The Geraldine Review reported that Milwaukee officials planned to make the town “the show place of the new line.” Workers put the finishing touches on the only custom-built depot on the central branch and a gala New Year’s Eve dance ushering in 1914 christened the building. Its hardwood maple floors were pronounced “splendid.” The special design, described as “a rustic bungalow of the California pattern,” featured two waiting rooms, a ticket room, freight room with scales embedded in the floor, nickel-trimmed hot-blast stoves, and a ventilating system that changed the air every five minutes. Geraldine was a busy stopover serving two daily passenger trains and freight crews until passenger service ended in 1965. All the other depots were sold and, after the Milwaukee’s demise in 1980, salvage companies removed the rails from the Great Falls-Geraldine section. The nonprofit Geraldine Historical Committee acquired the depot from Central Montana Rail in 1995. A model of expert workmanship and quality materials with most original details intact, the depot is still Geraldine’s centerpiece and central to the town’s history.

**Property:** T.C. Power Dry Goods Store

**Address:** 1618 Front Street, Fort Benton, Chouteau

**Historic District:** Fort Benton   **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

T. C. Power and Bro. was founded in 1868 at approximately this location. Initially housed in a wooden building, the store was moved in 1879 to a large brick structure across the street. When the firm expanded, a hardware store was built next door and the dry goods-saddlery building constructed in 1881. The business went bankrupt in 1934. In later years Palmer Hardware and Morrison’s Hardware occupied the building.

**Property:** Stockmen's National Bank

**Address:** 1318 Front Street, Fort Benton, Chouteau

**Historic District:** Fort Benton   **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** banks (financial institutions)           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Originally built to house the Stockmen’s National Bank, this solid structure represents typical pre-1900s commercial architecture. Its 1890 construction is significant as one of the few buildings erected after Fort Benton’s heyday and before homesteaders flocked to Montana in the twentieth century. Arched windows and front corner quoins add visual interest to this historic institution, which later accommodated the Chouteau County Bank and First Bank System. The ornate, one-story extension at the rear was added in 1918.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Property:** St. Paul's Episcopal Church

**Address:** 14th and Chouteau Sts, Fort Benton, Chouteau

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** churches (buildings)           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Reverend George Stewart designed this English Gothic church, constructed in 1899. Congregant Lena Crutchfield organized numerous pancake suppers, ice cream socials, and offered generous donations to make this historic landmark a reality. Margaret Daly, wife of copper king and lumber baron Marcus Daly, was also a prominent financial contributor. The wood-frame structure incorporated elements typical of British ecclesiastical architecture, and its pointed-arch windows, decorative wooden tracery, steeply pitched rooflines, and square towers allude to the denomination's English roots. The interior ceiling is intended to remind worshippers of an inverted Noah's ark. The towers, originally asymmetrical, were modified in later years. The stained glass windows were more recently added. In 1941, Mrs. Daly's funeral, one of the largest ever held in the vicinity, took place in this building. Many businesses closed to allow community members to attend. Today, St. Paul's Episcopal Church continues its long tradition of providing a source of Christian fellowship to the community of Hamilton.

**Property:** St. Paul's Episcopal Church

**Address:** 14th and Chouteau Sts, Fort Benton, Chouteau

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** churches (buildings)           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Fort Benton's oldest church, is the oldest Episcopal Church in Montana. In continuous service since August 11, 1881, it appears today almost as it did upon opening. Architecturally, this Gothic style building is a fine example of the small community churches being built in Montana at that time. But its story illustrates the difficulties of civilization's arrival on the raw frontier. After Bishop D. S. Tuttle established a congregation here in 1879, its members held services in the schoolhouse, a saloon, and finally in the courthouse while raising money to build a church. The building fund's first substantial contribution even came from the East, from the Rev. Joseph Coit, headmaster of St. Paul's School in Concord, New Hampshire. Thus the church was named St. Paul's. Here worshipped notable Montana pioneers including W. G. Conrad, C. E. Conrad, Joseph A. Baker, and Paris Gibson. Note the leaded stained glass lancet windows, all placed as memorials and each a work of art.

**Property:** T.C. Power Building

**Address:** 1700 Front Street, Fort Benton, Chouteau

**Historic District:** Fort Benton   **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

In 1867, merchant T. C. Power, destined to become one of the state's wealthiest and most influential men, brought his first wagonload of goods to Fort Benton, where he set up shop in a borrowed tent. Still in business in 1916, Power constructed a new grocery and department store to cater to "sodbusters" during the homestead boom. Architect George H. Carsley, who was Power's neighbor in Helena, designed the stylish, two-story brick building. A flat roof, decorative brackets, and series of second-story windows are architecturally representative of the period.

**Property:** Murphy-Neel Building

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Address:** 1220 Front Street, Fort Benton, Chouteau

**Historic District:** Fort Benton **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Prominent Montana merchant and cattleman John T. Murphy, who also ran a major freighting outfit between Fort Benton and the mining camps, went into partnership with Samuel Neel to build this commercial structure in 1880 at a cost of \$15,000. The impressive one-story brick building on the riverfront served as mercantile store and warehouse. Distinctive corbelling, arched doorways, and tall pillared chimneys enhanced its original appearance. The one remaining chimney still retains the intricate design.

**Property:** Gans and Klein

**Address:** , Fort Benton, Chouteau

**Historic District:** Fort Benton **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

When Frank Coombs teamed up with architect Thomas Tweedy for the construction of the Grand Union Hotel across the street, they and J. R. Wilton also built this rather unpretentious commercial building. Begun in June and completed in September of 1881, it was constructed for the manufacturing, wholesale, and retail firm of Gans and Klein. This highly successful San Francisco and New York-based firm dealing in “fine clothing and men’s furnishing goods” also had stores in Helena and Butte. The Fort Benton branch operated here until it closed in 1890. By 1902, the building housed a stationery and cigar store. It was a furniture store in 1910, and in the 1930s, a mortuary. Most old-timers, however, remember this corner as the longtime home of the local VFW Legion Club. Although the locally made brick is now covered in stucco, the building is a classic example of western commercial architecture that retains its original configuration. Conversion to a banking facility in 1996 illustrates the adaptability of Fort Benton’s historic resources.

**Property:** West Quincy Granite Quarry

**Address:** Flat Creek Road, Square Butte, Chouteau

**Historic District:** **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** quarries (extracting complexes) **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Volcanic activity eons ago laid down this substantial granite deposit known as the Shonkin Sag Lacolith. Geologists Louis N. Pirsson and Walter H. Weed named the gray stone “Shonkinite” in 1894. I. E. Jenkins and W. H. Guyor began formal quarrying in 1914. They named the company after their hometown of West Quincy, Massachusetts, America’s “granite capital.” Two companies quarried granite from the two tiers of the outcrop, employing twenty-seven workers at the peak. Boulders scattered at the base of the upthrust provided enough stone for local needs and for buildings as far away as Denver. The cliff itself was never quarried. Brothers J. Arthur and Paul Rudin along with Carl Johnson, all natives of Sweden by way of Massachusetts, leased the West Quincy Quarry in 1916. They marketed their stone as “Lone Tree Granite” after the nearby ranch and former stage stop. Rudin Bros. Granite Co. supplied the stone for buildings, monuments, and engraved markers across Montana, including the boulder that marks renowned artist C.M. Russell’s grave. In 1928, the Tanners, Lone Tree ranchers, purchased the quarry land and then leased it to the Rudin Bros. After Art Rudin’s death in 1939, Johnson and Rudin’s two sons operated the quarry. Johnson purchased the business in 1943, operating it into the 1960s. Square Butte granite has fueled the local economy and has long adorned Montana’s buildings, cemeteries, and monuments.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Property:** Eagle Butte School

**Address:** 4500 Eagle Butte School Road, Geraldine, Chouteau

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** schools (buildings)           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Fort Benton's first school opened in 1868, over twenty years before statehood. As Montana's population grew, so did its commitment to education, fueled by the belief that a successful democracy demands an educated populace. Upon statehood (1889), the Enabling Act attempted to set aside sections 16 and 36 in each township to financially support education. Because some of these sections (or portions thereof) were already claimed, "in lieu" selections were offered, including the tract on which the Eagle Butte School is located. Chouteau County established the Eagle Butte School District in 1912. That year, approximately twenty-seven children attended school for one to two months in abandoned homestead shacks. School construction began in 1914. A storm demolished the partially completed building, but this clapboard-sided school with attached teacherage (living quarters for the teacher) was ready for students in August 1915. The schoolhouse followed best practices for small school design. Near the entry were two cloakrooms (one for boys and one for girls). A single band of windows left two large unbroken walls for blackboards while avoiding "cross lighting," which experts believed harmed pupils' eyes. Craftsman style detailing added a touch of sophistication and expressed the district's ambitions. Nevertheless, in its early years, the school suffered high teacher turnover as isolation and low pay took their toll. After 1918, drought and agricultural depression led to declining enrollments. The school remained open by merging with South Eagle Butte School in 1924. Prosperity returned after World War II, and the school operated until 1964, when Geraldine Elementary annexed the Eagle Butte district.

**Property:** First National Bank of Geraldine

**Address:** 311 Main, Geraldine, Chouteau

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** banks (financial institutions)           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

In 1913, as workers laid track on the spur line from Harlowton to Great Falls, Milwaukee Road surveyors platted towns along the new route, including Geraldine. By October 2, Farmers State Bank opened in a wooden building on Main Street. Among the bank's first acts was to offer loans to area farmers with grain on hand, so that they could hold their crops until the grain elevator was completed. The bank's support was the beginning of a long commitment to the community and area agriculture. As the homesteading boom brought more farmers to the area, the bank prospered. Construction of a new building of Lewistown brick began in 1914. When it was finished, the two-story bank building—Geraldine's first masonry structure—sporting a stately cornice and a triangular pediment over the main door. Its solid construction and dignified neoclassical façade asserted stability and permanence, offering visual assurance to customers that their money was safe. In the 1920s, ten of Chouteau County's thirteen banks failed when extended drought and low commodity prices caused record numbers of farmers to default on their loans. But this conservatively managed bank—by then renamed the First National Bank of Geraldine—survived both the agricultural depression of the 1920s and the Great Depression of the 1930s. Due to the bank's sound management, it was among the first in the United States allowed to reopen after the Federal Bank Holiday in 1933. The bank (under several different names) has continued to serve Geraldine into the twenty-first century.

**Property:** McGraw's Saloon

**Address:** , Fort Benton, Chouteau

**Historic District:** Fort Benton   **Building Type:** building | contributing

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Subject 1:** saloons (bars)

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

After the turn of the twentieth century homesteaders poured into Montana, and by 1910 the area's land office at Great Falls processed between a thousand and fifteen hundred homestead filings per month. The peaceful little river town of Fort Benton boomed again. Increased population meant more business, and longtime saloon proprietor John H. McGraw took advantage of the times, building a new club in 1912. Dark maroon bricks and lovely tile inserts reveal the availability of better, more durable materials than the soft local brick used in the previous century.

**Property:** Fort Benton Engine House

**Address:** Front and 15th Sts, Fort Benton, Chouteau

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** engine houses

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The Fort Benton Engine House, built in 1883, and the Grand Union Hotel are two of only a few structures remaining to remind us of the rapid expansion here during the flourishing steamboat days. When Fort Benton incorporated in 1883, a volunteer fire department was organized and a contract let for \$1,710 to build this engine house. By fall, the building was complete and thirty-five men organized into three companies of firemen were ready to drill—but the firefighting equipment wintered at Cow Island because the steamboat bringing it up the Missouri met low water at season's end (not an uncommon situation). The gear was brought on to Fort Benton by ox wagon the following spring. This building served as City Hall for more than seventy-five years, until 1966, and from 1899 it housed the city jail. Its use today as a public meeting hall for service organizations recalls the past use as a center for social activities as well as for waiting firefighters.

**Property:** Virgelle State Bank

**Address:** Main Street, Virgelle, Chouteau

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** banks (financial institutions)

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Homesteaders, travelers, and railroad crews helped the tiny town of Virgelle thrive during the 1910s. Town founder Virgil Blankenbaker chartered the Virgelle State Bank in 1917 where he, his brother-in-law John G. Chancellor, C. J. McNamara, and prominent ranchers E. B. Newhall and Thomas Marlow served on the board of directors. Folks came to town to do their banking, pick up their mail, buy supplies, and catch up on local news. Drought and depression in the 1920s left few local homesteaders, but the bank was among six of nineteen in Chouteau County to remain viable during the hard times. Lack of business, however, forced liquidation and closure in 1927. Through the next decades neighbors rowed across the river, brought their wagons or drove their Model T's to Saturday night card games, dances, and midnight suppers held in the empty one-room bank building. In winter, guests sometimes waited till dawn to cross the river, maneuvering around ice. The bank became the residence of railroad employee Leon Watson in 1941 when he tired of crossing the river to report to the depot for work. In 1985, the Burlington Northern, successor of the Great Northern Railway, abandoned its Virgelle line and today no trace of the railroad remains, but the bank survives intact as a symbol of Blankenbaker's vision. High ceilings, wood floors, and the original vault convey its original use. The Neo-Classical style building eloquently represents the small town banks that once dotted homestead-era Montana and the greater forces that gave shape to the state's rural communities.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Property:** Church of the Immaculate Conception

**Address:** 1518 Choteau Street, Fort Benton, Chouteau

**Historic District:** Fort Benton **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** churches (buildings) **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

When fire destroyed the original Church of the Immaculate Conception in 1905, this beautiful Tudor style structure of rough cut stone and ornamental half-timbered gables replaced it in 1907. Salvaged from the blaze was a bell christened in 1880 for prominent resident Michael Flanagan. The bell, known as the "Voice of Michael," still serves the community from its lofty perch in the stone bell tower. Stained glass memorial windows, dedicated to some of Fort Benton's pioneer families, adorn the interior.

**Property:** H.J. Wackerlin Hardware Company

**Address:** 1620 Front Street, Fort Benton, Chouteau

**Historic District:** Fort Benton **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

This structure opened in 1882 during Fort Benton's "glory days" as Montana's largest hardware store. T. C. Power and Hans Wackerlin operated the business. Wackerlin, a tinsmith, had come to Fort Benton in 1867 aboard the steam boat Richmond, which had been commandeered from Missouri to Montana by Quantrill's Raiders. Affiliation with I. G. Baker in 1888 allowed Wackerlin to expand his inventory, adding shelf and builder's hardware, queensware, glassware, and house furnishings. Wackerlin sold out to T. C. Power in 1895.

**Property:** Cummings Building

**Address:** 1402 Main Street, Fort Benton, Chouteau

**Historic District:** Fort Benton **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Originally this site was occupied by a wooden frame building that housed Mose Solomon's Medicine Lodge. This legendary saloon was open twenty-four hours a day from spring thaw to first snow. When the building burned, prominent lawyer, customs collector, insurance agent, and stockman Thomas Cummings replaced it with this two-story brick structure. Cummings sold out and the building then housed a Chinese restaurant and emporium with an opium den in the basement until the turn of the twentieth century.

**Property:** Lonetree

**Address:** Near Square Butte, Square Butte, Chouteau

**Historic District:** **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** ranches (agricultural complexes) **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Christopher and Edward Wilson chose this narrow canyon as headquarters for their ranching operation in 1887. The brothers lived in a dugout while they built a more serviceable two-room cabin using granite hand-cut from the nearby hillside. By 1895, when Edward brought his bride to the ranch, the brothers had finished a two-story home of hand-cut sandstone complete with running water piped in from the nearby spring. In 1900, Lonetree was designated a post office and served as both mail and stage stops between the railroads at Fort Benton and Lewistown. When the "sodbusters" began arriving between 1908 and 1912, Lonetree was the mailing address for hundreds of homesteaders. New arrivals filled their wooden barrels at the Lonetree spring until their own wells

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

could be dug. In 1912, the Lonetree School was established in the two-room cabin. On colder days, students gathered in an upstairs room of the “big house.” Lonetree had become the focal point of a community scattered over 400 square miles, but when the Milwaukee Road bypassed it in favor of the town of Geraldine, Lonetree’s importance dwindled. In 1915, the stage line disbanded, the post office moved to Geraldine, and the school closed. The 1920s offered Lonetree a new beginning when newlyweds John and Mary Tanner added the Wilson ranch to their holdings. As a child, Mary had traveled on the Fort Benton stage and stayed overnight at Lonetree. The “big house” gained new importance as home to the Tanners and their four daughters, adding yet another chapter to Lonetree’s long, varied history.

**Property:** Bank of Northern Montana

**Address:** 1310 Front Street, Fort Benton, Chouteau

**Historic District:** Fort Benton **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** banks (financial institutions) **Subject 2:** commercial buildings

**Sign Text:**

The bank was established June 1, 1880, by T. E. Collins, Charles Duer and L. H. Hershfield and Brother. It was first located in the Benton Record Building, then moved to this location in October 1881. The bank remained here until the large two-story building was built on the corner, and its name was changed to Stockmen’s National Bank. This site had previously housed Wells Fargo and the Benton-Helena Stage Company; in later years the telegraph office was located here.

**Property:** Square Butte Jail

**Address:** Main Street, Square Butte, Chouteau

**Historic District:** **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** jails (buildings) **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The Milwaukee Land Company laid out the neat, tree-lined streets of Square Butte in 1913. Strategically located along the Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul and Pacific’s route between Lewistown and Great Falls, Square Butte was for a time an important stop because it offered an abundant supply of mineral-free water and coal for the locomotives. In 1915, residents concerned about an “over supply of tramps, beggars and vagabonds” petitioned Chouteau County Commissioners to appoint a justice of the peace. The commissioners complied, and the following year hired the Harrington Granite Works to build a county jail at Square Butte. Intended as an interim holding facility, the jail was constructed on the property of rancher/businessman William P. Sullivan. Sullivan may have meant it to deter his 15 to 20 cowhands from Saturday night mischief. Perhaps his ploy was effective; there is no evidence that the jail was actually used for prisoners although legend has it that an inmate froze to death in his unheated cell. The jail did, however, later serve as road crew housing, as a bachelor’s residence, and as a granary. It also provided local children a unique clubhouse. The unusual construction of ashlar granite blocks quarried nearby illustrates the local importance of this stone, which was shipped to distant cities between 1914 and 1922. Ownership of the Sullivan Ranch passed to Dean and Donna Strand who donated the jail to the Geraldine Historical Committee in 1997.

**Property:** Fort Benton Historic District

**Address:** Historic District, Fort Benton, Chouteau

**Historic District:** Fort Benton **Building Type:**

**Subject 1:** **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**



## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Property:** Chouteau County Courthouse  
**Address:** 1308 Franklin Street, Fort Benton, Chouteau  
**Historic District:** Fort Benton **Building Type:**  
**Subject 1:** **Subject 2:**  
**Sign Text:**

**Property:** I.G. Baker Home  
**Address:** 1604 Front St, Fort Benton, Chouteau  
**Historic District:** **Building Type:**  
**Subject 1:** **Subject 2:**  
**Sign Text:**

**Property:** Pacific Hotel (Centennial Hotel)  
**Address:** , Fort Benton, Chouteau  
**Historic District:** Fort Benton **Building Type:** building | contributing  
**Subject 1:** hotels (public accommodations) **Subject 2:**  
**Sign Text:**

In 1864, Mills and Douglas operated a restaurant and hotel on this corner. Mills and Robert S. Culbertson went into partnership in 1877, opening a new establishment called the Centennial Hotel in celebration of the United States' 100th birthday. Culbertson, nephew of Alexander Culbertson who was the founder of Fort Benton, became full owner in 1881. In 1882, the hotel was rebuilt of brick and renamed the Pacific Hotel; later it was also known as the Culbertson House. Robert and his wife Lydia operated the hotel until her death in 1912. It was operated by one of their nine children, Esther Casey, until 1941, then sold by the family in 1946.

**Property:** Masonic Building  
**Address:** 1418 Front Street, Fort Benton, Chouteau  
**Historic District:** Fort Benton **Building Type:** building | contributing  
**Subject 1:** fraternal lodges **Subject 2:** commercial buildings  
**Sign Text:**

Members of Masonic Lodge #25 built this brick structure in 1882, housing their temple on the second floor. Grocer W. H. Burgess rented first floor space. Economic decline in the late 1880s caused the Masons to lose title, and Burgess, too, went broke. The lodge rented space until 1901, while the lower floor accommodated the Sharp Brothers' Store. The sons of the Sharp brothers became two of Fort Benton's famous admirals. Originally one of a pair, the structure displays elaborate brick corbelling typical of the 1880s commercial architecture.

**Property:** Grand Union Hotel  
**Address:** 704 Fourteenth Street, Fort Benton, Chouteau  
**Historic District:** Fort Benton **Building Type:** building | contributing  
**Subject 1:** hotels (public accommodations) **Subject 2:**  
**Sign Text:**

This grandiose, three-story Italianate style hotel welcomed weary river travelers to the Gateway of the Northwest,

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

offering guests a luxurious refuge before setting out for less civilized destinations. Its opening in 1882 came at the end of the steamboat era, when Fort Benton was still an unchallenged commercial hub. The very next year, however, the Northern Pacific transcontinental line was completed across Montana, diminishing the town's position as a commercial center. Constructed of soft local brick with intricate corbelling and distinctive windows, the "Waldorf of the West" featured a saloon, dining room, a saddle room for cowboys to store their gear in winter, and a secret lookout room where guards could supervise gold shipments. A separate ladies' stairway led to elegant parlors since women never entered rooms adjoining saloons. Each room had handsome black walnut, marble-topped furnishings and, originally, its own woodstove and fancy chimney. From its vantage point near the docks, the Grand Union presided over the arrival of everything from stamp mills to grand pianos, brought by steamboat and transferred to ox-team freight wagons. The fine design by architect Thomas Tweedy reflects a prosperous and optimistic town, unaware of the imminent coming of the railroad and its disastrous effects on the town's economy.

**Property:** Choteau House

**Address:** 1614 Front Street, Fort Benton, Chouteau

**Historic District:** Fort Benton    **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** hotels (public accommodations)                      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

I. G. Baker and T. C. Power built the original Twing House in 1868. Under the watchful eye of Mrs. Twing, this "downtown" hotel competed with the Overland. The hotel closed in 1870 and was rented as military officers' quarters. It reopened as the Choteau House in 1879, owned and operated by dapper Irishman Jere Sullivan. His glib tongue promoted both his hostelry and Fort Benton. Sullivan gradually rebuilt the structure in brick and added the third story during the homestead days.

**Property:** Pacific Hotel (Centennial Hotel)

**Address:** , Fort Benton, Chouteau

**Historic District:** Fort Benton    **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** hotels (public accommodations)                      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

In 1864, Mills and Douglas operated a restaurant and hotel on this corner. Mills and Robert S. Culbertson went into partnership in 1877, opening a new establishment called the Centennial Hotel in celebration of the United States' 100th birthday. Culbertson, nephew of Alexander Culbertson who was the founder of Fort Benton, became full owner in 1881. In 1882, the hotel was rebuilt of brick and renamed the Pacific Hotel; later it was also known as the Culbertson House. Robert and his wife Lydia operated the hotel until her death in 1912. It was operated by one of their nine children, Esther Casey, until 1941, then sold by the family in 1946.

**Property:** Davidson and Moffitt Harness Shop

**Address:** 1212 Front Street, Fort Benton, Chouteau

**Historic District:** Fort Benton    **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings                      **Subject 2:** printing firms

**Sign Text:**

Fort Benton's building boom of 1887-1884 saw the construction of many commercial buildings made of locally produced soft brick. This fine example was built in 1881 as a saddlery by Davidson and Moffitt of Helena. The River Press Company, publisher of the town's newspaper, purchased the building in 1883. The local news has been printed on these premises ever since. Decorative corbelling and four arches over the front windows and doorway embellished the original one-story structure.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Property:** C.E. Conrad House

**Address:** 1011 Sixteenth Street, Fort Benton, Chouteau

**Historic District:** Fort Benton **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Financial ruin in the wake of the Civil War brought brothers Charles E. and William G. Conrad from Virginia to Fort Benton in 1867. Both quickly rose from clerks with I. G. Baker's mercantile to full company partners in Baker's vast western empire, eventually broadening their business concerns and amassing huge fortunes. Charles built this first home for himself and his bride, Alicia, following their marriage in 1881. They remained here until 1890. Commercial builder John R. Wilton designed the locally unique residence of soft Fort Benton brick in the Carpenter Gothic style. The distinctive home, with its tall arched windows, steep gables, and delicate scrollwork, originally had an ornate wooden porch that spanned the front. Behind her new house Alicia planted Fort Benton's first garden, delighting residents long used to tired produce shipped in by steamer. The next year gardens bloomed all over town.

**Property:** Kelly Residence

**Address:** 7 N Cottage Grove, Miles City, Custer

**Historic District:** East Main Street **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Sometimes called "labor's aristocracy," locomotive engineers were the highest paid workers on the railroad. That fact gave William Kelly, an engineer for the Milwaukee Road, the means to purchase this one-story home. In 1920 he lived here with his wife, Nellie, their three-year-old son, and his wife's sister. Building contractor Carl Anderson constructed the residence in 1917; he almost certainly took the design from a pattern book. These books of architectural plans allowed local builders to bring the latest fashions to relatively isolated communities like Miles City. A classic Craftsman style bungalow, the Kelly residence features a low-pitched roof; exposed rafter tails; wide, overhanging eaves; and a full-length front porch (now enclosed). Japanese architecture inspired its distinctive roofline. Japan widely promoted its art and architecture through the 1893 Columbian Exposition and the 1904 St. Louis World's Fair. Architects responded, incorporating Japanese elements into their residential designs. Anderson must have liked the exotic flavor of the flared eaves and molded gable peaks; he built several other bungalows in Miles City that sported similar "pagoda-style" roofs.

**Property:** Alderson House

**Address:** 1019 Palmer Street, Miles City, Custer

**Historic District:** Carriage House **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Nannie Alderson came to Montana from Kansas with her husband Walt in 1883. They operated a cattle ranch for a decade but moved to Miles City in 1893 so their children could attend school. In 1895, Walt died from head injuries after he was kicked by a horse. Left with four children between the ages of two and eleven, Nannie built this home for her family. She scraped by, selling home-baked bread and milk from the family's cow and catering meals. She also took in boarders. Nannie moved the family to Birney in 1902. Later in her life, Nannie earned wide acclaim for her pioneer reminiscence, *A Bride Goes West*, published in 1942. Her quaint wood-frame home retains its Greek Revival style footprint, once common in Miles City, but rarely preserved. Changes, including alteration of

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

the front porch and the addition of side entry canopies in the 1910s, add an interesting layer. These reflect changing tastes and the growing popularity of the bungalow style in the early twentieth century.

**Property:** Alderson House

**Address:** 1019 Palmer Street, Miles City, Custer

**Historic District:** Carriage House **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:** boardinghouses

**Sign Text:**

Nannie Alderson came to Montana from Kansas with her husband Walt in 1883. They operated a cattle ranch for a decade but moved to Miles City in 1893 so their children could attend school. In 1895, Walt died from head injuries after he was kicked by a horse. Left with four children between the ages of two and eleven, Nannie built this home for her family. She scraped by, selling home-baked bread and milk from the family's cow and catering meals. She also took in boarders. Nannie moved the family to Birney in 1902. Later in her life, Nannie earned wide acclaim for her pioneer reminiscence, *A Bride Goes West*, published in 1942. Her quaint wood-frame home retains its Greek Revival style footprint, once common in Miles City, but rarely preserved. Changes, including alteration of the front porch and the addition of side entry canopies in the 1910s, add an interesting layer. These reflect changing tastes and the growing popularity of the bungalow style in the early twentieth century.

**Property:** City Hall and Fire Station

**Address:** 19 South 8th Street, Miles City, Custer

**Historic District:** Main Street **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** city halls **Subject 2:** fire stations

**Sign Text:**

The transformation of Miles City in the early 1900s into the economic, social, and governmental center of the valley precipitated the decision to build a permanent city hall. Ed Arnold, tailor and businessman, became one of the motivating forces behind the project to erect the new facility. Arriving in Miles City in 1885, Arnold served as city treasurer for two terms and achieved the position of secretary in the Custer County building. Designed by Grover C. Pruett, one of Miles City's most successful engineer/architects in the early twentieth century, this structure is Pruett's greatest landmark in the city. The two-story concrete Renaissance Revival style building faced in Hebron brick is a good example of the new "academically correct" Renaissance styling and is a symbol of Miles City as a progressive and cosmopolitan town. The words "City Hall" are carved into the sandstone frieze above the portal as a permanent reminder of the building's continued public service since 1914.

**Property:** Walrond and Elizabeth Snell House

**Address:** 402 South Lake Street, Miles City, Custer

**Historic District:** **Building Type:**

**Subject 1:** **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Log cabins and canvas tents lined Miles City's Main Street when Walrond Snell and William Ladd opened their crockery business in the late 1870s. Snell sold his interests in 1883, returning to his native England to marry his sweetheart, Elizabeth Carter. Meanwhile, Ladd commissioned Miles City's only architect, Bryon Vreeland, to build this home on Lake Street. The original T-shaped dwelling, the first brick home east of the railroad tracks, stood in the empty prairie. While Ladd continued in business, Snell returned with his bride to take up sheep ranching. He became a prominent stockman and contributor to Montana's wool industry. In 1891, Snell purchased his former partner's home. The Snells moved to town so their six children could attend school. Elizabeth Snell was the first local music and piano teacher, and the family moved in the most elite social circles. Snell served the community in

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

a variety of civic capacities. He was director of the First National Bank, a county commissioner, and a founder of the Custer County Building Association. In the 1910s, the Snells expanded their home with an addition at the rear, which featured newly available plate glass windows and a stylish wraparound porch. A central Gothic pavilion, French Second Empire arched windows, and stepped triangle brickwork in the gable are distinctive hallmarks of Vreeland's original plans. Significant for its association with the prominent Snell family, this charming home is equally important as the last surviving example of Vreeland's once-popular central pavilion design.

**Property:** Stacy Residence

**Address:** 2206 Main St, Miles City, Custer

**Historic District:** East Main      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Determined to bring the Chicago, Milwaukee, and St. Paul Railroad to Miles City, land developer, cattleman, and banker Lorenzo Stacy organized his fellow businessmen to secure and donate property for the railroad's right-of-way. In 1908, the Milwaukee Road arrived, rewarding their efforts; that same year Stacy hired local architect Brynjulf Rivenes to design an elegant, if isolated home on the eighty acres he owned at the edge of Miles City. Rivenes' eclectic design featured such classical details as a monumental, two-story back porch (enclosed in the 1920s) and a balustraded front porch with a central one-story portico; its hipped dormers, wide eaves, and Spanish roof tiles reflected the newly fashionable Prairie style. The "commodious and attractive residence of modern architectural design" did not remain isolated for long. The Milwaukee Railroad delivered the predicted boom, and Stacy found a ready market for lots. By 1915, when Stacy sold land to the city for Wibaux Park, his house had been joined by many others, and East Main Street had become home to Miles City's most fashionable residences.

**Property:** 2008 Main Street

**Address:** 2008 Main, Miles City, Custer

**Historic District:** East Main Residential      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

High maintenance steam engines required railroads to locate large repair shops every two hundred miles. After the Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul and Pacific Railroad chose Miles City for a division point in 1907, the town grew rapidly. Population increased to 4,697 in 1910, a 140 percent increase over the 1900 population of 1,938. With an influx of well-paid railroad workers and new businesses, residential construction boomed, and a comfortable subdivision emerged on Main. Built between 1908 and 1912, possibly for Jasper Brenizer, the home's first known resident, this two-story house combines Queen Anne and Colonial Revival elements. Its cross-gable plan, leaded-glass windows, and fish scale shingles are associated with the Queen Anne style; the enclosed cornice returns, overall simplicity, and classical porch supports reflect Colonial Revival. The current wraparound porch replaced the original full-length front porch between 1916 and 1928. Milwaukee Road conductor Newman Fuller lived here in 1913. Promoted to trainmaster by 1920, Newman resided here with his wife Ellen, their daughter Margaret, and boarder Sarah Riley, who supported herself as a dressmaker.

**Property:** Kennie / Howe House

**Address:** 114 N 11th St, Miles City, Custer

**Historic District:** Carriage House **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

### Sign Text:

The end of the 1880s witnessed development of Miles City's north side, with expensive homes being built on generous tracts of land. As land became scarce, parcels were carved from spacious lawns and working families became the neighbors of prominent residents. This charming Queen Anne style cottage, built on land once part of the property to the north, illustrates the trend. Constructed circa 1901, the home also foreshadows changing architectural tastes. Its symmetry reflects the newer Colonial Revival style while wide eaves suggest the Prairie style. Lovely stained glass transoms—a classic Queen Anne element—are, however, a dominant feature. The Craftsman style garage, constructed a little later to replace a barn, further chronicles neighborhood changes as transportation shifted from horse to automobile. Maud B. and Albert W. Kenzie, later the longtime proprietors of the Olive Hotel, sold the home to rancher John S. Howe in 1904. The residence likely served as winter quarters so the Howe children could attend nearby Washington School.

**Property:** Farnum House

**Address:** 121 N. 12th, Miles City, Custer

**Historic District:** Carriage House **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:** apartments

### Sign Text:

Joseph E. Farnum arrived in Eastern Montana in 1883, settling in the Tongue River area. He married Minnie Parmenter in 1885 and relocated to a ranch on the Powder River. Typical of many ranchers at the time, Farnum maintained a residence in Miles City. He built a modest one-and-one-half-story Greek Revival style dwelling around 1883. In 1893, Farnum moved his family to town and shortly after completed a two-story addition in the Queen Anne style. He purchased C. A. Wiley's insurance and real estate business in 1901 and served as City Clerk in 1912. Farnum remained a prominent figure in Miles City until his death in 1924. Recognizing the importance of Miles City as a social, political, and economic center, Farnum built his home in the city's first affluent neighborhood and continued to alter the property to reflect the city's growth and prominence. Anna Weber purchased the property in 1928 and fortunately converted the residence into apartments. When she lost her savings in the Crash of 1929, the rental income assured her survival.

**Property:** Dr. A.J. Schrupf Residence

**Address:** 2003 Main, Miles City, Custer

**Historic District:** East Main Residential **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

Builder/contractor Oren M. Lanphear experimented with a variety of influences in this 1908 residence, which was the first home in Miles City to fully employ the American Foursquare design. Simplicity and practicality were the essence of this architectural form, which originated with Chicago architect Louis Sullivan. Wide eaves and a stone foundation follow the closely related Craftsman style, but an oriel window and classical Palladian window (the town's only such example) refer back to the preceding Victorian era. Stained glass in an Art Nouveau torch-and-ribbon motif and golden oak interior finishing add further elegance. This progressive home was featured in Buchanan's 1911 booster book, *Seeing Miles City*. The family of its first owner, dentist Augustus J. Schrupf, retained ownership until 1947, when the residence was converted to apartments. Current owners have carefully restored its former grandeur, returning the upper floors to a gracious single-family home.

**Property:** Rinehart House

**Address:** 1917 Main Street, Miles City, Custer

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Historic District:** East Main Street

**Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Nature, comfort, simplicity, honesty, and integrity were ideals incorporated into early-twentieth-century architecture. This Craftsman style bungalow is an exceptional expression of those ideals. Its compact floorplan and modestly adorned exterior facilitated comfort and ease while a spacious porch with solid supports was considered essential to provide a visual link between nature and the manmade environment. The home features an unusual cross-gabled roof and blending of Craftsman style details with Federal style door and window surrounds that are unique to Main Street. Constructed in 1913 for Dr. Curtis N. Rinehart, a prominent Miles City dentist, the home reflects the town's second growth spurt and initial development of this residential neighborhood. Premier stone and cement mason Chris Arneberg laid the foundation and the sidewalk, where the first owner's name, "C. N. Rinehart," is incised at the front entry.

**Property:** Harry J. Horton Residence

**Address:** 1918 Main Street, Miles City, Custer

**Historic District:** East Main Residential

**Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The stylistic versatility of architect Brynjulf Rivenes is well demonstrated in this distinguished home built for Miles City businessman Harry J. Horton. The simple foursquare plan combines wide eaves, a low hipped roof, and massive brick pillars, characteristic of the Prairie and Craftsman styles, with Renaissance Revival style arched windows and pedimented porch. Elegant beveled glass windows draw attention to the home's horizontal lines. Built in 1911 on land purchased from neighbor George Foster, the Horton's splendid new residence appeared that same year in the booster brochure, Seeing Miles City.

**Property:** Miles City Main Street Historic District

**Address:** , Miles City, Custer

**Historic District:** Main Street

**Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** historic districts

**Subject 2:** commercial buildings

**Sign Text:**

The Main Street historic district reveals Miles City's major growth periods of 1882-1887, 1905-1920, and 1935-1940. The first of these began with the arrival of the Northern Pacific in 1881, when imposing brick business blocks began to replace the wooden, false-front buildings of the town's beginnings. Architect Byron Vreeland designed many of these buildings, favoring the late-Victorian period vertical lines. This boom ended with the "Hard Winter of 1886-1887" that decimated range cattle herds, ruining stockmen and the businesses that served them. The second growth period was spurred by the arrival of the Chicago, St. Paul and Milwaukee Railroad in 1907 and by the homestead boom of the region, for which Miles City served as social and business center. Local architects Brynjulf and David Rivenes, and Charles S. Haire and John G. Link of Helena, now shaped downtown Miles City's appearance, with light-colored, formal, and symmetrical designs. This growth period ended with the 1920's agricultural depression. As the subsequent Great Depression began to lift, Main Street again began to see new construction, with Art Deco and Moderne enriching the mixture of architectural styles.

**Property:** Coleman Residence

**Address:** 2116 Main, Miles City, Custer

**Historic District:** East Main Residential

**Building Type:** building | contributing

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The steamer Far West carried Irish immigrant James Coleman to Fort Keogh in 1876. After working for the army sutler, Coleman moved into Miles City, where he managed a saloon frequented by army regulars. In 1882, he married his Irish bride, Margaret Golden. The couple had ten children. By 1912, Coleman owned his own saloon, the New Stand, had invested in a coal mine and ranchland, and had helped found the Miles City Chamber of Commerce. That year, the Colemans decided to build a new home, which reflected their rise in status. Fashion at the time dictated clean lines, a trend this elegant residence personifies. Its two-and-one-half stories, simple box shape, low-hipped roof, and large central dormer mark it as a foursquare. One of the most popular styles in America during the 1910s, foursquares offered a dignified home for a relatively economical price. Members of the Coleman family continued to live here into the 1950s. In later years, the porch was enclosed and the house was converted into apartments. In the 1990s, the long process of restoring the home began.

**Property:** The Olive Hotel

**Address:** 501 Main Street, Miles City, Custer

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** hotels (public accommodations)

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Since the 1880s, Miles City has been the trade, service, and social center for Eastern Montana ranchers. After its famed McQueen House burned down, town booster Joseph Leighton built the Leighton, 1898-1899, which became an area landmark. Within a few years his son Alvin took over and renamed it the Olive Hotel. When the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railway arrived here in 1908, the thriving economy called for expansion of the Olive, including a three-story addition to the rear. Architect Brynjulf Rivenes designed the new façade, lobby, and the east addition. Now the Olive also housed a cafe, barber shop, cigar and curio stand, buffet, and sample rooms, where ranchers and commercial travelers met. Two fireproof, poured concrete garages built in 1908 and 1912 demonstrate the rising importance of the automobile. The Olive Hotel stands as a symbol of the effects of post-World War I depression on this region. When thousands of homesteaders lost their lands because of drought and falling grain prices, the Olive's business declined noticeably by the mid-1920s.

**Property:** McAusland House

**Address:** 1013 Palmer St., Miles City, Custer

**Historic District:** Carriage House**Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Nestled amidst grand Queen Anne style houses is this early folk residence. The wooden home, constructed for Scottish immigrant John McAusland, appears on an 1883 bird's-eye map of Miles City. A steeply pitched side-gable roof and a small dormer dominate the home's façade. Originally, the dormer likely framed a door that led to the roof of a full-length front porch. The main part of the house is one-and-one-half stories; the kitchen is under a separate, one-story roof. This plan was common in the 1800s. Placing the kitchen under separate roof minimized fire risk. Bucket brigades could more easily reach a one-story roof, perhaps saving the rest of the house in case of a kitchen fire. The design also provided good ventilation, a boon during hot summers. McAusland arrived in Miles City from Deadwood, Dakota Territory, in 1882. In 1886, he was named postmaster, an appointment that reflects political connections. The plum patronage position paid \$1,800 annually (equivalent to approximately \$37,000 today). In later years, he worked as a clerk. He still lived here with his daughter in 1914.



## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Property:** Carriage House Historic District

**Address:** , Miles City, Custer

**Historic District:** Carriage House **Building Type:** Historic District

**Subject 1:** historic district

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

This gracious, historic residential neighborhood illustrates Miles City's prosperity as it evolved from a frontier town into the livestock, transportation, commercial, and governmental hub of eastern Montana. Businessmen and community leaders built most of these homes between 1880 and 1890 and again from 1900 to 1915—prosperous years sparked by the arrival of the Northern Pacific Railroad in 1881 and the Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul, and Pacific Railroad in 1908. The neighborhood took shape before automobiles became common. Carriage houses reflect construction during a pre-car era and distinguish it from other neighborhoods. Residents often sought design assistance from architects, including Charles S. Haire, David and Brynjulf Rivenes, and Byron Vreeland. Owners wanted stylish homes that conveyed a sense of culture, beauty, and community stability. Queen Anne towers, stained glass, spindlework, and shingles are common in many early structures. Later, more restrained symmetrical Colonial Revival and Renaissance elements, as well as Craftsman style features, were used. At the height of Montana's homestead boom in the teens, Miles City was bulging with people. Allied in style and origin, the homes of the Carriage House Historic District reflect the community pride and optimism present during one of Miles City's most confident periods of growth.

**Property:** Methodist Church

**Address:** , Miles City, Custer

**Historic District:** Carriage House **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** churches (buildings)

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

In 1910, the Methodists hired a New York fundraising firm to raise funds for a new, larger church to replace the 1883 building. The growing congregation raised \$14,000 and neighbor C. J. Wagenbreth donated the needed capital to complete the project, providing that no bell be hung in the belfry. Wagenbreth, not wanting to be awoken by bells, offered this deal, a steeple but no bells. Designed by the architectural firm of Woodruff and McGulpin in 1912, the Methodist Church stands as a visual reminder of the growth of Miles City and is an important neighborhood anchor. The building exhibits eclectic architectural influences, including Romanesque Revival windows, crenellated Gothic battlements, and early Christian or Tudor massing. Decorative round-arched Romanesque openings complement the bell tower and the design carries over to the main level windows. Each opening is highlighted with painted wood mullions and cusps that form a pair of arches with circular openings surrounded by brick. The only structure in Miles City designed by the firm, the design bears similarities to Brynjulf Rivenes' Presbyterian Church on Main Street.

**Property:** Thomas and Beulah Shore Residence

**Address:** 602 S. Strevell, Miles City, Custer

**Historic District:** **Building Type:**

**Subject 1:**

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Armed with a degree from the Ontario Business College, Canadian-born Thomas Shore arrived in Miles City in 1896. He and former cowboy Wirt Newcom formed a partnership and opened a department store on Main Street in 1900. The store flourished, selling everything from men's clothing, phonographs, washing machines, and even hay to ranchers, homesteaders, and city dwellers alike. Shore hired Beulah Chartrand as a store clerk in 1910. She must have made a good impression since the couple married in 1914. Shore purchased this property, in what was

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

then a sparsely populated neighborhood, as a wedding gift. Soon after their marriage, Beulah and Miles City contractor Fred Clearman collaborated to design and construct this beautiful Bungalow style home. Bungalows gained popularity in the early twentieth century based on the idea that “simplicity and artistry could harmonize in one affordable house.” Features such as a simple floor plan without hallways, interior built-in cabinetry and bookcases, and a natural exterior made bungalows affordable and appealing to middle-class home buyers. Stylistic details include clipped gable dormers, ribbons of windows with multi-light upper panes, and flared eaves and exposed rafters with scrolled ends. Landscaping with trees and shrubs reinforced the “back-to-nature” dictum of the Bungalow style. The house was an appropriate symbol of Shore’s continued status and success. In 1923, he bought out Newcom’s interest, reorganized the store to sell clothing, and renamed it Shore’s. This residence remained in the Shore family until 1972.

**Property:** Methodist Church

**Address:** , Miles City, Custer

**Historic District:** Carriage House **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** churches (buildings)

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

**Property:** Jackson Block

**Address:** 808 Main Street, Miles City, Custer

**Historic District:** Miles City Main Street **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The Jackson Block’s spare façade bears witness to those watchwords of modern architecture, “form follows function.” The two-story building suggests ways that urban architectural trends were translated and adapted in small communities. Its main decoration derives from the pattern created by its windows; in this, the 1909 commercial block echoes the emphasis found in turn-of-the-century “Chicago-style” skyscrapers on “light, space, air, and strength” rather than ornamentation. Miles City architect Brynjulf Rivenes designed the surprisingly modern building for entrepreneur W. C. Jackson, a confectioner who owned a shop at 613 Main. With fellow Miles City businessman Ed Arnold, Jackson also invested in the next-door Arnold Block. Built in 1913, it matched the lines of the Jackson Block, and doorways connected the buildings on the second floor. From Jackson Block storefronts merchants sold pianos, office equipment, clothing, and dry goods. Second-floor tenants included Brynjulf Rivenes and the Montana Institute, a private school that offered both day and night classes in automobile engineering, bookkeeping, stenography, and penmanship.

**Property:** John and Anna Gibb House

**Address:** 903 Pleasant, Miles City, Custer

**Historic District:** Carriage House **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Complex rooflines and decorative details define this wood-frame residence. Particularly noteworthy are the ornamental bargeboards fastened to the roofline and the unique bull’s-eye pattern decorating the front gable. Other details include windows decorated by wooden sashes (muntins) laid in a diamond pattern and fish scale shingles in the porch roof pediment. The elegant residence was built between 1894 and 1904, possibly by John and Anna Gibb, who purchased the lot in 1903 from sheepman J. W. Pope. The Gibbs arrived in Miles City in 1882.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

A lawyer, coal merchant, insurance agent, and real estate and livestock salesman, John Gibbs also served as Custer County sheriff and Justice of the Peace. Originally, the deed to the home was in Anna's name. Under certain circumstances, married women's property was protected from their husbands' creditors, and families used this fact to protect their assets. Anna transferred the title to John in 1909, and in 1915, they hired builder Mel Paddock to construct an addition on the residence's east side. The couple remained in residence in 1920. John died at age seventy-seven in 1921; Anna died two years later.

**Property:** Emmanuel Episcopal Church

**Address:** 204 N 11th, Miles City, Custer

**Historic District:** Carriage House **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** churches (buildings)

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

An eclectic blend of Romanesque, Gothic, and Queen Anne architectural styles, this 1886 church survives as designer Byron Vreeland's most significant building in Montana. Vreeland blended these styles as his architectural signature in many of his structures. The church features a barrel-vaulted wood ceiling trimmed with California redwood, a large Gothic style stained glass rose window in the entry gable above the canopy, and decorative brick work in a mouse-toothed pattern along the end elevations. The only alteration has been the removal of the bell tower. The interior features a walnut altar created from the salvaged hardwood finish of a steamboat that wrecked on the Buffalo Rapids below town about 1880. The altar is a rare survivor of steamboat architecture in Montana, the principal component of the "Wooden City" phase of building between 1878 and the early 1880s in Miles City. As the only known church designed by Vreeland, the Episcopal Church has continuously served the city for over a century and remains a unique work.

**Property:** Pope House

**Address:** 1906 Main Street, Miles City, Custer

**Historic District:** East Main Street

**Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

A low-pitched hipped roof, an asymmetrical open front porch with massive square porch supports, clean lines, and wide overhanging eaves mark the two-story Pope residence as a classic example of the Prairie style. Builder Thomas Burton clad the residence in a new product called "Flex-O-Tile," a substance that resembled stucco, but was said to be "more lasting ... practically indestructible—and fireproof." Rancher G. B. Pope had the home built in 1917, and in 1920 his twenty-two-year-old son James, James's twenty-three-year-old wife Helen, and James's nineteen-year-old sister Frances all shared the residence. Banker and businessman Karl Johnson purchased the home from the Popes, but by 1930 he had sold it to John Johnson. An auto dealer and mechanic, Johnson strategically located his business on the Yellowstone Trail (the tourist route from St. Paul, Minnesota, to Yellowstone National Park). Not surprisingly, John was responsible for construction of the two-car garage behind the house. He and his wife Jacqueline lived here into the 1970s.

**Property:** Ulmer House

**Address:** 1003 Pleasant, Miles City, Custer

**Historic District:** Carriage House **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The elegance of this magnificent Neoclassical style mansion belies the humble roots of its first owner, George H. Ulmer, the Pennsylvania-born son of a German immigrant. Ulmer came to Miles City in 1883, and by 1889

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

partners George Miles and Charles Strevell had added Ulmer's name to their pioneer hardware firm. It became the largest hardware company in southeastern Montana. Helena-based architect Charles S. Haire designed the home for Ulmer and his wife, Flora, in 1902. Haire, whose talents contributed much to the local streetscape, was at that time frequently in Miles City supervising the design and construction of the Carnegie Library and the Ursuline Convent. These and the Ulmer residence showcase the architect's fluency in the Neoclassical style. Haire's design of this residence helped inspire a new trend in Miles City's domestic architecture. A grand semicircular entry porch, Ionic columns, Palladian windows, and a central pediment with an inset lunette are elements characteristic of the style. Very fine detailing includes molded pilasters, a carved wreath above the main entry, paneled oak doors, and beveled glass.

**Property:** Dr. Gray Residence

**Address:** 2019 Main, Miles City, Custer

**Historic District:** East Main Residential **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

A sophisticated blend of Classical elements characterizes this intimately elegant residence that, despite its modest size, easily rivals the district's grander "high style" homes. Built in 1907, the residence was then "out in the country," its urbane design foreshadowing the district's impending growth. Renowned Montana architect Charles S. Haire drew the plans for prominent local physician Dr. Francis Gray, who was a charter staff member of Holy Rosary Hospital and served as county coroner. A pedimented porch with simple Tuscan columns and paneled balustrade defines the Classical Revival style. Exquisite oak trim, windowseats, and a columned archway grace the well-appointed interior.

**Property:** Miles City Water Works

**Address:** Pumping Plant Road, Miles City, Custer

**Historic District:** **Building Type:** structure

**Subject 1:** power plants **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Incorporated in 1887, eleven-year-old Miles City had grown to serve first the Tongue River Cantonment (established just after the Battle of the Little Bighorn) and then Fort Keogh. Wells within the town were the original water source and, later, water was drawn from the Tongue River. By 1909, this supply proved inadequate, and the City Council voted to fund and secure an additional water plant. A bond issue passed the next year, but it took an Act of Congress in 1911 to allow Miles City to locate, construct, maintain, and operate a pumping station upon Fort Keogh property, supplying the city with water from the Yellowstone River. From December 1911 until 1974, this plant operated. The original 1911 equipment is still in place, from filter regulatory consoles to marble-topped oak cabinets. In 1974, the Custer County Art and Heritage Center leased the building and the tanks to the east, remodeling the tanks into art gallery and office and workshop spaces. The surrounding park long has been a popular picnic and performance area.

**Property:** Furstnow House

**Address:** 1010 Pleasant Street, Miles City, Custer

**Historic District:** Carriage House **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Born in Wisconsin, Al Furstnow settled permanently in Miles City in 1894 and became the major saddler in the

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

northwest. In 1895, Furstnow commissioned Byron Vreeland to build this Queen Anne style home, unusual because the architect usually designed in brick. The previous year Furstnow opened Al Furstnow's Saddle Shop on Main Street in a Vreeland-designed building. Credited with making the first flower hand-stamped saddles in Miles City for Britain's Lord Sidney Paget, Furstnow outfitted Leigh Remington of Remington Arms and Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show for their Paris exhibition. The bay window heads are embellished with carved medallions in a motif that is continued throughout the interior. The residence retains the original tall ceilings and detailing, including a fan-trimmed arch and four brass and stained-glass chandeliers, one being in the form of a British Crown. Remodeling in 1910 modernized the house with Craftsman details to reflect Miles City's financial status during the homestead boom. The home remained in the Furstnow family until the late 1980s.

**Property:** Holy Rosary Hospital

**Address:** 310 North Jordan, Miles City, Custer

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** hospitals (buildings for health facility)           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

A converted two-story house served as the county hospital in 1907, a year before the Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul and Pacific Railroad arrived in Miles City. With encouragement from the railroad, which needed a place to treat injured workers, the county decided to build a larger facility. The architectural firm of Link and Haire designed the thirty-five-bed hospital circa 1910. The building's trussed porticos reflect the era's popular Craftsman style. Its hipped roof and distinctive curvilinear parapet evoke the Mission style. Inspired by the Spanish missions, which were an important source of medical care in the early Southwest, the style was a popular choice for hospitals. Other Mission style hospital buildings include ones built in Helena and Missoula during the same era. The Presentation Sisters of Aberdeen, South Dakota, assumed management of the hospital shortly after its completion. Originally a teaching order, the Presentation Sisters entered nursing after a 1900 diphtheria epidemic, establishing hospitals in Aberdeen, Mitchell, and Sioux Falls, South Dakota, as well as in Miles City. As did other Presentation hospitals, Holy Rosary offered a nursing certificate within a year of its opening. The 1918 influenza epidemic increased support for the hospital, allowing the sisters, who had purchased the building from the county in 1919, to expand their operation. Link and Haire designed the compatible, flat-roofed annex. Built in 1922, it boasted modern medical and surgical units and increased the number of available beds to eighty-five. The Presentation Sisters managed the hospital through drought, depression, and war, before constructing a new hospital in 1948.

**Property:** Fort Keogh Historic District

**Address:** Historic District, , Custer

**Historic District:** Fort Keogh           **Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** historic districts           **Subject 2:** military buildings

**Sign Text:**

The New Deal's National Recovery Administration provided funds for the construction of several significant buildings at the fort in the 1930s. These included a dairy barn, milk house, cattle sheds, and this large horse barn. Designed and built in 1934 by the U.S. Bureau of Animal Husbandry at a cost of more than \$13,000, the sprawling frame building featured a clerestory roof with overhead storage loft, seven box stalls, and twenty-five double-tie stalls. The barn served the Morgan, Belgian, and Thoroughbred horse-breeding research program, which included studies on feeding, breeding, and reproduction. Early equine research at Fort Keogh helped develop successful semen collection procedures and modern artificial insemination techniques for horses. The horse research program ended in 1964. The barn has since accommodated beef cattle research programs focusing on reproductive physiology studies. Although the interior has undergone considerable renovation, it has always

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

served as the Fort Keogh working cowboys' headquarters. The first lights turned on in the early morning are almost always those in the "horse" barn as the cowboys arrive for work.

**Property:** Dr. Redd's Brick Building

**Address:** 510 Main St, Miles City, Custer

**Historic District:** Main Street **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Dr. Robert G. Redd served as an army surgeon at Fort Keogh in the 1870s. Redd resigned in 1881 to assume a private practice. He served as county physician, coroner, and surgeon for the Northern Pacific Railroad as well as mayor from 1889 to 1900. He commissioned architect Byron Vreeland to design a two-story permanent building for his drug store. Henry C. Smith—mayor from 1911 to 1913—purchased the edifice in 1908 and contracted with city engineer Grover C. Pruett to remodel the façade in 1915. The marble and terra cotta Renaissance Revival style of the building was rare in Miles City and Smith used it to advertise the city's cosmopolitan attributes in the early twentieth century. "1915" adorns a terra cotta rectangle above the windows and the entrance bears a polychrome mosaic tile floor arranged in the image of a pocket watch. Although remodeling obliterated the original façade, the original 1883 corbelling remains on the east side.

**Property:** Lukes / Love House

**Address:** 2302 Main, Miles City, Custer

**Historic District:** East Main Street **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Built for C. N. and Louise E. Lukes in 1911, the home is also known as the Ed Love House. Lukes was cashier of the Commercial State Bank and after the deaths of C. N. and Louise in 1929, ownership passed to their daughter, Doris Lukes Love, and her husband, Ed Love. Ed Love was a prominent businessman involved in nearly every aspect of Miles City life. From the Horse Sales Company to homestead real estate ventures and the Love Ford Motor Company, Love contributed to the city's early development. However, several bankruptcies forced Love to put the home in his wife's name. Doris retained ownership until her death in 1967. Their daughters, Margaret and Dorie Lou, sold the home in 1972 upon Love's death. Typical of Main Street homes from 1910 to 1920, the house is a high style Craftsman type, with expensive departures from the norm that make the home stand out. Later remodeling efforts produced the enclosed porch.

**Property:** First Presbyterian Church

**Address:** 1401 Main Street, Miles City, Custer

**Historic District:** Main Street **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** churches (buildings) **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

While Butte's personality was taking shape in the form of impressive commercial buildings, the construction of five major churches in little more than two decades added grace and eloquence to the city's demeanor. The Presbyterians, organized in Butte in 1878, commissioned the town's most prominent architect, H. M. Patterson, to design their new church. Patterson, whose style left an indelible print on Butte's streetscape, completed the building in 1896. The wood-frame construction with brick veneer is enhanced by a square tower, double arched doors, and an elaborate stained glass window set in Gothic arches.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Property:** Horse Barn

**Address:** 243 Fort Keogh Road, Miles City, Custer

**Historic District:** Fort Keogh      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** barns                      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The New Deal's National Recovery Administration provided funds for the construction of several significant buildings at the fort in the 1930s. These included a dairy barn, milk house, cattle sheds, and this large horse barn. Designed and built in 1934 by the U.S. Bureau of Animal Husbandry at a cost of more than \$13,000, the sprawling frame building featured a clerestory roof with overhead storage loft, seven box stalls, and twenty-five double-tie stalls. The barn served the Morgan, Belgian, and Thoroughbred horse-breeding research program, which included studies on feeding, breeding, and reproduction. Early equine research at Fort Keogh helped develop successful semen collection procedures and modern artificial insemination techniques for horses. The horse research program ended in 1964. The barn has since accommodated beef cattle research programs focusing on reproductive physiology studies. Although the interior has undergone considerable renovation, it has always served as the Fort Keogh working cowboys' headquarters. The first lights turned on in the early morning are almost always those in the "horse" barn as the cowboys arrive for work.

**Property:** First Presbyterian Church

**Address:** 1401 Main Street, Miles City, Custer

**Historic District:** Main Street      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** churches (buildings)      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Charter members George and Helen Miles bestowed this land on the church in 1882. Since that time the First Presbyterian Church has occupied this space. Church trustees met in 1911 to discuss the construction of a larger \$30,000-\$40,000 church. Pastor Reverend J. Forsythe Smith reasoned that a new house of worship would "provide better social advantages, better intellectual advantages, and better moral and spiritual advantages." In addition to a larger worship space, the modern facility would include a Sunday school and choir room. Architect Brynjulf Rivenes designed the concrete and brick edifice on the same site as the old church, which was sold and relocated to face North Prairie. Western Granite and Marble Works of Miles City donated the cornerstone, laid on November 26, 1914. C. N. Strevell gifted the main stained glass window fronting Montana Avenue. The oak finished, 871-pipe Estry organ was specially designed to fit the organ chamber. Dedicated in 1917, this impressive Gothic Revival Style church conveys a sense of stability and permanence.

**Property:** Water Wagon Shed

**Address:** 243 Fort Keogh Road, Miles City, Custer

**Historic District:** Fort Keogh      **Building Type:** structure | contributing

**Subject 1:** military buildings      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Hundreds of military and civilian residents at Fort Keogh made the fort's water supply a primary concern. By 1879, two thousand feet of pipe had been laid and seven cisterns installed. A converted boiler pumped water from the Yellowstone River for the fort's domestic use. After the initial building period from 1877 to 1880, frame and brick buildings began to replace the original log structures. This hipped-roof brick shed, constructed during the second building phase in October 1883, is the fort's oldest surviving building. Its arched window openings and lack of ornamentation reflect the fort's early architecture and the building's utilitarian function: to house the heavy water wagon. A team of three mules pulled the wagon that delivered water, stored in wooden barrels, to Fort Keogh residents two or three times each week. Several days' water supply was then stored in individual oak

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

barrels. In 1934, New Deal monies were used to convert the shed to a truck garage. Later, the building housed firefighting and fencing equipment. The building was completely restored in 2004 in accordance with Federal Historical Preservation guidelines at a cost of \$125,000.

**Property:** Graves Funeral Home

**Address:** 1717 Main Street, Miles City, Custer

**Historic District:** Miles City East Main Street **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** funeral homes **Subject 2:** residential structures

**Sign Text:**

Cabinet and furniture makers also made caskets, and so the two businesses often went hand in hand. Furniture dealer James E. Graves purchased H. C. Plimpton's long-established furniture and undertaking business in the 1920s. In 1929, Graves moved the mortuary end of his business to this newly constructed facility. Casper Strom, a prolific architect then new to the community, designed the striking Mission style building. Graves likely chose the style. Although unusual for Strom, it is one of his most successful accomplishments. The balanced façade features arches, porticos, curved parapets, and a decorative urn and pendants. These elements, reminiscent of a mission church, are visually appropriate for the building's function. The combination funeral home and upstairs apartments also blends well with the character of the neighborhood. The spacious, formally landscaped lawn, then as now, adds to the residential ambience. The upstairs apartments accommodated nine households including the owners, their employees, and in 1930, county superintendent of schools Jessie McCoy. The business has changed hands several times since the 1930s, but the building retains its historic integrity and associated use.

**Property:** 1005 Palmer

**Address:** 1005 Palmer, Miles City, Custer

**Historic District:** Carriage House **Building Type:**

**Subject 1:** **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

E. H. Johnson, state legislator and Miles City's first mayor, built this impressive modified Queen Anne style home in 1887. Attributed to Miles City architect Byron Vreeland, the irregular plan originally featured an elaborate arched porch and an elliptical bay capped by a conical roof. Rancher William Harmon, the home's second owner, built the carriage house in 1891. Third owner Senator Kenneth McLean, following current architectural trends, added Neo-classical details and a wraparound veranda between 1903 and 1910. Ella M. and David G. Rivenes purchased the property in 1962.

**Property:** Anderson Bungalow

**Address:** 2119 Main Street, Miles City, Custer

**Historic District:** East Main **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Real estate speculation abounded in the East Main district when carpenter Ernest Anderson built this lovely one-and-a-half-story bungalow in 1916. Its large front porch, supported by heavy, tapered columns, and its low-pitched roofs with overhanging eaves and triangular braces clearly mark this house as a Craftsman style bungalow, one of the most fashionable house styles during this period. Anderson probably never intended this house for his own home; rather, he saw it as an investment and an advertisement of his carpentering skills. From 1918 to 1928 the bungalow was used as rental property. Its tenants included Charles D. Jones, general manager of the Yellowstone Lumber Company. Some time before 1928, when it was sold to Harmon Bright, then vice president of First National Bank, and his wife Mary, the bungalow's characteristic open front and side porches



## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

were enclosed and a breezeway was built, connecting the house to a new garage. These alterations did nothing to reduce the residence's charm or its ability to link the Miles City of today with the boomtown of the early 1900s.

**Property:** Shore-Newcom Building

**Address:** 700 Block of Main Street, Miles City, Custer

**Historic District:** Main Street **Building Type:** building contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The Shore-Newcom Store opened in 1900 in the Foster Building at 701 Main. Owned and operated by Thomas Shore and Wirt H. Newcom, the store handled mercantile goods. They moved to 709 Main in 1905, and upon the completion of this structure in 1914, the store expanded next door to include gentlemen's and ladies' ready-to-wear. By 1922, the company had grown into the third largest general merchandise business in the state. The partnership dissolved in 1922 but Shore remained involved in the venture. The Shore family continued operating a department store late into the twentieth century. Shore and Newcom, like building owner George Miles, were typical of Miles City businessmen who wanted to display their confidence in the city's future through progressive and sophisticated buildings. Construction here represented a visible symbol of the partnership's success as well as the city's. Architecturally, the building is an outstanding example of the Renaissance Revival style's streamlined appearance. One of the best surviving examples in Miles City, the building and its simple lines reflect the desire for a modern business district.

**Property:** Kenney Block (Montana Saloon)

**Address:** 612 Main, Miles City, Custer

**Historic District:** Miles City Main Street **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** saloons (bars) **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

This popular gathering place, one of Miles City's oldest established businesses, has been proclaimed by connoisseurs the perfect bar. Originally a saloon (1893), then a fine saddlery (1900-1907), businessman James Kenney purchased the property in 1908 to house his Montana Saloon. Architect Brynjulf Rivenes designed the 1913 Renaissance Revival style façade and the double structure was renamed the Kenney Block. The spacious saloon, occupying half the ground-floor space, features one of the state's best preserved historic interiors. The original pressed tin ceiling, three-pillared back bar, mosaic floor tiles, paddle fans, leather booths, wooden cooler, and leaded glass (with vintage bullet hole) invite a journey into Montana's colorful past.

**Property:** Ismay Jail

**Address:** Jailhouse Road, Ismay, Custer

**Historic District:** **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** jails (buildings) **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Ismay's bustling business, wicked ways, and itinerant population of cowboys and railroad men earned it the nickname "Little Chicago." This town, born with the construction of the Milwaukee Road across Montana, began in 1908 with the name of Burt. Burt became Ismay a few months later, taking its new name from Isabelle and Maybelle, daughters of railroad official George Peck. At the start of the heady settlement boom of the 1910s, Ismay had need of a deterrent for its rougher element. Bids were taken for construction of a local jail and W. T. Perham won the contract for \$676. The utilitarian brick jail, of squat and sturdy construction with small windows and iron bars, was built in 1910. This type of lock-up was once common in rural settlements. Over the years, the

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

building largely accommodated rowdies who overindulged at local saloons and served as a holding facility for prisoners awaiting transport to the county jail at Miles City. It is the only public building that remains from Ismay's early period. Today the community is Montana's smallest incorporated town, and in 1993 its twenty-two residents took an unprecedented gamble. In a public relations stroke of genius that won national attention, Ismay conditionally changed its name to Joe in honor of football player Joe Montana. This entrepreneurial enterprise netted enough capital to build a new fire hall, acquire a fire truck, and restore the jail. It stands today as a reminder of the times when Ismay was the "Little Chicago" of the West.

**Property:** East Main Street Historic District

**Address:** Historic District, Miles City, Custer

**Historic District:** East Main Street

**Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** historic districts

**Subject 2:** residential structures

**Sign Text:**

The development of this elegant residential neighborhood reflects Miles City's second growth spurt in the early twentieth century. Although the population of this "cowtown" waned between 1890 and 1905, the advent of the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railroad in 1908 and the 1909 Enlarged Homestead Act brought a resurgence of energy and an influx of new residents. The need for more housing generated a construction boom, lasting into the 1920s, which focused upon this heretofore unimproved area. Speculators, contractors, and homebuilders favored this quieter area where individualism could be expressed through architecture. Sweeping lawns and streets lined with elm, cottonwood, and green ash trees complement the cottages and foursquares in Craftsman, Prairie, Mission, and Classical Revival styles that unify this dignified neighborhood. Occasional Queen Anne, Dutch Colonial Revival, and other styles add a pleasing diversity. Plan books offered contractors and builders like Carl Anderson, O. M. Lanphear, and N. P. Nelson stylish and less expensive designs for potential homeowners. Even so, the district embraces many of the area's most architecturally significant homes, revealing the talents of such prominent architects as Charles S. Haire, Brynjulf Rivenes, and Casper Strom. It is this unique blending of styles and craftsmen that conveys the prosperity, optimism, and importance of Miles City during this period of expansion.

**Property:** Foster House

**Address:** 1912 Main, Miles City, Custer

**Historic District:** East Main Residential

**Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

This American foursquare style home appears to have been designed by prominent architect Brynjulf Rivenes. Built between 1910 and 1914 for businessman George Foster, its compact simplicity is an elegant, individual statement of the prosperity Miles City enjoyed in the early twentieth century. The home features a blending of the newest Craftsman and Prairie styles then originating in Chicago and was included in Buchanan's 1911 booster book, *Seeing Miles City*.

**Property:** Commercial Block

**Address:** 511 Main Street, Miles City, Custer

**Historic District:** Main Street

**Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings

**Subject 2:** saloons (bars)

**Sign Text:**

The I. Orschel and Brothers clothing firm first located on this site in 1878 in a small wood-frame building. Following a disastrous fire that leveled much of the block, local businessmen formed a syndicate to build this four-

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

part commercial building designed by Byron Vreeland, Miles City's first resident architect. Completed in the fall of 1885, John Carter's Saloon (509), I. Orschel and Brothers Clothing Store (511), Miles and Strevell's Hardware (513), and Basinski Brothers (515) were the original occupants. The combination of Romanesque, Gothic Revival, and Queen Anne style detailing carries Vreeland's architectural signature. Although the parapets and towers that originally graced the roofline have long been removed, the brownstone windowsills, polychrome tile, soft brick, and cast iron columns survive. The Orschels' landmark business catered to local cowboys at this location until 1940. The brothers let cowboys keep their trunks on the upper floor until they came to town to change clothes. Inside, the original tin ceiling remains intact.

**Property:** Remount Depot Mess Hall

**Address:** 243 Fort Keogh Road, Miles City, Custer

**Historic District:** Fort Keogh      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** military buildings      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Breaking and training thousands of horses at Fort Keogh for the U.S. military and Allied French and British forces was crucial during World War I because of the military's reliance on horse-drawn transportation. This two-story mess hall served employees and civilian cowboys who worked on the ranch. Constructed in 1920 near the end of Fort Keogh's days as a Remount Station at a cost of \$15,000, the wood-frame building featured many windows, high ceilings, hot water, steam heat, and electric lights. The main floor originally had five rooms and the basement three rooms. Records show that the basement housed the heating plant and storage for coal and the commissary. In 1924, ownership of the fort transferred to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Animal Husbandry, by an act of Congress. The mess hall was subsequently remodeled to serve as the USDA administrative headquarters. It served in that capacity until the construction of a new administrative building in 1970. Today, the building serves as a storage area and carpenter's shop.

**Property:** First Christian Church

**Address:** , Miles City, Custer

**Historic District:** East Main Residential      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** churches (buildings)      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Accompanied by popular singing evangelist C. M. Ridenour of Fort Benton, J. S. Raum preached the Christian Church's first service in Miles City in 1910. Forty-four people attended. Early church membership was diverse, including a successful attorney, railroad workers, and their families. Eight ministers served the church in its first seven years, when services were held in a building on the corner of Pearl and South Center. In 1917, the congregation purchased lots on Main and Lake, but World War I delayed construction. Years of drought and depressed commodity prices defined the 1920s, hurting the community and by extension the congregation. The one-story, Craftsman style church, designed by Brynjulf Rivenes, Miles City's most prominent architect, was finally built in 1928. The balanced, but simple, design features nesting gables and an arched entrance, accented with red brick tile. Bruce Bergeson constructed the 1955 rear addition. The building has housed businesses since the congregation sold it in 2001, but some reminders of its original function remain, including a pew, the baptismal font (now covered), and the buzzer that called Sunday School children to the service.

**Property:** Ed and Doris Love House

**Address:** 2315 Main Street, Miles City, Custer

**Historic District:** East Main Residential      **Building Type:** building | contributing

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Wealthy Miles City residents looked to the undeveloped area east of the Northern Pacific tracks to build their homes in the early twentieth century. Among them were Ed and Doris Love who had this Prairie Style home constructed in 1916. Its bands of door height windows, wide overhanging eaves, low-pitched hipped roof, asymmetrical design, and overall horizontal emphasis reflect the influence of architect Frank Lloyd Wright, father of the Prairie style. According to the blueprints, St. Louis architect George L. Wageley designed this home; like many architects, Wageley produced standardized house plans (this was #187) that local contractors then adapted to specific sites. Interestingly, an advertisement in the March 1916 Ladies Home Journal featured a residence with a very similar design to this one. The Loves lived here until 1926 when they moved kitty-corner into Doris's family home. Later owners made very few changes to the residence. The home's interior still boasts its original built-ins, massive fireplace, hardwood floors, light fixtures, and beveled glass French doors.

**Property:** Daniels County Courthouse

**Address:** 213 Main St, Scobey, Daniels County

**Historic District:**            **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** hotels (public accommodations)

**Subject 2:** county courthouses

**Sign Text:**

The settlement of Old Scobey relocated here from the Poplar River flats to greet the approaching Great Northern Railway branch line in 1913. By the time the first train arrived on Thanksgiving Day, the two-story Commercial Hotel—today the south half of the courthouse—was the new townsite's largest building. It served passengers and visitors until 1915 when Minnie "One-Eyed Molly" Wakefield arrived from Kansas City to purchase the building. Molly expanded the hotel to include gambling and live entertainment. She and her sons kept pit bulls for fighting staked between her hotel and the Tallman Hotel next door. In addition to drinking, gambling, and dog fighting, women were a main attraction. Much of the hotel's first floor was devoted to this pursuit while a large sleeping room upstairs accommodated legitimate overnight guests. Molly left town in 1917 when Prohibition and federal closure of red-light establishments put a damper on her business. In 1920, voters chose Scobey 964 to 358 over Madoc as the seat of newly designated Daniels County. County officials purchased the hotel and remodeled the interior. In 1927, an addition on the north doubled the space, preserving and extending the original false front. The Western False Front architectural style, once common across Montana, gave young communities like Scobey the look of instant prosperity. The upper porch was long used as a speaking platform for governors, senators, and visiting dignitaries. Painted a crisp white, the building is Montana's last functioning false-front frame courthouse and perhaps the West's only bordello converted to government use.

**Property:** Beasley Block

**Address:** 301 N. Merrill, Glendive, Dawson

**Historic District:** Merrill Avenue **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Between 1900 and 1910, Glendive's population doubled to 2,448 and the small settlement had begun its transformation from a one-stop cowtown to a more sophisticated city, where residents could stroll on cement sidewalks and tap into a brand-new water system. Charles Krug, a prominent local rancher and businessman, built this investment property in 1910 as Glendive stood on the brink of its greatest prosperity. The Glendive Independent reported in October of that year that a new drug store, "modern in all respects," would occupy one of the nine commercial spaces that realtor George Beasley had leased from Krug. Brick and concrete document the additions which, by 1929, extended along the back of the building. Tenants included a jeweler, a tailor, and a

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

milliner as well as a restaurant, a drug store, and a variety store. Newer brick, doors, and windows have modernized its appearance, but the block is significant today for its long association with the Krug family and as a representative of this prosperous era.

**Property:** Chamber of Commerce

**Address:** 200 N. Merrill, Glendive, Dawson

**Historic District:** Merrill Avenue **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** assembly halls

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Early Glendive businessmen took great pride in their town, so when the Glendive Independent reported in 1911 that the rival town of Sidney was “putting on metropolitan airs,” merchants rose to the competition by forming committees and promotion groups. They formally organized as the Glendive Chamber of Commerce in 1914 with Frank Hughes as president, E. A. Shabel as vice president, and R. H. Watson as treasurer. The group hired C. A. Rasmussen as paid secretary and built this building circa 1915 on land owned by the Northern Pacific Railroad. The one-story frame building reflects both the heightened activity of the homestead boom during the 1910s and the local significance of the railroad. Contemporary with much of Glendive’s historic architecture, this small ambassador first stood to the northeast facing the tracks and in front of the yard master’s office. By 1929, it had been moved to the present location where it continues to represent the Glendive Chamber of Commerce, cordially welcoming visitors.

**Property:** Charles Krug House

**Address:** 103 W. Douglas, Glendive, Dawson

**Historic District:** **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Rancher and banker Charles Krug came west from Ohio in 1878, searching for opportunity and a climate to relieve his sister Emma’s asthma. In 1881, he and Emma settled in Glendive where she was a seamstress and he worked for the railroad. Krug built a herd of five hundred cattle, adding one or two head every payday. After the winter of 1886-87 claimed nearly all his livestock, he started over and eventually acquired 34,000 acres of land, 25,000 sheep, and 1,000 head of cattle. In 1900, at the age of fifty-five, Krug married Annie Ketcham, mother of two young daughters. Together they had five more children. In 1906, St. Louis architect Herbert C. Chivers built this twenty-five room Neo-classical style home for the Krug family. Constructed of glazed Hebron brick expertly laid by Michigan masons, Chivers’ own artisans crafted the elaborate details. The interior was handsomely finished in quartersawn oak with elaborate stairways, porcelain-tiled fireplaces, and beautifully carved columns. In the economically disastrous 1920s, when many rural banks were ruined by customers’ panic-driven withdrawals, Krug was president of the Merchant’s National Bank. He and Exchange Bank president Henry Dion agreed to help each other through the hard times. Krug, known as a man of his word, averted a run on his bank when he vowed publicly to use every penny he had to keep his bank solvent, if he had to leave town as broke as he arrived. All four Glendive banks survived.

**Property:** Merrill Avenue Historic District

**Address:** Historic District, Glendive, Dawson

**Historic District:** Merrill Avenue **Building Type:**

**Subject 1:**

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Glendive took root as a steamboat landing on the Yellowstone River and as a railroad center in the middle of

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

prime stock country. When the Northern Pacific reached Glendive in 1881, its first cars transported buffalo hides and bones back to the “states” and river travel became a thing of the past. Soon countless head of cattle were unloaded at Glendive, filling Montana’s empty prairies. Sheep and cattle ranchers enthusiastically promoted the region’s grazing lands and the town’s business opportunities grew when it was designated county seat. The Glendive Times encouraged newcomers, even promising single women “...a ‘right smart’ chance to catch on to husbands.” By 1884 the town supported three hotels, several churches, a school, a courthouse, at least ten saloons, and a variety of other commercial enterprises. A calamitous fire in 1886 destroyed thirteen businesses, but the spirited community rebuilt in more substantial brick. A few buildings, like the Italianate style Masonic Temple, reflect this early period. Dryland farming and homesteaders in the early 1900s had a profound impact on Glendive’s economy. The 1914 Neo-classical style city hall designed by influential Miles City architect Brynulf Rivenes and the 1922 Prairie style depot that anchor the district’s opposite ends well illustrate this prosperous era. Although railroad-related warehouses, grain elevators, and lumberyards no longer line Merrill Avenue’s southeast side, this six-block district represents the years from 1886 to 1930 and tells the story of ranching, railroading, and farming in eastern Montana.

**Property:** Glendive City Water Filtration Plant

**Address:** 420 West Bell, Glendive, Dawson

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** structure

**Subject 1:** filtration plants                   **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The muddy waters of the Yellowstone River, delivered in wooden barrels for twenty-five cents each, served Glendive’s early residents. The red flags signaling which households wanted delivery were sometimes misinterpreted by visitors as a sign of quarantine. Construction of a water and filtration system was therefore a topic of major interest to the early community. After several decades of intense debate, city incorporation in 1902 allowed bond elections that could ultimately fund such a filtration project. A \$50,000 bond issue passed in 1905, providing for construction of a pump station, wooden water mains, and a reservoir. The early system was only for water distribution, and it was yet another decade before bonds financed \$130,000 for a filtration plant. The City of Glendive commissioned the Northwood Engineering Company of Florence, Massachusetts, to construct the one-story front section which was completed in 1917. A two-story brick addition following the original design was added at the rear in 1923 and the state’s first water softening system, designed by city engineer C. W. Eyer, was installed in 1934. Expansion and modernization of the plant occurred in 1941 and 1960, but the original sections of the building remain in use. They represent the most controversial, expensive, and far-reaching project undertaken by Glendive’s early citizens.

**Property:** 107 West Bell Street

**Address:** 107 West Bell Street, Glendive, Dawson

**Historic District:** Merrill Avenue **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Contractor John Holm constructed this small two-story building for the Dion family in 1929 after he had remodeled the Dion Block on one side and built the J.C. Penney Building on the other. This final addition to the five-building Dion Block shares walls with both its neighbors. The simple design is an excellent expression of the more subdued commercial styles of this later period and complements the architecture of its neighbors. Holm, who came to Glendive in 1906 from Norway, contributed substantially over several decades to the local residential and commercial streetscapes. Harold Wester’s electrical contracting business and appliance outlet was one of the first main-floor tenants, followed by Prefer Millinery in the 1930s. Dr. A. A. Baker, a former Glendive

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

mayor and state senator, practiced general dentistry upstairs. Over the years, the Dions modernized their five buildings. Improvements have included new electrical, heating, and air conditioning systems. An addition with a basement enlarged this building in 1970.

**Property:** First Methodist Episcopal Church and Parsonage

**Address:** Kendrick & Towne Streets, Glendive, Dawson

**Historic District:**            **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** churches (buildings)            **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Noted Miles City architect Brynjulf Rivenes designed this splendid English Gothic style church in 1909. Constructed under Pastor T. S. Leland during intense community growth brought about by homestead settlement, the building replaced the smaller Methodist Episcopal Church built in 1883 at Mann and Pearson Streets. Now the Glendive United Methodist Church, this architectural landmark features a crenelated bell tower, doors and windows with pointed arches, and fine polychromatic brick detailing. The Craftsman style parsonage, with its flared gable roof and open front arched porch, was added in 1913. The church and its parsonage were listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1988.

**Property:** Henry Dion Building

**Address:** 106-108 S. Merrill, Glendive, Dawson

**Historic District:** Merrill Avenue **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings            **Subject 2:** apartments

**Sign Text:**

Fancy arches and other fine detailing highlight the façade of this commercial building, constructed as an investment in 1905 by pioneer Henry Dion. The outer walls are of softer, locally produced “Glendive brick” while quality imported brick covers the façade. In 1907, during Dion’s term as mayor, Glendive’s first water plant was constructed and water was piped to users in wooden mains. Dion constructed a two-story frame addition, providing his commercial and residential tenants with running water and bathroom facilities. Historic maps show the post office and a print shop, equipped with a noisy “hit-and-miss” one-cylinder gasoline engine, as the original first-floor tenets. William Ryan operated a saloon here in 1912 and during the 1920s, this was Lee’s Pool Hall. Many a youngster received his first haircut on the raised platform in Lee’s front corner barbershop. Frederic Dion, later owner of the five family buildings in this block, remembers it as a “frightening experience.”

**Property:** Dion Brothers Building

**Address:** 110 S. Merrill, Glendive, Dawson

**Historic District:** Merrill Avenue **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings            **Subject 2:** apartments

**Sign Text:**

Henry Dion built this brick building circa 1894 to expand his mercantile business. In 1908, he sold it to his two eldest sons, Harry N. and Fred. The brothers enlarged the original one-story building in 1910, adding a second story with apartments and a new façade. The four original shops were converted to one large general merchandise store that catered to the homesteaders then pouring into Dawson County. The business included an International Harvester farm equipment outlet across the street. The brothers, who themselves had a ranch on Belle Prairie, stocked everything imaginable from a spool of thread to a team of horses. Smaller purchases, wrapped with paper and tied with string, had to be secure enough to be carried many miles on horseback. Miles City architect Brynjulf Rivenes designed the stunning Neoclassical style façade, which features extensive brick and

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

sandstone detailing. Note the “Dion Bros.” inscription and decorative lions’ heads, perhaps a reminder that the French-Canadian name, Dion, was Americanized to rhyme with lion.

**Property:** Bell Street Bridge

**Address:** West Bell Street, Glendive, Dawson

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** bridges (built works)           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The Northern Pacific Railroad platted the townsite of Glendive in 1882 against the arid Montana “badlands.” The location was an ideal supply and distribution center since it was where the railroad first met the Yellowstone River, but Glendive looked to ranchers and farmers on the river’s opposite side for economic support. After more than a decade of debate, the county erected the first bridge at Glendive in the mid-1890s. The four-span bridge included a swing span because the Yellowstone was still considered navigable. The bridge provided stockmen and farmers direct access to the railroad and made stage travel to points northwest much more reliable. In 1899, the bridge was washed out by a flood and ice jam. The Army Corps of Engineers had by then determined the Yellowstone no longer navigable, and the bridge was rebuilt using one original span plus three new ones. It sufficed until better technology rendered the older structure obsolete. The new bridge, constructed between 1924 and 1926 with federal aid under the auspices of the Montana State Highway Commission, consists of six riveted Warren through trusses. This type of bridge construction is characterized by the “W” configuration made by its diagonal members and above-roadway trusswork. At 1,352 feet, the Bell Street Bridge is one of the longest of its kind in Montana, representing a significant engineering accomplishment and an essential part of the area’s commercial development.

**Property:** Dion Building / Exchange State Bank

**Address:** 102/104 S. Merrill, Glendive, Dawson

**Historic District:** Merrill Avenue **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings           **Subject 2:** banks (financial institutions)

**Sign Text:**

Fire swept through Glendive’s wood-frame businesses in January of 1886, destroying Henry Dion’s saloon and general merchandise, established on this corner in 1881. Dion constructed a kiln and built a more substantial fire-resistant brick building, completed later that year. The striking Gothic style building was featured in an 1889 issue of The Northwest Magazine. Dion’s businesses occupied the two storefronts while the Glendive Club, the center of the town’s social life, shared upstairs space. The club opened to ladies one day a week and hosted frequent dances in its handsome quarters. Remodeling of the building in 1929 included a new façade of better quality brick accented with marble and limestone panels. The original “Glendive brick” may still be seen in the elevator foyer. Dion served as Dawson County’s first sheriff and in many other public offices. He was president of the Exchange Bank established here in 1901 and retained presidency of the Exchange Sate Bank when it was founded in 1911. While many financial institutions failed during the 1930s, this bank remained solvent thanks to the private funds of its stockholders.

**Property:** Krug Building

**Address:** 202 S. Merrill, Glendive, Dawson

**Historic District:** Merrill Avenue **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings           **Subject 2:** saloons (bars)

**Sign Text:**

Neoclassical style elements including pilasters with decorative capitals and an elegant bracketed cornice enliven



## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

the façade of this significant building designed by Miles City architect Brynjulf Rivenes in 1910. Constructed by Joseph Wester for wealthy Glendive rancher, businessman, and banker Charles Krug, its first tenants were a saloon and a clothing store. The architect's brother, Einar Rivenes, was proprietor of The Toggery, whose advertisement claimed that "if you don't trade here, we both lose money." Stetson hats, Florsheim shoes, and Chesterfield clothing made it a first-class establishment for gentlemen's furnishings. The saloon next door at #202 had several early tenant proprietors, including David Leidahl in 1912, who owned one of the buildings in this block. In 1941, the Glendive Masonic Lodge #31 acquired the property from Krug's widow, Annie. Although the ground floor has a newer brick façade and the arches along with three of the original seven windows on the second floor have been infilled, the architectural statement of this marvelous period landmark remains substantial.

**Property:** J.C. Penney Store

**Address:** 111 W. Bell St, Glendive, Dawson

**Historic District:** Merrill Avenue **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

After the death of Glendive pioneer Henry Dion in 1920, his widow and children contracted with John Holm to construct this commercial building according to the specifications of the J.C. Penney Company. Built in 1929, the architecture is typical of the many Penney stores built in small rural towns. Penney stores were easily identified by their brilliant yellow tile aprons, black signs, and trim. Interior features usually included a rear sales balcony and a front balcony for the manager's office. The cashier's station was connected to the various departments by a system of trolleys, which carried the cash from each sale. High wattage incandescent fixtures, prism glass over the display windows, and two large skylights provided ample interior lighting. This building and four others extending east to the corner and south to 110 South Merrill Avenue are known as the Dion Block. They reflect the long history of the Dion family in Glendive, from the town's beginning to the present day.

**Property:** Leidahl Building

**Address:** 218 S. Merrill, Glendive, Dawson

**Historic District:** Merrill Avenue **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The Enlarged Homestead Act of 1909 brought thousands of settlers into Montana, particularly benefiting towns along the Northern Pacific route. Glendive was fairly bursting with activity when this two story commercial brick building was constructed for David Leidahl as an investment in 1912. Although the architecture is less grand than some of Glendive's earlier buildings, it displays fine workmanship and design characteristics typical of this busy period. Corbelled cornices and pilasters illustrate the skills of local masons while concrete lintels and sills contrast with the darker brick. Rudolph Becker and R. E. Wing rented the commercial space from Leidahl, who operated a saloon in this block. Becker's tailor shop was on the ground floor and the upstairs accommodated Wing's photography studio. Both ran prosperous businesses here during the 1910s. VFW Post #1125 purchased the building circa 1940, and it has since served as a meeting hall for local veterans.

**Property:** Sacred Heart Church

**Address:** 316 West Benham, Glendive, Dawson

**Historic District:** **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** churches (buildings) **Subject 2:**

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

### Sign Text:

The Catholics of Glendive first organized at St. Juliana's, a 100-seat church purchased from the Congregationalists in 1886. After nearly forty years, they had outgrown those quarters. In 1924, architect Brynjulf Rivenes of Miles City designed a new Catholic church, inspired by Early Italian Christian and Romanesque styles of architecture. The two-tiered façade has twin lower arches framing double paired doors and a single upper arch framing the large circular window. The attached square campanile tower, with hipped roof, was designed to house the 1,300-pound bell cast for the old church in 1889 by McShane of Baltimore. Local builder John Holm won the construction bid for \$50,000, and Father Michael Webber laid the cornerstone on May 10, 1925. Skilled masons surfaced the entire building with tan brick from Hebron, North Dakota. Complex patterns of red and tan brick highlight the façade, side entries, and tower. On May 31, 1926, Bishop Mathias Lenihan dedicated the 500-seat church to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. He personally donated the large window, which portrays the Sacred Heart of Jesus appearing to St. Margaret Mary and bears the bishop's coat-of-arms and motto, "Fides et Caritas" (Faith and Charity). The feast of the Sacred Heart is celebrated annually in June. This plaque was erected in 1996, the seventieth anniversary year.

**Property:** Wills Residence

**Address:** 401 E. 3rd St., Anaconda, Deer Lodge

**Historic District:** Butte-Anaconda      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

Functional two-story boarding houses and small working-class homes lined the streets and alleys of Anaconda's east side in the early 1890s. An exception to the neighborhood's general character was this Queen Anne style residence. Fred and Mary Wills, who had the ornate home built in 1896, may have chosen the location for its proximity to Fred's bakery and grocery business. A year earlier, Fred and partner J. B. Gnose constructed the substantial Wills and Gnose Block at 409-411 East Park, a short walk from here. If the location was not particularly fashionable, the home certainly was. The one-and-one-half-story residence features a welcoming wraparound porch and an enthusiastic jumble of roof shapes, including a truncated, domed tower and several gabled dormers. A Gothic arch shades the recessed front dormer window and the semicircular arch frames the second-story balcony. Ornamental shingles decorate the base of the tower and the second-story porch. The Wills lived here only until 1903, when they sold the residence to prominent Anaconda builder and businessman William Weiss. Tenants occupied the home in the 1910s and 1920s.

**Property:** Roundhouse and Turntable

**Address:** 300 W. Commercial, Anaconda, Deer Lodge

**Historic District:** Butte, Anaconda & Pacific Railway      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** roundhouses      **Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

An artifact of the steam era, the BA and P roundhouse curves around a central turntable—a giant lazy Susan used to direct engines into individual stalls. The fire-resistant 1893 structure boasts load-bearing walls four bricks thick. Originally only ten stalls, the railroad doubled the building's size in 1907. The expansion reflected rising freight traffic: engines hauled over 9,000 tons of ore daily in 1910, three times more than in 1894. The engines pulling these loads required up to six hours a day of maintenance. They also needed to be kept under steam (locomotives were rarely started cold.) So each night, hostlers would drive the engines into their stalls, bank their coal fires, and perform routine maintenance. In the morning, they would break the banked fire and otherwise prepare the engine for the day. Electric and later diesel locomotives required much less work than steam engines. In consequence, railroad companies demolished most of the roundhouses that punctuated the tracks. Today, this is one of the few nineteenth-century turntables and roundhouses still in use nationwide.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Property:** Washoe Theater

**Address:** 305 Main Street, Anaconda, Deer Lodge

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** theaters (buildings)           **Subject 2:** commercial buildings

**Sign Text:**

Seattle-based theater architect B. Marcus Pinteca (1890-1971) drew the plans for this remarkable structure in 1930. However, the Depression delayed interior finishing and the \$200,000 movie theater did not open until 1936. The Washoe Theater and Radio City Music Hall in New York were the last two American theaters built in the Nuevo Deco style, a lavish form popular for vaudeville theaters. From the street, the Washoe's restrained brick exterior gives little indication of the breath-taking splendor that lies beyond the etched glass doors. Designer Nat Smythe of Hollywood created the sumptuous interior, adorning the walls and ceilings with murals. Colors of cerulean blue, salmon, rose beige, and yellow are enhanced by abundant copper plating, silver and gold leaf, and ornamental ironwork. Two magnificent stags are hand-painted on the blue silk plush curtain that graces the stage. Early advertisements extolled the fine "Mirrophonic Sound" system and the large capacity auditorium that seated 1,000 movie-goers. Admission for first-run films was thirty-five cents. Today, the Washoe is one of the best preserved theaters in the United States, with original fixtures and equipment still in place and in use. It is all the more remarkable for its Depression-era birth, when movie theaters were built on a grand scale but no longer so opulently furnished.

**Property:** 507 Chestnut

**Address:** 507 Chestnut, Anaconda, Deer Lodge

**Historic District:** Goosetown   **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

In 1896, two frame houses nestled on the front of this lot; two cabins stood behind them. By 1903, the two small cabins still occupied the back of the lot, but this gable-front-wing, brick-clad residence had replaced the earlier frame homes on the street. Queen Anne details, such as turned porch supports, stained-glass panels, and fish-scale shingles in the gable end, reflect the ready availability of mass produced architectural decoration. The home still boasts interior period decorations as well, including ornate oak molding and a linoleum rug. Produced to look like traditional rugs, linoleum rugs offered comfort, cleanliness, and durability at an affordable price. Like many Goosetown homes, this residence originally housed immigrant smelter workers. In 1900, laborer Frank Zusek and his wife Josephine rented the house, where they lived with their nine-year-old daughter and two lodgers, who also worked at the smelter. Both the family and lodgers emigrated from Austria, which then encompassed a large swath of Europe, including present-day Croatia and the Czech Republic. An Irish family of six lived here in 1910.

**Property:** 415 1/2 East Eighth Street

**Address:** 415 1/2 East Eighth Street, Anaconda, Deer Lodge

**Historic District:** Goosetown   **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Anchoring the southwestern edge of historic Goosetown, this property nestles against the foothills of the Pintler Range. Edward J. Kelly Sr. is the earliest known occupant of the home, built circa 1900, directly on the Anaconda city limits and the Deer Lodge County line. Kelly, born in Roscommon, Ireland, came to the United States as a child. An ore miner by trade, he worked in Colorado where he married Margaret Sullivan, an Irish immigrant from County Cork. The Kellys moved to Anaconda circa 1905 where Kelly was a longtime employee in the local tram

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

department of the Anaconda Reduction Works. The Kellys purchased this property in 1912 and raised their four sons here. The outbuildings where the family kept chickens, pigs, and horses attest to the rural nature of the neighborhood. The remains of a moonshine still, no doubt a local source of illegal spirits during Prohibition, reveal another, more clandestine, aspect of this historic property. The simple cross-gabled cottage and the house next door have sheltered five generations of the Kelly family.

**Property:** Electric Light Building

**Address:** 101 Main, Anaconda, Deer Lodge

**Historic District:** Anaconda Commercial **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings

**Subject 2:** electric power production

**Sign Text:**

A heavy metal cornice, cast iron columns, and a metal frieze still embellish this building, constructed in 1895. Two cast-iron oriel windows once also graced the upper story. The Anaconda Company's foundry produced the decorative metal front, a prime example of the many iron fronts that once ornamented Anaconda's business blocks. The building, constructed by Conrad Kohrs, W. H. Gehrman, and J. M. Boardman—apparently with Anaconda founder Marcus Daly's backing—housed the Montana Butchering Company. Beef sold here in the early years likely came from Daly's Bitterroot Stock Farm and Kohrs' Deer Lodge ranch. Though the building and business changed hands, a butcher shop remained a prominent fixture on this corner until 1910. That year the Anaconda Company purchased the building for its Electric Light and Railway Department, Water Department, pay office, and medical offices. To promote the use of electricity and advertise its role in power production, the Company illuminated the façade with a row of light bulbs, the sockets for which are still visible along the roofline.

**Property:** Furst Residence

**Address:** 1403 W 3rd St, Anaconda, Deer Lodge

**Historic District:** **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

New residents flooded the housing market as Anaconda's smelter works expanded into the twentieth century and the town began to outgrow its original perimeters. The City Council approved several new additions including this area, annexed as the First Western Addition in 1916. Guidelines to encourage orderly development called for a minimum dwelling value of \$2,500 and a frontage of at least twenty-five feet. Prominent Willow Creek rancher/dairy farmer John Furst purchased two adjoining lots for \$875 and built this home during the winter of 1917-1918. Furst came to the United States from Alsace-Lorraine, France, in 1870, learned the trade of shoe cobbling, and came to Butte in 1878. He operated a shoe store there until 1881 when he went into ranching. Furst also had a local contracting business and developed commercial and residential real estate. This residence, initially built as an investment on the west end of the addition, for many years had few neighbors. After Furst died in 1927, his wife, Theresa, moved into town from the ranch and made her home here until 1949. The beautifully maintained residence is an outstanding example of the Craftsman Bungalow, a style that emerged in California and was widely promoted in the first decades of the twentieth century. Square tapered columns, wide bracketed eaves with exposed rafter ends, triangular braced roof supports, heavy window trim and a front-gabled dormer are defining stylistic elements. Multi-paned windows enclosing the porch, added in the 1930s, and a slightly flared roof line enhance the cottage-like appearance of this charming home.

**Property:** Barich Block

**Address:** 420 East Park Street, Anaconda, Deer Lodge

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Historic District:** Anaconda Commercial **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:** saloons (bars)

**Sign Text:**

Austrian immigrant George Barich came to Anaconda from Butte in 1883 to work at the smelter. He later turned to commercial business and, in 1892, commissioned builders Daniel Dwyer and John Cosgrove to construct the first floor of this block. Barich opened a saloon in the building, which he operated until his retirement in 1910. Dwyer and Cosgrove added the block's second story in 1893. Its fourteen offices were soon converted to bachelor rooms as single men flooded Anaconda's boardinghouses during the booming 1890s. Barich came to play an important civic role as a founder of St. Peter's Austrian Roman Catholic Church and as agent for the North German Lloyd Steamship Company. In this capacity he helped newly arrived Austrians find suitable housing, work at the smelter, and the companionship of fellow immigrants. The Barich Block, now a primary element of the historic commercial district, was independently listed on the National Register in 1983. The upper story retains its original design, featuring fine ornamental brickwork and granite trim.

**Property:** City Hall

**Address:** 401 E Commercial, Anaconda, Deer Lodge

**Historic District:** **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** city halls **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Butte had over eighty working mines and a teeming population by 1890. The resulting flurry of industrial and commercial activity initiated a building boom, prompting Mayor Henry Mueller to oversee the construction of this handsome three-story Richardsonian Romanesque-inspired municipal building in 1891. The tall, narrow edifice of brick and stone features a clock tower, arched entrance, and arched windows with stained glass transoms. Butte's last standing example of nineteenth-century civic architecture, this noble hall served as the seat of city government from 1891 until consolidation of city-county governments in 1977.

**Property:** St. Paul's Convent

**Address:** 601 Main, Anaconda, Deer Lodge

**Historic District:** West Side **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** churches (buildings) **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

On May 30, 1923, the Rt. Rev. John P. Carroll, bishop of Helena, laid the cornerstone for the St. Paul's Parochial School. Built in the center of this block under the direction of Rev. A. R. Coopman, the school long served the children of St. Paul's parish. This building, completed at the same time, housed the Ursuline Sisters in charge of the school. The ground floor contained an office, living room, large dining room, kitchen, and chapel while the second floor was divided into ten sleeping rooms. The debt for the \$115,000 school complex, built largely with pledges from parish members, was nearly three-fourths paid when Father Coopman passed away in 1927. After World War II, the Ursulines withdrew and the school came under the care of the Benedictine Sisters until it closed in the mid-1970s. The school building was razed in 1984. The convent remains as it appeared in 1923. Classical columns, a copper-shingled roof, original plaster walls and ceilings, floors of Michigan maple, and Gothic arches marking the chapel complement the basic American foursquare form.

**Property:** Washoe Brewery

**Address:** 1200 E. Park Avenue, Anaconda, Deer Lodge

**Historic District:** Goosetown **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** breweries **Subject 2:**

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

### Sign Text:

An architecturally impressive landmark and gateway to Anaconda's east side, the Washoe Brewery symbolizes the private enterprise that flourished in this company town. The imposing Italian Renaissance-inspired brewery with its signature corner tower is a bold reminder of an industry important to Anaconda's residents. It also represents an intriguing, unsolved corporate mystery. In 1904, the upstart manger/vice president of the Anaconda Brewing Company (ABC) suddenly resigned his position to establish a rival brewery. Despite William Haltonhoff's resignation, he oddly remained ABC's manager during construction of the \$80,000 Washoe Brewery, completed in August of 1905. The ABC purchased the Washoe in December for \$81,000 and shut it down. The building was subsequently long unoccupied. After Prohibition in 1933, the Washoe reopened under A. J. Tuchscherer, producing Rocky Mountain Beer until 1955. The brewery's boardinghouse and bottling works are now separate properties, but the gable-front house and wagon barn remain intact. The brewery itself, little changed over time, is of primary significance to Goosetown's historic neighborhoods.

**Property:** 509 Chestnut

**Address:** 509 Chestnut, Anaconda, Deer Lodge

**Historic District:** Goosetown    **Building Type:** building contributing

**Subject 1:**                      **Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

This simple Victorian cottage well represents Goosetown's working-class character. Built between 1891 and 1895, the house sheltered smelter workers and their families. Like many Goosetown homes, the property had a separate residence at the rear. In 1900, James Ryan and his extended family were the tenants in both dwellings. In 1910, William Lindblad, his wife Agnes, and their three children lived in the rear residence while eight members of the Barstad family occupied the cottage. Typical of the Goosetown melting pot, the Ryans were Irish, the Lindblads were Swedish, and the Barstads were Norwegian. William Lindblad died at 47 in 1917, and Agnes took up a boardinghouse nearby to make ends meet. Her daughter Ruth recalled filling smelter workers' lunch pails. Her mother could throw an orange or an apple and hit the pail every time. Goosetown women had numerous cottage industries. Selling candy from the porch was an enterprise ideal for this home given its proximity to Lincoln School. After 1940, a portion of the rear residence was moved on logs and attached to the main house. Original roofing is visible in the attic.

**Property:** Fred Clark Residence

**Address:** 602 Locust, Anaconda, Deer Lodge

**Historic District:** West Side    **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures    **Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

Anaconda's elite began to build homes on the West Side in the 1890s, and this Queen Anne style mansion was one of the first to grace upper Locust Street. Built in 1894 for Fred Clark, librarian at the Hearst Free Public Library, the elegant residence boasted all the latest conveniences including steam heat and electric lights. Classical elements such as Tuscan columns and a gabled portico enrich the Queen Anne style so favored during the Victorian era. An octagonal tower, gabled dormers, and wraparound veranda with balconette above heighten the characteristic Queen Anne asymmetry, while granite-capped windows and decorative shingles add varied textures to the wall surfaces. Arched doors and windows showcase the skills of builder/contractor J. P. Dolan. Dolan, who was also a skilled mason, and his partner John Hamill were Anaconda's leading contractors in the 1890s. Except for a 1990 addition sensitively designed to blend with the historic appearance, this West Side residence is a district centerpiece and one of Anaconda's many well-preserved period homes.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Property:** Conley Residence

**Address:** 400 Maple, Anaconda, Deer Lodge

**Historic District:** West Side      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Most West Side residents were Anaconda Company executives or self-employed professionals, but Daniel Conley, who built this Queen Anne style home in 1899, was a notable exception. Conley, who came to Anaconda in 1887, was employed as a Company carpenter. Just as he finished this Queen Anne style home, loss of his hand in an accident ended Conley's chosen career. He briefly went into business and then returned to the Company in 1907 as deputy. Conley was still in the Company's employ in 1918 when he died of anemia at age 61. Mrs. Conley offered rented rooms until Earl Kinney, a former boarder, bought the home in 1926. Later, the residence housed Benedictine nuns in the 1950s who taught at St. Paul's school across the street. Ionic columns, a pedimented porch, decorative wood brackets, and delicate bargeboard trim along the gable eaves illustrate Conley's talents. A high level of artistry in the elaborate brickwork, unrivaled in Anaconda, makes this one of the town's finest period residences.

**Property:** St. Peter's Austrian Roman Catholic Church

**Address:** 401 Alder Street, Anaconda, Deer Lodge

**Historic District:** Goosetown      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** churches (buildings)      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Anaconda architect W. W. Hyslop designed St. Peter's Austrian Roman Catholic Church, constructed in 1898. Its contrasting colors, pointed arches, side buttresses, tall pointed steeple, ornate terra cotta panels, and rose window reflect the High Victorian Gothic style. Built as an alternative to the Irish-dominated St. Paul's Church, St. Peter's primarily served Anaconda's Croatian, Slovenian, and Montenegrin community. For Slavic smelter workers and their families, whose home countries were then part of the Austrian empire, the church helped ease the transition to America. Father John Pirnat, himself from Slovenia, was instrumental in convincing the diocese to construct St. Peter's. He served as the church's pastor for over fifty years, raising the funds for the 1902 rear addition as well as for many other Anaconda Catholic institutions. Father Pirnat often preached in Serbo-Croatian, performed traditional Slavic funeral and wedding services, and led the church in celebrating such ethnic holidays as Mesopust (a pre-Lenten carnival). In so doing, he made St. Peter's a pillar of Anaconda's Slavic community and an important bridge between the old and new worlds.

**Property:** Granite Apartments

**Address:** 214 East 3rd Street, Anaconda, Deer Lodge

**Historic District:**      **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** apartments      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Construction of large apartment complexes represented a shift in multiple dwelling buildings from boarding houses, hotels, and rooming houses to larger facilities with self-sufficient units. Apartment living, complete with private bathrooms, kitchens, bedrooms, and living areas accessed by common interior hallways, offered residents a more private home life. The third of five complexes built in Anaconda during the 1910s, the Granite Apartments were constructed in response to a housing shortage created by the rapid growth of the Anaconda Company. Local builder John Lund Jacobson built the Granite in 1917. Lund, a Norwegian immigrant who came to Anaconda in

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

1885, is credited with building the city hall, the county hospital, and the original Our Savior Lutheran Church. His residential buildings and homes helped characterize Anaconda architecture. The Anaconda Bottling Works originally occupied the lot, but once the plant closed in 1896 Jacobson recognized the area's potential and developed the site to serve the town's growing population. The Granite, unlike other apartments in the company town, did not house Anaconda Company employees, but rather was home to local shopkeepers and business owners. Lipman Coldwater, proprietor of a successful shoe store for over fifty years, was an early tenant. The Granite has been in continuous operation for over eighty years and remains an excellent example of early-twentieth-century multiple dwelling construction. The restored interior features eight one-bedroom apartments of similar size and layout. The original fir woodwork and claw foot bathtubs remain intact and skylights highlight the second floor.

**Property:** Methodist Episcopal Church of Anaconda

**Address:** Corner of Oak and East Third Sts, Anaconda, Deer Lodge

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** churches (buildings)           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Itinerant circuit riders brought Methodism to this part of Montana as early as 1880. Anaconda's first Methodist church was built in 1884, but its small band of followers had scattered by the time Reverend Philip Lowry was assigned here in 1889. He and his wife arrived to find no church building, a poorly built two-room dwelling, and a congregation of only seven discouraged members. During their five-year stay, the Reverend and Mrs. Lowry bolstered the congregation both spiritually and financially, increasing the membership to over 100 and raising funds for a new building. Copper king Marcus Daly helped provide the bricks, and the \$8,000 church was dedicated, free from debt, on December 14, 1890. By 1896, membership had grown to 553 and the church was overcrowded. Architect Henry Nelson Black drew the plans and contractor Joseph Smith substantially rebuilt the original Gothic style church, adding a tower and widening, lengthening, and heightening the building. Pointed arches, lanceolate windows, and steeply pitched roof further define the Gothic Revival style. At its dedication on August 22, 1897, three wagon loads of flowers decorated the magnificent new church. Bishop Earl Cranston of Helena, Superintendent W. W. Van Orsdel, Reverend W. T. Euster, and many ministers of other Anaconda churches crowded the pulpit platform. Although a rear addition expanded the facilities in 1905, both interior and exterior remain true to the historic design. Among the exquisite stained glass windows is the "Lowry window," given in memory of the couple to whom, more than to any others, the church is indebted for its permanency and growth.

**Property:** 504 Main Street

**Address:** 504 Main Street, Anaconda, Deer Lodge

**Historic District:** Westside           **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Intricate ornamental cresting caps the dome on the octagonal tower of this handsome residence. Its eclectic architecture combines elements of the Queen Anne and French Second Empire styles. A partial Mansard roof at the northeast corner and a front window with unusual stone and brick surrounds reflect the flamboyant tastes of the late Victorian era. The tower retains its original, charming multi-paned cottage window. Grocer Albert MacCallum built the residence in 1895 and sold it in 1904 to miner, politician, and businessman Dennis Roach. The firm of Roach and Smith offered billiard parlors, a confectionery, flowers, fishing tackle, sporting goods, cigars, and sundries. Roach and Smith, one of Anaconda's longest established businesses, still exists as a wholesale distribution firm. Dennis Roach served as county commissioner and as a representative in the Montana



## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

legislature. After Roach's death in 1925, his widow Maude remained at home here for more than thirty years. The Roaches' daughter, Katherine "Kash" Felt, a prominent and well-loved Anaconda matron, converted the residence into classrooms where she taught kindergarten. The family retained ownership of the property into the twenty-first century.

**Property:** St. Mark's Episcopal Church

**Address:** 601 Main Street, Anaconda, Deer Lodge

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** churches (buildings)           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Anaconda grew quickly after Copper King Marcus Daly established it as his smelter town in 1883, but the community's Episcopalians needed to wait seven years before they could lay the cornerstone for St. Mark's Episcopal Church on October 21, 1890. Before then, they had depended on priests from Deer Lodge and Butte, or on visits of Bishop Richmond Leigh Brewer from Helena. Services were held in the Methodist Episcopal Church South building and later above Foskett's saloon. At the latter site, water for a baptism by the Rev. A. B. Howard of Deer Lodge once was supplied from downstairs, and in a beer mug. Even after having their own building, the congregation was dependent on the smelter's fortunes, and St. Mark's closed for some months in 1892 when the smelter was shut down. The buff sandstone for this Romanesque Revival church was quarried near Garrison. The original floor plan was that of a Latin cross except for the square entrance bell tower; and a brick one-story addition has squared off the space between transept and apse.

**Property:** Hearst Free Library

**Address:** 401 Main Street, Anaconda, Deer Lodge

**Historic District:** West Side           **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** libraries (buildings)           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Phoebe Hearst, wife of wealthy California senator George Hearst, had a special relationship with Anaconda. Hearst was one of Daly's principal investors and Mrs. Hearst took an active interest in improving Anaconda's cultural opportunities. She asked city fathers for suggestions. Receiving no reply, Mrs. Hearst proposed a library. Citizens agreed that was what they had in mind, but had not wanted to burden her with such a costly suggestion. Mrs. Hearst was touched by their sensitivity and financed Anaconda's first "reading room" in 1895. It was so popular that she soon funded construction of this larger facility. San Francisco architect F. S. Van Trees designed the building; local builder J. C. Twohy completed it in 1898. The grand monument features classical granite columns, a heavy copper cornice, and graceful arched windows. Fine woodwork, brass railings, chandeliers, and an impressive fireplace adorn the richly finished interior. Mrs. Hearst financed the library until 1903 when the city accepted ownership. Listed in the National Register in 1973, this landmark is now a primary element in the historic district.

**Property:** Geroge Waddell House

**Address:** 506 West 3rd Street, Anaconda, Deer Lodge

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:**

**Subject 1:**                   **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The 1890s brought growth and prosperity to Anaconda and Marcus Daly's Anaconda Copper Mining Company. The town's population doubled as well, growing from 4,000 in 1890 to nearly 8,000 in 1895. With the influx of new residents, construction boomed and Anaconda's elite began to build their homes west of Main Street. Among

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

the early prominent west side residents were Marcus Daly's key company officials and corporate managers. George Waddell, however, was an interesting exception. While Waddell was employed by the company, he was neither a manager nor an executive, but rather a talented and creative draftsman. These skills allowed the ambitious young draftsman to build one of Anaconda's most elegant homes. Beautifully preserved, the home is Anaconda's premier example of high style Victorian era architecture. Patterned shingles combined with clapboard siding, irregular roof lines, a grand turret, and cut-away bay define the Queen Anne style while curvilinear brackets and decorative elements provide elegant detailing characteristic of the eclectic 1890s. The home was built for \$2,500 in 1896. Waddell brought his bride Amelia here, where a son was born in 1897 and a daughter in 1899. By 1905, Waddell and his family had moved to Wisconsin and by 1910, the Manus Kane family owned the home. Kane, a longtime railroad station engineer for the B A and P, died in 1938; his widow remained at the family home until the late 1940s.

**Property:** Goosetown Historic District

**Address:** , Anaconda, Deer Lodge

**Historic District:** Goosetown      **Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** historic districts      **Subject 2:** residential structures

**Sign Text:**

Attracted by the opportunity to work at Marcus Daly's copper smelter, thousands of immigrants came seeking work in Anaconda. Many were from Ireland, like Daly himself, but skilled and unskilled workers also came from a myriad of foreign places. Most settled in Goosetown, a working-class neighborhood ideally located adjacent to the Anaconda foundry and the original Washoe works site, under the shadow of the Great Stack. Small inexpensive lots, simple frame workers' cottages, boarding houses and small businesses dating mostly from 1883 to 1918 illustrate the neighborhood's economic solidarity and working-class character. Modest homes on narrow lots with bachelor cabins at the rear, rented for a little extra income, are common throughout the district. Occasional saloons and the 1905 Washoe Brewery reflect the private commerce and industry that flourished alongside the dominant smelter-related enterprises. In addition, widows often maintained their families by operating small businesses from their homes. The Beaudette Block, the Anaconda Meat and Grocery Company and the depression-era Club Moderne are Goosetown's most significant commercial buildings. Historic churches including the Austrian Roman Catholic, Free Swedish Mission, Norwegian Evangelical Lutheran, and Serbian Orthodox only hint at the many ethnically oriented organizations that offered camaraderie and comfort far from home. There are two schools of thought on the source of Goosetown's name. The most widely accepted theory attributes the name to the east side bars' practice of keeping turkeys and geese to raffle off at Thanksgiving. Another theory holds that the neighborhood's initial freshwater system consisted of a water tap at the end of a gooseneck pipe in each residential yard.

**Property:** Alpine Apartments

**Address:** 200 Hickory, Anaconda, Deer Lodge

**Historic District:**      **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** apartments      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

At the height of a building boom in 1914, businessman John Wenger commissioned architects Hyslop and Westcott to design this grand-scale multi-family dwelling. W. W. Hyslop's prolific career began in Anaconda in the 1890s but he moved his practice to Spokane circa 1900. Upon returning to Anaconda with George Westcott, his Spokane partner, the firm designed the Alpine, the Lorraine Apartments, and the Bluebird Theater (demolished in 1956) at about the same time. When the three-story Alpine was finished in 1915 it was not only the first apartment building of its kind in Anaconda, but it was also completely state of the art. Each of the twenty-nine

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

suite apartments boasted steam heat, kitchenettes fully equipped with electric ranges and refrigerators, and beds that could fold up and disappear into the wall. The back entry of each of the two- and three-room units opened onto an elaborate, three-story wood-frame balcony and porch. Several small one-story additions functioned as storage units. All these amenities as well as indirect lighting fixtures, hinged-center windows, and janitorial services made apartment living at the Alpine highly desirable. Upon its opening, tenants who had placed their names on a waiting list immediately filled the building. The façade remains today as it appeared in 1915; even the original back doors of heavy wood, each with ten glass panes, remain intact. Members of the Wenger family long occupied apartments at the Alpine, and John Wenger's widow Sarah, well into her 90s, continued to manage the property through the 1950s.

**Property:** 413 East Eighth Street

**Address:** 413 East Eighth Street, Anaconda, Deer Lodge

**Historic District:** Goosetown **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Edward Kelly Sr. was an experienced ore miner who put his skills to work building this foursquare style secondary residence. Kelly and his wife Margaret, both Irish immigrants, settled in the house next door in 1912. He set to work building this second house, cutting the granite foundation by hand out of local stone. Its bold appearance recalls the walls of a medieval fortress. The brick residence features Chicago "three-over-one" style windows typical of the 1910s. Original doors and other detailing remain in place. According to family lore, Kelly and his sons were involved in the moonshine business during Prohibition. The Kelly boys were famous for their driving skills and fast cars, necessary when the revenue officer was on their heels. Legend has it that a "smuggling tunnel" runs beneath the property. Shards of glass from bottles of moonshine litter the hills behind the house, lending credence to the tales old timers tell. They recall lounging on the hills with their bottles of Kelly's libations, watching the lights of the city.

**Property:** Fuller Drug Company

**Address:** 415 East Park, Anaconda, Deer Lodge

**Historic District:** Anaconda Commercial **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:** recreation

**Sign Text:**

The stepped brick parapet boasts a concrete nameplate, "Fuller Drug Company," harkening back to this building's long service as a drugstore. The sleek, black tile siding on the building's first story reflects its next incarnation as the Highland Theater. A restaurant and rooming house in 1898, the site became the Kennedy Drug Company in 1899. From 1906 through the mid-1930s, the building was home to Fuller Drug Company ("Prescriptions a Specialty"). Remodeled by the Washoe Amusement Company, which also owned the fabulous Washoe Theater, the building gained the Art Moderne theater façade with double entrances and a ticket booth (now in-filled) when it became the Highland Theater. Promoted as "especially for those who are not able to attend evening shows due to working hours," the Highland offered "the best motion pictures . . . at prices within the reach of all" and distributed free passes to children on Smeltermann's Day. It opened on August 31, 1940, with Bing Crosby's "Sing You Sinners." Shows ran continuously from 1:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.; admission was ten cents.

**Property:** Westside Historic District

**Address:** , Anaconda, Deer Lodge

**Historic District:** West Side **Building Type:** district

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Subject 1:**

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Marcus Daly watched with pride as Anaconda steadily gained momentum after its founding in 1883. While Daly's social and political ambition was reflected in the elegant downtown Montana Hotel, Anaconda Company managers, city officials, and other affluent residents built homes adjacent to and west of Main Street. The West Side encompasses a majority of the city's original townsite and includes some of Anaconda's most elaborate residences as well as impressive public buildings and modest dwellings. The buildings of the West Side's eclectic streetscapes, diverse in both style and function, feature Victorian-era spindling, scrollwork, and leaded glass as well as early twentieth-century Craftsman-style detailing. Cast-iron street lamps, locally produced by the Tuttle Manufacturing and Supply Company, visually unified the district by 1920. Judge George B. Winston was the first to build a fine home on the West Side in 1888. By 1890, expensive architect-designed homes were scattered throughout the neighborhood. Designs of local and regional architects include those of Joseph Smith, Martin Kern, Fred Willson, and Herman Kemna. Prominent early residents included Anaconda Standard editor John Durston, county attorney John Boarman, Superintendent of Schools W. K. Dwyer, metallurgist Frederick Laist, and Marcus Daly's two sisters. The City Common (Kennedy Common), with its distinctive bandstand and winter skating rink, anchors the northeast corner of the district. The Deer Lodge County Courthouse, Hearst Free Library, Washoe Theatre, Brentwood Apartments, and three historic churches are integral to the civic, educational, and social tapestry of a planned community that took root in the dreams of its founder, Marcus Daly.

**Property:** Judge George B. Winston Residence

**Address:** 510 Main St, Anaconda, Deer Lodge

**Historic District:** West Side      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Alice and George Winston were among the first residents of the Main Street neighborhood south of Anaconda's business district. The Anaconda Weekly Review noted in August of 1888 that the Winstons' fine home was well under construction. A lovely example of the Victorian-era Queen Anne style, the 1890s addition of the half-story complements the original front bay window and wooden window trim. George Winston served as Anaconda's first city attorney and city clerk. Winston was one of the authors of Montana's 1889 state constitution and later served as judge of the 3rd Judicial District from 1904 until his retirement in 1932. Interestingly, the Winstons' longtime maid was Bridget Sullivan, previously employed by Andrew Borden of Fall River, Massachusetts. Borden and his wife were murdered in 1892 and Sullivan was a key witness in the trial of their daughter, Lizzie. The maid never spoke of the crime, but reportedly confessed on her deathbed in 1948 that Lizzie, who was acquitted, paid Sullivan for her evasive testimony.

**Property:** Deer Lodge County Courthouse

**Address:** 800 Oak Street, Anaconda, Deer Lodge

**Historic District:**      **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** county courthouses

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

This valley known by Native Americans as "Lodge of the White Tailed Deer" officially became Deer Lodge County when this area was part of the Territory of Idaho. After the creation of the Territory of Montana in 1864, the first territorial legislature named Deer Lodge one of Montana's original nine counties. The county seat, first located at Silver Bow and then Deer Lodge, moved to Anaconda in 1896. A bond election in 1898 assured funding for the construction of a county courthouse. County Clerk Martin Martin suggested placing the building at the head of Main Street rather than in the middle of the block so that "A stranger visiting Anaconda has no need to ask where

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

the court house is.” Architects Charles E. Bell and John N. Kent, who also drew the plans for the state capitol in Helena, were commissioned to design the building. Deer Lodge County officials moved from Anaconda’s City Hall into the new facility in the spring of 1900. The grand Neoclassical style building, constructed of buff-colored dressed sandstone, features a central two-tiered, domed tower. On the interior, the dome’s painted ribs dramatically simulate structural members. Frescoes and county seals by Consolidated Artists of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, adorn the panels between the “ribs.” Other interior appointments include an ornate spiral staircase of oak and marble treads, oak banisters, and cast iron risers. Decorative square cast iron newel posts, originally capped with electric lights, are especially noteworthy.

**Property:** Anaconda Commercial Historic District

**Address:** Historic District, Anaconda, Deer Lodge

**Historic District:** Anaconda Commercial **Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** historic districts

**Subject 2:** commercial buildings

**Sign Text:**

Backed by the powerful San Francisco syndicate of Hearst, Haggin and Tevis, Marcus Daly built the world’s largest smelter (combined upper and lower works) on Warm Springs Creek between 1883 and 1889. Along with the smelters, Daly envisioned a substantial city and filed the original townsite plat June 25, 1883. While smelter construction got underway that summer, people arrived faster than building supplies. The first boarding houses and saloons opened in tents. A railroad spur soon linked the town to the Anaconda Mine in Butte. By the time the furnaces of the Upper Works fired up in the fall of 1884, Anaconda’s 80 buildings included seven hotels and boarding houses and twelve saloons. At the end of 1885, Anaconda’s reduction works had a payroll of 1,700. The Anaconda Copper Mining Company dominated the local economy. Company subsidiaries built and maintained the city water supply, electric power system, and street railway. Daly and his associates established key commercial enterprises including the major bank, retailer D. J. Hennessy’s local company store, a race track, the highly acclaimed Montana Standard, and the Montana Hotel. Modeled after New York City’s Hoffman House, this premier hotel represented Daly’s political ambition as he promoted Anaconda in the race for state capital. Daly was bitterly disappointed when the city lost the capital race in 1894, but Anaconda survived as a vibrant piece of the Montana mosaic. Significant for its labor history and ethnic diversity, this unique company town was a place where private enterprise also flourished. Elaborate Victorian-era business blocks and the more utilitarian façades of the early twentieth century are testimony to a vigorous business community.

**Property:** Glover Cabin

**Address:** Washoe Park, Anaconda, Deer Lodge

**Historic District:** **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** cabins (houses)

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Alexander Glover, a native of Scotland, came to ranch in the Deer Lodge Valley in 1865. The first to settle in the Warm Springs Creek drainage, he built this cabin of saddle-notched hewn logs. On April 12, 1868, Glover, at thirty, married twenty-year-old Mary James. Mary’s father, William M. James, had come with his family from Wales to the Deer Lodge Valley where he established one of the early ranches. The marriage of Alexander and Mary was the first at Warm Springs Creek. The Glovers’ son Thomas, eldest of their seven children, was born on March 14, 1870, reputedly the first white child born at the creek. The Glovers ranched and farmed until 1883 when Marcus Daly commissioned local rancher Morgan Evans to purchase lands for a townsite and smelter. The Glover family sold the ranch, Alexander eventually turned to mining, and the family cabin became headquarters for the Anaconda townsite surveying crew. The quaint little cabin remained on its original site near Elm Street for another thirty years. In 1916, annexation of the First Western Addition, which included most of the original Glover

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

ranch, prompted removal of the cabin to Washoe Park about a mile away. Here in its new setting, the historic cabin long served as park headquarters. Today the Glover Cabin, unique to the area for its single-pen linear form, is Anaconda's oldest surviving building and a tribute to the first settlers at Warm Springs Creek.

**Property:** Morel Rainbow Arch Bridge

**Address:** 25200 East Side Road, Anaconda, Deer Lodge

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** structure

**Subject 1:** bridges (built works)           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

In 1913 Deer Lodge County officials decided to build a bridge to span Silver Bow Creek, appropriating \$2,067.88 for materials and \$265 to H. B. Grant for design specifications. The bridge made passable the county road between the nearby Milwaukee Railroad Morel Substation and the community of Anaconda. The county's decision to build the bridge reflected a national initiative known as the Good Roads Movement, an effort to improve rural and in-town highways. In Montana, many "Good Roads" infrastructure improvements were the work of prisoners from the state penitentiary. In 1914, the year inmates completed construction of the Morel Bridge, over one-third of Montana's inmates were employed in work camps, primarily building roads. Praised for its strength, economy of materials, and low cost, the Morel Rainbow Arch Bridge is patterned after the Marsh Rainbow Arch Bridge, patented by J. B. Marsh of Iowa in 1912. The design was particularly suited to the use of prison labor because it could be built primarily by unskilled workers. During the 1920s and 1930s, the Montana Department of Highways designed and built numerous concrete bridges, but this rainbow arch concrete bridge is the only one of its kind in Montana. The bridge was abandoned in 1916 when the Anaconda Mining Company—which owned the surrounding land—built Pond 2, one of a series of settling ponds that separate old Highway 10 and the interstate. Today, Atlantic Richfield, a BP affiliated company, maintains the water treatment facilities and the State of Montana manages the site for wildlife and recreational use.

**Property:** 403 East Eighth Street

**Address:** 403 East Eighth Street, Anaconda, Deer Lodge

**Historic District:** Goosetown   **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Economic solidarity and frugal ingenuity define the Goosetown District, which attracted workers from across the globe. Housing was scarce as Goosetown matured in the shadow of the Big Stack. A small, simple worker's cottage stood on this lot at least by the mid-1910s. Early owner and smelterman Ernest Stead, his wife Mary, and their two children were in residence by 1920. The Steads were both recent English immigrants. The property changed hands and by 1930, newlyweds Ann and Rufus Horsfall rented the house from Elmer Barnett, who lived next door. Ann and Rufus were also English born and came to the United States as children. Rufus was a molder at the Anaconda Company's foundry. In 1935, Joseph Bickerstaff purchased the property and enlarged the house, incorporating the older cottage into the plan. A leaded glass window and portions of a stone foundation provide clues to the home's early origins. Illuminating this cottage is one of Anaconda's original streetlights, a legacy of the foundry where it was made, and of the copper industry that electrified America.

**Property:** Club Moderne

**Address:** 811 E Park, Anaconda, Deer Lodge

**Historic District:** Goosetown   **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings           **Subject 2:**

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

### Sign Text:

It was a grand and gala event on October 9, 1937, when John “Skinny” Francisco debuted his luxurious establishment to an eager public. Souvenir roses and etched liquor glasses commemorated the long-awaited occasion. Club Moderne is today a premier example of the Art Deco style, especially noteworthy for its pristinely preserved interior. The style, introduced to America at a Paris exposition in 1925, rejected historical references. It was a new “modern” style, the ultimate architectural expression of the machine age. The club’s gently rounded façade embellished with smooth Carrara glass panels elegantly emphasizes streamlined proportions. Original neon lighting boldly illuminates the façade. Bozeman architect Fred Willson designed the building constructed by Theodore Eck of Anaconda and finished entirely by local craftsmen. The henna and tan interior includes the original inlaid woods, leather panels, chromium and leather furniture, and Formica tables. Renowned as “the king of such places,” the Club Moderne was independently listed in the National Register in 1986 and has become a true icon for Art Deco connoisseurs.

**Property:** Marcus Daly and Company Bank Building

**Address:** 123 Main, Anaconda, Deer Lodge

**Historic District:** Anaconda Commercial **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** banks (financial institutions)

**Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

Marcus Daly and W. L. Hoge founded Anaconda’s first bank in 1883. Hoge, Anaconda’s first mayor, sold his interest in the bank to Daly in 1895. The institution became the Marcus Daly and Company Bank and later, the First National Bank of Anaconda. Expansion of the Anaconda Company smelter during the 1890s prompted construction of the bank block in 1895. The building’s colorful history includes a bungled nighttime robbery that occurred soon after the bank’s grand opening. Two men attempted to blow up the safe but instead woke the neighborhood; they were quickly apprehended. The impressive Victorian-era Romanesque style building features granite trim, engaged columns, arched doorways, frosted and sandblasted windows, bronze door hardware, and terra cotta tile with a floral motif. In 1914, renowned Bozeman architect Fred Willson designed the rear addition. The bank moved in 1969 and diverse tenants subsequently occupied the space. Extensive rehabilitation in 2002 restored the older portion of the building to its original splendor and the building now houses the First National Bank of Montana.

**Property:** Tuttle Residence

**Address:** 518 Hickory St, Anaconda, Deer Lodge

**Historic District:** Westside **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

Mass production of decorative details allowed even modest houses to partake of architectural fashion. In the case of this one-and-one-half-story home, stained glass, gingerbread and latticework, turned porch supports, and fish-scale shingles in the gable end visually reference the popular Queen Anne style. Although Charles Tuttle did not formally acquire the land on which this home was built until 1897, he had contractors Smith and Gilmour construct the wood frame residence in 1892, making this one of the oldest homes on Hickory. Tuttle owned the City Drug Co., where he sold pharmaceuticals, hardware, and furniture. In the 1890s, a large furniture warehouse stood behind the home. In 1898, Tuttle expanded his business to include a funeral parlor, selling the drug store in 1900 to focus on undertaking. He later added a livery, creating Tuttle’s Livery and Undertaking. Longtime resident Joseph Malloy, a foreman at the converter plant, and his wife, Sarah, purchased the residence in 1915. More recently, James Milo and Lenore Manning undid alterations from the 1950s and 1960s, restoring the front façade to its original appearance.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Property:** Anaconda Saddle Club Historic District

**Address:** , Anaconda, Deer Lodge

**Historic District:** Anaconda Saddle Club **Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** historic districts

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Copper king Marcus Daly built a racetrack outside Anaconda in 1888 to promote his passion for horse racing. The racetrack not only offered recreational opportunities, it also established the first equine activities in Anaconda's WestValley. Although modern housing obliterated Daly's racetrack in the early twentieth century, its legacy endured. The non-profit Anaconda Saddle Club, founded in 1944 during World War II, was an extension of the tradition Daly brought to the valley. The club fostered the community's enthusiasm for horses and horsemanship at a time when resources were scarce. In 1945 the group purchased thirty acres of land and Martin Nelson and Charles Nicely volunteered as architects. Almost every evening and on Sundays during 1945 and 1946, the 160 club members worked on the construction of the oval racetrack, arena, numerous barns, and other buildings. Completion of the Rustic style complex was a great achievement by an all-volunteer work force. A huge crowd attended the public opening on September 22, 1946. The unique octagonal clubhouse, log caretaker's house, frame buildings with weatherboard siding, and complementary log fences and corrals reflect a style unusual for the postwar period. The log building methods mirror those employed in the Anaconda Company's logging camps in the Seeley-Swan area and FlatheadValley. The club's log buildings also provide a visual connection to the Rustic dude ranches of an earlier era. The club continues its careful stewardship of equine traditions in this superb setting, offering an excellent venue for local and regional events.

**Property:** City Hall

**Address:** 401 E Commercial, Anacoda, Deer Lodge

**Historic District:** **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** city halls

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Copper magnate Marcus Daly had great expectations for Anaconda when the town was platted in 1883, hoping one day the town would become Montana's capital. It was with that goal in mind that plans for a magnificent city hall were conceived. Architects Lane and Reber of Butte, winners of a competition for the building's design, drew the blueprints for the symbolically and historically significant civic landmark, completed in 1896. Built in a "straightforward manner ... using local materials," the architects employed pressed brick, Anaconda granite, and Anaconda copper trim. The complex design illustrates the passionate eclecticism of the late Victorian era, incorporating elements of a variety of styles. A massive corner tower, bays, and pavilioned entrance visually define the original separate functions of the building: city government, fire hall, and police department. Contrasts of round and square forms serve to augment these divisions. Classical detailing, Roman and Romanesque style arches, Moorish "keyhole" windows, Gothic tracery, and a Chateausque style roof capping one of the bays are a visual feast and showcase local craftsmanship. Abandoned in 1976 and slated for demolition, the building was rescued by local citizens in 1978. Though a clock tower housing the fire bell was removed, the rehabilitated City Hall Cultural Center is once again a thriving and impressive source of civic pride.

**Property:** Davidson Building

**Address:** 301-303 E Park Ave, Anacoda, Deer Lodge

**Historic District:** **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings

**Subject 2:** apartments



## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

### Sign Text:

Architect Jonathon Barlett designed this marvelous business block as an investment property for T. C. Davidson in 1896. Davidson, an Ohio native and Civil War veteran, came to Montana in 1879. In the early 1890s, Davidson moved from his nearby ranch into town, where he later served as both city councilman and county commissioner. Davidson died in 1916, survived by his wife and ten children. Original 1890s building features include splendid arcuated brickwork, granite trim, cast-iron storefronts, and a canted corner entry with a beautiful oriel window. In August of 1922, a spectacular fire originating in a basement warehouse "...ate up everything but the brick walls." Damage to merchandise and personal property, including that of twenty upstairs rooming-house residents, exceeded \$100,000. P. J. Stagg purchased the ruins from Mrs. Davidson and immediately rebuilt. By November a new building had literally risen from the ashes of the old one, and its twenty-seven second-floor rooms had been converted into fourteen apartments. Interior appointments still in place from this historic period include skylights, wood cabinetry, elegant pressed tin ceilings, and fine wood trim. One longtime tenant was Lipman Coldwater, who operated a shoe store on the premises from 1942 to 1974. Coldwater's is remembered by longtime Anaconda residents as a downtown fixture. The future of the Davidson was again threatened during Urban Renewal in 1979. Thanks to the mighty efforts of a small group of citizens who recognized its significance, the building narrowly escaped demolition. The Davidson is today one of Anaconda's most outstanding examples of late-nineteenth-century brick masonry and cast-iron storefront construction as well as a grand expression of the vernacular Western Commercial style of architecture.

**Property:** Fallon County Jail

**Address:** 723 S. Main, Baker, Fallon

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** jails (buildings)           **Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

The completion of the Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul, and Pacific Railroad line through this area in 1908 brought an influx of homesteaders, increasing the demand for county services. Simultaneously, the Progressive Movement in Montana sparked a county splitting craze. An acrimonious battle soon erupted between Ekalaka, Baker, and Wibaux for designation as county seat of the recently formed Fallon County. In 1915, the Montana Supreme Court upheld the election of Baker as county seat and the county commissioners took immediate steps to build a permanent courthouse and county jail. The commissioners worked to act quickly to provide tangible proof that Baker was the political center of the county. The county contracted with the architectural firm of Link and Haire, who specialized in public buildings, to design a jail and heating plant to cost less than \$9,000. The Craftsman style Fallon County Jail expresses the firm's adaptability to smaller buildings and limited budgets. Gable-front porches supported by Doric columns of exposed aggregate protect the entrance. The first floor served as the sheriff's residence with a simple living space of plain woodwork and hardwood floors. The second floor housed the jail; one room had two cells for women and the other room had four cells for men. The cells were removed in 1974, but the second floor windows retain the original steel bars. Constructed in 1916, the jail well represents Montana's homestead era, incorporating Craftsman ideals of honesty and simplicity expressed in concrete and stucco. The O'Fallon County Museum opened in 1980.

**Property:** Fire Pump House

**Address:** Highway 87, Lewistown, Fergus

**Historic District:** Lewistown Satellite Airfield   **Building Type:** structure | contributing

**Subject 1:** military buildings           **Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

The army tapped into Lewistown's water supply, but the base had its own water system. The pump house was

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

critical to the safety of the base. Its massive pumping equipment provided accelerated water recharge for fire emergencies. The pump house not only housed a high capacity electric pump, but also a standby generator for backup power. The base water supply was also chlorinated here at the pump house. Like the elevated water tank, the reservoir capacity for its in-ground storage tank was 50,000 gallons. In addition to the pumping equipment in its single room, a built-in cabinet lies against the southeast wall. Inside the door, servicemen stationed at the base left their signatures and hometown addresses. A water treatment plant at the southwest corner of the base consisted of an Imhoff tank for the reception and processing of sewage. A trickling filter fed into a chlorinator house. Little visibly remains of this part of the system except a ring-like mound where the Imhoff tank once sat.

**Property:** Pre-War Hangar

**Address:** Highway 87, Lewistown, Fergus

**Historic District:** Lewistown Satellite Airfield      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** military buildings

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Local businessman Harrison Green established Lewistown's first airport at this location in 1928, intending to sell it to the city or operate it as a private enterprise. The city, however, established its own airport in 1933 just across the road from Green's runway. When airmail and air passenger service began in 1933, it quickly became obvious that the city's airport was inadequate. It was too close to power lines and its runway was too short. After several close calls, the city negotiated relocation of its airport to Green's facility. In 1937, this became Lewistown's municipal airport. In 1941, the WPA improved the facility, paving the runways. This hangar first appears in aerial photographs during these improvements. It served as a hangar-field maintenance facility for private aircraft and Inland Air Lines—the commercial company serving this region—just prior to World War II. The World War II airbase sprang up around the hangar. Inland Airlines, and perhaps private pilots, likely continued to use it throughout the war as an airport utility-maintenance hangar for smaller aircraft.

**Property:** Elevated Storage Tank

**Address:** Highway 87, Lewistown, Fergus

**Historic District:** Lewistown Satellite Airfield      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** military buildings

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The brightly painted red and white squares of this four-story water tower have been a distinct landmark since its placement on the prairie in 1942. The 50,000-gallon storage tank, built circa 1908, originally served the community of Broadview north of Billings. The southwest leg of the tower identifies Indiana Steel—a prominent Chicago-based firm that produced bridges, railroad track, and structural steel for skyscrapers—as its manufacturer. A shortage of steel during World War II forced the US Army Corps of Engineers to acquire the Broadview water tower, no longer in use by 1942, for the Lewistown Air Base. The William P. Roscoe Company of Billings, whose specialty was bridge construction, won the contract to build the water system for the base. Roscoe acquired the Broadview tower, disassembled it, transported it to Lewistown, and reassembled it on the airfield. The air bases at Glasgow and Cut Bank also acquired similar water tanks while a much larger concrete cylindrical water tower served the base at Great Falls. Of the four towers, only this example at Lewistown survives.

**Property:** Hangar

**Address:** U. S. Route 87, Lewistown, Fergus

**Historic District:** Lewistown Satellite Airfield      **Building Type:**

**Subject 1:**

**Subject 2:**

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

### Sign Text:

The airfield's immense hangar dominates the flight apron and appears much as it did when World War II vintage B-17s roared down the runway. Construction of the airfield began in July 1942. The original hangar plans were soon modified, increasing the height and length of the building, likely to accommodate the larger B-29s. Crews at Lewistown, however, trained exclusively on the various models of B-17s. Hangar construction crews laid out the lumber for the bowstring trusses on site, assembled them for fit, and then took them apart to cut the grooves and glue and spike the pieces together. The airfield accommodated one squadron in training at a time with nine B-17s to a squadron; five of the hangar's six bays could accommodate five of the huge planes, stacked in like sardines. Before a training mission, the B-17 crews would line up outside the hangar to await the bombardier. Armed guards escorted him to the Norden bombsight shelter to retrieve the top-secret device and then escorted him to the hangar and the plane. The process was repeated upon the crews' return.

**Property:** Camouflage Building

**Address:** Highway 87, Lewistown, Fergus

**Historic District:** Lewistown Satellite Airfield      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** military buildings

**Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

The United States Army Air Force (USAAF) trained its field maintenance crews in camouflage painting to make aircraft difficult to distinguish from the ground. Constructed in the spring of 1943, this building was designed for teaching and facilitating aircraft camouflage techniques. A catwalk, unique among Lewistown Airfield's buildings, allowed students to lay out their designs and provided instructors a bird's eye view to evaluate them. While American allies used elaborate camouflage, USAAF heavy bombers never widely adopted it. This building more frequently functioned as an auxiliary hangar for base utility aircraft shuttles that carried payroll and mail between Lewistown and the main base at Great Falls. It also may have housed the small twin engine AT-6 "tug" used in target practice. The plane towed a windsock-like target over the gunnery range north of Grass Range. The B-17 gunners fired painted, color-coded bullets so the instructor could determine who hit the target. Vintage pinup posters and calendars decorate the "camo" building's main walls, colorfully recalling the years the building saw active use.

**Property:** Armament Building

**Address:** U.S. Route 87, Lewistown, Fergus

**Historic District:** Lewistown Satellite Airfield      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** military buildings

**Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

Sand-filled "Blue Beetle" practice bombs with a five-pound black powder charge were loaded here for placement in the B-17s' bomb bays. The practice bombs were later dropped in 1,000-foot circles during the daytime and on lighted targets at night. The bombing range was near War Horse Lake, 12 miles northwest of Winnett. The top secret Norden bombsight, later used to drop the uranium bomb "Little Boy" on Hiroshima from the B-29 Enola Gay, played a major role in the training at Lewistown. Navigators gained critical practice flying at night, invaluable experience since Montana's few visual checkpoints mirrored conditions over blacked-out England in 1943. Gunners practiced working, loading, and un-jamming their guns in all conditions including freezing weather, day and night. As the war progressed, B-17s gained fuel capacity progressing from the E and F models to the ultimate B-17 G. Sixteen B-17 Gs and their crews trained at Lewistown from July 6 to October 6, 1943, then flew directly to the front in England.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Property:** Recreation Building

**Address:** Hwy 87, Lewistown, Fergus

**Historic District:** Lewistown Satellite Airfield      **Building Type:**

**Subject 1:**                      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

"Essential for maintaining morality and morale, the Recreation Building was one of the busiest spots on base. A host of activities provided wholesome entertainment to occupy the airmen's off-duty hours. Events included amateur nights on Mondays, movies on Tuesdays and Thursdays, dances on Wednesdays, boxing on Fridays, and religious services and sing-alongs on Sundays. Saturday dances, held downtown at the Civic Center, and regularly scheduled athletic competitions between the airmen and local high school teams filled out a recreational schedule designed to keep the men busy and out of trouble. Lewistown families, many of whom had sons serving overseas, embraced the young airmen and answered the Air Force's call for donations to furnish the Recreation Building's "clubroom." Young women of certified good moral character, escorted by senior USO chaperones, rode buses to the base on Wednesdays for the dances. Elsewhere known as "Victory Belles," in Lewistown these patriotic dance partners dubbed themselves the "bomba-dears." Far from home, anticipating deployment into grave danger, and eager for distraction, the airmen welcomed such tangible signs of the community's support and goodwill. "

**Property:** Bombsite Storage Building

**Address:** U.S. Route 87, Lewistown, Fergus

**Historic District:** Lewistown Satellite Airfield      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** military buildings                      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Barbed wire encircled this double-compartment storage building and a 24-hour sentry kept armed guard. The top secret Norden bombsight, a mechanical analog computer, was accessed through bank vault doors, removed carefully for training missions, and returned under armed guard. The 50-pound instrument was used to determine the exact moment a bomb should be released. The bombsight contained 2,000 precision parts. Its accuracy depended upon the bombardier's ability to correctly calculate speed, altitude, temperature, barometric pressure, and the "bomb curve." Setting the instrument required such precision that one reporter likened it to playing a violin. Wearing silk gloves so that his fingers wouldn't stick to the metal and breathing pure oxygen in temperatures reaching 40 degrees below zero, the bombardier crouched in the Plexiglas nose of the aircraft, the worst seat in the house. This is the only identifiable Norden bombsight building still standing in the United States.

**Property:** Oil Storage House

**Address:** Hwy 87, Lewistown, Fergus

**Historic District:** Lewistown Satellite Airfield      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** military buildings                      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The B-17 was the Air Force's first aircraft made predominantly of metal. Its only non-metal parts were its control surfaces—the vertical and horizontal stabilizers on the rudder and the ailerons on the wings (the movable part used to control roll). To keep them lightweight, these control surfaces were still made of linen- and cotton-covered wood, which was coated with a highly flammable varnish called dope. Used to tauten, stiffen, and waterproof the fabric covering, dope was one of the primary materials stored in this one-story, glazed brick-block building. Set off by itself to protect the rest of the base in case of an explosion, this fire-resistant storage building was the base's only masonry structure. Inside, two rooms separated by a thick masonry wall isolated the coal-burning stove used for heat from the main storage room. Planes came fully assembled, but ground crews

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

responsible for maintaining the aircraft used to repair planes damaged during training. These ground crews took what they learned about maintaining the training planes with them when they deployed to Europe and North Africa, where they repaired aircraft damaged in combat.

**Property:** All Purpose Shop

**Address:** Hwy 87, Lewistown, Fergus

**Historic District:** Lewistown Satellite Airfield **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** military buildings **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

During World War II, the Army Corps of Engineers built almost 1,300 airfields. These rapidly constructed facilities followed standardized plans, all of which included an All Purpose Shop. The unassuming one-story buildings served as the bases' much-needed maintenance centers. In Lewistown, as at other satellite airfields, flimsy construction material, quick assembly, and heavy use made for a busy maintenance crew. As "all purpose" as the shop that served as their headquarters, the crew built shelves, tables, and benches and fixed broken toilets and broken windows. They efficiently repaired damage to the airfield's buildings, whether caused by weather or by the hundreds of men who temporarily made their home here. As the military undoubtedly anticipated, the young, reckless airmen were not the most careful of tenants. Among other equipment, the shop housed table saws, drill presses, and hand tools for woodworking. During Lewistown's notoriously harsh winters, the crew relied on two coal-burning stoves to warm their workshop, whose single-pane windows and uninsulated lathe and tarpaper walls did little to retain the heat.

**Property:** Crew Chief Building

**Address:** U.S. Route 87, Lewistown, Fergus

**Historic District:** Lewistown Satellite Airfield **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** military buildings **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The mechanics that kept the heavy four-engine bombers, known as "flying fortresses," aloft and the crew chiefs that coordinated the efforts of their teams had offices in this building. The squadrons that trained at Lewistown, Glasgow, and Cut Bank and at army headquarters in Great Falls were engaged in regular training flights monitoring the accuracy of the navigators and promoting teamwork among the crews. Each man had to learn his own job and that of his fellow crewmembers to ensure effective mass tactics. A corporal succinctly stated the mission of the airfield: "This is a place where we will learn to work together, play together, live together, fight together, and if necessary die together."

**Property:** William M. Blackford Residence

**Address:** 713 West Main Street, Lewistown, Fergus

**Historic District:** Courthouse **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Fine stone masonry is beautifully displayed in this powerful expression of early-twentieth-century architecture. Combining the Victorian fondness for asymmetry with Classical Revival style details, local architects Wasmandorff and Eastman designed the seven-bedroom home in 1909 for prominent attorney William M. Blackford. Oak doors and woodwork, found in few Lewistown homes of this period, and a four-foot square marble shower reflect the accessibility made possible by the railroad. Windows of stained, beveled, and diamond-patterned glass add period elegance. William Blackford came to Lewistown in 1894 and soon married Anna Otten who took music lessons at the home where Blackford boarded. They filled their home with six children. Blackford was a brilliant, civic-

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

mindful attorney who also loved his home and spent every spare moment in his backyard garden, "watching and aiding in the wonderful creative work of nature." When he died in 1938, court adjourned for the funeral so that all could pay their respects. Anna remained at home here through the 1960s. Complete restoration in recent years has returned the Blackfords' gracious residence to its former glory.

**Property:** Attix Clinic

**Address:** 618 W. Main, Lewistown, Fergus

**Historic District:** Lewistown Central Business      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Dr. Frederick F. Attix came to Lewistown in 1901 where he set up one of the first local medical practices. Dr. Attix traveled 70,000 miles in his horse and buggy visiting patients in mining camps, often operating by lamplight in bunkhouses. On April 6, 1917, the same day the United States entered World War I, he and Dr. Frank Davis opened the Attix Clinic. Lewistown architects Wasmansdorff and Eastman designed the brick building, which was originally planned to carry five stories. Restrained brickwork, rusticated corner quoining, and a classical pediment at the roofline reflect the transition in western commercial architecture from the showy Victorian era to the less flamboyant twentieth century. Dr. Attix, who delivered some 1200 Fergus County residents, died in 1948 at St. Joseph's Hospital where, in 1909, he had performed the facility's first major operation. Although expansion of this building never occurred, the Attix Clinic continued to serve the community until 1955.

**Property:** Quartermaster Warehouses

**Address:** Hwy 87, Lewistown, Fergus

**Historic District:** Lewistown Satellite Airfield      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** military buildings      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Caring for the squadrons of men who trained at the airfield was no easy task. It required a permanent host crew of approximately 150 to keep the base running smoothly. In addition to providing the actual training, members of the host crew assured that the plumbing functioned, the lights turned on, the bunks had sheets and blankets, the roofs did not leak, and the mess hall served up "three squares" each day. Key to an efficient operation was convenient access to necessary supplies. These two large warehouses were devoted exclusively to storing canned and dried food, construction materials, plumbing supplies, clothing, and almost everything else needed to meet the airmen's daily needs. Measuring 32-by-95 feet, the wood-frame buildings were more solidly constructed than most of the buildings on base. Heavy timbers provided the structural support necessary for a conveniently open floor plan and the placement of large garage doors in the buildings' load-bearing walls. The doors opened onto either side of two drive-through bays, making it possible for four trucks to pull inside the warehouses simultaneously, speeding up deliveries.

**Property:** Abraham and Mary Walton Hogeland House

**Address:** 620 W. Montana St., Lewistown, Fergus

**Historic District:**      **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:** military buildings

**Sign Text:**

In the 1870s, ranchers and prospectors looking for gold in the Judith Mountains clamored for military protection as they settled a region recently controlled by the Blackfeet. In response, the federal government constructed Fort Maginnis in 1880. Garrisoned by three cavalry and three infantry companies in 1882, the fort was home to

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

five hundred men and ten women. Meanwhile, more Euro-Americans settled in the region, including Abraham Hogeland, who first traveled west as a surveyor for the Northern Pacific Railroad. According to his great-granddaughter, the author Mary Clearman Blew, Abraham loved the Judith Basin: "having seen no better country between Pennsylvania and Montana, [he] decided to make it his." Hogeland established a ranch on Spring Creek; his wife Mary and their oldest child joined him from Pennsylvania two years later. In 1895, the Hogelands purchased two officers' quarters from the recently closed Fort Maginnis. He had the buildings dismantled and moved twenty miles to Lewistown. This gable-front-and-wing residence was the larger of the two, reassembled as closely as possible to the original design. The Hogelands used it for a "city house," occupying the residence during the school year, so their children could receive an education. As time passed, Abraham and Mary, while still continuing to ranch, spent more time here. Abraham became increasingly involved in the Lewistown community, serving as superintendent of schools and justice of the peace as well as county surveyor. As of 2007, family members still own and maintain the property.

**Property:** Laux Building

**Address:** 200 Block of Main Street, Lewistown, Fergus

**Historic District:** Central Business

**Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings

**Subject 2:** saloons (bars)

**Sign Text:**

Philip Laux came to Montana in 1885 from Germany and worked in a Helena stone quarry until he relocated to Lewistown in 1890. Two of the earliest stone builders in Lewistown, brothers John and Philip Laux built many local buildings. This 1905 building illustrates the use of mixed architectural styles along Lewistown's Main Street. The building functioned primarily as a saloon in its early years. Henry Osmer operated the Blue Goose Saloon at 216 West Main from 1910 until 1918 when Montana officially went dry. When Prohibition forced the closure of all saloons, the Laux building served as a billiards parlor, clothing store, and rooming house until the end of Prohibition in 1933. The Acme Rooming House, boasting "Baths, Steam Heat, thoroughly Modern and Convenient," operated upstairs from 1916 until 1975. The Empire Café opened in the mid-1940s.

**Property:** Bon-Ton Building

**Address:** 312 West Main Street, Lewistown, Fergus

**Historic District:** Central Business

**Building Type:**

**Subject 1:**

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Built around 1893, the Bon-Ton is one of four remaining pre-1900 masonry structures in the Central Business Historic District. The term bon-ton means "a good or elegant form or style; regarded as fashionably correct." This structure is an excellent example of early brick remodeling on stone and its construction likely supported the Croatian stonemasons who settled in Lewistown towards the end of the nineteenth century. The Bon-Ton serves as an excellent example of early commercial building design. The building originally housed the Carson Saloon. William A. Carson tended the bar and operated a boarding house on the second floor. A former lodger of Carson's, Charles Williams, opened the Bon-Ton Confectionery in the building in 1908 featuring an early soda fountain. Mrs. Florence Williams took over operation of the Bon-Ton Rooming House in 1912. The Williams family operated the business continuously for over seventy-six years. The Bon-Ton building has served Lewistown continuously since the late nineteenth century and remains a vital part of the commercial district as the city embarks on the twenty-first century.

**Property:** Mackey Building (Montana Tavern)

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Address:** Corner of Main Street and 2nd Avenue North, Lewistown, Fergus

**Historic District:** Central Business      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings      **Subject 2:** saloons (bars)

**Sign Text:**

Constructed during the 1911 half-million-dollar Lewistown building boom, the \$20,000 Mackey Building sits directly over Big Spring Creek. A blend of Romanesque and Classical Revival styles, the structure maintains much of its original façade, including the original Mackey Building sign in the colorful exterior checkerboard masonry work. Mrs. Pearl Bloom accommodated borders in the Mackey Rooming House on the second floor until 1922 when it became the Spokane Hotel. Along with a clean room, guests could enjoy a game of billiards and a cold drink at the Rialto Pool Hall. The Blue Goose Saloon operated here in conjunction with the Rialto until 1916. Prohibition forced the Blue Goose's closure in 1918. Joseph Alweis ran the Hub Clothing out of 202 ½ West Main from 1914 to 1916, and again from 1918 to 1941. The Montana Tavern opened after Prohibition. Patrons can still view Spring Creek through an opening in the floor.

**Property:** Melchert's Bakery

**Address:** , Lewistown, Fergus

**Historic District:** Central Business      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The Melchert Bakery Building exemplifies the popular use of masonry façades throughout the Central Business Historic District. The structure retains its original decorative brick façade. Lawyer Roy E. Ayres paid for the construction of the one-story, flat-roofed building in 1916. Prominent in local politics, Ayres served two terms in the U.S. Congress and was elected governor of Montana in 1937. The first native-born Montanan to achieve this office, Ayres helped establish the State Unemployment Compensation Commission. William A. Melchert is more commonly associated with the building's history. Melchert arrived in Montana in 1912 and became an active part of Lewistown's downtown development. Melchert's Bakery opened in 1914 and moved to this location in 1916, where it remained until 1925. In conjunction with owning and operating the bakery, Melchert served as city alderman and acting mayor of Lewistown. Melchert retired in 1956 after approximately forty-two years as a local merchant and baker.

**Property:** Warr-Lane Building

**Address:** 309 W. Main St, Lewistown, Fergus

**Historic District:** Lewistown Central Business      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The banner year of 1913 saw close to \$1.5 million spent in Lewistown on construction. Two thirds of that sum went toward new, elegant business blocks. The city's rapid growth—from approximately a thousand people in 1910 to over five thousand in 1914—predicted a market for commercial space. Entrepreneurs stepped forward to fill the need, among them the founders of the Lewistown Commercial Company, whose principals included local businessmen Austin Warr and James Lane. The company invested \$25,000 to construct the three-story Warr-Lane Building, which offered commercial space on the first floor, offices on the second, and two apartments on the third. Renowned Montana architectural firm Link and Haire designed the Beaux Arts style edifice; the firm had a branch in Lewistown, a testament to the community's sophistication and growth. The architects relied largely on terra cotta to ornament the building. Imported from large, out-of-state manufacturers, the lightweight and easily produced material brought big-city glamour to central Montana. In the Warr-Lane's case the flamboyant terra-cotta façade features lion heads, Grecian urns, and other ornamental motifs.



## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Property:** Warr Building

**Address:** 309 West Main, Lewistown, Fergus

**Historic District:** Central Business **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:** boardinghouses

**Sign Text:**

Austin W. Warr employed renowned architect John H. Kent—one of the architects for the Montana Capitol Building—to design the Warr Building. Warr organized the Lewistown Telephone Company in 1899. Upon completion of this new office building in 1904, Warr relocated the Telephone Company here. The Lewistown Telephone Company remained in this structure until 1912, when Mountain States Telephone and Telegraph purchased the local telephone companies. The Fergus County Argus then operated out of this facility for several years. In 1941, the Lewistown Pharmacy opened its doors to the public and continues to serve Lewistown from this location. The second floor served as a rooming house beginning in 1918. A cast-iron column separates the residential entry from the storefront. Lewistown became known as the City of Stone due to its reliance on stone as the primary building material. The façade features alternate cut and dressed stone and flamboyant arches, exemplifying the craftsmanship of stone masonry prevalent in buildings erected in Lewistown during the early twentieth century.

**Property:** Culver Studio

**Address:** 212 5th Ave North, Lewistown, Fergus

**Historic District:** **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Photographer William H. Culver arrived in Lewistown in 1886 after stints in Maiden and Butte. He was particularly known for his early photographs of central Montana, including images of the renowned 1884 Judith Roundup. Shortly after he arrived in Lewistown, Culver established a studio on this site. In 1899, he and his wife May—also a photographer—decided to replace that small building with this two-story gallery, studio, and residence. Fergus County's first free public high school held classes on the second floor of the new building in 1899, while the county school was under construction. Because there was no rail service to Lewistown until after 1903, Culver had his business block constructed from local sandstone and low-fire brick, likely manufactured by local brick maker Frank Moshner. On its completion the building was "one of the largest and most substantial" in Lewistown. The decorative, corbelled cornice and brick arches surrounding the windows reflected Culver's civic pride and add elegance to the front façade. Suggesting the building's specialized purpose is the bank of windows, or sidelight, that let east light into the single-story, attached studio. A ghost sign on the wall facing Fifth Avenue also offers a visual reminder of the building's past. Clearly well suited to its purpose, the building housed photography studios continuously for almost one hundred years. In addition to William and May Culver, resident photographers included Katherine Coulter, Culver's daughter and son-in-law, Sybil and Lute Musson, and George Brenner, whose studio closed in 1995.

**Property:** Carnegie Library

**Address:** 701 W. Main, Lewistown, Fergus

**Historic District:** Lewistown Courthouse **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** libraries (buildings) **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

"Lewistown's first library opened in 1897 with 269 books in a corner of Mary Hanson's millinery shop. When Mrs.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

Hanson left town two years later, the collection moved to the office of Elizabeth Peeples, county superintendent of schools. In 1905 Lewistown received a \$10,000 grant from industrialist and library patron Andrew Carnegie for this sandstone building, constructed by Lewistown's famed Croatian stonemasons. Carnegie, who funded over 1,600 libraries nationwide and 17 in Montana, encouraged communities to erect modest buildings, but Lewistown wanted a symbol of civic pride. Contractor T. J. Tubb designed and oversaw the library's construction. Praised as a "public benefactor," Tubb lost money on the project, adding many embellishments at his own expense. Despite Tubb's generosity, the building cost more than Lewistown could afford and the city found itself without funds to install a heating plant, electrical fixtures, and furniture or hire staff. Begun in 1905, the building finally opened to the public in 1908. Notwithstanding this rocky start, the library grew and flourished, becoming the civic monument and "temple of learning" its founders had envisioned."

**Property:** Montana Building

**Address:** 224 West Main Street, Lewistown, Fergus

**Historic District:** Central Business      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** banks (financial institutions)      **Subject 2:** commercial buildings

**Sign Text:**

This elaborate six-story brick structure represents a visible sign of the stability and prosperity in Lewistown in 1916 and stands as the architectural anchor of the Central Business District. The construction of this mixed Neoclassical and Revival style building signaled the end of the town's greatest period of growth. Designed by J. G. Link and C. S. Haire, the building reflects the construction methods and materials of the period, reinforced by the stunning white terra cotta Beaux Arts style façade. The Montana Building originally housed the Bank of Fergus County and the Montana Hardware Company. Drought and depression created a period of anxiety for building owners and the county eventually acquired partial ownership in lieu of taxes. A massive homestead exodus in 1924 led to the bank's closure. In response, the First National Bank was established and opened in the building in December 1924. Montana Hardware relocated in 1960 and the bank expanded to occupy the entire first floor. The Montana Building is an excellent example of this period and a monument to the community's optimism.

**Property:** Phillips Drug Company

**Address:** 322-324 West Main, Lewistown, Fergus

**Historic District:** Central Business      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

One of four remaining pre-1900 masonry structures in the 300 block of Main, this structure at 322 and 324 West Main Street originally housed a restaurant and drug store. "Prescriptions our Specialty" proclaimed an early advertisement for the Phillips Drug Company, which proprietor Horace G. Phillips began operating out of this facility in 1910. Phillips Drug Company served as Lewistown's leading drug store until around 1920. Throughout the years many different drug stores and pharmacies have occupied this space. The Alta News Depot opened at 322 West Main in 1914 and continued to serve Lewistown for the next decade. Various other businesses occupied the area adjacent to the drug store, including a bookstore, a confectionery, and offices. This one-story commercial building retains much of its original façade, including the decorative brickwork above the awning. Light brick, arranged in a "sawhorse" pattern, adorns the parapet area. Three diamonds accentuate each "sawhorse" giving the structure an unusual and eye-catching appearance.

**Property:** Lewis House

**Address:** 702 West Boulevard, Lewistown, Fergus

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Stone buildings constructed by skilled Croatian stonemasons are intrinsic to Lewistown's unique personality. Peter Tuss, who built this home with Anthony Weingart in 1902, was one such prominent craftsman. Constructed for Citizens' Electric Company president John L. Bright, the home's roughly coursed sandstone reveals Tuss' skill. The cubic form, low-pitched roof, wide overhanging eaves, and open porch with massive tapered columns define the newly emerging Prairie style. In 1905, Rufus B. Thompson, a prominent sheep rancher, Fergus County legislator, and president of the Empire Bank and Trust Company, acquired the deed. Thompson, his wife Immergene, and their five children used the residence as an "in-town" home. The addition at the back housed the Thompsons' caretaker, Bill Freeman, whose parents were freed slaves. The family adopted the name "Freeman" after the Civil War. Rufus Thompson was a large man weighing in at 325 pounds. When he died in 1914, the entire community mourned his great heart and exceptional good humor. Ownership of the property remained in the Thompson family, passing to relatives Ronald and Helen Lewis in the 1940s. From 1943 to 1948, the residence served as the Church of Christ. Since 1948, it has been home to members of the Lewis family. Today, the gracious interior survives with details intact. Lincrusta wainscoting, wood trim with its original finish, paneled staircase, colonnades separating the parlor and dining room, a green marble fireplace, butler's pantry with built-in china closets, and vintage light fixtures preserve the home's period ambience.

**Property:** Training Building

**Address:** Highway 87, Lewistown, Fergus

**Historic District:** Lewistown Satellite Airfield           **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** military buildings           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

During World War II, many aircrews came to Lewistown for the final phase of their training. Here they logged an average eight hours of ground school for every hour of flying time. In this building the men studied aircraft identification, learned first aid and emergency procedures, listened to veteran combat pilots' experiences, and viewed government training films featuring stars like Ronald Reagan and Allan Ladd. The building also housed three Link Trainers, fully equipped simulated cockpits. Edwin A. Link invented the first simulator in 1928 to lessen expensive flying time while students learned visual skills on the ground. After U.S. airmail planes suffered a series of crashes in 1934, the Army Air Corps began requiring all pilots to take Link training. On the trainers, pilots learned to rely on instruments while flying. The Japanese Imperial Navy also used the Link Trainer, which meant that pilots on both sides of the conflict trained to fight each other using the same system. Most other airbase buildings had outside facilities, but because the men spent so much time here, the training building had its own inside restroom.

**Property:** Power Mercantile Building

**Address:** 302 West Main, Lewistown, Fergus

**Historic District:** Central Business           **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Possibly one of the first architect-designed stone buildings along Main Street, the Power Mercantile Building is the most visible example of Lewistown's stone architecture. Merchant Francis Janeaux became indebted to supplier T. C. Power and lost his buildings, merchandise, and some lots to cover his \$5,096 debt. The Power Brothers established the Power Mercantile Company in 1883 and dispatched N. M. Erickson to run the operation. Erickson petitioned for a post office designation for Lewistown and became the city's first postmaster on March 10, 1884.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

Erickson remained managing partner of Power Mercantile until his death in 1894. W. D. Symmes filled Erickson's vacant post and ultimately became sole proprietor of the mercantile. Active in Lewistown's development, Symmes served two non-consecutive terms as mayor. The well-established business moved into this larger stone facility in 1901. The mercantile continued to flourish, expanding with a matching addition in 1913. The addition connected the store on Main Street with the warehouse on Broadway. Eventually Power Mercantile occupied most of the 300 block of Main Street.

**Property:** 521 West Main

**Address:** 521 West Main, Lewistown, Fergus

**Historic District:** Lewistown Central Business      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings      **Subject 2:** post offices

**Sign Text:**

In March of 1914, four hundred local business owners protested locating Lewistown's new post office on this site, claiming that the call for bids was not properly advertised. Most favored housing the post office in the Masonic Temple building. Nevertheless, the Fergus County Realty Company, one of the two bidders, won the five-year lease. Lewistown architects Wasmansdorff and Eastman drew the plans and construction commenced immediately under federal supervision. Uncle Sam occupied part of the storefront while businessman A. H. Smurr and attorney W. R. Kirk leased the remaining space. Smurr and Kirk's enterprise included a confectionery/ice cream parlor, a factory for the manufacture of their "delicacies," and a billiard room/bowling alley catering to the "the highest class of the trade." The post office remained in the building until the construction of the federal building in 1931. This historic building has been carefully restored to its original appearance and, since 1958, has housed one of Montana's longest running newspapers, the Lewistown New-Argus.

**Property:** US Land Office / Warr Building

**Address:** 309 West Main, Lewistown, Fergus

**Historic District:** Central Business      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings      **Subject 2:** banks (financial institutions)

**Sign Text:**

A man of vision and foresight, Austin W. Warr contributed to the financial development of early Lewistown. Warr established many of Lewistown's founding companies, became a key figure in the development of Central Montana, and helped ensure the financial growth of Lewistown. This 1904 richly decorated building originally housed the United States Land Office. The second in a pair of office buildings designed by Helena architect John Kent for A. W. Warr, the U.S. Land Office building features a Beaux Arts style façade containing elaborate terra-cotta ornamentation. The dressed stone and flamboyant flattened arches accentuate the building's exterior in a visual sign of Lewistown's growth and development. Many different businesses called the Warr Building home, including the Lewistown State Bank from 1912 to 1913 and the Big Bear Saloon from 1916 to 1918. The Central Meat Market and The Lewistown Meat Company operated out of the building for nearly two decades. The Victory Barber Shop opened in 1941.

**Property:** Hopkins Grocery

**Address:** 117 W. Main, Lewistown, Fergus

**Historic District:** Lewistown Central Business      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Welsh immigrant Archibald Hopkins settled in central Montana in the 1870s, where he raised produce for sale to

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

local markets. Hopkins watched Lewistown grow from a small trading post to an established community before linking his fortunes to the town. He purchased this Main Street lot after voters named Lewistown the county seat of the newly created Fergus County in 1899. The following year he and his sons hired a crew of masons to construct this one-story building, distinguished by its cut sandstone façade, curved pediment, and dressed stone incised with the year "1900." An abundance of local sandstone and skilled masons made the decision to build in stone a logical one. So did the lack of a local brickyard. Hopkins and Sons sold groceries, crockery, and kitchen furnishing here until the Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul and Pacific Railway completed its line to Lewistown in 1908. That year, with the town booming, the Hopkinses moved their business into the large commercial block they had built next door.

**Property:** Slater Block

**Address:** 409-411 W. Main, Lewistown, Fergus

**Historic District:** Lewistown Central Business      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings      **Subject 2:** recreation

**Sign Text:**

Slater brothers William, John, and Henry sold their business, the Palace Meat Co., in 1913. With capital from the sale and an abundance of faith in their steadily growing community, they built this three-story commercial block. The local architectural firm of Wasmansdorff and Eastman designed the imposing structure, constructed for approximately \$50,000 (around \$1 million at today's prices). Less ornate than some of its neighbors, the building relies on the use of two-color brick and its terra-cotta cornice and frieze for ornamentation. The upper stories housed the Waldorf Hotel. First-floor businesses included the Myrtle Theatre, later renamed the Broadway Theatre. Theaters in communities on the main railroad lines frequently hosted famous entertainers on their way to the coast; top stars rarely came to Lewistown since it was on a spur line. Nonetheless, in addition to showing motion pictures, the Myrtle offered four Vaudeville acts each week. A Chicago management company provided the entertainers, who included acrobats, singers, and dancers as well as actors and comedians. Adult admission was only twenty-five cents (worth approximately \$4.50 today), ten cents for children.

**Property:** Thompson-Lewis House

**Address:** 702 West Boulevard, Lewistown, Fergus

**Historic District:**      **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Stone buildings constructed by skilled Croatian stonemasons are intrinsic to Lewistown's unique personality. Peter Tuss, who built this home with Anthony Weingart in 1902, was one such prominent craftsman. Constructed for Citizens' Electric Company president John L. Bright, the home's roughly coursed sandstone reveals the stonemason's art and skill of its builder. The cubic form, low-pitched roof, wide overhanging eaves, and open porch with massive tapered columns define the newly emerging Prairie style. In 1905, Rufus B. Thompson, a prominent sheep rancher, Fergus County legislator, and president of the Empire Bank and Trust Company, acquired the deed. Thompson, his wife Immergene, and their five children used the residence as an "in-town" home. The addition at the back housed the Thompsons' caretaker, Bill Freeman, whose parents were freed slaves. Bill's family adopted the name "Freeman" after the Civil War. Rufus Thompson was a large man weighing in at 325 pounds. When he died in 1914, the entire community mourned his great heart and exceptional good humor. Ownership of the property remained in the Thompson family, passing to relatives Ronald and Helen Lewis in the 1940s. From 1943 to 1948, the residence served as the Church of Christ. Since 1948, it has been home to members of the Lewis family. Today, the gracious interior survives with details intact. Lincrusta wainscoting, wood trim with its original finish, paneled staircase, colonnades separating the parlor and dining room, a green marble

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

fireplace, butler's pantry with built-in china closets, and vintage light fixtures preserve the home's period ambience.

**Property:** Wiedeman Apartments

**Address:** 210-214 W. Broadway, Lewistown, Fergus

**Historic District:** Lewistown Central Business     **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** apartments     **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

As Lewistown's population doubled between 1910 and 1920, the community found itself short on living space. According to the paper, newcomers had difficulty procuring "even the most indifferent dwelling accommodations." G. R. Wiedeman capitalized on the tight housing market by constructing this two-story business block, which featured retail space on the first floor and apartments on the second. An energetic businessman and Lewistown booster, Wiedeman was a principal in the Montana Hardware Company and one of the founders of the Lewistown Electric Light Company and the Lewistown Brick and Tile Company. His brickyard's distinctive "Lewistown red" lines the 1916 building's façade. Much of the rest of the building is of rubble stone, salvaged from the original Montana Hardware Co. building. Wiedeman and his partners razed that early Main Street building in 1916 to construct a larger, more sophisticated business block. As a result, both Main Street and Broadway—whose development lagged substantially behind Main—became more elegant. After a 1943 fire, the Wiedemans converted the mixed-use building into eight apartments, two of which were occupied by Wiedeman sons Art and Bill.

**Property:** Huntoon Residence

**Address:** 722 W. Water, Lewistown, Fergus

**Historic District:**     **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures     **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

"The finest and most costly residence" built in Lewistown in 1916, this one-and-one-half-story stone home belonged to John and Maud Huntoon. The Huntoons arrived in Lewistown in 1903, where John practiced law before becoming judge of the tenth judicial district in 1922. The couple commissioned the Billings architectural firm of Link and Haire to design the home; the prominent firm had a branch office here in the 1910s. The house, thought to be the last stone residence built in Lewistown, reflects the community's outstanding tradition of stone construction, and Croatian stonemason John Plovanic's fine craftsmanship clearly enhanced the design. That design includes popular Craftsman style elements with its low-pitched roof, gabled dormers, inset porch, and wide overhanging eaves. However, other architectural features reveal the owners' or architects' personal aesthetic: particularly notable are the "Islamic" keyhole arches framing the sunroom windows and the curved bargeboards accenting the roofline. The interior, originally "finished with white enamel," included a "fernery" and a "billiard room," and its detailing factored into the princely \$15,000 construction cost. The residence still boasts a large sandstone fireplace in the living room, original mahogany doors, and, in the dining room, an electric call bell to summon the maid. The well-designed home suited the Huntoons, who lived here until after John's death in 1933. Maud apparently sought to preserve the tranquil surroundings. According to local sources, the city originally planned to build the junior high school on this block, but because of her objections, the 1922 building was ultimately located several blocks away.

**Property:** Lewistown Satellite Airfield Historic District

**Address:** , Lewistown, Fergus

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Historic District:** Lewistown Satellite Airfield **Building Type:** buildings contributing

**Subject 1:** World War II **Subject 2:** military buildings

**Sign Text:**

In the dark days following the December 7, 1941, attack on Pearl Harbor, Congress appropriated massive defense appropriations. The US Army selected Great Falls, Montana, as the site of a major air base. Concurrent with its construction were satellite airfields at Cut Bank, Glasgow, and Lewistown. On October 28, 1942, the first Boeing B-17 Flying Fortresses roared over Lewistown's Main Street with their bomb bays open, buzzed the treetops, and landed at the Lewistown Airfield. Crews trained day and night combining navigation, bombing, and gunnery practice. The men familiarized themselves with all aspects of the B-17 and trained with the top secret Norden bombsight, a computerized aiming device that reportedly could "put bombs in a pickle barrel." After one to three months of instruction, aircrews then flew directly to join the air war in Europe. Nearly 1,000 GIs trained at the Lewistown Airfield. They became a welcome part of the community, married local girls, and won the hearts of the townspeople. Many never came home. B-17s carried 4,000 pounds of bombs and served in every World War II combat zone, but casualties among bomber squadrons were horrific. A single mission over Germany in October 1942 claimed 60 B-17s and 600 lives. The Lewistown Satellite Airfield was deactivated after eleven months of service. As the US Department of Defense systematically removes "temporary" World War II buildings, this Airfield is a rarity and its intact Norden bombsight storage shelter is the only known identifiable example remaining in the United States.

**Property:** Operations and Alert Building

**Address:** U.S. Route 87, Lewistown, Fergus

**Historic District:** Lewistown Satellite Airfield **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** military buildings **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Planning and scheduling of the training missions took place in this one-story T-shaped building during an eleven-month period in 1942-1943. After November 1942, when the first of the four-engine B-17 bombers roared down the airfield, they filled the skies over Central Montana. Despite the secrecy and censorship surrounding activities at the airfield, the Army publicized and marked off practice bombing ranges because the use of live ammunition and bombs made public safety a concern. One range in Blaine County was used for the high altitude precision bombing proven successful in Germany; another in northern Chouteau County served as a gunnery range. Two lines of Japanese "Zero Plane" silhouettes served as targets for strafing practice. The men frequently flew in precise formation under simulated battle conditions, "...when ships must be so spaced as to cover one another with guns." Even routine training flights over Central Montana experienced casualties. One B-17 crashed near Fort Benton in September of 1942 killing all ten aboard; another crash in December of 1943 south of Musselshell claimed ten crewmen and a cook hitching a ride.

**Property:** Lehman Bunkhouse

**Address:** 801 W Broadway, Lewistown, Fergus

**Historic District:** Lewistown Courthouse **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** boardinghouses **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Two distinct buildings of different origins but with a shared purpose rest companionably side by side on this site today. Pioneer merchant Charles Lehman constructed the handsome stone segment in the 1890s as a rooming house for his unmarried male employees. By 1908, a rubblestone addition had doubled the size of the original cut stone building. The residence also served rural students who boarded in town while attending the county high school. The old Lehman property was purchased by the Lewistown branch of the Montana Institute for the Arts in

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

1970. When the new art center needed additional space, the turn-of-the-twentieth-century two-story frame building was literally rescued from the bulldozer and moved here in 1977. Large doors reveal its former function as the carriage house of local district judge Rudolph Von Tobel. The few exterior alterations, including beautiful stained glass from St. Joseph's Hospital incorporated into a window and a main entry linking the two buildings together, have little altered the original appearances. The complex now serves the community as an art center and as an inspirational model of adaptive reuse.

**Property:** Lewistown Central Business District

**Address:** , Lewistown, Fergus

**Historic District:** Lewistown Central Business **Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Lewistown's elegant commercial district was constructed during central Montana's most prosperous decades, from 1900 to 1920. That era of good weather, and railroad and government publicity, drew thousands of homesteaders into the area. Lewistown grew from 1,100 in 1900 to 6,000 in 1920. Local architects Wasmansdorff and Eastman, and prominent Montana firms including Link and Haire and Kent and Bell employed Beaux Arts and period revival designs. Into those designs they incorporated readily available sandstone and exuberant polychromatic and figured brick and for details, stamped sheet metal and terra cotta. The prominence of stone masonry results from the abundance of building stone in the area and the immigration to Lewistown of experienced, highly skilled Croatian stone masons. After 1911, the Lewistown Brick and Tile Company produced distinctive "Lewistown Red" brick from nearby clay deposits that masons respected for its strength and uniformity. Despite the homestead "bust" of the late teens, Lewistown has continued to grow slowly and serve as a regional commercial, educational, social, and transportation center. Although many first-floor storefronts sustained "fashionable" 1960s and 1970s modifications, the district remains an architectural and historical anchor in central Montana.

**Property:** First Presbyterian Church

**Address:** 215 5th Ave S, Lewistown, Fergus

**Historic District:** **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** churches (buildings) **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

This grand cut-stone structure was formally dedicated in 1913, becoming a major contributor to Lewistown's character as a "city of stone." Although Lewistown had Presbyterian services as early as 1890 and an early Presbyterian Church and manse, planning for this building began in 1909 during Lewistown's period of greatest growth. The congregation hired local architects Otto F. Wasmansdorff and George Eastman. They created a design with many Gothic Revival details, to be built of native sandstone by local Croatian stone masons under the direction of builder T. J. Tubb. Look for the Gothic Revival influence in the square crenellated bell tower, engaged buttresses with dressed stone weathering caps, the arched windows, and the dressed stone cornice. Imagine the sandstone slabs weighing 140-180 pounds per cubic foot, quarried south of Lewistown, being hauled to the site and then fashioned into precise blocks with hand chisels, hammers, and mallets.

**Property:** Judith Place Historic District

**Address:** , Lewistown, Fergus

**Historic District:** Judith Place **Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**



## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

### Sign Text:

Then a “suburb” of Lewistown, the Judith Place Addition was platted in 1911 to provide “up to date” residences for the growing town’s middle-class families. With Craftsman-style designs mostly from architectural pattern books, no two homes are exact duplicates, but a number share the same floor plan. Notable Craftsman features include wood frame construction, wide front porches with square or battered support columns, exposed rafter tails, and decorative beams or braces. Detailing influenced by the Prairie style shows in gently pitched, overhanging roofs and window banding. In 1912, the idea of a planned development was innovative when the Empire Land Company (“Lewistown’s Home Builders”) advertised six-room bungalows for \$3,500 and eight-room homes for \$4,500, complete with electric lights and water. The district’s design cohesiveness reflects its creation during the Progressive Era, with its accent on community planning, and the national movement towards standardizing single-family homes. Locally, the district reveals the opportunity for optimism, planning, and good craftsmanship for middle-class businessmen that Lewistown experienced before World War I.

**Property:** 108 Hawthorne Avenue

**Address:** 108 Hawthorne Avenue, Lewistown, Fergus

**Historic District:** Judith Place    **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures        **Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

The Empire Land Company constructed many of Judith Place’s most fashionable residences, including this one-and-one-half-story Craftsman style home circa 1914. Reflecting the Progressive Era’s emphasis on efficiency, the company adopted the relatively new “systems approach” to building, which used standard-sized studs and joists to expedite construction. Advertising themselves as “Lewistown’s Home Builders,” the Empire Land Company promised to “furnish plans, use first class materials and guarantee workmanship.” Despite its commitment to standardization, the company varied details to give each home an individual flare. In the case of this house, a full-length porch tucked under the upper attic story, exposed rafter tails, a W-truss tracery, and decorative barge boards distinguish the exterior. Attorney W. R. Kirk briefly owned the home before selling it in 1916 to Charles and Daisy McClave. The McClaves lived here with their two children, a maid, and Daisy’s mother through the early 1920s. The now defunct town of McClave was named for Charles, who served as president and manager of Montana Flour Mills. His company’s slogan, “It’s the wheat,” reflected his connection to area farms.

**Property:** Saint Leo’s Catholic Church

**Address:** 124 West Broadway, Lewistown, Fergus

**Historic District:**        **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** churches        **Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

Lewistown’s first Catholic church was a small frame structure built in 1888. Visiting priests from distant St. Peter’s Mission, Great Falls, and Fort Benton celebrated mass for the French-Canadian, Indian, and settler congregations. The first resident pastor was appointed in 1893. Less than fifteen years later, Lewistown experienced the beginning of a population boom that extended to 1917. When the Catholic population reached a peak in 1915-16, the need for a new Catholic church became critical. The resident pastor, Reverend Victor J. Van den Broeck, and his building committee chose the well-known firm of Link and Haire to design the new church. Despite the architects’ concerns that the site was too swampy, work on the new church began in July 1915. Bishop Mathias Lenihan of Great Falls dedicated the new structure on November 12, 1916. The design of St. Leo’s Catholic Church incorporates a blend of Italian Early Christian and Romanesque styling on a Roman cross plan. The campanile, or bell tower, rises to a height of 95 feet. Blind arcading, exterior buttressing, rose windows, and intricate brickwork with terra cotta highlights complement the integrity and nobility of this magnificent building. During renovation of

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

the interior in 1991-92, the original tabernacle was restored to use and the earliest confessionals were re-fashioned into the present altar.

**Property:** Bank of Fergus County

**Address:** 223 W. Main, Lewistown, Fergus

**Historic District:** Lewistown Central Business      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** banks (financial institutions)      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Kent and Bell, designers of the Montana State Capitol, drew the plans for this Renaissance Revival/Beaux Arts-inspired building of sandstone and brick, completed in 1904. The bank was Lewistown's first, founded in 1887 by S. S. Hobson, James H. Moe, and merchant prince T. C. Power. Remodeling in 1915 added terra cotta window facings, pilasters, columns, and horizontal moldings intended to complement the design of the adjacent 1914 Judith Theatre. These embellishments demonstrate a shift along Main Street from the use of local materials to those imported by the railroad. The original wainscoting, high ceilings, and brass-trimmed swinging doors within reflect the wealth of a bygone era.

**Property:** First Presbyterian Church

**Address:** 215 5th Ave S, Lewistown, Fergus

**Historic District:**      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** churches (buildings)      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

This grand cut-stone structure was formally dedicated in 1913, becoming a major contributor to Lewistown's character as a "city of stone." Although Lewistown had Presbyterian services as early as 1890 and an early Presbyterian Church and manse, planning for this building began in 1909 during Lewistown's period of greatest growth. The congregation hired local architects Otto F. Wasmansdorff and George Eastman. They created a design with many Gothic Revival details, to be built of native sandstone by local Croatian stone masons under the direction of builder T. J. Tubb. Look for the Gothic Revival influence in the square crenellated bell tower, engaged buttresses with dressed stone weathering caps, the arched windows, and the dressed stone cornice. Imagine the sandstone slabs weighing 140-180 pounds per cubic foot, quarried south of Lewistown, being hauled to the site and then fashioned into precise blocks with hand chisels, hammers, and mallets.

**Property:** St. Joseph's Hospital

**Address:** US Route 87, Lewistown, Fergus

**Historic District:**      **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** hospitals      **Subject 2:** Catholics

**Sign Text:**

In 1903, Lewistown welcomed a group of nuns from France, members of the Order of the Daughters of Jesus. This location would turn out to be their only house in the United States. In a short time, Sister Philomene saw that the twenty-four-year-old town needed a hospital, and she began soliciting funds. Within three years, the foundation was laid for St. Joseph's Hospital, which opened in October 1908 with the Daughters of Jesus serving as nurses under Mother Philomene, Superior. The original building and three additional units all were constructed by the Croatian stonemasons who had begun emigrating to Lewistown in 1898 from the town BriBir and who are responsible for many buildings throughout the city. All Catholics, the stonemasons each donated one day's labor per week to the hospital's construction. Between 1913 and 1935, four sandstone wings were added, including a maternity ward and a chapel. The nursing school building, of brick rather than sandstone, arose in 1936. St.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

Joseph's Hospital served approximately 5,500 patients annually until 1977, when a new central Montana hospital was built.

**Property:** Lewistown Mercantile Company

**Address:** 220 E Main, Lewistown, Fergus

**Historic District:** Lewistown Central Business      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** warehouses

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Rail transportation in the early twentieth century brought homesteaders to Fergus County and cemented Lewistown's role as a regional commercial center. The General Brokerage Company of Grand Rapids, North Dakota, financed this stunning warehouse for the Great Northern Railway in 1916. The local architectural firm of Otto F. Wasmansdorff and George Eastman, whose architectural palette included stone masonry and the masterful use of brick, designed the building. Plans called for an innovative design unlike other early nineteenth-century warehouses. It was intended to be an eye-catching addition to Lewistown's Main Street. The Democrat News, December 17, 1916, reported that the attractive building greatly enhanced the depot area and was an indication that the wholesalers had great optimism for Lewistown as a jobbing and distribution center. The \$30,000 grocery warehouse featured up-to-date refrigeration for fruits and vegetables and the most modern system for cooling, humidifying, and ripening bananas. Large peanut roasters, special rooms for candy and nuts, and tempered fresh air ventilation for employees' offices offered ideal conditions for both produce and workers. The railroad considered this warehouse the best of the sixty it owned at this time. The Lewistown Brick and Tile Company provided the brick, expertly laid to enhance aesthetic appeal. Precast concrete adds contrasting ornamentation. The utilitarian dark red brick forms handsome pilasters at the corners and entry. A grand parapet with precast concrete coping accents the roofline. A "ghost sign" for the Central Feed Company attests to the building's later conversion to a feed mill.

**Property:** Mill House

**Address:** Upper Spring Creek, Lewistown, Fergus

**Historic District:**      **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** powerhouses

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

This ashlar mill is a fine illustration of Croatian building traditions imported by immigrants who settled in Lewistown. These Old World artisans accomplished all phases of the masonry work themselves: extracting the stone from Big Spring Quarry, then rough cutting, transporting, shaping, and finally laying each finished piece in place. Simple arched windows, single-piece downsloped windowsills, and walls of graduated coursed cut stone are crafted with the hands of a skilled master. Although two carefully constructed new wings have expanded the mill for residential use, the original building well represents the skills and talents of immigrant artisans who provided a vital community service and greatly enriched the local landscape. Lewistown received electric service in 1893, but within a decade the demand for more power had increased with the population. Big Spring Creek was an ideal source for hydroelectric power. In 1903, the Citizen's Electric Company built this main powerhouse, which produced 450 kilowatts of electricity for the city of Lewistown. The Upper Spring Creek Power Plant, in operation until 1928, extends over a deep eddy that was once the outlet for the water that drove the water wheel. Power generating equipment occupied the main floor, while the upper level served as living quarters for the operators.

**Property:** Lewistown Courthouse Historic District

**Address:** , Lewistown, Fergus

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Historic District:** Lewistown Courthouse **Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:**                      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

In 1879, Metis—people of French and Chippewa-Cree descent—homesteaded in this area, near the army’s Camp Lewis. Many street names memorialize these settlers, who included Francis A. Janeaux and Paul Morase. But open range cattle ranching, nearby gold discoveries, and the growth of the sheep industry quickly made Lewistown a regional supply center. Fergus County was created in 1885 with Lewistown as its seat. The district reflects the maturing of the town as a governmental and business center. C. E. Bell, one of the Montana Capitol’s architects, designed the 1904 stone jail. The elegant stone Carnegie library was built in 1905. The brick Fergus County Courthouse followed in 1907. The Lewistown Art Center is housed in what was once the Charles Lehman Bunkhouse. Lewistown’s first junior high school, built in 1921, is one of the later civic buildings in the district. Residences important for their historical associations and distinct designs cluster around these public buildings. Attorney William Blackford’s residence was built with materials such as finely milled lumber brought in on trains. The two David Hilger residences, one moved here from Fort Maginnis before 1900 and the other built of brick in 1913, recall the sheep rancher who participated in many important community projects.

**Property:** The Hub

**Address:** 211 West Main Street, Lewistown, Fergus

**Historic District:** Lewistown Central Business      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings                      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Lewistown’s population tripled between 1900 and 1910 and the booming building trade attracted stonemasons and craftsmen, many of them Croatian immigrants, who settled here. The upper façade of this 1908 one-story commercial building, revealed during restoration in 1990, exemplifies the fine stonework of these Old World artisans. Also uncovered was the original sign for The Hub clothing store, located here for many years, and the motto (which is repeated on the sidewalk) of proprietor Joe Alweis. A respected early day resident and local property owner, Alweis is fondly remembered by “old timers” for his big-hearted generosity during the hard times of drought and depression. If a customer couldn’t afford clothing, he had to “just pay the freight.”

**Property:** McDonald and Charters Block

**Address:** 506 W Main, Lewistown, Fergus

**Historic District:** Lewistown Central Business      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings                      **Subject 2:** fraternal lodges

**Sign Text:**

The beautiful blending of brick and handcut stone in this 1905 business block serves as a fine example of Lewistown’s distinctive architecture. Romanesque Revival arches, Renaissance Revival wall layering, and an Italianate cornice speak to the exuberant eclecticism of the period. Built by local contractor George Wells for Charles McDonald and John Charters, the building originally housed a land office and the Lewistown Bakery whose specialty was “Mother’s Bread.” The Knights of Pythias met in the second-floor lodge hall. Now an integral part of a three-building unit, the narrow cut stone first-floor entry hall and upper-floor façade retain their 1905 appearances.

**Property:** Lewistown Silk Stocking Historic District

**Address:** , Lewistown, Fergus

**Historic District:** Lewistown Silk Stocking                      **Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** residential structures                      **Subject 2:**

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

### Sign Text:

The seven large residences that comprise Lewistown's mansion, hence "silk stocking," district were built during the city's period of greatest prosperity, from 1904 to 1919. In this small neighborhood, central Montana's major entrepreneurs, whose fortunes represent historic area resource development, built their homes. In 1904, J. T. Wunderlin, a partner in the Barnes-King gold mine at Kendall and an organizer of the Empire Bank and Trust of Lewistown, built his home here. Rancher George Wiedeman built his home in 1905, better able to follow his interests in the Montana Hardware Company and the Lewistown Brick and Tile Company. In the following years, homes were also built by Weymouth D. Symmes, owner of Power Mercantile and a Lewistown mayor; by John Waite, pioneer sheep rancher, banker, and state senator; by department store owner E. C. Swietzer; by rancher-businessman Fred Warren; and by banker T. T. Taylor. Many of these homes were designed by architects. Note the variety of styles—Roman Revival, Shingle style, Arts and Crafts, and Georgian. They attest to the exuberance of this special era in Lewistown's history.

**Property:** Knerr-Tubb Block / Armory Hall

**Address:** 116 Main (West), Lewistown, Fergus

**Historic District:** Lewistown Central Business      **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings      **Subject 2:** recreation

### Sign Text:

Rubble stone construction with brick veneer became Main Street's preferred design after 1909. The elegant façade of this business block is an early example of the newer style, constructed before 1911 when locally produced bricks became available. Ground-floor businesses offered food and libation at the Montana Buffet or pool and billiards next door at Spring and Eldred's. Upstairs, dance enthusiasts "tripped the light fantastic" at charity and dress balls, weekly dances, and dance classes. In 1914, Professor Oswald of Seattle taught the latest steps like the Hesitation Waltz and the tango. The exaggerated height, arched windows, and decorative sheet metal cornice of the upper floor appear today as they did in 1909.

**Property:** Kalispell Hotel

**Address:** 100 Main Street, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** Main Street (Commercial)      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** hotels (public accommodations)      **Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

Running water, wake-up calls, and doors with locks were just a few of the amenities travelers could expect in this classy and expensive \$2-a-night hotel, which opened in 1912. Kalispell architect Marion Rizzo designed the three-story landmark built by local contractor B. Brice Gilliland. Since five other hotels closer to the railroad tracks offered stiff competition, a rooftop electric sign—one of the largest in the northwest—beckoned travelers. Hotel proprietors included Montana author Frank Linderman, who managed the business from 1924 to 1926. His frequent guest was renowned Montana artist Charlie Russell. Sale of the hotel lease brought Linderman enough profit to allow him to continue his writing. In later decades, the hotel fell on hard times and guests became less particular. Renovation, begun in 1989, transformed the original 52 rooms with "facilities down the hall" into a modern 40-room hotel. But the historic ambience remains in the lofty tin ceiling and oak stairway that still grace the spacious lobby, inviting visitors in imagine a bygone era.

**Property:** Anderson Style Shop

**Address:** , Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** Kalispell Main Street      **Building Type:** building | contributing

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

When the railroad bypassed Demersville in 1891, many businessmen loaded their buildings onto log rollers, hauling them three miles to the newly platted community of Kalispell. This lot became home to a two-story Demersville building, occupied first by a grocery, then by the Pacific Union Tea Company, and then, in the 1920s, by a "ladies furnishings" store. Around 1928, Carl Anderson, who ran the Orpheum, Liberty, and Roxie Theaters, opened Anderson Style Shop, hiring a manager to run "the headquarters for style and correctness in Kalispell." In 1941, Anderson asked Kalispell's premiere architect Fred Brinkman to design this modern showcase. It cost Anderson \$17,500 to raze the original wooden building and replace it with a fitting home for his fashion-forward business. Travertine siding, copper alloy bands, and glass block combine to present a sleek yet fanciful façade. A heraldic crest flanked by sea horses crowns the high style building.

**Property:** Ragsdale House

**Address:** 825 2nd Ave East, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** East Side      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Built in 1909 for blacksmith Howard Ragsdale, this cozy hipped-roof bungalow features a molded concrete block basement, narrow-reveal clapboard siding, and a small integrated porch. Its wide overhanging eaves and exposed rafter tails reflect the popular Craftsman style. Pharmacist William F. Halliday purchased the property in 1917. Halliday owned the Red Cross Pharmacy, which according to the 1910 Daily Interlake stocked "drugs, chemicals, patent medicines and ... [a] hundred and one fancy toilet articles." A "modern, sanitary soda fountain" lured customers into the shop, which also sold Havana cigars, choice confections, books, stationery, and office supplies. By 1920 traveling salesman James Forter and his wife Lorinda had purchased the home. After renting it to widow Mary Richie and her daughters, Jennie (a schoolteacher) and Elizabeth (a librarian), the Forters lived here from 1922 to 1928. Percy and Audrey Metzner, owners of Metzner's Furniture Exchange, then purchased the residence, valued at \$4,500 in 1930 (equivalent to approximately \$56,000 in 2007). Later owners included R. Burt Johnson, chief clerk of Mountain State Power, and his wife Lucille, who lived here from 1940 to 1972.

**Property:** Flathead Wholesale Grocery

**Address:** 5 First Avenue East, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:**      **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Minnesota merchant brothers Tom, John, and William Elliott moved to Kalispell in 1911, after buying James Conlon's successful mercantile. They expanded into the wholesale grocery business in 1914, building this two-story brick warehouse near the Great Northern Railway tracks. The solid, practical building is designed to hold thousands of pounds of goods. Interior posts and beams helped support the weight; the main floor originally had about 7,500 square feet filled with shelves for dry storage. A small enclosed office sat on the west end of the building. The Elliotts stored perishable goods, including barrels of vinegar, canned fruits and vegetables, and molasses, in the basement to protect them from temperature fluctuations. A freight elevator ran from the basement to a second-story balcony shipping room. The elevator was designed for loads of up to 3,000 pounds, but as one enthusiastic reporter explained, since its motor was "capable of lifting 7,000 pounds . . . an extra case of pork and beans would hardly stall it." The Elliotts purchased local produce, like potatoes, for export by rail. They also imported a wide range of groceries that they sold to area retailers. Rail cars traveled from the main line on a spur line built specifically to bring goods to the warehouse. At one time, a rear loading platform angled to

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

align with the rail line, easing the transfer of merchandise from the boxcars to the wholesale grocery. Although the tracks (and the loading platform) have long since been removed, the warehouse remains, reflecting the importance of the Great Northern Railway to early Kalispell commerce.

**Property:** Morgan house

**Address:** 344 6th Avenue East, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** East Side      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Following new towns that sprang up across Montana, architect Franklin M. Morgan left a trail of buildings he helped construct from Billings to Miles City and Great Falls. Many were the first buildings in these fledgling communities. Morgan moved on to Demersville in 1891 as that settlement was relocating to the new town of Kalispell. Little of Morgan's work remains, but his own Kalispell residence designed and constructed in 1892 is a fascinating study in change. Originally a striking Queen Anne style home, owner William Macdonald hired Henry Hansman to remodel the exterior in 1924. The dramatic emergence from the Queen Anne style to Colonial Revival included alteration of the cross-gabled roof to clipped gable, squaring the original floorplan to make it more symmetrical and the addition of classical details including Tuscan columns and circular windows. The transformation was almost complete, except for the remaining two-story canted bay on the east which betrays the Queen Anne origins of this significant home.

**Property:** First Presbyterian Church of Whitefish

**Address:** 301 Central Ave, Whitefish, Flathead

**Historic District:**      **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** churches (buildings)      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Not long after the Great Northern Railway announced its plans for a division point in Whitefish, Presbyterian missionary E. M. Ellis and Kalispell minister Alexander Pringle traveled by bicycle and rowboat to visit the site. Soon after, Reverend Pringle canvassed logging and railroad camps for donations of cash and labor to construct a sanctuary. By December 1903, Whitefish had its first church. The First Presbyterian Church moved several times in the early years. By 1919, it had once again outgrown its building; to accommodate congregants, the church held services in the Masonic Lodge while planning a new house of worship. Under direction of physician and active church member W. W. Taylor, the building committee devised detailed drawings, which the Spokane architectural firm Rigg and Vantyne modified only slightly. The building committee chose a Romanesque Revival style design, considered less ostentatious and more appropriate for a Protestant church than the competing Gothic tradition. Romanesque Revival churches featured masonry construction, heavily arched windows, bands of stylized decoration, and towers—in this case a Norman style square tower that serves as the building's main entrance. The one-story building featured a large daylight basement with a high ceiling, designed to provide clearance for a full-sized basketball court. Community members donated the large art glass windows ornamenting the sanctuary. Among them are two purchased by Japanese railroad workers for \$700 in honor of churchwoman Elizabeth Peck, who taught the men English. A tribute to Peck, the windows also commemorate Whitefish's once-thriving Japanese community and the church's long history of community service.

**Property:** W.L. Adair General Mercantile Historic District

**Address:** Main Street, Polebridge, Flathead

**Historic District:** W.L. Adair General Mercantile      **Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** cabins (houses)      **Subject 2:** homesteads

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

### Sign Text:

Remote wilderness where a man could live by his own rules drew Bill Adair to northwestern Montana in 1904. He and his wife, Jessie, built a log mercantile on the east side of the North Fork of the Flathead River, supplying goods to the few settlers in the sparsely populated area. When the designation of Glacier National Park in 1910 eliminated homesteading on that side of the river, Adair saw that his future lay across the river where homesteaders continued to settle. Choosing a spot with exceptional fishing nearby, Adair filed a land claim in 1912 and built this cabin of square-notched, unhewn peeled logs. The false-fronted mercantile was completed in 1914. Adair's holdings, maintained with Jessie's help, and later that of second wife Emma, reflected a self-sufficient lifestyle. By 1917 the property included twenty-two acres planted in hay, potatoes, timothy grass, and garden vegetables, four work horses, one hundred chickens, and a milk cow. From 1913 to 1920, Adair's was the only general store in the North Fork region and a favored spot for social events. By 1922 more than 150 homesteads dotted the fifty-mile stretch of valley bottom, but the area never became heavily populated. Even today the Polebridge Mercantile continues to serve its few North Fork residents, while this splendid, unspoiled environment remains largely undiscovered by tourists.

**Property:** 636 Third Avenue East

**Address:** 636 Third Avenue East, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** East Side      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

In 1890, the Flathead River town of Demersville was the valley's trading center. However, after the Great Northern founded Kalispell in 1891, residents—including longtime owner of this home, Ira Sanborn—abandoned Demersville for the new railroad town. Many took their houses with them, and local sources believe that this one-story wooden home was one of the many Demersville buildings loaded onto log rollers so horses could haul them three miles north to Kalispell. When Walter and Ethel Craven purchased the property in 1910, the residence was advertised as a "modern 6 room house" with a "bath, hot and cold water, electric lights, chicken and wood house; some fruit. All first class." The chicken and wood houses are long gone; by 1927, a two-story garage had taken their place. The primary residence was also remodeled, but it still sports many features that characterized early Kalispell homes: wooden siding; decorative shingles in the front gable; a native rock foundation; the original glass windowpanes, with all their subtle irregularities; and a full-length, hipped-roof front porch.

**Property:** 503 5th Ave E

**Address:** F.W. Cole House, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** East Side      **Building Type:**

**Subject 1:**      **Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

An eclectic blend of periods and styles characterizes the historic streetscapes of Kalispell's East Side. This home is a charming example of a mixed house form with Tudor style details, very fashionable during the 1920s and 1930s. Frank W. Cole drew the blueprints for the residence which he built for himself and his wife, Florence, in 1932. Tudor elements include stuccoed, half-timbered gables and a gabled entry with narrow windows. Inside, hardwood floors and five doorways with graceful Tudor arches lend the home a rich ambience. The distinctive interior doorways include a spacious arch separating the dining and living rooms; another, smaller scale arch in the bathroom defines the area above the bathtub. Frank and his father, Frank G. Cole, established Cole's Machine Works in 1928 and operated the business together until 1960 when the elder Cole retired. They advertised as "the original manufacturers of barrel stoves and furnaces." Frank and Florence Cole made their home here until 1975.



## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Property:** Boles Residence

**Address:** 40 Appleway Drive, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:** commercial structures

**Sign Text:**

Thousands of American soldiers served in Europe during World War I, and many of these fresh-faced doughboys returned home with a new appreciation for European architecture. The Tudor style particularly caught their imagination with its emblematic half-timbering, steeply pitched roofs, massive chimneys, decorative chimney pots, and tall, multi-paned windows. Rapid changes in technology, industry, and social customs marked the Jazz Age of the 1920s, creating nostalgia for the supposedly simpler past the style represented. Tudor's storybook charm also seemed particularly appropriate for suburban country houses as the newly rich adopted the style in imitation of English country homes. Architects and pattern books aided the style's spread and Tudor Revival soon rivaled Craftsman and Colonial Revival in popularity. Among those enamored with the Tudor Revival was Montana architect Frederick Brinkman, who designed several Kalispell residences in the style, including this impressive one-and-one-half-story home. Built for Charles and Helen Boles in 1932, the house features an intersecting gable roofline, blond brick on the first floor, and false half-timbering on the second. Decorative wrought iron, wooden finials, and a prominent brick chimney add elegance to the well-designed residence. Like many Tudor Revival style homes, the interior complements the exterior: the original built-in cabinets and large brick fireplace remain intact as do the architect's signature interior arches. A well-to-do farmer and property manager, Charles lived here with his wife and daughter until 1944, when the family moved to Havre. In 2000 the residence was converted into offices for the United Way.

**Property:** Ford Residence

**Address:** 728 1st Ave E, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** East Side           **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Stockman and real estate developer James A. Ford arrived in Kalispell with the Great Northern Railway in 1891. In 1898, he built a two-story business block at the corner of First and Main. On the second floor was a rooming house, where he lived with his two sisters. In 1923, the siblings moved into this fine Craftsman style residence, where Ford made his home until his death in 1934. The stylish home provided the Fords with ample living space; among other amenities, each of the five bedrooms boasts a walk-in closet. The home's design closely resembles that of a mail-order house, "the Vincennes," sold by Montgomery Ward and Co. Montgomery Ward was one of several companies that sold house plans and supplied pre-cut lumber and other material for builders to quickly assemble on site. The Vincennes' classic Craftsman style features include its wide overhanging eaves, exposed rafter tails, bracketed cornices, multi-pane windows, and full-length front porch. Clustered columns supporting the broad porch beam provide the design's most striking feature, adding elegance and dignity to the inviting front facade.

**Property:** Brintnall House

**Address:** 321 5th Ave East, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** East Side           **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:**

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

### Sign Text:

There were very few homes in the neighborhood when the Reverend O. W. Mintzer built this cross-gabled Queen Anne style landmark in 1894. Although brick was readily available, its wood construction illustrates the local preference of the period. Rich details including stained glass, an ornate screen door, and decorative scrollwork complement the typical Queen Ann asymmetry. By the turn of the century, American Steam Laundry proprietor Frederick French lived in the home with his family and eight boarders. The Frenches advertised their rooms as having electric light, water, and an additional amenity: laundry service. Chester Brintnall owned the home by 1923 when he leased it to Montana author Frank Bird Linderman. Linderman went into the hotel business to finance his writing career and lived here in the 1920s while he was the successful proprietor of the Kalispell Hotel. A Kalispell school bears Linderman's name. Brintnall, who helped establish Kalispell's rural delivery routes and later became assistant postmaster, lived here from 1927 to 1952.

**Property:** Heller Building

**Address:** 140 Main St, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** Main Street Commercial      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** saloons (bars)      **Subject 2:** commercial buildings

### Sign Text:

Kalispell already boasted its fair share of saloons when August Heller opened this downtown establishment in 1900. Cream and mottled brick with a "reverse stair step" cornice—the hallmark of local brick masons Jack, Art, and Ed Stahl—made the Heller Saloon an impressive business. Heller traveled to Chicago for interior fittings, added a hot water boiler in 1902, Kalispell's first cement sidewalk in 1904, and a Stubber's gas lighting system in 1907. Spittoons on the floor, imported liquors, back room poker games, and rumors of loose women upstairs kept a rough-and-tumble clientele entertained. So famous was Heller's Saloon that temperance crusading bar-smasher Carrie Nation delivered her gospel message in front of the building in 1910, exchanging heated words with proprietor Heller. During Prohibition, John Gus Thompson—Pittsburgh Pirates' pitcher in the first World Series in 1903—moved his pool hall here. Later, the Pastime Bar offered fishing tackle, beer, tobacco, and hot meals. The Pastime closed in 1988. In 2005, a fire in an adjacent building prompted a complete restoration of the Heller building, which now accommodates commercial and office space.

**Property:** Bunkhouses

**Address:** Flathead National Forest, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** Big Creek Ranger Station      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** ranger stations      **Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

Constructed in 1939, the bunkhouse now known as the Boys Dorm has an L-shaped plan with a small porch marking the entrance. Small gables interrupt the roofline, bringing light into the interior. The one-story cross-gable building provided housing for seasonal fire and Civilian Conservation Corps crews assigned to the Big Creek station. In 1966, the Forest Service chose Big Creek as an intra-regional fire-fighting headquarters. To accommodate the expanded crews, it relocated a second bunkhouse (now the Girls Dorm) from the Coram Ranger Station near Hungry Horse. That bunkhouse, also originally built in 1939, looks much the same as the original bunkhouse except for the placement of its front door. Both buildings were based on standard plans provided by Region One's central office. The plans specified frame construction, with the use of logs for structural support, and sawed cedar shingle siding. In the 1980s, interregional crews in Boise, Idaho, and elsewhere eclipsed the need for remote stations like Big Creek, and the station closed. The buildings went unused until 1989, when the Forest Service authorized the Glacier Institute to house youth education programs.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Property:** Cookhouse

**Address:** Flathead National Forest, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** Big Creek Ranger Station **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** ranger stations

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

In 1930, three years after building the Ranger's House, the Forest Service constructed this one-and-one-half-story, shingle-clad building. First used as a warehouse, it features a high gambrel roof and a screened-in single-story entrance porch. Although it is the only building on this site to sport a gambrel roof, gambrel roof designs were used elsewhere in Region One, including the Coram Ranger Station. The style had the advantage of creating usable space on the second story without the added expense of constructing full second-story walls. As staffing grew, the Forest Service converted the building into a cookhouse as it was spacious enough for a kitchen, dining area, and areas for relaxation. Inside, exposed square posts and center beams provide structural support, allowing for an open plan between kitchen, dining areas, and common rooms. A central stairway accesses the attic, where the building's rough sawn joists and hand-peeled wooden rafters remain visible. Among those to use the building were crews at the station under the auspices of the Civilian Conservation Corps, a New Deal program to put unemployed, unmarried men to work.

**Property:** Johnson / Lee House

**Address:** 651 2nd Ave West, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The northwest area of Kalispell was undeveloped when carpenter Erick J. Johnson bought this property in 1911. Johnson, a cabinetmaker for Lew Switzer, had built this Craftsman style residence by 1913, likely doing much of the work himself. The Greene brothers of California promoted the style, which was widely publicized through magazines and pattern books. It was especially popular in Kalispell from 1907 to 1928. The quintessential Craftsman bungalow called for varied, natural materials and subtle detailing that allowed the home to virtually "sing into the landscape." This exceptionally well-maintained example illustrates the ingenuity of its builder. The modest home is sheathed in a combination of narrow clapboard and shingles, an effective yet inexpensive way to add textural interest and emphasize the horizontal orientation characteristic of the Craftsman style. Wide overhanging eaves supported by knee brackets and an inviting full-width open front porch with square columns on wooden piers further reinforce the stylistic dictum. Interior finishes that reveal Johnson's carpentry skills include a plate rail in the dining room and the original stairway banister. A diamond-shaped window in the entry adds individuality. One of the very first residences in the neighborhood, its street address, listed in early directories as the "end of 2nd Avenue West North," reflects the rural character of the area when the home stood without neighbors. Johnson owned the property until 1929, when he sold it to cabinetmaker Benjamin P. Lee, a co-worker at Lew Switzer's.

**Property:** Big Creek Ranger Station Historic District

**Address:** , Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** Big Creek Ranger Station **Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** ranger stations

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The Big Creek Ranger Station served as an administrative center for managing logging and firefighting in the remote North Fork of the Flathead River valley. Set aside for a ranger station in 1908, the site was surveyed in 1911, after the 1910 "Big Burn" invigorated the U.S. Forest Service's commitment to fighting fire. A seasonal log

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

house served as summer quarters for patrolmen during fire season. Conveniently located on the “main county wagon road,” Big Creek saw further development in 1917-18. USFS replaced these early buildings between 1927 and 1942, developing the complex according to a 1931 site plan that followed region-wide patterns. After creation of the Civilian Conservation Corps in 1933, Big Creek housed seasonal CCC workers, who made many improvements, including constructing new buildings following simple, pattern-book designs. These designs reflected the agency’s practical rustic aesthetic, a utilitarian emphasis on rural self-sufficiency, and Craftsman style detailing. The 1960s saw the creation of Interagency Fire Suppression crews, including one that based its seasonal fire camp at Big Creek. USFS relocated a second bunkhouse from the Coram Ranger Station to house these expanded crews and built three new buildings. The Big Creek Work Center, as it became known, operated for two decades, until firefighting centers in Boise and elsewhere eclipsed the need for remote stations like Big Creek. During the 1980s, the Big Creek firefighting center and ranger station closed. The buildings went unused until 1989, when the forest service authorized the Glacier Institute to house educational programs for young people.

**Property:** Ranger's House

**Address:** Flathead National Forest, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** Big Creek Ranger Station      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** ranger stations

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

In 1917-18, the Forest Service recognized the Big Creek Ranger Station as the “most important secondary protection station site in the Lower North Fork district.” Ten years later, the Forest Service reinforced the designation by building this one-and-one-half-story permanent residence. The oldest extant building at the station, the 1927 Ranger’s House originally doubled as the station’s office. Its design displays Craftsman influences combined with a rustic aesthetic, a typical format for USDA Forest Service buildings in the West and particularly in Northern Region One. Coursed wood shingles cover the gable-roofed frame dwelling. The home’s projecting eaves, its exposed rafter tails, and its inviting, full-length front porch reference the Craftsman style. Interior detailing, such as the kitchen’s beaded wainscoting and the living room’s wooden window trim and tongue-in-groove fir flooring, also shows Craftsman style influence. The choice of the Craftsman style reflected national and local architectural trends as well as the Forest Service’s building philosophy, which included utility, respect for nature, and harmony with the environment.

**Property:** Scott / Forhan House

**Address:** 326 4th Ave West, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:**      **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

This two-story residence, built between 1891 and 1897, began as a one-story twin of the Ferguson House next door. Its first owner was Thomas Lacher, a Great Northern locomotive engineer, who lived with his English wife and young daughter. Windmill agent and traveling salesman Stacy Scott and his wife, Carrie, owned the home during the 1910s. William Forhan, an Irishman born in Tipperary County, bought the home in 1923. For forty-four years, Forhan was a conductor on the Great Northern line between Havre and Spokane and on the Galloping Goose that served Kalispell. Forhan and his Bohemian wife, Hermine, added the second story between 1923 and 1927 to make room for their nine children. By 1927, the original four-room American Four-Square cottage had greatly expanded with the addition of a full basement, several upstairs bedrooms, and a bathroom. The Forhans also enlarged the kitchen at the rear, removed many of the twenty-seven trees that crowded the lot, and converted a three-story barn to the present garage. During the 1940s, one daughter operated a beauty shop here

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

while another daughter and her husband raised their six children in the home. Forhan died in 1952, but the home remained in the family until 1967. Long covered with English ivy (which Forhan eventually had to remove because it grew under the clapboard), the home is fondly remembered by one of the Forhan daughters as a “house full of love.”

**Property:** Swan River Bridge

**Address:** Bridge Street, Bigfork, Flathead

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:**

**Subject 1:** bridges (built works)           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Between 1909 and 1918, the homestead boom and expansion of the logging industry dramatically increased traffic in northwest Montana. County governments aggressively worked to meet heightened transportation needs by building better roads and bridges. In June 1911, the Flathead County Commissioners hired Minneapolis bridge builder A. Y. Bayne and Company to construct this span at Bigfork. The bridge was part of an extensive program by the commissioners to develop the county’s infrastructure. Steel pin-connected Pratt through truss bridges like this one were typical of the steel spans Montana counties built by the hundreds between 1888 and 1915. Now a relatively rare sight, spans like the Swan River Bridge were once common in Flathead County and across the state. Pin-connections, developed by the railroads in the 1840s, streamlined the construction process and made this style of bridge relatively inexpensive to build. Engineers had adapted the Pratt pin-connected truss for use as wagon bridges by the time the Civil War began. The pin-connections are seen where the vertical and horizontal steel beams meet at the top of the trusses. Construction of the bridge coincided with the expansion of a hydroelectric facility at the nearby Bigfork Dam. At the same time, access over the bridge sparked the expansion of Bigfork into a significant trade and industrial center in Flathead County. Closely associated with the adjacent hydroelectric facility, the bridge also reflects the community’s growth from its humble beginnings in 1892 to a significant residential and commercial center in northwestern Montana.

**Property:** Fry House

**Address:** 911 3rd Ave E, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** East Side           **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Isaac Yenne, a carpenter who lived next door, likely built this cross-gable house for his brother George, a Civil War veteran of the 14th Indiana Regiment. The residence originally featured a full-length front porch. Common to the era are the home's clapboard siding, decorative shinglework in the gable ends, and returned eaves. George Yenne arrived as a Flathead Valley settler in 1886 and moved here from Creston in 1901 after his wife's accusations of abuse made the newspaper's front page. By 1907 widow Sarah Jane Kelley owned the residence, where she lived with seven of her nine children. The three employed older children living with her undoubtedly helped support the family. The home's longest owners were Louis and Caroline Fry, who lived here between 1925 and 1943 and owned the property until 1950. Louis, a traffic manager for Kalispell Mercantile, helped found Kalispell's Peewee baseball league and led four teams to the championship in the league’s first eight years. A painter and private art teacher, Caroline was an early member of the Montana Institute of the Arts and a frequent exhibitor at their festivals.

**Property:** Site of the Original Superintendent's Cottage

**Address:** , Kalispell, Flathead

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** site

**Subject 1:** site           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Generations of native people enjoyed this wooded promontory long before settlers discovered it. In 1902, Charles and Alicia Conrad chose this spot for their own eternal rest and envisioned it as a place of beauty for all. In 1905, the Board of Trustees hired the cemetery's first superintendent. For the next twenty years, English immigrant William F. Tucker and his wife Jennie made their home in a cottage that once stood on this site. As the Tuckers' two children grew up, Tucker's son James worked with him alongside maintenance crews, tending the grounds and improving the winding driveways.

**Property:** Montgomery Ward Building

**Address:** 333 Main Street, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** Kalispell Main Street   **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings       **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Montgomery Ward opened its Kalispell store on July 27, 1929, just three months before the stock market crash that launched the Great Depression. Kalispell architect Fred Brinkman took inspiration from the Gothic style for his design of the 23,000-square-foot building, whose exterior featured pressed tan brick decorated with heraldic medallions and a stepped parapet accented with bell-shaped finials. Although Montgomery Ward's corporate office in Chicago approved the plans, the building was actually constructed for Kalispell businessman Henry Good, whose logging company supplied the timber. A Missoula builder won the construction contract, but many local subcontractors worked on the project. Montgomery Ward originally agreed to lease the building for five years, but despite the Depression, the lease extended for over fifty. This store was part of an aggressive expansion for Montgomery Ward, which began as a mail-order company in 1872. It opened its first retail outlet in 1926, growing to 531 stores by 1929. Considered on its opening "one of the most up-to-date" Montgomery Ward buildings, the downtown department store carried toys, car accessories, hardware, stoves, radios, paint, and women's ready-to-wear.

**Property:** Proctor Rental Property

**Address:** 227 4th Ave East, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** East Side       **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures       **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

National folk type housing like this one-story gable-front-and-wing style residence of frame with brick veneer gained popularity in the late 1890s and early 1900s. The front porch nestled in the ell is a typically appealing feature of the style while scrollwork on the gable end adds individuality. Flathead Valley pioneer James Proctor built this home in 1895 and likely was its first resident. Proctor, a carpenter by trade and local planing mill owner, had moved elsewhere in Kalispell by 1900. The long succession of Proctor's tenants included jeweler Philip Jacoby from 1905 to 1907. Jacoby, one of Kalispell's few Jewish residents, advertised his specialty as mounting elk teeth and claws. Kalispell Mercantile grocery manager James Busey and his wife, Elizabeth, lived here from 1909 to 1911. In 1910, David Barber and his wife lived with them while the Barbers' house on 5th Avenue East was under construction. Proctor's long period of ownership ended in 1936 when Ida Chasse purchased the home.

**Property:** Nathan Rental Property

**Address:** 204 5th Ave East, Kalispell, Flathead

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Historic District:** East Side      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Valley farmer James Eckleberry built this residence as a rental property in 1900. Among his early tenants were Big Fork Electric Power and Light Company president Lafayette Tinkel and Charles I. O’Neil who, with his brother Clinton, owned the state’s largest retail lumberyard. Eckleberry sold the home to retired clothier Abraham Nathan in 1912. Nathan, a confirmed bachelor, continued to maintain this residence as a rental while he lived in hotels and rooming houses. He still owned the property upon his death in 1940. Nathan’s tenants included Cannon Clothing Store proprietor Harvey S. Cannon, horticulturist Edward Dickey and insurance agent H. M. Huck. The Daily Inter Lake described the American four-square style home in 1909 as an eight-room brick house with “all modern improvements.” Except for a full-width porch that originally spanned the front, the turn-of-the-twentieth-century home reflects few changes. Numerous families have lived under its roof, but the home has obviously been well cared for by its owners: even the stained glass remains in place.

**Property:** Saucer-Mercord Building

**Address:** 338 Main St, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** KALISPELL MAIN STREET      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings      **Subject 2:** residential structures

**Sign Text:**

A unified second-story façade with distinct first-floor storefronts reflects the unique history of this business block. George McMahon paid \$4,000 to have the building’s southern (left) half constructed in 1901 for his undertaking business. McMahon was one of the first coroners in Kalispell, and like most early undertakers, he had multiple businesses. McMahon sold his business to trained undertaker and embalmer William Sherman in 1903. William sold pianos as well as conducting his mortuary business on the first floor and used the basement as an embalming room. Wife and business partner Nora and their seven children lived on the second floor. After William died, Nora continued the business. In 1920, she became one of the first licensed women undertakers in Montana. Realtor John Sauser hired Frederick Mercord to construct the northern storefront and second-story apartments in 1925. The southern façade was likely remodeled at that time to create the appearance of a single, substantial business block. Although the two buildings share a common wall, no doors connect the two structures. Subsequent first-floor remodels include a recent extensive redesign of the north side storefront.

**Property:** Steere Residence

**Address:** 630 1st Ave West, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** West Side      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

This turn-of-the-twentieth-century home and its two outbuildings recall a time when neighborhood residents cultivated backyard gardens and spent leisure hours on front porches. High school principal Eugene Steere purchased the property in 1903. He and his wife, Lillian, moved to their Dayton ranch in 1910, renting out their Kalispell residence in the interim. Steere returned to the high school as a teacher and assistant principal in 1914. He retired in June of 1929 to “live an outdoor life on his ranch” but suffered a fatal stroke the following November. This pioneer educator made an indelible mark on Montana’s school system. As state superintendent of schools from 1892 to 1897, Steere revised the state’s school laws and played a key role in the founding of its university system. New owners refurbished the home in the 1990s and restored much of its original floorplan. Glass doorknobs, kitchen cupboard hardware, and maple flooring reveal quality vintage finishing while skylights, stair paneling, and a built-in den bookcase demonstrate sensitive blending of old and new.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Property:** Conrad / Tobie House

**Address:** 428 Sixth Ave East, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** East Side      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Newlyweds Kokoa Baldwin, daughter of Kalispell attorney Marcus Baldwin, and Charles D. Conrad, son of the wealthy Charles E. Conrad, built and settled in this three-story wood-frame home in 1907. The comfortable front-gabled residence with its combination shingle and clapboard siding, wrap-around porch, and square columns was reportedly architect designed. Tradition has it that the porch was built in Spokane and brought here in 1907. After the Conrads divorced in 1915, Alba and Frances Jurgens Tobie purchased the home. Alba Tobie was president of the Conrad Bank and Mrs. Tobie, a graduate of the Chicago Art Institute, was an artist of some renown. She filled the home with her work. The vivacious Mrs. Tobie combined art with a busy career that included women's page editor for the Kalispell Bee, proprietor of the Kalispell Gardens, and many professional affiliations. In 1945, Chet and Jewell Chrisinger bought the property. Chet grew up in the neighborhood and as children, he and the Conrads' son, William, played together in the Conrad Mansion. The Chrisingers and their four children carefully maintained the historic home for over fifty years.

**Property:** Burton and Lulu Wheeler Cabin

**Address:** Lake McDonald, , Flathead

**Historic District:**      **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Montana's dynamic Democratic senator Burton K. Wheeler rose to prominence as a Butte attorney and was one of the leading progressives. He served in the Senate from 1923 to 1947. During his turbulent political career he championed labor unions and freedom of speech, shaped key New Deal legislation, and successfully opposed President Franklin Roosevelt's scheme to expand the Supreme Court. Never one to shy away from controversy, he once boasted: "I've been accused of almost everything except timidity." In 1915, he first visited Lake McDonald with his wife Lulu, an active and influential force in her husband's career. The following year the Wheelers leased land and purchased a cabin in the park. Although Glacier offered a refuge from politics, Wheeler often engaged in working vacations. He authored some of his important bills here, including legislation establishing self rule on Indian reservations and regulating public utilities. Wheeler also took a special interest in the park's welfare and, among other initiatives, was instrumental in securing appropriations for the Going-to-the-Sun Highway. The Wheelers' cabin burned in 1941. Lulu immediately began to design a replacement, supervising its construction the following year. Her plans for the new cabin captured the spirit of the family's lost landmark while following the signature Rustic Style of the National Park Service. Using local materials, she emphasized the importance of privacy, quality of view, and natural environment to reflect an unpretentious "democratic" life style.

**Property:** McCarthy-Pederson Farm Historic District

**Address:** 820 Riverside Rd, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** McCarthy-Pederson Farm      **Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** historic districts      **Subject 2:** homesteads

**Sign Text:**

After Montana became a state in 1889, the Great Northern Railway pushed west and the fertile Flathead Valley opened for settlement. One of the first to apply for a land patent from President Grover Cleveland was John E.



## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

McCarthy, who brought his wife and children to this Creston site in 1892. He cleared the timber, dragged logs up Mill Creek to the Yenne-Eccles Mill, and with the lumber built a 10' x 21' home complete with brick fireplace and chimney. Construction of the granary and concrete root cellar followed, all in close proximity to pure water artesian wells. Flooding ruined his first crops, but since McCarthy's farm was on the Flathead River he was able to sell timber down river in Somers and persevered. Kalispell's first blacksmith, Norwegian immigrant Andrew Pederson, moved his wife and eight children to this farm upon McCarthy's death in 1903. The Pedersons further improved the property, building a large home and four additional outbuildings for their cows and horses. During the heady homesteading boom of the early 1910s, the Pedersons' bountiful harvests included oats, barley, alfalfa, hay, cattle, dairy products, and chickens. The Pederson children continued to work the farm until 1950. Subsequent owners raised prize horses and Golden Retrievers and nurtured the land for grazing elk. Today, the cluster of historic buildings reflects the farm's diversity and historic owners. The McCarthy's small homestead and granary and the Pedersons' loafing barn, horse stable, calving barn, and workshop well represent the agricultural legacy of the Flathead Valley.

**Property:** Armstrong House

**Address:** 405 Fifth Ave E, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** East Side      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The Craftsman style was at the height of its popularity when clothing store salesman August Heusner and his wife Tina purchased this one-story wood-frame home, built in 1910. The stylish corner residence features a low-pitched hipped roof, gable dormer, wide unenclosed eaves, exposed rafter tails, a full-width front porch, and narrow-reveal siding. Court stenographer Dean King, son of early Flathead County pioneers, lived here from 1915 to 1920 with his wife Metta and their three children. Metta was an active member of the Montana Federation of Women's Clubs. In 1920, the Kings sold the home to electrical shop owner Arthur Mosby and his wife Edna. From 1926 to 1929, Albert Koppang, owner of Koppang Motor Service, and his wife Minnie lived here. By 1930, when the one-story house belonged to Ory and Eva Armstrong, its appraised value was \$4,500 (approximately \$294,000 in 2011 dollars). An insurance agent by 1930, Ory was a World War I veteran who served in France as a lieutenant, both during the war and afterwards as part of the occupation.

**Property:** Driscoll House

**Address:** 515 3rd St. East, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** East Side      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Kalispell architect Fred Brinkman added character to the town's built environment, designing everything from modest dwellings to grand residences and civic buildings. He wrote that "... man has built his hopes, dreams and ideals into the structures which he has created..." This gracious French Eclectic style home, unique to the neighborhood, readily demonstrates Brinkman's indelible influence. Maurice Driscoll had the home built in 1941 as a wedding present for his wife, Mary. Driscoll, the son of Kalispell lumberman Michael Driscoll, was cashier at the First National Bank. The captivating residence is a late addition to this historic district, which spans the period from 1892 to 1941. Stylistic elements include a steeply pitched hipped roof, arched through-the-cornice dormers, and a massive chimney. Mature landscaping, a central circular window, balustraded garage, and front entry with leaded and beveled glass embellish the storybook appearance of this neighborhood landmark.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Property:** Lee / O'Neil House

**Address:** 617 3rd Ave W, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** West Side      **Building Type:** building contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Rural families who valued education faced a dilemma when their children graduated from the local one-room school. Many students simply ended their studies after eighth grade. A lucky few, like Mercedes Lee, moved into town for the winter to attend high school. Some came alone and boarded with Kalispell families; Mercedes came with her parents, Hamilton and Martha Lee, whose older children cared for their Milk River ranch during the winter. In 1906, the Lees completed this seven-room home, conveniently located two blocks from the new county high school, which graduated its first class in 1902. Wide eave returns, a full-length front porch, a pedimented entry, and clapboard siding add character to the Colonial Revival style residence. Because of its location, the house retained its connection to education long after Mercedes graduated from high school. In 1930, printer Ernest O'Neil lived here with his wife, Frieda, their four children, and two female boarders, both of whom were teachers.

**Property:** McAllester House

**Address:** 619 2nd Ave West, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** West Side      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Carpenters Hiram Seeley and William Kelsey built this front-gabled farmhouse on speculation in 1909 and lived here briefly as they finished the interior. The frame two-story house recalls the rural character of the area, when the home sat alone on the block. Stables behind and across the alley contributed to the pastoral landscape. In 1910, bartender James Coleman purchased the home. Coleman, who owned the Pastime Bar and the National Hotel's saloon during the 1910s, had a stormy residency in Kalispell. In 1912, the Women's Christian Temperance Union circulated petitions against his business and police arrested him almost daily for operating a saloon across from the YMCA. The judge ruled, however, that Coleman had a right to operate the business. Upon Prohibition in 1918, Coleman left Montana. In 1923, Bradley R. and Ella McAllester purchased the house. McAllester was a respected civic leader, an advocate for farmers, and the longtime manager of the Equity Supply Company. The McAllesters' farm-like setting remained pristine until after 1927 when new homes began to appear on the block.

**Property:** Bruyer Granary Historic District

**Address:** 1355 Whitefish Stage Rd., Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** Bruyer Granary      **Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** historic districts      **Subject 2:** agriculture

**Sign Text:**

Julius and Susanna (Birgin) Bruyer sold their successful farm in Vermillion, South Dakota, and moved to the Flathead Valley in 1901. There Julius purchased 280 acres of partly improved property for \$14,000. The couple raised six children: Phillip, Lawrence, Elmer, Nicholas, Elizabeth, and Benjamin. With the help of his sons, Julius harvested and milled the timber for this granary, constructed in 1909 by stacking overlapping two-by-fours (a technique called cribbing). Milled trim work and wide boxed eaves added elegance to the functional building. Julius copied the design for the 11,000-bushel granary from the commercial-scale grain elevators that once stood at almost every railroad siding. Loaded wagons entered the granary through large sliding doors. After the driver unhitched the horses, the front of the wagon was lifted, using a hand-crank, to dump the grain into a pit. From there, the bucket elevator lifted the grain in metal buckets to the building's distinctive cupola, or headhouse. The

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

buckets emptied into the distributor, which funneled the grain through long spouts into storage bins. Nicholas established the Kal-Mont Dairy in 1928, and the building remained in use until the late 1970s, when the dairy closed. George and Anna (Hummel) Schulze purchased the property in 1950, when they moved from Minnesota with their sons Gerald, George, and Roger. In 2004, the Schulze family agreed to donate the land on which the granary sits to the City of Kalispell. Carl Naumann and Ellen (Bruyer) Naumann, granddaughter, restored the building, a testament to the valley's agricultural heritage.

**Property:** Adams House

**Address:** 1044 First Ave East, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** East Side      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Perfect symmetry and mature landscaping make this Colonial Revival style home, built by widow Eliza Elliott circa 1910, quietly inviting. The home initially served as an investment, where retail merchant Peter Iverson and his family were the first tenants. Watchmaker Frank Sheets, the Reverend Alexander Pringle of the Evangelist Presbyterian Church, and newspaper reporter William Greene were residents at different times during the 1910s. These early occupants well reflect the East Side's diverse mixture of neighbors. Jess Adams of the city fire department purchased the home in 1923. Adams and his wife, Ila, raised two of their own children and four others here. Upon Jess's retirement as fire chief in 1944, the couple moved to a farm west of town. The home appears today much as it did in 1910. An open porch spanning the front, central dormers, and evenly spaced windows reflect the Colonial Revival style, but wide bracketed eaves and exposed rafter tails are inspired by the Craftsman style.

**Property:** Yanicke House

**Address:** 748 3rd Ave W, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** West Side      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:** boardinghouses

**Sign Text:**

The Flathead Monitor declared in 1899 that the west side was way ahead of the east side with "a new residence being started there about every day." By 1900, streets and sidewalks had replaced the open prairie. This Queen Anne style home was one of the first in the neighborhood, constructed between 1891 and the turn of the century. Carpenter/teamster William Yanicke came to Kalispell from South Dakota in 1900, purchasing this property where he and his wife, Susan, were in residence by 1901. Yanicke served as street commissioner in the 1910s and later as foreman for the city engineer. When the couple moved out of town to operate a poultry farm in 1925, daughter Lydia Relter and her husband Nerlie, a Kalispell grocer, then lived here until 1938. The cross-gabled plan, mixed exterior sidings (clapboard and decorative shingle work in the gable ends), and front and side porches are classic elements of the Queen Anne style. The wraparound porch at the rear and south bay window, also distinguishing features of the style, were later additions.

**Property:** Foot / Templeton House

**Address:** 330 5th Ave East, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** East Side      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Charles H. Foot left his bride in Minnesota in the spring of 1891 to establish a home for them in Montana. Theresa

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

Foot joined her husband in Kalispell the following July where he had set up the first law practice in the newly platted town. The couple built this home, one of the first in the neighborhood, between 1891 and 1894. The residence is a pleasing example of the gable-front-and-wing house form popularized by the advent of the railroad. Balloon framing techniques and the availability of shipped-in lumber made this type of urban folk housing especially desirable and affordable. Leaded window glass and Victorian-era turned porch posts with graceful scrollwork follow the Queen Anne traditions of the late nineteenth century. The original front porch has been carefully restored and moved to the back of the house. After several other owners and occupants, Flathead County High School principal Payne Templeton and his wife, Gladys, purchased the home in 1924 and lived here until 1936.

**Property:** Walker Residence

**Address:** 540 2nd Ave W, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** West Side      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:** boardinghouses

**Sign Text:**

The Kalispell Bee in 1903 described the newly completed residence of county clerk and recorder James Wiltse Walker as “one of the handsomest dwelling houses in the city.” A classic example of the Queen Anne style, typical architectural elements include an irregular plan, wraparound porch, varied siding, and recessed semicircular windows. The house, built by Cassius McCarty, featured nine rooms including a reception hall, maid’s room, fruit room, laundry, and pantry. There were six clothes closets, picture molding, dining room plate railings, a pocket door, a foundation of native rock, and a lawn beautifully landscaped with shrubbery and fruit trees. Walker, a former pharmacist later elected state treasurer, was an early automobile enthusiast. His eleven-year-old daughter, Phyllis, was reportedly the first child in Kalispell to learn to drive. Kalispell National Bank president Clifford B. Harris (1908-1914) and John Hogl of Kalispell Malting and Brewing Company (1914-1920) were subsequent owners. Then Sarah Ingraham, widow of the county sheriff, operated a popular boarding house here from 1920 to 1946. A single family residence again since 1964, spacious grounds and a carriage house complement this elegant turn-of-the-century home.

**Property:** Wurtz Homestead

**Address:** N. Fork Road, 2 mile North of Ford, Polebridge, Flathead

**Historic District:**      **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** cabins (houses)      **Subject 2:** homesteads

**Sign Text:**

A torturous journey by covered wagon brought Frank and Ella Wurtz to this remote homestead in 1914. By 1917, the family included three children, so Frank built a larger cabin, reusing the logs of their first one-room dwelling. Proving a claim in the North Fork was a formidable task, and Frank did his best to clear and cultivate the required acreage. Even so, the Forest Service challenged the Wurtz claim in 1918, charging that not enough land had been cultivated. The protest was withdrawn, however, in 1919. A few months later, an arson fire consumed the family’s newly finished third cabin. Evidence suggested that the fire was a cover-up for the abduction of four-year-old Marie and two-year-old Harold; no trace of them was ever found. As the family dealt with this tragedy, title to the land was granted in 1920. Frank began to build the main house, but grief was hard to overcome; Frank, Ella, and nine-year-old Louise left the North Fork in 1922. A decade later, Frank and Ella returned with three children born in the interim. Frank then completed the log house and continued to improve the property until his failing health forced its sale in 1964. Today, the sturdy Wurtz cabin and house, representative of two building phases, are a lesson in perseverance and a tribute to the hardy North Fork settlers who carved homes out of the wilderness.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

Upon the transfer of ownership to the Forest Service in 1990, the Wurtz grandchildren wrote: "This land has been good to our family. The homestead was a labor of love, and it is with great love and respect that we now leave it."

**Property:** Leslie-Dodge House

**Address:** 745 1st Ave E, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** West Side      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

This side-gabled vernacular style residence was built for English-born veterinarian Charles F. Leslie in 1908. Dr. Leslie, a graduate of Ontario Veterinary College in Toronto, came to Kalispell in 1906 when horses still provided most transportation needs. He served as veterinary surgeon for several local liverys and was later appointed deputy state veterinarian. The property was purchased in 1925 by Flathead County medical officer Dr. Albert Dodge, who owned the home until 1943. Dr. Dodge served as county medical officer for 25 years and at his death at age 91 in 1959, he was the oldest practicing physician in Montana. Narrow clapboard siding mixed with shingled gable ends, full-width porch, Tuscan columns, and leaded glass are classic Queen Anne style elements of the Victorian era that carried over into the twentieth century. The original interior includes a French door separating the living and dining rooms and oak stairwork with engraved newel posts.

**Property:** Sundelius House

**Address:** 705 3rd Ave W, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** West Side      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Dr. Victor Sundelius was the first owner of this charming cottage, built circa 1937. Victor and his brother Fred, both osteopathic physicians, practiced together in Kalispell during the 1930s and 1940s. The brothers were generous to the community, donating their medical services to high school football, basketball, and track teams. The community mourned when Victor died in 1949 and Fred in 1952. Victor's wife, Emma, and their two children remained in the home and the Sundelius family retained ownership until 1977. The well-finished interior features vintage glass doorknobs throughout, multi-paned French doors, and hardwood floors. Fluted ceiling fixtures in ornate and colorful floral motifs grace the bedrooms. Stucco cladding and a covered, gabled entry with graceful arches reflect the Tudor style, illustrating how English building traditions were adapted to twentieth-century American architecture. Mature landscaping reveals Victor Sundelius' love of gardening and adds further appeal to this historic home.

**Property:** Boyd's Shop

**Address:** 227 First Street West, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:**      **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** commercial structures      **Subject 2:** transportation

**Sign Text:**

There were two businesses devoted to automobile repair in Kalispell in 1909, and seven blacksmiths. By 1915, the ratio was almost reversed. Mort Fuller and Harry Jones worked here in one of Kalispell's three remaining blacksmith shops, while seven auto repair shops competed for business. Both men came to tragic ends. Fuller died in 1916 at age thirty-three. Jones was indigent when he died in 1934 from typhoid—likely acquired from eating refuse from the Billings dump. Paris Boyd owned the shop in 1934. His ghost sign still advertises "general blacksmithing and horseshoeing." His son, Glen, who ran the business from 1936 to 1947, continued to offer "general blacksmithing," as did his successor, James Schumach, who retired in the 1980s. However, survival in the

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

automobile age required diversification: a second ghost sign advertises “welding, logging, tran repair.” Boyd’s Shop is one of the few remaining false-fronted buildings in Kalispell. Visual icons of the western frontier, false-fronted buildings are typically associated with the earliest period of settlement. False fronts added a touch of style to what were essentially utilitarian structures. They made buildings appear larger and communities appear more settled and sophisticated than they actually were. By the 1910s, when this building was constructed, the twenty-five-year-old City of Kalispell boasted a population of 12,000 and a Main Street lined by elegant brick business blocks. Thus, placing a false front on this building may have been a nostalgic comment on the part of the builders. In any case, it was entirely appropriate for the old-fashioned business within.

**Property:** Anderson House

**Address:** 345 5th Avenue East, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** East Side      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Flathead County High School principal Gilbert Ketcham was the first owner of this Craftsman style home built in 1908. As principal from 1902 to 1911, Ketcham was a well-rounded educator who loved being in the classroom. He was called upon to teach “history, German and anything else that was lacking an instructor.” The next occupant was Lloyd Shulkin who shared the home at various times with his four brothers. The Shulkins were in business together, operating regional men’s clothing stores that catered to loggers. Longtime owner Adolph Anderson, a native of Norway, purchased the property in 1918. Anderson had a varied career in Kalispell as realtor, Continental Oil Company district manager, and later owner of two local service stations. From 1944 to 1955, he and his sons operated the Hotel Kalispell. After Anderson’s death in 1967, the home remained in the family until 1980. Characteristic Craftsman style elements including bracketed eaves, exposed rafters, and gabled dormers add to the architectural layering and pleasant diversity of the neighborhood.

**Property:** Ripke House

**Address:** 805 2nd Ave. W., Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** West Side      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

While most of Montana lost population during the 1930s, Kalispell grew dramatically as people migrated from areas hard hit by drought and economic depression. Contractors like Herbert Yeaw, who built this one-story, wood-sided home, filled the city’s vacant lots with small residences to accommodate the influx. Constructed in 1939, the interior of this practical residence includes built-in nooks and archways, typical of Kalispell homes of the era. It also has an attached garage, distinguishing it from its older neighbors. The first garages were converted barns or carriage houses. By the teens, most “modern” homes had detached garages at the rear of their lots, though that was changing. As one architectural critic commented in 1919, “putting a garage in a house may sound like a joke, but it is not.” Only after World War II did the style become commonplace. Francis and Ethel Ripke purchased the residence in 1940. Francis moved to Kalispell in 1903 and served as deputy sheriff for many years. He died at home in 1960; Ethel continued to live here until 1973.

**Property:** C. E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery

**Address:** 641 Conrad Dr, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:**      **Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** cemeteries      **Subject 2:**

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

### Sign Text:

One fine fall day in 1902, Kalispell founder Charles E. Conrad and his wife Alicia took a last horseback ride to this area and rested on the narrow overlook where the valley spread below. Charles told his wife there could be no lovelier place for his final rest. Charles died weeks later, but not before he sketched the mausoleum he wanted Alicia to build here. She carried out her husband's wishes and had more than one hundred stone steps set into the steep cliff below, allowing private access to her husband's gravesite. Alicia Conrad worked tirelessly to establish a community cemetery serving all people and all faiths as a memorial to her husband. She traveled extensively to find the right design. At her invitation, A. W. Hobert, superintendent of the famed Lakewood Cemetery in Minneapolis, Minnesota, visited this site and agreed there was none more beautiful. He designed the cemetery in 1903 as a classic Rural Garden Landscape. This concept in urban cemetery planning, first employed in Paris, France, and later in Boston, Massachusetts, offered a park-like setting for the enjoyment of nature as well as burial of loved ones. Alicia initiated a legislative bill, passed in 1905, establishing cemetery management and perpetual care. This cemetery became the prototype for perpetual care cemeteries in Montana. Today, 104 acres include more than 18,000 burials among winding driveways, sweeping lawns, and formal plantings that blend into the spectacular natural setting. Alicia Conrad laid the foundation for thoughtful management and careful stewardship. This unique cemetery welcomes all to enjoy its special features.

**Property:** Buck / Robbin House

**Address:** 725 S. Main, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** Courthouse **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

The City of Kalispell undertook a community improvement project in 1928 to beautify the long-neglected area north of the courthouse. Many of the homes in this neighborhood were built as part of that comprehensive plan, attributed to the vision of architect Fred Brinkman, linking downtown with the courthouse. This brick Tudor cottage, built in 1931 by grocer Harry Buck, was part of the planned community. Its arched entry with steeply gabled roof and heavy corbelled chimney well represent the American synthesis of the style, which sprang from building traditions of medieval England. Noteworthy interior features include distinctively arched cubby holes throughout the home, arched doorways, French doors, and the original fireplace. Buck sold the home to businessman George K. Robbin in 1936. Robbin, whose locally prominent family pioneered the sweet cherry industry on Flathead Lake, lived here until his death in 1975. Current owners have carefully preserved impressions of small hands and feet etched in the concrete driveway and dated 1938.

**Property:** Chester / Long House

**Address:** 845 1st Ave E, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** East Side **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

"Harmony and artisticness," according to the Kalispell Bee in 1913, best described the newly completed Craftsman style home of attorney Thomas Long and his wife, Vesta. Originally painted maize with white trim and green roof, its natural colors followed the Craftsman style ideal. Wide bracketed eaves and French doors opening onto a small pergola/porch further reflect this fashionable style. Vesta, a "brilliant clubwoman" and later the first woman of Flathead County elected to the state legislature, divorced Long in 1919 and married politician William Brennen. Brennen was a personal friend of both Presidents McKinley and Roosevelt and a colorful public figure. From 1922 to 1939, local businessman Thomas Chester and his wife, Effie, owned the property and in 1941, Norma and Roy Waller were tenants. Norma was the daughter of noted author Frank Linderman. The residence has also served as

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

a duplex, a chiropractor's office, and a youth hostel but is once again a single family residence. Original light fixtures and handsome built-in bookcases remain, recalling Vera Long's excellent taste.

**Property:** Weberg House

**Address:** 329 5th Ave E., Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** East Side      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Carpenter William Williscroft owned, and possibly built, this one-story hipped-roof cottage between 1891 and 1897. He likely intended it as an investment property because by 1900 renters occupied the house. Sometime after 1950, owners replaced the full-length front porch, stuccoed the original brick veneer, and exchanged the one-and-one-half-story alley apartment for a two-car garage. Otherwise, the home looks much as it did at the end of the nineteenth century. Peter and Rena Weberg bought the home in 1906. The couple had arrived in Kalispell in 1898 and raised three children here, occasionally renting out a room "for the summer only," perhaps to tourists attracted to the area by Glacier National Park. In 1916, Peter- became city treasurer. He was reelected to that position for twenty-nine years, until his death at age eighty-five. Rena was an early member and president of the Ladies Aid of Bethlehem Lutheran Church and an active member of the Republican Women's Club. She made her home here until three years before her death in 1966 at age ninety-three.

**Property:** Pierce Residence

**Address:** 614 First Ave West, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** West Side      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The unusual architecture of this front-gabled vernacular style residence, built by Alfred Pierce in 1901, sets it apart from its neighbors. One of the first homes built in the neighborhood, it was considered a fairly expensive home at \$2,400. Peterson was proprietor of the Somers Hack Line, and moved to Somers in 1907. The home then had a variety of tenants between 1909 and 1920, including an ice dealer, a teamster, and one of the proprietors of the City Transfer and Coal Company. Most notable, however, was Kalispell architect Marion Rizzo, who lived here with his family circa 1915. William J. Pierce, a decorator and painter, moved in with his family in 1920. Pierce briefly moved to California and returned to buy the home in 1923; the Pierce family lived here for a decade. The turn-of-the-century home features a distinctive clipped gable roof, projecting shed dormers, and ample porches. The upstairs front doorway likely once led to a finished second-story porch.

**Property:** Spafford House

**Address:** 504 6th Ave East, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** East Side      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

A bird's-eye view of Kalispell drawn in 1897 shows this Colonial Revival style residence already in place on its prominent corner. The Kalispell Building and Loan Association likely built the home in 1895 when the company obtained title to the property. The first known resident was Dr. Arthur Burch, a local dentist, who lived with his family at this address by 1900. Attorney Mark B. Cornrow, a widower with two infant daughters, purchased the home in 1907. Louis Spafford, editor and manager of the Daily Inter Lake newspaper, was the next owner. Louis and his wife, Hilma, lived here for nearly fifty years and the Spafford family retained ownership until 1991. A rectangular plan, symmetrically balanced windows, pedimented entry with sidelights, and long shed-roofed



## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

dormers reflect the Colonial Revival style. Tucked into the landscape and framed by ample shade trees, this pleasant home exemplifies the East Side's earliest period of development.

**Property:** Proctor House

**Address:** 412 2nd Ave E, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** East Side      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Local legend has it that this home was built at Demersville, a steamboat landing on the Flathead River. When the railroad bypassed Demersville, many residents gradually moved their homes and buildings to the new town of Kalispell some four miles away. Before the days of hydraulic jacks and flatbed trucks, this tedious operation was accomplished by placing the structure on logs. Horses pulled it along, rolling the logs, moving the last log to the front as the load advanced. This home occupied its Second Avenue lot by at least 1908 when it was advertised for rent. Farmer George Proctor and his wife Lurana settled in the Kalispell area and purchased the property in 1909, keeping house here until 1916. Like their neighbors, the Proctors stabled their horses in a barn on the alley; by 1927, an auto garage had replaced the barn. The cozy well-maintained cottage retains its asymmetrical floor plan. The bay window, gabled roof, and porch tucked into the front façade are charming features typical of the Queen Anne style.

**Property:** Dunsire House

**Address:** 545 2nd Ave East, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** East Side      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Leaded glass transoms, Tuscan columns, a bay window, and spacious porch spanning the front recall nineteenth-century requirements for a comfortable, homey dwelling. Isabelle and David Sturtevant first owned this early residence, built between 1891 and 1894, as rental property. In 1900, Andrew Dunsire bought the house. Dunsire was born in Fifeshire, Scotland, and came to the Flathead Valley in 1888 where he worked as a ship's purser on Flathead Lake and Kootenai River steamers. His sailing days were over in 1892 when Isabella Ritchie arrived from Elgin, Scotland. Andrew met her train at Missoula and the couple immediately went to the Episcopal Church where they were married. They traveled by train, coach, and boat to Kalispell where they made their home. Andrew served as county assessor from 1897 to 1904 and eventually went into the dry goods business. The couple had no children, but took in Isabella's sister, Andrew's nephew, and boarders. After Andrew's death in 1947, Isabella remained in the family home until her death in 1952 at 93.

**Property:** Peterson House

**Address:** 604 4th Ave East, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** East Side      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Self-styled capitalist Olaf Peterson and his wife Johanna, both Swedish immigrants, built this sturdy two-story home circa 1896. It was the first home constructed on the block. While other neighborhood homes are of frame construction, this residence is of brick. Oddly, several of its former owners were in the timber business. Timber dealer George Millet purchased the home from the Petersons in 1908. Pacific Northwest lumberman Julius Neils of Portland was the next owner. Neils sent his son-in-law, Harry Schocknecht, to Kalispell to establish lumberyards

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

in Montana. The Schocknechts occupied the home until 1915. Logging contractor Thomas Gardner and his family were residents during the 1920s. Dr. Ralph Towne and his wife, Marie, made their home here from 1936 to 1967. The home then served as parish house for the nearby Trinity Lutheran Church. At some time in its more recent history, preeminent Kalispell architect Fred Brinkman designed the newer windows, but the nineteenth-century residence retains much of its historic fabric. A complex plan and orange-red brick softened by mature landscaping make this a distinctive neighborhood landmark.

**Property:** First Presbyterian Church

**Address:** 524 Main Street, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** Courthouse **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** churches (buildings) **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Charter members George and Helen Miles bestowed this land on the church in 1882. Since that time the First Presbyterian Church has occupied this space. Church trustees met in 1911 to discuss the construction of a larger \$30,000-\$40,000 church. Pastor Reverend J. Forsythe Smith reasoned that a new house of worship would “provide better social advantages, better intellectual advantages, and better moral and spiritual advantages.” In addition to a larger worship space, the modern facility would include a Sunday school and choir room. Architect Brynjulf Rivenes designed the concrete and brick edifice on the same site as the old church, which was sold and relocated to face North Prairie. Western Granite and Marble Works of Miles City donated the cornerstone, laid on November 26, 1914. C. N. Strevell gifted the main stained glass window fronting Montana Avenue. The oak finished, 871-pipe Estry organ was specially designed to fit the organ chamber. Dedicated in 1917, this impressive Gothic Revival Style church conveys a sense of stability and permanence.

**Property:** Goshorn House

**Address:** 501 4th Avenue East, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** East Side **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The owner and publisher of the Inter Lake, a weekly newspaper serving the Flathead Valley, was the original owner of this prominent corner residence. Robert M. Goshorn, his wife Alice, and their two children moved into the new home in 1900. In 1907, their son Joseph, a Stanford University student, drowned along with two other Kalispell youths in a canoeing accident near Seattle. Robert and Alice Goshorn determined to stay busy, converting their weekly publication to a daily newspaper. They sold the business in 1912, but it remains today the Daily Inter Lake. Goshorn subsequently served as receiver (under the Taft administration) and as register (under the Harding administration) of the U.S. Land Office at Kalispell. The couple also maintained a ranch and fruit orchard on Flathead Lake. Their vintage Kalispell home features bay windows, diamond-shaped window panes, two porches, decorative shinglework, and partial shingle cladding, hallmarks of both the Queen Anne and Shingle styles. A smorgasbord of surface textures—clapboard, rough-cut stone, and shingles—beautifully expresses Victorian-era taste. Inside, a handsome staircase showcases highly skilled carpentry.

**Property:** Ross House

**Address:** 820 3rd Ave West, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** West Side **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

This two-story residence began as a one-story shotgun style house built in 1897 by furniture dealer Samuel Clark.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

In 1900, the Clarks added the south wing and second floor. William "Dusty" Rhoades, later city attorney and state legislator, acquired the home in 1905. David and Anna Ross next owned the home from 1907 to 1936. Ross was an attorney and president of the Kalispell Title Guarantee and Abstract Company. Between 1910 and 1927, the Rosses greatly enlarged the south wing. World War I veteran and prominent Kalispell surgeon Dr. Fayette Ross lived with the Rosses in the late 1920s. The porch was screened in and the entrance was on the north when Roy and Norma Waller were tenants in the 1930s. Norma was the daughter of noted Montana author Frank B. Linderman. The residence today, much changed from the original small dwelling, mirrors the evolution and maturation of the neighborhood.

**Property:** Alward House

**Address:** , Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** East Side      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Kalispell carpenter Cassius McCarty, property owner from 1909 to 1911, most likely built this vernacular style residence with Craftsman style details. Shortly after construction newlyweds Herbert and Kate Alward moved into the new home. An established member of the community, Alward was cashier of the First National Bank, the oldest bank in the northwestern portion of the state. In 1910, Alward married socialite Kate Montelius, daughter of Mrs. Lew Switzer, in an elegant yellow wedding. Alward's financial career took the family to Tacoma, Washington, four years later. Traveling salesman Maurice Beaudin rented the house from the Alwards. Kate Alward died during the influenza epidemic in 1920 leaving three small children. A. J. Casey, a partner in the Western Supply Company grocery, purchased the property from Alward in 1923. The Craftsman style was a popular architectural design in Kalispell at the turn of the century. The home features clapboard siding, a hipped roof, exposed rafter tails, a projecting window on the south side, and a small integrated porch with Tuscan columns. A stained-glass window in the bathroom complements the residence's vintage interior.

**Property:** 404 Second Avenue West

**Address:** 404 Second Avenue West, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** West Side      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

When twenty-five-year-old housekeeper Cora (Brooks) Moore lived here with her four-year-old son, she owned the home free of mortgage. She built the simple, one-story gable-front home sometime between 1894 and 1899. At that time, it had a back porch but no front porch. Her neighbors were mostly residents of female boarding houses (a turn-of-the-century euphemism for brothels). Claude Jump, who owned a livery stable one block north, rented the home in 1907. Ezra and Catherine Slack purchased the property in 1910, after their eight children had grown up. The founder of an important Kalispell realty company, Ezra died in 1918. Catherine continued to live here until her death in 1924. Her son George and his family lived just up the block. The red light district had moved elsewhere by the time the Slacks moved in, and the female boarding houses had all been torn down or converted into more respectable lodging. By 1927, the area's transformation was complete. Two churches neighbored this residence: the Free Methodist Church to the north and the Full Gospel Mission Church to the east.

**Property:** Stillwater Ranger Station Historic District

**Address:** 7425 Hwy 93 S, Olney, Flathead

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Historic District:** Stillwater Ranger Station      **Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** ranger stations      **Subject 2:** log buildings

**Sign Text:**

The Stillwater Forest and its ranger station mark a milestone in the history of state forestry. The Enabling Act of 1889 laid a tenuous foundation for today's system by granting Montana two sections of land in every township, stipulating that the income generated must be used for education. It soon became apparent that effective management of 500,000 widely scattered acres was impossible. The Office of the State Forester, created in 1909, advocated consolidation of state holdings as the solution. In 1912, the State Forester proposed to swap the Forest Service 60,000 acres of state-owned sections for a like amount here in the Whitefish and Stillwater drainages. President Woodrow Wilson approved the exchange in 1918. Stillwater became Montana's first state forest. Through the efforts of State Forester Robert McLaughlin, the first log structure at Stillwater Ranger Station was built in 1922. At McLaughlin's urging, the 1925 legislature designated the Stillwater Forest a managed site. After 40,000 timbered acres burned in 1926, the Stillwater Ranger Station became a year-round facility for timber management and fire protection and was the only major ranger station in the state system until 1954. Ranger Pete De Groat built the main log residence in 1928, and CCC forestry crews added several more buildings in the 1930s. Maurice Cusick, supervisor from 1936 to 1967, built four others. Today, these historic log buildings constructed of local materials are a tribute to Montana's early forestry and conservation efforts.

**Property:** J. E. Rockwood House

**Address:** 835 1st Ave East, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** East Side      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Joseph E. Rockwood moved to Kalispell from Missouri in 1901 to begin a long and successful career as a lawyer. He entered into practice with longtime friend F. Joe Rice. And, beginning in 1934, served two terms as judge of the 11th Judicial District. Before retiring in 1942, Rockwood served two terms in the Montana House of Representatives, was a member of the Odd Fellows, and the Kalispell Saddle Club. Rockwood married Minnie Saeger in 1897 and they had two children, Georgia and Forrest. An avid horseman and lawyer, Forrest worked to enlarge the Bob Marshall Wilderness area for horseback riding. Built between 1922 and 1925 for the Rockwoods by Kalispell contractor F. C. Mercord, this Craftsman-style home features a full-width front porch with Tuscan columns, exposed rafter tails, Craftsman style windows, and large gabled front dormers. The interior of the home retains its original Craftsman splendor, showcasing built-in bookcases, a built-in china hutch, and birch hardwood floors. The Rockwoods' horse barn still stands on the alley.

**Property:** Graham House

**Address:** 825 6th Ave E, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:**      **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Wilbur and Celeste Graham built this hallmark Art Moderne style home in 1942. The style took its look from the modern means of transport that had captured the popular imagination in the 1930s. While the Depression had taken its toll on the country's economic life, Americans were still proud of their technological prowess. In an expression of determined optimism, commercial and architectural design of the era imitated the sleek curves and smooth surfaces that gave cars and airplanes their aerodynamic advantage. The chic, stripped-down style also had the benefit of being relatively inexpensive to build. Favored by architects, Art Moderne had less of a popular following than more familiar-looking styles, making examples relatively rare in Montana. A building contractor,

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

Wilbur designed this home himself, including the extra long garage that provided space for his office. Perhaps his profession gave him an advantage in finding construction materials, which were scarce during the war years; this is one of the few Kalispell residences built during World War II. The Graham home features many of the elements that characterize the Art Moderne style: a flat roof with a small ledge at the roofline, stucco siding, rounded corners, metal sash windows flush with the wall, and a circular window in the front door (reminiscent of a ship's porthole). Chrome door handles, hinges, and cabinet pulls continued the modern look in the interior. The Grahams, who never tired of their stylish home, both lived here until their deaths, his in 1958, and hers in 2001.

**Property:** Kolle / Sherman House

**Address:** 810 Third Ave E, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** East Side      **Building Type:** contributing building

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:** Craftsman

**Sign Text:**

Built on a prominent corner lot for blacksmith Chris Kolle and his wife Mary in 1908, this Craftsman style home features many of the design's characteristic elements. Its wide, sheltering eaves are meant to evoke feelings of coziness and security while its full-length front porch, tucked beneath the main roofline, offers a connection to nature. In 1910, Chris employed four to six "scientific horseshoers and skilled wheelwrights and blacksmiths." Like many blacksmiths, he transitioned to automobile repair and sales as combustion engines began to replace horse power. John and Cornelia Sherman purchased the residence in 1920. In 1926 the Shermans hired Kalispell architect Fred Brinkman to remodel the home, adding a fireplace, breakfast room, downstairs bathroom, and rear "service stairway to the basement." John was the co-owner of Flathead Motor Sales Company, and, as a member of Roads and Highways committee of the Kalispell Chamber of Commerce, he helped to locate and develop western Montana highways. After John died in 1941, Cornelia, a trained teacher, ran a home kindergarten. In 1943, she took a teaching job with the district and later became the Flathead County librarian.

**Property:** Dean Rental Property

**Address:** 19 5th Ave E., Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** East Side      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** barns      **Subject 2:** residential structures

**Sign Text:**

Alonzo J. Dean turned to real estate investment after his retirement as longtime manager of Kalispell's J.C. Penney store in 1927. In 1928, Dean purchased the elegant Charles Conrad stable complex that originally stood on Woodland Avenue. The barn and carriage house were divided into five sections and the pieces moved to different locations. Kalispell architect Fred Brinkman brought about the transformation of each from stable to home. A steep gabled roof, half timbering, arcaded wing, and arched entry are classic Tudor style elements Brinkman employed in the remodeling. Although no longer associated with the Conrad Estate, the home is an excellent example of adaptive reuse during the neighborhood's historic period. It is also significant for its association with A. J. Dean, whose real estate development during the late 1920s served as impetus for further residential construction. Now a private residence, current owners have meticulously restored the original architectural features both inside and outside.

**Property:** Bogardus House

**Address:** 31 5th Ave East, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** East Side      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

### Sign Text:

Many interesting families occupied this Craftsman style home after its completion in 1909. John and Anna Nelson were probably the original owners of the property, but Richard Cap, manager of Cap Electric Construction, and his bride, Leila Noffisinger Cap, were the first to occupy the residence. In 1915, good road and automobile booster Frank D. Stoop moved into the house and his bride Annie joined him a year later. Stoop became known as the first person to travel by car from Kalispell to West Glacier and to Libby. The home is best known for its longest residents, Dr. Fred B. and Gertrude Bogardus, who owned the property from 1923 to 1955. Dr. Bogardus originally came to Somers, Montana, as physician for the O'Brien Lumber Company. After completing post-graduate work, Dr. Bogardus established a hospital in Eureka and later opened an eye, ear, and throat practice in Kalispell. The residence features wide, bracket-supported eaves, a full-width porch, and windows accented by diamond-paned upper lights.

**Property:** 610 1st Avenue West

**Address:** 610 1st Avenue West, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** West Side      **Building Type:** building contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

A built-in china cabinet with access from two rooms, a bird's-eye maple floor in the dining room, a breakfast nook with a simple round arch, and an early dishwasher made this stylish 1905 Queen Anne style residence a haven for entertaining. A cross-gabled plan, decorative shingle siding, a pedimented porch, and native rock basement highlight the structure's façade. Throughout the years the home was owned and rented by several prominent citizens who entertained frequently, capitalizing on this distinctive architectural design. Assistant Secretary of the State Senate Xerxes Kemp Stout rented here in 1905. Stout administered the oath of office to his uncle, Joseph K. Toole, Montana's first governor. In 1913, State Senator Sidney Butler, the "father of Flathead County," leased the dwelling. The longest residing occupant, Dr. Locius A. Harris, purchased the home in 1924 and added steam heat to the attached garage so that in the winter his car would start quickly in medical emergencies. The Harris' daughter Bernice lived here until 1981.

**Property:** Sawyer House

**Address:** 828 4th Ave E, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** East Side Historic District      **Building Type:** contributing building

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:** Queen Anne

### Sign Text:

Harriet and Hugh Sawyer built this Queen Anne style home before 1903 as a rental property. The scrollwork and fish-scale shingles ornamenting the gable end, leaded glass, and a bay window reflect the style's popularity. The front-gable residence originally had a one-story rear wing. The homeowners enlarged it after 1955 by adding a second story. Early residents included deputy county clerk and recorder Charles Morrill and his wife Geraldine, high school teacher Samuel Brown, and widow Kate Bull and her seven children. Grain thresher Martin Knutson and his wife Ella and their five children lived here in 1920. The Browns, who lived here in 1922, had four children and the Kings, who lived here in 1938, had five. Large families were the norm. When part owner of the Daily Inter Lake newspaper Arthur Sward and his wife Blanche purchased the residence in 1930, the home was assessed for \$2,600. Neighborhood children had picnics and played on the vacant lot across the street until 1929, when the county built Cornelius Hedges Elementary School. The Sawyer House has always been a home brimming with children.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Property:** Simpson House

**Address:** 718 2nd Ave E, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** East Side      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Scottish immigrant John Simpson had this two-story home built in 1901 by contractor and lumberman Elmer Bader. Simpson and his wife Minnie lived here off and on with their seven children for many years. Herbert and Johanna Harmon owned and occupied this house between Simpson ownerships. The Harmons rented out a furnished south room in their “congenial private home,” advertising the new amenity of electric lights and an indoor bath. In 1907, the Simpsons returned to Kalispell from Spokane and John resumed his career with the Kalispell Mercantile Company. After Simpson’s death in 1915, his wife owned the residence until 1934. Walter and Clara Stearns purchased the property from the Simpson family in 1939 and continued to rent out a two-room private apartment for the next six years. A bay window and a gabled dormer adorn the south end of the house.

**Property:** Belton Chalet

**Address:** U.S. Route 2, West Glacier, Flathead

**Historic District:**      **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** hotels (public accommodations)      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Great Northern Railway chairman of the board Louis Hill dubbed the rugged mountains of Glacier National Park “America’s Alps.” Between 1909 and 1913, the Great Northern Railway constructed the Belton Chalet complex under Hill’s direction. It was the first of the Great Northern Railway’s sprawling hotels to serve Glacier National Park, created in 1910, and marks the beginning of tourism in the park. Hill drew upon the Chalet and American Rustic styles for his hotels to create harmony with Glacier’s natural landscape and help define visitors’ perceptions of the “controlled wilderness.” He costumed employees accordingly throughout Glacier Park. Waitresses in alpine dress, cowboy guides, and local Blackfoot Indians created a true theme park preceding Walt Disney. Belton Chalet is the most traditional, purely Swiss of Glacier’s hotels. Stylistic elements include front-facing gable ends, wide eaves with heavy braces, balconies, and ornamental fretwork. Inside, taxidermy, American Indian motifs, and a large oil landscape of Glacier Park by artist John Fery complement the rustic wood timbers. Guest rooms at the Belton Chalet featured rustic rockers, porcelain washbasins, Arts and Crafts style dressers, Hudson’s Bay style blankets, metal bedsteads, and Swiss style curtains. After being closed for many years and then completely restored under private ownership, Belton Chalet is one of six original park hotels. The buildings as a group, designated a National Historic Landmark, remain unaltered as a unique example of a Swiss theme park in America’s Alps.

**Property:** Ernest M. Child Residence

**Address:** 233 5th Ave E, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** East Side      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Shed dormers, exposed rafter tails, wide eaves supported by brackets, a flared chimney, and a full-width front porch mark this circa 1913 home as a Craftsman style residence. Native rock and molded concrete ornament the full basement; interior features include built-in cabinets with leaded glass doors in the living and dining rooms, a fireplace of Kalispell brick, and walk-in closets (all but one with windows that open). The house was likely constructed for Frank Johnson, a cashier at the Conrad National Bank, who owned the residence until 1918. Ernest and Helen Child lived here from 1920 until Ernest’s death in 1941. Born in DeKalb, New York, Ernest was a

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

prominent attorney who arrived in the Flathead Valley from Wisconsin in 1905. Helen, a Minnesota native, was called a “singer of note” at the time of their marriage in 1906. During the Childs’ occupancy, the exterior was elegantly landscaped; in 1936, the Kalispell News published a detailed description of the yard, which it called “the beautiful garden of another ‘Home Beautiful’.”

**Property:** Iseminger / Graham House

**Address:** 611 2nd Ave E, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** East Side      **Building Type:** building contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

An interest in colonial American architecture began with the Philadelphia Centennial in 1877 and inspired the Colonial Revival style. When new printing methods in the late 1890s made photographs in periodicals widely available, the style spread across the nation. This home, built between 1903 and 1909, is representative of the architectural revival. A porch spanning the front, Tuscan columns, narrow clapboard siding, and strict overall symmetry define the style, which draws upon classical lines and simple details. Halbert and Marilla Iseminger moved to Kalispell from their rural farm and purchased this property in 1908. Halbert Iseminger Jr. was in residence by 1909. The senior Isemingers were the proprietors of the Men’s Fashion Shop where Halbert Jr. and some of their seven children were also employed. Various family members resided at this address until 1923. World War I Navy veteran John Graham and his bride, Elsie, then bought the property. Graham owned a local furniture and appliance business. The couple raised their son here and after Elsie’s death in 1955, Graham remained in the home until 1967.

**Property:** Elliott House

**Address:** 506 6th Avenue East, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** East Side      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Builder and real estate agent Hiram Johnson built this residence around 1911 for his wife and three children. The Johnsons had come to Montana in 1893 as homesteaders and developed a successful apple and cherry orchard near Flathead Lake. They sold their produce door-to-door in Kalispell. In 1904, Hiram moved his family to Kalispell so that the Johnson children could attend public school. John and Elizabeth Elliot purchased the property from the Johnsons in 1917. Along with his brothers W. G. and T. W., John owned and operated the Elliot Brothers Company, a general merchandise and wholesale grocery business. John died only two years after moving into this home, but his wife Elizabeth remained here until 1946. The original façade featured a full-width front porch; Elizabeth had it enclosed in 1927. The house has wide, flat, returned eaves and a molded concrete block foundation. Leaded glass complements the upper panes of many of the windows.

**Property:** Kalispell Mercantile Rental Property

**Address:** 419 2nd Ave E, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** East Side      **Building Type:** building contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Constructed between 1899 and 1903, this charming American foursquare cottage features a front gable with ornamental shingle work, front windows with decorative muntins, original front door, and decorative scrollwork spanning the front porch. The garage at the rear was built in 1929 with patented steel corners with locks and sidewalls that came assembled without the use of nails. It is of primary significance as the first prefabricated



## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

building the Superior Lumber Company of Columbia Falls erected in Kalispell. A growing population demanded housing, and Kalispell businessmen responded by constructing numerous rental homes. The home had a series of early owners and tenants. From 1911 to 1931, the Kalispell Mercantile owned the property. Among the many diverse occupants were John O'Connor, superintendent of the Northern Idaho and Montana Power Company (1905 to 1913), auto mechanic Ralph Pike (1917 to 1928) and Reverend Walter Sandy of the Central Christian Church (1930). Owners carefully refurbished the house in 1999.

**Property:** Madison S. Love Residence

**Address:** 535 3rd Ave E, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** East Side      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:** apartments

**Sign Text:**

An architectural oddity in the West, the Shingle style was more common in upscale, eastern coastal communities. In this example, unusual for Montana, the characteristic gambrel roof conceals the residence's second story. A Palladian front window punctuates the upper level. Plain in decorative detailing, this architectural design attempts to unify the irregular outline of the house with wood shingle cladding, giving the effect of a complex shape enclosed within a smooth surface. Madison and Alice Love moved into their unique dwelling in 1909, ten years after arriving in Kalispell. Madison was a plumber at McIntosh Hardware Company and Alice was an artist who painted china. The Loves shared their home with boarders, especially teachers. After 1936, they moved to the clapboard dwelling at the rear of the property, renting out their home to various tenants. During the late 1930s the residence was often referred to as the Love Apartments. Madison and Alice died within seven months of one another in 1940.

**Property:** George Drew Residence

**Address:** 345 4th Ave East, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** East Side      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Kalispell was only two years old when German immigrant Louise Sels and her son Ed had this cross-gabled Queen Anne style residence built in 1892, a year that saw over a hundred homes built in the new town. Louise Sels soon sold the house to her son-in-law Arthur Burnes, but according to the 1900 census, she continued to live in the home with her extended family. The household included her three grown children, granddaughter, son-in-law, and his mother. Josephine Richards and Ella Bell owned the house between 1902 and 1905, renting out "nice large front rooms" to gentlemen. The distinctive horseshoe-shaped porch was added between 1903 and 1907. The home's longest occupant, Maude Drew, lived here between 1905 until her death in 1959 at age 89. A year after she and her husband George bought the house in 1905 they installed a brick sidewalk. The local newspaper lauded this improvement over the standard wood sidewalks and predicted, "Other property owners will note the manner in which the walk wears with much interest."

**Property:** Swan River Community Hall

**Address:** 115 Swan River Rd, Swan River, Flathead

**Historic District:**      **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** community centers      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

In 1920, the local Rod and Gun Club purchased this acre of land as the site for a community building. Constructed

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

twelve years later, the Swan River Community Hall has served as a locus for valley residents, who gathered here for school functions, card parties, plays, dances, weddings, and funerals. The Grange and Farmers Union met at the facility for years, and roller-skating was an important social activity during the 1950s and 1960s. As one resident recalled, "If we didn't go to the Hall every week, something was wrong." Local builder Joe Johnson designed the building, which is made of timber from surrounding state lands and salvaged from abandoned mills. Most of the other building materials were donated, often in lieu of membership fees. Plays and dances also financed the project. The first fundraising play was performed at the school across the road in 1931, and the first dance was an open-air affair held on the Hall's new birch floor the following summer. The thirty-six-by-sixty-foot structure was completed in 1933. By 1945, an entry hall and two small rooms had been added to the front of the building. The exposed rafter tails, milled trim, lap siding, and shingled gable ends of the addition match those of the original Craftsman design. After a fire burned the rear of the Hall in 1976, the Board considered abandoning it, but an outpouring of support led them to restore the structure. The Hall continues to serve as an important gathering place for this rural Montana community.

**Property:** Dr. Albert Brassett Residence

**Address:** 628 4th Ave E, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** East Side      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Dr. Albert and Minnie Brassett built this house with money given Minnie as a wedding present by her father. Constructed in 1911, the comfortable Craftsman style bungalow reflects the fashions of its day. Craftsman style houses abound in Kalispell; this one, designed by local architect Marion Riffo, features a full-length front porch, wide eaves, a flared brick chimney, and a shed dormer. A well-known physician, Dr. Brassett opened his practice in Kalispell in 1909 and performed the first surgery at Kalispell General Hospital. He retired in 1954 on his eightieth birthday, having served in some cases as family physician for three generations. Before buying one of the first automobiles in Kalispell in 1913, Dr. Brassett walked to attend his in-town patients, including those at Kalispell General; the hospital's location two and a half blocks away likely influenced the Brassetts' choice of building site. The Brassetts raised two children here. Their long-term residency testifies to the home's fine design: Minnie and Albert both lived here until their deaths, hers in 1952 and his in 1956.

**Property:** Great Northern Railway Passenger and Freight Depot and Division Office

**Address:** 500 Depot St, Whitefish, Flathead

**Historic District:**      **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** railroad stations      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Whitefish served as a division point for the Great Northern Railway from its founding in 1904 until 1955. In 1925, one railroader called it "the most distinctively railroad town on the whole Great Northern system." The second floor of this 1928 Tudor style building, designed by railroad architect Thomas McMahon, housed the railway's division offices. Serving as a hub for passenger and freight transportation, the first floor housed the yard office, freight and baggage rooms, warm room, ticket office, general waiting room, telegraph office, men's smoking room, and ladies' rest room. Competition from automobiles and trucks had already begun to decrease railroad traffic, so not many depots were built in the 1920s, the height of Tudor popularity; thus Tudor style depots are rare. This depot's Tudor features include its high pointed roof, stucco and decorative half timbering above clapboard, and multiple groups of tall, narrow windows. Its decoratively carved brackets and rafter tails and second-floor balconies echo similar detailing at Glacier National Park chalets, visually connecting Whitefish to Glacier, a tourist destination widely promoted by the railroad. In the 1980s, Whitefish preservationists worked to

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

preserve this magnificent building, which still serves as a passenger and freight depot. Railroad depots are one of the few types of buildings for which the back (facing the town) is as important as the front (facing the tracks). The stylish façades on both front and back of the Whitefish Depot continue to welcome travelers and reflect the town's railroad history.

**Property:** Charles and Carrie March Residence

**Address:** 442 4 Ave E, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** East Side      **Building Type:** contributing building

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:** Colonial Revival

**Sign Text:**

District court judge David Smith and his wife Hattie lived in a small wooden home here in 1900. That original house was demolished by 1910 and replaced about ten years later with this stylish cottage. Designed following an H-shaped plan, the one-and-one-half-story home has paired Tuscan columns supporting an elegantly curved front portico. Other Colonial Revival style details include the front door sidelights and dentils below the entryway. The most notable feature of the home is the complex roof with clipped gable ends (called jerkin heads), which softens and adds interest to the home's design. By 1922, Charles and Carrie March owned the residence. The President of Empire Lumber Company, Charles died unexpectedly, at age fifty-two, in 1932. His obituary lauded him as a civic-minded businessman, a lifelong Mason, the first president of the Kalispell Rotary Club, and an active member of the Chamber of Commerce. Later owners included Dr. Bruce Allison. Before returning to the Flathead Valley in 1950, Allison was among the doctors who treated baseball legend Babe Ruth. During his long practice he delivered nearly 3,000 babies in Flathead County.

**Property:** Waggener and Campbell Funeral Home

**Address:** , Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** Courthouse      **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings      **Subject 2:** funeral homes

**Sign Text:**

In 1905, James E. Waggener purchased the business of retiring undertaker Nelson Willoughby. At this time nationally, the mortuary business was in transition. Funerals in the previous century had traditionally been held in the home, and the undertaker provided such necessary accoutrements as casket, chairs, drapery, door badges, stationery, and flowers. After 1900, the home became less suitable for funerals, and the "funeral director" began to offer services in addition to goods. These included embalming, funeral arrangements, and transportation. Undertakers needed more space for laboratory facilities, casket sales, and reception services. In 1913, Waggener built this substantial brick building to replace Willoughby's original two-room quarters at 134 West 2nd Street. The new building, constructed by local builder Caesar Haverlandt, offered a chapel with seating for sixty-five, a modern embalming room, up-to-date casket show rooms, and the area's only receiving vault. Mahogany woodwork and sliding doors graced the family home upstairs; skylights, still in place today, brightened the kitchen and bathroom. Eventually the Waggeners' three sons helped in the business and, in 1916, daughter Geneva married Harry H. Campbell who became a partner in 1919. The profession had its hazards, however. That year one of the Waggener sons, Elton, died from an illness he contracted while performing mortuary duties. Waggener and Campbell again moved to more modern facilities in 1929, and this building was converted for other commercial use. Architecturally typical of the 1910s, it is historically significant as an early Kalispell funeral home and pioneer family business.

**Property:** Schafer Ranger Station

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Address:** , Hungry Horse, Flathead

**Historic District:** Flathead National Forest Backcountry Administrative Facilities **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** ranger station

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The U.S. Forest Service (USFS) moved the district headquarters for the Middle Fork drainage to Schafer Ranger Station in 1925. Schafer Creek was one of the few sites in a region noted for its rocky narrow canyons that had the water, building material, and pasture necessary to sustain the facility. The oldest extant building is the log combination office/mess hall, constructed in 1928. A ranger's house, built in 1933, follows the regional office's standardized plans and resembles the ranger's dwelling at Big Prairie. The corral complex, which includes a barn, hay shed, and tack shed, reflects the importance of pack animals to the back country. In 1932, the USFS built an airfield. When Congress authorized the Great Bear Wilderness in 1978, it specifically allowed Schafer Airfield to continue operating for the public. Nevertheless, the USFS uses pack trains to deliver and supply the historic station and guard stations in the Middle Fork, following the same trails used by early rangers and firefighters.

**Property:** Flathead National Forest Backcountry Administrative Facilities Historic District

**Address:** , Hungry Horse, Flathead

**Historic District:** Flathead National Forest Backcountry Administrative Facilities **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** historic districts

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Three ranger district headquarter compounds, thirteen guard stations, three airfields, and the trails and phone lines that connect them make up this historic district, located in some of Montana's wildest country. The Forest Service (USFS) became an independent agency in 1905 and immediately prioritized building trails and communication networks to facilitate firefighting and timber sales in the Flathead. Construction began on the South Fork Trail that same year. The forest's first phone line was installed by 1908, linking the supervisor's office in Kalispell with the Coram guard station. The Big Burn of 1910 reinforced the need for communication and transportation. By 1941, over 350 miles of trails, many built by the Civilian Conservation Corps—a New Deal public works program—connected backcountry stations. An extensive system of single-wire phone line attached to trees throughout the forest supported communication. Forty-five miles of this ground-return telephone line remains in service. In the early years, rangers built their own log cabins using local materials, their own time, and varying levels of skill. Later Region One recommended standard designs for cabins and other log structures, including outhouses, barns, corrals, bunkhouses, and sheds. In the 1920s, increasing anxiety over urbanization and industrialization led Americans to value forests as wilderness to be protected. Portions of the Flathead National Forest were designated as primitive areas in 1931, "untrammled wilderness set aside for their wild life and for the more hardy and zealous" outdoor enthusiasts. Passage of the 1964 Wilderness Act further ensured that development within the Flathead National Forest backcountry remains minimal.

**Property:** Cyr Building

**Address:** 322-324 Main, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** Kalispell Main Street **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

"New Buildings Show Upward Swing of City," crowed the Flathead Monitor in April 1936. Charles Cyr contributed to the optimistic outlook by constructing this "modern one-story building, 50 by 100 feet." Cyr spent approximately \$8,000 on the investment property, confident that "while we have no definite tenant ... I have faith

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

in the town and I feel sure that the store building will prove a needed addition.” The St. Louis-based W. G. Woodward department store opened a branch here shortly after completion, justifying Cyr’s confidence. Kalispell already had five department stores, but Woodward’s still saw it as a promising market. Unlike many other parts of Montana, Flathead County grew by 26 percent during the 1930s as eastern Montana’s drought-stricken farm families looked for new homes. This made Kalispell a likely prospect for retail stores looking to expand. In addition, the recovery seemed well underway in 1936, with no one predicting the double dip recession that hit the country a year later. Despite this second round of hard times, the Woodward Co. continued to occupy this prime retail location until 1955.

**Property:** Big Prairie Ranger Station

**Address:** , Hungry Horse, Flathead

**Historic District:** Flathead National Forest Backcountry Administrative Facilities **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** ranger station

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

An USFS administrative headquarters since 1908, Big Prairie primarily operated only in summer, but a small tombstone, marked “Roush Daughter,” provides a reminder of winter hardships. The two-year-old’s father, stationed here with his wife, tended USFS livestock in winter 1923-24. He traveled 100 miles to Missoula on snowshoes to seek medical advice after the girl fell ill. She died before his return. In 1928, the USFS built the first airstrip here. In 1932 it moved the airfield closer to existing buildings, including the still extant 1916 office/residence. Shortly thereafter, the USFS situated its new combination office, kitchen, mess hall, and warehouse, so that planes could taxi up to the warehouse porch. It soon added a ranger’s house, meat house, second small warehouse, and a consciously Rustic-style bunkhouse, designed by USFS architect William Fox. The tongue-and-groove “chute loft,” so-called because smoke-jumpers hung their parachutes here before packing them, was added circa 1942. At its peak, the district had 850 miles of phone lines. Forty-five miles of lines remain, as do “iron phones” along the South Fork Trail.

**Property:** Masonic Temple

**Address:** 239 Main St, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** Kalispell Main Street **Building Type:** building contributing

**Subject 1:** fraternal lodges

**Subject 2:** assembly halls

**Sign Text:**

Seventeen charter members formed Kalispell Lodge No. 42 in 1892. Masons first held lodge meetings in several locations. Work began on this building in 1904, but when the Great Northern Railway moved its division point to Whitefish, the town paused and construction stopped. In a show of faith in the town’s future, the Renaissance Revival style temple was completed in 1905. Designed by architect George Shanley, the lodge hall was upstairs while commercial tenants, including J. C. Penney’s from 1924 to 1956, occupied the ground floor. During World War I, the Century Club ran a store in the basement. There, 115 “liberty-loving women”—including one who had also knitted during the Civil War—sewed and knit everything from surgeons’ gowns and bed caps to sweaters and socks for men in the trenches. The store raised \$2,000 for the Red Cross. By 1922, Lodge No. 42 had grown to 400 members who filled the upstairs lodge hall. Despite some changes, the Renaissance Revival style upper story remains pristine, featuring grand arched windows with keystones, intricate brickwork, and ornamental concrete and rough-cut stone.

**Property:** Stuart House

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Address:** 746 3rd Ave E., Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** East Side      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The Colonial Revival style is nicely represented in this early-twentieth-century residence built by Civil War veteran Joseph Stuart. One of Flathead County's early pioneers, Stuart and his wife Nancy settled in the Flathead Valley in 1886. Stuart built this home between 1910 and 1913. A front-facing gable with a central Palladian window, full-width front porch and overall symmetry are characteristic of the style. Clapboard siding illustrates the local preference for wood over brick. The home illustrates a creative mix of new and old fashion trends. Decorative shinglework, a hallmark of the favored nineteenth-century Queen Anne style, originally adorned the upper story, but the molded concrete block used in constructing the basement was a new building technique just coming into vogue. Interesting interior features include exposed wooden beams in the dining room ceiling, wood columns separating the dining and living rooms, and four-foot-high closet doors tucked into the upstairs eaves.

**Property:** Elmer Sonstelie Residence

**Address:** 640 2nd Ave W, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** West Side      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Kalispell architect Fred Brinkman designed this one-of-a-kind neighborhood landmark early in his career in 1924. Known for unique designs, Brinkman's creativity is particularly evident here in the picturesque lattice used as architectural ornament. A stuccoed chimney and dormer panel complement the narrow clapboard siding while the original flower boxes, still in use, are a charming decorative touch. Brinkman's meticulous details carry through to the beautifully finished interior where original features include oak, maple, and larch flooring; a built-in breakfast nook; and a fireplace of Great Falls light brick with a central concrete shield and denticulated mantel. The home and small matching garage, built to accommodate a typical 1920s vintage automobile, was designed for Cannon Clothing Company manager Elmer Sonstelie and his Norwegian-born wife, Josephine. The property remained in the Sonstelie family until the 1990s.

**Property:** Frank Liebig House

**Address:** 396 4th Avenue East N, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:**      **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Situated on a prominent corner lot, this sprawling early-twentieth-century home captures the essence of the late Victorian era. An irregular floorplan, gables and dormers, canted corners, decorative scrollwork, turned porch supports and leaded glass are elements consistent with the Queen Anne style. Clapboard siding and a wide, inviting wraparound porch recall gracious living and times past. James and Margaret Templeman purchased the property in 1909. James, a house carpenter, moved his family west from Virginia in the early 1900s. Several of the Templemans' five children were also carpenters and builders. Family members likely constructed this home between 1909 and 1912. Frank and Lulu Liebig were the next longtime owners. Liebig, born in Germany to a family interested in forestry, trained in conservation and immigrated to the United States in the 1890s. In 1902, Lewis and Clark Forest Reserve supervisor F. N. Haines hired Liebig as a forest ranger. His long career included fighting forest fires, cutting trails, and preventing the poaching of timber. Stationed first at what would later become Glacier National Park, Liebig also worked on the Kootenai and Flathead National Forests. Liebig married Kalispell native Lulu McMahan in 1907. They lived down the street until 1924 when they moved here and raised

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

six children. Liebig was also a skilled taxidermist and a noted zoologist. A neighbor recalled that animal heads and National Geographic books filled the parlor. The Liebigs' daughter, nicknamed "Frances of the Forest," inherited her father's love for nature, ultimately retiring to a primitive mountaintop cabin where she lived until age 97.

**Property:** Kalispell Monumental Company

**Address:** 7 First Ave East, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

"Don't pay out your hard cash for as sacred an article as a monument without first having an opportunity to see it," read a Kalispell Monumental Company advertisement. A branch of Sammis Monumental Company of Spokane, the Kalispell enterprise specialized in tombstones and mausoleums. They imported marble and granite from "well known quarries" in both the United States and Europe. The firm also provided stone trim for business blocks. A spur line of the Great Northern delivered stone to the back door of this building, constructed especially for the monument company in 1911. Another track ran through the center of the building for an immense traveling crane, which moved the stone from the railcars to the combined showroom/workroom. Kalispell architect Joseph Gibson designed the one-story building, which cost \$12,000 to build. According to the Kalispell Times, it "was constructed especially with a view of the economical landing, and the best display of their products." Large plate-glass windows lined the front and west sides to make the showroom "one of the lightest rooms in town." The company went bankrupt in 1914; perhaps Kalispell's size could not support the business, which advertised itself as the second largest of its kind in the United States. The building's later occupants included the American Laundry Company, which leased the space in 1917, and the Main Street Motor Sales Company, which converted the building into a garage and showroom in 1927. In the 1970s, after standing vacant for decades, the building was converted into a mini-mall.

**Property:** Arthur L. Johnson Residence

**Address:** 825 3rd Ave West, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** West Side           **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Nestled among mature landscaping, this side gabled English-style cottage was home to the Johnson family from the 1940s to 1954. Arthur Louis Johnson came to Montana with his parents and siblings from Ohio during the homestead boom. The family settled on land in Yellowstone County where his father owned and operated an irrigated farm. Arthur married in 1929 and he and his wife Hildred moved to Kalispell. Fortune smiled on Arthur as he found steady employment at the height of the Great Depression as foreman for the Kalispell Water Department. His career with the water department spanned thirty-four years. By 1940, the Johnsons had two small children and built this comfortable home. They raised their son and daughter here as the surrounding neighborhoods began to fill in and the once-rural West Side became more urban. The home exemplifies the simplified English cottage style with characteristic clapboard cladding, a steeply-pitched roof, gabled entry, and contrasting shutters. Shade trees the city planted decades ago frame the street view presenting attractive and inviting curb appeal.

**Property:** Houston / Parker House

**Address:** 604 3rd Ave East, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** East Side           **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:**

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

### Sign Text:

According to its abstract of title, in 1909 this home was moved to Kalispell from Demersville, four miles away. Dr. William Taylor, a local surgeon, physician, and county coroner, owned the property by 1910. He traded houses and medical practices with Whitefish physician Dr. Hugh E. Houston in 1914. Dr. Houston, whose wife was tragically killed in a hunting accident in 1913, settled here with his three small daughters and second wife. The Houstons added the porch, kitchen, and dining room at the rear of the house, and Dr. Houston's medical office was in a downstairs bedroom. In 1927, William Parker purchased the property and gave it to his beloved wife, Mable, as a Christmas present. Parker was a world traveler whose profession as a refinery builder brought him to Kalispell in 1921. In time the home passed to the Parkers' children and finally to William and Mable's granddaughter, who retains ownership into the twenty-first century. Narrow clapboard siding, Tuscan columns, and distinctive twin-gabled dormers make the house comfortable among its vintage contemporaries in this historic neighborhood.

**Property:** Johnnie Walsh Guest Lodge

**Address:** 10271 Inside Northfork Rd, , Flathead

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** Glacier National Park           **Subject 2:** recreation

### Sign Text:

Big Prairie—beautiful, rugged, and remote—nestles between the North Fork of the Flathead River and timbered foothills. Even today the area is accessible only via an unimproved 1901 wagon road. Johnnie (John J.) Walsh first came to Big Prairie working as a freighter hauling oil from the railhead at Belton, Montana, into Canada. Walsh, born in 1885, grew up on a homestead near Columbia Falls where his parents were among the first settlers. Following their example, he filed a homestead claim here in 1907 and married schoolteacher Mary Harriet Smith in 1909. Like their homesteading neighbors, the couple grazed livestock and cultivated a small garden. Although Big Prairie's remoteness discouraged visitors, tourism in Glacier National Park may have encouraged Walsh to build this guest lodge as a replacement residence in 1922. Walsh did the framing himself. He cut the timber and then horses pulled the logs through a homemade planing device. Neighbors Charles Schoenberger and Ed, Emil, and Axel Peterson helped raise the walls and finish the lodge. Clapboard covers the frame gable end while massive round logs, hewn on the interior and originally chinked with moss, form the walls. The Walshes occupied the first story, but the second floor interior and the guests' log privy/shower were never finished. About this time, the park's efforts to curb poaching may have discouraged local tourism, prompting the Walshes to abandon their hope of guests. Although the lodge and privy were moved from the original nearby homestead site in 1963, the nearly identical setting has preserved the homestead's historic ambiance.

**Property:** Conlon House

**Address:** 305 4th Ave East, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** East Side           **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

Pioneer merchant James Conlon commissioned architect Joseph B. Gibson to design this stunning Georgian Revival style home in 1914. The home was built for Conlon's wife, Mary. J. F. Simmonds was the contractor. The high style and fine details are unique to Kalispell's historic East Side. An elegant radial entry, brackets and dentils at the eaves, ornamental balustrades, and corner quoins highlight the grand façade. Highly polished mahogany woodwork, laminated sliding doors with leaded glass, three fireplaces, and some of the original furnishings preserve the period ambiance inside. Innovative features include a woodbox concealed in a hall seat that is served from a basement dumbwaiter and a dining room radiator with a built-in food warmer. Retired North Dakota



## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

banker B. M. Wohlwend purchased the property in 1945 for his wife, Jennie, and daughter, Lois. It has since been home to Lois and her husband, twenty-four-year legislator Senator Matt Himsl, and the Himsls' five children. Friendly neighbors have called this beautiful home the "Embassy" for its inviting grace, warm interior, and cordial owners.

**Property:** Griffith / Conrad House

**Address:** 405 6th Ave, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** East Side      **Building Type:** building contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Real estate and insurance agent Charles Griffith arrived in Kalispell in 1891, four months after the Great Northern Railway established the town. An important member of the young community, Griffith served as city treasurer and was a founding member of the 1892 Kalispell Volunteer Fire Department. Sometime between 1891 and 1897, Griffith built a relatively small one-and-one-half story home on what would become one of the city's most prominent corners. After 1903 but before 1910, Griffith and his wife, Ella, dramatically expanded the residence, adding a large, two-story addition to the front of the house and a smaller, one-story addition to the northeast corner. When the Griffiths sold the residence in 1918, it became home to Frances McGee, the Kalispell Bee's local and society editor. Charles D. and Agnes Conrad lived here by 1922. President of the Conrad National Bank from 1920 through his death in 1941, Charles D. was the son of the prominent Charles E. Conrad, whose mansion across the street is now a museum. Members of the Conrad family lived in both homes into the 1960s.

**Property:** Rogers House

**Address:** 380 5th Ave E. N., Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:**      **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Planned and constructed by Robert A. Rogers and his wife Hannah Elizabeth, this distinctive home is an unusual example of an owner-designed residence of mixed styles. Built between 1901 and 1903, the Queen Anne style dwelling features a two-story hexagonal turret, scrollwork, and turned spindles. Dormers with steeply pitched roofs and lancet windows in the Gothic Revival style uniquely complement the traditional Queen Anne elements. Subsequent owners added two bathrooms and enclosed the rear porch. The kitchen features five doors leading into the room, which was typical of Kalispell homes of the era. Rogers moved his family to Kalispell from North Dakota via the Great Northern Railway in 1899. Almost immediately he began construction on this home. Employed as a carpenter, Rogers, Hannah, and the two eldest children worked on the house in the mornings and evenings. The family set up living quarters in tents and a barn where Hannah gave birth to a third child in 1901. The family moved into the house in 1903 and the couple's fourth child was born upstairs. Relocation of the Great Northern Railway's mainline to Whitefish slowed construction projects in Kalispell, prompting Rogers to move his family to Kennewick, Washington. Rogers worked as a contractor and continued to make payments on his Kalispell property until 1905 when a financial crisis forced him to sell. Kalispell Lumber Company drayman John Fishel purchased the property and later sold it to Maurice and Anna Hansen. Anna rented the home to various tenants until 1946.

**Property:** Smith House

**Address:** 476 Fourth Avenue, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:**      **Building Type:** building

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Carpenter Henry Durst built this one-and-one-half-story residence in 1907, almost certainly for resale. The transitional Colonial Revival home, one of the earliest and largest homes in the East North neighborhood, initially had only five rooms. Occupying two lots into the 1950s, the house stood alone on the west side of the block as late as 1927. Ethel and William Wotring, who purchased the home in 1908, only lived here two years while William worked as a bookkeeper for the Northwestern Lumber Co. The couple sold the home to John Lebert, who sold ice harvested from the nearby backwater of the Stillwater River. In 1914, farmer Isaac Flinchbaugh bought the home, which he rented to Arthur and Theada Smith. Arthur owned and managed the City Transfer Coal Company with a partner into the 1940s. The company, which delivered coal and oil, also advertised “Fine Furniture and Pianos Carefully Moved.” By 1920, the Smiths had purchased this home, where they raised four children. They lived here until Theada’s death in 1955. Notable for its architecture, the residence features a wraparound porch, decorative shingles in the front gable, a side bay window, and leaded glass in the dining room, all characteristic of the Queen Anne style. The most prominent design element, however, is the gambrel roof. Associated with Colonial Revival style homes, the roof type—especially when built with dormers—offered an economical and commodious second story by providing a large amount of well-lit space without the added expense of second-story walls.

**Property:** Gilbert Gilbertson House

**Address:** 629 Fourth Avenue East, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** East Side Historic District

**Building Type:** building contributing

**Subject 1:** residential buildings

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Open-air porches and balustrades on the first and second stories distinguish this transitional residence built circa 1910. At a time when architectural tastes were changing, the home reflects the asymmetrical Victorian-era Queen Anne style of the previous century. A steeply pitched gable roof, elegant stained-glass transom, bay window on the south, and classical Tuscan columns are Queen Anne hallmarks. A shed-roofed dormer on the north hints at the newly emerging Craftsman style. The residence was the longtime home of Norwegian immigrants Gilbert O. and Malene Gilbertson. Gilbert settled in Minnesota, farmed successfully for thirty years, and served as a state senator. When his first wife died in 1887, Malene Hoines came from Norway to serve as housekeeper. The two married in 1889 and added four more children to the family. The Gilbertsons moved to Flathead County in 1907 and built this home circa 1910. The couple’s widowed daughter, Ida Keeling, and her young son Clyde moved in shortly before Gilbert’s death in 1925. Ida married Charles Kretlow in 1936, and after Malene’s death in 1937, the Kretlows maintained the home into the 1940s.

**Property:** Montana State Soliders Home Historic District

**Address:** Historic District, Columbia Falls, Flathead

**Historic District:** Montana State Soliders Home **Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:** military buildings

**Sign Text:**

Of the 2,500 Civil War veterans who lived in Montana in the 1890s, 25 of them resided on county poor farms. The politically powerful veteran’s organization, the Grand Army of the Republic (G.A.R.), insisted that these men deserved better. In 1895 the state legislature responded to G.A.R. demands, authorizing establishment of a soldier’s home on forty acres of donated, tillable land located at least a mile from any saloon or liquor store.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

Originally, the home was intended to be relatively self-sufficient, with all able-bodied residents participating in planting, harvesting, and storing crops. Eight communities vied for the institution, but Columbia Falls offered the most attractive package. Local citizens donated \$3,100 and the Northern Improvement Co., a subsidiary of the Great Northern Railway, donated 147 acres and free installation of a boiler, pump, engine, and tanks. In 1896, the state laid the cornerstone for Old Main, designed by Montana architect C. S. Haire and built by Montana builder and politician Fred Whiteside. In 1900, Haire also designed a small hospital, which became the Commandant's House when a larger hospital (since demolished) was built in 1908. Constructed in 1919, the Service Building provided a chapel for religious services and living quarters for the home's employees. The cemetery, established in 1897, and the landscaped grounds also contribute to the Montana State Soldier's Home Historic District. Today newer buildings dot the landscape, but the home's mission remains unchanged: to honor the service of Montana's veterans by serving them in turn in their time of need.

**Property:** Alexander and Busey Houses

**Address:** 106 & 112 5th Avenue, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:** boardinghouses

**Sign Text:**

Carpenter and lumber dealer Elmer Bader, who left his mark on a number of Kalispell neighborhoods, constructed his own residence across the street and this mirror-image pair of homes as investment properties circa 1903. After Bader moved his business to Eureka in 1905, he sold the twin rental houses to Isaac Busey, a pumper for the Great Northern Railway. The Busey family moved into 106 W. 5th Avenue. Isaac died in 1907, but his wife Mattie and their daughter and son-in-law, prominent ophthalmologist Dr. Adelbert Howe, remained at the family home. In 1910, Benjamin F. Knapp and his daughter and son-in-law, John Gus Thompson, rented the house at 112 W. 5th Avenue from the Buseys. Thompson, newly retired from a stellar career in professional baseball, pitched for the Pittsburgh Pirates in the first World Series in 1903. The Buseys sold the rental home to John C. and Melinda Alexander in 1911. Mrs. Alexander was an accomplished writer and speaker who eloquently championed the underdog in her literary pursuits. Kalispell mourned when she died in 1918. Alexander, a well-known auctioneer, later remarried and he and his second wife made their home at 112 W. 5th Avenue. The two houses are rare surviving examples of a number of look-alike homes built as investment properties in Kalispell during the historic period. While both have seen a few changes, each retains a number of original Queen Anne style features. These include the uneven roof line, front wing with angled corners, bay windows, and pedimented porches with decorative turned supports.

**Property:** Brewery Saloon

**Address:** 102 Main Street, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** Kalispell Main Street Commercial           **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** saloons (bars)           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

In 1894, the two-year-old Brewery Saloon—then a one-story, twenty-five-by-sixty-foot building—served Kalispell draft beer for five cents a glass. Lunch was free. One of Main Street's first brick buildings, the saloon featured an oak and mahogany bar, French mirrors, and brass trim. German immigrants Charles and Henry Lindlahr owned the saloon as well as the Kalispell Malting and Brewing Company. In 1900, Charles added a second story to house the exclusive, men-only Kalispell Club. The club offered reception, reading, and billiard rooms. Expansion continued in 1901 with the addition of Kalispell's first bowling alley and second-floor card rooms and bathrooms. By 1919, James Jorgenson and Albert Dreessen owned the building, which they renamed The Palm. The Palm survived Prohibition by selling fishing and smoking supplies, gifts, candy, lunches, and fountain drinks and by opening the

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

bowling alley once a week to women. In the 1970s, the building was renovated and the exterior was covered with modern metal and brick. Using historic photographs for reference, the original Victorian façade was meticulously reconstructed in 2001.

**Property:** Ray E. Taylor House

**Address:** 900 S Baker, Whitefish, Flathead

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

After working as a chauffeur for the entrepreneurial Conrad family of Kalispell, Ray E. Taylor moved to Whitefish in the 1920s and operated a bus service between Whitefish and Kalispell for many years. Taylor demonstrated great skill as a vernacular architect and craftsman in this house especially, and in several other Whitefish buildings. He designed "The Castle," as this home came to be called during construction, and did most of the work himself from 1929 to 1931. The stone work, including interior fireplaces and the exterior skirting, was done by local stone mason C. C. McArthur, a master at his trade, utilizing locally collected stone. Taylor's design is predominantly Tudor Revival styling, with massive chimneys, steeply pitched roof and cross gables, large end-wall parapets, and crenellated dormers. To support the extensive stone work of the main and upper floor fireplaces and the three-story chimney tower, Taylor ingeniously used a pair of railroad tracks running more than nineteen feet under the tower. The builder lived here only six years, using the first floor and renting the second, before selling the house to Dr. John B. Simons.

**Property:** Conrad Mansion

**Address:** 313 6th Ave, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:** Kirtland Cutter

**Sign Text:**

In 1895, five years after serving as one of the first directors of the Kalispell Townsite Company, Charles E. Conrad moved his extended family into this twenty-three-room mansion. The pioneer businessman had arrived in Montana from his native Virginia in 1868, at age 18, with his brother William. They were employed by, and then bought I. G. Baker Company, a mercantile and freighting business based in Fort Benton. The brothers expanded that business and ventured into banking, establishing the Conrad Brothers Bank in 1892. Over the years, Charles traveled into the Flathead Valley to hunt, referring to it as the "Valley of Paradise." Conrad's friendship with James J. Hill influenced the Great Northern Railroad's route here and Kalispell's early growth. The entrepreneur chose prominent Spokane architect Kirtland K. Cutter to design a home that would fit his seventy-two-acre wooded estate. Cutter selected an early-Norman design, with four native stone chimneys serving eight fireplaces, stained and mullioned glass, hardwood interiors, and many up-to-the-minute conveniences. Conrad died in 1902, but his wife carried on the family tradition of exuberant hospitality until her death in 1923. The home was donated to the City of Kalispell in 1975 by the youngest Conrad daughter Alicia Conrad Campbell.

**Property:** Warren A. Conrad / Noffsinger Residence

**Address:** 406 4th Ave E, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** East Side           **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Described by the Flathead Herald-Journal as "an elegant mansion" in the "colonial style," this residence's overall symmetry and small gabled front dormers are typically Colonial Revival. However, the two-story turret, elaborate

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

stained glass windows, and wraparound porch (reconstructed from photographs in 2003) reflect the popular Queen Anne style. Such architectural combinations were common around the turn of the century. Rancher and businessman J. L. Cox planned and supervised construction of the two-story brick home in 1894, but he and his wife lived here only briefly. In 1896, Warren Ashby Conrad purchased the residence for his bride, Caroline, whom he met when a nationwide railroad strike stranded her in Kalispell. Ashby—younger brother of Charles and William Conrad—was an officer of the Conrad National Bank. After Ashby's death in 1922, Caroline rented the home to tenants, including Lelia Brown, who used it as a base from which to explore Glacier. In 1929, George Noffsinger, manager of the Glacier National Park Saddle Horse Company, purchased the residence, where members of the Noffsinger family continued to live until 1944.

**Property:** Izaak Walton Inn

**Address:** US Rt 2 adjacent to the Railroad line in Essex, Essex, Flathead

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** hotels (public accommodations)           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The Izaak Walton Inn symbolizes the difficulty of keeping the United States' northernmost transcontinental railroad open during Rocky Mountain winters. Each winter, sixty Great Northern Railway workers were stationed here to clear the rails of snow between Essex and East Glacier. Originally, their days of fighting snow and frequent avalanches ended with a return to abandoned railcars and wall tents, for Essex had only 150 permanent residents and nowhere for the workers to board. After numerous petitions, the Great Northern built this twenty-nine-bedroom structure in 1939, on its standard pattern for a division hotel. Railroad policy called for only a section house at a location other than division point, but the difficult winter maintenance of Marias Pass required changing the rule. The railroad also realized that the hostelry could serve summertime tourists, when fewer railhands needed lodging. Naming it for the renowned English fisherman underlined their intended double use. This Craftsman-style inn has been in continuous use since its construction and, to this day, serves both railroad workers and tourists.

**Property:** Jones House

**Address:** 724 1st Avenue West, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** West Side           **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Built by William F. Eckelberry around 1903, this four-square residence features a full basement, a front gabled dormer, a full-width front porch, and a leaded-glass bay window in the dining room. Remodeling efforts in 1910 reduced the recessed porch on the south side. Ornate wood moldings, original hardware in the Eastlake pattern, hardwood floors, and a claw foot tub complement the interior of this well refurbished home. Eckelberry, a postal clerk, lived here until 1909 when he sold the home to Ora and Minnie Jones. First a teller and then a cashier at the First National Bank of Kalispell, Jones rose in prominence and relocated his family in 1918 as a result. Lillian Wooster purchased the dwelling in 1923 and immediately had the rear wing added to her new home. During remodeling efforts in the late 1990s, the original fish-scale shingles were uncovered in the front dormer. Despite many different owners and tenants occupying the residence over the years, the house retains its historic integrity.

**Property:** King House

**Address:** 840 4th Ave East, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** East Side           **Building Type:** building | contributing

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Kalispell contractor Caesar Haverlandt built this vintage home circa 1909 for his brother Charles who owned the property. In 1911, John H. Graves, an early settler of Flathead Valley, purchased the residence. Graves was an avid reader and reportedly established the state's first circulating library in Diamond City. He later served as Flathead County's first assessor and owned the Valley House Hotel. Dean and Metta King purchased the home in 1918. King served as a court reporter, county attorney, and judge of the 11th Judicial District retiring in 1958 after seventeen years on the bench. Metta King was prominent in community affairs, including the Montana Federation of Women's Clubs, the Keep Montana Green program, and the Century Club. This well preserved Craftsman-style house features exposed rafter tails, front and rear dormers, an engaged partial-width front porch supported by heavy square columns, and elaborate decorative stained-glass windows in the front. In 1999, the interior and exterior of the residence was completely renovated to its original splendor.

**Property:** Spotted Bear Ranger Station

**Address:** , Hungry Horse, Flathead

**Historic District:** Flathead National Forest Backcountry Administrative Facilities **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** ranger station

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

In 1921, the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) moved the original Spotted Bear headquarters compound, established in 1908 near Spotted Bear Lake, to this site. The Ranger District managed timber sales and was very successful in fire suppression. Following the establishment of the South Fork Primitive Area in 1931, and the Pentagon Primitive Area in 1933, recreation also became a focus. The station was home base for packers and their pack strings, typically eight mules tied behind a "bell mare". Everett M. Hart and Victor Holmlund, skilled carpenters who often worked summers for USFS, built the station's 1923 office, 1926 warehouse, and 1927 ranger's cabin. These well-constructed log-bearing buildings feature full dovetail notches at the joints and unique half-story walls, which extend about five feet beyond the edge of the ground floor at front and rear. Besides creating additional interior space, the overhangs effectively shelter the entrances in bad weather. A fourth historic building, moved here in the 1950s, is a 1930s Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) bunkhouse. It bears the characteristics of the "temporary" construction typical of that era.

**Property:** George Grubb House

**Address:** 419 4th Ave E, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** East Side Historic District **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential buildings

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

As the nearby town of Demersville relocated to the Kalispell townsite in the early 1890s, attorney George Grubb and his wife Fanny settled here in this gable-front-and-wing residence built for them circa 1892. After Fanny's death in 1894, George took in boarders until 1906 when he married Josephine Brink, a widow with a young daughter. Although Grubb had no biological children, he opened his heart to his stepdaughter Nira and Margaret Shelton, the daughter of a deceased friend. He was a beloved father to the two girls and later, grandfather to their children. Grubb practiced law for fifty years, was Kalispell's first city attorney, and served several terms in the state legislature. His peers considered him the "Dean of the Bar" in Flathead County and a lawyer's lawyer. Colleagues often sought his counsel after hours in the office he kept at home. Grubb worked diligently for his clients every day, including the day he passed away at eighty-two in 1944. Although the addition of a back room

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

before 1927 and remodeling have somewhat reconfigured the interior floorplan, the home's original footprint survives.

**Property:** Henry Good Residence

**Address:** 820 3rd Ave. E, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** East Side      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Henry and Lena Nollar were the first owners of this Colonial Revival style home built circa 1925. A side-gabled clipped roof, centered portico supported by Tuscan columns, and arched entry handsomely define the style. Henry Good, whose first wife died of influenza in the 1918 epidemic, purchased the property with his second wife, Alice, in October of 1926. One of northwestern Montana's major logging contractors, Good also ran a farm north of Kalispell that was considered an area showcase. This home served as their "in town" residence. The Goods lived here periodically, renting the home in their absence, until Henry's death in 1944. Alice Good was a gifted musician and artist who taught in the Kalispell public schools before her marriage to Henry in 1920. According to her obituary in 1953, "Even before she could talk, she sang...." The interior of this exceptional 1920s home features "beautifully figured" gumwood doors and woodwork. The second floor reflects architect Fred Brinkman's mid-1930s remodeling.

**Property:** Silver Dolar Saloon / Jordan's Café

**Address:** 127 Main St, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** Main Street Commercial      **Building Type:** building contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial structures      **Subject 2:** saloons (bars)

**Sign Text:**

A confectionery sold candy from a one-story building here in 1892. In 1901, the Theo Hamm Brewing Company replaced the small frame structure with this highly fashionable business block. The second story features a stamped metal façade designed to look like stone. Unique to Kalispell, the elaborate façade has colonial floral swags along the cornice, stone arches over the windows, and an egg-and-dart pattern along the sides. Decorative metal pineapples—symbolizing hospitality—top the pilasters. The railroad made ordering such large prefabricated architectural elements affordable. Shortly after the building's completion, Hamm Brewing Company sold it for a profit to Michael Gillen, who opened the Silver Dollar Saloon. Rented rooms filled the second floor. In 1910, at least sixteen single men lived here. Their varied professions included those of bartender, logger, carpenter, bank cashier, cigar maker, and blacksmith. Walter Jordan purchased Gillen's business (but not the building) in 1907, managing the bar until Prohibition closed it down in 1919. In 1927, Walter's wife Minnie opened Jordan's Café in the former saloon, managing the popular restaurant into the 1960s.

**Property:** Cornelius Hedges School

**Address:** 827 4th Ave, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** East Side      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** public schools (buildings)      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Kalispell architect Fred Brinkman, whose versatility is evident in many local buildings, designed this 1929 elementary school in a style reminiscent of the colonial mansions and homesteads of Maryland and Virginia. The original "open plan" was intended to allow a maximum of sunlight and fresh air into all classrooms and halls. An open-air porch and twin chimneys enhanced the "homelike façade" while interior domestic features included a library with beamed ceilings and fireplace. In the kindergarten room, a cozy fireplace and alcove with miniature

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

inglenook seats added to the homey atmosphere. South Side School, as it was originally called, was the first in Kalispell to have its own gymnasium, which it shared with junior high school students during the 1930s. Built by B. B. Gilliland of Kalispell for \$96,000, the school was paid for by bonds. In 1940, South Side School was renamed for Cornelius Hedges, the territorial superintendent of schools, who came to be known as the “father of education” in Montana.

**Property:** William Swetland Residence

**Address:** 415 Fifth Ave East, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** East Side      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Wide bracketed eaves, a gabled front porch, square columns, and a flared chimney identify this home as a premier example of the Craftsman style. Kalispell contractor Caesar Haverlandt built the home in 1912 for longtime school superintendent William Swetland. A native of Wisconsin, Swetland first came to Kalispell to be principal of the West Side School in 1904. He served as superintendent from 1906 to 1942, replacing his former University of Wisconsin roommate, William Davis. In the 1920s, Fred Brinkman, whose architectural designs would later make an indelible mark on the Kalispell streetscape, remodeled the residence for the Swetlands. Brinkman’s additions included such interior finishings as a beamed ceiling, arched entries, a built-in linen chest with a hinged seat, and a colored cement fireplace hearth. The Swetlands raised their three children here before moving next door in 1930.

**Property:** Bardon House

**Address:** 809 First Avenue East, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** East Side      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

This narrow front-gabled dwelling was originally one of three identical residences on the half-block built as rentals between 1903 and 1910. Only this example retains the original full-width front porch with hipped roof and turned post supports. Shotgun residences like these, so-called because of their one-room width and linear floorplans, originated in early nineteenth-century New Orleans. The form found its way west, often associated with railroad towns such as Kalispell. First owner Emma Proctor roomed elsewhere and rented the home to private nurse Agnes MacGariggan and Maud Pomeroy in 1910. Retired homesteaders Margaret and Martin Rising next owned the property, living in the residence from 1923 to 1926. Central School teacher Florence Barton owned the home from 1928 until her death in 1941. Miss Barton shared the residence with Mary Bardon, a teacher at Linderman School, who then remained here until 1948. Recent renovation and landscaping by Alice and Bentley Blosser have revitalized this adorable Kalispell home, restoring its modest but delightful turn-of-the-twentieth-century appearance.

**Property:** Great Northern Railway Depot

**Address:** 15 Depot Loop, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:**      **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** depots      **Subject 2:** railroads

**Sign Text:**

On New Year’s Day, 1892, the first steam engine pulled into Kalispell on newly laid tracks. Founded as the main line division point for the Great Northern Railway, Kalispell’s tenure as a railroad town lasted only until 1904,



## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

when the main line moved to Whitefish. By that time, however, the town was already established as a trade and financial center as well as county seat. In 1899, at the height of its "rail glory," the 1892 depot fell victim to an overturned oil lamp. Fire completely destroyed the interior, but the outer brick walls were used in immediate rebuilding. By 1911 the depot, which still served passengers on a branch line, had become dingy and its grounds "irregular and treacherous," giving travelers a gloomy first impression. Improvements began in 1914 and major renovation in 1929 transformed the area from an eyesore into a show place. The depot's stucco-clad walls and shortened eaves today reflect the 1929 remodeling. For many years after, the railroad sent trees, shrubs, and flowers for planting on the carefully tended grounds. During much of the depot's history, railroad employee James M. Montgomery and his wife, Esther, occupied the second-floor apartment. From 1913 until the 1940s, they raised six children there. The station continued to accommodate passengers until 1950, when the "Gallopin' Goose" made its last run to Kalispell. Today the depot is an enduring reminder of Kalispell's railroad roots. Now home of the Chamber of Commerce, it is fitting that the building still serves as a place to welcome visitors.

**Property:** Russell School

**Address:** 227 West Nevada Street, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** public schools (buildings)           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Hard times during the Great Depression intensified in Kalispell because of an influx of new residents from the drought-stricken Midwest. A thirty percent increase in school-age children during the 1930s and residential development of the northwest section of town precipitated the need for new and expanded grade school facilities. Construction of the Russell School was part of a larger citywide project funded by a Public Works Administration (PWA) federal grant and school district bonds. It provided much-needed work for many local men, most of its accomplished during peak unemployment in the winter of 1938-39. For every two workers employed on the project, five other family heads made a living producing and supplying materials. Designed by architect Fred Brinkman, the Russell School is one of only a few Art Moderne style buildings in Kalispell. The original building included six classrooms, offices, and a basement playroom in a plan designed to be flexible for later expansion (accomplished in 1950 and 1955). Cream-colored brick contrasts with darker window trim, and chromium grillwork adds refinement to the massive front entrance. The original interior features include hardwood classroom floors, transoms, built-in cabinets, and decorative stencils in the vestibule. The school, then located outside the city limits, opened in the fall of 1939 as the Northside School or North West School. In January of 1940, it received a more distinguished name, recognizing Charles M. Russell, Montana's beloved cowboy artist, who preserved some of the state's most colorful history in pencil and paint.

**Property:** 504 Fourth Ave East

**Address:** 504 Fourth Ave East, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** East Side           **Building Type:** building contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Founded in 1891 by the Great Northern Railway, Kalispell boasted 651 residents in its first year, growing to 2,500 people by 1900. Confident of finding tenants in the booming community, bricklayer John Lundberg built a one-and-one-half story duplex on this lot in the early 1890s. Possibly the first brick residence in the city, the solid-looking structure featured patterned shingles in its gable ends and a wraparound porch. Lundberg placed the kitchens in the rear under separate roof, a common practice in the nineteenth century to minimize fire risk. Bucket brigades could more easily reach a one-story roof, perhaps saving the main house in case of a kitchen fire. The side-gabled duplex saw five different owners between 1894 and 1920 and provided comfortable

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

accommodations to a number of tenants, including the families of a plumber, a saloonkeeper, a carpenter, and a letter carrier. Margaret Bjerneby owned the building between 1920 and 1928, during which time she converted it into a five-bedroom, two-bathroom, single-family home. Bjerneby sold the property to Elizabeth Hilton who lived here with her husband Earl, owner of the Glacier Dairy, into the 1940s.

**Property:** Metcalf House

**Address:** 229 7th St West, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** West Side      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Thomas E. Chester built this gable-front residence for his bride, Effie, in 1903. Chester's bookstore, established in 1907, became a Kalispell fixture. John Boorman, secretary of the Montana Forestry Association from 1911 to 1946, lived here briefly in 1909. John T. Sauntry brought his bride, Agnes, to live in the home in 1910. Sauntry was owner and president of the Kalispell Business College. While in residence, the Sauntrys had a pair of rocking chairs—a wedding gift—stolen from the front porch. Longtime owner John Metcalf was county sheriff in 1919 when he purchased the home and later, as an engineer for the City Water Department, he designed Lawrence Park. His family retained ownership until 1964. With the exception of some remodeling at the rear, the appearance of this appealing residence is little altered. Notable interior features include beautiful oak floors, French glass doors, a cold storage room with an oak-planked dirt floor, and the original parlor wallpaper.

**Property:** 520 Fourth Avenue East

**Address:** 520 Fourth Avenue East, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** East Side      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Slightly arched windows, prominent eave returns, a canted front bay, and decorative shingles reflect the care builders took constructing this one-story home. Retired merchant Jacob Bottorf and his wife Emily resided here from the residence's construction, circa 1900, until 1907. Likely they moved to Kalispell to be near their son, Dr. Morris Bottorf, a prominent local physician and early automobile enthusiast. Bertha and Henry Petterson purchased the brick home in 1908, and after Bertha died, Henry raised two children here, remaining in residence until 1928. A cobbler and then a representative for the Eagle Shoe Company, Henry emigrated from Norway in 1885. Henry was part of a mass exodus; only Ireland lost a larger percentage of its population to the New World than Norway. The Pettersons converted what was originally a small alley residence into a garage and possibly resided the home with stucco. Evelyn Iverson purchased the house in 1929. She and her husband Oscar, a meat cutter at Sykes Market, lived here only a year before turning the residence into a rental property.

**Property:** Edward Gay House

**Address:** 236 5th Ave W, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:**      **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The Craftsman bungalow was brand new to Kalispell when Edward Gay built this beautifully finished home, a classic example of the style, in 1907. The Kalispell Journal reported that among the town's new homes, the nearly completed Gay residence was "probably the prettiest." Stylistic features include wide eaves with exposed and decoratively notched rafter tails, leaded glass, hipped dormers, and the use of varied exterior construction materials. The interior was masterfully crafted with exposed ceiling beams, mahogany trim, a dining room plate

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

rail, and built-in china cabinet with leaded glass. Gay, president of the Kalispell Malting and Brewing Company, was remembered as a dapper man who drove a Model T, and the Gay family was one of the first in Kalispell to own a radio. For many years this splendid residence was the solitary occupant of five city lots. The Gays grew potatoes in their large garden and always donated them to the hospital and elsewhere. Edward Gay reputedly had a hidden room in the house, probably for the storage of alcohol during Prohibition, and it is said that bear traps were embedded in the foundation under the windows to keep out intruders. The graceful cast iron fence, one of the few left in Kalispell, is original to the property. A former resident recalls having to paint it as punishment for a missed curfew. Enhanced by mature landscaping, the home appears today as inviting as it did in 1907.

**Property:** Donovan House

**Address:** 320 Fifth St E, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** East Side      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

A small one-story dwelling stood on this lot in 1894, just three years after Great Northern Railroad officials founded Kalispell. Builders may have incorporated the original wooden house into the current gable-front-and-wing residence, built by 1899. Although most neighbors' backyards had either chicken coops or stables, this one-story home only had a small shed at the alley until owners added a garage between 1910 and 1927. Almost from the start, the well-situated home with inviting front porch was a desirable rental for Kalispell's growing middle class. By 1900, Charles Peplow, the manager of a flour mill, lived here with his wife Eva. The Peplows were active in Kalispell society; an article in the August 1900 Kalispell Bee reported that Mrs. Peplow decorated the home with sweet peas and nasturtiums when she entertained "lady friends" with a "needle threading contest." The home's most beloved resident was teacher Jennie Donovan, who purchased it in 1930 with her sister Ann. An inspired first-grade teacher who frequently gave food and clothing to students in need, Miss Donovan lived here until her death in 1947.

**Property:** Switzer House

**Address:** 205 5th Ave E, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** East Side      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The Queen Anne style is graciously expressed in this well-preserved wood-frame residence built for Northwest Lumber Company secretary George McCrea in 1910. An irregular floorplan, pent-roof gables, two-story bay windows, and wraparound porch (now partially enclosed) demonstrate the tenacity of this long-favored style. Lew and Blanche Switzer owned the home from the 1920s until 1947. Switzer was an early settler who came to Kalispell with the Missoula Mercantile when it moved from Demersville in the early 1890s. In 1907, he opened the Switzer Furniture Company. By 1921, Switzer had the largest furniture business in northwest Montana and promised "to satisfy any whim in furniture or decoration." The Switzers were fortunate to have been in that line of business in 1929 when smoke damage from a fire necessitated redecoration of all the walls. The elegant home features a large entry hall, a "fruit room," five bedrooms and a spacious third floor garret. An attached two-car sunken garage, added by 1927, was one of the first in Kalispell.

**Property:** Bader / Jaquette House

**Address:** 46 5th Ave West, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:**      **Building Type:** building

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:** boardinghouses

**Sign Text:**

Carpenter Elmer Bader came to Kalispell from Wisconsin in 1891 to practice his trade. The energetic bachelor purchased two corner lots for \$1,000 in 1895 and built two modest residences, one at 521 1st Street West and one at 36 5th Avenue West. In 1897, Bader married, and the couple lived in the 1st Street house and rented out the other. Bader opened his own lumberyard in 1899 on this northeast corner, where the present home is now. In addition to lumber, he sold windows, doors, moldings, building papers, lath, and shingles. By 1903, Bader had moved his business and was building this residence. According to the Flathead Herald-Journal, it was to be a "large and handsome house ... that anyone might be proud of." Bader built many homes and buildings in early Kalispell, and his own exemplary residence reflects the stylistic details he favored. Shingles, clapboard, and a foundation of native rock provide the varied wall texture that is a hallmark of the Queen Anne style. A recessed second-story porch with curved arches and cutaway bay windows are typical Queen Anne features, while square fluted columns and stained and leaded glass add characteristic elegance. Egg-and-dart trim, wood floors, and a beautiful stairway grace the interior. When the Baders moved to Eureka in 1905, farmer Walter Jaquette bought this home and the 1st Street house. Jaquette rented out both houses during the next decades, then lived here from his retirement in 1934 until 1954. This historic residence with its companion rentals once shared the block with the Kalispell Malting and Brewing Company. The main house remains today a striking example of Elmer Bader's craftsmanship.

**Property:** Woodland Park

**Address:** 705 2nd Street East, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** East Side      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** parks (recreation areas)

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

In the earliest days before trees lined Kalispell's residential streets, this was the town's only wooded area. The dense, dark evergreens that surrounded a swamp were off limits to children because transients from the freight trains camped here and the mosquitoes were fierce. In 1903, the city acquired these 40 acres from the estate of pioneer businessman Charles Conrad. The area remained unimproved until 1911 when the city spent almost \$4,000 draining the swamp, excavating for the lake, and landscaping. By 1912, residents enjoyed winter skating, skiing, and sledding on the grounds. A children's playground, however, had to be removed because the park was still host to mosquitoes and hobos. With the help and cooperation of Mayor John Bruckhauser, the Works Projects Administration (WPA) transformed the "city's swamp" into a recreational haven during the 1930s. The \$120,000 project provided jobs for some 400 local workers and won recognition as one of the country's "most unique and attractive civic improvements." Today's park offers recreational activities for all seasons, hosts weddings and family gatherings, and thus continues to be a favorite place for building memories.

**Property:** Catholic Parish / Bjorneby House

**Address:** 435 4th Ave E, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** East Side      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** churches (buildings)

**Subject 2:** residential structures

**Sign Text:**

Now a Tudor Revival style home, this residence was originally a brick-clad, hipped-roof foursquare. Built before 1897, it served as the parsonage for St. Matthew's Catholic Church. Longtime Kalispell priest Francis O'Farrell resided here between 1907 and 1925, while overseeing construction of a Catholic hospital, parochial school, and grand brick church five blocks west. In 1926, Fr. O'Farrell moved to West First Street, near the new church. Between 1928 and 1937, Emil and Margaret Bjorneby made their home here. Emil arrived in Kalispell in 1895,

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

working at various occupations before founding a flour mill with his brother George. Before the Bjornebys moved in, renovations modernized the look, more than doubled the residence's living space. To transform the small foursquare into a fashionable Tudor, skilled contractors covered the brick with stucco and added a steeply pitched roof and matching enclosed entryway. They also incorporated many design elements associated with the Tudor style, including a prominent brick chimney; tall, multi-paned windows; and decorative half-timbering in the gable ends.

**Property:** Jacoby House

**Address:** 215 Fifth Ave E, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** East Side      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Twenty-one-year-old jeweler Phillip Jacoby moved to Kalispell in 1891. By 1892 he owned his own store and advertised “watches, jewelry, clocks, silverware and optical goods at eastern prices.” Reflecting the local market, he also promoted his skill at “mounting elk teeth, claws, etc., and the making of special pieces of jewelry.” In 1908, Phillip and his sister Rosalie, who had come to Kalispell to keep house for her brother, moved into this “pleasant” new home built to Phillip’s specifications. The design, according to the newspaper, was a “combination of cottage and bungalow styles.” The Jacobys remained part of Kalispell’s small Jewish community until 1915, when they moved to Great Falls. Traveling lumber salesman George Hunt and his wife Harriet moved here in 1917, purchasing the residence in 1924. Harriet offered piano lessons in the parlor, a tradition that was resumed by later owners in the 1950s. This one-story hipped roof residence originally featured an open front porch. After 1950, owners added an attached garage and enclosed the front porch, which features half timbering in the front gable and brackets under wide-overhanging eaves.

**Property:** Ross House

**Address:** 714 3rd Ave East, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** East Side      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

This two-story residence began as a one-story shotgun style house built in 1897 by furniture dealer Samuel Clark. In 1900, the Clarks added the south wing and second floor. William “Dusty” Rhoades, later city attorney and state legislator, acquired the home in 1905. David and Anna Ross next owned the home from 1907 to 1936. Ross was an attorney and president of the Kalispell Title Guarantee and Abstract Company. Between 1910 and 1927, the Rosses greatly enlarged the south wing. World War I veteran and prominent Kalispell surgeon Dr. Fayette Ross lived with the Rosses in the late 1920s. The porch was screened in and the entrance was on the north when Roy and Norma Waller were tenants in the 1930s. Norma was the daughter of noted Montana author Frank B. Linderman. The residence today, much changed from the original small dwelling, mirrors the evolution and maturation of the neighborhood.

**Property:** Central School

**Address:** 124 2nd Ave E, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** East Side      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** public schools (buildings)      **Subject 2:** museum (buildings)

**Sign Text:**

Kalispell residents exulted over the construction of the community’s first permanent schoolhouse, and the Inter Lake proudly declared that “nothing decides the intellectual status of a town or city as surely as its schools.” The

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

Richardsonian Romanesque style brick building, designed by William White of Great Falls, welcomed its first students on January 1, 1895. Four teachers had charge of almost 200 high school and elementary students; a fifth teacher joined the staff a month later. The high school graduated its first six students in the spring of 1898, but it moved soon after 1900, leaving Central School's eight rooms to the lower grades. The school became Kalispell's first junior high when elementary students relocated and seventh and eighth grades moved here in 1929. All other city schools were renamed in 1940, but as the hub of district activities, Central School kept its original name. Administrative offices remained here until 1969. In 1927, city officials declared the workmanship of this splendid building a lesson in "old-time thoroughness and pride ... worthy of emulation." So it remains today.

**Property:** McElroy House

**Address:** 720 2nd Ave W, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** West Side      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

A proud Civil War veteran from Ohio, Joseph McElroy claimed that during his service in the Union army he traveled 27,000 miles, fought in ninety-seven engagements, and escaped from the notorious Andersonville Prison. In 1879, he and his wife, Clara, left Ohio to homestead in the Gallatin Valley, where they grew oats, wheat, and barley and raised three children. The couple retired to Kalispell circa 1902, constructing this comfortable home. Following a common building practice, the main part of the house is one-and-one-half stories while the kitchen is under a separate, one-story roof. Placing the kitchen under a separate roof minimized the risk of a kitchen fire destroying the entire house; the design also provided good ventilation, a boon in hot summers. A covered entry has replaced the full-length front porch that originally greeted visitors. However, the residence's native rock foundation, clapboard siding, and canted front gable clad with diamond-shaped wooden shingles look much as they did in 1902. The McElroys lived here until their deaths, both in 1920; the property remained in the family until 1941.

**Property:** McKeown / Braunberger House

**Address:** 444 6th Ave E, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** East Side      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

M. C. Conley, general contractor for the Conrad Mansion, constructed the gable-roofed residence that Arthur Pearmain, the Conrad Mansion's supervising architect, designed for this lot in 1895. Like many Kalispell houses of the era, the wooden home used locally quarried gray-blue argillite for the foundation. With six large rooms and an indoor bathroom, the "neat building" housed bank clerk George Phillips, his wife Annie, their two sons, and a housemaid in 1900. Although a 1907 newspaper account described the home as "one of the prettiest and most comfortable residences on the townsite," architectural fashion continued to evolve. Around 1920, William and Grace McKeown added a large addition and transformed the residence's appearance by affixing Colonial Revival style detailing, including a gambrel-roof front façade and colonial chimney and fireplace. Constructed between 1910 and 1927, the gambrel-roof garage also helped the nineteenth-century home adapt to twentieth-century requirements. Watchmaker A. J. Braunberger and his wife Margaret purchased the residence in 1923 and nurtured the catalpa trees that still mark the Fifth Street property line. The home remained in the Braunberger family until 1962.

**Property:** McGovern / Karcher House

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Address:** 546 2nd Ave E, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** East Side      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:** apartments

**Sign Text:**

Irish-born Thomas McGovern built several homes for rental purposes as well as this splendid Queen Anne style residence for his own family. Constructed between 1899 and 1903, its distinctive turret has long been a neighborhood landmark. The mansard roof and porch of the back wing, added between 1903 and 1910, enhance its vintage appeal. Like most local families, the McGoverns took in boarders, advertising in 1902 a “beautiful front room, furnished at reasonable rates.” McGovern’s wife died in 1903 leaving seven children, but the family remained here until 1907. Next owner Mary Karcher also took in boarders, among them postal worker Chester Brintnall. He was instrumental in establishing Kalispell’s rural delivery routes and boarded with the Karchers from 1907 to 1925. The residence, later converted to apartments, is once again a well-cared for single home. Its ornamental shinglework, porch scrollwork, and stained glass are today a fine expression of tasteful Queen Anne style elegance.

**Property:** Wilson's Café

**Address:** 123 Main St, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** Kalispell Main Street      **Building Type:** building contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

A stuccoed diamond pattern tops this circa 1891 building, masking a classic, wooden false front. The false front disguised a gable roof, making the frontier building appear more sophisticated than it actually was. Later rear additions expanded retail space, but owners never replaced the core structure. A grocery between 1894 and 1918, it housed Chinese immigrant Chin Sing’s Glacier Park Restaurant from 1918 to 1924. Most Chinese immigrants living in Flathead County in 1920 originally worked for the Great Northern Railway; some, like Sing, later owned independent businesses. Alex Wilson opened Wilson’s Café here in 1926. Trained as a mess sergeant during World War I, Wilson boasted of once cooking for General Pershing. In 1931, short-lived owners John and Gladys Morris differentiated themselves from their Chinese competitors by advertising that Wilson’s catered “to the white trade” and used “white help only.” Ethel Withee, who acquired the restaurant by 1933 and the building in 1937, took a different promotional tack. She commissioned architect Fred Brinkman to design the modern façade and built her business’s reputation on excellent service, home cooking, and “exceedingly reasonable” prices.

**Property:** Linderman School

**Address:** 124 3rd Ave East, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** East Side      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** public schools (buildings)      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Drought in the Midwest brought scores of new residents to Kalispell during the depression of the 1930s, severely overcrowding area schools. Seventh and eighth graders moved to Central School in 1929, but that building was far from adequate. Construction of the Linderman School a decade later was made possible through the Public Works Administration. Built as Central Junior High School, its construction and that of the Russell School provided work for 90 local men and benefited another 225 families. Kalispell architect Fred Brinkman designed the school to serve “all kinds of students” efficiently with a library, gymnasium seating 600 spectators, and special classrooms for music, art, and science. According to the local newspaper, Brinkman chose the Gothic Revival style because it was “considered to be best suited to the environment and type of instruction.” Cream-colored terra cotta against

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

dark tapestry brick, copper-roofed towers, and an unusual chimney lend an old world atmosphere while Gothic stencils on the lobby and corridor walls originally continued the style within. In 1940, the school was renamed after noted Flathead Valley author Frank Linderman.

**Property:** Bland Rental Property

**Address:** 641 2nd Ave e, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** East Side      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

A number of tenants occupied this Colonial Revival style home, built between 1903 and 1910 for Sarah and Arthur Bland. The Blands lived next door in the near-twin of this residence. When Arthur Bland died in 1921, he was eulogized as a kind, charitable, and generous person; he must have been an exceptional landlord. Among the early residents were American Steam Laundry founder Fred French (1913), Norwegian-born Knute Robbin and seven of his children (1915), and James and Sarah McAfee (1928-1936). Norwegian cabinetmaker Olaf Tangen and his wife Elisabeth then owned the home from 1937 to 1972. The cross-gabled residence features Tuscan columns supporting a full-width porch, a metal roof, and south bay window. Wood shingles complement the clapboard siding. Original interior finishings include the stair banister, oak flooring, and well-maintained woodwork.

**Property:** Carnegie Library

**Address:** 302 2nd Avenue East, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** East Side      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** libraries (buildings)      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Citizens organized the Kalispell Public Library in 1897 and reorganized it as the Free Library a few years later. Holdings included 772 circulating volumes and 269 reference works. In 1900, Kalispell banker J. Harrington Edwards met with the private secretary of New York philanthropist Andrew Carnegie to discuss funds for the construction of a library building. Carnegie agreed to donate \$10,000 and the city promised to furnish the site plus \$1,000 per year over the next decade for maintenance. Architect George Shanley drew the plans while his father, Bernard, won the contracting bid for \$9,860. Constructed of gray sandstone from the Columbus quarries near Butte and pressed brick shipped by rail from Menominee, Wisconsin, the unusual Colonial Revival style building features a domed octagonal entry. Citizens flocked to the grand opening on January 12, 1904. The library boasted 4,500 volumes and, by 1921, that number had increased to 10,000. Carnegie's gift served as Kalispell's library until 1969 when its holdings were consolidated with the county library. This landmark building then acquired a new function as the Hockaday Center for the Arts, a non-profit community art center and museum.

**Property:** Pearce House

**Address:** 132 8th St West, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** West Side      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Kalispell architect Fred Brinkman designed this one-story residence in 1939. Among other large commissions, Brinkman designed the St. Mary's Visitor's Center in Glacier National Park and Linderman School in Kalispell. The versatile architect's work ranged from understated residential cottages to innovative, modernist styles. For this modest pre-World War II home, Brinkman employed markers of earlier architectural styles (including the hipped roof and defined entryway), but incorporated only minimal ornamentation, reflecting his increasingly modernist aesthetic. Alton and Jean Pearce commissioned the residence, perhaps because they liked Brinkman's design of



## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

the First Presbyterian Church, where Jean's father served as pastor. A pharmacist, Alton owned and operated the Alton Pearce Drug Company for forty-five years, beginning in the early 1930s. An avid sports fan, he also helped promote the Kalispell City League Semi-Pro Baseball Club. He and Jean raised two children in this comfortable home, where he resided until his death in 1978.

**Property:** Waggener and Campbell Funeral Home

**Address:** 228 Second Street West, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

In 1905, James E. Waggener purchased the business of retiring undertaker Nelson Willoughby. At this time nationally, the mortuary business was in transition. Funerals in the previous century had traditionally been held in the home, and the undertaker provided such necessary accoutrements as casket, chairs, drapery, door badges, stationery, and flowers. After 1900, the home became less suitable for funerals, and the "funeral director" began to offer services in addition to goods. These included embalming, funeral arrangements, and transportation. Undertakers needed more space for laboratory facilities, casket sales, and reception services. In 1913, Waggener built this substantial brick building to replace Willoughby's original two-room quarters at 134 West 2nd Street. The new building, constructed by local builder Caesar Haverlandt, offered a chapel with seating for sixty-five, a modern embalming room, up-to-date casket show rooms, and the area's only receiving vault. Mahogany woodwork and sliding doors graced the family home upstairs; skylights, still in place today, brightened the kitchen and bathroom. Eventually the Waggeners' three sons helped in the business and, in 1916, daughter Geneva married Harry H. Campbell who became a partner in 1919. The profession had its hazards, however. That year one of the Waggener sons, Elton, died from an illness he contracted while performing mortuary duties. Waggener and Campbell again moved to more modern facilities in 1929, and this building was converted for other commercial use. Architecturally typical of the 1910s, it is historically significant as an early Kalispell funeral home and pioneer family business.

**Property:** Sliter House

**Address:** 512 6th Avenue East, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** East Side           **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Joseph H. Horn, a part-owner in the Kalispell Mercantile Company, built this fine brick home in 1897. In 1905, he sold the property to Everit Sliter, the founder of the town of Bigfork, Montana. Sliter had come to the Flathead Valley in 1889. Having spent all his money on the purchase of land, he and his dog spent that winter in a root cellar. The pair consumed 26 deer and Sliter traded the skins for other staples. He later established one of the area's first orchards. Before Sliter and his wife, Lizzie, moved to Kalispell, they briefly rented the home to architect Joseph Gibson and his bride, Effie. When Sliter moved here circa 1908, he essentially traded places with Horn who took over operation of Sliter's hotel and general store in Bigfork. From 1909 to 1917, Sliter operated a real estate business from the home. A truncated hipped roof, exceptional brickwork, gently arched windows, and decorative shinglework make this an outstanding example of late Victorian-era vernacular architecture and a primary element of the historic neighborhood.

**Property:** Green / Bjorneby House

**Address:** 312 6th Ave E, Kalispell, Flathead

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Historic District:** East Side      **Building Type:** building contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Railroad superintendent William B. Green built this elegant home between 1891 and 1894, using bricks intended for the Great Northern Railway's depot. A lien was placed on the home when railroad officials made the discovery. Green was fired but remained in Kalispell undaunted. Subsequent early owners included Flathead Herald-Journal founder John Moore (early 1900s), the George and Elida Bjerneby family (1916-1926), and Iver and Florence Hanson (1926-1936). Originally constructed in the Queen Anne style, the home is a striking example of remodeling in a different style. In the 1940s, Kalispell architect Fred Brinkman transformed the "product of the gay nineties" into a fashionable Tudor style home for high school principal Titus Kurtichanov. Removal of a wraparound porch, addition of an attached garage, and the application of stucco and half-timbering almost obliterated its Victorian-era origins. The asymmetrical roofline, a lovely stained glass transom, and ornate interior woodwork, however, remain from the 1890s.

**Property:** Tetrault House

**Address:** 928 2nd Ave W, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** West Side      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Belsami Tetrault was born in Montreal, Canada, in 1852 and came with her family by covered wagon to the Flathead Valley in the mid-1880s. Her husband Joseph, also a native of Montreal, left his family in 1881 to work on the railroad in the United States. Reunited at Fort Missoula in 1885, the Tetraults settled along Whitefish Creek, nine miles north of the present site of Kalispell. There Belsami and Joseph raised their six children and ranched until 1910, when Joseph's failing health precipitated the move to Kalispell. Widowed in 1916, Belsami remained in town. In 1930, at the age of seventy-eight, the spunky pioneer purchased this lot and built herself a new home, where she lived comfortably with her daughter, Leah Boyd. Belsami died in 1939 at the age of eighty-six. The front-gabled Craftsman style residence has exposed rafter ends and wide eaves supported by brackets, which are hallmarks of this style. The beautifully maintained home remained in the Tetrault family until 1946.

**Property:** McIntosh Opera House

**Address:** 48 Main Street, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** Main Street (Commercial)      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings      **Subject 2:** recreation

**Sign Text:**

The opening of this grand opera house, built by John McIntosh in 1896, confirmed Kalispell's growing regional importance. Traveling theatrical groups brought elaborate scenery that transformed the second-floor theater. When one early performance of Uncle Tom's Cabin drew a record crowd of 1,132, patrons stood on benches, in the gallery, and in the window sills. McIntosh's hardware and Harvey Cannon's gentlemen's clothing stores were the original ground-floor businesses. Over the years McIntosh sold everything from tinware, stoves, pianos, and musical supplies to Studebaker buggies, cars, and tractors. The upstairs Opera House long served the community as meeting hall, school auditorium, gymnasium, and ballroom. For a time between 1905 and 1906, its hardwood floor became a splendid roller skating rink. A catastrophic fire in 1935 ended the building's long service as a theater, but the sturdy survivor with its fine decorative brickwork remains one of Main Street's largest and most prominent fixtures.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Property:** Dreessen Residence

**Address:** 527 2nd Ave W, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** West Side      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Albert Dreessen and his wife Emma purchased this residence from carpenters W. M. Kelsey and H. G. Seely in 1909. Born in Germany, Dreessen immigrated to Chicago with his family when he was fourteen. He attended night school to learn English and then worked his way across the country on farms for \$1.00 per day. He homesteaded near Wolf Creek circa 1903 before moving to Kalispell, where he ran several businesses with longtime partner James Jorgensen. These included the Brewery Saloon, a bowling alley, and the Kalispell Grand Hotel. In 1937, Forrest Aker, who owned a grocery store at 220 Second Avenue, purchased the residence. He and his wife Ethel hired an architect to remodel the home, adding a second story and attached garage. The home features a metal gable roof, a shed-roofed dormer on the north elevation, and a hip-roofed bay on the south. Decorations include a unique porthole window in the Art Deco style, a recessed semi-circle on the front elevation, and fluted columns supporting a decorative pediment over the front door.

**Property:** McIntosh House

**Address:** 511 4th Ave E, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** East Side      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

This beautiful gable-front-and-wing residence, built for newlyweds John and Sophie McIntosh, captures the best of the exuberant 1890s with a wealth of Queen Anne details. The Flathead Herald-Journal declared upon its completion in 1894 that the marvelous home rivaled Kalispell's best in "style, finish and comfort." Set atop a natural rise dubbed "Knob Hill," the newspaper went on to comment that its owner would thus occupy "the most exalted position in Kalispell." Finely crafted details, including fishscale shingles, wavy clapboard, a sunray pattern, and elaborate stained glass parlor transoms, embellish the canted, or "beveled," front gable. McIntosh had a successful and varied career in Kalispell, selling everything from hardware and pianos to automobiles. His opera house, built in 1896, was the town's longtime cultural center. Sophie died in 1920 and John McIntosh in 1947, but the home remained in the family until 1979.

**Property:** Agather House

**Address:** 604 5th Ave E, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** East Side      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Architect Marion Rizzo demonstrated a flair for the dramatic in this grand residence, built in 1910 for State Lumber Company manager David Barber. The home features tall prominent chimneys against a steep, side-gabled roof, which capture the attention of even the most casual passerby. Varied exterior treatments include half-timbers, native rock, and ornate ironwork. After a series of tragedies decimated the Barber family, Alfons and Martha Agather purchased the home in 1919. Russian-born Alfons, who had served in the imperial guard of Czar Nicholas, was the cashier and eventually became president of the First National Bank of Kalispell. Martha, a daughter of Julius and Mary Neils of the J. Neils Lumber Company in Libby, worked hard to keep the home after her husband's death in 1929. Their daughter Margaret, who grew up here and later owned the home, could remember "when the house ... was on the very outskirts of town and most of the Eastside was a grassy field...." The home remains in the family today because of Martha's perseverance.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Property:** Courthouse Historic District

**Address:** , Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** Courthouse **Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** historic districts **Subject 2:** county courthouses

**Sign Text:**

Development of this district came well after Kalispell had become an established regional center. The Flathead County Courthouse, which serves as the district's focal point, was built in 1903 and long presided in solitary splendor over undeveloped land. Situated half a mile distant from the railroad depot at the opposite end of Main Street, one critic called the location a "monumental blunder." Even though twin parks were created out of the "buck brush and weed patch" surrounding the building in 1910, pavement and wooden sidewalks at the south end of Main Street were so neglected that Kalispell became infamous for having the "roughest Main Street in the Pacific Northwest." The Kalispell Townsite Company had held title to many of the fifty-two lots for future business development. By 1927, delinquent taxes and badly needed street improvements had drastically inflated the purchase price. The county assumed the titles, selling the lots at no profit to individual buyers for the cost of street repairs. The Main Street project resulted in the installation of lighting, concrete sidewalks, curbs, and street resurfacing assuring the area's residential desirability. The character of the well-planned district, developed between 1927 and 1941, reveals a wealth of styles, particularly those employed by local architect Fred Brinkman who designed many of the district's buildings in Tudor, Gothic Revival, Art Moderne, and Mission styles. Churches, a funeral home, a medical clinic, and residences along with the courthouse complex add unique functional diversity. Most residences now house professional offices accomplishing the aim of early city planners who intended the district to be a logical extension of the commercial center.

**Property:** Elliot House

**Address:** 505 Six Avenue East, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** East Side **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:** public buildings (governmental buildings)

**Sign Text:**

A blend of the Prairie and Craftsman styles illustrates the creative genius of Kalispell architect Marion Rizzo, who designed and supervised the construction of this exceptional residence between 1909 and 1910. Craftsman style characteristics include prominent knee braces supporting the eaves, heavy piers, stucco siding, and Tudor half-timbering. Wide eaves accentuate the low-pitched hipped roof. Banded windows create a horizontal emphasis typical of the Prairie style. The use of natural colors and materials establish the Prairie ideal that a home should blend into the landscape. Northwest Lumber Company treasurer Charles Dobner and his wife, Agnes, were the first owners of this "unique and artistic" Kalispell landmark. William and Ellen Elliot lived in the home from 1917 to 1938. During World War II, it served as winter headquarters for Glacier National Park, housed the Office of Price Administration, and provided classrooms and a dining hall for Civil Air Patrol cadets. From 1948 to 1964, it was the residence of Dr. Neil and Marian Leitch. In 1964, Dr. Harry and Mary Gibson purchased the home.

**Property:** Knight and Twining Block

**Address:** 237 Main Street, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** Main Street (Commercial) **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:** boardinghouses

**Sign Text:**

W. R. Twining, a Philadelphia construction superintendent newly arrived in Kalispell, collaborated with brother-in-

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

law E. C. Knight on this brick business block in 1908. A reporter noted in June that “Jack Stahl, one of the swiftest men with a trowel ... is piling up the brick on rush orders for Knight and Twining’s new building.” Completed in September, the stylish new block featured decorative brickwork, highlighted in a central pediment bearing the initials “KandT.” Mrs. Annie Hunter managed the second-floor rooming house, whose sixteen furnished rooms boasted “steam heat, electric light, baths and all the comforts of civilization.” In 1916, noted photographer T. J. Hileman opened a first-floor studio, which operated until 1938. Hileman remodeled the storefront in 1936, installing polished Vermont granite trim. From 1838 to 1975, the building housed Alton Pearce’s drug store. Original accoutrements including a pressed metal ceiling, wainscoting, transomed doors, and steam radiators remain intact.

**Property:** Grant / Clifford House

**Address:** 126 4th Ave E, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** East Side      **Building Type:** building contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Carpenter Warren J. Lamb demonstrated familiarity with the very latest styles in this two-story home, which he built in 1898. The low hipped roof and wide eaves suggest the Prairie style while exposed rafter ends are a hallmark of the Arts and Crafts movement. The interior reflects these stylistic influences. Built-in shelves separate the living/dining rooms and handsome wood paneling covers the stairway wall. Original green and red glass light fixtures and wall sconces remain in place. From 1907 until 1921, miner/farmer James J. Grant, his wife Mary and their five children lived in the home. The Irish-born Civil War veteran had a varied career serving as scout for General Custer, game warden, deputy sheriff, and deputy U.S. marshal. Cecil and Margaret Clifford, both ordained ministers, owned the home from 1926 to 1953. While the Cliffords’ son was away at college in the late 1920s, the residence fondly became known through their correspondence as “Homomyne.”

**Property:** Conrad / Tobie House

**Address:** 428 Sixth Avenue East, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** East Side      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Newlyweds Kokoa Baldwin, daughter of Kalispell attorney Marcus Baldwin, and Charles D. Conrad, son of the wealthy Charles E. Conrad, built and settled in this three-story wood-frame home in 1907. The comfortable front-gabled residence with its combination shingle and clapboard siding, wrap-around porch, and square columns was reportedly architect designed. Tradition has it that the porch was built in Spokane and brought here in 1907. After the Conrads divorced in 1915, Alba and Frances Jurgens Tobie purchased the home. Alba Tobie was president of the Conrad Bank and Mrs. Tobie, a graduate of the Chicago Art Institute, was an artist of some renown. She filled the home with her work. The vivacious Mrs. Tobie combined art with a busy career that included women's page editor for the Kalispell Bee, proprietor of the Kalispell Gardens, and many professional affiliations. In 1945, Chet and Jewell Chrisinger bought the property. Chet grew up in the neighborhood and as children, he and the Conrads' son, William, played together in the Conrad Mansion. The Chrisingers and their four children carefully maintained the historic home for over fifty years.

**Property:** Phillips House

**Address:** 445 5th ave E, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** East Side      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

### Sign Text:

Fire destroyed a small wooden residence, located toward the rear of this lot, in 1910. The prime corner parcel remained vacant for almost thirty years. Kalispell saw a small building boom in the 1930s, as people from areas harder hit by drought and depression moved to the community. Many of the new homes were small, relatively plain rental units, but those who could afford it looked to current fashion for design ideas. The picturesque Tudor Revival style was particularly popular. Built circa 1938, this one-story stucco home boasts many Tudor features, including a multi-paned front window, decorative shutters, a prominent chimney with decorative brickwork, and an arched front door with a brick tabbed door surround. Leon and Ella Phillips, who moved to Kalispell in the 1930s, had the home constructed after Leon became president of Phillips-Wohlwend Motors. The automobile salesman was an active promoter of area agriculture and a “tireless worker for Flathead Valley causes.” The Phillips sold the residence in 1942 to Virgil Manion, president of Manion Motors. He and his wife Dorothy owned the property until 1956.

**Property:** Missoula Mercantile / Kalispell Mercantile

**Address:** 50 2nd St E, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** Kalispell Main Street **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

In 1892, a year after the Great Northern Railway established Kalispell, a stone foundation stood on this corner. Construction soon stalled, however, likely a casualty of the national economic depression known as the Panic of 1893. An 1894 map shows the building still in progress, “to be stores 1st [floor] Lodge Hall 2d.” The county court and offices claimed the second story between 1895 and 1903. The Missoula Mercantile moved from quarters on Main Street to occupy the first floor. One of the largest retail and wholesale operations between Seattle and Minneapolis, the Missoula Mercantile sold everything from groceries to wagons. By 1897, its Kalispell branch employed twenty men and covered a 300 mile sales territory, delivering by train as far as Havre. Building additions in 1901, 1903, and 1908, and the installation of large new display windows, provided spacious quarters when the retailer became Kalispell Mercantile in 1911. A modern façade, installed in 1965, temporarily obscured the building’s historic fabric. Today, the Western Commercial style business block again recalls an earlier era, when Percheron draft horses pulled the wagons making local deliveries.

**Property:** Thierwechter / Kramer House

**Address:** 305 4th Ave West, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

The Queen Anne style is nowhere better represented than in this charming two-story home built for newlyweds William and Nellie Thierwechter in 1901. The couple spent the first months of their marriage living across the street with Nellie’s carpenter father, George Kirk, while this residence was under construction. Scottish-born Kirk, one of Kalispell’s earliest settlers, undoubtedly applied his considerable talents to the construction of his daughter’s home and then lived with her until his death in 1908. Thierwechter, a locomotive engineer, was seriously injured in a railroad collision in 1906. His subsequent business ventures included a saloon, a grocery, and an automobile stage, run between Kalispell and Somers. In 1924, Cornelia Long purchased the home and lived here with her daughter and son-in-law Lena and Walter Kramer. Kramer, a dealer in firewood, stabled his horses in a barn that stood on the property, and Lena kept an extensive backyard flower garden. During the Depression, the Kramers shared the home with their own three children and grandchildren as well. The residence features a cross-gabled plan, decorative wood shinglework, full-width porch, and corbeled brick chimney. Of special note are

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

the Palladian window with its decorative wood surround and the semicircular arch in the front gable. In 1934, a fire of unknown origin burned the front porch, which was then rebuilt and enclosed. Architecturally significant and home to several generations of the Kramer family, this vintage residence has earned its prominent place among Kalispell's historic buildings.

**Property:** Laux House

**Address:** 704 2nd Ave E, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** East Side      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Kalispell stonemason and carpenter Louis Larson was the original owner and likely the builder of this attractive Queen Anne style residence. Constructed circa 1903, stylistic highlights include decorative shinglework, a pedimented porch entry, a canted corner, and multi-paned bay. Interior finishings such as built-in cupboards, shelves, bookcases, and spindled stairwork reveal Larson's exceptional carpentry skills. He never lived in the home himself but rented out rooms. One of the early tenants was Miss Minnie Folsom, who gave harmony and piano lessons at her studio here in 1904 and 1905. According to the Kalispell Bee, Miss Folsom was a student of the New York Conservatory of Music, "a teacher of considerable experience," and an "accomplished performer." John Laux owned the property from 1910 to 1935. During his successful campaign for county commissioner in 1912, the local paper described his as "...a safe man to trust." Laux's wife, Katie, painted china as an occupation. Despite many later owners and occupants, the appearance and appeal of this turn-of-the-twentieth-century home remain intact.

**Property:** City Water Department

**Address:** 336 First Avenue East, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:**      **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** utilities (infrastructures)      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Water mains installed and maintained by a privately owned franchise served the city of Kalispell as early as 1892. In 1913, the city purchased the company and its superintendent, William H. Lawrence, remained with the new City Water Department. The city built a new plant at the north end of town, which soon served residents, and by 1927, the city was maintaining more than twenty-one miles of water mains. Lawrence was an able manager and advocate who, among other things, instituted the compilation of annual water department reports that included photographs and descriptions of Kalispell's buildings. These reports, beginning in 1913, today provide invaluable documentation of Kalispell's early streetscapes. Another of Superintendent Lawrence's legacies was the construction of this splendid Georgian Revival style building to house department offices. Designed by architect Fred Brinkman and built with local labor, the one-story building was designed to accept a future second story. Distinctive features include round-arched windows with sidelights and fanlights, an arched balustrade above the entry, Corinthian capitals on pilasters flanking the doorway, and a bracketed cornice. The new building complemented the old city hall, built in 1904 and demolished in 1981, which originally adjoined it on the north. The city jail, later converted to a rooming house/hotel, was on the building's south side. Although its surroundings have changed greatly through the decades, this marvelous building still serves its original purpose and its attractive façade has escaped alteration.

**Property:** McIntosh House

**Address:** 511 4th Ave E, Kalispell, Flathead

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Historic District:** East Side      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Unlike many neighborhoods in railroad towns, the lots here in Urlin's Addition were not owned and developed by the Northern Pacific, but sold to private individuals who built rental housing for railroad employees. This gable-front vernacular style home on its prominent corner follows that pattern. Built circa 1902, early tenants were Northern Pacific conductor John Butler and his wife, Lillie. Later, Northern Pacific engineer Frank J. McIntosh owned the property and lived here from 1922 until his death in 1959. His wife, Bertha, kept the home for almost another decade before it once again housed a series of tenants. The residence reflects the trend to utilize extra space on corner lots by building slightly larger homes for higher paid employees. A band of spindles under the front porch eaves, corner brackets, decorative window trim, and a stained glass transom above the back door spark its personality. Quality interior finishing includes a built-in dining room oak hutch with leaded glass doors and beveled mirror. On the opposite kitchen side is a built-in "Hoosier" style cabinet with a zinc counter.

**Property:** Houtz House

**Address:** 822 5th Avenue West, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:**      **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:** apartments

**Sign Text:**

Pioneer newspaperman George M. Houtz was the first owner of this stately Italianate style home, built in 1899. Houtz, who had learned the printing trade in Illinois and founded a newspaper in South Dakota, came to Montana in 1891. He and a partner established a newspaper in nearby Demersville. That town was soon abandoned in favor of the new town of Kalispell, and Houtz moved his paper here. Houtz and his wife, Irene, built their new home in 1899 on the very outskirts of town. Spring Creek ran through the back of the property and the neighborhood was sparsely populated. When stonemason Mike Greig finished laying the foundation of native rock, Houtz's newspaper, the Flathead Herald-Journal, declared it a "splendid piece of work." The low-pitched roof, gabled dormer, wide bracketed eaves, and arched window are hallmarks of the elegant Italianate style. Fancy wood shinglework complements the clapboard sheathing. The entry porch is remarkably intact with its Tuscan columns and denticulated cornice. Hardwood floors and much of the original woodwork preserve the home's interior vintage appeal. During the 1930s, the city diverted Spring Creek, and the spacious home, like many in Kalispell, was divided into apartments. Once again a single-family residence, this fine turn-of-the-twentieth-century home stands out among its more recent neighbors.

**Property:** Kalispell Main Street Historic District

**Address:** , Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** Main Street Historic District      **Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

As the tracks of the Great Northern Railway inched westward from St. Paul to Seattle, Flathead Valley towns vied for designation as the railway's division point. In the spring of 1891, however, railroad officials purchased land from the Reverend George Fisher and other early residents, founding a new settlement. The new town of Kalispell was platted in "T-town" form with Main Street perpendicular to one side of the proposed tracks. Some who doubted that the railroad would ever touch the new settlement dubbed it "Collapsetown" and "Wait a Spell," but even so lots sold for as much as \$1,250. Construction boomed on Main Street with typical first generation wooden frame buildings, while many businesses were moved on log rollers four miles across the prairie from once-thriving Demersville. On New Year's Day of 1892, the tracks officially reached Kalispell. Banners proclaimed "Kalispell and



## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

St. Paul United by Steel,” and “beer and whiskey were as free as the fresh air.” Although the railroad moved its division point to Whitefish in 1904, Kalispell continued to prosper. Designated county seat in 1893 and later bolstered by the homesteading era, the lumber industry, and tourism, Kalispell became an important trade, financial, and service center. Today landmark buildings designed by architects Marion Riffo, Fred Brinkman, and George Shanley anchor the district, but interspersed among them in greater numbers are the simple commercial buildings constructed by local masons and contractors. These form the true heart of this historic district, recalling the time when watering troughs, hitching rings, and wooden sidewalks lined the streets.

**Property:** Vance Lodge

**Address:** Northern Side of Polebridge Loop Road, Polebridge, Flathead

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** cabins (houses)           **Subject 2:** homesteads

**Sign Text:**

Rugged outdoorsman and adventurer Andrew Vance came to Montana from Iowa in 1880 and found work in the Yellowstone Valley hunting buffalo to feed Northern Pacific Railroad crews. In the ensuing decades, Andy guided Yellowstone Park visitors and followed the Yukon Territory gold rushes. In 1914, Andy, his wife Ella, and daughters Maud and May staked a 160-acre homestead claim here among the aspen groves and meadows near the North Fork of the Flathead River. Andy worked trail crew in Glacier Park, ran a saw mill, and hunted and trapped for food, while Ella kept an extensive garden. In 1920, Andy began building a two-story lodge constructed of square notched logs, which replaced their original homestead cabin. Ben Hensen Jr. scored all the logs, Jack Reuter hewed the timbers, and McBlair did the finish work. The lodge comfortably accommodated family as well as guests whom Andy packed into the wilds of northern Montana and Canada. The remote North Fork community was centered in the hearts and homes of its scattered residents, and soon Vance Lodge became a regular host to social gatherings. Andy died in 1924 after he was hit by a train near Belton, and Ella died in 1929, but their home remained at the heart of the community. Daughter May married Ben Hensen Sr., who became postmaster, and the lodge served as post office for a time during the 1930s. Since, 1937, it has been a seasonal home to members of the Hensen family, who are still very much a part of the North Fork community. Miraculously unscathed during the devastating 1988 forest fires, Vance Lodge is a fitting tribute to the exceptional skills of its builder and a place of good luck and friendship to his descendants.

**Property:** Hegrans House

**Address:** 834 2nd Ave W, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** West Side           **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

A second-story Palladian window and a full-length front porch (now enclosed) enliven the façade of this house, built in 1910 for Henry and Josephine Hegrans. In that year, a horse stable off the alley was the nearest building to the Hegrans' residence, one of only two houses on the west side of the street. By 1927, a third house had joined the block, the Hegrans had built a back addition onto their home, and their neighbor's stable had become a garage. Henry Hegrans came to Kalispell from North Dakota in 1909 and took a job clerking at the Kalispell Mercantile. Josephine likely followed him a year later, after the birth of their second child. By 1915, Henry had become a partner in the City Grocery on Main Street; he ran the business for approximately fifteen years. During the Depression he worked as a salesman. After forty years of living in the same house, the Hegrans moved to Santa Barbara, California, but continued to remain in touch with old Kalispell friends. They sold the home in 1959.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Property:** 428 3rd Ave E

**Address:** 428 3rd Ave E, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** East Side      **Building Type:** building contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Marcus D. Baldwin came to Montana from Ohio in 1885, appointed by President Cleveland as superintendent to the Blackfoot, Blood, and Piegan bands of the Blackfeet tribe in northwestern Montana. Baldwin brought his wife, Sarah, and their two small sons to live at the agency on Badger Creek. Daughter Kokoa, whose name was reportedly derived from the Blackfoot word for "little girl," was the first white child born on Montana's Blackfoot Reservation in 1888. Baldwin, who deserves partial credit for the founding of Marias Pass, moved to Kalispell when the town was platted in 1891. He was a practicing attorney and prominent in the founding of Kalispell and Flathead County. The original brick front-gabled residence was built between 1891 and 1894 and the carriage house along the alley between 1899 and 1903. Circa 1914, remodeling added a wood-frame second story and gambrel roof. Many fruit trees once graced the spacious yard of this significant residence, which remained in the Baldwin family until 1973.

**Property:** Ferguson House

**Address:** 320 Fourth Avenue West, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:**      **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

A pattern book likely provided the plans for this charming American four-square cottage built by Great Northern Railroad employee Frederick Ferguson. A boilermaker by trade, Ferguson immigrated to Chicago from his native England and became a United States citizen in 1875. Ferguson built this residence before 1897 where he lived with his wife, Elsie, and her son. When the Great Northern Railroad moved to Whitefish in 1904, Ferguson also relocated there but retained this Kalispell property as a rental. When Ferguson died in 1925, the property remained a rental under family ownership until 1971. One early tenant was Civil War veteran captain James D. Eaton, who rented the home from Ferguson from 1905 until circa 1910. Eaton was organizer of the Montana National Guard's Company H which served in the Philippines during the Spanish-American War. During that time Eaton was inspector general of Montana. Over the years other tenants included a saloon proprietor, a landscape gardener, a painter, and a sheet metal worker. This modest residence is exceptional for its excellent preservation and retention of original Queen Anne style details. Turned porch supports, a sun ray patterned pediment, decorative shinglework, and arched gable window are a delightful legacy of the Victorian era. These features along with original interior wood floors and woodwork reveal the extraordinary care of discerning landlords and tenants during its long use as a rental home.

**Property:** East Side Historic District

**Address:** , Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** East Side      **Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:** public buildings

**Sign Text:**

As the town of Kalispell ended its first decade in 1901, the Kalispell Bee reported that the "artistic and modern" residences would well ornament a much larger city. Dozens of spacious Queen Anne, Colonial Revival, and vernacular style East Side homes had by now erased the hay meadows that once covered the townsite. Central School, designed by Great Falls architect William White and built in 1894, anchored the district's northwest corner; Charles E. Conrad's seventy-two-acre estate and mansion, designed and built in 1895 by Spokane architect

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

Kirkland Cutter, sprawled along the northeastern edge. Soon the splendid Carnegie Library (1903), the Kalispell Hospital (1904), Woodland Park (created in 1910 on land donated by Conrad), and Kalispell General Hospital (1912) added diversity. During the 1920s Prairie School-inspired residences, the Foursquare form, and Craftsman style homes began to grace East Side streets, reflecting the very latest architectural trends. A 1913 history of Montana pronounced Kalispell “one of the most beautiful cities in the state,” but the district still had room for growth and refinement. In the 1920s, the Conrad carriage house and stables were moved and redesigned into five homes by architect Fred Brinkman. A 1930s Works Progress Administration project transformed Woodland Park from a “mosquito bog” into a “beauty center.” Architects of different periods such as Brinkman, Arthur Pearmain, Marion Rizzo, and Joseph Gibson contributed to an eclectic combination of styles. This distinctive “layering” of ages and styles highlights the pleasant East Side streetscapes that today chronicle the town’s evolution.

**Property:** Rostad House

**Address:** 704 1st Ave W, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** West Side      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The Queen Anne style home built before 1903 on this prestigious corner has long been a West Side neighborhood landmark. Its complex floorplan, varied siding, pedimented entry, and two-story bay are vintage Queen Anne. For more than half a century, Clarence Rostad and his wife, Clara, made their home in the comfortable residence. They began renting the property from its original owner, C. N. Brown, in 1905. James Conlon, proprietor of the Conlon Mercantile and Rostad’s onetime employer, bought the property in 1914. That same year a defective flue caused a fire on the second story. Rostad was badly singed and very narrowly escaped. Chemicals used by the fire department caused almost as much damage as the fire itself. After renting the home for fifteen years, the Rostads became its third owners in 1920. Clarence died in 1956, but Clara remained here until 1959. Except for enclosure of the front porch, this family home has changed little since the early 1900s and thus has earned significant status among its West Side neighbors.

**Property:** Long House

**Address:** 393 8th Ave E. N., Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:**      **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Early Kalispell boosters advertised the great diversity of their city by coining the expression, “All roads lead to Kalispell.” As the city grew during the 1900s and 1910s, new and modern homes like this classic Craftsman style bungalow earned Kalispell a reputation as one of the most beautiful cities in the state. Built circa 1911 on the very outskirts of town, the home is a fine ambassador of the Craftsman bungalow, a fashionable middle-class home inspired by Charles and Henry Greene of Pasadena, California. Influenced particularly by the English Arts and Crafts movement, the style was easily accessible through pattern book plans and gained huge popularity across the country. The residence displays typical Craftsman features, which include wide bracket-supported eaves, exposed rafter ends, an open-air front porch spanning the front, and “battered” porch supports. The returned eaves are an unusual feature. Wooden shingles above and narrow clapboard siding (which originally covered the lower exterior walls) made use of natural materials intended to harmonize with the surroundings. The varied career of the home’s first resident, James Alvin Long, well reflects Kalispell’s diverse opportunities. Long worked during the boom period as an engineer for the early water and power companies and as a miller for the Kalispell Lumber Company. A taxidermy business and automobile repair shop were later enterprises. It is noteworthy that

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

Long was a self-employed carpenter in 1911; he may well have built the home or at least applied himself to its exceptional finishing.

**Property:** Federal Building

**Address:** 247 1st Avenue East, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** public buildings (governmental buildings)

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Despite extreme weather, unstable material markets, a scarcity of labor, and congested railway traffic caused by World War I, this imposing public building was completed on schedule in 1917. Originally built to house the U.S. Post Office, Forest Service, Land Office, and the Weather Bureau, its appearance represents the influential presence of the federal government in the Flathead Valley. James A. Wetmore of the U.S. Treasury Department was the supervising architect. The Kalispell Bee described the Colonial Revival style building as one of the state's most beautiful edifices. Its interior was a vision of "marble, hardwood, polished brass and gleaming walls." The first floor housed the post office and postal workroom, outfitted with "every thought for convenience," including shutters and peep holes through which the postal inspector could secretly view the workers. The lobby was paved with red tile, and an iron gate across the stairway to upper level federal offices allowed customers after-hour access to postal boxes. A spiral staircase led to the roof, where the weather observer's instruments were installed. The observation equipment was connected to the weatherman's office by cables so he could "tell all about the weather without going outdoors." Sensitive expansion in 1978 by the Flathead County Library preserved the building's outward grandeur, highlighted by elliptical windows, balustraded roof, and overall symmetry. Although the interior was significantly altered, a few original interior finishings do remain intact, including the red tile paving.

**Property:** West Side Historic District

**Address:** , Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** West Side           **Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** historic districts

**Subject 2:** residential structures

**Sign Text:**

Small farms and orchards dotted the fourteen blocks of this residential neighborhood when the original townsite of Kalispell was platted in 1891. Soon a few wood frame buildings were constructed on its lots for temporary housing and to provide outlying farmers a place to stay during trips to town. By the end of the decade, property owners were replacing these with more substantial residences. The close proximity of the high school (1897) and the county courthouse (1903) helped spur the West Side's early development. Large Queen Anne and Colonial Revival style residences mingled with more modest gable-front-and-wing style homes, each surrounded by wood rail and chicken wire, picket, or cast iron fences. Flower gardens and fruit trees adorned front yards while vegetable gardens, chicken coops, barns, and privies crowded back yards. By 1910, St. Matthew's Catholic Church, designed by George Shanley, and the O'Neill House, designed by Marion Riffo, added distinction to the growing neighborhood. Shanley and Riffo, along with Judge Charles Pomeroy, author Margaret Scherf, and poet James Whilt were among the district's prominent early residents. By the mid twentieth century, many outbuildings had been converted to rentals and larger homes to rooming houses providing accommodations for teachers and high school students living in town for the school year. The rent supplied needed income during hard times. Today the front porches that once offered residents a quiet refuge have mostly been enclosed or removed. Hollyhocks and sweet peas no longer line fences, but shade trees planted by the city decades ago and spacious front lawns preserve the original "homey" atmosphere of this early neighborhood.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Property:** Title

Dr. Alexander D. MacDonald Residence

**Address:** 140 4th Ave East, Kalispell, Flathead

**Historic District:** East Side      **Building Type:** building contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

A combination gambrel/gabled roof, wood shingle cladding, porch with classical Tuscan columns, small arched windows, and decorative leaded glass characterize this fine turn-of-the-twentieth-century expression of the Shingle style. Beautifully designed by Kalispell architects Forrey and Jones to be “a model of convenience and an ornament to the city,” the home was built in 1901 for Dr. Alexander MacDonald and his wife, Jessie. It replaced their earlier residence on this same prestigious corner. Canadian-born Dr. MacDonald set up practice here in 1891. He eventually ran a private hospital, was a state legislator, and served as City/County health officer. MacDonald left Kalispell in 1915 to become head of the state tuberculosis hospital at Galen. A built-in china cabinet and original stairway lighting fixtures and chandeliers highlight the interior of this architecturally significant home, while the cast-iron fence bordering its sidewalk adds to the neighborhood’s historic appeal.

**Property:** First Presbyterian Church

**Address:** 26 West Babcock, Bozeman, Gallatin

**Historic District:**      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** churches (buildings)      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Charter members George and Helen Miles bestowed this land on the church in 1882. Since that time the First Presbyterian Church has occupied this space. Church trustees met in 1911 to discuss the construction of a larger \$30,000-\$40,000 church. Pastor Reverend J. Forsythe Smith reasoned that a new house of worship would “provide better social advantages, better intellectual advantages, and better moral and spiritual advantages.” In addition to a larger worship space, the modern facility would include a Sunday school and choir room. Architect Brynjulf Rivenes designed the concrete and brick edifice on the same site as the old church, which was sold and relocated to face North Prairie. Western Granite and Marble Works of Miles City donated the cornerstone, laid on November 26, 1914. C. N. Strevell gifted the main stained glass window fronting Montana Avenue. The oak finished, 871-pipe Estry organ was specially designed to fit the organ chamber. Dedicated in 1917, this impressive Gothic Revival Style church conveys a sense of stability and permanence.

**Property:** 17-19 South Tracy

**Address:** 17-19 S Tracy, Bozeman, Gallatin

**Historic District:** Main Street      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings      **Subject 2:** apartments

**Sign Text:**

Bozeman’s premier architect Fred Willson designed this double storefront building with three apartments upstairs in 1928. Known for his versatility and customer-pleasing plans, Willson worked on other downtown projects that year as well, including remodeling the Bon Ton Bakery and designing the elegant Baxter Hotel. This Spanish Revival style building shares design elements with both of these Willson projects. Like the Baxter, it has grouped, hood-molded windows and ornamental rosettes. Like the Bon Ton, it features stucco siding and a Mediterranean tiled roof that breaks through a decorative parapet. Ornamental wrought iron beneath the second-story windows mimics balconies, evoking sunny California, the epicenter of Spanish Revival. The cosmopolitan building surely

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

suitied owners B. A. Dixon and Bernal Alexander, who needed to attract style-conscious customers to their stores: Dixon's Painters and Decorators and Alexander Art Co. Dixon and Alexander hired Willson again in 1940 to modernize the façade by replacing the original marquee with a Streamline Moderne design. In 2010, new owners remodeled once more, using the original blueprints and historic photographs to match, as closely as possible, the 1928 marquee.

**Property:** Middle Creek School

**Address:** 8045 Patter School Road, Gallatin Gateway, Gallatin

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** public schools (buildings)                   **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Long journeys to school on wintry mornings and children unused to being away from home prompted rural school architecture to mirror domestic dwellings, making youngsters feel more at home. This school is an excellent example of the practice, illustrating traditional folk conventions merged with new stylistic influences and building technologies. Built in 1923, the Middle Creek School reflects the bungalow design that gained local popularity in domestic building after 1916. The front porch, pyramidal porch supports, and exposed rafter tails represent the style. The porch, grafted onto the basic gable-ended schoolhouse form, reinforced the idea of "home." Poured concrete foundations indicate an advanced technique available locally while the inclusion of a kitchen for "domestic science" reveals progressive trends in education. The comfort of central heating replaced the traditional woodstove. Windows of this period are typically found on one side of the building in response to W. R. Plew's report to the school board, published in 1919, espousing the theory that cross lighting was hard on the eyes. This school is unusual in that small transom windows over the blackboard at the west end provide additional interior lighting. The one-room schoolhouse system was declining in the 1920s as transportation improved and more children were bused to schools in larger towns. The Middle Creek School, however, was in use from 1923 to 1948, serving as many as nineteen and as few as three students. It well illustrates the importance of education in Montana and the continuing need to accommodate a rural population.

**Property:** Madison Hotel

**Address:** 139 Yellowstone Ave, West Yellowstone, Gallatin

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** hotels (public accommodations)                   **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The Forest Service granted Jess Pierman a special-use permit to build a hotel and restaurant here in 1910. A large tent accommodated guests until the present hotel was under construction in the fall of 1912. Doll Bartlett began cooking for Pierman in 1910, saving much of her weekly ten-dollar paycheck. Her husband Roxy drove the stage between Monida and West Yellowstone. By the time the hotel was under construction, the Bartletts had saved enough money to buy the business, which they ran until Roxy died in the 1920s. Doll continued to run the hotel with her second husband, George Pickup. The two-story rectangular plan is of simple log construction with saddle-notched corner timbering and a prominent front dormer. The original six upstairs rooms, warmed by a cut stone fireplace in the downstairs lobby, catered to rail and stage travelers. Each room had a pitcher, a wash basin, and a chamber pot. Water came from a well across the street. The hotel expanded, adding fourteen rooms in 1921 and a bar and dance floor soon after, but there was no running water until the 1930s. In 1923, President Harding was a guest and antiquated registers show that many Hollywood greats, such as Wallace Beery and Gloria Swanson, enjoyed the hospitality of the Madison Hotel. Log support columns and beams, wood floors, light fixtures, the stone fireplace, and many of the room furnishings are original. Although not the first hotel in West Yellowstone, the Madison is the only hotel that remains from this early period when tourism was in its infancy.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Property:** First Presbyterian Church, Bozeman

**Address:** 26 West Babcock, Bozeman, Gallatin

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** churches (buildings)           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Seven Bozeman pioneers gathered in 1872 to form Montana Territory's second Presbyterian congregation. The flock grew and built its first wooden church in 1880; the energetic Ladies Aid Society raised almost half the funds for construction through ice cream and strawberry festivals, baked-bean suppers, and church fairs. The small Gothic revival building sat diagonally across from the home of Emma Willson, one of the church's founding members. When she and her husband Lester moved to a new elegant residence on South Willson, they donated their original home to the church. The Panic of 1893, among Montana's worst economic depressions, delayed plans to use that site to construct a larger sanctuary. By 1908, however, Bozeman had recovered, crews demolished the Willsons' small home (which the church had been using as a Sunday school), and construction began. Volunteers hauled foundation stone from a quarry in Bridger Canyon, and local contractor Frank Vreeland supervised construction of the new brick and stone church. Designed by architects Turnbull and Jones of Elgin, Illinois, and built and furnished for the princely sum of \$53,000, the Gothic Revival style church features a cross-axial plan with a square bell tower, an impressive cut-sandstone Gothic-arched entry, and fixed stained glass windows set in heavy, wooden tracery. Designed for use, the practical interior featured a 700-seat auditorium, well-equipped classrooms, and a modern kitchen and dining room. With clear references to both European tradition and to universities and other venerable institutions in the United States, the design communicated permanence, stability, and respectability while reflecting a national Presbyterian aesthetic.

**Property:** Tivoli Beer Hall

**Address:** 17 East Main Street, Bozeman, Gallatin

**Historic District:** Main Street   **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** saloons (bars)           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Railroad anticipation sparked a frenzied building boom prompting a shortage of brick that postponed completion of this popular watering hole for nearly two years. Begun in 1880, Phil Skeehean's Tivoli Beer Hall finally opened in 1882. William Beall was both designer and contractor. The Italianate style building originally featured four arched entries and an upstairs porch spanning the front. In the finely appointed second-floor lodgings, quiet was the only amenity lacking, since downstairs a main attraction was the music. Patrons turned around the spacious dance floor and revived at tables gaily decked with red-and-white gingham cloths. By 1910, John Fechter, who once played oboe in John Philip Sousa's nationally renowned band, managed the Tivoli. As director of Bozeman's German Band and the first conductor of the Bozeman Symphony, Fechter maintained the saloon's "dance hall" tradition well into the 1920s. In August of 1960, Hartman-Mockel Menswear was established on the main floor. Bob Paynich and Bob Braaksma owned the successful enterprise by 1983.

**Property:** Flaming Arrow Ranch and Office

**Address:** 15325 Bridger Canyon Road, Bozeman, Gallatin

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:** hotels (public accommodations)

**Sign Text:**

A winding log-lined path leads the visitor to this magnificent home tucked into the side of a timbered knoll, with the scenic Bridger mountain range in the distance. The ranch house appears through a shroud of pine and fir trees

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

like the timbers from which it was expertly crafted. Arthur McKinney, creator of the Flaming Arrow Ranch, designed this home as a family retreat and office. It was, however, an unfinished shell when McKinney died suddenly in 1935 at the age of 49. McKinney's vision had been to establish a first-rate boys' ranch on his property; death came on the threshold of this reality. Although the camp was used over time for various purposes, the McKinney's home stood unfinished until separately purchased in 1958. Owners Harold and Margaret Titus completed the residence. Its Rustic style architecture speaks to the emerging recreational interest of the public in the Western wilderness and reflects the evolution of the style from 1910 to 1940. A three-story log turret reminiscent of the romantic Victorian era nestles into the toe of the L-shaped home. A field stone fiddle-back chimney and fireplace, sloped wood ceilings supported by decorative log trusses, log walls, and rustic staircase convey a warm, mellow ambience tempered only by breathtaking views. Taking its name from the McKinneys' long dismantled Silver Forest Theater, the Silver Forest Inn opened here in the 1990s, treating guests to the rustic, gracious hospitality that was the essence of Arthur McKinney's dream.

**Property:** Longfellow School

**Address:** 516 South Tracy, Bozeman, Gallatin

**Historic District:** South Tracy-South Black      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** schools (buildings)      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Locals initiated their town's most ambitious school modernization effort in June 1938. Despite the still-lingering effects of the Great Depression, they voted overwhelmingly to support dramatic improvements to Bozeman's public schools. Workers erected a sizable addition to Emerson Junior High and three Moderne style elementary schools—Hawthorne, Irving, and this fine building—in the brief fifteen-months that followed. Federal assistance from the Public Works Administration covered approximately forty-five percent of the total cost. Architect Fred Willson created a single, forward-looking design for all three elementary schools, which expressed the cost-effective, democratic vision of Franklin Delano Roosevelt's New Deal. His smooth, horizontal façade featured reinforced concrete construction, glass block, and "a modern, simplified design, devoid of meaningless decoration." Each building also incorporated nine classrooms, a multipurpose gymnasium-auditorium, and special project rooms, where students could gain hands-on experience. On December 8, 1939, as Hitler's tanks rolled across Europe, former Longfellow principal Leora Hapner dedicated the school to the democratic way of life, to education's "enduring quest for truth," and to an abundant life for all children.

**Property:** Tallman Residence

**Address:** , Bozeman, Gallatin

**Historic District:** Bon Ton      **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

William Tallman arrived in Bozeman in 1901 to become chair (and sole member) of the mathematics department. At the time, fewer than fifty full-time students attended what was then known as Montana State College. He and his wife Anna built this one-and-one-half story home in 1902. The fashionable residence combines Queen Anne, Colonial Revival, and Shingle style features. The most prominent design element is the gambrel roof. Especially when built with dormers, a gambrel roof offered an economical and comfortable second story without the added expense of second-story walls. Anna died of cancer in 1908 leaving William with three children. The following year, he married Anna's sister, Maud, a recent math department graduate. Fixtures in a neighborhood that catered to faculty families, the couple remained in the house until 1945, when Tallman retired to become his department's first emeritus professor. Throughout their residency, Professor Tallman took an active interest in public affairs, including serving four years as a member of the Bozeman city council.



## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Property:** Charles Lundwall Building

**Address:** 123-125 West Main Street, Bozeman, Gallatin

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Plumber Charles Lundwall capitalized on Bozeman's state-of-the-art water system, locating here in his new building in 1905. Lundwall's highly successful business outgrew this space by 1910 and a paint and wallpaper store then occupied the ground floor. In 1913, undertakers William Davis and Hiram F. West converted the building to a mortuary. At this time funeral homes were becoming the national trend as private homes held fewer wakes. The mortuary business tragically boomed during the Spanish influenza epidemic of 1918, allowing West to buy out his partner. He added an ambulance service and from 1925 to 1929, served as County Coroner/Undertaker from his office here. Then, in 1931, the building's interior was refitted as the Montana Motor Supply to serve the rising auto industry. William K. Shamanoff purchased the property in 1936 and commissioned architect Fred F. Willson to redesign the storefront as Bill's Grill. With Willson's Art Deco design, the building was converted to its final use as a cafe and two handsome upstairs apartments. While the upper story façade retained its original 1905 patterned masonry and terra cotta details, the ground floor further lost its identity to subsequent remodeling. In 1998-99, sensitive redesign of the storefront recaptured its historic ambience. Inside, the original pressed tin ceilings and 1930s furnishings remain almost pristine. The Lundwall Building is significant for the social patterns mirrored in its diverse history and as a superb complement to its vintage Main Street neighbors.

**Property:** 610 South Willson Avenue

**Address:** 610 South Willson Avenue, Bozeman, Gallatin

**Historic District:** Bon Ton           **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Built in 1904, this Colonial Revival style home reflects a renewed interest in America's colonial heritage and combines elements of the emerging Craftsman style. The main body is a square with bay window columns on each side for balance and light. The Doric-inspired columns, corner boards, and front porch reflect the Colonial style. Elements of the Craftsman style include the overhanging eaves and exposed rafter tails. The two styles carry throughout the interior. Decorative oak accents, a reception hall, and pocket doors continue the Colonial theme while wide, inviting entries suggest the Craftsman style's aim of harmony with nature. The home was built for Agnes Foster, whose husband, Dr. Henry W. Foster, was a prominent physician and Bozeman mayor. Later their daughter Myrtle Steffens and her husband Claude lived in the house. Roland R. Renne, Montana State College (University) President, and prominent businessman Carl Lehrkind were also owners. In 1987, the movie *Amazing Grace* and *Chuck*, starring Gregory Peck and Jamie Lee Curtis, featured the residence. In 1999, restoration efforts earned the home Bozeman's Historic Preservation Award.

**Property:** Emerson School

**Address:** 111 S Grand Ave, Bozeman, Gallatin

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** public schools (buildings)           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Bozeman's first permanent public educational facility, West Side School, was built in 1877 on these grounds, then described as "out of town, west, on a little hill." Its successor, City High School, built in 1892, at one time housed

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

the first Montana State Agricultural College classes. When the high school was razed in 1918, Bozeman's premier architect, Fred Fielding Willson, designed the present school to replace his own alma mater. Completed in 1920 as an elementary and junior high school, this grand Neo-Gothic building is constructed of raked, earth-toned brick with carved limestone trim. It features a central auditorium surrounded by classrooms and a sunken gymnasium. The auditorium boasts lovely imported French chandeliers. Thanks to PWA financial assistance programs during the Depression era, Emerson received a new elementary wing in 1939. Fred Willson's fine design includes an unusual frieze above the entrance depicting three children reading, writing numbers, and playing music. Originally designed to represent "the three Rs," music was substituted for finger counting to demonstrate a new, broader curriculum. In 1950, the junior high was moved and Emerson was entirely devoted to elementary education. Bozeman students past and present were saddened when the "cradle of education" ceased its function as a public school in 1992. One of its last small scholars wrote the "Emerson is a piece of joy." Now the Emerson Cultural Center, a non-profit community arts center, lives up to that statement, educating and enriching through the arts and expanding the broader curriculum sanctioned in 1939.

**Property:** Kennedy Building

**Address:** 127 Yellowstone Ave., West Yellowstone, Gallatin

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Louis J. Kennedy, forest ranger for the Madison Basin, obtained the first permit to operate a business on this choice commercial property in 1910. Some protested the propriety of his successful application since his mother-in-law also obtained a permit for the choice lot next door. Kennedy Hall was first used as a dance hall. Equipped with a piano, the building hosted Saturday night dances for the entertainment of tourists, railroad employees, and locals. It then housed a summer restaurant from 1913 to 1916, and in 1919, local students used its lofty space as a basketball court. Sam Eagle, one of the town's founders, acquired the building in 1933 and opened a curio shop managed by his daughter, Rose. In 1941, Rose married Herm Menzel who promptly went off to war. Upon Herm's return in 1946, the store became Menzel's Curio Shop. The log building features sawn, half-log vertical siding of red fir decoratively placed on the front façade. Structural log columns two feet in diameter support a gabled projection over the sidewalk and entry. The heavy timbered, rustic storefront is an unusual treatment for commercial buildings in Montana. Original interior features include bead board siding, a pressed metal ceiling, and crown moldings. Crag and Kurt Menzel, Rose and Herm's sons and grandsons of Sam Eagle, manage the shop today. One of the few remaining buildings associated with Yellowstone tourism in the 1910s, the Kennedy Building is also significant for its distinctive rustic architecture.

**Property:** Amos R. Howerton Residence

**Address:** 401 S 5th Ave, Bozeman, Gallatin

**Historic District:** Cooper Park   **Building Type:** building contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Open fields of wheat once stretched in front of this home built by carpenter Amos R. Howerton and his brother circa 1903. Its steeply pitched gables and gracious wraparound porch are hallmarks of the eclectic Queen Anne style. On its prominent corner, the home presided over the rural neighborhood. Howerton purchased two adjoining lots in 1906, likely intending to build on speculation. This, however, was not meant to be. On January 23, 1907, 42-year-old Howerton died instantly when he fell from scaffolding into electrical wires at a nearby power substation. His widow returned to Missouri and subsequent owners of the home included farmer Ferdinand Dell and the Henry J. Dewey family. The late Victorian-era residence, built with pattern book plans, features two

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

formal front entrances. One opens into the dining room and the other into the living room, yet the two interior rooms were never divided. Although time has long obscured Howerton's logic, it remains a poignant curiosity to present-day owners.

**Property:** Eagle's Store

**Address:** 127 Yellowstone Ave., West Yellowstone, Gallatin

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

When the tracks of the Oregon Short Line reached West Yellowstone in November 1907, Park employee Samuel P. Eagle applied for and was granted a permit to operate a business adjacent to the railway right-of-way. The Eagles, in partnership with the Alex Stuarts, built a tiny 12-by-12-foot general store on this site in 1908. It was the first commercial operation in West Yellowstone. The Eagles enlarged the store in 1913 and in 1927, the old store was razed and construction began on the present building. It was built in three stages and finished in 1930. Prominent Bozeman architect Fred Willson, who designed other structures in the same Rustic style within Yellowstone National Park, designed all three sections. Donating his time because of a desire to promote the Rustic style, Willson was reimbursed for direct costs only. Massive 18-to-36-foot red fir logs set in rhyolite and concrete support the building. Shingle siding and a roof of multicolored "T" lock asphalt shingles pierced by gabled dormers provide striking surface variation. All elements of the three sections are original. Outstanding interior features include the back bar installed in the original store in 1910 and the original 1930 front bar and stools. Millwork, tile, and white marble tops of both the customer counter and the back bar remain intact. Still a gift shop and soda fountain owned and managed by the Eagles, this impressive pioneer family business is one of West Yellowstone's most outstanding architectural landmarks.

**Property:** St. James Episcopal Church and Rectory

**Address:** 5 W. Olive, Bozeman, Gallatin

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** churches (buildings)           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The first services were held in this lovely Gothic style Episcopal church in October 1890. Built at a time when Bozeman hoped to become the capital of Montana, the church reflects the optimism and prosperity that came on the heels of the gold rush in 1863 and statehood in 1889. Episcopalians were among the first to gather in the fledgling settlement of Bozeman when Bishop Daniel Tuttle held services on July 5, 1868. By 1876, a wood frame church stood near the present site. Ground breaking for the new stone church took place on September 13, 1889. Architect George Hancock of Fargo, North Dakota, provided the building plans; James S. Campbell was general contractor. Built of grey sandstone from the local Esler quarry, the church features a stately bell tower crowned with a copper cross. Prior to completion of the bell tower, the 500-pound, five-tone bell, donated in 1883 by Rosa (Mrs. W. J.) Beall, was housed on a platform in front of the wood frame church. The church interior reflects the same craftsmanship as the structure. The trussed ceiling is finished in natural oiled Norway pine paneling. Softly blended colors of cathedral glass in the windows reflect the Art Nouveau style of the period. The adjacent rectory, constructed in 1883, was remodeled to its present Colonial Revival style in 1930. The parish hall connecting the rectory and church was designed in 1940 by Fed Willson. St. James symbolized the solid foundations laid by her pioneer congregation.

**Property:** Dr. Walter E. Dean Residence

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Address:** 517 W Koch, Bozeman, Gallatin

**Historic District:** Cooper Park **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Development was sparse in this neighborhood in the early 1900s, but by the mid-1910s, construction boomed around Cooper Park. This classic Colonial Revival style home was built on a choice lot diagonally across from Cooper Park circa 1919. The park, planned in 1891, was likely intended to ornament the hoped-for State Capitol, which Bozeman failed to capture. Instead, the park served local families as the neighborhood developed around the State Agricultural College (now MSU). Dr. Walter E. Dean, an osteopathic physician, was this home's longtime owner. He and his wife, Zana, raised two sons and a daughter and, because of close proximity to the college, occasionally took in student lodgers. Tucked among mature landscaping, the home presents a pleasing symmetry. Its distinctive gambrel roof is a hallmark of Dutch Colonial Revival, a subtype of the Colonial Revival style. Graceful columns support a centered, open porch with a gabled roof and pediment. The street-facing dormer features two pairs of windows flanking a third set in miniature. Inside, ample windows allow extraordinary natural lighting, and oak and maple flooring survives intact.

**Property:** Pine Butte School

**Address:** West of Bozeman, Pine Butte, Gallatin

**Historic District:** **Building Type:** structure | rural

**Subject 1:** public schools (buildings) **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Gallatin County, Montana's first settled agricultural area, had many small communities upon statehood in 1889. State law allowed as few as four residents to petition for the financial assistance needed to establish a school district. Gallatin County especially seized this opportunity. At one time the county had 77 individual school districts. District #53 was established in 1895 and the Pine Butte School built shortly thereafter. Lillie Railsback was the first teacher. She taught her 14 diverse students all subjects at different levels. The school year varied, but most teachers were itinerant, staying in one place for a term of three to four months, then moving to the next assignment. The "Smart School" was Pine Butte's nickname because the land was purchased from Silas G. Smart. There were three Smart families, and over the years 15 Smart children attended the school. However, 17 Todd children also attended Pine Butte. Descendants of many former students still live in Gallatin County. A classic example of the western one-room schoolhouse, Pine Butte School was a simple gable-ended rectangle with three windows on each side. During the 1920s, the vestibule was added. Circa 1940, the west windows were removed because cross lighting was thought to cause eyestrain. Two of the west windows were added to the east side. Students managed without electricity until 1949, and the one remaining privy reveals a lack of plumbing even today. Pine Butte School served local children until 1955. In 2000, the Pine Butte community acquired this local historic landmark.

**Property:** Methodist Episcopal Church, Three Forks

**Address:** 116 Cedar, Three Forks, Gallatin

**Historic District:** **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** churches (buildings) **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The Milwaukee Land Company, a subsidiary of the Milwaukee Road, established the town of Three Forks in 1908. Company land agent John Q. Adams chose this townsite and held a lot sale in 1908. Buyers came by the trainload, purchasing 250 lots. District Superintendent Reverend George King with Reverends Charles Crouch and Charles Rhodes purchased two lots for the First Methodist Episcopal Church. In a mess tent by the roundhouse eleven

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

days later, Reverends Crouch and Rhodes held the first religious services in the new town. The church was chartered in 1909 with thirteen members. Reverend Fleet initiated a building program in 1911 and it progressed under Reverend McClure. The cornerstone was laid with great fanfare in 1913. Presiding Elder Jacob Mills of Bozeman donated \$2,500 to assure the church a secure financial foundation, and pastors from across Montana attended the first service on Easter Sunday, 1914. Methodist and Presbyterian congregations combined between 1920 and 1953 as the Federated Church. In 1968, the Methodists merged with the Evangelical United Brethren Church to become the present United Methodist Church. Despite heavy earthquake damage in 1925, this landmark church remains a classic example of the Gothic Revival style. Impressive features include graceful pointed arches with tracery windows, a Norman style crenellated bell tower with corner buttresses, and a steeply pitched cross-gabled roof. The interior, restored in 1993, includes a soaring 30-foot wood beamed ceiling, original oak pews arranged in three tiers, and stained glass windows.

**Property:** Airway Radio Station

**Address:** Three Forks Airport-Pogreba Field, Three Forks, Gallatin

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** Subject 1

air and space transportation buildings

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Aviation captivated America during the 1920s, particularly when Charles Lindbergh flew solo across the Atlantic in 1927. The United States made rapid strides and airfields opened all over the country. The town of Belgrade constructed Gallatin County's first airfield in 1929. The opening of Siefert Field, attended by 8,000 people, even caused the county's first traffic jam. By 1930, the U.S. proudly claimed the most advanced airway system in the world, and in 1935 Northwest Airways received federal approval to provide Montana with east-west airmail service. The U.S. Department of Commerce subsequently constructed the Airway Radio Station at Siefert Field. Federally constructed airway stations, spaced approximately 200 miles apart along the airways, provided services critical to the development of civil aviation. The station housed the radio range and ground-to-air system used by airmail pilots on the Minneapolis-Spokane-Seattle civil airway. Aeronautics Bureau employees manned the station 24 hours a day, operating radio equipment and gathering weather information, which they transmitted over teletype. As technology advanced, high frequency VHF signals proved more reliable in the 1930s and radio range equipment in the Airway Radio Station became obsolete. Gallatin County moved the station to nearby Pogreba Field in 1953, where it now serves as the Three Forks Airport terminal. The small Craftsman style building, one of two such stations left in Montana, is a reminder of early airmail service and the technology that made round-the-clock, all-weather flying feasible.

**Property:** Belgrade City Hall

**Address:** 88 North Broadway, Belgrade, Gallatin

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** city halls

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Incorporation in 1906 established Belgrade's independence, but also created a need for local service offices. The Belgrade Bank, built in 1902, was already central to the town's civic business as home of the telegraph line and newspaper. Though the structure's castellated Gothic style rendered into western vernacular was reminiscent of the late 1880s, its formidable façade aptly represented hope for the town's future stability. Noted Bozeman architect Fred F. Willson, then just launching his career, designed the addition to match and structurally join the older building. Completed in 1912, the new addition included the city jail and a second-floor theater. The glazed red brick façade features chimney-like extensions resembling battlements, while the brick parapet rises in the

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

western false-front tradition. Originally, the parapet and cornice extended the length of both buildings, visually binding them together. A multipurpose building in the true sense, the Belgrade City Hall has served as police headquarters, fire station, court, library, post office, community hall, and even basketball court. Ironically, the older portion has lost its Gothic façade, but this 1912 structure remains one of two examples in the Gallatin Valley of this tenacious nineteenth-century style.

**Property:** Jesse Patrick House

**Address:** 202 South 7th, Bozeman, Gallatin

**Historic District:** Cooper Park    **Building Type:** building contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures    **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

A few Queen Anne style pattern book cottages like this classic example dotted Cooper Park neighborhoods in the late nineteenth century. Predating the later bungalows that comprise the majority of homes in the district, its Victorian-era roots are easily detected. Plain and fish scale shingles, beveled wood siding on the front porch, and a cut stone foundation illustrate the fondness for mixed surface textures. Several stained glass windows, the asymmetrical placement of the front door, and the tall, narrow windows are also typical of the period. By 1904, a stable with upstairs living quarters sat on the alley at the rear; the back porch and garage were later additions. Longtime owner Jesse E. Patrick, express agent for the American Railway Express Company, came to Bozeman from Superior, Wisconsin, in 1909. He and his wife Zilla Celestia, formerly the Superior librarian, lived at several addresses in the neighborhood before settling in this home by 1918. Zilla passed away suddenly after Christmas in 1927, leaving Jesse and two children, thirteen and fifteen. Jesse kept house here until 1956.

**Property:** John Cook / Arthur H. Post Residence

**Address:** 205 West Cleveland, Bozeman, Gallatin

**Historic District:** Bon Ton    **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures    **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Doctors, lawyers, and professors settled in the preferred Bon Ton Historic District, building homes that reflected their community status. Dr. John Cook, a Bozeman dentist, built this Colonial Revival style Cape Cod cottage in 1925. Although not an elaborate home, its appealing façade and quality construction are typical of the district's more modest, later homes. The rectangular shape and steep gabled roof crowned with finials define the Cape Cod form while symmetrical composition and pedimented entry are hallmarks of the Colonial Revival style. By 1930, Arthur H. and Margaret Post owned the home where they raised two sons. Dr. Post was professor of agronomy at Montana State University from 1924 to 1969 and department chairman from 1937 to 1964. In 1980, MSU honored Dr. Post for his contributions in plant and soil science with its coveted Blue and Gold Award; a research laboratory on campus bears his name. Arthur died in 1982. Margaret, who taught weaving in the basement to many local residents, remained here until 1994. New owners lovingly renovated and expanded the home in the 1990s.

**Property:** Burr Fisher House

**Address:** 712 S Willson Ave, Bozeman, Gallatin

**Historic District:**    **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures    **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The 1915 Panama-California Exposition in San Diego raised the profile of the Mission style, and the style became

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

popular among cosmopolitan Montanans through the 1930s. Built in 1909, this two-story Mission Style home, patterned on Southern California's Spanish missions, was ahead of the trend. Burr and Jennie Fisher hired Montana's premier architectural firm of Link and Haire to design their new home on a lot the couple purchased from Burr's parents, who lived next door. Architect Fred Willson, then working for Link and Haire, likely led the project. Praised by the newspaper as "one of the most unique as well as prettiest residences in Bozeman," the home featured stuccoed and painted brick-bearing walls, an arcaded porch with large arched openings, a curvilinear gable, and a hipped roof originally covered with Spanish clay tiles. A large brick double fireplace with thick wooden mantels, a built-in buffet, and oak-beamed and coffered ceilings show the architect's attention to detail. Much of the original interior details survived and have been restored. In 1912, the Fishers moved to San Francisco. Dr. J. Franklin Blair, who established the Blair Sanitarium, a forerunner of the present-day Bozeman hospital, lived here from c. 1919 to 1927. The residence later became student housing, first for the sorority Pi Beta Phi and then, in 1939, as the "Men's Coop," under the ownership of the Montana State College Student Housing Association. The Association provided low-income housing, mostly for students, until 1983. That year, a new owner purchased the by-then dilapidated building and remodeled it once again into a single-family home.

**Property:** Adams Block

**Address:** 123 Main St, Three Forks, Gallatin

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

John Quincy Adams of the Milwaukee Land Company, a subsidiary of the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railway, platted the present town of Three Forks in 1908. Unlike most railroad officials, Adams and his son, B. S. Adams, took an unusual personal interest in the town's development. Foundations were laid for the J. Q. Adams Block in 1916. In March 1918, the Three Forks Herald finally reported completion proclaiming it "one of the most beautiful [buildings] in the State." The Neo-classical style building represents what might today line Three Forks' commercial district had drought, World War I, and depression not intervened. Elegant brickwork and sophisticated proportion reflect the talents of an anonymous, finely trained architect. A significant representative example of early twentieth century "modern" local architecture, the clean lines and symmetry contrast sharply with Three Forks' earlier, more heavily ornamented commercial buildings. The upper façade remains unchanged. The first ground-floor occupants were the Robertson Jewelry and Drug Company and the Adams' Three Forks Land Company. A private men's social club occupied the second floor. Members played billiards and pool in a large arched open space surrounded by oak panels. The club had a kitchen, dining area, and quarters for the live-in steward. The billiards room and sitting room with fireplace remain intact on the second floor. The tin ceiling, mosaic floor tiles, and two vaults survive on the main floor. The exterior masonry and windows are as originally designed except the tin storefront and glass were removed and "modernized" in 1972.

**Property:** Upper Madison School

**Address:** 3990 Buffalo Jump Rd, Three Forks vicinity, Gallatin

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** public schools (buildings)           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Rancher Steve Hutchinson's granary acted as the Upper Madison School's first classroom. There Jennie Rice taught area children during a three-month summer term held in 1887. In 1890, Steve and his wife Katherine donated an acre on the northeast corner of their ranch to the school district, where Steve built this wood-framed gable-roof school. Following the best practices in school design, he placed windows on only one side of the building to prevent "cross-lighting," which experts believed harmed pupils' vision. Since all students were required

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

to write with their right hands, placing the band of windows to the students' left meant sunlight could illuminate their papers without creating shadows. Outside, two privies, placed over 80 feet apart for modesty's sake, served the boys and girls respectively. In the 1890s, teachers were paid \$35 a month for the five-month term. Parents took turns providing the teacher room and board at no charge. Ten pupils attended the school in 1893, the year Upper Madison began to receive state funding. The building also served as a social center. An itinerant minister arrived by bicycle to hold Sunday services. Fiddle dances—usually fundraisers—were also common. During the 1930s, farm consolidation left fewer students in rural areas, while automobiles and improved roads made travel easier. As a result, many of Montana's one-room schools closed, including the Upper Madison School in 1940. Not long after, the Madison Valley Women's Club took charge of the building, which continues its role as an important community gathering place.

**Property:** Lower Bridger School

**Address:** East of Bozeman, Bozeman, Gallatin

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** public schools (buildings)           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Homesteaders followed miners on the heels of the 1860s gold rush as Gallatin County became Montana's first extensive agricultural area. By the late 1880s one-room schoolhouses dotted the countryside, sometimes no more than five miles apart. School District #48, organized in 1896, established the Lower Bridger School. That year Kate Ferris taught sixteen Lower Bridger pupils in the Murray family farmhouse. The next year George Washington Sparr donated the land and this one-room school was built in 1900. Laura Silverton taught all eight grades during the short four-month term. Lower Bridger's enrollment averaged about eight students until 1918 when the deadly Spanish flu epidemic swept across Montana. Classes were suspended. For three years local children attended school in Bozeman, returning to Lower Bridger in 1922. Improvements to the building during this period visually document the evolution of one-room schools in the West. In the 1920s two east windows were moved to the west side in response to concerns that cross lighting caused eyestrain. A vestibule addition offered protection against harsh weather, and shingles were applied over the original clapboard. With the exception of a few years, classes met at Lower Bridger until 1958 when Districts #48 and #39 (Upper Bridger) then consolidated with Bozeman School District #7. In August 1996, more than 250 former students of Upper and Lower Bridger schools gathered for a nostalgic centennial celebration. In May 2000, District #7 gave Lower Bridger School to the community for public use.

**Property:** Bozeman Carnegie Library

**Address:** 35 N. Bozeman Ave, Bozeman, Gallatin

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** libraries (buildings)           **Subject 2:** city halls

**Sign Text:**

Steel baron Andrew Carnegie viewed public libraries as a key agent of self improvement and donated roughly \$41 million for the construction of 1,679 public libraries between 1886 and 1917. The Bozeman Classical Revival landmark, one of seventeen Carnegie libraries erected in Montana, was constructed to meet the needs of a growing population and elevate the moral character of the community. Small libraries had existed in Bozeman since 1872, but by 1900 the city's accommodations were woefully inadequate. To rectify the situation, librarian Bell Chrisman urged the city to seek Carnegie funding. On March 14, 1902, the philanthropist agreed to provide \$15,000 for the building in return for "a suitable site" and the city's pledge of \$1,500 yearly support. Despite local controversy, reform-minded citizens located the new facility directly across the street from the town's red light district in part as an incentive to improve those disreputable surroundings. To this end, architect C. S. Haire



## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

designed Bozeman's library to resemble an ancient temple with a symmetrical Greek cross plan. The elaborate main entrance features Roman Doric columns supporting a formidable triangular pediment. In the shadow of this impressive edifice, the red light district eventually disappeared. The structure served as the community library until 1980 and then was utilized as city offices. In 1998, the building underwent extensive restoration by owners Michael E. Wheat and Michael D. Cok.

**Property:** Bozeman YMCA

**Address:** 6 West Babcock, Bozeman, Gallatin

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** gymnasiums           **Subject 2:** apartments

**Sign Text:**

The Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA), founded in England in 1844, made its way to the United States in the 1850s. By the turn of the century, many American cities boasted YMCA facilities providing reasonable accommodations and physical fitness opportunities for young men. Montana was also part of this movement. By the early twentieth century, Billings, Kalispell, and Miles City had YMCA facilities. Bozeman wanted to follow suit and the community began to explore its options. Montana YMCA secretary Charles Puehler, recognizing Bozeman's interest, arranged for the state convention to be held here in 1913. The building fund committees that formed at the meetings quickly reached their \$65,000 goal. The Bozeman YMCA then formally organized on November 5, 1913, and groundbreaking for the new building took place in 1914. Designed by local architect Fred. F. Willson, the facility opened to the public in 1915. It was fully equipped and furnished thanks to an additional \$1,500 donated by brothers Nelson and Byron Story. Decorative brickwork and a striking covered entry highlight the handsome building. The original Mission style interior included built-in seating in the lobby, 39 dormitory rooms that rented for an average of \$10 a month, a white-tiled swimming pool, and one of state's largest gymnasiums encircled by a banked cork running track. The building served as the YMCA until its conversion to the Boulevard Apartments in the early 1980s. Today it exemplifies the preservation of a significant community resource and its adaptive reuse.

**Property:** Peterson House

**Address:** 216 N Wallace Ave, Bozeman, Gallatin

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Self-styled capitalist Olaf Peterson and his wife Johanna, both Swedish immigrants, built this sturdy two-story home circa 1896. It was the first home constructed on the block. While other neighborhood homes are of frame construction, this residence is of brick. Oddly, several of its former owners were in the timber business. Timber dealer George Millet purchased the home from the Petersons in 1908. Pacific Northwest lumberman Julius Neils of Portland was the next owner. Neils sent his son-in-law, Harry Schocknecht, to Kalispell to establish lumberyards in Montana. The Schocknechts occupied the home until 1915. Logging contractor Thomas Gardner and his family were residents during the 1920s. Dr. Ralph Towne and his wife, Marie, made their home here from 1936 to 1967. The home then served as parish house for the nearby Trinity Lutheran Church. At some time in its more recent history, preeminent Kalispell architect Fred Brinkman designed the newer windows, but the nineteenth-century residence retains much of its historic fabric. A complex plan and orange-red brick softened by mature landscaping make this a distinctive neighborhood landmark.

**Property:** 602 South Grand

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Address:** 602 South Grand, Bozeman, Gallatin

**Historic District:** Bon Ton      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The 1893 economic depression had ended when J. H. Beverly constructed this vernacular residence in 1899. Bozeman's steady turn-of-the-century growth made his a sound investment. Frank Alderson, treasurer of the Avant Courier and the youngest son of Bozeman founder Reverend William Alderson, purchased the two-and-one-half-story house for \$2,500, renting it to department store owner Burr Fisher. When Fisher moved out, Alderson moved in, but only temporarily while contractors finished his new house two blocks north. Rachel Hoy, wife of successful Gallatin Valley farmer Charles Hoy, purchased the home in 1903, likely as a winter residence. While Rachel was one of many women who owned property in Montana at the turn of the twentieth century, female property ownership was not a straightforward reflection of women's economic power. Under certain circumstances, married women's property was protected from their husbands' creditors, and families used this fact to protect their assets. Members of the Hoy family resided here into the 1920s. The wraparound front porch and rear addition are new.

**Property:** Crail Ranch Buildings

**Address:** 2110 Spotted Elk Rd, Big Sky, Gallatin

**Historic District:**      **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** ranches (agricultural complexes)      **Subject 2:** log buildings

**Sign Text:**

Sweeping views of the Spanish Peaks, the Madison Range, and the Gallatin Canyon provided a magnificent setting for Augustus Frank Crail to locate his ranching headquarters. Crail carved out a 960-acre ranch purchasing three homesteads, school lands, and railroad property in 1902. He, his wife Sally, and their three children all contributed to the family business. They settled in the small log cabin while they built the main house, establishing a water-powered sawmill nearby where they milled lumber for private and commercial use. Crail grew a special kind of wheat he developed and raised sheep. By 1934, the Crails' success allowed them to close the sawmill and switch to raising cattle. Most area ranchers who weathered the Great Depression turned to dude ranching, but the Crails continued to run their working ranch until 1950. For fifty years, the ranch structures were the only evidence of human habitation in this meadow valley. Today, the house and cabin are the sole survivors of the once-sprawling complex. The older log cabin has a unique roof of rough sawn lumber three layers deep. The sturdy main residence, built with care and skill circa 1905, is of hand-hewn logs chinked with mortar. The marks of the ax used to flatten the dove-tailed logs are plainly visible. The two dwellings, now nestled among modern residences, are a rare monument to early homesteading and a poignant reminder of this bygone era in the Gallatin Valley.

**Property:** Dokken-Nelson Funeral Home

**Address:** 113 S. Willson, Bozeman, Gallatin

**Historic District:**      **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** funeral homes      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The Dokken-Nelson Funeral Home business commissioned this building from Bozeman's prolific early twentieth century architect, Fred F. Willson, and it is indicative of Willson's diversity of styles. Upon the building's completion in 1936, Hermann Dokken and Howard Nelson moved their business, the leading early twentieth century funeral home in the city, into these new premises. As he did for many other significant buildings here, architect Willson worked with local contractor Henry J. Hamill in the completion of this Neo-Gothic Revival style building. The brick construction is of running bond pattern with a header course every seven courses. Limestone

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

surrounds the doors and leaded glass, casement windows, and the recessed entrance are detailed with carved relief limestone. An interpretation of English medieval architecture is exhibited in the turreted coping and simulated buttresses that adorn the symmetrical front façade. The red brick garage attached on the north side was added in more recent years.

**Property:** 812 South Third Avenue

**Address:** 812 South Third Avenue, Bozeman, Gallatin

**Historic District:** Bon Ton      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

There were few houses in the neighborhood when Civil War veteran Edward Cornelius Kinney moved into this home circa 1906. Kinney, a civil engineer of some renown, was educated at Oberlin College in his Ohio hometown. As assistant chief engineer for the Union Pacific Railroad, Kinney oversaw the difficult preliminary surveys across Montana. He once mustered 300 men to guard the Jefferson canyon from rival Northern Pacific surveyors. Kinney eventually settled in Bozeman where he was construction manager of the West Gallatin Irrigation Company. The Kinneys lived here with four of their six grown children and a granddaughter. The child's widowed mother, Mabel Kinney Hall, was a highly educated professor of public speaking and modern languages at the nearby Montana Agricultural College (now MSU). Another Kinney daughter was librarian at the public library; their only son, like his father, was a civil engineer for the Union Pacific. The home's comparatively modest design reflects the transition from complex Victorian-era flamboyance. Leaded glass windows, an offset gabled entry, and a double-bay façade complement the straightforward square plan and open front porch.

**Property:** Hotel Bozeman

**Address:** 321 E Main, Bozeman, Gallatin

**Historic District:** Main Street      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** hotels (public accommodations)      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Bitter cold was no deterrent in March 1891 as a jubilant, elegantly attired crowd of 500 gathered to celebrate the opening of Bozeman's first-class hotel. Its completion marked the town's coming of age and added a decidedly urban formality to what was still a rural community. Hoping their town would become the state capital in the 1892 statewide election, citizens raised \$20,000 and an optimistic group of Boston capitalists put up \$100,000 to construct the 136-room hotel. George Hancock designed the vernacular Romanesque style building. The arched windows, elaborate stained glass, and five-story turreted bay graced an unpaved Main Street. Inside, modern amenities included steam heat, fire escapes, call bells, a formal dining room, an elevator, and a ladies' parlor. Although the town lost its capital bid, the fine hotel long reflected the winning enthusiasm of Bozeman's avid supporters. Renovation in 1974 changed the interior, but a carved stair, part of the pressed-tin lobby ceiling, and several ornate cast-iron columns remain to document the grandeur of this landmark hotel.

**Property:** Jack Bartlett House

**Address:** 8 West Harrison Street, Bozeman, Gallatin

**Historic District:**      **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

While most of Montana suffered through the Great Depression, Bozeman fared comparatively well. High unemployment increased enrollment at Montana State College while flourishing agribusiness and New Deal

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

assistance made Bozeman the “de facto capital of rural Montana.” During the 1930s Jack Bartlett, along with his mother Ethel and sister Betty, were proprietors of The Bungalow, a popular ice cream parlor. By 1939, Bartlett was a divorced father with custody of his three children. Desiring a traditional home for his children, mother, and sister, Bartlett commissioned Fred Willson, Bozeman’s premier architect, to work with the family on an ambitious project. Together they designed a Tudor Revival style showplace that suited the extended family’s needs. Financial difficulties in the 1940s prompted the Bartletts to sell the house to Dr. F. I. Sabo, who subsequently made his home here for many years. The residence, unusual in architecture and size for the period, bears striking similarities to the campus Quadrangle and Student Union buildings also designed by Willson. A steeply gabled entrance, overhanging second story, massive chimney, tall windows, and varied eave-line heights are characteristic of the style. Details include varied surface treatments in wood and brick, wood quoins tooled to mimic sandstone at the entry, carved wooden shutters, and vertical siding with scalloped edging. Beamed ceilings, polished Philippine mahogany, and hexagonal patterns in glass and wood enhance interior spaces. The romantic Tudor Revival style of rural medieval Europe, effectively placed here in an urban setting, illustrates Willson’s architectural prowess and highlights Bozeman’s diverse built environment.

**Property:** Rouse House

**Address:** 506 E Babcock, Bozeman, Gallatin

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

In 1861, Daniel E. Rouse moved from Minnesota to what would become Montana. He joined John Bozeman and W. J. Beall three years later in laying out the original townsite of Bozeman. At that time, his own residence was a simple log cabin. Rouse’s Additions were among the first extensions of the town and, in the second of these, Rouse reserved a large corner lot for his own family home. It was constructed in 1881, during the building boom initiated by the arrival of the Northern Pacific Railroad. At that time, Bozeman residents favored brick as a building material of permanence, and so it was in scarce supply. But Daniel Rouse owned a brickyard. Architecturally, the house is an excellent example of the I-House building type that is common in Bozeman, and is notable for the stone springers and keystones that ornament the segmental arches of all its windows and doors.

**Property:** National Bank of Gallatin Valley

**Address:** One West Main Street, Bozeman, Gallatin

**Historic District:** Main Street   **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** banks (financial institutions)           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Impressive molded concrete blocks make this early bank building one of Bozeman’s most unique historic landmarks. Businessmen James E. Martin and Amos C. Hall (who served a term as mayor of Bozeman in 1922) established the Martin and Hall Bank, later the National Bank of Gallatin Valley, in 1903. This Classical Revival style building, constructed in 1905, features decorative brick highlights at the roofline. Solid construction and two-story fluted columns lend a visual stability symbolic of financial strength. The bank had a strong beginning, weathering a national depression in 1907, but finances could not match the building’s architectural message. The bank struggled during the depressed 1920s. Legend has it that W. S. Davidson, president of the Gallatin Trust and Savings Bank, situated across the street, would rise in his chair each morning and peer across the street to see if the National Bank would open its doors. In 1926, Davidson’s bank along with two others quietly absorbed the financially ailing institution. James Martin, longtime bank president, told neighbors that he quit banking to tend his sheep herd.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Property:** Blackmore Apartments

**Address:** 120 South Black, Bozeman, Gallatin

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** apartments           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

In 1903, an architectural journal called apartment buildings "the most dangerous enemy American domesticity has had to encounter." The article's author joined a chorus of critics who claimed that the proximity of bedrooms to living areas—and the easy access to both by neighbors—encouraged promiscuity. Nevertheless, apartments increasingly attracted middle-class residents and, since apartments were a hallmark of big cities like New York and Chicago, many Montanans embraced them as signs of urban sophistication. That was the Bozeman newspaper's reaction to the Blackmore's construction in 1913. An apartment building, crowed the Courier, is "one of the sure signs that your city is a progressive one ... passing from the days of a country town." Designed by architect Fred Willson, and financed by Willson and other prominent city boosters, the Blackmore Apartments boasted twenty-nine units. Each featured "a disappearing bed in the living room," an electric stove, an ice-box, and "a chute to convey garbage to the basement, where it is burned in a heating apparatus that heats the water for the building." A careful designer, Willson minimized the negative aspects of apartment living. For noise reduction and fire protection, he specified brick walls between each unit. Balconies and a U-shaped design assured residents ample sunlight and fresh air. Architectural flourishes include Prairie style elements along the cornice line and a pattern of recessed brick separating the foundation from the upper stories. In 1920, the Blackmore housed a mix of professionals, including merchants, teachers, stenographers, salesmen, a doctor, a milliner, and a druggist.

**Property:** Peterson House

**Address:** 216 North Wallace Avenue, Bozeman, Gallatin

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

As Bozeman made its bid for state capital, the construction of fashionable homes and buildings contributed to the town's promotional efforts. Economic depression in 1893 and designation of Helena as state capital in 1894 tempered the boomtown enthusiasm of the previous decade. Few homes and buildings were constructed during this period of economic difficulty. One exception is this modest cottage built circa 1895 for laborer James Peterson. A native of Denmark, Peterson came to the United States in 1876, settled in Bozeman in 1882 and married at the age of 42. He brought his bride, Katie, to this house where the couple lived until they moved to Grant's Pass, Oregon, circa 1902. Lafayette Fuller and his wife, the former Mrs. Grace Winters, then purchased the residence. The couple made their home here until Fuller's death in 1934. The enterprising Fuller worked his way from employment as a teamster with S. C. Kenyon in 1902 to proprietor of the Bozeman Transfer Company by 1916. During Prohibition, the Fullers operated the O.K. Pastime, a soft drink establishment on Main Street. The Queen Anne style cottage is typical of modest workers' housing built during the Victorian era. The original L-shape had been modified by 1912, filling in the "L," expanding the rear, and adding a back corner porch. Diamond-cut shingles in the gables, irregular front entries, squared porch posts with decorative support brackets, and arched windows are characteristic of the Queen Anne style.

**Property:** 22 West Lamme

**Address:** 22 West Lamme, Bozeman, Gallatin

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:**

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

### Sign Text:

A two-story wooden residence sat at the rear of this lot, adjoining the alley, in 1889. A year later, owners built this remarkably well-preserved house on Lamme. Distinguishing the brick home are an inviting front porch, tall chimney, decorative brackets beneath the eaves, and distinctive Mansard roof. Mansard roofs with dormer windows are the defining feature of the Second Empire style. Particularly associated with France during the reign of Napoleon III and, thus, with Parisian sophistication, Second Empire became the style of choice for large public buildings and grand mansions in post-Civil War America. In addition, the nearly perpendicular Mansard roofs had the advantage of transforming cramped attics into usable space, increasing a family's living area without adding a full second story. This modest residence is Bozeman's last remaining example of the once-popular style. Likely built as an investment property, the two-story home was constructed during the short-lived building boom that accompanied Bozeman's unsuccessful quest to become the state capital. In 1900, German-born butcher Louis Gries lived here with his wife Bertha and their three children. By 1904, an expanded rear addition had replaced the home's original one-story back room, which undoubtedly served as a kitchen. Many two-story, nineteenth-century residences placed the kitchen under separate roof to minimize fire risk. Bucket brigades could more easily reach a one-story roof, perhaps saving the rest of the house in case of a kitchen fire. Bookkeeper Walter Davis and his wife Virginia occupied the residence in 1920 along with their two children, Virginia's widowed mother, and her thirty-year-old brother.

**Property:** Sacajawea Hotel

**Address:** 5 Main Street, Three Forks, Gallatin

**Historic District:**            **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** hotels (public accommodations)

**Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

Arrival of the Milwaukee Railroad caused Three Forks to move (1908-1910) one mile up the Missouri River from its 1863 townsite, as happened with many sister towns in the developing West. Milwaukee Railroad purchasing agent John Q. Adams saw need for a hotel to serve travelers and residents, and he thriftily purchased the Madison House (built 1862) and had it moved from the "old town" on log rollers. The Madison House's front half is the apartment wing on the northeast end of the hotel, and its rear half forms the main kitchen, a dining room, and staff rooms in the southeast wing. The 1910 construction houses the main lobby and hotel rooms. With the Milwaukee Railroad depot across the street, the Sacajawea Hotel promptly became a business and social center for the area. Only five years later, the railroad removed most of its facilities, slowing Three Forks' growth. The formal exterior proclaims the Sacajawea as a classic pioneer town grand hotel, but its Arts and Crafts style interior is warmly informal and welcoming, as intended by Bozeman architect Fred Willson.

**Property:** T. Byron Story Mansion

**Address:** 811 S. Willson, Bozeman, Gallatin

**Historic District:** Bon Ton            **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:** fraternal lodges

### Sign Text:

Built in 1910, the Thomas Byron Story Mansion and Carriage House were designed by renowned architect C. S. Haire, known for his work on the Montana state capitol addition. Haire's plan for T. Byron Story, his wife Katherine Ferris, and their five children drew from many architectural styles, including Queen Anne, Shingle, and Tudor Revival. The mansion's steeply pitched roofs, inviting porch, a semicircular tower, and a covered carriage entrance create a distinctive silhouette. Diverse building materials add visual interest: stone from Bridger Canyon lines the foundation and brick from Hebron, North Dakota, defines the first story. Shingles and false half-timbering decorate the upper stories. One of three Montana mansions occupying an entire block, the 9,000

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

square-foot, twenty-two-room home cost an estimated \$50,000 to build, more than ten times the average Bozeman residence of the early 1900s. T. Byron's wealth came from management of extensive family holdings. His father was Montana cattle baron Nelson Story. Financial setbacks following World War I caused T. Byron to sell the property in 1922 to the Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity, owners of the property until 2003.

**Property:** Samuel Lewis House

**Address:** 308 S. Bozeman, Bozeman, Gallatin

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Samuel Lewis settled in Bozeman in 1868, joining a small but growing population of African Americans who came to Montana after the Civil War. Lewis, a native of the West Indies, was a skilled barber, an expert sleight-of-hand performer, and a first-class musician. He established a thriving tonsorial parlor and bath house on Main Street that he kept in "apple pie order." Wisely investing his business profits, Lewis constructed several rental properties; two still stand at 209 and 211 South Tracy Avenue. Lewis shared his success with his younger sister, Edmonia, financing her studies in the East and abroad. Highly acclaimed as one of the most gifted African American sculptors of the nineteenth century, Edmonia's work was displayed at the 1894 Chicago Exposition. In 1881, the wealthy barber built a simple frame gable-front-and-wings house on this site. Eight years later, Lewis transformed his modest home into a fine Queen Anne style showplace. Brick veneer, lovely stained glass, and exuberant Eastlake ornamentation, including heavy carved brackets, abacus-like spindlework, and a sunburst appliqué, highlight the dramatic makeover and reveal a high level of architectural sophistication. The equally grand and beautifully maintained interior features a frescoed parlor ceiling, tin ceiling in the kitchen, and ornate woodwork. Completed in 1890, the Lewis residence was considered one of Bozeman's "most delightful homes." When Lewis died in 1896, he left an estate valued at \$25,000. It was a well-deserved fortune, likely unparalleled by other contemporary African American Montanans.

**Property:** Holy Rosary Church Rectory

**Address:** 220 West Main St, Bozeman, Gallatin

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** churches (buildings)           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Before the 1880s, Catholic missionary priests visited Bozeman about four times a year, holding Mass in private homes and rented halls. The community built its first Catholic church for the Holy Rosary Parish in 1885 at present day Seventh Street and Mendenhall Avenue. By 1905, the drafty wooden church had become dilapidated and the newly arrived Father J. B. Thompson led efforts to construct a "new and beautiful House of God." In 1906, he arranged to purchase half a block of prime real estate at Main Street and Third Avenue. Dubuque, Iowa, architect Guido Beck designed the "glorious edifice" built of "granite brick" imported from Hebron, North Dakota. The towering Gothic Revival church was completed in 1908 over the objections of some parishioners, who believed that Bozeman's small Catholic population did not justify such an expensive structure. Originally estimated to cost \$35,000, the elegantly appointed church was completed for \$65,000 (over approximately \$1.17 million in 2009 dollars). In 1910, Father Leitham succeeded Father Thompson. "Building was one job every priest had in those days," according to Father Leitham, and in 1912 he oversaw construction of the rectory. Fred F. Willson, who later became Bozeman's premier architect, designed the rectory early in his career. The two-story brick building features Gothic arched windows and a detailed brick design along the roofline, visually linking the rectory to the church. The crenellated (notched) door surround evokes the image of a medieval castle, reinforcing the connection to the Gothic style.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Property:** 421 West Story

**Address:** 421 West Story, Bozeman, Gallatin

**Historic District:** Cooper Park **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Five Queen Anne style cottages, among the first in the Cooper Park neighborhood, lined this side of the block in 1904. All five, similar in size and setting, are the product of mail order blue prints and form the first chapter of the district's interesting "pattern book anthology." Lumberman Noble S. Whitacre, an early owner, lived in this home with his wife Maud, two grown children, and a twelve-year-old son in the 1920s. By 1927, Marvin S. Stanley, salesman and later secretary at the Northern Automobile Company, was the tenant. Ed and Mary Burton owned the home from the 1940s to the mid-1970s, when the family-oriented neighborhood began to shelter students from nearby MSU. Among the first in this house was graduate student Brian Schweitzer (1978-1979), who later became Montana's governor. The charming cottage features a side bay window, a gabled roof and dormer, front and back porches, and was originally the identical twin of 411 West Story two doors to the east. The front porch, remodeled with Bungalow style columns and balustrade circa 1920, sets it apart from its neighbors.

**Property:** Elkhorn Ranch Historic District

**Address:** 33133 Gallatin Road, Gallatin Gateway, Gallatin

**Historic District:** Elkhorn Ranch **Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** historic districts **Subject 2:** ranches (agricultural complexes)

**Sign Text:**

By 1920 more Americans lived in industrial cities than in rural places, leading to a growing romanticism about the natural world. At the same time, films and dime novels fed fascination with the Old West. These factors combined to fuel a new industry: dude ranching. In 1922, Ernest and Grace Miller purchased an existing homestead cabin and property for \$500 and established the Elkhorn Ranch, hosting four eastern guests that first summer season. Throughout the 1920s and 1930s, the Miller family, with the help of former trapper, legendary guide, and long-term employee Cruse Black, added thirty-three Rustic style buildings. These included substantial log cabins carefully sited to maximize breathtaking views. Unlike buildings typically found on working ranches, the cabins feature large windows and spacious porches, furnished with hand-hewn chairs and benches. Other aesthetic details, including log multi-chord gable trusses, antler door handles, horseshoe latches, stone fireplaces, and wagon wheel chandeliers (added to the Rec Hall in 1949 when electricity arrived in the canyon), ornament ranch structures. Today the Elkhorn Ranch remains a stunning example of an intact, purpose-built dude ranch little changed from the ranch's early period. Industry pioneers, the Millers helped found the Dude Ranchers' Association in 1926. The Millers' daughter and son-in-law, Barbara and Ron Hymas, took over the ranch in the 1960s. They brought in several Rustic style buildings from the nearby 7-11 Ranch and the former Sage Creek Ranger Station. Yet even as they expanded the ranch's capacity, they carefully maintained an atmosphere of hospitality echoing the spirit of the Old West.

**Property:** Frederick W. Bull House

**Address:** 216 2. 3rd Ave., Bozeman, Gallatin

**Historic District:** Bon Ton **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

At the dawn of the twentieth century Bozeman emerged the undisputed economic and cultural center of the



## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

Gallatin Valley. A growing number of businessmen and professionals settled in the residential area south of Main Street, where a few prominent citizens had built their homes in the 1890s. As they migrated to this neighborhood, custom-built homes and pattern book houses began to fill the streets. Gallatin Valley rancher Frederick W. Bull built this pattern book Colonial Revival style home in 1907. The mail-order plans, purchased from a pattern book for about \$5.00, made architect-designed homes readily available and easily affordable. This house has an identical twin nearby on West Olive Street. Bull, who settled in the valley in 1893, never lived here but likely built the home as an investment. Beveled siding, a gambrel roof, and asymmetrical façade are features typical of the pattern book Colonial Revival residence in the early 1900s.

**Property:** Three Valleys State Bank

**Address:** 202 South Main, Three Forks, Gallatin

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings           **Subject 2:** banks (financial institutions)

**Sign Text:**

Solid bank buildings were designed to assure customers that their money was safe from both theft and bank failure—a tenuous premise in the days before Federal Deposit Insurance. Here Romanesque arches, rusticated sandstone, thick masonry walls, and cavernous entryways marked the first-floor façade and symbolized the bank's ability to endure, just as had the stone buildings of the Middle Ages. The less elaborate brick second story provided offices for Three Forks' professionals, including doctors, dentists, and lawyers. Built in 1910, when the town was less than two years old, the sturdy building—financed by John Q. Adams, who founded Three Forks for the Milwaukee Land Company—also expressed its owner's faith in Three Forks' future. The bank changed hands several times before American National Bank purchased the seemingly prosperous enterprise in 1917. Soon after, however, extended drought and low commodity prices shattered the homestead economy. Thousands of farmers lost their land, land values dropped by fifty percent, and over half of Montana's banks failed, including American National in 1923. Two years later, an earthquake shook Three Forks. The quake's effects can be seen in the blond replacement brick and truncated cornice on the building's west side. After the bank closed, Adams' son Benjamin used the building for his real estate office until 1942. Thereafter, it housed a variety of businesses. In 1960, it became a bank once more when Security Bank of Three Forks opened the town's first bank in thirty-seven years. The building became home to the Headwaters Heritage Museum in 1982.

**Property:** Mendenhall Residence

**Address:** 521 S Willson, Bozeman, Gallatin

**Historic District:** Bon Ton           **Building Type:** building contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The design for this two-and-one-half-story home came from architect D. S. Hopkins, of Grand Rapids, Michigan, who published numerous "pattern books" of architectural plans. The Queen Anne style defines the residence, which features an asymmetrical façade, steep gables, a projecting bay, a two-story porch, and expressive spindlework. Outbuildings include a barn and carriage house. John and Mary Susan Mendenhall constructed the home in 1886. A merchant and unsuccessful gold-seeker, John arrived in Bozeman in 1864, where he and partner Achilles Lamme ran a successful mercantile. He was the county's first elected sheriff. Mary Susan was Lamme's sister-in-law. A Civil War widow, she moved to Bozeman in 1869; she and John married the following year. Mary Susan continued in residence with her son Sam after John died in 1896. Sam, who became Bozeman's first city manager in 1922, also owned and operated Bozeman's electric company and street railway. In 1933, chemistry professor O. E. Sheppard and his wife Dorothy owned the distinctive residence, where they lived with their ten children. In 1946, the home was purchased by Malcolm Story, grandson of Bozeman founder Nelson Story.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Property:** Bohart House

**Address:** 510 N. Church, Bozeman, Gallatin

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The advent of the Northern Pacific Railroad in the early 1880s triggered a building boom in Bozeman that lasted until the end of the decade. This modest T-shaped dwelling, constructed in 1889, signaled the end of intense building activity. Although a shortage of brick hampered commercial building into the mid-1880s, by the end of the decade a ready supply of locally made brick attests to the optimism of city fathers and the town's assured permanency. Historic maps reveal that in 1890 this house marked Bozeman's northern residential limit with cultivated fields lying directly behind the property. Built by longtime Bozeman resident Freeman Bohart, the home was owned and occupied by Frank Nelson in 1900. Nelson, a station engineer, lived here with his wife and small son. The Nelsons typify this neighborhood of families dependent upon the Northern Pacific. Among numerous resident owners and tenants between 1900 and 1940 were two more Northern Pacific station engineers, a ticket agent, and a chief clerk. These underscore the railroad's continued importance to Bozeman's economy. After 1944, residents reflect a change in the personality of the neighborhood. A store manager, a conservationist, a communications consultant, and several retirees indicate the waning of railroad supremacy. The Queen Anne style cottage well illustrates Victorian-era sensibilities. A combination hipped roof with diminutive gables augments the irregular floor plan. Bay windows, decorative shingling in the gable peaks, chamfered porch support posts, and knee braces inset with spindlework recall the nineteenth century's fondness for details.

**Property:** Jesse R. Green Homestead

**Address:** 6 mi NE of Trident, Trident, Gallatin

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** homesteads           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Jesse Green set out on horseback in 1911 at the height of Montana's homesteading boom in search of unclaimed land. The quest brought him here to 360 acres of rough pastureland nestled in the Horseshoe Hills. Abnormally high precipitation in the 1910s and the promised success of dry land farming gave hope to many small farmers like Green. He set to work in 1912 raising outbuildings first. He finished a two-room home for himself and his bride in 1915 and expanded it the following year. For more than a decade Jesse Green worked his fields with teams of horses and planted durum wheat and rye grass. He once figured he had plowed enough acreage to circle the globe twice. Falling prices and drought of the 1920s, however, caused Green and his family to leave the homestead in 1922, returning to farm part-time. The onset of the Great Depression in 1930 forced Green to abandon the farm, selling one horse team for five dollars and freeing the others to roam the hills. This remote homestead remains today almost untouched by time, its utilitarian vernacular style typical of so many early Montana farms. With the help of modern technology, Ralph Green returned in 1951 to again farm the homestead. Robert Green, third generation, took over in 1987.

**Property:** 326 South Black Avenue

**Address:** 326 South Black Avenue, Bozeman, Gallatin

**Historic District:** South Tracy-South Black           **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

John P. Gary came to Montana from Michigan with his brother, sister, and widowed mother. The Garys settled in

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

Bozeman where John and his brother Martin opened a grocery store in 1900. Both brothers married and both established households on South Black. John built this stunning Victorian-era bungalow for his bride, Mary, circa 1904. The Queen Anne style home features a porch with classical columns nestled between gracefully rounded and octagonal bays. A central dormer above the porch offsets the asymmetry typical of the style. Original details include leaded and stained glass, a fireplace finished with oak, and an elegant turned stairway. The stylish home showcases John's early success. Martin Gary followed his brother, building the home next door circa 1910. By 1912, the Gary brothers had branched out into the grain business and advertised their grocery as "...first-class and sanitary with goods kept free from exposure by means of refrigeration." John and Mary, their six children, and extended family were in residence until 1921. Sheep rancher William Crowley then purchased the property as an in-town home for his large family.

**Property:** Charles S. Hartman Residence

**Address:** 619 S Wilson Ave, Bozeman, Gallatin

**Historic District:** Bon Ton      **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Attorney Charles S. Hartman deserves a prominent place among Bozeman's early residents. He opened a law practice in 1884 and with his wife Mollie built this home in 1886. Hartman carved a stellar career that included serving as a delegate to the 1889 Montana State Constitutional Convention, as U.S. Representative from 1893 to 1899, and as minister to Ecuador appointed by Woodrow Wilson from 1913 to 1922. Hartman began his political career as a Republican, and then supported William Jennings Bryan as a Silver Republican before switching parties and serving as a delegate to the 1900 Democratic National Convention. The Hartmans' Folk Victorian style home speaks to the later nineteenth century. Taking inspiration from the popular Queen Anne style, the asymmetrical floor plan originally included an open porch on the Willson approach. The ghost marks of this feature are still visible on the brick façade. Imbricated shingles in the upper gable ends complement the brick while the tall, narrow, gently arched windows are typical of the period. The original front entry retains its overhead transom and etched glass side panels.

**Property:** Apollo J. Busch House

**Address:** 224 N. Church Ave, Bozeman, Gallatin

**Historic District:**      **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Open air porches, a half-hexagonal bay window, stained glass, and an irregular roofline make this late-nineteenth-century residence a classic example of the Queen Anne style. Built in the mid-1890s likely from pattern book plans, the substantial brick home fit well into this fashionable, well-established neighborhood. William H. Babcock and Will F. Davis platted the addition in 1883, and Babcock's own showy, palatial 1880 residence, known as the "Castle," once stood diagonally across the street. In 1896, career railroader Apollo J. Busch transferred to Bozeman from Bismarck, North Dakota, and brought his family to settle in this Queen Anne style home. Busch was section foreman for the Northern Pacific until 1909 when officials persuaded him to supervise construction of the Gallatin Valley Electric Railway, the first electric line west of Chicago. He remained railway superintendent when the line became a branch of the Milwaukee Road. The tracks for the electric railway, which was built as a part of Bozeman's bid for state capital, ran directly in front of the Busch home from downtown along Church Street to the Bozeman railway station. Busch endeared himself to the community, serving as alderman and in civic organizations. When he died in 1933, editors of the Bozeman Chronicle wrote, "Mr. Busch can ill be spared from

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

our community life, for he always stood four square for what was right.” Busch’s son, Apollo G. Busch, carried on his father’s community commitment, stepping in as mayor pro tem during World War II.

**Property:** Ruby Theatre

**Address:** 210 South Main Street, Three Forks, Gallatin

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** theaters (buildings)           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The town of Three Forks, born to serve as a division point for the Chicago, St. Paul, and Milwaukee Railway, took root in 1908. As the town grew to a sizable settlement of 2,300, the Empire Theatre opened to serve local audiences. Manager David R. “Slim” Byrd attracted traveling troupes on their way to other destinations. In August 1912, Byrd held a grand re-opening of his newly remodeled “amusement house.” He renamed it the Ruby Theatre after Ruby Langdon, a local teenager who not only knew how to recruit talent but was also a well-loved local singer. A few weeks later, David Byrd married nineteen-year-old Ruby and soon sold the theater. New owner E. C. Waddell brought the first silent movies to Three Forks including “The Idler” (1914), “Anna Karenina” (1915), and “The Girl I Left Behind Me” (1915). Theater[M1] -goers also enjoyed live road shows, traveling magicians, and high school plays. The present building of concrete faced with red brick replaced the old frame theater in 1916. Butte architect Wellington Smith designed the building—a grand undertaking for a small community. The new Ruby Theatre had an auditorium seating 400 and two commercial storefronts while the second floor housed professional offices. As “talkies” replaced silent movies, the Ruby continued to offer community entertainment linking Three Forks to the world through newsreels, epic movies, and famous actors. The Ruby provided entertainment until the 1970s. The historic theater retains most of its original design elements including its pressed metal cornice, original nameplate, decorative brickwork, and arched second-story windows.

**Property:** Fred M. Brown Residence

**Address:** 818 S 3rd Ave, Bozeman, Gallatin

**Historic District:** Bon Ton           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Queen Anne style details distinguish this home built for civil engineer Fred M. Brown and his wife Mary in 1908. Brown’s father, J. N. Brown—a prominent local contractor and brick maker—likely supplied the brick, but the architectural details of other nearby homes point to A. J. Svorkmoe as the probable builder. Queen Anne elements include the uneven roof line, asymmetrical entry, and the mixed brick-and-shingle façade. Stately Tuscan columns framing the open porch and wide overhanging eaves speak to the transition from nineteenth-century Queen Anne to the classical-inspired trends of the early 1900s. The well-preserved interior features original hardwood floors and a handsome marble fireplace. While the Browns were in residence, Fred was county surveyor from 1908 to 1920. In addition to a prolific career as an engineer, he was Bozeman’s second city manager from 1924 to 1928 and served a term as representative of Gallatin County in the 1929 Montana State Legislature. The Browns, in residence until 1930, raised two children here. Their daughter, Esther, became a longtime Dean of Women at Montana State University.

**Property:** Susan Kirk Residence

**Address:** 419 S Third Ave, Bozeman, Gallatin

**Historic District:** Bon Ton           **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:**

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

### Sign Text:

Optimistic Bozeman entrepreneurs John Dickerson, Walter Cooper, and Nelson Story (of cattle drive fame) platted the Park Addition in 1883. Despite the arrival of the Northern Pacific that year, the addition remained undeveloped until the late 1890s, when the economy rebounded from the Panic of 1893. Constructed circa 1897, this one-and-one-half-story residence is less grand than the mansions that personify the Bon Ton neighborhood. Nevertheless, the home makes good use of its corner lot with its "T"-shaped plan, bay window, and corner porch. Although later owners enclosed the two porches and attached a large apartment building to the west side, enough of the home's original stylistic elements remain to evoke an earlier era. Simplified stickwork and shiplap siding covers the first story. In the gable ends, patterned shingles reflect the Queen Anne style's emphasis on diverse wall textures. Early occupants included Susan Kirk, the widow of farmer Henry Kirk, who lived here between 1902 and 1915. In 1920, the residence was the town home of farmer Charles H. Russell, his wife Nannie, and their three grown children.

**Property:** Bozeman National Fish Hatchery

**Address:** 4050 Bridger Canyon Rd, Bozeman, Gallatin

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** fish hatcheries           **Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

Congress appropriated funding for a fish-rearing station in the Rocky Mountain region in 1891. The Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife founded the Bozeman facility in 1892, making this the fourth oldest fish hatchery in the National Fish Hatchery system. One of five in the nation, its purpose was to produce and stock trout and other trout-family species in Montana and surrounding states. The original hatchery had an annual capacity of three million fish. The superintendent's house and its bath cottage, built circa 1896, are the early facility's last remaining structures. The late Queen Anne Shingle style residence and its attendant Stick style bath cottage reflect sound government construction. The Shingle style, rare in Montana, strives to unify its complex outline with shingled surfaces. The delicate porch detailing, however, is distinctively Queen Anne. The house is unusually well reinforced with diagonal sheathing to withstand Montana's heavy snowfall. The six rooms include a parlor, living room and hallway with a wide stairway and massive newel posts. The simple bath cottage originally housed wash tubs until indoor plumbing was installed in the house. The first superintendent, Dr. James A. Henshall, and his wife Hester were in residence through 1908. Dr. Henshall was a medical doctor, a foremost fishing authority, and a prolific author. His book, *Bass, Pike, Perch and Other Game Fishes of America*, written in residence in 1903, is a classic volume of the American Sportsman's Library. Trout production ceased in 1966. Now one of seven national Fish Technology Centers, staff researches, develops technologies, and provides technical assistance on aquatic resource issues.

**Property:** 404 South Willson Avenue

**Address:** 404 South Willson Avenue, Bozeman, Gallatin

**Historic District:** Bon Ton           **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

South Central Avenue—renamed Willson Avenue in 1920—was the heart of Bozeman's earliest residential neighborhoods. Elegant homes appeared along the avenue with the advent of the Northern Pacific Railroad. This home dates to that first period of growth. George Mardis, a warehouse clerk, came from Missouri with his widowed mother before 1880. He built this residence as a single-family home circa 1883. By 1900, attorney George D. Pease was the longtime homeowner. Born on a ranch near Gallatin City in 1871, Pease served as both city and county attorney and was well known throughout the state. By 1918, the Pease family still owned the

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

home but rented it to tenants. In 1933, Pease's son Douglas briefly took up residence and opened a restaurant, The Rendezvous, on the premises. In 1940, three families occupied the property. By 1947, it had become a two-family home. Like many residences in this neighborhood, the two-story main house has a large one-story wing. The home's early footprint included an unusual side entry and offset orientation of the wing, which remains virtually unchanged since its construction.

**Property:** Reese Creek School

**Address:** NE of Belgrade, Belgrade, Gallatin

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** public schools (buildings)                   **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The Reese Creek School, built in 1906, is one of 77 one-room schoolhouses built throughout Gallatin County mainly from the 1890s into the early 1920s to serve the families of one of Montana's first agricultural regions. In the earliest days, classes met in private homes or in log-cabin structures. After statehood in 1889, four residents of any community could petition state government for financial assistance to pay a teacher's salary and room and board. Horse-drawn transport dictated that schools be no more than five miles apart, and custom shaped the familiar planed wood, elongated-rectangle building, with a cupola-adorned hipped roof and boasting an entrance that protected pupils from weather. In Gallatin County, this style gradually evolved over the years, with the 1910s seeing influences such as "craftsman" style porches, and a few unusual designs such as the octagonal Malmborg school. But by 1919, the Montana Department of Health and Public Instruction had published a bulletin on school design, which provided blueprints and thus helped standardize schoolhouse design throughout the state.

**Property:** Samuel Lewis House

**Address:** 308 South Bozeman, Bozeman, Gallatin

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures                   **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Samuel Lewis settled in Bozeman in 1868, joining a small but growing population of African Americans who came to Montana after the Civil War. Lewis, a native of the West Indies, was a skilled barber, an expert sleight-of-hand performer, and a first-class musician. He established a thriving tonsorial parlor and bath house on Main Street that he kept in "apple pie order." Wisely investing his business profits, Lewis constructed several rental properties; two still stand at 209 and 211 South Tracy Avenue. Lewis shared his success with his younger sister, Edmonia, financing her studies in the East and abroad. Highly acclaimed as one of the most gifted African American sculptors of the nineteenth century, Edmonia's work was displayed at the 1894 Chicago Exposition. In 1881, the wealthy barber built a simple frame gable-front-and-wings house on this site. Eight years later, Lewis transformed his modest home into a fine Queen Anne style showplace. Brick veneer, lovely stained glass, and exuberant Eastlake ornamentation, including heavy carved brackets, abacus-like spindlework, and a sunburst appliqué, highlight the dramatic makeover and reveal a high level of architectural sophistication. The equally grand and beautifully maintained interior features a frescoed parlor ceiling, tin ceiling in the kitchen, and ornate woodwork. Completed in 1890, the Lewis residence was considered one of Bozeman's "most delightful homes." When Lewis died in 1896, he left an estate valued at \$25,000. It was a well-deserved fortune, likely unparalleled by other contemporary African American Montanans.

**Property:** Beall Park Community Center

**Address:** 409 N Bozeman Ave, Bozeman, Gallatin

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Historic District:**            **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** community centers            **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The Beall Park Community Center owes its existence to Ella Clark Martin, who arrived in Gallatin County in 1889. While her husband Broox helped establish the Bozeman Milling Company and became president of the Commercial National Bank, Ella raised two sons on a ranch west of Bozeman. After the couple moved into town in 1910, Ella became known as an automobile enthusiast. Stories describe her sneaking up behind parked wagons in her nearly silent electric car before laying on the horn, scaring horses and nearby pedestrians. Staunch Republicans and temperance advocates, the Martins were also devoted philanthropists. Ella, who outlived both Broox and their two sons, continued the family tradition of community giving. In 1922, she financed an outdoor skating rink at Beall Park. In 1926, she hired W. R. Plew, Bozeman professor of architectural and civil engineering, to design this recreation center. With its low pitched roof, exposed rafter tails, triangular knee braces under wide eaves, clipped gable ends, and fieldstone construction, the building exemplifies the Craftsman style. It was an inspired design choice for a park building; advocates of the style believed Craftsman designs would foster an appreciation of nature as a source of spiritual and physical reinvigoration. On its completion, Ella donated the building to the city for use as “a community center where young and old ... may gather ... and indulge in wholesome recreation.” The building housed the Bozeman Nursery School (c. 1955 to 1983) and the Beall Park Art Center (1983-2007). In 2007, the city restored the structure for Recreation Department offices.

**Property:** Bozeman Hotel Annex

**Address:** 307-315 East Main, Bozeman, Gallatin

**Historic District:** Main Street    **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** hotels (public accommodations)            **Subject 2:** commercial buildings

**Sign Text:**

When Montana achieved statehood in 1889, Bozeman was more cowtown than cosmopolitan as it vied with other towns to become the state capital. Architect George Hancock of Fargo, North Dakota, put form to Bozeman’s aspirations by designing several elegant buildings to grace the unpaved, muddy streets. These included the Hotel Bozeman and its two-story annex, completed in 1890. Three real estate firms were the original annex tenants, but by 1900 the Chronicle Publishing Company occupied one of the storefront bays. The firm eventually took over the entire ground floor where, from the turn of the century until 1977, daily issues of the Bozeman Chronicle were published. Architectural motifs and ornamentation visually unify the separate annex and hotel. Rectangular storefront windows with stone lintels and sills mimic the hotel’s second- and third-story windows. The second floor of the annex features rounded windows with linked hood moldings like those on the hotel’s fourth floor. Although the annex storefronts have been redesigned, two original stained glass transoms remain intact.

**Property:** Samuel Lewis House

**Address:** 308 S Bozeman, Bozeman, Gallatin

**Historic District:**            **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures            **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Samuel Lewis settled in Bozeman in 1868, joining a small but growing population of African Americans who came to Montana after the Civil War. Lewis, a native of the West Indies, was a skilled barber, an expert sleight-of-hand performer, and a first-class musician. He established a thriving tonsorial parlor and bath house on Main Street that he kept in “apple pie order.” Wisely investing his business profits, Lewis constructed several rental properties; two still stand at 209 and 211 South Tracy Avenue. Lewis shared his success with his younger sister, Edmonia, financing her studies in the East and abroad. Highly acclaimed as one of the most gifted African

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

American sculptors of the nineteenth century, Edmonia's work was displayed at the 1894 Chicago Exposition. In 1881, the wealthy barber built a simple frame gable-front-and-wings house on this site. Eight years later, Lewis transformed his modest home into a fine Queen Anne style showplace. Brick veneer, lovely stained glass, and exuberant Eastlake ornamentation, including heavy carved brackets, abacus-like spindlework, and a sunburst appliqué, highlight the dramatic makeover and reveal a high level of architectural sophistication. The equally grand and beautifully maintained interior features a frescoed parlor ceiling, tin ceiling in the kitchen, and ornate woodwork. Completed in 1890, the Lewis residence was considered one of Bozeman's "most delightful homes." When Lewis died in 1896, he left an estate valued at \$25,000. It was a well-deserved fortune, likely unparalleled by other contemporary African American Montanans.

**Property:** Thomas Noble House

**Address:** 311 S 3rd Ave, Bozeman, Gallatin

**Historic District:** Bon Ton      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Thomas and Anna Noble came to Bozeman in 1890 from Salesville. Thomas, an experienced logger, secured employment with the Prey Lumber Company. After S. C. Kenyon purchased the firm, Kenyon and Noble became partners in the business, furnishing early Bozeman with essential building materials. Noble built a home across the street and then built this larger residence in 1903. Anna died just six weeks after the birth of their third daughter in 1904. Thomas raised his daughters and when he died in 1933, daughter Helen and her husband, Earl Creasy, made their home here until 1987. The splendid Queen Anne style home appears nearly as it did in 1903; its square columns, corner-trimmed beveled siding, and wraparound porch are virtually unchanged. Ornatly carved crown moldings, beautifully grained stairwork, and hardwood floors showcase Thomas Noble's knowledge of fine wood. Multi-paned and patterned leaded glass transoms recall the gracious Victorian era. In 1997, the home received Bozeman's Historic Preservation Award for the sensitive and compatible design of a new addition.

**Property:** Lindsay Fruit Company

**Address:** 720 Front Street, Bozeman, Gallatin

**Historic District:** Northern Pacific / Story Mill      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings      **Subject 2:** railroad

**Sign Text:**

A Northern Pacific spur line ran in front of this warehouse, originally railroad owned and built in the 1880s for the cold storage of produce. The brick walls are four layers thick with a central air space to maximize insulation; a chute conveyed ice to the basement. Heavy post and beam supports with cast iron plates in between reveal the weight the floor could accommodate. A counter-balanced elevator operated by a rope and pulley remains intact. By 1904, the warehouse served the Lindsay Fruit Company and later the Ryan Fruit Company. Produce arrived daily. In the summer, watermelons shipped in straw-lined cattle cars tempted neighborhood children to cut slices through the slats. One old-timer remembered unloading the cars. The kids would form a line and pass the watermelons hand to hand. "Well, you didn't get paid in money, but you did get paid in broken watermelons and we made sure that there were enough ... to go around."

**Property:** Ellen Theater

**Address:** 120 S Broadway, Bozeman, Gallatin

**Historic District:** Main Street      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** theaters (buildings)      **Subject 2:** theatre



## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

### Sign Text:

The first building in Bozeman expressly constructed as a theatre, the Ellen opened in December 1919. Calling it “a superb piece of architecture,” the Bozeman Chronicle praised the 800-seat theatre as “the most modern ... in the state.” Bozeman architect Fred Willson designed the two-story Beaux Arts style building, which featured elaborate terra cotta decoration. Nelson Jr. and T. Byron Story, sons of the legendary cattle baron Nelson Story, led the investor group that raised \$150,000 for construction. They named the theatre for their mother and reserved the front two rows of the balcony for friends and family. Weekly vaudeville shows presented fan dancer Sally Rand, ventriloquist Edgar Bergen, actress Vivian Vance, and many others. To accompany silent films, owners added a “Mighty Wurlitzer” organ in 1925 and in 1929 installed an RCA photophone system for talkies. In 1931, the interior was remodeled, adding decorative acoustic panels, chandeliers, and dramatic red and gold finishings. In the mid-1960s, the theatre took its present form when owners extended the storefront. Restored by Montana TheatreWorks in 2008, the Ellen again hosts movies and live performances.

**Property:** Federal Building and Post Office

**Address:** 32 South Tracy Avenue, Bozeman, Gallatin

**Historic District:** Main Street      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** post offices      **Subject 2:** federal buildings

### Sign Text:

Cattle baron, banker, and entrepreneur Nelson Story purchased this site in 1870 for \$154. In June 1911 the United States Secretary of the Treasury took the land from Nelson Story Jr. and his family citing that public use required taking and holding the property. The Storys received \$7,500 in compensation and the right to move their dwelling off the site. In 1912, the U.S. government began construction of Bozeman’s first federal building. Completed in 1915, the Neoclassical style facility served as the post office until 1964. In 1999, the Human Resource Development Council renovated the building as a Community Services Center. Interior work restored the walk-in vaults, the postmaster’s hidden catwalks for monitoring postal workers, and a grand oak stairway. Original exterior features include the sandstone parapet cap and cornice molding, decorative columns beneath the two monumental arched windows, and cast-iron light posts flanking the entry. This solid, impressive structure has long been a focal point of Bozeman’s historical streetscape and recently served as a backdrop in the movie, *A River Runs Through It*.

**Property:** Watkin Creek Ranch Historic District (Firehole Ranch)

**Address:** 1130 Firehole Ranc Road, , Gallatin

**Historic District:**      **Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** historic districts      **Subject 2:** ranches (agriculture)

### Sign Text:

Pioneer George S. Watkins arrived in Montana in 1864. The "cattle king of Madison County" ultimately acquired thousands of acres, including much of the Madison basin. Here he built a summer cow camp with two large cabins, a barn, and a smokehouse (all extant) as well as extensive corrals and other outbuildings. The hugely successful rancher sold horses, cattle, and hay in Virginia City and later to concessionaires in Yellowstone National Park. He reduced his holdings in 1898, when the Madison Dam flooded his ranch near Ennis. When Madison Power and Light Company announced its plan to build Hebgen Dam in 1904, a disheartened Watkins sold out. Not all of the Watkins Creek Ranch ended up under water, however, and between 1906 and 1922 the un-flooded parcels were opened to homesteading. In 1944, Utahans Clarence “Clix” and Leila Wright—who had long vacationed in the area—purchased the ranch from homesteader William F. Martzel. With their daughter Anne and son-in-law K. Smith, the Wrights decided to open a dude ranch, hiring Snedaker and MacDonald Architects of Salt Lake City to construct a main lodge. The Rustic style lodge mimicked the original ranch buildings and evoked the

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

rugged, frontier West through the use of native materials. As the dude ranch expanded, the Wrights carefully maintained the ranch's western atmosphere while offering the modern comforts their clients expected. Ranch visitors—including the daughter of Nelson Rockefeller, who constructed her own cabin on the property—enjoyed fishing, boating, herding cattle, trail rides, and trips to Yellowstone. The Wrights maintained the business until 1967.

**Property:** Gallatin Block

**Address:** 40-42 E Main St, Bozeman, Gallatin

**Historic District:** Main Street    **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings    **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

A livery and feed stable stood here in the 1880s and 1890s, but in 1901, William Nevitt, hardware store owner and “capitalist,” decided that downtown Bozeman could use more commercial space. The *Avant Courier* reported on the progress of his new business block: “the basement walls ... are going up as if by magic.” To expedite construction, Nevitt imported “dressed stone for sills, watertables, etc, from the east ... When Mr. Nevitt starts in on any important enterprise he usually carries it through with a rush.” Nevitt had the building’s name, the Gallatin, carved in stone. Other historic elements include the cornerstone, marked 1901, and the diamond pattern of raised brick (called corbelling) on the upper façade. The Fair Department Store originally occupied the ground floor atop a small corner barbershop in the basement. Advertising itself as “the place to save money,” the Fair sold clothing—including coats, shoes, and corsets—as well as household linens, chimney lamps, and coal hods. After 1927, a confectionery (candy store) and a clothing store shared the main floor. Tenants, including renowned Bozeman architect Fred Willson, occupied second-floor offices.

**Property:** Malmborg School

**Address:** 375 Jackson Creek Rd, Bozeman, Gallatin

**Historic District:**    **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** public schools (buildings)    **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Built in 1905, Malmborg School is one of the most architecturally interesting one-room schoolhouses in Gallatin County. The one-story octagonal school originally sported an open front porch with wooden Doric columns resting on high plinths. An open bell tower, also supported by Doric columns, at one time capped the roof. The bell tower—normally associated with church architecture—provided a moral overtone to the building’s design, while the residential-style front porch visually linked school and home. Most often found in mid-Atlantic states in predominantly Dutch communities, octagonal schools are also associated with mid-nineteenth-century reformer Orson Fowler, who promoted the “Octagon Mode of Building” in his book, *A Home for All*. Architectural pattern books offered plans for octagonal schools and listed their benefits: the least amount of wall length for the most enclosed space, good light and ventilation, and uniform warmth. The school’s north windows were walled in after 1919 to prevent cross lighting from harming students’ vision, and a shed addition in the 1940s provided space for indoor restrooms. The desire to offer students a wider curriculum led to school consolidation and the closure of many one-room schools across Montana. Despite proximity to the state’s fifth largest city, Malmborg School managed to resist the pressure of consolidation. Built to educate the children of farmers, ranchers, and railroaders, Malmborg School today serves children whose parents often work in Bozeman. In 2003, ten students, grades kindergarten through eighth, attended Malmborg School, the only known octagonal school in Montana.

**Property:** Union Pacific Dining Lodge

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Address:** 210 Yellowstone Ave, West Yellowstone, Gallatin

**Historic District:** West Yellowstone Oregon Shortline Terminus **Building Type:** building contributing

**Subject 1:** railroad stations

**Subject 2:** national parks

**Sign Text:**

As tourism blossomed during the first decades of the twentieth century, the Union Pacific Railroad considered how to better accommodate travelers. Officials conceived the idea of building restaurants and pavilions architecturally similar to the monumental lodges being constructed in national parks. Acclaimed architect Gilbert Stanley Underwood, whose mastery of the Rustic style set the standard for national park architecture, designed this splendid dining lodge for the Union Pacific. Completed in 1926, it was an intermediate project built while Underwood was designing the world-renowned Ahwahnee Hotel at Yosemite National Park. The Rustic style of this lodge, its wood and welded tuff in grand harmony with the landscape, echoes that of the famed hotel. Featuring mammoth walk-in fireplaces, the multi-level interior is characteristic of Underwood's designs. As part of a national collection of Underwood's work, the lodge gains added significance as a rare surviving example of a railroad dining hall constructed to mimic park architecture.

**Property:** Graf Building

**Address:** 219-221 West Arthur, Bozeman, Gallatin

**Historic District:** **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

One of the first residential structures built south of College Street, this duplex is an excellent example of a vernacular interpretation of the International style. Designed by local architect and native son Fred F. Willson, this two-story, double-family residence features rectangular massing with complementary attached garages on either side. White stucco wall surfaces, corner windows, round decorative windows and pipe-railings highlighting the entry vestibule are hallmarks of the style. Willson attended Montana State College and graduated from New York's Columbia University. Further educated at Ecole de Beaux Arts in Paris, he returned to Bozeman where his architectural practice spanned more than 40 years and over 1,500 projects. His work remains ingrained in the Bozeman community with more than 10 architectural styles exemplified by over 100 buildings in the Bozeman area. Most of his work was completed by 1930, making this 1942 residence a rare example of a later architectural style. Local businessman and Bon Ton flour-mill owner Eugene Graf commissioned Willson to build this duplex in 1941. Graf and his wife immigrated to America in 1907 and moved to Bozeman in 1914. Appreciative of architecture and committed to community development, Graf commissioned Willson for numerous projects, which now enrich Bozeman's history.

**Property:** West Yellowstone Oregon Shortline Terminus Historic District

**Address:** , West Yellowstone, Gallatin

**Historic District:** West Yellowstone Oregon Shortline Terminus **Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** historic districts

**Subject 2:** national parks

**Sign Text:**

In 1905 Union Pacific officials began construction of a branch line in the pine-forested wilderness from Ashton, Idaho, to the western edge of Yellowstone Park. As the final tracks were laid in 1907, Samuel P. Eagle, Alex Stuart, Charles Arnet, and L. A. Murray applied for commercial leases, prompting the Forest Service to survey and plat a six-block townsite. Privately owned businesses prospered, serving crowds of Park tourists ferried back and forth from the railway by stagecoach. West Yellowstone became a thriving permanent settlement, dominated by the beautiful 1909 Union Pacific Depot. Architect Gilbert Stanley Underwood, who was later noted for his imaginative resort designs and many passenger stations, combined Richardsonian Romanesque elements with rustic exposed

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

wood and hood-like roofs. In 1922 Underwood also drew the plans for a new dining lodge and overnight guest dormitories. These creative designs explore the naturalistic Rustic style adopted by the National Park Service. Native rhyolite gathered along the railway line enhances the rustic appearance of foundations, walls, colossal chimneys, and massive fireplaces and complements the log construction. This collection of railroad buildings constructed between 1905 and 1927 has withstood severe weather, major fires, rebuilding, and expansion. The district stands today as a rare reminder of early Park tourism and a tribute to a fine architect.

**Property:** Owenhouse Building

**Address:** 24-28 W Main St, Bozeman, Gallatin

**Historic District:** Main Street **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

A projecting pressed-tin cornice and raised patterns in the brickwork (called corbelling) add elegance to the five-bay Owenhouse Building. Emanuel Owenhouse, founder in 1880 of the Owenhouse Hardware Company, hired Bozeman architect Fred Willson to design the two-story business block in 1917. The first floor housed two of his subsidiary businesses, a car repair shop and a salesroom for Overland and Chandler cars. A freight elevator in the rear of the building took cars to the basement for parking and storage. The Chandler Motor Company (in operation between 1913 and 1929) and the Overland (later Willys-Overland) Motor Company (in operation between 1907 and 1926), were just two of the hundreds of car manufacturers vying for consumers in the 1910s and 1920s. By 1922, Oliver Stout Implement Company occupied the building's west side, while Simpson-Truitt-Flint Co., which specialized in real estate, grain, and livestock, occupied the east. The second floor contained seventeen apartments, which in 1930 rented for \$30 to \$35 a month. Many of the tenants were self-supporting women—including a teacher, stenographer, waitress, elevator operator, picker in a seed house, and saleslady.

**Property:** 715 South Seventh Avenue

**Address:** 715 S. Seventh Ave, Bozeman, Gallatin

**Historic District:** Cooper Park **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Elizabeth and Luke Cowan purchased this home in 1905, probably as an investment property. Turned porch supports, a spindle railing, and a leaded glass window ornament the residence, which features a large wraparound front porch. A gable interrupts the porch roof to accentuate the front entrance. Its architecture points to the residence's relatively early construction date and distinguishes it from other homes in the neighborhood, most of which reflect styles popular in the 1910s and 1920s. The Cowans, who lived down the block, sold the residence to Luke's father Samuel in 1912. A Confederate veteran, Samuel came to Montana in the 1880s. In 1897, he was elected county assessor and moved his family to Bozeman. Samuel appointed his eldest son William as his deputy, and after Samuel's retirement, William was elected in his father's stead. William continued in the position of county assessor until 1936. Not only did father and son work together, they also lived together. The men moved here (along with William's wife Fannie) circa 1916. The home remained in the family into the 1950s.

**Property:** South Tracy-South Black Historic District

**Address:** , Bozeman, Gallatin

**Historic District:** South Tracy-South Black **Building Type:** historic district

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

### Sign Text:

As Main Street became Bozeman's commercial thoroughfare, this area to the south along South Tracy and South Black Avenues between Olive and Anderson Streets was platted in 1871, extending the original townsite. Construction began immediately as reported in the Avant Courier's first issue: "From early dawn until the setting sun, the hammer of the builder makes the welcome ring ... of industry and progress." By 1872, modest wood frame dwellings lined South Tracy Avenue. The simple "I-house" at 308 South Tracy, built by freed slave Richard McDonald, represents this earliest period of growth. Other early residences include 209 and 211 South Tracy Avenue (built in 1879 as rentals by black barber Samuel Lewis), the gable fronted home at 401 S. Black (1879), and two fine residences at 422 and 301 South Black (1880). Although building continued throughout the 1880s, extensive development did not occur until after 1900 when population growth created a need for more housing. The many homes built in the district between 1906 and 1935 reflect the popular trend toward modest, affordable single-family dwellings. The Bartholomew brothers and Guy Ensinger among other prominent Bozeman builders added many bungalows in rapid succession, sometimes several at a time, filling in open lots and spaces that once separated older residences. Today the district totals eighty-nine homes and the Longfellow School, built with WPA assistance in 1939. Earlier, modestly scaled and ornamented homes interspersed among the predominant bungalows creates a building density and visual layering of ages unparalleled in Bozeman's other historic neighborhoods.

**Property:** 226-232 East Main

**Address:** 226-232 East Main, Bozeman, Gallatin

**Historic District:** Main Street    **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings    **Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

An 1884 map shows a wooden block with a trio of businesses here: a saloon, variety theatre, and fruit market. By 1912, the building housed a secondhand store. Sometime before 1927, the old wooden block was torn down, replaced by this one-story brick addition. Just like the "thoroughly modern" Baltimore Hotel that had gone up next door in 1918, this two-tone building has raised brick (corbelled) detailing and prominent pilasters separating a façade of three symmetrical bays. In 1922, widow Minna Stuve sold candy at 230 East Main (Art Nash would add groceries, cigars, magazines, and newspapers by 1931) while Lobdell Rubber Company was vulcanizing, repairing, and retreading tires at 232 East Main. Hotel guests traveling the state's rough and pot-holed roads—Montana had just twenty-six miles of paved highway by 1926—surely appreciated the convenient location. A well-preserved "Lobdell's" ghost stencil still exists on an interior brick wall. Numerous businesses have occupied this building since, none more beloved than Mackenzie River Pizza Company, which opened in 1993.

**Property:** Stateler Memorial Methodist Church

**Address:** 303 Main Street, Willow Creek, Gallatin

**Historic District:**    **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** churches (buildings)    **Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

Pioneering Southern Methodist minister Learner Blackman Stateler preached his first sermon in Willow Creek on Christmas Day 1864, in a cabin built by a local farmer. Like many of the area's early residents, Stateler was a Southern sympathizer from Missouri, whose family fled Civil War violence by moving west. He found a welcoming congregation in Willow Creek, where he organized Montana Territory's first Methodist Episcopal Church, South. In 1873 the congregation constructed a wood-frame chapel a mile from the present-day church location. In 1908, a town site company associated with the Milwaukee railroad platted the new town of Willow Creek. By 1910, two railroads served the community, which soon boasted three general stores, a bank, a blacksmith shop, and two

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

grain elevators. In 1913, congregants decided to move their church to the center of the promising young town. Members of the Ladies Aid raised much of the money needed to construct the new church building, which the congregation named for its pioneering minister. Completed in 1915, the Staler Memorial Methodist Church is an intriguing mix of old and new. Gothic-arched windows and a Norman tower pay homage to an ancient past while the roof's open eaves and exposed rafter tails reflect early twentieth-century taste. Equally modern is the concrete block used in construction. The Trident Cement Company in nearby Three Forks assured a ready supply of the material, which came into widespread use between 1905 and 1930. Easier to lay than brick, the durable material fulfilled its promise as an affordable and attractive substitute for stone.

**Property:** Bon Ton Historic District

**Address:** Historic District, Bozeman, Gallatin

**Historic District:** Bon Ton      **Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** historic districts      **Subject 2:** residential structures

**Sign Text:**

The elaborate homes of the Bon Ton Historic District reflect the tastes and aspirations of Bozeman's economic and cultural elite. Its residents included the presidents and managers of successful businesses and the doctors, dentists, lawyers, and college faculty who formed the city's ever-expanding professional class. The district's character was established early, when developer William Alderson platted Central Avenue (now named Willson Avenue after pioneer general L. S. Willson). Alderson envisioned the wide, stately street lined with fashionable residences. After the Northern Pacific Railroad arrived in Bozeman in 1883, that vision became a reality. An article in the 1884 *Avant Courier* commented appreciatively: "Central Avenue is developing into a Bon Ton residential street in Bozeman." This Victorian period expression means "the finest." It is an appropriate title for the historic district as a whole, which grew to include 260 homes on South Willson, South Grand, South Third, and West Cleveland. A number of builders and architects shaped the neighborhood's character and its unique blend of high style and vernacular architecture. However, none had more influence than Fred F. Willson. Educated in New York and Europe, Willson became Bozeman's premier architect in the early twentieth century. His fine Depression-era work complemented the neighborhood's earlier Queen Anne, Italianate, and Colonial Revival style homes with more contemporary Craftsman, Tudor Revival, and International style designs. In 1935, the city erected elegant concrete lamp posts along S. Willson Avenue and W. Cleveland Street. The posts are the only historically significant lamps remaining in Bozeman today.

**Property:** 29 East Main

**Address:** 29 East Main, Bozeman, Gallatin

**Historic District:** Main Street      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The maturing streetscape that greeted early rail passengers to Bozeman included a distinctive group of three brick buildings on East Main Street. The smallest, last constructed, and most lavish of these was this Italianate structure completed in 1883-84. An ornate and narrow building, it features an elegantly bracketed cornice, decorative window hood moldings, and stone corner quoins. It originally flanked a large, relatively plain business block (no longer standing). The building at 25 E. Main was then nearly identical to this one and bordered the other side. Dr. Achilles Lamme, who arrived in the Gallatin Valley in 1865, owned the three buildings. The rancher and merchant invested heavily in the town's future, even forming a steamboat company that attempted to ship freight to Bozeman via the Yellowstone River. Although he volunteered his expertise as a trained physician when the need arose, Lamme never formally practiced medicine in Montana. He instead concentrated on making his fortune by

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

wholesaling supplies to troops stationed at FortEllis and retailing goods to early settlers from this Main Street headquarters in this building.

**Property:** Joseph and Emma Baker Residence

**Address:** 701 South Willson, Bozeman, Gallatin

**Historic District:** Bon Ton      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

In 1904, banker Joseph Baker and his wife Emma chose the Colonial Revival style for their new home—the second house constructed on this block. The home’s design offered a fashionable alternative to the exuberant Queen Anne style, which dominated residential architecture in the 1880s and 1890s. In place of Queen Anne’s jumbled angles and textures, dignified Colonial Revival homes like the Bakers’ offered quiet elegance. They featured symmetrical façades, accentuated entryways, and understated, yet well thought-out details. For the Baker house, such details included dentils beneath the eaves, a flared chimney, oak and fir trim on the interior, and diamond-paned windows in the front dormer. Behind the home stands a matching carriage house with a hayloft on its second floor. The almost perfectly square residence sits on three lots. Its prized location on the corner of one of Bozeman’s grandest streets speaks to the social prominence of its original owners, who lived here until Joseph’s death in 1934.

**Property:** Spieth and Krug Brewery (Maxey Block)

**Address:** 242 East Main St., Bozeman, Gallatin

**Historic District:**      **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** breweries      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Partners Jacob Spieth and Charles Krug founded Bozeman’s first brewery here along the banks of Sour Dough Creek in 1867, laboriously grinding the first grain in a coffee mill. This impressive Italianate style building replaced the original frame structure in 1882-1883 during the building boom that came with the railroad; its different colored bricks illustrate the scarcity of building materials. Semicircular doorways, arched windows, and a fancy metal cornice preserve the 1880s appearance of this historic gem. The second-story hall hosted gala social events while the first floor served as an ice house. Grain was stored, washed, and fermented in the rear wing. Daniel Maxey, proprietor during the early 1890s, remodeled the building after the brewery closed circa 1895. In 1945, the Bozeman Trades and Labor Council refurbished the long-unused second floor and it became known as Union Hall. The former brewery became John Bozeman’s Bistro in 1983. At the height of the Montana gold rush, Bozeman—the town’s namesake—established a dangerous shortcut from Fort Laramie, Wyoming, to the diggings at Virginia City.

**Property:** Ketterer Residence Historic District

**Address:** 35 N Grand, Bozeman, Gallatin

**Historic District:** Ketterer Residence      **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Deeply admired in the 1890s, the Queen Anne style began to lose its allure after 1900, when its artistic jumble of angles and textures began to seem cluttered. The rejection of complexity was gradual, however, and many homebuilders opted for more stately façades while still retaining Queen Anne features. Built circa 1902, this transitional residence owes its wraparound porch, complex roofline, irregular floor plan, clipped corner detail, and stained glass window to the Queen Anne style. Equally prominent, however, are the home’s Colonial Revival

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

features: the classical porch columns, distinctive round window, dentils (teethlike blocks) beneath the roofline, triangular pediments accenting the front entrance and above the gable ends, and small, balustraded balconies. The interior, which still boasts the original wood floors, fir doors, and running trim, has no fireplaces. The original central hot water radiator system remains in place and is one of the earliest examples of central heating in Bozeman. Brick mason Louis Krueger supervised construction of the residence for his sister and brother-in-law, Louisa and Emil Ketterer. A German immigrant and trained blacksmith, Emil arrived in Montana in 1874, finding work shoeing horses at stage stations between Virginia City, Bozeman, and Helena. He worked as a circuit-riding blacksmith for a year, traveling between Bozeman and Miles City before opening his own shop in Bozeman in 1878. Situated a block south, Ketterer's "General Wagon, Carriage, and Horseshoe Shop" was the longest operating blacksmith and carriage shop in Bozeman. Emil died at home at age 92 in 1944, but family members continued living here into the 1960s.

**Property:** Electric Block (Eagles Aerie #3260)

**Address:** 316 East Main, Bozeman, Gallatin

**Historic District:** Main Street    **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** transportation structures

**Subject 2:** fraternal lodges

**Sign Text:**

Bozeman's extensive streetcar system offered reliable transportation from 1892 until 1922. In 1901, the Gallatin Light, Power, and Railway Company built this facility as an office and barn for its trolleys. After 1904 when the second story was finished, various lodges and clubs including the Elks and the American Legion held meetings in the upstairs rooms. When streetcars had become a thing of the past, the car barn was used as an auto repair shop. By this time Eagles Aerie #326 met regularly upstairs. The group purchased the building for \$5,000 from the Metals Bank and Trust Company in 1932. Prominent architect Fred Willson remodeled the storefront for them in 1945, replacing the trolley barn doors with the present brick and ornamental cinder block but leaving the fine 1901 brickwork intact. The neon sign, now a local landmark, was also installed in the 1940s. As the Eagles of Aerie #326 celebrate their centennial in 2003, this historic building is still their lodge hall. It is Bozeman's only surviving remnant of the streetcar era and a model of adaptive reuse.

**Property:** Cooper Park Historic District

**Address:** Historic District, Bozeman, Gallatin

**Historic District:** Cooper Park    **Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** historic districts

**Subject 2:** residential structures

**Sign Text:**

Impetus for the development of this late-blooming district began in 1890 with Bozeman's bid for designation as state capital. Instead, Bozeman received the state's agricultural college, built approximately where the hoped-for capitol complex would have been in 1893. Although the streets between Main Street and the college had long ago been platted and named, the area remained a "golden sea of wheat" bypassed by the trolley tracks. By 1904, a sprinkling of Queen Anne and Colonial Revival style pattern book houses dotted the area. The Gallatin Valley Railway linked Bozeman and rural communities in 1909 as Bozeman became increasingly diversified. An extensive middle class of service providers and agricultural employees needing housing began to emerge. Bungalows, easy to build and thus affordable, yet considered "modern" with bathrooms, built-in furniture, and central heating, were the perfect solution. Using mail-order blueprints, local builders like Elmer Bartholomew, William Cline, and G. A. Ensinger added practical bungalows and cottages to the pattern book repertoire of older residences. A wealth of features like exposed brackets, porches, different roof types and surface textures lend the district a Progressive Era character. These and the district's older homes form a true "pattern book anthology." With



## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

Cooper Park and the diverse 1930s homes around it as a focal point, the district's 250 homes on pleasant tree-lined streets comprise Bozeman's largest historic residential area.

**Property:** Merrill R. Good Residence

**Address:** 115 W. Cleveland, Bozeman, Gallatin

**Historic District:** Bon Ton **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Architect Hurlbert C. Cheever, fresh out of graduate school, designed this charming Tudor style cottage in 1934 for his university colleague, Merrill R. Good. Both young men were professors at Montana State College (now Montana State University), each on the brink of a stellar career. Cheever became head and supervising architect of the School of Architecture while Professor Good is credited with organizing the Industrial Engineering Department. The picturesque home may have been an experiment; certainly it is one of Cheever's first professional projects. With Good's engineering abilities and Cheever's eye for architectural design, the two likely collaborated. The Tudor style was at its peak in the 1930s and Cheever's expression of it is elegant and straightforward, showcasing the varied surfaces of stone, board-and-batten, and weatherboard that are a Tudor hallmark. Professor Good, his wife Clara, and their two children were in residence here until 1948. In 1996 during home repairs, owners were thrilled to discover a snuff box nailed to a stud; the contents revealed Cheever's connection to the house.

**Property:** Lonesomehurst Cabin

**Address:** Hebgen Lake, Hebgen Lake, Gallatin

**Historic District:** **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** tourist cabins **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

A group of adventurous fly fishermen from Salt Lake City began annual fishing trips in the 1890s, first camping near Henry's Lake in Idaho and eventually traveling over Targhee Pass to the South Fork of the Madison River in Montana. Originally arriving by wagon and later by train, the "Lonesomehurst Group," as they became known, set up their fishing camp on the South Fork. In 1916, the construction of Hebgen Dam inundated the South Fork and changed a most beautiful part of the Madison River forever. In 1919, John H. Horlick of the Lonesomehurst Group took advantage of the 1915 Term Occupancy Act allowing for recreational residences on forest lands. He received a special use permit and built a primitive fishing cabin along Hebgen Lake's western shoreline. One of the oldest recreational cabins in the Gallatin National Forest, it has been held by just three families since its construction. Attorney Robert Mark purchased the cabin in 1931 and improved it considerably. David and Mary Bascom bought the cabin in 1956, three years before the 1959 earthquake caused the lake to recede 22 feet. David, under the name Milford Poltroon, published West Yellowstone's famed "piscatorial periodical," The Wretched Mess News. From primitive fishing cabin to "improved" summer home, the cabin today reflects the eclectic timelessness of a long used and well-loved retreat. Jan Dunbar (Horlick's granddaughter) speaks eloquently of the cabin: "the history of a place like Lonesomehurst is so unlikely, the survival of that old cabin also unlikely, and the window it gives on a former world is indeed fascinating."

**Property:** 213 East Olive

**Address:** , Bozeman, Gallatin

**Historic District:** Lindley Place **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

### Sign Text:

An 1889 map shows this single-story balloon-frame residence, home to dentist John McComb and his wife Mildred by 1900. The house was a short walk from McComb's office at 116 West Main, and he remained in the neighborhood when he moved around the corner to Lindley Place in 1902. Electrician Charles Howard, wife Malinda, and two children resided here in 1910, but the house is most associated with the Bohart family. Livestock dealer Seth Bohart lived here from 1914 until his death circa 1925. His wife Olivia remained in residence until 1947. Valued at \$2,500 in 1930, the ell-shaped home retains its original footprint, as well as nine-foot tongue-and-groove ceilings in the living and dining rooms. The kitchen's roof is slightly shorter than that of the rest of the structure. This common design feature improved the chance of saving the residence in case of a kitchen fire. Renovation work revealed that non-structural "brick nogging" fills the gaps in the home's wooden frame. Most often found in houses built before 1900, brick nogging was used as insulation and to reduce drafts.

**Property:** Accola-Lewis Residence

**Address:** 402 South Third Street, Bozeman, Gallatin

**Historic District:** Bon Ton      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

A handsome oak stairway is the centerpiece of this beautifully crafted Queen Anne style home built circa 1905. Dr. Louis Safley, a Bozeman physician, may have been the original owner, but prominent Pass Creek rancher Louis Accola and his extended family are the first documented residents. Accola and his wife Fannie retired and moved to town as this home was ready for occupancy. From 1914 to the early 1940s the property belonged to grocer Miles P. Lewis and his wife Lola. Lewis soon retired from the grocery business to devote his time to ranching while his wife was a librarian. The corner landmark, likely adapted from pattern book plans, is a grand expression of Victorian era taste. Details including Roman Doric columns, open latticework, and leaded glass enrich the façade. The interior features 14-foot ceilings, fine wood finishing, and a grand bay window in the dining room. Distinctive purple stone and the original 1904 copper plate highlight the unusual gas fireplace while decoratively carved oak columns and beams complement the elegant stairway.

**Property:** Northern Pacific / Story Mill Historic District

**Address:** Historic District, Bozeman, Gallatin

**Historic District:** Northern Pacific / Story Mill      **Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** historic districts      **Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

The gold strikes at Alder Gulch in 1863 yielded Nelson Story a fortune and laid the foundation of an economic empire spanning three generations. In 1866, a desperate need for beef in Montana's gold camps prompted the young entrepreneur to bring the first substantial Texas herd into Montana Territory on one of America's longest cattle drives. He headquartered his vast ranching operation here in Bozeman near the headwaters of the East Gallatin River during the 1870s. Anticipating the arrival of the Northern Pacific Railroad, Story constructed a water-powered flour mill in 1882, and the Story Mill became the railroad's first local customer the following year. By the early 1900s, the mill was the region's largest employer under T. Byron Story, Nelson's son. Dry land farming, crop diversification, and competition between the Northern Pacific and the Milwaukee Road broadened Bozeman's agricultural industry in the early 1900s. Under new ownership, the mill survived the depressed 1920s while increased tourism justified expansion of the Northern Pacific passenger depot. The Joseph Vollmer family and Nelson Story's grandson, Malcolm, expanded the livestock business during the Great Depression and WWII, adding processing plants and auction yards. The district's varied elements today reflect the regional industry, agriculture, and railroad technology that sustained Bozeman's growth from 1882 to 1945 and underscore the

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

Story family's important legacy. More recently, Nelson Story and his historic cattle drive served as partial inspiration for Larry McMurtry's fictional saga, Lonesome Dove.

**Property:** Union Pacific Identification Pylon

**Address:** 210 Yellowstone Ave, West Yellowstone, Gallatin

**Historic District:** West Yellowstone Oregon Shortline Terminus **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** pylons **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Rail-based tourism added significantly to Montana's economy at the turn of the century, with tourists spending \$500,000 in the state each year from 1900 through 1910. The railroad-related buildings scattered near the entrance to Yellowstone Park serve as reminders that the town of West Yellowstone was born because of the railroad. This pylon rises from green grass speckled with wild parsley against a wooded backdrop, defining the eastern boundary of the historic district. Its construction and dedication in 1910 marked the completion of the railroad terminus and the beginning of development by the Union Pacific for the accommodation of tourists en route to the park. Two cement shields of the 1904-1912 Union Pacific logo are mounted on a base of randomly placed welded tuff. The same shield, borrowed in 1905 by the newly created U.S. Forest Service, still identifies that agency today. The West Yellowstone marker symbolizes tourism in its infancy, when railroad travel made the national parks more accessible to all.

**Property:** Alpha Omicron Pi Sorority House

**Address:** 119 South Sixth Avenue, Bozeman, Gallatin

**Historic District:** Cooper Park **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:** boardinghouses

**Sign Text:**

A wraparound porch with a rounded corner is the focal point of this early transitional home. Its graceful simplicity reveals the influence of the Colonial Revival style upon the fussy Queen Anne. The offset entry, front-gabled roof, and mixed surface materials are Queen Anne hallmarks, but the lack of ornamentation illustrates a renewed interest in colonial American architecture. Built between 1899 and 1904, its builder and early occupants are unknown. The home sat alone on the block until after 1916 when the adjoining lots were sold. By 1920, Minnie L. Terry was housemother to university students who boarded here, a neighborhood trend that began in the early 1920s. The Alpha Omicron Pi Sorority occupied the residence from 1922 to 1941, housing thirty women who shared one bathroom. Despite a 1937 addition, the sorority outgrew the space and the Alpha Gamma Rho Fraternity then occupied the house from 1942 to 1960. Although decades of college students took a toll, subsequent owners' extensive structural and aesthetic restoration has returned the residence to a single family home.

**Property:** South Tracy Avenue Historic District

**Address:** , Bozeman, Gallatin

**Historic District:** South Tracy Avenue **Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** historic districts **Subject 2:** residential structures

**Sign Text:**

Towns across Montana vied for designation as state capital and Bozeman prepared its bid by platting the Capital and Butte Additions in 1890. When Bozeman received the state agricultural college instead, this tiny neighborhood along with the rest of the Butte Addition lay undeveloped until well past the turn of the twentieth century. By 1916, Bozeman's emerging role as the economic and cultural center of the Gallatin Valley had produced a growing middle class in need of inexpensive housing. The first home at 802 South Tracy, attributed to

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

architect Fred Willson, was built in 1916 for his brother-in-law, businessman Charles Fisher. The remaining modest Bungalows were built between 1917 and 1923 by local builders William Smith, Elmer Bartholomew, Guy Ensinger, and George Wimmer. These were men of modest means who happened to purchase lots in the same neighborhood, built on speculation, and often lived in the finished homes until they sold. Subsequent owners in the '20s and '30s included five professors affiliated with the nearby college. Despite extensive construction throughout Bozeman during the early twentieth century, the small neighborhood remained isolated until the mid 1930s when new homes began to fill in the surrounding blocks. Representative of the time when the automobile became a necessity, the seven well-built bungalows with their matching garages are attractive ambassadors of this popular style and showcase the work of these significant builders.

**Property:** Gallatin Lodge No. 6, A.F. & A.M.

**Address:** 137 East Main, Bozeman, Gallatin

**Historic District:** Main Street      **Building Type:** building contributing

**Subject 1:** fraternal lodges                      **Subject 2:** assembly halls

**Sign Text:**

Chartered in 1866, Gallatin Masonic Lodge No. 6 built this brick corner block in 1883 for an estimated \$20,000, then a princely sum. The grandest of several buildings erected during the early 1880s following the arrival of the railroad, this Masonic temple was constructed despite an earlier schism among Bozeman's Masons caused by opposing Civil War sympathies. Accusations that "only the sons of members or Confederates could gain admission to the Gallatin Lodge" led to the creation of Bozeman Lodge No. 18 in 1872, and both lodges struggled with small memberships. Nevertheless, the two lodges remained friendly, and the Bozeman Lodge also sometimes used this meeting hall. The Masons rented the first floor to various businesses, including Bozeman National Bank. Although the exterior of the building has been modernized, the Masons still meet on the second floor. The original carpet, imported from England in 1884 and intricately woven with Masonic symbols, remains in place. The horse sign, installed in 1968 atop the marquee to advertise a first-floor clothing store, is now a Bozeman landmark.

**Property:** North Tracy Avenue Historic District

**Address:** , Bozeman, Gallatin

**Historic District:** North Tracy Avenue      **Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** historic districts                      **Subject 2:** residential structures

**Sign Text:**

The twenty-eight homes along this stretch of North Tracy Avenue illustrate the extensive residential development that occurred north of Main Street. Impressive homes at 322 and 316 North Tracy, built in 1890 and 1900, and two bungalows at 519 and 518, built in 1916 and 1929, anchor the opposite ends. These and the homes that lie in between reflect a mixture of nineteenth-century vernacular forms and later bungalows that span from the 1890s through the 1920s. Although platted in 1885 in response to the coming of the railroad and expanded in 1891, the area was sparsely developed until after 1900 when Bozeman's economic importance increased significantly. Homes then built north of Main Street were generally less elaborate, were constructed for sale rather than commission, and had a higher rate of occupant turnover than the more expensive areas to the south. The Republican Courier in 1907 lamented this discrepancy, pointing out that the north side of town remained largely unimproved while property values on the south side were "vastly more valuable" and that "... many who formerly lived north of Main Street have moved across the line." Indeed, by this time the character of Bozeman's north side was decidedly working class. The small district offers a cross-section of earlier more elaborate homes, vernacular house forms, and later bungalows that sheltered the working backbone of Bozeman's economy. This cohesive and well-defined neighborhood is today a vital remnant of Bozeman's early history.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Property:** Nelson Story Jr. House

**Address:** 601 Grand, Bozeman, Gallatin

**Historic District:** Bon Ton      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The 1898 “Bird’s Eye View of Bozeman” shows this large elegant home standing alone on the 600 block of Grand Avenue. The house is a fine example of the Shingle style, identifiable by the steeply pitched roof, intersecting cross gables, wraparound porch, and, most prominently, the asymmetrical façade covered with rows of uninterrupted shingles. The style originated in the fashionable seaside resorts of the Northeast, and it remained associated with architect-designed homes for the well-to-do. From 1900 to 1913, Nelson Story Jr. (son of Bozeman pioneer and millionaire Nelson Story) lived here with his wife, Etha, and their two children. Nelson Story Jr. founded several businesses, including Story Iron Works and the Story Motor Supply Company. He also built what was reputed to be one of the first true filling stations in the United States (“Only gas was sold, no horse shoeing.”) Active in Republican politics, he served in the Montana legislature, as mayor of Bozeman in 1905, and on both the city council and county commission.

**Property:** Misco Grain Elevator

**Address:** 700 N Wallace, Bozeman, Gallatin

**Historic District:**      **Building Type:** structure

**Subject 1:** agriculture      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Gallatin County boasted twenty-seven grain elevators in 1915, a testament to farming’s important economic role. Despite drought and low commodity prices, Montana Mercantile added this towering elevator to the Bozeman skyline in 1933. It added the warehouse portion a few years later. Situated next to the train tracks and the Bon Ton Flour Mill, the elevator expressed the wholesaler’s faith in Montana’s agricultural future. The building was one of very few grain elevators constructed during the Great Depression between Minneapolis and Seattle. Concrete elevators had become increasingly popular after 1920, but the wooden MISCO grain elevator was built using a much older “crib technique.” To create walls strong enough to resist the pressure of thousands of tons of grain, carpenters stacked planks two inches tall and six inches wide, joining them with spikes and overlapping them at the corners. Narrower two-by-fours were used above the shoulder. Large sliding doors let farmers drive loaded trucks onto a scale above the “boot,” where they dumped their harvest. A vertical belt and bucket conveyor would then lift the grain up to the cupola (or head house), from where it traveled to a storage bin. There it remained until elevator operators loaded it into railway freight cars for shipment out of state. In 1956, the Missoula Mercantile sold the elevator to businessman Walter Teslow. When the elevator was built, Teslow oversaw its construction as the manager of Missoula Mercantile’s eastern division. By 1956, he had his own business, operating eighteen grain elevators across the state.

**Property:** Harris House

**Address:** 502 West Mendenhall, Bozeman, Gallatin

**Historic District:**      **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Cast concrete block was an exciting new technology when this eclectic style home was built circa 1909. While critics labeled concrete block “cheap and vulgar,” builders and homeowners embraced the twentieth-century

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

material as a “substantial and beautiful substitute for stone.” Made with a hand-operated press, the durable, affordable, and simple-to-produce material was virtually unheard of in 1900. By 1906, however, promoters estimated that over a thousand companies had expanded into concrete block manufacturing, satisfying customer demand for ornamental surfaces at a reasonable price. In Bozeman, J. M. Lindley advertised his business as real estate and mortgage loans in 1903; by 1910 he had added “concrete block manufacturer” to his advertisements. The only manufacturer in Bozeman, his firm likely provided the blocks to construct this one-and-one-half-story residence, built on a prominent corner lot. A triple window with a wooden half circle above the center window accents the front gable, while the complicated roofline and decorative shingles in the gable ends add visual interest. James and Eva Harris resided here with daughter Vera from 1910 into the 1930s. An active clubwoman and churchwoman, Eva was a member of the Pythian Sisters, Neighbors of Woodcraft, Order of the Eastern Star, the Housekeepers club, and the Christian Church. Known as “Harris the shoe man,” James arrived in Montana in 1880. In 1910, he owned J. Harris and Co., which advertised itself as “the Exclusive Shoe Store.” Active in local politics, he served on the school board before becoming county treasurer in 1916 and then county clerk and recorder from 1920 through 1932.

**Property:** Main Street Historic District

**Address:** , Bozeman, Gallatin

**Historic District:** Main Street      **Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** historic districts      **Subject 2:** commercial buildings

**Sign Text:**

Leading wagon trains to the booming gold camps of Bannack and Virginia City, miner-turned-guide John Bozeman recognized the agricultural potential of the Gallatin Valley. At his direction in 1864, William Beall and Daniel Rouse laid out a townsite. The new town of Bozeman soon became a crucial supply center for nearby Fort Ellis and for those heading further west. When designation of Yellowstone Park brought a promise of renown to the region in 1872, Bozeman already boasted a telegraph line, a newspaper, a bank, and a school. The impressive brick Cooper Block dominated Main Street's log and frame buildings. The first major building boom along Main Street occurred when the tracks of the Northern Pacific Railroad reached Bozeman in 1883. Town incorporation soon followed. Two-story brick buildings with pressed metal cornices, huge glass storefronts, and recessed entries characterize this early building phase. A decade later electric street lights, street cars, and the grand Romanesque-inspired Bozeman Hotel urbanized the streetscape. Bozeman prospered as a regional commercial center. After 1900, Main Street expanded to the south and west, acquiring further stylistic diversity. The terra cotta-fronted Fechter Hotel and the Art Deco style Baxter Hotel, both designed by local architect Fred Willson, exemplify this architectural variety and the continued focus on Main Street businesses. Despite earthquake damage in 1925 and brightly lit modern storefronts which draw attention away from some vintage upper stories, Main Street's buildings chronicle Bozeman's emergence as the undisputed economic and cultural center of the rich Gallatin Valley.

**Property:** Hamill Apartments

**Address:** 709 S Willson, Bozeman, Gallatin

**Historic District:**      **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** apartments      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Contractor Henry Hamill partnered with Bozeman architect Fred Willson on many projects, so when he decided to invest in an apartment building, he naturally turned to Willson for the design. The result is this outstanding example of the Art Deco style, one of only four extant Art Deco buildings in Bozeman, all of which were designed by Willson. Introduced to America at a Paris exposition in 1925, Art Deco rejected historical references. The new modern style stressed strong geometric patterns, which were either sharply angular or curvilinear, but never

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

both. This fourteen-unit building expresses the style through its use of modern material—including chrome and concrete—and through bold lines accenting the smooth façade. Art Deco design elements include strong, vertical channels on all three bays; diagonally scored pilasters; zigzag designs over the front windows; chevron patterns repeated on the door, the grill over the transom, and in ironwork bordering the basement steps; and the light fixtures flanking the front entrance. Hamill constructed the apartment building, where he lived with sons Henry and Norman, in 1931. Despite the Great Depression, it was a good investment. Between 1930 and 1940, Bozeman's population grew from 6,855 to 8,665 as high unemployment increased college enrollment and the city became the administrative center for New Deal programs targeting farmers. With only one vacant unit in 1933, the Hamill Apartments housed students, salesmen, and Main Street business owners. In a nod to superstition, the fourteen apartments were numbered one through fifteen, so no one would have to live in Apartment 13.

**Property:** Lindley Place Historic District

**Address:** , Bozeman, Gallatin

**Historic District:** Lindley Place **Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** historic districts

**Subject 2:** residential structures

**Sign Text:**

This diminutive neighborly district of thirty-four rather modest, early homes was surveyed and platted as Lindley and Guy's Addition in anticipation of the arrival of the Northern Pacific Railroad. A lumber planing operation occupied the northwest section of the new district in the early 1880s, while newly sawn lumber stored on some of its lots awaited use. Two "shotgun" houses that likely accommodated mill workers at 207 and 211 Lindley Place were among the first residences, built in 1880 and 1883. Houses were soon scattered along both sides of the street, and by the late 1880s, blacksmith William Highsmith's ornate Queen Anne style residence at 317 Lindley Place added a fashionable touch. Joseph Lindley's own home with its cast iron hitching post, built in 1892, anchors the district at the head of the street. Many residents, like Lindley himself, pursued diverse and numerous occupations. One worked as a saloon keeper, grocer, farmer, and rancher; another was proprietor of a bowling alley, city water works superintendent, and an electrician. A series of bungalows, most built by carpenter J. H. Mimmack, filled out the neighborhood between 1912 and 1922. Today Lindley Place offers an excellent assortment of some of Bozeman's earliest working- and middle-class architecture. The ever present sound of Bozeman Creek, sidewalks proclaiming "Lindley Place – 1906," and pleasant shade trees enhance the unique character of this vintage neighborhood that has changed very little since the 1920s.

**Property:** 218 East Olive

**Address:** 211 W Wallace, Bozeman, Gallatin

**Historic District:** Lindley Place **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Built before 1889, this one-story residence predates the city water system's arrival to the neighborhood two years later. A bay window and an open front porch (now enclosed) distinguished the gable front-and-wing house, which became home in 1900 to widow Dolly Richards. Widows at the turn of the twentieth century had few avenues of support. Richards, like many of her counterparts, took in roomers: teacher Sarah Holmes and farm laborer/blacksmith William Sweeny. She also likely relied on her daughter to contribute to the family's well-being. The twenty-year-old Theresa worked as a teacher and lived at home, as did many unmarried children of her generation. Janitor William Stirzick and his wife Bertha resided here from 1922 into the 1930s. Owners added the west side addition between 1927 and 1943. During the same period, they may also have converted the residence into two apartments, responding to the high demand for inexpensive housing during the Great Depression. Each

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

apartment had its own kitchen, but they shared a single bathroom. A single-family home once more, the six-room residence retains its 1943 footprint.

**Property:** Hotel Baxter

**Address:** 105 West Main Street, Bozeman, Gallatin

**Historic District:** Main Street **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** hotels (public accommodations) **Subject 2:** residential structures

**Sign Text:**

Recognizing the need for a luxury hotel, Bozeman businessmen joined together in a collaboration that spanned nearly a century. Culminating in the opening of the Hotel Baxter on March 2, 1929, the effort involved several generations of dedicated citizens including Bozeman resident Eugene Graf, the Baxter's architect Fred F. Willson, the Bozeman Community Hotel Corporation, and approximately 250 community members. Rancher/entrepreneur George Baxter financed the final \$50,000 and named the hotel after his father. Willson's design blends Art Deco style with modern and classical references. The stunning grand triple-arched entry duplicates and doubles in smaller scale on the seventh floor façade. Hotel Baxter originally featured seventy-six guest rooms, eight apartments, a lobby, lounge, dining room, coffee shop, barber shop, fountain room, and banquet rooms. Now extensively renovated and converted to condominiums, the Baxter is again a social hub, fulfilling its original promise. In 1929, J. A. Lovelace delivered the opening toast, pledging that the Baxter would always do its part to "make Bozeman the best town in America in which to live." It continues as a timeless social centerpiece and a treasure in the Treasure State.

**Property:** Dry Creek School

**Address:** Dry Creek School Road, Belgrade, Gallatin

**Historic District:** **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** public schools (buildings) **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Gallatin County, one of the original nine counties established in 1865 during territorial days, was Montana's first extensively settled agricultural area. Homesteaders followed miners in the late 1860s and established schools in private homes or one-room cabins. Tiny one-room schoolhouses soon dotted the countryside, often no more than five miles apart. When the population grew, a frame schoolhouse usually replaced the original log cabin. Just north of this site, a simple log cabin comprised Gallatin County School District 9, established before 1896. The present building replaced the cabin in 1901 and the first classes were held in the spring of 1902. There were 45 students. The school was first known as Cedar View and, later, Hillsdale to correspond to local post office addresses. It became the Dry Creek School after 1909. Students dwindled to only four in 1945 and the school closed. District 9 later disappeared when it consolidated with Manhattan School District 3 in 1961. The school is a splendid example of balloon frame construction. Building materials were pre-cut and assembled on site at a total cost of \$1,700, including classroom equipment. The utilitarian design mirrors the shape of its log predecessor with one significant change: a recessed entry provided protection against harsh weather. The cupola housing the school bell, a feature shared by only two other Gallatin County schoolhouses, proclaimed the building's significance to the early community. Purchase of the building by the Jolly Neighbors Club in 1997 for use as a community center reconfirmed its value.

**Property:** Gallatin County Courthouse

**Address:** 311 West Main Street, Bozeman, Gallatin

**Historic District:** **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** county courthouses **Subject 2:**



## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

### Sign Text:

The stock market crash of 1929 plunged the nation into an era of depression, and Bozeman, like other American communities, faced severe financial hardships and resulting challenges. By 1931, Montana's farming, ranching, mining, and lumber industries—the state's lifeblood—had been severely affected by the depression. The bleak outlook was partially relieved by Franklin Roosevelt's New Deal, and the effects of this program on Gallatin County were considerable. The Works Progress Administration offered work to the unemployed across the state. In Bozeman, this financial assistance made possible the construction of a new courthouse, four elementary schools, an addition to the high school, and other civic improvements. Prominent Bozeman architect Fred F. Willson, who designed many area buildings during his half-century career, designed the courthouse in 1933. This regional landmark, completed in 1936 and one of Willson's most significant contributions, is constructed in the Art Deco style of cast concrete with limestone veneer and granite elements. A large central pavilion, a compositional emphasis on vertical bay divisions, lettering and other ornamental designs cast in the concrete walls, and ornamental bronze spandrels beautifully communicate the new national trend toward "efficiency and streamlining through structure and ornament."

**Property:** Flaming Arrow Lodge

**Address:** 15521 Bridger Canyon Rd, Bozeman, Gallatin

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** campsites (recreation spaces)           **Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

Breathtaking scenery forms the backdrop for this majestic mountain lodge, built by Indianapolis businessman Arthur L. McKinney on the site of a great Sioux-Nez Perce battle. In 1934, McKinney purchased this land with the intent to build a summer family business. Drawing upon Montana's growing "dude ranch" enterprises, his idea was to establish a boys' camp, theater colony, and school for the arts. Walter Diteman, formerly of the 7-Up dude ranch near Lincoln, signed on as supervisor. The project was a boon to the local economy, providing jobs for 75 men. Under Diteman's capable direction, workers with horse teams fought the primitive road to the non-mechanized building site, and the McKinneys' rough sketches began to take form. By the spring of 1935 the lodge, ten cabins, a theater seating 1,000, and a private residence stood ready. Further plans for the camp came to a halt when Arthur McKinney died in May. The existing facilities opened the following Thanksgiving to winter sports (which initially included a spectacular ski jump inside the theater), an unplanned use that later expanded. During the 1940s and 1950s, Evan and Erwin Lachenmaier ran a year-round dude ranch here. The home was eventually sold separately and from 1956 to the mid-1970s, the lodge served something of its original purpose as a Boy Scout camp. Today the Flaming Arrow Lodge, named after the ceremony of truce that supposedly ended the legendary battle, remains a masterpiece of Western Rustic architecture and a hospitable cornerstone of this historic recreational area.

**Property:** Union Pacific Generator House

**Address:** 220 Yellowstone Ave, West Yellowstone, Gallatin

**Historic District:** West Yellowstone Oregon Shortline Terminus   **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** generators           **Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

The railroad constructed a stone and wood generator house for a gas engine here in 1918. In 1927, that building was remodeled with a new roof, stone corners, and slab siding to blend with the Rustic style architecture of the new dining lodge next door. A diesel engine and generators replaced the gas engine in 1934. These, as well as the electric output control board, remain in place today. In 1941, the Fall River Rural Electric Coop purchased the diesel engine and generating capabilities, allowing twenty-four-hour electrical service to become available to the

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

town for the first time. By 1947, Fall River had extended the power line to West Yellowstone from Idaho. The generating facilities then reverted back to railroad use and backup in case of emergencies.

**Property:** First Presbyterian Church

**Address:** 26 West Babcock, Bozeman, Gallatin

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** churches (buildings)           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

**Property:** Bozeman Brewery Historic District

**Address:** , Bozeman, Gallatin

**Historic District:** Bozeman Brewery           **Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** historic districts           **Subject 2:** breweries

**Sign Text:**

Seventeen-year-old Julius Lehrkind fled compulsory service in the German militia by stowing away on a ship bound for America in 1860. Already having served as a brewmaster's apprentice, Lehrkind easily found employment. Eight years later, a sizable inheritance enabled Julius and his brother, Fred, to establish their own brewery in Davenport, Iowa. When both Fred and his wife died unexpectedly, Julius added their four children to his own six, sold the Iowa brewery, and headed for Montana. High quality water and plentiful barley grown by Dutch settlers near Manhattan brought his large extended family and crew of brewery workers to Bozeman in 1895. Under Julius' direction, the brewery was operating by the end of the year. Julius built his Queen Anne style residence in 1898, and his nephew and son followed suit building their own modest homes adjacent to the family mansion in 1908 and 1912. As brewing technology improved and world lager production tripled, the Bozeman Brewery prospered turning out 40,000 barrels of beer annually and distributing malted barley to breweries statewide. Prohibition, however, curtailed brewing operations in 1919 and was said to have broken Julius' heart. He died several years later. In 1925, grandson Carl Lehrkind opened a bottling plant for soft drink production across the street. The brewery then served as an ice plant and warehouse, and later as a creamery. Despite removal of the malt house and an addition built in 1948, the original function of the main building remains obvious. The brewery, bottling plant, and attendant residences recall the Old World family business traditions Julius Lehrkind carried to Montana and passed to two generations.

**Property:** B-K (B BAR K) Ranch

**Address:** 750 Lone Mountain Rd., Big Sky, Gallatin

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** dude ranches           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Eastern clients visited dude ranches for authentically western experiences in complete comfort or, as one rancher put it, "home-made bedsteads but forty-pound mattresses." The B Bar K was no exception. Wealthy Chicagoan J. Fred Butler bought the ranch from homesteader Clarence Lytle in 1927. The historic irrigation ditches, a spring house, fence lines, and horse trails are all that remain of Lytle's original 1910s homestead. Butler and his daughter and son-in-law, Florence and Don Kilbourne, named the property the B Bar K. The families spent some \$110,000 (over \$1 million in today's currency) on their summer playground. Trees felled nearby provided logs for the Rustic style buildings, designed to fit an idealized vision of the West. Native stone fireplaces further reinforced a connection to the surrounding wilderness. Florence decorated the cabins with Navajo rugs, Indian beadwork, and

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

hand-crafted furniture, while the bathrooms were “supplied with everything from hot water to shower caps.” A business downturn led the Kilbournes to take paying guests. They were among 150 Montana dude ranchers operating during the Great Depression. Although some impoverished ranchers opened their homes to guests, many dude ranches were run by transplanted Easterners, like the Butler/Kilbourne family, who could anticipate the expectations of their wealthy visitors. After 1947, the ranch briefly became a boy’s camp, and then headquarters for a logging operation. In 1955, Jack and Elaine Hume purchased the property, renaming it Lone Mountain Ranch. Owners today continue in the long-standing tradition, offering a magical combination of comfortable accommodations and outdoor recreation.

**Property:** Robert A. Cooley Residence

**Address:** 810 S. Willson, Bozeman, Gallatin

**Historic District:** Bon Ton      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

A full-length front porch welcomed visitors to the clapboard home constructed on this lot in 1904. Robert and Edith Cooley purchased the residence from Golden Rule bookkeeper R. A. Black the following year. The couple had moved to Bozeman in 1899 after Robert, an entomologist, joined the college's faculty. After successfully lobbying the legislature to establish the position, Professor Cooley became state entomologist in 1903, a post he held for many years. In 1908 Cooley joined the fight against Rocky Mountain spotted fever, a deadly tick-borne illness that plagued the Bitterroot. Cooley championed tick eradication efforts, particularly dipping livestock in arsenic to control the spread of the disease. Edith and Robert raised four children here, and their home became known as "a center of culture and social refinement." In 1919, however, tragedy struck when the Cooleys' seventeen-year-old son Robert Jr. died of influenza. A year later, Edith also died. Not long after, Robert moved the surviving family to Main Street. Over the years, this residence has evolved, with an addition built between 1912 and 1927 and major remodeling completed in 2008.

**Property:** Cut Bank Municipal Airport and Army Air Base

**Address:** 2625 Valier Highway, Cut Bank, Glacier

**Historic District:**      **Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** air and space transportation buildings      **Subject 2:** military buildings

**Sign Text:**

Nestled in the rolling hills and coulees within the boundaries of the Blackfeet Indian Reservation, the Cut Bank Airport recalls a layered history. Cut Bank already had several private pilots when civil aviation laws began to appear in Montana in the late 1920s. With the local oil industry booming, Cut Bank dentist C. H. Minette realized a future need for private and commercial aviation. He began a tough battle to win services for Cut Bank. In 1930, officials selected this site and the land was leased as a private airfield. The Blackfeet allowed the city and Glacier County to purchase the land in 1941 and Western Airlines made its inaugural flight to Cut Bank. At the start of World War II, Cut Bank offered the airfield for government use. Cut Bank, Glasgow, and Lewistown became satellite airbases of the Great Falls Army Air Base. The first troops arrived in November 1942 and trained here through 1943. Two runways accommodated the B-17 Flying Fortresses on which the pilots and crews trained. Squadrons learned navigation, bombing techniques, and all aspects of the B-17 Flying Fortress before directly joining forces on the European front. Casualties were high and the need for crews unrelenting. Throughout the war, Western Airlines continued domestic service. In 1948, the army conveyed much of its property to Cut Bank and Glacier County. The structures and runways remain to tell the story of early aviation in Montana and of the young servicemen, warmly adopted into the community, who trained at Cut Bank.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Property:** Rising Wolf / "Little Chief"

**Address:** , Glacier National Park, Glacier

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:**

**Subject 1:** transportation (boats)

**Subject 2:** Glacier National Park

**Sign Text:**

Wooden boats first ferried visitors to these mountains across Lake McDonald in the 1890s. Creation of Glacier National Park in 1910 and the Great Northern Railway's tourism infrastructure brought many more visitors and the need for transport and sight-seeing boats. Flathead Lake boat-builder J. W. Swanson began building and operating boats in the park starting with Ethel on Lake McDonald in 1911. Swanson subsequently built nine boats for use on the park's glacial lakes. His exceptional skills intertwine with the park's maritime history. In 1920, Swanson opened his own boat concession on Two Medicine Lake and at Many Glacier, building wooden passenger boats for these lakes. In 1926, he built twin 45-foot, 50-passenger vessels, the Rising Wolf for Two Medicine Lake and Little Chief for the Glacier Park Hotel Company on St. Mary Lake. Both the Rising Wolf and Little Chief carry heavy fir keels with oak frames, and cedar planking shaped to the curve of the hulls. (Little Chief, renamed Sinopah, now operates on Two Medicine Lake.) Swanson sold his boat concession and boats to Arthur J. Burch and Carl Anderson in 1938. Rising Wolf, named for the massive mountain that flanks the north shore of Two Medicine Lake, carried tourists until 1975; its use was then limited. The vessel received a meticulous 3,000-hour restoration by the Burch family in 1991. The fully restored Rising Wolf, rechristened Little Chief for its new home on St. Mary Lake, continues to enchant visitors with the same feeling and views as it did during its first excursions in 1926.

**Property:** The Adams Hotel

**Address:** 1 Main St, Lavina, Golden Valley

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** hotels (public accommodations)

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Rancher Ludwig C. Lehfeldt sold 33,000 acres of ranch land to the Milwaukee Road in 1907 prompting the relocation of the Lavina townsite. Realizing the need for a hotel, Lehfeldt hired architects Link and Haire—who drew the plans for the 1910 additions to the Montana State Capitol—to design the impressive Colonial Revival style building. Lehfeldt named the hotel, completed for \$20,000 in fall 1908, after his friend, Milwaukee Road vice president John Q. Adams. The Adams' main entrance faced Main Street with a secondary north entrance facing the railroad tracks and depot. It was a first-class establishment offering steam heat, gas lighting, a bar generously stocked with the finest liquors and cigars, an elegant dining room serving fine meals, and a ladies' withdrawing room on the second floor. Each guest room was beautifully appointed with carpeting, fine furnishings, and a matching china washbowl and pitcher set. Pure linen sheets and down comforters promised a good night's rest even in the coldest winter weather. The grand two-story hostelry hosted dances and social events in its spacious dining room and lobby and thus became the center of local hospitality. Lavina flourished with the homestead boom but drought, crop failures, and bank closures took their toll. The Adams declined, few guests stayed in its once-opulent rooms, and by the mid-1920s the hotel closed. From the 1930s through the 1970s, the Lutheran Church used the bar area as its chapel. After changing hands several times, restoration began in 2000.

**Property:** Slayton Mercantile Co.

**Address:** 23 Main Street, Lavina, Golden Valley

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings

**Subject 2:**

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

### Sign Text:

T. C. Power's stage line established a stop in 1883 where the town of Lavina was born. In 1907, the Milwaukee Road came through attracting new businesses, among them the Slayton Mercantile Co., established in 1908 by Daniel Webster Slayton. A prominent sheep rancher, county commissioner, and later state senator, Slayton also founded a sheep shearing business and the First Bank of Lavina. The town thrived as an agricultural and economic center, but in June of 1910, Slayton's wood-frame mercantile burned to the ground. Although the \$60,000 business was insured for only one-third its value, Slayton immediately rebuilt a larger, fireproof building. F. W. Handel supplied the exterior brick and the inner layer was fired in a kiln near the Musselshell River. The present two-story mercantile, built in the classic Western commercial style, opened for business in the fall of 1910. Slayton served as postmaster and the store was central to the local community, supplying everything from mail to groceries, school supplies, and horse tack and, after 1916, Ford automobiles, farm implements, and Titan tractors. Slayton, instrumental in the creation of Musselshell County in 1910, was active throughout his life in politics, ranching, and business affairs. He retained interest in the mercantile until his death in 1927. Today the landmark store, still a local gathering place, is a grand example of the Western commercial style of architecture. Its pressed tin ceiling, rolling oak ladders, pot bellied stove and other original features preserve the period ambience of Montana's homestead era.

**Property:** Lavina State Bank

**Address:** 101 Main, Lavina, Golden Valley

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** banks (financial institutions)           **Subject 2:** post offices

### Sign Text:

The arrival of the Milwaukee Railroad in 1908 established Lavina as an important regional center. D. W. Slayton's Mercantile and L. C. Lehfeldt's Adams Hotel were the cornerstone businesses of the bustling community. Slayton and Lehfeldt, along with Arthur C. Bayers, H. J. Ries, and L. Sandsmark, established a bank to serve the growing region. This two-story frame building, built in 1908, suited the new financial institution. In April of 1909, the bank moved its furniture in, installed the safe, and distributed shares. Chartered in 1911, the bank opened a branch in Ryegate and through the first half of the prosperous 1910s aided homesteaders and ranchers. When the first drought descended on the region in 1918, the bank pulled most homesteaders through. Slayton noted in his diary that the bank "charged off a lot of bad notes." As drought and depression took its toll, the bank—like hundreds of others across Montana—closed in 1923. The sturdy two-story building, however, continued to serve as the post office. As a natural social center, it became the heart of the community where neighbor met neighbor. In 1938, the Freemasons purchased the building and added onto the back, converting the upstairs space to accommodate their lodge meetings. Lavina Lodge #107, founded in 1916, met on the second floor, and, until 1960, the post office occupied the storefront. The Ryegate Temple Lodge #101 and Lavina Lodge #107 combined in 1995 to form Lavina-Temple Lodge #101, prompting careful restoration of this community treasure. The building today, crisp and clean on the streetscape, evokes the ambience of another era.

**Property:** Courtney Hotel

**Address:** South Sansome Street, Philipsburg, Granite

**Historic District:** Phillipsburg   **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** hotels (public accommodations)           **Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

Brothers Morris and Humphrey Courtney built this multi-purpose building in 1918 with profits from manganese mining acquired during World War I. The building speaks to the coming of the automobile as the basement housed the Granite County Garage and the first floor was a dealership and showroom for Overland automobiles.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

The wide door in the center made the interior showroom accessible. The upper two floors accommodated offices and hotel rooms, often occupied by schoolteachers.

**Property:** Granite County Courthouse

**Address:** 220 N Sansome, Philipsburg, Granite

**Historic District:** Phillipsburg **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** county courthouses **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The first permanent home for Granite County offices was completed in 1913. Prominent Montana architects John Link and Charles Haire designed the building. Its cut stonework is, appropriately, made of Montana granite. Granite County commissioners paid the Gagnon and Company construction firm \$49,000 for completion of this elegant brick county courthouse. Look for the inscription "Granite Co." in the keystone above the entry arch.

**Property:** Morse Hall

**Address:** , Philipsburg, Granite

**Historic District:** Phillipsburg **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** county courthouses **Subject 2:** libraries (buildings)

**Sign Text:**

Colonel J. W. Morse built Morse Hall in 1887. This elaborately detailed public lecture hall also served as county courthouse after 1893, as well as an opera house, town hall, library, and general community center. Its splendid second-story dance floor was the scene of many gala community dances as well as basketball games. The pressed metal cornice, hood moldings, and full storefront supported by cast-iron columns make this building a fine example of commercial vernacular architecture.

**Property:** J.K. Merrill and Sons Dry Goods

**Address:** 105 Broadway, Philipsburg, Granite

**Historic District:** Phillipsburg **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The excellent design and spacious interior of this two-story commercial building represents Philipsburg's prosperity and substantial population during the 1890s. Constructed for J. K. Merrill and Sons between 1892 and 1894, Freyschlag, Huffman and Company took this location for its general merchandise emporium in 1893. Dry goods, clothing, groceries, hardware, and wholesale liquors were displayed in the 12,000 feet of floor space. By 1897, it had become BiMetallic Mining's company store. A three-bay façade and second-story pressed metal colonnade visually reinforce the structure's proportions.

**Property:** Sayr's Building

**Address:** 103 N Sansome, Philipsburg, Granite

**Historic District:** Phillipsburg **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** banks (financial institutions) **Subject 2:** commercial buildings

**Sign Text:**

First known as the Hyde Block, this building was constructed by banker Joseph Hyde and his wife, Mary, in 1888. It housed the First National Bank until the silver crash of 1893. In 1904, Frank Sayrs purchased the building and it has since held a number of businesses including a tailor's shop, drug stores, and a recreation center. The fine

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

design of this two-story commercial structure features a chamfered, or beveled, corner with a modillioned metal cornice and pediment.

**Property:** Moose Lake Camp Historic District

**Address:** , , Granite

**Historic District:** Moose Lake Camp Historic District      **Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** historic districts      **Subject 2:** cabins (houses)

**Sign Text:**

Nestled along the shore of Moose Lake, this collection of log and frame buildings is a fine example of how early mining ventures in the region gradually evolved into the U.S. Forest Service's recreational residence program during the early- to mid-twentieth century. Among the first prospectors attracted to the area was mining promoter/artist Julian Itter, who filed several claims in the nearby Frog Pond Mining District. In 1918 Itter hired Martin "Moose" Johnson, a legendary local mountain man, to build a round-log cabin overlooking the lake. In 1924 Itter sold all his holdings to mining entrepreneur Leslie L. Savage, who convinced Inglis M. Uppercu, a wealthy New York businessman, to invest in his mining operations. Savage added a cookhouse, two sleeping cabins, a barn, and an icehouse/woodshed. Savage also received a recreational residence permit in 1928 under the Term Occupancy Act of 1915 that granted permits for private construction of summer homes on national forests. Both families enjoyed many happy summers at the lake until the mines failed during the Depression. Savage was forced to put the property up for sale. There were no buyers for several years, and the buildings fell into disrepair. Joseph Lyden bought and improved the cabins in 1945. Subsequent owners Elizabeth C. and John C. Hauck and later Tom and Jane Van Dyk carefully preserved and maintained the buildings and structures, which retain considerable integrity of design, function, and workmanship. The district illustrates the transformation from mining to recreation in an unspoiled setting in southwestern Montana.

**Property:** Masonic Temple, Philipsburg

**Address:** 101 East Broadway, Philipsburg, Granite

**Historic District:** Phillipsburg      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** fraternal lodges      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Meetings in Philipsburg of Flint Creek Lodge No. 11 date back to 1867. This structure, built in 1911, provided a permanent home for the community-oriented fraternal organization. Chambers for lodge meetings occupy the entire top floor. The ground floor originally housed the Philipsburg State Bank, and the outside entry to the bank's old vault still remains intact. A chamfered corner complemented by visual emphasis on horizontal lines of banded masonry reflect the period.

**Property:** Kaiser House

**Address:** 203 East Broadway, Philipsburg, Granite

**Historic District:** Phillipsburg      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** hotels (public accommodations)      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Michael Kaiser, founder of the Philipsburg Water Company, built this grand hotel in 1881. One of Philipsburg's oldest masonry structures, the original hotel boasted a wraparound porch extending halfway around the building. Second-story French doors, matching windows below, and four Norman arched double doors with fan transoms speak to its excellent design. A fine bar, billiard room, and T-bone steaks for 50 cents made the Kaiser House a place applauded by travelers and residents alike.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Property:** Hynes House

**Address:** 229 Broadway, Philipsburg, Granite

**Historic District:** Phillipsburg **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** boardinghouses **Subject 2:** residential structures

**Sign Text:**

Most of Philipsburg's original wooden commercial structures were later rebuilt of brick, but this last-remaining frame boardinghouse escaped such a fate. The two-and-one-half-story establishment, built in 1880, was run by Honora Hynes until the silver crash of 1893 and then by the McGurk family until 1930. Spacious parlors, dining room, and upstairs sleeping rooms offered residents comfortable, home-like quarters. The structure's false-front style was popular in small-town western America and was used to make buildings appear more substantial.

**Property:** Granite County Jail

**Address:** Kearney Street, Philipsburg, Granite

**Historic District:** **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** jails (buildings) **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The Granite County Jail was constructed in 1896, three years after Granite County was carved from two adjacent counties and Philipsburg made the county seat. The town served as hub to extensive area mining and, later, ranching. The jail was the first major public building constructed for county use, reflecting early desire for law and order. This stately building contains jail space, the sheriff's office, and the sheriff's residence. It was constructed for an estimated \$8,000 using features from several architectural styles. The jail's dominant feature is a medieval tower above the arched portico. Its bricked-over windows, intriguingly, were part of the original creation. The dark brick was locally fired and the rough-cut granite locally quarried. Renovated successfully to current standards, this remains one of Montana's oldest jails still serving its original function.

**Property:** Doe's Drug Store

**Address:** 120 East Broadway, Philipsburg, Granite

**Historic District:** Phillipsburg **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

In the 1880s and 1890s, masonry structures gradually replaced the frame buildings left from Philipsburg's mining camp days. Doe and Hoyer constructed this commercial brick building in 1887. Modini's Grand Hotel and Restaurant was located in the west half. M. E. Doe and his sons owned and managed the drug store on the east half of the ground floor until 1969. Doe's Drug Store even sold the town's first gasoline, hand pumped from barrels out front.

**Property:** First Presbyterian Church

**Address:** 208 Kearney, Philipsburg, Granite

**Historic District:** Philipsburg **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** churches (buildings) **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Reverend Milton Cook organized Philipsburg's first Presbyterian congregation in 1877 and Reverend George Edwards came from Missoula to preach once a month. But it was not until 1891 that Reverend Samuel Wishard established a permanent Presbyterian congregation in Philipsburg. Services and Sunday school were held in the



## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

schoolhouse until summer 1893 when the present building welcomed its first worshippers. An early cold snap, however, forced the congregation to move services to the Methodist Church until heating stoves could be installed. The building's unusual hexagonal copper dome and intricate scrollwork make its steeple the most distinctive among Philipsburg's churches. A Gothic window with tracery, lancet openings, and a round window embellish the simple frame façade. Fondly known as the "White Church," the building takes its place along "church row" on the north side of Broadway. The local watering holes are all on the opposite side of the street, maintaining the historic separation of secular and spiritual. Presbyterians held services here until 1990 when they joined with the Methodists to share their facility.

**Property:** 123 East Broadway

**Address:** 123 East Broadway, Philipsburg, Granite

**Historic District:** Phillipsburg **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:** printing firms

**Sign Text:**

Local rancher Lee Degenhart financed the construction of this building in 1910. Fred Haverty, a contractor from Hall, Montana, who later ran a car dealership here in Philipsburg, was the builder. Design features include the original ornamental leaded glass and a decorative brick cornice. This and other commercial structures of like vintage illustrate the economic boom Philipsburg enjoyed between 1900 and 1914. The community's weekly newspaper The Philipsburg Mail has been headquartered in this building since 1941.

**Property:** St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

**Address:** South Sansome Street, Philipsburg, Granite

**Historic District:** Phillipsburg **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** churches (buildings) **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

In January 1889, St. Andrew's Episcopal Church opened its doors to hold one of the first services in a church in Philipsburg. Placed within the cornerstone the previous year were a Bible, some coins, names of donors, and a copy of the Philipsburg Mail. The one-story wood-frame building provides an excellent example of a simple pioneer church. Except for the Gothic tracery over the entrance, the building resembles schoolhouse design of the period.

**Property:** Weinstein Building

**Address:** 212 East Broadway, Philipsburg, Granite

**Historic District:** Phillipsburg **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:** hotels (public accommodations)

**Sign Text:**

Around the mountain from the mining camp of Cable in 1866 came Polish-born merchant William Weinstein with a wagon-load of goods to sell. He became Philipsburg's first general merchant, constructing the eastern half of this building in the late 1870s or early 1880s to house his business. Ike Sparey located his restaurant and hotel in the western half, completed circa 1887. The structure has since served as a bank, a mortuary, and since 1950 as mining company offices for the current owner, the Taylor-Knapp Company. Second-story balconies, ornamental brickwork, and battlements complement this well-preserved example of 1880s commercial architecture.

**Property:** Pizer Building

**Address:** , Philipsburg, Granite

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Historic District:** Phillipsburg **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:** saloons (bars)

**Sign Text:**

One of a network of Jewish merchants who supplied miners in the Rocky Mountain West, nineteen-year-old Benjamin Pizer arrived in Helena from Poland with his wife Jessie Silverman and their newborn son David in 1869. With limited capital, he purchased fifty pounds of dry goods, which he peddled to area miners. After seven years, he bought a wagon and expanded his territory. In 1878, he purchased a dry goods business in Philipsburg. A building boom fueled by Philipsburg-area silver mining and the arrival of the Northern Pacific Railroad prompted Pizer to invest in this one-story brick vernacular style building in 1887. Pizer sold furniture, notions, and tobacco from this shop, while a saloon operated on the building's east side. Well integrated into the Philipsburg community, Pizer served as a Republican county commissioner and was a member of both the Knights of Pythias and the Oddfellows. A founding member of the Helena Hebrew Benevolent Society, Pizer also retained ties to Helena, where the family returned in 1896. He died there in 1921 and was buried in the Home of Peace Jewish cemetery.

**Property:** 102 West Kearney Street

**Address:** 102 West Kearney Street, Philipsburg, Granite

**Historic District:** Philipsburg **Building Type:** contributing building

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Before his death in 1896, pioneering Jewish businessman William Weinstein owned many lots, including this one, in Philipsburg. By 1902, his daughter Alice Weinstein Hannah owned the property and the one-story wooden dwelling that stood on the site, which she undoubtedly rented to local miners and their families. She sold the home in 1913 to Missoula resident Leannah Damuth. Damuth lost the property for back taxes in 1923, and in 1927 Louada Smith purchased the lots and all improvements for \$248.75. A divorced mother of four, Louada married miner John Flascher the following year. Soon thereafter, the family built this one-and-one-half-story, gable-front home, valued in 1930 at \$2,400. The home originally sported full-width front and rear porches, both of which were later enclosed.

**Property:** Philipsburg Grade School

**Address:** West of Schnepel Street, Philipsburg, Granite

**Historic District:** **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** public schools (buildings) **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

This magnificent Classical Revival school building originally served both elementary and secondary students. Financed by a \$30,000 bond, it was dedicated in 1896 just three years after Philipsburg became the seat of Granite County. Two hundred students attended the first year. The prominent architectural firm of Bell and Kent designed the school; their work also includes the original Montana state capitol. The four-story square tower with its large, arched granite entrance dominates the brick and granite building. The Classical Revival style can also be seen in the roof's closed gabled ends, which form triangular pediments decorated with modillions and circular windows. After a new Philipsburg high school was constructed in 1912, this school housed only elementary classes. Fifteen years later, four additional classrooms and a gymnasium were added to the rear.

**Property:** Kaiser House Annex

**Address:** , Philipsburg, Granite

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Historic District:** Phillipsburg **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** hotels (public accommodations)

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

A second-story walkway originally connected this three-story masonry building with the Kaiser House, affording the busy establishment more boarding rooms. Constructed circa 1890, its gabled dormers in a metal mansard roof present an appearance unusual to the architecture of Philipsburg. George A. Stephens purchased the hotel in 1908, and thereafter it was known as the Stephens Hotel. It featured a large parlor and rooms for traveling salesmen who brought trunks of sample wares in pursuit of lucrative business.

**Property:** Schuh-Nowak Residence

**Address:** 203 Franklin, Philipsburg, Granite

**Historic District:** Philipsburg **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

A beautifully embellished pedimented gable and open porch with spindled balustrade, turned columns, and decorative details highlight this splendid two-and-one-half-story Queen Anne style residence of salmon-colored brick. Mary Schuh, a longtime pioneer homesteader and reputedly the first white woman to settle locally in nearby Cable, owned the property in 1894. The home was built in the mid-1890s. Mary's daughter and son-in-law, Emma and Frank Nowak, raised their children here and sold the home shortly after Mary's death in 1918. New cedar roof shingling of the original type and restoration of the unusual handcut metal ridge trim atop the roof return this charming home to its nineteenth-century likeness.

**Property:** Walker Commercial Company

**Address:** 109 E Broadway, Philipsburg, Granite

**Historic District:** Phillipsburg **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Prominent Missoula architect A. J. Gibson designed and built this two-story commercial building in 1905. The fine design includes a metal modillioned cornice and panels with a full height glass storefront and polished granite skirt below. The Walker Company operated stores in both Philipsburg and nearby Granite, selling dry goods and hardware. The Golden Rule handled similar merchandise at this location in the 1920s, and Philipsburg Hardware carried on the same tradition beginning in 1932.

**Property:** McDonald Opera House

**Address:** 140 South Sansome Street, Philipsburg, Granite

**Historic District:** Phillipsburg **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** theaters (buildings)

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Prominent businessman Angus A. McDonald constructed this two-story masonry theater in 1891. A metal-covered stage loft rises above the roof as evidence of the structure's historic function. Beneath the south end were dressing rooms for the traveling entertainers that played the generous stage. Elaborate backdrops were painted by Montana artist Edgar S. Paxson. The advent of moving pictures with sound brought some interior changes in the 1930s, but a magician's trap door at center stage is still in place. Renamed the Granada Theatre in 1919, it is Montana's oldest operating theater.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Property:** St. Paul's Methodist Episcopal Church

**Address:** North Sansome Street, Philipsburg, Granite

**Historic District:** Phillipsburg **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** churches (buildings) **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The cornerstone for St. Paul's Methodist Episcopal Church was laid in 1887. Dedicated September 15, 1890, this modest but rather sophisticated structure was one of Philipsburg's early churches. Choice of brick and prolonged construction reveal the generosity and persistence of its congregation. The original building with its furnishings cost a total of \$3,589.94. When lightning destroyed the bell tower, an entry vestibule and new tower were later constructed in conjunction with the addition west of the sanctuary.

**Property:** Phillipsburg Historic District

**Address:** , Phillipsburg, Granite

**Historic District:** Phillipsburg **Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** historic districts **Subject 2:** mining towns

**Sign Text:**

Phillipsburg's early-day fortunes ebbed and flowed with mining. Today, its historic district is one of Montana's best preserved late-nineteenth-century mining towns, with commercial, public, and private buildings dating from the boom period of silver mining. Silver was discovered south of here in 1864, and only three years later Philipsburg (at an elevation of 5,270 feet) was growing at the "rate of one house per day," an area newspaper reported. That same year, the St. Louis and Montana Company sent Philip Deideshimer (for whom the town was named) to Philipsburg to help develop and manage its mines and stamp mills. Only two years later, the nearby Hope Mill shut down and Philipsburg was largely deserted. A revival of mining activities from the mid-1880s to mid-1890s led to Philipsburg's greatest growth, when tens of millions of dollars worth of silver bullion, ore, and slag were shipped to out-of-state markets. The wooden, false-front buildings on Broadway were replaced with masonry structures. When silver mining was curtailed in 1893, recently discovered sapphire deposits helped stabilize the local economy. That year also saw the creation of Granite County, with Philipsburg as county seat. During World War I, Philipsburg was the largest supplier of domestic manganese, which led to another boom for the area. After that boom, Philipsburg has slipped into a stable existence based on agriculture, government, logging, limited mining, and tourism.

**Property:** Patten Residence

**Address:** 101 Granite, Phillipsburg, Granite

**Historic District:** Phillipsburg **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

During the 1880s masonry structures began to replace wood-framed buildings from the mining camp days to form the present town. George H. Harn, who at that time ran one of two local brickyards, probably built this fine residence with his own bricks. James Patten Sr. came to Philipsburg from Illinois and purchased the home from Harn in 1887. Patten was a prominent businessman involved in the operation of the nearby Trout and Sweet Home Mines. The one-and-one-half-story home features a hipped roof, bay window with wood paneled spandrels, and porches with slender turned columns, decorative brackets, spindled balustrades, and scrolled friezes.

**Property:** Wilson Brothers Building

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Address:** 136 & 138 W. Broadway, Philipsburg, Granite

**Historic District:** Phillipsburg **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:** boardinghouses

**Sign Text:**

Charles A. and Frank J. Wilson, brothers from Wisconsin, built and established their businesses in this building by 1888. The building originally housed a furniture store on one side, a feed store on the other, and a miners' boarding house/living quarters upstairs. Later in the 1890s, the businesses changed to hardware and groceries while the boarding house continued to operate. Inside, a hand-over-hand hoist that is still in use and tongue-and-groove maple flooring confirm the success of the brothers' businesses. Although the building has been remodeled several times and the interior stairs moved to the outside, rehabilitation of the façade has restored the exterior to its 1887 appearance.

**Property:** C.T. Huffman Grocery

**Address:** , Philipsburg, Granite

**Historic District:** Phillipsburg **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Build circa 1887, Lutey's Grocery and the Barrett and Jacky Harness Shop originally shared occupancy of this one-story commercial building. By the 1890s, Valentine Jacky shared the building with C. T. Huffman, who supplied groceries to Philipsburg and the nearby town of Granite. C. T. and A. S. Huffman eventually expanded their store into both sides of the building. Operated by A. S. Huffman's sons until the 1970s, the business was the state's oldest family-owned grocery. Meticulous reconstruction of the 1890s façade and restoration of the tin-ceilinged interior was completed in 1992-1993 by owner Dale Siegford and woodwright Barry Carnahan.

**Property:** Masonic Temple

**Address:** 101 East Broadway, Philipsburg, Granite

**Historic District:** Phillipsburg **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** fraternal lodges **Subject 2:** commercial buildings

**Sign Text:**

Terra-cotta medallions sporting the Masonic emblem of square and compass and the words "Masonic Temple" centered beneath the cornice proudly announce this building's primary purpose. Chartered in 1898, the Forsyth Masonic Lodge met in borrowed quarters until 1905, when enthusiastic Mason Hiram Marcyes included a lodge room in his new Commercial Hotel. Six years later, the Masons hired Miles City architect Brynjulf Rivenes to design this Beaux Arts style temple, constructed of local brick from Marcyes' brickyard and finished with a façade of high-fire Hebron brick trimmed with Bedford limestone. Rent from the first-floor storefronts subsidized the building's \$21,000 price tag. The second floor boasted the lodge room as well as a cloakroom and clubroom designed for members of the short-lived Forsyth Club. During the 1918 flu epidemic, clubrooms were converted into a temporary hospital. In 1921 the public library, founded by the Forsyth Woman's Club, occupied the space. While the library moved to the old courthouse in 1927 and into its current building in 1971, Masons continue to meet in this lodge, built by their predecessors in 1911.

**Property:** Garnet Historic District

**Address:** , Garnet, Granite

**Historic District:** Garnet Historic District **Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** mining towns **Subject 2:** industry

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

### Sign Text:

The 1865 gold strike on Bear Creek in the Garnet Range drew prospectors from far and wide. The gold that washed down with spring runoff promised rich quartz veins, but without a road and little water for placer mining, the “mother lode” proved elusive. For thirty years, prospectors eked out a living until road construction finally allowed access to heavy equipment. Placer mining transitioned to hard rock mining. In 1895, partners Dr. Armistead Mitchell and Dr. Charles Mussigbrod developed a stamp mill at nearby First Chance Gulch. When Samuel Ritchey struck a rich vein of gold at his Nancy Hanks mine, just west of the mill in 1896, Garnet sprang to life. The town attracted more families than did Montana’s earlier mining camps. Dances, hay rides, quilting bees, and picnics provided family oriented social activities. Garnet supported numerous saloons, but its family emphasis tempered usual mining camp vices. Cordial relations between independent mine owners and the miners union contrasted with single company towns such as Butte and Philipsburg, prompting the Garnet Mining News to proclaim the town a “poor man’s paradise.” Through boom and bust, Frank A. Davey steadfastly believed in Garnet’s future. As owner of the general store, hotel, and the stage line, Davey was Garnet’s most prominent resident. His death in 1947 and the sale of his holdings in 1948 marked the beginning of Garnet as a ghost town. Today, the remaining commercial false-front and log dwellings reflect Garnet’s life span from 1895 to 1948. Since 1972, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has stabilized many of the town’s buildings and vigilantly oversees its historic resources.

**Property:** Carlin House

**Address:** 536 Eleventh Street, Havre, Hill

**Historic District:** Havre Residential      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:** apartments

### Sign Text:

There was no sign of the impending Great Depression in January 1929. Havre had spent half a million dollars on construction the year before, and the future looked bright. Among those kept busy by Havre’s growth was prolific local builder Christ Fuglevand. Fuglevand, who built over fifty homes in Havre, constructed this single-story stucco residence in 1929 for an estimated \$4,550. The house featured Craftsman-style detailing, including a low-pitched roof with wide overhanging eaves, exposed rafter tails, and a half-length porch with massive wood and cobblestone porch supports. Dan Carlin, a yardmaster for the Great Northern Railway, and his wife Clara were the home’s first owners. The couple rented the daylight basement apartment for \$60 a month to a dry goods store manager and his family. An increasingly common feature in Havre after 1929, such apartments frequently provided housing for students attending the Northern Montana School. This precursor to MSU-Billings was founded in 1929.

**Property:** Double Cavalry Stable Guard and Shop Buildings

**Address:** 130 5th Avenue, Havre, Hill

**Historic District:** Fort Assiniboine      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** forts      **Subject 2:** military buildings

### Sign Text:

Between 1902 and 1905, the U.S. Department of War spent over a half million dollars modernizing and improving the fort’s infrastructure. The Havre newspaper hailed the investment as assuring “the permanency of Fort Assiniboine.” The improvements included the 1905 construction of these three brick duplexes by Great Falls contractors Frank Coombs and Duncan Bros. The single-story buildings boast two central brick chimneys with corbeled caps, decorative exposed rafter tips, and a full-width wood-frame porch. These buildings replaced the original cavalry guardhouse built in 1887. Within, each three-room duplex featured a guard room; a room for repairing tack and saddles; and a blacksmith shop. The men who lived in the duplexes guarded horses, watched

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

for fire, and made simple repairs. The shops were never staffed to full capacity since only four companies of cavalry were stationed at the fort from 1905 to 1907. The shops only saw about two years of use; the last cavalry troops left the post in 1907 and in 1911 the fort closed for good.

**Property:** Non-Commissioned Officers' Quarters

**Address:** 130 5th Avenue, Havre, Hill

**Historic District:** Fort Assiniboine      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** forts      **Subject 2:** military buildings

**Sign Text:**

In its final years as a military outpost in 1904 and 1905, Fort Assiniboine underwent an extensive effort to expand and modernize its facilities. Great Falls contractors Frank Coombs and Duncan Brothers built this residential duplex in 1905 for non-commissioned officers (NCO's) and their families. It was the second and smaller of two residential buildings primarily designed for NCO's not attached to a specific company. This could include Headquarters, Signal Corps, or Quartermaster staff. The first residential building—which no longer stands—was built in 1881 with four three-room apartments. The fort typically had many NCO's, most of whom probably lived in barracks with their men, but a few had their wives and families with them. This second housing facility, constructed of red brick framed in wood typical of the fort's architecture, included two mirror image apartments with a parlor and kitchen on the ground floor and two bedrooms and a bathroom upstairs. The two apartments were later connected to serve as housing for Experiment Station personnel.

**Property:** Cavalry Stable #4

**Address:** 130 5th Avenue, Havre, Hill

**Historic District:** Fort Assiniboine      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** forts      **Subject 2:** military buildings

**Sign Text:**

Load-bearing brick walls three courses thick, a wood-framed gable roof, and metal rain gutters are among the surviving historic features of this 1906 stable. The fort originally had six stables, built between 1879 and 1881, that accommodated approximately 400 animals. Each housed the 66 horses assigned to a typical cavalry company. The Quartermaster Department and military band had their own stables. This building replaced an older stable that burned in 1905, underscoring the importance of horses to the military even into the twentieth century. It is slightly larger than the original and stabled 73 horses. A cavalryman's first duty was to dress in his stable-work uniform, feed, water, and groom his horse, clean the stall, and add fresh hay. The last cavalry left the fort in 1907 and the remaining stables were torn down in the 1920s. Stable #4, however, was newer than the others and thus survived for other purposes. Portions of the building continued in use as a recreation room during summer camps and a community dance hall. It was later used as a winter granary and even more recently for storage.

**Property:** Wahkpa Chu'gn Buffalo Jump

**Address:** #14 Meadowlark Estates, Havre, Hill

**Historic District:**      **Building Type:** site

**Subject 1:** ancient sites      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Immense herds of bison once roamed the great North American prairies. As many as 30 million of the great shaggy beasts moved seasonally in herds of 25 to 300, following the same patterns year after year. Bison, or buffalo, were the lifeblood of the native peoples who shared this vast domain. For at least 11,000 years, the

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

grassy plains along the Milk River were seasonally home to native groups. Knowing the habits of these animals allowed communal hunting, and they gathered at this place where the rolling prairie suddenly gives way to steep river valley walls. The land features were well suited for use as a buffalo jump, one method of communal hunting. Hunters systematically drove hundreds of bison over the slope. Waiting hunters at the bottom dispatched injured animals and butchering began at once. Archaeology at Wahkpa Chu'gn reveals that native peoples used this site extensively for at least 2,000 years. Wahkpa Chu'gn, pronounced walk-paw-chew-gun, is the Assiniboine term for Milk River. Discovered in the 1950s, the site has been under the protection of Hill County since 1964. Although more buffalo jumps have been found in Montana than in any other plains area, most are very poorly preserved. The exceptional preservation of faunal layers at Wahkpa Chu'gn provides a unique and visually stunning chronology of use over time. The site is of national significance for its superb archaeological record and as the first buffalo jump to be interpreted for the public.

**Property:** Havre Public Library

**Address:** 447 4th Ave, Havre, Hill

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** libraries (buildings)           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Between 1901 and 1918, Havre was one of seventeen Montana cities receiving grant funds from the Andrew S. Carnegie Foundation for construction of a public library. Havre filed their request for funding with the foundation in 1912, after outgrowing two other locally funded libraries and after hearing about Glasgow's success in securing Carnegie dollars. This Classical Revival building was designed by Kalispell architect Marion Rizzo. Rizzo used the practical floor plans and dignified exterior designs recommended by the Carnegie Foundation. The strongest Classical Revival features are the building's symmetrical organization and the large parapet, surmounted by an unadorned roof line. Carnegie's \$12,000 contribution was used solely to construct the building. The community then agreed to purchase all other needed equipment and books, provide a suitable location, and devote at least ten percent of the building's cost to its maintenance. The building was finished in 1914, at the very height of Havre's growth and importance in northcentral Montana's homesteading boom. It represented the culmination of efforts begun in 1901 by many individuals and the local Woman's Club, to insure the availability of good literature in this up-and-coming town.

**Property:** Exzelia Pepin House

**Address:** 606 3rd Ave, Havre, Hill

**Historic District:** Havre Residential           **Building Type:** contributing building

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:** Neo-Classical

**Sign Text:**

Born in Quebec, Exzelia Pepin followed his uncle Simon Pepin—Havre's town founder—to Montana in 1888, a year after the Great Northern Railway reached Fort Assiniboine. Not long after, the Great Northern decided to build a division point at what was then called Bull Hook Bottoms. Exzelia was among the original homesteaders who voted to rename the community Havre. Exzelia became the postmaster, a politically connected position, owned a meat market, and ran cattle. In 1914 he and his wife Anna hired Havre architect Francis F. Bossuot to design them a home worthy of their stature. Bossuot borrowed from several architectural traditions including the Neo-classical (the prominent two-story portico), Italian Renaissance (the flat roof surrounded by a balustrade and dentils under the eave), and Queen Anne (the patterned, leaded-glass windows). The south wing was added after 1920, by which time the Pepins had enclosed much of the veranda. Anna died unexpectedly in 1921, and by 1929 the commanding residence had been converted into apartments. Early tenants included a minister, a grocery store clerk, a stockman, and a dental assistant.



## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Property:** Boone / Dalrymple House

**Address:** 132 3rd Street, Havre, Hill

**Historic District:** Havre Residential

**Building Type:** building contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The sunburst motif on the front gable end of this single-story, hipped-roof residence signals the builder's debt to the Queen Anne style. Havre pioneer Daniel H. Boone and his wife, Elizabeth, owned the four-square residence. Built before 1903 and perhaps as early as 1892, it is among Havre's older homes. The technologically advanced Boones installed a telephone in 1903 and indoor plumbing in 1906. Boone owned a drug store on Third Avenue, an easy three-block walk from here. The store burned in the devastating 1904 fire that destroyed over 90 percent of downtown. Boone's fortunes, like those of most Havre businessmen, rose from the ashes. By 1910, he was selling prescriptions and sundries from a brick business block that graced the same corner as his old wooden store. The home's longest-term residents were dentist Sidney Dalrymple and his wife, Alma, who purchased the property in 1929. Likely responsible for updating the exterior by enclosing and adding Craftsman-style windows to the original front porch, the Dalrymples lived here until their deaths, Sidney's in 1983 and Alma's in 1995.

**Property:** A.D. Smith House

**Address:** 202 Third Street, Havre, Hill

**Historic District:** Residential

**Building Type:** building contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Alexander "Nosey" D. Smith came to Havre as a Great Northern Railroad conductor when the first trains came through town in the mid-1890s. He purchased two lots for \$5 in 1897 and built this late Victorian Folk style home in 1902. Multi-light windows and the steeply pitched roof with rolled edges are reminiscent of an English cottage while Craftsman style elements include the tapered front columns. Inside, oak stair treads become pine as the stairway turns the corner. This may seem an expression of thrift, but the upstairs fixtures are silver. Smith, noted for his own beautifully kept yard, served several terms as street commissioner, transforming Havre's streets from irregular, unsightly lanes into boulevards. He also installed both styles of the town's first streetlights. Smith's wife, Jennie, gave voice lessons and the couple had one son, Harry. Smith died in 1915. In 1926, Jennie sold the house to Dr. Arthur Husser and his wife, Rae. Dr. Husser's surgical practice was on First Street and his wife was a nurse at the Havre Clinic.

**Property:** Clack Home

**Address:** 601 Main Street, Chinook, Hill

**Historic District:**

**Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structure

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

H. Earl Clack's first Havre enterprise was a feed and hay transfer business begun with a wagon and two horses. As agriculture expanded in the area, he built a group of five grain elevators and in 1914 added hardware and farm implements. The year before, he had begun his own oil business, which eventually distributed petroleum products to 200 outlets in four states. Clack's business grew with his insight into the potential of automobile use. In 1918, he built northern Montana's first drive-in service station and during the 1920s built motels in conjunction with service stations in Montana and Idaho. His own "Hi-Power" brand gasoline was sold at more than 30 service stations in Montana, Idaho, and Wyoming by the 1950s. In 1954, the company merged with Husky Oil Company. H. Earl Clack was active in community service and established a scholarship fund at Northern Montana College;

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

during the 1920s agricultural depression, he was known to carry the fuel accounts of area ranchers, stating, "If we fail, we'll fail together." This home, the Clack family's second in Havre, was built in 1927, designed by local architect Frank Bossuot as an outstanding example of Georgian Revival architecture.

**Property:** Gussenhoven House

**Address:** 26 3rd Ave, Havre, Hill

**Historic District:** Havre Residential

**Building Type:** contributing building

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:** Queen Anne

**Sign Text:**

Joseph and Susanne Gussenhoven built this two-and-one-half-story Free Classic Queen Anne style home, known locally as "the Castle," in 1903. Particular to this style are the irregular roofline, octagonal corner tower, textured walls, large porches, and Free Classic detailing, including Doric columns supporting the porch roof. Joseph Gussenhoven owned a lumber mill, brickyard, and lumberyard, located just west of the home, and used materials from his own businesses to construct the residence. The son of Dutch immigrants, he was a prominent entrepreneur (other businesses included a steam laundry and a cigar factory), contractor, real estate developer, newspaper publisher, and banker. This imposing brick residence, valued at a princely \$8,000 in 1903, reflected and amplified his status, as well as providing room for his large family of eight children. The Gussenhovens moved in 1929, after their children were grown. In 1930, the substantial building offered lodging to ten single men, including two pharmacists, two car salesmen, a realtor, telegrapher, barber, policeman, journalist, and laborer. However, by 1941, Joseph and Susanne Gussenhoven once again occupied the home, where they lived on and off into the 1950s.

**Property:** Havre Post Office and Courthouse

**Address:** 306 Third Ave, Havre, Hill

**Historic District:** Havre Residential

**Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** post offices

**Subject 2:** courthouses

**Sign Text:**

Red brick, finely crafted stonework, and a colonnade reminiscent of a Greek temple brought an imposing federal symbol to Havre in the 1930s. Securing state and federal funds for this post office was an expression of optimism during economic depression. It was also remarkable as one of only three post offices its size constructed in towns of population less than 10,000. The standard federal blueprints called for two stories in the Neoclassical style. Begun in 1930, the building was nearly complete in June 1931 at the ceremonial laying of the cornerstone. Officials placed a box crafted of Butte copper, smelted at Anaconda, rolled into sheets at Great Falls, and formed by Montana workmen within the massive block. The box, containing local memorabilia, was a gift of the Montana Power Company. Construction halted temporarily to secure funding for a third-story federal court, needed to prosecute bootleggers bringing liquor down from Canada during Prohibition. Altering the standardized blueprints made Havre's post office unique. Used as a post office until 1995, the building remains an important anchor to the historic district.

**Property:** Ice House

**Address:** , Fort Assiniboine, Hill

**Historic District:** Fort Assiniboine

**Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** military buildings

**Subject 2:** barns

**Sign Text:**

Before modern refrigerators, ice provided a primary means of keeping food fresh. Each winter, troops would

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

harvest ice from the nearby Beaver Creek reservoir, the Milk River, and Milk River tributaries. The work required specialized tools, including ice saws and ice hooks, and hard labor. Separating blocks of ice from the frozen stream and hauling them back to the fort was back-breaking, miserably cold work and possibly an enlisted man's worst duty. Insulated in the ice house (typically with hay), the ice sat until needed. Among other uses, each officer received a daily allotment for his ice box. The fort's first ice house was a primitive frame structure, constructed partially underground in 1884. Two other ice houses (built in 1886 and circa 1889) followed, before troops constructed this sturdy, two-story building in 1904-1905. Engineered to hold up to 100 tons (200,000 pounds) of ice, the structure has a massive stone foundation, load-bearing brick walls at least five courses thick, and regularly spaced buttresses to help support the walls. The wooden entry wings date to the 1920s, when the agricultural station converted the building into a barn.

**Property:** Root Cellar

**Address:** , Havre, Hill

**Historic District:** Fort Assiniboine      **Building Type:** site | contributing

**Subject 1:** forts      **Subject 2:** root cellars

**Sign Text:**

Before refrigeration, rural Americans preserved perishables in root cellars. The fort's first root cellar, a 100-by-20-foot structure, was built in 1879-80. In 1902 the government invested \$3,900 (about \$237,000 in 2011 dollars) to replace the original root cellar with three identical structures at the southeast end of the parade ground. Only the southernmost wood, cement, and sod building remains intact. Built into the hillside, the 25-by-75-foot structure has walls 18-by-24-inch thick. To take advantage of dirt's insulating qualities, only the entry is aboveground and the center section's arched top is covered with sod. Three small wood-framed ventilation shafts circulate enough air to keep produce fresh. Hinged double-entry doors open onto a small vestibule, further protecting the main storage area from temperature extremes. The cellar stored the fort's garden bounty as well as purchased provisions. Each infantry and cavalry company had its own gardeners. In large irrigated fields bordering Beaver Creek, they grew thirty different crops. Troop-grown potatoes, turnips, corn, onions, carrots, squash, apples, garlic, and rutabagas all wintered well in the root cellars, improving the health and quality of meals at the fort.

**Property:** Officers' Amusement Hall

**Address:** , Fort Assiniboine, Hill

**Historic District:** Fort Assiniboine      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** military buildings      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Fort Assiniboine officers pooled their resources to pay enlisted men an extra .25 per day to build a gathering place for the officers, their wives, and visiting dignitaries. Troops likely quarried the stone for the one-story building in the Missouri River Breaks. The fort's women decorated the hall, often called the "Hop Room" for the frequent informal dances (or "hops") held there. Members of the military band stationed at the post regularly played for hops, balls, and cotillions, attended both by visitors staying at the fort and officers and their wives stationed elsewhere in Montana, including Fort Maginnis (over 150 miles away). Other amusements included parlor games and eight-course banquets. A hand-painted mural, once a backdrop for frequent performances, remains on the interior. Lieutenant John Pershing, stationed at the fort in 1895-96, was reportedly an avid participant in the amateur theatricals. The fort's most famous resident, Pershing earned his place in history as the commanding general during World War I. In the 1930s, the Agricultural Research Center used the building, now empty, as a garage.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Property:** Post Exchange

**Address:** , Fort Assinniboine, Hill

**Historic District:** Fort Assinniboine

**Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** military buildings

**Subject 2:** commercial buildings

**Sign Text:**

Frontier capitalist C. A. Broadwater received the contract to provide locally manufactured bricks and timber, hauled from the Bear's Paw Mountains, to construct Fort Assinniboine. He hired five hundred Métis (mixed-blood Chippewa-Cree) from the Upper Red River Valley to make bricks using a machine that could manufacture up to 25,000 a day. As post trader, Broadwater also received the stage and freight contracts and the franchise to operate the post store. He used his own brick to build one of the largest structures at the fort. With its character-defining parapet, this building is only a remnant of Broadwater's 1879 trading post, which ultimately included a large general store, two large warehouses, a photography studio, barbershop, saloon, attached officer's club and hotel/restaurant. Here military families could purchase such luxuries as smoked oysters, hair brushes, and silk handkerchiefs. The store soon became a center of trade for the surrounding territory. Broadwater also built an Indian trading hut, for taking in furs from the Métis and other Indian peoples. Around 1892, the army bought out Broadwater. The post quartermaster ran the operation until the army abandoned the fort in 1911.

**Property:** John H. Mathews House

**Address:** 124 Third Street, Havre, Hill

**Historic District:** Havre Residential

**Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Distinguished by its bell-cast porch roof, scalloped shingles decorating the front dormer, and classical columns on the front porch, this wood-frame home was built during the Victorian era, sometime between 1892 and 1903. John Mathews, an agent for the Great Northern Express Company, owned the home by 1910. He and his wife, Kathryn, had eight children, only six of whom survived young childhood. The family supplemented its income by taking in boarders, a barber and two of John's coworkers. Two live-in servants helped Kathryn run the house: Mary Daniels, a forty-two-year-old divorced woman, and Paul Tayimo, a twenty-two-year-old Japanese man. Tayimo was one of over 1,500 Japanese immigrants living in Montana in 1910, most of whom originally worked for the railroads. Kathryn died in 1915, and like most widowers left with large families, John remarried. In 1920, he and Rena, his second wife, lived here with a servant and all six Mathews children, whose ages then ranged from twenty-three to ten.

**Property:** Kiwanis Meeting Hall

**Address:** 17863 Beaver Creek Rd, Havre, Hill

**Historic District:**

**Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** fraternal lodges

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

After Custer's defeat at the Battle of the Little Bighorn, the U.S. Army built eight new forts on the Northern Plains to solidify its control over the region. These included Fort Assinniboine, designated to guard the border from Sitting Bull's followers, who had withdrawn to Canada after the Great Sioux War. When the Army closed Fort Assinniboine in 1911, 58,000 acres of fort land became part of Rocky Boy's Indian Reservation. Another 9,000 acres became Beaver Creek County Park—first called Assinniboine National Park, then Beaver Creek Playground. Before the county assumed management in 1953, the City of Havre oversaw the park. Without adequate funds for maintenance and development, it turned to the Havre Chamber of Commerce and the local Kiwanis Club for assistance. Under the supervision of local builder and active Kiwanis member Chris Fuglevand, volunteers

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

constructed this log-and-frame meeting hall in 1933. Made of log slabs, assembled vertically to simulate a post-and-beam log cabin, the Rustic style lodge was part of Camp Kiwanis, “a camp for underprivileged children.” It was the first permanent building in the park. Characterized by the use of crudely worked native materials, the Rustic style reflected romanticism about nature and the western frontier. The style of choice for buildings associated with outdoor recreation, its intentional lack of sophistication made it well-suited for a project assembled by unskilled volunteers. The Kiwanis Club dedicated the building on June 23, 1933, with a celebratory dinner and dance. The first children attended camp a week later. In 1937, the Kiwanis converted the hall into a non-denominational chapel.

**Property:** Company Officers' Quarters (Apartments)

**Address:** , Fort Assinniboine, Hill

**Historic District:** Fort Assinniboine

**Building Type:** building contributing

**Subject 1:** military buildings

**Subject 2:** residential structures

**Sign Text:**

A battlement-topped octagonal turret—a traditional military architectural symbol—distinguishes Fort Assinniboine’s Company Officers’ Quarters. Built in 1880 under supervision of Major J. C. C. Lee, the six-unit building asserted permanency and sophistication despite geographic isolation. The architecture particularly impressed a reporter visiting from Fort Benton in 1881, who called the buildings “strikingly handsome.” Usually, two unmarried junior infantry officers resided in each apartment. Unmarried junior cavalry officers lived in a second apartment building that once flanked the northeast end of officer’s row. The first floors of the almost identical apartments feature a vestibule, a parlor with a brick fireplace and decorative wooden mantel, a dining room, and a kitchen. A staircase with a turned wooden banister leads to the second-floor bedrooms. The officers occupied the two front bedrooms; their servants lived in the two rear bedrooms, accessed by a separate staircase. A senior officer lived in the apartment with the tower, which had two additional rooms. The apartments’ spacious and well-appointed interiors reflect the relative luxury that surrounded even the fort’s junior officers when not on patrol.

**Property:** St. Mark's Episcopal Church

**Address:** 539 3rd Avenue, Havre, Hill

**Historic District:** Havre Residential

**Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** churches (buildings)

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Havre's first Episcopal church service was held in 1900 at Fort Assinniboine, south of Havre. After the arrival of the Reverend Leonard J. Christler in 1907, regular services were conducted in town. The Reverend Christler immediately began plans for a permanent church, and groundbreaking took place the following year. Distinguished Kalispell architect Marion B. Rippo drew the blueprints for this beautiful Gothic style building. Constructed of donated granite from Helena, shipped by rail free of charge, the church was finally completed in 1918. Its elegant and distinctive features include a crenellated tower and carillon, graceful arched windows, and stained glass.

**Property:** Company Officers' Quarters (Duplexes)

**Address:** , Fort Assinniboine, Hill

**Historic District:** Fort Assinniboine

**Building Type:**

**Subject 1:**

**Subject 2:**

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

### Sign Text:

**Property:** Havre Residential Historic Listric

**Address:** Historic District, Havre, Hill

**Historic District:** Havre Residential

**Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** historic districts

**Subject 2:** residential structures

### Sign Text:

The Havre Residential Historic District represents Havre's economic growth and social change from 1895 to the 1940s. Located primarily at the district's northwestern edge, turn-of-the-century homes of the social and business elite are large residences built in Queen Anne/Colonial Revival and Neo-Colonial styles. Their owners' fortunes were made from providing supplies and services to soldiers at nearby Fort Assiniboine, homesteaders, and Great Northern Railway employees. As a railroad division point, Havre became home to white-collar workers who built smaller homes in the district. By 1907, the Craftsman bungalow was the preferred housing style. These smaller, one- or one-and-a-half-story dwellings reflect the security of the middle class in Montana during the first decades of the twentieth century. Havre's establishment as Hill County seat in 1912 coincided with the Progressive political movement that sought clean cities with suitable housing for all. Between 1913 and 1917, the Home Builders Investment Company—created by local Progressives—built more than 100 homes. Post World War I depression dampened construction in the district, but late-1920s railroad expansion caused a housing boom. Homes subsequently built here during the Great Depression utilized lower-cost materials and simpler designs.

**Property:** Crosson-VanBuskirk Home

**Address:** 436 Fouth Avenue, Havre, Hill

**Historic District:** Havre Residential

**Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

Prominent builder Abe Crosson acquired this property in 1911. By 1916, a booster brochure proclaimed the frame Colonial Revival residence one of Havre's beautiful homes. In 1936, Great Northern Railroad conductor Ray VanBuskirk and his Irish-born wife, Marie, purchased the residence, establishing a home that has since spanned three generations. Their son, Warren, a railroad dispatcher, brought his Italian-American wife, Edith, to live here in 1948. Warren and Edith, offspring of Havre's rich ethnic population and railroading tradition, together raised five children in the home.

**Property:** Ordinance Storehouse

**Address:** , Havre, Hill

**Historic District:** Fort Assiniboine

**Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** forts

**Subject 2:** military buildings

### Sign Text:

The bars on the windows of this single-story hipped-roof building weren't put there to keep people in, but to keep them out. Forty-five caliber Colt revolvers, single-shot Springfield rifles or Krag-Jorgenson rifles (after 1892), cannon, and a Gatling machine gun were among the weapons stored here. Ammunition was kept separately in a building above the fort near Beaver Creek. Completed circa 1884 at a cost of \$818 (equivalent to approximately \$19,000 in 2011), this twenty-five-by-sixty-foot warehouse is the only surviving building from a once massive storage and operations area. Overseen by the quartermaster charged with maintaining supplies, the area included three large storehouses (each over two-hundred feet long), two granaries, a stable and corral complex, and shops for various craftsmen. Built of load-bearing red brick, two courses thick, on a native rubble-stone foundation, the

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

warehouse had three rooms and a cellar. Its large doorway facilitated the removal of oversized equipment. Except for the window bars, the utilitarian structure reflects the style of many of Fort Assinniboine's smaller buildings, most of which have been lost to time.

**Property:** Lou Lucke Sr. House

**Address:** 900 3rd Avenue, Havre, Hill

**Historic District:** Havre Residential

**Building Type:** building contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The quintessential businessman, Lou Lucke arrived in Havre in 1903, where he founded a shoe repair and later a clothing store and a dry cleaning business. He also speculated in real estate. When the homestead boom in turn boomed Havre, Lou and local contractor Cassius Taylor developed Havre's Lucke-Taylor Addition, where Lou and his wife, Harriet, lived in this 1914 Craftsman style bungalow. Designed by Havre architect Frank Bossout, who also designed Hill County Courthouse, the home cost approximately \$5,000 to build. The interior features Italian marble and oak woodwork. The Luckes raised five children here, surrounded by family. Harriet's mother lived two doors down, and Lou's brother lived next door to her. When they came of age, Lucke sons Alvin, Louis, and Neal also built homes in the neighborhood on lots given them by their father. Harriet lived in this house into the 1970s, when she sold the home to a grandson and moved next door to the smaller, more manageable house originally built by her son Neal. She lived there until her death in 1981.

**Property:** Guardhouse

**Address:** , Havre, Hill

**Historic District:** Fort Assinniboine

**Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** forts

**Subject 2:** military buildings

**Sign Text:**

With its graceful dormer and full-length front porch supported by Tuscan columns, the front of this one-story, hipped-roof building looks like an attractive and comfortable residence. The back of the building, with its small, arched barred windows and nineteen-inch-thick exterior walls, reveals its true purpose: to house the fort's prisoners. Completed in 1905 by contractors Frank Coombs and Duncan Brothers of Great Falls for \$23,555, this well-detailed, state-of-the-art building replaced a smaller guard house. Its large cellblock could hold up to fifty prisoners, usually serving thirty-day sentences for such crimes as drunken behavior, insubordination, and going AWOL (absent without leave). During the day, the prisoners worked outside in chain gangs. At night they slept on the floor: the guardhouse did not provide beds or mattresses, but prisoners were permitted to bring blankets. When the fort closed, the Army donated the guardhouse to Havre for a jail. Distance made transporting the building impractical, but the city did recycle the cell bars, only to return them years later after construction of Havre's current correctional facility.

**Property:** Fort Assinniboine

**Address:** Hwy 87, Havre, Hill

**Historic District:**

**Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** forts

**Subject 2:** military buildings

**Sign Text:**

According to the United States War Department, Fort Assinniboine was established in 1879 "for the purpose of protecting the citizens of Montana from the hostile incursions of Indian tribes dwelling in that region; and especially ... the Sioux which had withdrawn across the international boundary line after its victory over the

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

United States troops in the Yellowstone country in 1876.” The first buildings were built so quickly that local Indian people said they “rose magically out of the ground.” Eventually more than 100 buildings cost in excess of a million dollars on the 220,000-acre military reserve. Fort architecture ranged from typical nineteenth century military utilitarian designs to elegant fortress styling. Garrisoned troops were to monitor the Blackfoot Nation, Gros Ventre, Assiniboine, Sioux (Lakota), Cree, and Métis; deter raiding parties; and guard wagon trains. Soldiers drilled on the parade ground, patrolled the prairies, made brick, and constructed fort buildings. These troops, however, never saw major action. Fort Assinniboine could accommodate 746 enlisted men and officers, but there were seldom more than 500. Later on, the fort housed some of the famous African-American “buffalo soldiers” of the Tenth Cavalry. Abandonment of the post by 1911 influenced the subsequent history of northern Montana; demolished buildings provided the brick for construction of Pershing Hall at Northern Montana College; 58,000 acres of fort land became part of Rocky Boy’s Indian Reservation; and another portion became an experimental station for Montana State Agricultural College. Most of the land was opened to homesteading and the Beaver Creek area, first designated a federal park, became part of the largest county park in the United States.

**Property:** Library

**Address:** , Fort Assinniboine, Hill

**Historic District:** Fort Assinniboine

**Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** military buildings

**Subject 2:** libraries (buildings)

**Sign Text:**

The post’s first library was relegated to a small space at the back of the Signal Corps office, but in 1888-89 the military spent \$1,409.13 to build a one-story, brick, hipped-roof library with multiple wings. A visiting Helena reporter called the resulting structure “not especially artistic without, but very comfortable within.” Between 1892 and 1911 the library doubled as a post office. Mail arrived via stagecoach from Fort Benton tri-weekly, providing a tangible connection to family and friends. In combination with the chapel/school, officers encouraged (and later required) unschooled enlisted men to attend classes and to visit the library after their work was done. Officers also spent time in the library studying military manuals as they upgraded their training through a program coordinated by Fort Leavenworth. In addition, the library carried thirty-three newspapers and fifteen magazines. When officers were transferred from the fort, they typically donated books and even furniture to the library, whose collection eventually contained over a thousand volumes. Checkers and chess sets were also available. In 1941, the building’s interior was completely remodeled, removing all signs of its former use.

**Property:** Modern Hotel

**Address:** 101 W Legion, Whitehall, Jefferson

**Historic District:** **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings

**Subject 2:** saloons (bars)

**Sign Text:**

Newlyweds Lot and Hilda Borden arrived in Whitehall early in 1900, and for the next seventy years, their business contributed to the local economy. At first, Lot ran a saloon and Hilda a cafe. The Bordens built the east portion of the present building in 1913 as a billiard hall, saloon, and second-floor dance hall. Its eye-catching canted corner recalls the days when Whitehall, situated along both the old highway and the Northern Pacific Railroad, was a hub for tourists. Railroad workers—who proved loyal patrons over the next fifty years—persuaded the Bordens to convert the dance hall to hotel rooms in 1916. The Bordens soon expanded, adding a one-story lobby and restaurant to the west in 1919. During Prohibition, the saloon became a commercial storefront housing the Golden Rule, the telephone exchange, and other enterprises. Upon Lot’s death in 1922, Hilda ran both the hotel and restaurant. In 1929, she commissioned Bozeman architect Fred Willson to design the attached Craftsman style residence. With the repeal of Prohibition in 1933, Hilda obtained the town’s first beer license and the



## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

Modern Hotel became the Borden Hotel. Business was so brisk that in 1941 Fred Willson designed a second-story addition, adding nine hotel rooms. The crisp stepped parapet, similar to the older one adjacent, architecturally melds the older and newer portions. Although tourism declined after the construction of Interstate 90 in 1961, Hilda continued in business until her death at 91 in 1971. The Whitehall community remembers her for financing the education of many a local youngster. The Borden Hotel still anchors Legion Avenue.

**Property:** Boulder Hot Springs

**Address:** 3 Miles south of Boulder on Hwy 69, Boulder, Jefferson

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** hotels (public accommodations)                   **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

For centuries Native Americans have been coming to these pure, flowing hot water springs for rest and healing. Legend tells that they called this area Peace Valley. They agreed to lay down their weapons when they sojourned here, believing that the land and the waters were for everyone to share and could not be owned. In the 1860s, prospector James Riley chanced upon the springs and filed a land and water rights claim. In 1864, he built a crude bathhouse and tavern. When Riley succumbed to smallpox in 1882, new owners built a small, more fashionable hotel. In 1891, it was remodeled and enlarged in the Queen Anne style and boasted fifty-two rooms, electricity, facilities for invalids, a resident physician, gymnasium, and various entertainments. Between 1910 and 1913, the present bathhouse, east wing and an addition at the west were built. The older building was also remodeled with raised parapets and a covering of stucco, creating a grand hotel in the present California Mission style. Opulent interior appointments included Tiffany glass lighting, beamed ceilings, and hand-stenciled walls in the Arts and Crafts tradition. Under various names and owners, Boulder Hot Springs has catered to a widely varying clientele. Architecturally significant as vintage Queen Anne remodeled to a newer style, Boulder Hot Springs is the last vestige of the many large-scale hot spring retreats that provided respite and recreation to early Montanans.

**Property:** Jefferson County Courthouse

**Address:** 200 West Centennial, Boulder, Jefferson

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** county courthouses                   **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

In 1888, Jefferson County voters passed a \$40,000 bond issue to build a permanent courthouse. Flourishing gold and silver mines and the advent of the railroad meant the county would see its population quadruple between 1870 and 1890, and there looked to be no end to the boom. Seeking a building that mirrored their confidence in the future, county commissioners hired Montana Territory's most noted architect, the German-born and trained John Paulsen, to draw up plans. Paulsen reflected the young settlement's ambitions with this Richardsonian Romanesque style building. Inspired by the enduring structures of the Middle Ages, the style particularly appealed to frontier communities that wanted to assert their staying power. The massive courthouse features a tall square tower capped by an octagonal spire and two turrets. It also boasts the semi-circular arches, rough-cut stone accents, and asymmetrical roofline that typify Richardsonian Romanesque. Gargoyles at the building's corners, perched just below the eaveline, add a touch of whimsy. Contractor J. S. McKenzie built the two-story monument from locally quarried granite and bricks burned within a mile of the construction site. The interior features elaborate woodwork, including decorative door and window trim and an ornately carved staircase. In the courtroom itself, walls rise twenty feet to a ceiling of stained beams and planking. Completed the year Montana achieved statehood, the building ultimately cost the county approximately \$50,000 (an estimated \$1.1 million in today's dollars). Built for the ages, it is one of the oldest courthouses in Montana still used for its original purpose.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Property:** Fraternity Hall

**Address:** Main Street, Elkhorn, Jefferson

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** fraternal lodges           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Swiss miner Peter Wys discovered the lucrative silver veins of the Elkhorn Mine that would eventually yield \$14 million. After Wys died in 1872, Helena entrepreneur Anton M. Holter and partners developed the Elkhorn Mine. Holter sold out to an English syndicate circa 1888 and the mining camp flourished into the 1890s. At its peak, the community housed more than 2,500 residents and three passenger trains arrived weekly on the Northern Pacific's branch line. In 1893, the Fraternity Hall Association incorporated to build the town's architectural and social center. Fraternity Hall was aptly named: the town's various fraternal organizations, including the Masons, Oddfellows, and Knights of Pythias, shared its upstairs lodge room. The popular hall was the heart of the community. Here dances, traveling theatrical troupes, graduations, prize fights, and other public gatherings bound citizens together. Fraternity Hall's outstanding architecture reflects the Greek Revival style. Its false front is common to mining camps across the west. The sophisticated neo-classical style balcony above the entry, however, is unique. Elaborate ornamentation at the roofline recalls elements crafted of stone or brick in more urban places, but here adapted to readily available wood. The Silver Panic of 1893 impacted Montana's silver industry and by 1897, the mines had begun to play out. Although it operated off and on into the twentieth century, the death knell sounded when the Northern Pacific removed its tracks in 1931. Remarkably well-preserved, Fraternity Hall has endured time, neglect, and heavy snows to become one of Montana's most photographed buildings.

**Property:** Montana State School

**Address:** Administration Building, MDC, Boulder, Jefferson

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** schools (buildings)           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Montana pledged its commitment to children with disabilities in 1887 when Territorial Governor Preston Leslie requested funds for a Montana Deaf and Dumb Asylum. Its title, although shocking by today's standards, reflects accepted nineteenth-century terminology and attitudes. Upon statehood in 1889, Congress granted Montana 50,000 acres of land to raise funds for the school. The 1893 legislature provided operating expenses and chose Boulder as the site. Students attended classes in a private home while the school built this first campus building, begun in 1896 and completed in 1898. Despite its formidable name, the school offered innovative college-preparatory instruction and training for deaf and blind youth. In 1903, the state legislature changed the name to the Montana School for the Deaf and Dumb, thereby acknowledging that it was not an "asylum," but rather a public school for children with special needs. By 1915, additional buildings increased the campus capacity to 200 students, who ranged from ages 5 to 20. By this time its mission had expanded to include educating developmentally disabled youth. Until the 1930s, this building served numerous purposes as the center of activities, housing for students and staff, and dining rooms. Blind students learned various manual industries and deaf students learned lip-reading in addition to the usual public school curriculum. The school also offered an extensive music program. State architect John C. Paulsen designed the building of local brick and granite, appropriately trimmed in Montana copper. The blending of Italianate and Renaissance revival styles, and its long institutional service, mark this Boulder landmark as a state milestone.

**Property:** Meadow Brook Stock Farm

**Address:** Hwy 87, Hobson, Judith Basin

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** ranches (agricultural complexes)

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Scottish-born homesteader Thomas Murray came to the Judith Basin in 1883 and settled on 160 acres running cattle and sheep on the open prairie. By the turn of the twentieth century, the Thomas Murray Ranch, known in its heyday as the Meadow Brook Stock Farm, had diversified to include wheat farming and cattle, hog, sheep, and horse breeding. This early twentieth-century transition from ranching to farming in central Montana reflected both the hard lessons learned by Montana ranchers during the devastating winter of 1886-87 and the coming of the railroads in 1906 and 1908. The railroads promised better transportation to agricultural markets and sparked the growth of new communities, such as Hobson, along with a desire for more substantial dwellings. Murray and his future relatives, the Lilligard brothers, built this splendid Neo-classical Revival style residence circa 1908. Murray's skillful use of cast stone introduced Hobson to this popular technique. Other structures, including the sheep barn and three-story gambrel-roofed horse barn, were built between 1892 and 1917. After decades of farming and ranching, however, Murray fell victim to drought and horrendous grasshopper and army worm infestations. He and his wife, Mildred, left the ranch in 1924. Today the property retains its original appearance, an excellent example of an early Montana farming enterprise.

**Property:** Judith River Ranger Station

**Address:** Along the Middle Fork of the Judith River, Utica, Judith Basin

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** ranger stations

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Thomas Guy Myers arrived at this remote mountain meadow in 1906. Armed with this pocket-sized "Use Book" of Forest Regulations, Myers' task as a ranger of the newly created Jefferson National Forest was to interpret and administer policies regarding public use of the newly set aside "federal" timber, range, water, and mineral resources in the Judith District. An abandoned sawmill and 1876 miner's cabin were lonely reminders of long-gone occupants and their reliance on the natural resources. Taking up residence in the primitive cabin, Ranger Myers set to work building a field office and permanent lodging. Completed in 1908, Myers' handiwork embodies the ideal image of the early Forest Service: to invest much labor in a structure that represents conservation in both feature and function. Materials at hand were native logs and chinking of hand-split wood billets supplemented by willow saplings as mortar stops. Myers scrounged barbed wire "scattered through the timber by the sawmill outfit" to reinforce the lime-mortar daubing. Crude corners and a simple square shape further demonstrate the conservation ethic. A hip roof and interior finishing of beaded board and elegant wallpaper add sophisticated "urban" contrast to the simple rustic style. The tall log barn (1909) and corrals illustrate the ranger's need for self-sufficiency, while the garage (1925) demonstrates modernization.

**Property:** Wood Lawn Farm

**Address:** 40 Philbrook Rd., Hobson, Judith Basin

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

In 1881, Clarence Goodell and his bride, Parmelia "Millie" Priest, made the treacherous 300-mile journey from Helena to the Judith Basin. The Goodells built a log cabin there and staked a tree claim on the Judith River. By 1889, the enterprising Clarence was farming and ranching over 3,000 acres. That same year local builder Richmond Jellison began construction of the Goodells' new wood frame residence in nearby Philbrook. There Clarence operated two local stagelines equipped with horses bred at the Goodell farm. Dubbed "Goodell's Folly"

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

by the locals, the Queen Anne/Colonial Revival home was a curiosity among the log cabins of the valley. Though its turret was removed after a windstorm and the porches are now enclosed, the residence appears much as it did when Millie applied her creative touches. Even today her peony bushes and hand-painted interior trim delight the eye. In the 1890s, Clarence served as state legislator and county commissioner while Millie was Philbrook's postmistress. One of the area's first women settlers, Millie often traveled miles to assist in childbirth or tend the sick, and the Goodell home was always open to those in need. The residence and still functional pre-1920s outbuildings symbolize the transition from frontier to farming community. Wood Lawn Farm today is the last thriving remnant of the once-vital settlement of Philbrook and a tribute to these resourceful pioneers.

**Property:** St. Joseph's Catholic Church of D'Aste

**Address:** Dublin Gulch Road, Charlo, Lake

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** churches (buildings)           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Congress opened the Flathead Reservation for homesteading in 1910, setting aside several tracts of land for townsite purposes. The town of D'Aste was platted soon after. Thomas P. Quinn operated a store and post office at D'Aste, serving fifty-three local homesteaders whose children attended school at the townsite. By 1911, Jesuit priests from St. Ignatius Mission, an hour distant by horse and buggy, conducted services at the Quinn home for the predominantly Irish Catholic community. By 1915, Reverend William O'Maley of the Sacred Heart Parish at Ronan recognized the need for a mission church. St. Joseph's Church was constructed to serve area settlers. Church representatives raised \$500 while the Extension Society of Chicago, Illinois, and local farmers matched the amount. Carpenter Tom McDonald supervised construction while Catholics and Protestants alike donated labor. Oral tradition credits McDonald with St. Joseph's unusual Craftsman style design, noteworthy as one of only two churches built in this style in Montana. Half-timbering, decorative braces in the front gable, and wide eaves with exposed rafter tails are typical Craftsman style elements. Bishop Carroll of the Diocese of Helena dedicated the Church in May of 1916. The last service was held in 1978. St. Joseph's is the last physical remnant of the D'Aste townsite. The Helena Diocese transferred the title to the nonprofit D'Aste Women's Service Group in 1998. Through the efforts of Mable Gallagher and family, the church was placed on the National Register of Historic Places.

**Property:** Fort Connah

**Address:** Near Post Cr & Hwy 93, , Lake

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building | rural

**Subject 1:** trading posts           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The British Hudson's Bay Company established a trading post on this site in 1846. It was the powerful company's last post built within the boundaries of the United States and represents the British effort to stave off competition from American traders west of the Continental Divide. Fort Connah, just under construction, escaped scrutiny when the 1846 Oregon Treaty established U.S. ownership of land below the 49th parallel. Angus McDonald took charge of the post in 1847 naming it Fort Connen after a river valley in his native Scotland. The name evolved through Native American usage to Fort Connah. An important link between forts on either side of the Rocky Mountains, the main trade was in furs, but buffalo meat, pemmican, and buffalo skin saddle blankets as well as rawhide and hair cordage were other key trade items the company could not obtain west of the Divide. The Hudson's Bay Company continued to defy the law and operated in the twilight of the fur trade era until encroaching settlement brought its closure in 1871. Angus McDonald's son Duncan, who was born at the fort, served as its last factor. Angus later acquired the property and died here in 1889. He, his wife, and their

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

descendants were prominent in the development of this region and are buried in the nearby cemetery. The sole surviving fort structure, built of channeled log in 1846, is Montana's oldest standing building. The site is under the care of the Fort Connah Restoration Society.

**Property:** Kootenai Lodge Historic District

**Address:** 500 Sunburst Drive, , Lake

**Historic District:** Kootenai Lodge

**Building Type:** district; rural district

**Subject 1:** historic districts

**Subject 2:** residential structures

**Sign Text:**

"Cornelius Kelley and Orvis Evans, aspiring young attorneys for the Anaconda Copper Mining Company, purchased this former homestead site in 1908 as a seasonal family retreat. Both men rose to positions of great power and wealth. Kelley became president of ACM and vice president of Standard Oil, moving in 1918 to an 80-room mansion in Manhasset, New York. Evans became chief counsel for both the Anaconda Copper Mining and Montana Power Companies. Together they expanded their rustic family retreat between 1914 and 1928, transforming it into a sprawling two million dollar, 2,700-acre vacation resort for business associates and company executives. The finely crafted, elegantly appointed collection of log buildings and exquisite landscaping represent a most unusual juxtaposition of urban opulence and Arts and Crafts-inspired ""rustic"" architecture against a backdrop of remote mountain timberland. Uprturned rooflines on lakeshore arbors, ""Yin and Yang"" placement of outdoor flagstones, and peaceful gardens radiate Japanese charm. Etchings in concrete around the main lodge courtyard are attributed to the famous Montana artist Charlie Russell, who was once a regular visitor. During hard times of the 1920s, the Lodge bolstered the local economy, employing many area craftsmen and seventy domestic servants. Today, the privately owned buildings and grounds quite literally "sing" into the landscape, harmonizing with the mountain lake setting.

**Property:** Ronan United Methodist Church

**Address:** 917 Terrace Lake Road East, Ronan, Lake

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** churches (buildings)

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The first circuit-riding Methodist ministers, "the Lord's Horsemen," arrived in Montana in the 1870s to establish congregations among the territory's early population. Settlers came to the Flathead when reservation lands opened to homesteading in 1910. An itinerant minister, Reverend Welch, held services in Ronan twice a month. In December 1910, the Ronan Methodist congregation purchased the land and members began building this Gothic style church; services were held five months later. The First Ladies Aid raised money for furnishings with numerous fundraisers including a colonial dinner, a Japanese tea, and a play at the opera house. When they ran out of ideas, the women challenged each other to earn a dollar and tell the group how she did it. They carpeted the aisle, bought lights, and paid the minister's salary. The stained glass windows, installed in 1911, and the original ornately carved organ are part of their legacy. Construction of the annex enlarged the church in 1918 under Pastor W. I. Greer. During his tenure from 1929 to 1940, Reverend Joe "Little Joe" Ashworth saw the addition of the sidewalk, lawn, and bell tower. Today the charming simplicity of this sturdy homestead-era house of worship, the oldest continuously used Methodist church in Lake County, symbolizes the faithfulness of early Methodism in the Mission Valley.

**Property:** Frank Bird Linderman House

**Address:** Goose Bay-Flathead Lake, , Lake

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Historic District:**            **Building Type:** building | rural

**Subject 1:** cabins (houses)                      **Subject 2:** residential structures

**Sign Text:**

Sixteen-year-old Frank Linderman left Chicago to experience the Flathead Valley wilderness in 1885. Six years later, Linderman had established friendship with the Indians and viewed encroaching civilization firsthand. Thus began Linderman's passionate desire "...to preserve the old West, especially Montana, in printer's ink." Trapper, trader, assayer, newspaperman, businessman, insurance agent, and twice-elected state legislator, Linderman was an advocate of Indian causes. Through his efforts, along with Paris Gibson, Charley Russell and other friends, Congress created the Rocky Boy's Reservation for landless members of several Chippewa and Cree bands. Native American leaders respected Linderman's active support and through "sign talk" shared their histories, customs, and stories. In 1917, Linderman returned with his family to the wilderness. He built this spacious cabin of native tamarack logs with the help of two French Canadian loggers and a team of horses. Here, amongst treasured artifacts bestowed by Indian friends, Linderman authored many highly acclaimed books, stories, and articles, among them the biographies Plenty Coups and Red Mother. His accurate portrayals led Crow chief Plenty Coups to conclude, "I am glad I have told you these things, Sign Talker. You have felt my heart, and I have felt yours." A catastrophic fire in 1919 destroyed the surrounding forest, but left the Linderman home untouched. Today, the sturdy cabin remains and the forest has grown again, as if in tribute to this extraordinary man who so loved Montana's wilderness and the native people it once nurtured.

**Property:** Don Olsson House

**Address:** 503 4th Ave SW, Ronan, Lake

**Historic District:**            **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures                      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

"Homebuilding across the country stopped completely during World War II as materials were diverted to the war effort. When residential construction resumed after the war, architects broke with past traditions and embraced modernism. One-story ranch houses, featuring low-pitched roofs, wide overhanging eaves, and asymmetrical façades became the most popular house type of the 1950s. Widespread automobile use led to new subdivisions with larger lots that allowed for maximum frontage along the streets. The modernist design of this house is reflected in its characteristic ribbon and picture windows, overlooking the Mission Mountains, along with its outdoor space, the partially enclosed patio that connects the homeowners to the outdoors. Local banker Don Olsson and his wife Mildred hired Mildred's brother, Thomas Balzhiser, a graduate of Montana State University, to design the stylish modernist home, one of the first ranch houses in Ronan. He went on to a prominent architectural career in Eugene, Oregon. He returned to Ronan to design the Harald Olsson House at 408 Eisenhower Street and, in 1970, the family-owned Community Bank building. For their 1950-51 house, the Olssons gave Balzhiser almost free range with the design, which includes a typical ""Ranch style"" open-space floor plan, built-in wardrobes and buffet, and a custom fireplace constructed of horizontally laid stone, quarried near Elmo. Two years after the Olssons moved into their new home, they commissioned Balzhiser to design the garage and, in 1954, the addition to the west. In 1960, they moved to a new Balzhiser-designed house located three miles south of Ronan."

**Property:** Big Arm School

**Address:** 7th and D St, Big Arm, Lake County

**Historic District:**            **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** public schools (buildings)                      **Subject 2:**

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

### Sign Text:

The 1887 Dawes Act gave Congress the power to survey Indian reservations, assign land (allotments) to individual Indians, and open the remaining land to homesteaders. Although tribal leaders, including Chief Charlo and Sam Resurrection, resisted allotment of the Flathead Reservation, the U.S. government opened the 1.2 million acre reservation to homesteading in 1910. Within a year, the Montana School Board established Big Arm School District #65. For a brief period, white and Indian children attended separate schools, but in the mid-1910s, the community built Big Arm School, which served all area students. The gable-roofed, clapboard-sided school followed best practices for small school design. Near the entry were two cloakrooms. Health professionals believed that “cross-lighting” harmed pupils’ eyes, so builders placed a single band of windows on the north wall to let in light. Two outhouses, a modest distance apart, served boys and girls respectively. At lunch, students would heat jars of soup brought from home on the wood stove before going out to play softball, red rover, or kick-the-can. Increased teachers’ salaries and better roads led to students being transported to Polson and to the school's closure in 1952. However, the building was always more than a school: it continued as a community dance hall, polling place, and club room long after the school district officially abandoned the building. In 2008, the school had been boarded up for almost a decade when the Big Arm Association started restoration work to preserve the building. In 2011, the school once again became the center of the Big Arm community.

**Property:** Tatem-Young House

**Address:** Floweree Street, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena **Building Type:** building contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

Benjamin H. and Lydia Mears Tatem came west as newlyweds in 1869. They settled in Helena where Tatem managed the Unionville mining claims of Philadelphia investors and operated Helena Iron Works. Tatem profited from his interest in the Bald Butte Mine near Marysville. The Tatem, famous for their hospitality, built this stunning Tudor style home, circa 1895. In 1901, President McKinley appointed Tatem U.S. assayer of Helena’s federal office at 206 Broadway. Tatem died in 1915. In 1922, at age 82, Lydia Tatem was killed when she fell beneath the wheels of the Kenwood streetcar at Benton and Lawrence. Lieutenant General Samuel Baldwin Marks Young and Anne Dean Huntley Young, sister of renowned Helena physician Dr. Maria Dean, subsequently purchased the home. In 1956, Carroll College acquired the property from Ellen Dean Child Nichols, Mrs. Young’s niece. The home became Dean Hall, student housing until 1968. Grey granite, characteristic half timbering, and recurrent gothic arches make this beautiful home a West Side centerpiece. Exquisite interior woodwork and a magnificent paneled stairway recall the wealth and taste of Helena’s pioneer elite.

**Property:** Child Ranch

**Address:** 305 Highway 518, East Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** ranches (agricultural complexes)

**Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

Helena mining man W. C. Child initiated this ranch about 1885, as the “White Face Farm” stocked with some of the first purebred Herefords in Montana Territory. Then came the infamous “Hard Winter of 1886-87,” when deep snows and months of freezing temperatures followed drought years that had left feed sparse. Open-range cattle herds were decimated. When spring arrived, Child built the massive fieldstone barn, 55 feet tall and 100 square feet on both lower level and loft, along with other stone outbuildings. The barn held stalls for 500 cattle and could store 350 tons of hay; it is Montana’s largest barn. Shortly after its construction came that of the octagonal ranch house, which runs 20 feet on a side. With his permanent residence in Helena, Child used the

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

structure only for meetings and parties; guests arrived via Child's personal railroad car. The house's entire second floor was an open ballroom. The Silver Panic of 1893 ruined Child financially, and he died that same year. As the ranch passed from owner to owner, its buildings deteriorated over the years until the Paul Kleffner family began restoration in 1943.

**Property:** Forestvale Cemetery

**Address:** 490 Forestvale Rd, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** site

**Subject 1:** cemeteries           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

In 1889, the year Montana became a state, the growing city of Helena realized its need for a cemetery in addition to the three sponsored by religious bodies. A group of investors purchased these 160 acres, which a local newspaper called "bleak and unattractive and too remote" from town—it was two and a half miles away from Helena, treeless and covered only by prairie grass. But the Helena Cemetery—as Forestvale was called until 1901—was landscaped by civil engineer Harry V. Wheeler in a park-like style, including a small artificial lake centered with a tiny island. Since drained of water, the lake is visible today as a depression in the ground. Here are buried many pioneer public figures of Montana—from Vigilante leader and U.S. Marshal John X. Biedler to Methodist missionary "Brother Van" William Van Orsdel, who preached in mining camp saloons and founded some 50 churches—as well as many prominent political and business figures who helped build both Helena and Montana. The "China Row" section, located outside the formal cemetery plat at the northwestern corner, recalls Helena's once-thriving, but segregated, Chinese community.

**Property:** Lincoln Community Hall

**Address:** Montana Hwy 200, Lincoln, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** community centers           **Subject 2:** recreation

**Sign Text:**

The Lincoln Community Hall was dedicated, appropriately, on Lincoln's Birthday in 1918—with a dance attended by many area residents. The building truly was a community hall, two years in the construction by volunteer workers under the direction of carpenter Tom Hensley. Even selection of the octagonal design had followed community discussion; only one other community hall in Montana is octagonal. Logs were cut and dragged from Stonewall Creek to this site, land partially donated by tourism promoter Leonard Lambkin. Local musician Carter Rubottom and his band held dances to raise money for the hall, and Rubottom drove the 1913 Buick that raised the roof truss into place. The close of World War I saw popular weekly dances here, which drew visitors from Helena and Great Falls. Profits from them were used to add the kitchen/dining room area onto the back in 1920. Over the years, the building has been put to dozens of uses, from schoolchildren's Christmas programs to a talent show held every Lincoln's Birthday; it has been fitted for roller skating and used as a gymnasium; and musicals and dramas have been performed here.

**Property:** First National Bank - Securities Building

**Address:** 101 North Last Chance Gulch, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** banks (financial institutions)           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

This magnificent structure was the second home of Montana Territory's first bank, chartered in 1866. Combining Romanesque, French Second Empire, and popular Victorian-period stylistic elements, the talented St. Paul firm of



## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

Hodgson, Wallingford and Stem created a three-story masterpiece of native granite and brown Wisconsin sandstone. The bank occupied the building from its completion in 1886 to 1931. The Securities Building, as it is known today, stands as witness to Helena's great prosperity in the 1880s.

**Property:** C.B. Power Residence

**Address:** 309 N. Ewing Street, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The home of territorial Governor Benjamin Potts sat on this property from the 1870s until this grand residence was built for prominent Helenans Charles B. and Mable Power circa 1907. Power's father was merchant prince and early U.S. Senator T. C. Power; his wife was the adopted daughter of wealthy railroad contractor Peter Larson whose home across the street later became the official governor's residence. The Powers and their two small children along with five servants occupied the home until 1914. Ellen Carter, widow of Montana senator Thomas Carter, was the next of several owners. The grand design reflects a variety of newly emerging architectural trends and influences including the Prairie and Tudor styles and the Arts and Crafts movement. The Prairie style predominates in this impressive hybrid. Slightly flared eaves, broad flat chimneys, latticed third-floor windows, bold half-timbering, light-colored brick, and brick porch supports are all characteristic of the eclectic Prairie school, popular from about 1900 to 1920.

**Property:** Henry Sieben Home

**Address:** Corner of Power and Harrison Streets, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Henry Sieben came to Montana a seventeen-year-old uneducated orphan and rose to pioneer Montana's livestock industry. Honesty, integrity, fair treatment, and a love for animals earned Sieben a national reputation. He was a co-founder of the Montana Woolgrowers Association and although elected to the National Cowboy Hall of Fame, Sieben never owned a pair of cowboy boots. He was a "hip pocket banker" who informally aided others and helped found the Montana Children's Home. He and his wife Alberta, who was also active in civic affairs, built this West Side home circa 1898. Constructed of local Kessler brick, the graceful curved porch, offset entry, and multiple bay windows enhance the asymmetry required of the Queen Anne style. Cherry, walnut, birdseye maple, oak, and faux leather interior finishings are exceptionally well crafted. The magnificent residence lacked a carriage house for the fine Sieben horses since telephones made it convenient to stable them elsewhere. Sieben maintained this home until his death in 1937. Today, the Sieben ranching legacy remains intact, managed by his daughters' descendant families, the Hibbards and the Baucuses.

**Property:** Lewis and Clark County Jail

**Address:** 15 N. Ewing, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** jails (buildings)           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Masterful stonework of local granite in the Romanesque style creates a somber effect in this 1890 institution. The corner tower (which lost its battlements in the 1935 earthquakes), thick stone lintels, and heavy arches recall the romantic nineteenth-century notion that a structure's appearance should match its function. This unusual and

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

evocative building with its powerful medieval quality was designed by the Helena firm of Paulson and McConnell under contract with the Detroit Safe and Lock Company. It continued to serve as the county jail until the early 1980s.

**Property:** Gold Block

**Address:** 50-56 North Last Chance Gulch, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

On July 16, 1928, a devastating fire swept between the Granite and Gold Blocks (note inscription, second story center). The structure was rebuilt by then-owner Charles Benton Power and was the last major downtown commercial building constructed by this wealthy family. The new Gold Block was designed by local architect George Carsley using a system called the "spiral mushroom," which supposedly offered structural protection against earthquakes. Mission-style parapet tiling and Gothic-influenced windows and entrances highlight this fine example of 1920s commercial architecture.

**Property:** Kleinschmidt House

**Address:** 1823 Highland Ave, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Prussian-born entrepreneur Theodore H. Kleinschmidt was 25 years old when he arrived in the gold camp of Virginia City, Montana, in 1864 with a mule team and a stock of merchandise. Only two years later, he and Samuel Hauser opened the First National Bank of Helena in a local grocery store. Kleinschmidt became one of the town's leading financiers, with interests in public utility companies, banks, merchandising, mining, and livestock ranching around Montana Territory. He served three terms as mayor of Helena, was president of the Helena Board of Trade, director of the state fair association, and treasurer of the Society of Montana Pioneers. He built this home for his wife, Mary Blattner Kleinschmidt, and their six children in 1892. The location then was notably east of town, at a time when stylish mansions were clustered on Helena's west side. When Mrs. Kleinschmidt died in 1904, her funeral was held here, with mourners transported by special trolley car. The home was designed by Montana pioneer W. E. Norris, born on the plains en route to Montana. In it, Norris proves his advertising claim, "Fine Residences a Specialty," combining dignified lines with Victorian gingerbread touches.

**Property:** 316 Pine Street

**Address:** 316 Pine Street, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena South-Central **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

A simple log dwelling stood on this lot in 1892. The dwelling was possibly an early residence of the Halford family, who originally owned property in this block of Pine Street. The present home replaced the log structure during the 1890s. Originally it was a two-story, brick, single-family residence with a stone foundation, large front porch, and wood-shingled upper story. The central second-story doorway opened onto a balcony. A rental home for most of its history, the spacious residence catered to large families like the Johnsons, who lived here in 1920 with their seven children. Exceptional brickwork sets this residence apart, revealing the practiced hand of an anonymous master mason. Segmentally arched windows of curved brick with wooden heads and rusticated limestone sills are

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

particularly well crafted. That the home remained almost unscathed during the 1935 earthquakes is a tribute to its solid construction.

**Property:** Weinstein Grocery Store

**Address:** 101 North Rodney, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings      **Subject 2:** residential structures

**Sign Text:**

As early as 1866, Rodney Street was Helena's primary north-south connection and thus supported a variety of early businesses. It was also an area better protected from the fires that constantly threatened downtown commerce. This building, constructed circa 1880, was one of Rodney Street's first brick business blocks, housing the Rodney Street Market in 1883. A bakery with upstairs living quarters was attached to the back of the grocery. By 1890, it had become the Weinstein Grocery Store and Pacific Tea Company with furnished rooms above. The Weinstein brothers were typical of a number of Jewish merchants, vital to the town's early economy, who operated Rodney Street businesses. When the Weinstains opened a grand downtown emporium in 1894, grocer L. H. Schaeffer bought the business. Although stucco cladding and 1940s Art Deco style decorative details are reminiscent of period theaters, the building never served that purpose. Its historic use as a grocery store continued until 1960.

**Property:** Shrine Temple

**Address:** Neill & Park Ave, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:**      **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** fraternal lodges      **Subject 2:** civic centers

**Sign Text:**

The Algeria Shrine Temple, completed in 1921, was built by the Ancient Arabic Order of the Nobles of the Mystic Shrine both for their use and for public events in Helena. George S. Carsley and Charles S. Haire, prominent architects of the era, designed this Moorish Revival building. Its minaret rises seventeen stories, and its façade six. Upon completion, the auditorium was ninth-largest in the nation, seating 2,608 people. The ballroom accommodates 500 dancing couples. The fire station, a 1939 addition, carries out the polychromatic design of the exterior brick. Severe damage by earthquakes in 1935 was beyond the financial means of the local Shrine to repair, yet the facility remained in demand for public use. The City of Helena purchased this structure in 1938, when it became the Civic Center, housing city government departments until 1979. The citizens of Helena, through local government and a Civic Center Advisory Board, have worked for the renovation and preservation of this building that serves many cultural needs of the Helena community.

**Property:** Boston Block

**Address:** 23 South Last Chance Gulch, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Historic maps and early directories reveal that this splendid business block was constructed circa 1890. Morris Auerbach, in business with Israel L. Israel and Adolph Marks during the 1890s, was the original occupant. Their Boston Clothing Company carried gentlemen's furnished goods and advertised "One Price, Square Dealing, Plain Figures." Upstairs were gambling and furnished rooms. During Prohibition Helena's red light neighborhood disbursed, resurfacing in the Boston Block in 1927 when well-known madam Ida Levy located upstairs. She moved

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

next door in 1933, and Pearl Maxwell operated the Royal Rooms in the Boston Block until 1953. The handsome building was a worthy companion to the flamboyant Novelty Block, also owned by Auerbach, which once stood several doors up to the north. The elaborately crowned twin bays of the two buildings were a downtown highlight. The cupolas of the Novelty Block today top the two kiosks on the north walking mall. The Boston Block's handsome second story escaped the remodeling that changed its storefront. Sensitive rehabilitation during 1970s urban renewal assured this Victorian-era treasure its rightful prominence along Last Chance Gulch.

**Property:** Dunphy Block

**Address:** 38 S Last Chance Gulch, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Reputedly the first two-story building on Main Street and one of Helena's few remaining structures dating to the 1860s, this stone building originally housed offices and furnished lodgings. Miner and prominent merchant E. M. Dunphy purchased the Victorian-period style structure in 1868, establishing the Helena Bowling Gymnasium in the basement. Irish miner-turned-millionaire Thomas Cruse bought the building in 1887 to house his newly founded bank. J. W. Switzer's wholesale liquor and wine dealership was located here during the 1800s. The façade reflects the building's 1890s remodeling.

**Property:** Raleigh and Clarke Dry Goods

**Address:** 36 South Last Chance Gulch, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

This well-preserved commercial structure illustrates Helena's growth from mining camp to prosperous town. The quoins and arches of the original stone building, constructed circa 1865-1872, are still visible at the rear. In 1878, the building was purchased by merchants William B. Raleigh and Charles A. Clarke, who came to Helena on the heels of the gold rush. The cast-iron and brick façade was added to the front during the prosperous boom years of 1884-1888. Raleigh and Clarke Dry Goods continued to flourish until 1898.

**Property:** Power Block and Power Block West

**Address:** Corner of Sixth and Last Chance Gulch, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Influential merchant and investor T. C. Power built his fortunes by controlling much of territorial Montana's commerce and Indian trade. This outstanding granite business block housed Power's American National Bank from 1892 through the 1920s. Willetts and Ashley of Chicago drew the plans for the 1889 building, which reflects both the Romanesque Revival style and the American transition to the then-emerging Chicago School of architecture. The rounded northeast corner features openings that correspond in number to the floor level. The Power Block West, built to match the original design, was added in 1914.

**Property:** Olsen House

**Address:** 516 N Park, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** **Building Type:** building

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:** commercial buildings

**Sign Text:**

The Olsen House was built in stages after Amelia Derrick Olsen purchased this property in 1874. At that time, Park Street was known as Clore Street, and the original home built on these lots was a wooden, two-story building. The gable-roofed, vernacular stone addition was added to the rear in 1884-85. Although the builder is unknown, the masterful handling of the thick stone walls demonstrates the work of a skilled stone mason, while the rounded arches trimmed with decorative floral carving and the steeply pitched rooflines show late Victorian-era architectural influences. About 1909, the original wooden portion of the building was moved to Knight Street, and a new stone massing was added in its place. This new addition wedded distinctive Italianate styling to the vernacular rear portion of the home, employing the more stylish bracketed eaves, arcade-like porch, decorative windows, and pyramidal roof. Members of the Olsen family lived in this home through 1946. In 1950, the house became the residence of John Conway Harrison, a Montana State Supreme Court Justice. In 1989, the building was converted to offices.

**Property:** Federal Reserve Bank

**Address:** 400 N Park Ave, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** banks (financial institutions)

**Subject 2:** public buildings (governmental buildings)

**Sign Text:**

The Helena branch of the Federal Reserve Bank opened in 1921, the result of lobbying by Norman B. Holter and other farsighted local businessmen. It distinguished Helena as the smallest town in the country to host such a bank. When the 1935 earthquakes destroyed the first structure, Montana architect George Shanley was commissioned to design a new facility. Completed in 1938 and expanded to two stories in 1945, the Art Moderne style building reflects Helena's prominence as the financial heart of the state.

**Property:** Helena Historic District

**Address:** , Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena **Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** historic districts

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The crooked path of Last Chance Gulch, weaving between original mining claims, memorializes Helena's chaotic beginning as a gold camp in 1864. Within a year of the placer gold discovery, a boomtown flourished, with homes and businesses in tents and log cabins. Fire was both constant threat and regular scourge. In 1869, the downtown burned, replaced over the next few years by brick and granite business houses. Helena survived after the placer gold played out and population declined, because pioneer entrepreneurs had made it a financial center. Helena claimed the territorial capital from declining Virginia City in 1874, and the following year received one of the nation's five U.S. Assay Offices—acknowledgment of extensive hard-rock gold and silver mining that replaced placer mining. The arrival of the Northern Pacific Railroad in 1883, and Helena's election as state capital in 1894, confirmed the town's survival. Downtown buildings in a great variety of architectural styles arose, many since lost to fires, earthquakes, and urban renewal. The panic of 1893 and end of guaranteed federal silver purchases slowed Helena's early momentum, but the gold camp that survived grew gradually as a business and government center.

**Property:** YWCA Building

**Address:** 501 N Park Street, Helena, Lewis & Clark

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Historic District:**            **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** boardinghouses            **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Only seven years after organizing, the Helena chapter of the Young Women's Christian Association, Independent, opened this residential building for the city's young working women in 1918. Founded by women from most of Helena's churches and synagogues, the local chapter is today the only Independent YWCA in the nation, welcoming both Christian and non-Christian members. Although the chapter chose not to join the national organization, it too strived to improve conditions for the working woman. In a time of dramatic change in traditional roles, this building welcomed young women with safe housing, and with practical classes such as typewriting and sewing machine operation, and also more intellectual courses such as astronomy and physiology. Adult recreational sports, child care, and children's day camps also were organized. The building was designed by Chester H. Kirk and built of locally made bricks from the Kessler Brick Yard by Frank Jacoby and Son. It combines decorative detailing common to both Craftsman and Classical styles of architecture. This includes simulated quoining in brick at the corners, a soldier course that wraps around the building between the basement and first floor levels, a brick belt course at the sill level of the second floor windows, and stacked brick window surrounds. Public rooms occupy the first floor interior, with 43 bedrooms—all finished with maple, birch and white pine—on the upper floors.

**Property:** Sieger House

**Address:** , Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena South-Central    **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures            **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Civic expansion in the late 1880s and demands for housing caused new residential areas to open off the fringes of town. As a result, rental dwellings appeared along Spencer Street creating a diverse population of working-class and ethnic families. Many expressmen and teamsters like William Sieger ran businesses on this back alley street close to downtown. A Midwesterner, Sieger moved his family to this address before 1900. The extended family, along with William, his wife Clara, and their children, lived here for over fifty years. Sieger built the large garage to accommodate his moving service and express and teamster business. The wagon shed and its close location to narrow Spencer Street helps to establish the character of the area. The present home likely incorporated a pre-1892 structure that occupied the lot. By 1927, the residence had its present look. The house exhibits many elements of the vernacular masonry architecture popular in the neighborhood at the time, including the simple block form, segmentally arched openings, and hipped roof.

**Property:** Western Clay Manufacturing Company

**Address:** 2915 Country Club Road, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:**            **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings            **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Englishman C.C. Thurston established a brickyard at this site in 1883. One of his employees was Charles Bray, a fellow Britisher, who had served an apprenticeship in brickmaking before leaving England. In 1885, Nicholas Kessler, a longtime Helena brewer and brickmaker, bought the brickworks from Thurston and placed Bray in charge. At that time the plant operated under horse and oxen power and the bricks were molded by hand. Bray introduced steam-powered equipment, improved the kilns for firing clay products, and expanded manufacturing to include sewer pipe, tile, flower pots, and decorative brick. By 1900, the Kessler Brick and Sewer Pipe Works was one of Montana's leading clay manufacturers. In 1905, Kessler merged with brickmaker Jacob Switzer to form the

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

Western Clay Manufacturing Company. Bray remained as manager, brought sons Archie and Raymond into the business, and eventually came to own it. Upon his father's death in 1931, Archie became company president. A ceramics engineer, Archie was a creative, talented man and a lover of fine art, who envisioned a pottery on the brickyard grounds. With the enthusiastic help of friends, the dream came to fruition in 1951. Although Bray died in 1953, his Foundation survived closure of Western Clay in 1960, and in 1984 it purchased the abandoned brickyard buildings and kilns. The complex, which dates from the 1890s to 1908 updated throughout the 1920s and 1930s, spans more than a century of clay manufacturing and represents three generations of kiln technology. Today the Archie Bray Foundation is an internationally acclaimed ceramic arts center, welcoming artists who come here to work, share ideas, and keep the dream.

**Property:** Lockey and Leiser Building

**Address:** 1101 / 2 E 6th Ave, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings      **Subject 2:** apartments

**Sign Text:**

Merchant-turned-real-estate-developer Richard Lockey built this three-story commercial building in partnership with Jacob Leiser in 1891. The brick structure features two first-floor storefronts with a central entrance providing access to the upper floor apartments. A rounded arch at the parapet bears the inscription "L and L," with the first "L" written backwards. A photograph of the building, circa 1895, reveals the economic slowdown Helena experienced during the 1890s—a sign in the window indicates the building is for sale at less than cost.

**Property:** Sands Brothers Dry Goods

**Address:** 36 South Last Chance Gulch, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Originally this was a one-story stone building erected in 1874 to accommodate the business of Morris and Julius Sands. The brothers added a second story and remodeled the façade in 1889, finishing it with alternating rows of buff sandstone and blue limestone in the popular Romanesque style. Arcaded, arched windows supported by Roman columns and granite piers highlight the second story. Note the carved lions' faces in the arch spandrels. At the rear of the building, the original first-floor stonework is evident with the later 1889 brickwork visible above.

**Property:** Montana State Arsenal, Armory and Drill Hall

**Address:** 1100 North Main, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:**      **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** military buildings      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

In 1885, the Montana Territorial Legislature authorized the organization of a National Guard. Within three years its nine companies were headquartered in the territorial capital at Helena. Since that time Montana Guard personnel have been called up for State Active Duty to assist with riots, strikes, natural disasters, law enforcement, search and rescue, and other emergencies. Montana citizen soldiers mustered into federal service for military actions including the Spanish American War in 1898, the Philippine Insurrection in 1899, World War I France, throughout World War II's Pacific Theatre, the Korean and Vietnam conflicts, the Persian Gulf War, Bosnia and Kuwait, and for Homeland Security Operations following the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks. After earthquakes destroyed the old 1890s armory, Helena architect Norman DeKay designed this handsome facility of

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

poured concrete and steel. Completed in 1942 with Works Progress Administration (WPA) labor, its clean lines and squared pilasters in a stepped motif are classic Art Moderne style elements. The interior included garage space for 70 trucks, U.S. Army supplies storage areas, a rifle range, and a 73-by-102-foot drill hall. The unique drill hall floor was constructed of hand-laid two-by-fours set on end 18 inches deep in a contrasting design so that vehicles could be driven on its surface. Since World War II, the drill hall has served as a community social center, dance hall, and sports facility. In December 2001, the Montana National Guard headquarters relocated from this site, but the landmark building continues to be a bold reminder of the Montana National Guard's contributions both at home and abroad.

**Property:** Masonic Temple

**Address:** 104 Broadway, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** fraternal lodges **Subject 2:** post offices

**Sign Text:**

This grand structure reflects the prosperous 1880s and the importance of the Masons in the community. Awarded a \$250 prize for their design, Helena architects Heinlein and Matthias also won the job of overseeing the building's construction in 1885. They showcased their abilities with lavish ornamentation in Italian Renaissance-inspired style. The third floor served as Masonic Lodge rooms from 1886 to 1942, and tenants on the lower floors included the U.S. Post Office and the State Publishing Company. In 1979, the original façade was rehabilitated and the tall windows, previously lost to remodeling, were reconstructed.

**Property:** Goodkind Building

**Address:** 139 Last Chance Gulch, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

This building is an excellent example of transitional Western Commercial architecture before the advent of more ornate styles. The simple, narrow plan enhanced by decorative windows is typical of the 1870s and early 1880s. A pressed metal cornice crowns the top. The 1884 structure, tucked into the hillside, was designed by St. Louis architect F. D. Lee for Colonel C. A. Broadwater. The Goodkind brothers operated a wine, liquor, and cigar business here until 1918. The storefront was remodeled in the 1920s by haberdashers Gans and Klein.

**Property:** New York Block

**Address:** 46-48 North Last Chance Gulch, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

This was one of five structures rebuilt after the disastrous lightning-sparked fire of 1928. The original building and its replacement housed the thriving New York Store (renamed Fligelman's in 1929) from 1902 to 1958. This pioneer department store was established in 1885 as a dry goods business. Prominent and creative Helena architect George Carsley designed the new structure with an upper-story pavilioned façade ornamented with shields of ancient Florentine clothier guilds, the coat-of-arms of founder Herman Fligelman, and figures of a tailor and seamstress.

**Property:** Uncle Sam's Block



## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Address:** 62 South Last Chance Gulch, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:** boardinghouses

**Sign Text:**

The Montana National Bank, the first bank chartered in Montana Territory, was located on this site in 1866. A housing shortage during the 1880s prompted the construction of this three-story rooming house in 1887. The French Second Empire-inspired style features a straight mansard roof with caboose dormers and heavily pedimented windows. The first floor originally housed small shops, then served as a warehouse for the Kessler Brewery. Weggenman's Market occupied the space from the 1940s until the building was extensively remodeled during Urban Renewal in the early 1970s.

**Property:** Kain Building

**Address:** 311 Jackson Street, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Thomas Kain and his sons, Henry and John, constructed this masonry showcase as an office for the family stonecutting business circa 1912. Kain is credited with developing several Helena quarries and thus contributed greatly to local building patterns by making a variety of stone types available to builders. A staunch survivor of the 1970s Urban Renewal, this small building with its rounded granite steps, curving north wall, and elaborately carved Renaissance column reveals the superior talents of a master stonecutter.

**Property:** Western Clay Manufacturing Company Bray House

**Address:** 2915 Country Club Road, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Enclosed within the walls of this distinguished residence is the one-story log cabin young Charles Bray built for himself during the 1880s. A native of England, Bray came to Helena in 1884 to work for C. C. Thurston, first owner of the adjacent brickworks. A change in owners in 1885 brought Bray a promotion to manager under Nicholas Kessler. Wood-frame additions and upper stories chronicle Bray's increasing prosperity in the climb from employee to company owner. The peak of the company's production corresponds to the home's final building phase—the addition of brick veneer—in the 1920s. Charles lived in the home until his death in 1931, and his widow, Elizabeth, remained until her death in 1955. Grandson Archie, Jr., whose father established the Archie Bray Foundation, lived here managing the brickyard until it closed in 1960.

**Property:** Original Governor's Mansion

**Address:** 6th Ave and Ewing Street, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:** museum (buildings)

**Sign Text:**

Montana's Original Governor's Mansion was built as a private residence for the William Chessman family in 1888, and was home to the Peter Larson family and the Harfield Conrad family before the state purchased it (along with much of the Conrads' furnishings) in 1913. Until 1959, it served as the official residence of Montana's governors, their families, and service staffs. Over the following decade it sometimes sat empty and sometimes held state offices, its interior subdivided with temporary walls. A citizen group initiated restoration in 1969, and returned the

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

building to state control in 1980. Today it appears much as it did in 1913, when Governor Samuel V. Stewart, his wife, and three young daughters moved in. Architects of the Lewis and Clark County Courthouse and many Helena homes, Hodgson, Stem and Welter designed this Queen Anne style structure, which is characterized by a fanciful, irregular outline filled with gables, turrets chimneys, balconies, and dormers. The style is one of several romantic, nostalgic modes popular at the time America moved into industrialization and mass production. Although its ground floor rooms served the public at official functions, the upper floors were very much a family home. As Governor Stewart's executive secretary wrote, "It is a home of democracy ... an American home—a plain American home, if you please—like thousands of homes in this country."

**Property:** B.K. Tatem House

**Address:** 440 S Park, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena **Building Type:** building contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Charles Hendrie opened Helena's first iron foundry on this site before 1868. The property's third owner, Benjamin K. Tatem, built this two-story residence circa 1875. Wide eaves, low hipped roof, and tall arched windows proclaim Italianate influences and accurately convey the original appearance of this well-preserved, early home. By 1884, Tatem had located his iron works, one of two in Helena, across the street. His stamp can still be found on the lovely iron work gracing many of Helena's nineteenth-century buildings.

**Property:** Eybel's Café

**Address:** 333 N. Last Chance Gulch, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena **Building Type:** building contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Montana's leading architectural firm of Link and Haire designed this attractive building for Charles George Eybel in 1922. Stuccoed walls and a raftered cornice along the roofline, reminiscent of the Spanish Colonial Style, combine with a smooth façade and multicolored detailing, characteristic of the newly emerging Art Deco style. For two decades Eybel's Cafe catered particularly to Helena's single residents, offering "The Best the Market Affords at Reasonable Rates." Indeed, many local residents remember Eybel's for its homemade pies. The building, rehabilitated in 1984, well represents Helena after the turn of the twentieth century, when lavish business blocks gave way to smaller but stylish commercial buildings.

**Property:** George Booker House

**Address:** 305 Pine, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena South-Central **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

St. Louis-born George Booker struck out on his own at 13, followed gold rushes to Pike's Peak and Alder Gulch, and settled in Helena in 1866. A resonant voice and unflinching good humor brought Booker tremendous popularity as an auctioneer. From 1875, Booker devoted his career to Masonry, serving as secretary of Masonic bodies in Helena and as state recorder of the Algeria Temple. Booker and his wife, Mattie, purchased this property in 1873. Circa 1890, the Bookers built the present two-story brick home, likely incorporating the foundation of their first one-story frame residence into this more substantial dwelling. Its windows with stone sills, arched hood moldings, and delicately stenciled wooden infills are characteristic of Helena's early architecture. Lovely Queen Anne style

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

stained glass reflects the Victorian era. When Booker died in 1914, all of Helena paused to mourn the passing of the much-loved pioneer, who “would give his last cent to those in want.”

**Property:** Bluestone House

**Address:** 80 S Warren, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena South-Central **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Legend has it that architect James F. Stranahan built this striking residence of locally quarried blue granite for his bride, Leona, in 1889. Stranahan died, however, leaving the home unfinished. Records do show that Leona briefly owned the property, which subsequently changed hands many times. Its curious location overlooking what was once the heart of Helena’s red-light district has led to much speculation and misidentification. Although some like to tell a different story, records show the building was never anything other than a residence. The 1935 earthquakes caused extensive structural damage, and for several decades the prominent landmark was considered an “attractive ruin.” Finally, the 1970s Urban Renewal Historic Preservation Committee secured funding that made restoration possible. (Each stone was numbered, dismantled, and put back together again.) Massive, blocky masonry contrasts sharply with the decorative tower, oriel window, and copper trim, making the Bluestone House a unique Helena treasure.

**Property:** Cannon House

**Address:** 303 Broadway, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena South-Central **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Pioneer capitalist Charles W. Cannon built this architectural gem for his bride, Catherine, in 1868. It was then Helena’s finest residence and is today a splendid local example of the Carpenter Gothic style. The steeply pitched roof and lancet windows typify Gothic design, while turned spindles, pierced columns, and matching porch skirting showcased the talents of local carpenters. Cannon was an influential figure, whose interests extended from mining, ranching, and real estate to Helena’s first public utilities. Catherine, renowned for her hospitality, opened portions of the home for use as Territorial Governor Crosby’s executive mansion in 1883. The Cannons developed Helena’s scenic Le Grand Cannon Boulevard in memory of their son. Catherine outlived her husband, remaining here until 1916.

**Property:** Joseph K. Toole Mansion

**Address:** 203 N. Ewing, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

During his second term of office in 1903, Montana’s first governor J. K. Toole commissioned Eugene Fisk to build this magnificent home of locally quarried red porphyry and brick. Fisk, who also designed the 1880s Unitarian Church (now Grandstreet Theatre), added exquisite interior finishings and an unusual simulated tile roof of galvanized sheet metal. The residence served as executive mansion during Governor Toole’s third term from 1904 to 1908. The Toole family had been in residence a short time when the escape of a prisoner from the nearby jail precipitated a gun battle. The escapee tried to take refuge in the Toole’s basement, but instead took his own life in the basement stairwell. The home was a private residence until the Catholic Diocese assumed ownership,

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

housing scores of Cuban refugees here in the early 1960s, and, later, Carroll College students. Since 1979, the resident law firm has carefully refurbished and maintained this elegant corner landmark.

**Property:** Baldwin / Grady House

**Address:** 412 5th Ave, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

An octagonal tower, decorative brickwork, one-story open porch, and hipped roof identify this appealing Queen Anne style residence built circa 1883. That year launched a period of neighborhood expansion and prosperity, kindled when the tracks of the Northern Pacific Railroad reached Helena. Bookkeeper William N. Baldwin, who later served as county treasurer, was the home's first owner. From the 1920s to the 1940s Lucy M. Grady, owner of Grady's East Side Market next door, resided here with her son and daughter-in-law who operated a grocery on Eighth Avenue. Leaded glass and granite trim lend tasteful elegance while the brick veneer, common to neighborhood buildings, here remains untouched by the usual coats of paint.

**Property:** Herman Gans House

**Address:** 416 N. Ewing, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

This appealing residence was an early addition to one of Helena's first neighborhoods, completed circa 1880 and enlarged in 1884 by prominent Helena clothing merchant Herman Gans. The bayed tower, arched windows, stained glass, and south side porch with decorative railing elegantly epitomize the Queen Anne style. A richly appointed interior including six ornate fireplaces, various woods and marble, and an impressive entry hall reflect Gans' cosmopolitan tastes. Prior to 1930, the original front porch was enlarged, adding a massive Craftsman style stone foundation and pillars. The home, however, retains its nineteenth-century charm and remains today a "center of gracious hospitality."

**Property:** William C. Crum Family Residence

**Address:** 535 5th Ave, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The free-wheeling territorial period was drawing to a close when this stylish Queen Anne style residence was built circa 1889. Attributed to prolific Helena architect George Appleton, the lovely Victorian-era home is a classic example of his masterful adaptation of pattern book house plans. Here and in other Helena examples, Appleton compacted a larger house plan by eliminating the attic and expanding living space into the roof and dormer gables. The home displays quintessential Queen Anne style elements including an irregular roofline, open porches with classical columns, octagonal bay, and decorative glass. One of the first homes on the block, owners William and Rachel Crum raised their seven children here. William, a Helena businessman, shaped the neighborhood over the years as he built many homes along Fifth Avenue, Breckenridge, and Hillsdale between 1905 and 1925. Unlike most Helena investors and speculators, Crum held onto his property as rentals, and at various times his children lived in these smaller homes. The two-story cottage next door to the west was built in 1910, and at that time the interior of the main house was remodeled and enlarged in the heavier, more rustic Craftsman style. Characteristic

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

dark fir paneling, cabinetry, box beams, and handsome mantles are a striking complement to the more curvilinear, graceful Queen Anne style. The home remained in the Crum family until 1988, and today its seasoned presence is a distinct reminder of this historic neighborhood's nineteenth-century roots.

**Property:** Seventh Avenue Gymnasium

**Address:** 7th and Cruse, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** schools (buildings) **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The sale of bonds allowed construction of this combination two-story brick gymnasium and central heating plant, completed in 1908. Its boiler system heated the two schools, auditorium, and public library that once sprawled across the block. Attorney E. C. Day played a key role in planning the functional building; F. Jacoby and Son received the construction bid. A regulation-size basketball court, banked running track, manual training room, showers with hot and cold water, and lockers of perforated steel "to make them as sanitary as possible" made the facility the "best equipped gymnasium in the state." The \$26,000 building served Helena High School until the 1930s when a new high school was built. Central School then acquired use of the gymnasium. While the other buildings original to the block no longer stand, this well-used survivor supplied heat to Central School until 1993 and continues to provide an activity area for the children.

**Property:** Rodney Hotel

**Address:** 100 N. Rodney, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** boardinghouses **Subject 2:** saloons (bars)

**Sign Text:**

Thomas K. Dane established a hotel on this corner in 1875 when Helena became the territorial capital. On a busy thoroughfare just off Courthouse Square, the establishment had become the Rodney Hotel by 1883 and the original frame building fronting Rodney Street soon assumed its present L-shape. Patrons could rent a room and have a hot meal or enjoy a cold draught in the saloon before turning in. Heat from a coal-fired furnace was piped into the first floor and rose through ceiling registers to keep the second floor cozy. Forty-four boarders in 1890 included miners, bridge builders, masons, stone cutters, blacksmiths, and teamsters. The 1910 census records fifteen roomers; the smaller number reflects the partitioning of sleeping rooms to allow more privacy. "Dick's" grocery replaced the saloon during Prohibition, then William Redd and Fred Meadows reopened it as the Red Meadow Bar in the 1930s. When that longtime watering hole closed in 1997, the Rodney Hotel and Creamery took its place. It was still a neighborhood fixture, but one where youngsters were welcome, too.

**Property:** St. Aloysius Select School for Boys

**Address:** 32 South Ewing, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena South-Central **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** churches (buildings) **Subject 2:** schools (buildings)

**Sign Text:**

In 1869, a small contingent of the Sisters of Charity journeyed to Helena by rail and stagecoach from their motherhouse at Leavenworth, Kansas. The sisters established a hospital, schools, and an orphanage atop this rise dominated by Helena's first cathedral. Brick replaced frame on Catholic Hill during the 1880s, and by the early 1890s, the boys of St. Aloysius Select School filled these spacious classrooms. The school closed in 1910, and student nurses of St. John's Hospital then took their classes here. Renovation in 1925 added a small auditorium, upstairs dormitory, and receiving parlor. It was then rechristened Immaculata Hall. After the 1935 earthquakes,

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

only this school and the hospital laundry were left standing on Catholic Hill. Carroll College continued to use the facility until 1972, but tenants dwindled and this historic landmark was condemned and heavily vandalized. New owners literally rescued the building from the wrecking ball. They refurbished it, converted the dormitory to office space, and recruited tenants. In 1992, children once again filled its classrooms.

**Property:** Koch House

**Address:** 426 State, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena South-Central **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

A small rectangular gabled dwelling built against a one-room log cabin stood on this spacious corner in the 1870s. The property had changed hands several times when Austrian immigrant Franz Koch, a bookbindery foreman, purchased it in the late 1880s. His German wife, Meta, was a skilled seamstress who ran a dressmaking business from the home. Such “cottage industries” were common in this closeknit neighborhood, where German was a primary language. Both Meta and Franz were talented actors who delighted audiences at the Ming Opera House. By 1895, additions incorporating the original log structure gave the home its present floorplan, and the entrance shifted from Davis to State (formerly Bridge) Street. The Koch family planted lasting roots in the neighborhood, which has since nurtured four generations of descendants. The home remains in the family today, a tribute to Helena’s immigrant settlers who helped shape the early community.

**Property:** Montana Club

**Address:** 24 West 6th Avenue, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** fraternal lodges **Subject 2:** restaurants

**Sign Text:**

Time stands still within the quiet confines of this nationally renowned social club, the oldest in the Northwest. A group of Helena’s elite founded the Montana Club in 1885 “for gentlemen only.” Members built a seven-story building on this site in 1893, but fire consumed that landmark in 1903. A new Montana Club literally rose from its ashes. Cass Gilbert, architect of the Minnesota State Capitol and New York City’s famed Woolworth Building, incorporated the original first-floor stone arch design into the new plans. Completed in 1905, the American Renaissance style building sheathes a contemporary structural system in a classical façade. Over the years members have included copper kings, millionaires, and politicians who hosted such notables as Theodore Roosevelt and Mark Twain. Perseverance and adaptability have seen the club through hard times and change. In 1915, women were first invited to the New Year’s Eve celebration, and gender segregation eventually became a thing of the past. Today, the Montana Club is one of Helena’s most commanding anchors, an ambassador from another era, where tradition endures in grand style.

**Property:** George Herrmann House

**Address:** 201 Vawter St, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The Italianate style residence of pioneer businessman George Herrmann has long presided over the north slope of Tower Hill, commanding the attention of passersby on Broadway below. Herrmann, a native of Bavaria, established his cabinet shop at 201 Broadway in 1868. By 1877, the business included upholstery, furniture,

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

undertaking, and coffin making. Herrmann built this fine home circa 1886. Architectural details typical of the period include carved window heads and a simple cornice embellished with dentils. The Herrmanns took in boarders and well-maintained frame home next door, built before 1884 and still part of this property, served as a rental. The landmark residence at the end of its narrow street and Herrmann's business block solidly anchor the district's northwest corner. When Herrmann died in 1910, several of his children took over the business and lived here until circa 1950. From the 1970s, this was the home and business of legislator Jerry Metcalf (1936-1995), an authority on Montana art and antiques whose renowned collections reflected his love for the state and the preservation of its history.

**Property:** Appleton House No. 9

**Address:** 1999 Euclid Ave, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Wraparound porches, octagonal bays, a myriad of rich textures and ornamental details make this Queen Anne style home a true tapestry of Victorian-era craftsmanship. Renowned architect George S. Appleton, who had a prolific career in Helena during the mid 1880s and 1890s, built the home with plans from a pattern book. The Helena Journal advertised "House No. 9" in April of 1890 for \$6,500. The interior featured an elegant oak entry hall, "expensive art glass," two parlors, and a dining room elegantly finished in carved cherry. The home had changed hands three times when Dr. John V. Cole became its fourth owner in 1905. Dr. Cole, a prominent pioneer dentist, was also an accomplished violinist, an avid gardener, and published poet. He died in 1914, and his wife, Jane, died in 1922. Daughter Hazel and her husband, William Converse, subsequently made their home here. Tragedy marred the family when their two young sons, ages 6 and 9, were killed by a speeding automobile in 1931. Hazel slowly recovered, finding solace at her piano in the parlor. For almost four more decades, the bell at the side gate let Hazel know of William's arrival home from work. When Hazel Cole Converse died at 92 in 1982, she left a valuable legacy of family photographs, linens hand-stitched by her mother, and stories. These, treasured by the current owners, are an integral part of the history of this beautiful, lovingly preserved home.

**Property:** Kluge House

**Address:** 540 West Main Street, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

This rare example of European half-timber construction in the midst of a Montana mining camp beautifully illustrates how pioneer buildings often reflected the cultural traditions of their builders. After distinguished service as an infantryman in two wars, German-born Emil Kluge came to the United States in 1871. He and his bride first settled in Detroit, where tales of gold discoveries soon drew the couple west. Kluge, his wife, and their small son arrived in Helena in 1873, where Kluge realized little profit in mining. He became one of Helena's first policemen, served as constable, street commissioner, and justice of the peace, ran contracting and quarry businesses, and later became well-known across the state as secretary of the Masonic bodies of Montana. But it is this unassuming home that gave Emil Kluge an indelible niche in Montana history. Kluge brought his family to live in an 1860s cabin of hewn square logs. Salvaging timbers from a nearby abandoned flume, Kluge added the half-timbered upper story using a medieval building technique he learned in his native Prussia. It is one of only several such examples in the United States. Kluge lived here through the 1890s and the home was later abandoned. A target for vandalism and vagrants, it was stripped, defaced, and nearly destroyed by fire. Locals dubbed it "the

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

Maverick” because it stood alone. The City of Helena purchased the forgotten treasure and state and federal funding allowed initial restoration in the early 1970s. The building has been privately owned since 1988.

**Property:** Mollie Byrnes House

**Address:** 212 State Street, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena South-Central **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:** boardinghouses

**Sign Text:**

Twin towers frame a central bay in this marvelous example of Victorian-era flamboyance attributed to local architect W. T. Welter. The exuberant design mirrors the life of its first owner, one of several wealthy madams who vied to dominate Helena’s red light empire. Mollie Byrnes, also known as Belle Crafton, built this residence circa 1887. Its distinctive architecture was similar to that of “The Castle,” Mollie’s elegant bordello, which was two blocks west under what is now Cruse Avenue. Photographs of Mollie’s heavily draped and wall-papered parlor reveal that she surrounded herself with all the fashionable trappings of the 1890s. Attempting to distance herself from her former lifestyle, Mollie sold “The Castle” in 1899, but she never gained middle-class respectability and died of acute alcoholism in 1900 at the age of forty-two. After Mollie’s death, the building served as an owner’s residence and boarding house. This vintage landmark luckily survived 1970s urban renewal and, now converted to four apartments, has thus earned primary significance as the last link to Helena’s bawdy south side red light district.

**Property:** Wolf Creek Hotel

**Address:** 300 Main Street, Wolf Creek, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** hotels (public accommodations) **Subject 2:** residential structures

**Sign Text:**

In 1886-1887 the Montana Central Railroad wound its way through the steep Prickly Pear Canyon, an area prized for its superb trout fishing. The town of Wolf Creek, named after an Indian word meaning “Creek That The Wolf Jumped In,” grew from Cartersville, a mile to the east, to serve the railroad. James Carter built a small one-story hotel here in 1887. He soon sold the hotel to a young Englishman, Charles Forman, who replaced it with this three-story frame building circa 1892. Forman attached his new hotel to the original manager’s house, covering its log walls with clapboard siding. Its simple no-frills style was once a common sight across rural Montana. Ten rooms and home-cooked meals offered respite for outdoor enthusiasts as well as stage and railroad travelers. Forman, a butcher by trade, also operated a livery stable and meat company. The small house out back, once filled with ice cut from the Missouri River, kept his larder cool. The hotel operated from 1887 to 1984 under only five owners. It served as a stage stop along the Mullan Trail and routes from Helena to Augusta and Fort Benton. Later it sheltered workers who built Holter Dam in 1910, gas pipeline laborers in the 1930s, and highway crews who divided the town in the 1960s. Although now under the shadow of the interstate, its time-layered walls earlier witnessed high winds and waters, fires, births, and deaths. Restoration as a private home in the 1990s began a new chapter in the long life of this railroad-era landmark.

**Property:** Stone House at Reeder's Alley

**Address:** 120 Reeder's Alley, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Dwellings, bunkhouses, and stables dotted the hilltop during the 1880s, forming an extension of Louis Reeder’s



## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

housing complex downslope. One prominent stone building, now the largest portion of the present building, contained four small shotgun style apartments; its alley-facing doorways are still evident. George and Laura Duchesney were property managers by 1920 and made their home in the front unit of the little stone house. Laura, a well-known breeder of canaries, filled the tiny apartment with her songbirds. The Duchesneys rented the small dwellings and tenements of Reeder's Alley almost exclusively to single men as their predecessors had done. But by the 1950s, the area had become increasingly dilapidated. Neglect fueled an unsavory reputation acquired when the red light district was its immediate neighbor. Three Helena matrons were among the few who recognized the historic import of Reeder's Alley. They began in 1961 with this upper area, joining two small dwellings to the adjacent stone apartments for conversion to a restaurant. The project blossomed, and Reeder's Alley today is a product of their vision.

**Property:** William M. Bishop House

**Address:** 412 Broadway, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

This early gable-front-and-wing residence was constructed in 1878 by postal clerk William F. Bishop for \$2,000. Mrs. Margaret Bishop ran a dressmaking business from the home and took in boarders in the late 1880s. Cottage industries and boardinghouses were a common thread in this neighborhood. By 1899, Fred W. Hill and his wife, Clara, had moved into the residence. Hill came to Montana in the mid-1870s and served an enlistment as a scout under General George Custer. He eventually settled in Helena, where he engaged in the wholesale and retail cigar and tobacco business. In 1910, the Hills had a live-in servant and two boarders, one of whom worked at Hill's Grand Central Cigar Store on North Main Street. The Hills owned the home until Fred's death in 1937. Despite addition of a half story and new siding, early design features remain including turned porch posts and fancy spindlework below the roof.

**Property:** John Frey House

**Address:** 327 E State St, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Lucy Healey kept house for her seven children in a small dwelling on this property during the 1870s. Her husband left in 1876 and was rumored to have taken up with a "lewd woman" in Deadwood, Dakota Territory. The court granted Lucy a divorce and decreed her the property owner in 1881; Lucy thereafter considered herself a widow. John Frey bought the property in 1884 and constructed this substantial home, perhaps incorporating the Healeys' dwelling. Frey rose from jailer to policeman and from police sergeant to constable. This public servant had an interesting penchant for mortgaging his property to various businessmen and thus styled himself a "capitalist." The simple L-shaped plan is little altered, although the brick-veneered front and west wing have long been stuccoed. An octagonal bay and arched windows with delicately stenciled infills reflect the height of 1880s' fashion. Bull's-eye moldings, high ceilings, pocket doors, and the original relocated front entry reveal high quality interior finishing in this modest, but well-appointed, historic home.

**Property:** North Rodney Street Neighborhood / Courthouse Square

**Address:** Historic District, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena **Building Type:** building | contributing

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Subject 1:** historic districts

**Subject 2:** residential structures

**Sign Text:**

As the gold camp at Last Chance Gulch haphazardly spread out around the placer diggings in the mid-1860s, Helena's original townsite was platted. By 1867, a new county courthouse graced the central square here in Scott's Addition, but only a few cabins and frame businesses dotted this quiet part of town. Between 1868 and 1874, fires scourged the commercial district along the gulch, stimulating development around Courthouse Square as residents and businessmen sought safer ground. Area businesses in the 1870s included a hotel, gunsmith, meat market, lumberyard, and three livery stables. The Northern Pacific Railroad linked Helena to national markets in 1883, reinforcing prosperous Rodney Street businesses, and substantial brick-fronted buildings began to replace frame and log constructions. The economic "Silver Panic" of 1893 halted early expansion, but by then the area boasted a new courthouse (completed in 1887) and several multifamily apartment buildings, rooming houses, modest homes, and a few grander residences in a variety of popular architectural styles. Helena's once-vibrant Jewish community, which helped stabilize the town's fragile economy through ties to eastern financiers, was well represented in the neighborhood. As the district weathered Helena's "boom and bust" cycles, it also withstood natural disaster. Exterior stucco and replacement siding to repair damaged brick walls, reconstructed chimneys, and removal of fallen ornamentation recall the 1935 earthquakes and residents' efforts to rebuild their neighborhood.

**Property:** Sixth Avenue Apartments

**Address:** 219-221 Sixth Avenue, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena **Building Type:** building contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:** apartments

**Sign Text:**

A pair of two-story bay windows with granite sills, decorative brickwork, corbelled cornice, and open front porch recall the prosperous Courthouse Square neighborhood during the 1880s and 1890s. This attractive brick Italianate style dwelling, constructed in 1890, originally accommodated two families and helped ease the growing neighborhood's housing shortage. Its location near the courthouse was convenient for the Honorable Henry N. Blake, an attorney and district court judge, who was one of the first tenants. Although its original back porch has been removed, the distinguished residence is one of the district's best examples of the Italianate style urban row house.

**Property:** Lewis and Clark County Courthouse

**Address:** 228 Broadway, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** county courthouses

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Much Montana history unfolded within this magnificent landmark, which served as both territorial capitol (1887-1888) and state capitol (1889-1902). Here in 1889 officials received word of statehood, and three hours later J. K. Toole was sworn in as Montana's first governor. St. Paul architects Hodgson and Stem drew heavily upon the Romanesque Revival style as influenced by H. H. Richardson, creating a masterpiece that rivaled eastern counterparts. The well-laid granite walls boast exceptionally fine Bayfield brownstone trim from Wisconsin (the same brownstone of New York's Fifth Avenue fame) and the interior appointments are also extraordinary. The building's splendid Norman clock tower presided over Helena until 1935, when earthquakes humbled its grandeur. The tower, fourth-story gables, and a heavy stone cornice, adornments of little use during the Depression era, were not replaced.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Property:** Joseph Dagenais Residence

**Address:** 417 Pine Street, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helean South-Central **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Historic maps of the South-Central neighborhood show that, by 1888, a substantial frame residence had been built atop this gentle knoll on the corner of Spencer and Pine. A corral, a chicken coop, and stables to the south were its next door neighbors. In 1898, French Canadian Joseph Dagenais and his wife Corinne settled on the property, and by 1900, they owned the home free and clear. Dagenais, who came to Helena in the 1880s, was a well-known contracting teamster. The couple had seven children, only three of whom survived infancy. Daughter Celia lived at home and worked as a cashier at Fligelman's New York Dry Goods Store for many, many years. After Joseph's death in 1941, Celia and Corinne remained at home here until the mid-1950s. In 1966, Antonio and Juanita Linguista purchased the property. Their love for it passed to their daughter and the home remains today in the Linguista family. Although newer siding and storm windows have brightened its appearance, this early residence is otherwise unaltered, tucked away behind mature landscaping.

**Property:** Nicholas Johannes House

**Address:** 36 S. Davis, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena South-Central **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The residence that stood on this lot prior to the 1880s was likely central to remodelings and additions made between 1882 and 1890 during the South-Central neighborhood's building boom. Nicholas Johannes, a German immigrant and carpenter by trade, purchased the home in 1882 and displayed his skill by twice expanding its basic rectangle to form a "T." An open porch originally spanned the front, and a later porch extension (now enclosed) wrapped around the south side. Although the two-story frame home is now clad in stucco, its gable-front roof, simple cornice, and lovely front door recall the home's nineteenth-century origins.

**Property:** C.B. Power Bungalow

**Address:** RR 287, Wolf Creek, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Nestled against the dramatic rise of granite bluffs, this monumental Craftsman bungalow style home blends well with its setting. The masterful use of natural materials and fine design reveal the decided influence of Robert C. Reamer, whose work as architect at Yellowstone Park popularized the rustic ideal. Great Falls architect W. E. Donovan carried out the conceptualized plans and supervised construction of the residence, which showcases Reamer's trademark: the manipulation of rugged materials. Upon its completion in 1913, the Great Falls Tribune declared it the "... best country residence in Montana, if not in the northwest." Native stone and Idaho cedar carry through to the interior, which features rough log walls and a massive granite fireplace. The living room rises to a ceiling height of twenty-two feet, and a second-floor balcony extends around its perimeter. An innovative power plan fueled by a private water system originally supplied the residence with electricity. C. B. Power was the son of U.S. senator T. C. Power, who made a vast fortune in merchandising and freighting during Montana's territorial period. The younger Power used the home as both summer retreat and permanent residence. Among the notables who visited here were Montana senator Thomas Walsh and prizefighter Jack Dempsey. Power sold the

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

property to rancher and former Lewis and Clark County sheriff Brian D. O'Connell in 1947. O'Connell's children extended their gracious hospitality in 1993, opening their former home to the public as an inviting inn.

**Property:** St. John's Hopital Laundry

**Address:** 32 S Ewing, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena South-Central **Building Type:** building contributing

**Subject 1:** hospitals (buildings) **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Fathers Kuppens and D'Aste of the Society of Jesuits built Helena's first Catholic church here in 1866, predicting that "this rocky hill will blossom like a garden." They and the Sisters of Charity, who arrived from Kansas in 1869, transformed the barren hilltop, planting seeds that quickly took root on Catholic Hill. By the 1880s a hospital, cathedral, orphanage, mental asylum, boys' school, bishop's residence, and various outbuildings covered the hilltop. St. Vincent's Academy for Girls, widely renowned for its educational excellence, sprawled across Ewing Street. Here, behind the original St. John's Hospital, a laundry facility serving Catholic Hill was located in the 1870s. That one-story frame building was rebuilt in brick after 1892 to include a second floor with classrooms and a study that later served nurses at St. John's. In 1935, earthquakes destroyed all but two Catholic Hill buildings. St. John's was rebuilt on the site of St. Vincent's in 1939, but this building and Immaculata Hall are the only survivors of the early institutions that once "bloomed" on Catholic Hill.

**Property:** Helena West Main Historic District

**Address:** Historic District, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena West Main **Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** historic districts **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The physical link between the earliest settlement of Helena and the ceaseless efforts to fully exploit the area's mineral potential is nowhere more clearly apparent than in this narrow district, settled on mining claims. After the first local gold strike in June of 1864, choice claims were quickly taken and by the following winter, newcomers had to be content with second-rate placers. Numerous claims were staked along this natural declivity, but mining soon became a secondary activity. While most continued to mine in their own backyards, residents turned to other livelihoods such as supplying firewood and livery services to their Helena neighbors. Log and frame dwellings, often built into the hillside to compensate for little space, represent 1870s settlement. Later brick homes and additions reflect the 1880s building boom while the scattered remains of outbuildings that housed domestic livestock demonstrate the self-sufficiency characteristic of West Main Street. Abundant lime deposits nearby also determined the industry that would leave its mark upon the neighborhood. The scarred hillside at the south end is ready evidence of the precious limestone quarried there. Attendant kilns, the first built in 1868, supplied the mortar and plaster for Helena's earliest buildings. The Panic of 1893 and the lack of a nearby railroad spur eventually ended the once-lucrative West Main lime industry. The rustic landscape and simple dwellings, some still owned by descendants of early pioneers, reflect the practical lives of West Main's first residents.

**Property:** Porter Flats

**Address:** 335 N. Ewing, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** apartments **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The Northern Pacific finally extended its tracks to Helena in 1883, and the town became increasingly

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

cosmopolitan. Pioneer real estate developer James Porter constructed this very stylish apartment building in 1884, the first of many multifamily dwellings built to accommodate a rapidly growing population. The building demonstrates the construction techniques used and the high quality achieved in the bustling, booming Helena of the 1880s. Twin bays, a central entry, wide eaves, and hipped rooflines reflect the Italianate style while a well-crafted stone foundation, red brick veneer, and tall arched windows mirror local contemporary commercial construction. Fancy floral-designed vergeboards that originally adorned the gables, ornately carved window heads, and decorative brackets reflect the growing availability of prefabricated building materials. The well-appointed building allowed fashionable yet affordable living, with each of the six units boasting a kitchen, bathroom, bedroom, living room, and dining room. Interior elegance remains today in the decorative newel post, balusters, and carved trim with corner rosettes. First tenants included a doctor, a lawyer, a minister, a mining superintendent, and the five Misses Nagel, whose “private dining room ... in Porter’s Flat” was one of Helena’s favorite eating establishments. Severely damaged during the 1935 earthquakes and condemned in 1988, Porter Flats was rehabilitated between 1989 and 1991 by its new owner. Today this neighborhood treasure is an integral thread in the historic fabric of early Helena.

**Property:** 307 Clarke Street

**Address:** 307 Clarke Street, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Exquisite leaded and beveled glass, magnificent classical columns, a denticulated porch frieze, and arched windows with stenciled heads embellish both this 1906 Queen Anne style home and its next door neighbor. The gentle roof pitch is characteristic of the style as it evolved from the nineteenth to the twentieth century. Although the two homes share handsome exterior detailing and interior finishing, each has its own distinctive features. A canted entry and intricate wrought-iron roof cresting set this home apart from its almost-identical neighbor. Catherine Wilson was the original tenant in 1906, renting the property from Frank and Lois Hepperdeizel. She and her husband, Luther, came to Helena in 1885, where he was in the shoe business. Widowed in 1895, Catherine was later employed in stocks and bonds, which was an unusual field for a woman at that time. A new front porch and the original oak front door welcome guests into this beautifully refurbished home.

**Property:** Byrns Residence

**Address:** 315 Ming Place, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Longtime Helena saloon proprietor Michael Byrns, his wife Emma, and their daughter Mary were the first residents of this early West Side home, built circa 1878. Emma’s “uniform kindness and lovely traits of character” touched so many that the entire community mourned her death in 1895. After 1906, widow Ann Sanford and her extended family lived in the home. Ann and Thomas Sanford came to the Prickly Pear Valley in 1869, where Thomas and his brother, William, established a ranch. Thomas died in 1903 and William purchased this in-town residence for his sister-in-law. Ann was at home here until her death at 95 in 1925. This historic home, perched atop a ridge and fronted at street level by a stone retaining wall, appears much as it did in the late 1870s when little Mary Byrns played in the yard. Square columns, a side bay, and triangular window pediments provide simple, charming adornment characteristic of Helena’s early architecture. Inside, an unusual curved staircase adds surprising sophistication to the traditional floorplan.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Property:** Kenck and Company Saloon / King and Nuss Grocers

**Address:** 200-202 N Rodney, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena **Building Type:** building contributing

**Subject 1:** saloons (bars) **Subject 2:** boardinghouses

**Sign Text:**

In the wake of disastrous fires of the previous decade, brick buildings like this mid-1880s combination business and rooming house gradually displaced less substantial frame constructions. F. J. Kenck's saloon originally shared space with King and Nuss's grocery/feed store, while second-floor furnished rooms helped alleviate a housing shortage. In 1918, Prohibition interrupted the saloon business until 1939, when new owner Frank Jester opened his tavern. Today this refined Italianate style building, with its flat roof, bracketed cornice, arched windows, and thirteen interior chimneys, continues to serve its intended function, recalling the neighborhood prosperity that followed on the heels of the Northern Pacific Railroad.

**Property:** Feldberg House

**Address:** 221 Fifth Avenue, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

A constant threat of fire during the 1870s prompted residents to move away from the gulch and settle in this outlying neighborhood. Merchant Jacob Feldberg and wife Emma, respected members of Helena's once-dynamic Jewish community, built one of the neighborhood's first brick homes here in 1875. Its design illustrates the adaptation of utilitarian wood-frame, gable-front-and-wing type dwellings to fine, substantial housing. From the 1870s to the late 1890s Ewing Street was two lots farther east, and the Feldberg's east bay window faced the Presbyterian Church (demolished in the late 1890s) next door. The well-maintained home, now clad in stucco, retains its 1870s configuration.

**Property:** Piercy Boarding House / Cornell Apartments

**Address:** 300-312 Fifth Avenue, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** boardinghouses **Subject 2:** apartments

**Sign Text:**

The stylish Courthouse Square neighborhood prospered in the 1880s, as evidenced by this fashionable two-and-one-half-story boardinghouse built by wealthy rancher William C. Child. Between 1888 and 1890, this splendid building displaced an earlier, more modest brick dwelling. A granite-trimmed sandstone façade, projecting bays, metal-faced mansard roof, and colorful stained glass transoms exuberantly express the favored eclecticism of the Victorian era. The Child family maintained the business until circa 1900, when the wife of miner James Piercy, whose large family resided here, was "boarding house keeper." In 1914, the Piercys moved their residence/rooming house next door and this building became the Cornell Apartments.

**Property:** 303 Clarke Street

**Address:** 303 Clarke Street, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena **Building Type:** building contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Helena confectioner Frank Hepperdeizel and his wife, Lois, were the first owners of this beautiful Queen Anne

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

style home and its near-mirror image next door. The two homes, built circa 1906, originally served as premium rental properties in this prosperous neighborhood. Joseph Gans and his family were tenants at this address from 1908 to 1913. Joseph, born in Bohemia, was the youngest of fifteen children. He came to Montana in 1866 and eventually joined his brothers Herman and Louis in the family's pioneer clothing firm, Gans and Klein. The next occupant was Dr. George Barbour, who lived here from 1914 to at least 1920. This prominent physician and surgeon was a nephew of territorial governor Samuel T. Hauser. The anonymous builder of the two residences employed interesting variations in the placement of the entrance, porches, and bays. A wraparound porch distinguishes this exceptional home from its neighbor.

**Property:** Atlas Block

**Address:** 7 North Last Chance Gulch, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The fanciful façade of this nineteenth-century showcase was intended to convey a powerful message. Completed in 1889 for the insurance company of Samuel J. Jones at a cost of \$40,000, the vivid imagery is an advertisement, showing how insurance offered protection against the ever-present danger of fire. Stylized flames on a metal cornice lap at the top of the building while salamanders, mythical creatures believed to be immune to fire, cavort above the flames. The central figure of Atlas holds the weight of the building on his shoulders. Originally there were two storefronts on the west ground floor and two that opened at the second-floor level onto Jackson Street. The New York Store (one of Helena's early department stores) and a saloon were among the tenants during the 1890s. This exceptional building, with its grand off-center arched entry and rough granite detailing, is an excellent example of the Richardsonian Romanesque style of architecture, inspired by H. H. Richardson. Designed by Helena architects Shaffer and Stranahan, the Atlas Block bears a striking resemblance to Richardson's Crane Library, built in 1883 at Quincy, Massachusetts.

**Property:** Preuitt House

**Address:** 201 5th Ave, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The Warren Street location of this substantial brick home, built by Helena businessman William Preuitt circa 1874, offered a bird's eye view of the growing town below. It also provided higher ground away from the fires that plagued Helena's early commercial area. After several other owners, Isaac and Jennie Marks bought the property in 1882 and built an addition at the southeast corner. Marks himself had experienced fire damage first hand; his Main Street liquor business burned twice during the 1860s. In 1899, clothing merchant Henry Klein of the pioneer firm Gans and Klein moved into the home and lived here until his sudden death in 1903. Klein was a revered member of Helena's Jewish community and president of the Temple Emanu-El congregation at the time of his death. From 1906 to 1928, the home served as rectory for St. Peter's Episcopal Church, which was then across Warren Street. Despite newer exterior stucco, this early home retains its primary design elements and original configuration.

**Property:** House of the Good Shepherd Historic District

**Address:** 446 N. Hoback, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** House of the Good Shepherd **Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** churches (buildings) **Subject 2:** residential structures

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

### Sign Text:

On a cold day in February, 1889, a small colony of Sisters of the Good Shepherd arrived in Helena from St. Paul, Minnesota. They came, at the invitation of Bishop John B. Brondel, to establish a safe, non-denominational haven for troubled girls and young women. Five nuns and a young girl named Veronica, their first charge, settled into the Second Empire style convent at the corner of Hoback and Ninth. St. Helena's Catholic Church across Hoback Street was built soon after and construction of the frame dormitory followed in 1890. The sisters' Gothic Revival style chapel was built to adjoin the convent in 1895. Four separate two-story additions enlarged the dormitory which also served as a school. By 1900, nine sisters cared for 27 residents between the ages of 8 and 36. In the dormitory basement, a state-of-the-art commercial laundry, added in 1904, provided job training and income for the home. The sisters moved to a larger facility on the west edge of town in 1909. Their convent here was divided into apartments and the dormitory became a furniture warehouse. When the west side home closed in 1967, the sisters had cared for more than 2,700 girls and young women during their 78 years in Helena. In 1990, a new owner painstakingly rehabilitated the Hoback Street dormitory and converted it to an artist's studio. Today only the church retains its original purpose, but the historic appearance of this landmark complex is little changed.

**Property:** 219 Cutler Street

**Address:** 219 Cutler Street, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena South-Central **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

Gold drew not only miners to the camp at Last Chance Gulch, but also tradesmen and merchants such as George Doan, a mechanic from New York. Doan's modest home, constructed circa 1865 as a temporary two-room dwelling of vertical board, well illustrates the townsite's transition from mining camp to established community. Clapboard soon covered the small dwelling, which at that time was situated on a choice corner lot. By 1884, brick veneer further strengthened the walls, and by the 1930s its two rooms had expanded to five. Stucco applied following the 1935 earthquakes added yet another chapter to the construction sequence of this historic residence. The building chronology and original design elements, including the wooden cornice and stenciled window heads, give this unpretentious little gem significant ranking among the district's few remaining homes from its earliest settlement period.

**Property:** Mount Helena Historic District

**Address:** Mount Helena City Park, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Mount Helena **Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** historic districts

**Subject 2:** recreation

### Sign Text:

Mount Helena stands out "grandly and cleancut," a dramatic backdrop for the city that has grown in its shadow. Since picnickers first enjoyed its quiet refuge during mining camp days, Mount Helena has served the community. First miners searched in vain for its minerals. Settlers next stripped its slopes of timber and quarried its limestone. In 1883, residents by the hundreds trekked up the mountainside to watch the railroad, smoking slowly westward across the valley to Helena. Then on November 12, 1894, a huge bonfire at the summit lit the night sky, confirming Helena's victory as state capital. Near the century's turn, forest fires further decimated the near-barren mountain. A city park was proposed in 1898 and on Arbor Day in 1899, Helena schoolchildren armed with baskets of evergreen seedlings hiked the lightning-scorched slopes. Accompanied by Fred Kuphal's violin, they began reforestation. From the ashes also came the "1906 Mount Helena Trail," actually constructed by the city in 1903. Far-sighted city fathers envisioned "a wind-blown seed, and inch of shade, a little snow, and peace ... to make a beautiful tree upon the mountain." And so it was in 1906 that through the cooperative efforts of the



## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

Helena Improvement Society and the newly created U.S. Forest Service, 30,000 seedlings were hand-planted upon the eastern slope. Many still flourish. Today the city's century-old invitation still stands: "Do not deny yourself the health and pleasure of the ... delightful walk. Go all and go often."

**Property:** The Silver King Ranch

**Address:** NE of Lincoln, Lincoln, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** site

**Subject 1:** ranches (agricultural complexes)

**Subject 2:** residential structures

**Sign Text:**

Prominent miner and state legislator Owen Byrnes filed a homestead claim above Silver King Lake in 1908, adding to this property the purchase of other claims and railroad grant lands. Pristine forests and natural meadows formed the perfect backdrop for Byrnes' three passions: ranching, mining, and hunting. This masterfully crafted assemblage of rustic log structures also bears the indelible print of Byrnes' interests. The main residence was constructed circa 1914 of square-notched, peeled logs trimmed with cornerboards, and in 1917, Byrnes brought his new bride, Bessie Mason Garlow, and her six-year-old son, Benton, to this two-story home. The horse barn built for Romeo and Juliet, a breeding pair of Belgian draft horses, reflects the major industry carried on at the ranch. Other signs of the horse-breeding business are the once-cultivated Timothy grasses now growing wild in the meadow and brands burned into the walls of the frame blacksmith shop. A log "hunting camp" foundation and system of pack trails recall Byrnes' enthusiasm for the outdoors. A small rocker offers evidence of gold prospecting. Owner Robert Lydiard and his late wife, Neva Barber Lydiard, have maintained Byrnes' handiwork since 1963. Today the Silver King Ranch represents the finest of early-twentieth-century Montana ranching traditions and vernacular building techniques.

**Property:** Halford House

**Address:** 312 Pine, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena South-Central   **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The lure of gold drew miner James H. "Missouri Jim" Halford and his wife, Ellen, to Montana Territory in the mid 1860s. James was a staunch Democrat like many early Helenans, and had earned his nickname commanding a Confederate company during the Civil War. A man of varied interests, James served a term as city marshal in 1886-1887. His business concerns included mining, cattle ranching, and fuel contracting in wood and coal. Circa 1890, the Halfords built this residence overlooking Bridge (now State) Street, then the main business thoroughfare, after their four sons were grown. James died in 1897, and Ellen continued to live here until 1905. Despite several later additions, the original single-story brick home displays some fine decorative elements. A round window in the gable's peak, segmentally arched windows with stenciled heads, and an etched glass transom remain to affirm the nineteenth-century origins of this appealing home.

**Property:** Pioneer Cabin

**Address:** 212 South Park Avenue, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Wilson Butts followed the stampede to Last Chance Gulch in 1864, staked his claim here, and built a serviceable one-room cabin. The following spring his brother Jonas arrived with a wife and three young daughters. Jonas

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

added a front room and porch onto the bachelor cabin and there the family lived until 1867. But the rowdy gold camp was no place to raise the girls. When music of a nearby dance hall filtered into the cabin, the Buttses fled the gulch. Stephen and Luella Fergus Gilpatrick then moved into the cabin and their first son was born soon thereafter. Although neighbors laughed when Luella planted two locust seedlings brought from Wisconsin, the trees thrived and grew to parent many others. From 1904, George Mitchell ran a wood, coal, and poultry business from the cabin. The Last Chance Restoration Association acquired the property in 1939 soon after Mitchell's death. Restored and furnished with period pieces including items of the cabin's early residents, the community treasure is Helena's only unaltered remnant of the great gold rush.

**Property:** May Butler House

**Address:** Benton Avenue South, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Irish-born William Butler came to Montana in 1866, worked in Helena as a lather and carpenter, and mined at nearby Butler (now Austin). He paid the county \$50 in 1875 for this land, formerly a mining claim. In 1879 Butler brought his bride, Catherine, to the Carpenter Gothic style cottage which he built of fieldstone and cut granite snug against the hillside. The steeply pitched center gable with its scrollwork and balcony—characteristic of the Gothic style—was for decades highly visible perched upon the barren slope. As the Butlers raised four children, the lofty vantage point afforded a bird's eye view of Helena's growth. The Butlers' eldest daughter May, longtime teacher at Emerson School (now the May Butler Center), remained at home in the family residence. Her kind, generous nature and infectious laughter made it a haven to many. May was born in the home in 1880 and died here in 1954. The early dwelling, now hidden by mature foliage, is a tribute to a pioneer family and an exceptional retreat.

**Property:** Reeder's Alley

**Address:** 101 Reeder's Alley, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena **Building Type:** site; contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Pennsylvania brick mason Louis Reeder came to Helena in 1867 to practice his trade. Reeder invested in real estate and among his properties were these lots along the steep hillside of West Cutler Street. Between 1875 and 1884 Reeder constructed a series of apartments and bunkhouses offering single miners a comfortable alternative to log cabin accommodations. The simple masonry provided permanence and resistance to fire, a menace that plagued the early community. The complex included some thirty-five housing units in a collection of stone and brick buildings, including an existing log cabin Reeder ingeniously incorporated into the largest structure. The area was already known as Reeder's Alley when Reeder died after a fall in 1884. The miners moved on, but over the years tenants remained mostly single and male. Twenty-three pensioners lived at Reeder's Alley in 1961 when these buildings were rescued from demolition and rehabilitation begun. The narrow alleyway and closely spaced buildings nestled against the slope of Mount Helena today comprise the town's most complete remaining block of the territorial period.

**Property:** Holter Cottage #1

**Address:** 413 Broadway, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena South-Central **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

### Sign Text:

Pioneer businessmen Anton and Martin Holter made fortunes in hardware, construction, mining investments, and real estate development. The brothers owned a number of lots in south central Helena, including three adjoining lots here on Broadway. The railroad linked Helena to outside markets in 1883, precipitating a population boom and housing shortage. The Holters constructed three rental cottages on these lots. This residence, like its two neighbors to the east, is a gable-front-and-wing dwelling with a simple plan designed to fit neatly on an urban lot. All three, joined by a stone retaining wall, were the work of the same builder. This residence retains the original floor plan, windows, shiplap siding, and pedimented gables. Although the porch is now enclosed, the original transom and paneled door fill the entry. Between 1900 and 1904, Emanuel Fischl, his wife, and their five young children were tenants. The Fischls were immigrants from Bohemia who settled in Helena where the family prospered. Emanuel was later twice elected county treasurer. By 1910, grocery clerk John Winkleman was the first resident owner.

**Property:** Caretaker's Cabin

**Address:** 212 South Park Avenue, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** cabins (houses)

**Subject 2:** residential structures

### Sign Text:

According to reminiscences of the Butts family, builders of the Pioneer Cabin next door, two cabins stood on this lot in 1865. William Davenport likely built one for his family and the William H. Parkinsons occupied the other. Sallie Davenport, later Mrs. A. J. Davidson, was eight when her family arrived from Missouri. She recalled that her cabin's dirt roof "dripped for days" after a good rain. Twenty-year-old Jeannette Parkinson kept house in the other cabin. Her husband, a longtime steamboat pilot, was then fifty-three. Captain Parkinson turned to freighting and mining when he brought his young wife to Montana. The two tiny cabins served as interim housing and by 1875 had been incorporated into this single residence. Portions of the original log walls are still visible beneath the clapboard. By the mid-1880s, the dwelling marked the southern edge of Helena's low-rent red light district, where a motley assortment of cabins and cribs stretched from here north to Wall Street. The former house of ill repute was rehabilitated for the caretaker of the Pioneer Cabin.

**Property:** Ming Opera House Consistory Shrine

**Address:** 15 N. Jackson, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** theaters (buildings)

**Subject 2:** fraternal lodges

### Sign Text:

Masons have been a dynamic force in Montana since early territorial days, playing key roles in events that shaped the state's history. Helena Masons first came together in 1865 for the funeral of Dr. L. Rodney Pockocke, for whom Rodney Street was named. The fraternal organization has since been closely intertwined with the Helena community. The Masons acquired this former opera house in 1912. Built by John Ming in 1880 and renowned throughout the Pacific Northwest, the theater hosted such famous performers as Otis Skinner, Eddie Foy, Marie Dressler, and Katie Putnam. In 1915, noted Helena architects George Carsley and C. S. Haire redesigned the building in the exotic Egyptian Revival style. Under the Mason's care, the original handpainted 1880s scenery remains in occasional use, as does the spectacular \$10,000 pipe organ they installed in the remodeled auditorium in 1915. This Helena landmark survives thanks to the stewardship of its owners and continues to serve as a meeting place for members of all the Masonic orders.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Property:** Governor Leslie House

**Address:** 219 N. Rodney, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena **Building Type:**

**Subject 1:** **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Territorial Governor Preston Leslie was a resident of this early Helena home, constructed in the late 1870s. Originally built in the Gothic Revival style popular during Helena's townsite period, later remodeling added classical details. The two distinct styles are evident at the center of the second story where a triangular pediment supported on classical columns has been placed in front of the steeply pitched "Gothic" gable. President Grover Cleveland appointed Leslie, a former governor of Kentucky, to the Montana office after Samuel T. Hauser's resignation. Leslie served from 1887 to 1889. President Cleveland later appointed him Montana's U.S. District Attorney. This home was the interim executive mansion during 1888 while the Leslies awaited completion of a new residence on Broadway. State Mining Inspector George G. Swallow then occupied this home until 1894. During the later 1890s, Madame Carla LaFleur operated her furrier business from the house. Significant as one of only several surviving examples of Gothic Revival architecture from Helena's earliest period, the landmark home gains prestige as a territorial governor's residence.

**Property:** U.S. Assay Office

**Address:** 206 Broadway Street, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** public buildings (governmental buildings)

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Much of the great wealth that once came from Montana soil was melted and weighed in this dignified building, constructed in 1875. U.S. Treasury Department architect A. B. Mullet drew the plans for the \$75,000 building, which were modified by his successor, William Potter. The structure is of both national and regional significance as the first officially recorded federal building in Montana Territory. Establishment of the Helena office offered miners a much better method of conversion. During the 1860s, gold had to be taken or shipped at great expense and risk to the Philadelphia mint. Miners' only other recourse was to have it converted at exorbitant fees by the local banker. This branch opened in 1876-77, joining the five other government assay offices then located in New York City, St. Louis, Charlotte (N.C.), Deadwood, and Boise. In 1899, the world's largest gold bar, weighing 434 pounds, was cast here for Colonel Charles Broadwater. By 1900, the Helena office had melted \$30,000,000 worth of gold into bars for Uncle Sam. The office remained open until a changing economy brought its closure in 1934.

**Property:** Joseph K. Toole House

**Address:** 102 S Rodney St, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena South-Central **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

In May of 1890, Montana's first governor, Helena trial lawyer and territorial statesman Joseph Kemp Toole, brought his bride, Lilly, to live in the family home on Rodney Street. The territorial brick residence had been constructed before 1880 for family patriarch Edwin Toole, who moved to Helena after the elder Mrs. Toole's death in 1878. Under Lilly's direction a decade later, the home became "one of the most delightful in Helena." Used as executive mansion throughout Toole's first term of office, the interesting floorplan was well adapted to frequent entertaining. Two well-appointed parlors graced the upper floor while the lower level contained the kitchen and dining room. The two-storied west end with double porches featured striking views overlooking the

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

city's then-commercial center. This nostalgically charming home nestled into the hillside appears much as it did in the 1890s, framed by remnants of Lilly's original landscaping.

**Property:** Wick-Seiler Residence

**Address:** 729 11th Ave, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Richard Hoback and C. W. Cannon platted this area from a dwindling placer claim called the California Bar. The Hoback-Cannon Addition is today the eastern gateway to Helena's historic neighborhoods. This Italianate style residence, built circa 1888, was home to German-born John Wick and his wife Mina by 1898. Wick settled in Helena during the 1870s. Fire destroyed his carriage shop in 1884 and Wick became a well-known saloon proprietor. In 1901, the Wicks' daughter Elizabeth married Arthur Seiler, a young German immigrant who came to Helena in 1888 intending to work for an uncle. Prior to his arrival, the uncle mysteriously disappeared and was presumed dead. Helena's German community took Seiler under its wing. As apprentice to candy maker Frank Hepperdiezel, Seiler learned that trade. In time his delicious confections became widely renowned. The Seiler children, Bernice and Arthur, Jr., grew up here. They found a playmate in neighbor and future film legend Gary Cooper whose birthplace is directly across Eleventh Avenue. During one escapade, Bernice recalled that Cooper was seriously injured in a fall from the Seilers' wrought iron fence. The Seilers converted the residence to a duplex during the Great Depression and retained ownership until 1957. Following the example of their parents and grandparents, Bernice and Arthur, Jr., maintained their Helena roots, contributing significantly to the community. This neighborhood landmark, again a single family residence, illustrates local architectural trends. Tall arched windows and stenciled inserts are typical of the 1880s while stuccoed brick and Craftsman-inspired porches reflect the 1930s. Inside, eleven-foot ceilings and bull's eye woodwork recall nineteenth-century elegance.

**Property:** Wassweiler Hotel and Bath House

**Address:** 4528 Hwy 12 W, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** hotels (public accommodations)           **Subject 2:** recreation

**Sign Text:**

Ferdinand and Caroline Wassweiler settled here in 1865 on 160 acres, operating a small hotel and bathhouse near this site. They gained title to the land and two hot water springs near Ten Mile Creek in 1869. The mineral water offered area miners a welcome respite from the dusty gold mining camp at Last Chance Gulch. In need of cash, the Wassweilers mortgaged half their property for \$1,500 in "fine bankable gold dust," paying up in 1872. Again short of funds, the Wassweilers sold their hotel and water rights in 1874 to Colonel Charles Broadwater. Broadwater ran the hotel until 1889 when his new hotel and natatorium opened on the property. All traces of Wassweiler's first hotel and the Broadwater Hotel have since vanished. Wassweiler built this second hotel on his remaining 80 acres in 1883. These are the only hot springs hotel structures now left in the Helena area. The walls of the main building are brick resting on fieldstone. Seven exterior doors to separate rooms accommodated the hotel guests, and four brick chimneys, vented for woodstoves, pierce the gabled rooflines. The outbuilding of native fieldstone served as the bathhouse, with each of four compartments outfitted with wooden tubs. The Wassweiler Hotel and Bathhouse continued to operate until 1904.

**Property:** C.W. Cannon Building

**Address:** 401 N Last Chance Gulch, Helena, Lewis & Clark

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Historic District:** Helena **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Prominent Helena investor and real estate developer Charles W. Cannon commissioned the firm of Wallace and Thornborgh to construct this building for \$10,000. Completed in 1890, the building reflects expansion and urbanization in the downtown area during this period of growth. An excellent example of the multiple storefront form, this architectural style helped satisfy the need for choice commercial space. The building originally housed five small shops, each with its own display window and entrance.

**Property:** Colorado Building

**Address:** 435 N Last Chance Gulch, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The Colorado Building is a rich illustration of Helena's commercial blossoming during the early twentieth century. The Mountain States Telephone and Telegraph Company built the structure in 1922, thereby completing this block in the town's more sparsely developed northern end. The upper two floors once served as company offices, accessed by a central doorway. The ground floor, tucked into the hillside, originally housed the Wright Furniture Company and Kenneth R. Rorabeck Drugs.

**Property:** Iron Front Hotel

**Address:** 415 N Last Chance Gulch, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** hotels (public accommodations) **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Helena architects Heinlein and Matthias designed this elegant European-style hotel, formerly the Windsor House. Built in 1888, it is Montana's only known example of a prefabricated iron façade. The locally pre-cast façade represents a building trend popular in larger cities during this period. In 1889, House Republicans of the state's first legislature regularly caucused in the hotel's meeting rooms. The fourth-story ballroom features an oak floor once billed as the best dance floor in the West.

**Property:** Fifth Avenue Apartment House

**Address:** 314 5th Avenue, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** apartments **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Entrepreneur T. H. Kleinschmidt was the original owner of this early Italianate style dwelling, built as investment property circa 1884. Kleinschmidt, three times elected mayor of Helena, had diverse local business interests including utilities, livestock, and real estate. This residence was fashionably situated across the street from Courthouse Square, the center of territorial and early state government. The Kleinschmidts, along with their servant and coachman, were in residence here during the early 1890s while their eastside mansion was under construction. Tenants who took in roomers and boarders in the early 1900s included Helena Drug Company proprietor Eugene Meyer and the Piercy family. The single-family dwelling was converted to apartments after 1920. Stucco added over the brick exterior in 1927 slightly changed its look, but the historic residence retains many original features including arched windows, a low hip roof, bay windows, and an asymmetrical facade.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Property:** Samuel T. Hauser Mansion

**Address:** 720 Madison, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:** churches (buildings)

**Sign Text:**

The history of this magnificent home, one of the earliest of the great mansions built on Helena's west side, is finely interwoven with the history of Montana. Pioneer entrepreneur and financier Samuel T. Hauser built the twenty-nine-room residence in 1885, the same year President Cleveland appointed him territorial governor. The Roman Catholic Diocese of Helena purchased and presented the home to Bishop John P. Carroll in 1913. After Bishop Carroll's death in 1925, three succeeding bishops occupied the mansion. When the 1935 earthquakes displaced the Sisters of Charity in Helena, the home became the convent of this long-established teaching order. The bedrooms were at this time partitioned into thirty-two sleeping rooms. In 1969, the Diocese sold the home to former Governor Tim Babcock and his wife, Betty, who completely restored the stately home to its former grandeur. Gables, dormers, and porches embellished with carved wood and windows with stone trim of locally quarried porphyry highlight the fine design. Interior appointments include black walnut wainscoting and parquet floors of cherry, walnut, and oak. An intricately carved oak stairway graces the grand hall and one of the nine fireplaces features a ceramic hearth depicting Hauser family scenes. Two exquisite stained glass panels, crafted in Germany by the designer of the St. Helena Cathedral windows and installed by Bishop Carroll in 1915, remain intact. In 1975, the mansion received a Burlington House Award for American Homes on the basis of taste and ingenuity in interior furnishing.

**Property:** Ryan Building

**Address:** Broadway Street, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena South-Central   **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Irish immigrant James M. Ryan owned a number of local rental properties, including this appealing wood-frame apartment building constructed as a duplex between 1885 and 1888. Rapid growth during the 1880s prompted neighborhood tenants to take in boarders, adding income and easing a troublesome housing shortage. This building provides an excellent example of the tenant/boarder relationship in its mix of both professional and working-class residents. In 1889 and 1890, these included a U.S. mineral surveyor, the Helena Herald city editor, a retired military officer, a blacksmith, a dressmaker, several clerks, and two domestics. When the 1935 earthquakes claimed the original brick veneer, shiplap siding added to the exterior walls was carefully cut, preserving the original arched windows. The entry vestibule to the two modern upper units, staircases, high ceilings, and several doors remain from the former era, lending period ambience. Modern residents still benefit from Ryan's foresight in providing tenants attractive, well-located, and comfortable living quarters.

**Property:** First Unitarian Church of Helena

**Address:** 325 N. Park, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena   **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** churches (buildings)           **Subject 2:** theaters (buildings)

**Sign Text:**

Outstanding architecture and a long history of community service make this stunning landmark much beloved. It is the only known example of prominent architect C. S. Haire's work in the Richardsonian Romanesque style. Magnificent round arches, a stylistic hallmark, are its most prominent feature. Public-spirited Unitarians believed

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

that churches should serve the community. They planned the building to function as a public auditorium and theater as well as a church. At its dedication in 1901, Reverend Leslie Sprague said, "I do not believe God wants churches that are too holy for usefulness in any cause, even for the entertainment and pastime of His children." In 1933, the Unitarians donated the church to the city and it became the public library. It has been home to Grandstreet Theatre since 1976. The interior features a Tiffany window, exquisite woodwork, and the handsome original proscenium arch. In 2005, the 1901 blueprints inspired the replacement of the aging utilitarian window above the entry. The new window follows the designer's original sketch. Today Grandstreet Theatre, vital to the town's creative spirit, perpetuates the Unitarians' bequest.

**Property:** William Steele Residence

**Address:** 427 Breckenridge, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Nineteenth-century charm is well preserved in this 1883 Queen Anne style residence, built by pioneer physician William L. Steele. Its present appearance reflects additions, including a front porch and bay window, made before 1892. Stucco applied over damaged brick veneer following the 1935 earthquakes adds to the architectural chronology of the attractively well-seasoned home. Dr. Steele was elected Miner's Court president at Alder Gulch during the notorious vigilante trials of 1863-1864. After settling at Last Chance Gulch in 1864, he not only established a medical practice here and cared for hundreds of local families, but also served the community at large. He was elected to the county offices of sheriff, coroner, and treasurer; served three terms as mayor of Helena; and was a state legislator. Until his death in 1910, Dr. Steele and his gracious wife, Agnes, entertained often, making this home "famous for its hospitality."

**Property:** Ingram House

**Address:** 227 Spencer, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena South-Central **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Contractors Anton and Martin Holter, who operated Helena's first sawmill, built this frame residence as a rental investment in 1888. Developers like the wealthy Holter brothers built a number of south-central residences during the prosperous 1880s, transforming this once rural area into a settled neighborhood. On its spacious corner fronting narrow Spencer Street, this appealing residence in the Greek Revival style features a full-width porch with central pediment and front gable roof. The porch, now enclosed, retains its nineteenth-century details, including chamfered wood posts with simple capitals and denticulated cornice. A transom and sidelights further ornament the paneled entry door. Despite a recent addition, the original floorplan remains wholly intact. The first known tenant was John Arkell, who lived in the home from 1889 to 1892. Family members included a railroad clerk, a stenographer, and a student. By 1898, George Ingram, his wife Minnie, and their two children had rented the home. Ingram, a longtime Helena insurance agent, eventually purchased the property and remained here until 1921.

**Property:** English House

**Address:** 213 Spencer, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena South-Central **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**



## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

### Sign Text:

Lydia Jane English was recently widowed when she and her family moved into this substantial Italianate style residence, built in 1888. Her husband, miner Harvey W. English, was a prominent Helena pioneer who served in the territorial legislature, as chairman of schools in 1867, as county sheriff from 1871 to 1873, and was later a municipal judge and police magistrate. When Lydia died in the mid-1890s, son Charles, a postal clerk, remained here with his family until after 1900. By 1913, James Doggett owned the property. His wife, May, did dressmaking from the home. The residence is an exceptional example of the dignified Italianate style popular in Helena during the 1880s. Tall segmentally arched windows, octagonal bays, and false shutters emphasize the vertical orientation characteristic of this style. Interior features include a cherry fireplace with beveled glass and hand-crafted drawers built into the parlor wall. Tucked away on its quaint narrow street, this beautifully maintained home conveys a strong sense of the early south-central neighborhood.

**Property:** Fashion Livery and Boarding Stable (Central Garage)

**Address:** 40 East Lawrence, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena **Building Type:** building contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

A probate judge deeded brothers Anton and Martin Holter this property in 1872. The prominent and wealthy Holters operated milling, hardware, real estate, and construction companies. The Holters set up a lumber yard here, which they operated until the 1890s. Other neighboring industries included the Stedman Foundry, the Jurgens and Price Soda Water Factory, and the Sandford and Evans Lumber Yard. During the 1890s, the area became less oriented toward industry as downtown expanded north. In 1898, the Holters began to commercially develop their corner property. They built this building, which for nearly two decades housed the Fashion Livery and Boarding Stable. As changing modes of transportation saw the demise of horse-drawn travel, the facility was converted to an automobile dealership in 1916, a use that endured through the 1980s. The building appears today much as it did after the 1916 remodeling, retaining much of the original masonry and decorative roofline details. Heavy beam construction and remnants of original livery use are still visible in the second-story loft.

**Property:** Morris Silverman House

**Address:** 412 N. Rodney St, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

An unknown yet gifted architect created this glorious three-story residence with its turret, pillars, intricate ornamentation, and imaginative stained glass. Completed in 1892, the beautifully crafted residence well illustrates eclectic Victorian taste. The home is remarkable for its energy-efficient design, with twenty-seven windows to the east and south and five to the north. Strong brick lines are softened by three fanciful porches stacked pagoda style. The porches provide the home's interior with shade in summer and maximized light in winter. Handsome oak graces the entry and front rooms while center rooms display the original hand-painted faux bois woodwork. Each floor boasts its own design of hardware. This impressive residence was well suited to its distinguished owner, pioneer Helena merchant and city council member Morris Silverman. A Jewish immigrant from Russian Poland, Silverman crossed the plains with teams of oxen, settling here in 1867. Silverman, a man of influence, in 1888 presided over the committee to establish the Jewish synagogue, which still stands a block away. After his death in 1931, Silverman's daughter Dorothy, a Helena schoolteacher for almost forty years, lived here until her death in 1969. Although the 1935 earthquakes destroyed three elaborately paneled chimneys, the home

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

appears today almost as it did in 1892, revealing a marvelously whimsical side to the otherwise straight-laced Victorian era.

**Property:** Child Carriage House

**Address:** 318 E 6th Ave, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** barns                   **Subject 2:** residential structures

**Sign Text:**

William C. Child came to Montana from Iowa in 1870 as an agent for the Wells Fargo Express Company. President U. S. Grant soon appointed him territorial land office registrar and Child made a small fortune in mining investments. This two-story barn, built in 1873, served as a stable and carriage house for the Childs' residence at 305 Ewing. In the 1880s, Child began a ranching operation a few miles east of Helena called the White Face Farm (now the Kleffner Ranch), where he established one of the first herds of purebred Herefords in Montana. The Childs continued to live in their Helena residence. The carriage house, with its massive native fieldstone walls, heavy wooden lintels, and brick arches, is a rare remaining example of early masonry construction. The chicken coop across this alley and the barn at the Kleffner Ranch were also built of native fieldstone. Many of Helena's early masonry buildings were torn down during the 1880s construction boom or were drastically remodeled. Others were heavily damaged by the 1935 earthquakes and then covered in stucco. This carriage house is a splendid reminder of the era of horse-drawn vehicles. It has added significance as the short-term residence of a famous Montanan, Charles M. Russell. According to old-timers, the much loved cowboy artist temporarily bunked in the loft living quarters once used by the Childs' groom. Carefully preserved by John and Janice Hollow, the building now serves as a professional office and is an excellent example of adaptive reuse.

**Property:** First Baptist Church of Montana

**Address:** 8th Ave & Warren St, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena **Building Type:** building contributing

**Subject 1:** churches (buildings)           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Helena's Baptist congregation organized in 1880 under Reverend James T. Mason, who conducted services in the county's first small courthouse. In September of 1883, the cornerstone was laid for this important early landmark. Building costs totaled \$11,000 with an additional \$2,500 for an attached parsonage. Reverend Mason preached the first sermon in the new church on April 6, 1884. Among the early members was Territorial Governor Preston Leslie, whose daughter, Emily, served as church organist. The fine Tracker organ, still in use, was given in her memory in 1901. A stained glass window is dedicated to Governor Sam Ford (1941-1949), whose wife, Mary, was a lifetime member of the congregation. The church survived a fire in 1916 and earthquakes in 1935 when the parsonage was reconstructed and the red brick covered in stucco. Despite these changes, this lovely little church retains its charming architectural features and still counts descendants of its founders among the congregation.

**Property:** Christmas Gift Evans House

**Address:** 404 N Benton, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

John B. Sanford was born on a farm in Maine to Quaker parents. His father, then retired, had been captain of a whaling vessel. Sanford came to Montana in 1864 at the age of 29. On the journey west he formed a partnership with 24-year old Christmas Gift Evans, a native New Yorker whose unusual name was derived from the day of his

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

birth. The two came to Helena in 1865 where they established the area's first water-powered sawmill. Their highly successful business as dealers of hay, grain, flour, lumber, coal, and heavy farming equipment was located at the corner of Fuller and Lawrence Streets and operated well into the twentieth century. Sanford built this splendid home circa 1877 for his bride, Eva. By 1883, Sanford had moved to another residence nearby and Evans, known to his friends as "Chris," had purchased the property. Evan's first wife, Margaret, died in 1894. The second Mrs. Evans was said to have been a charming hostess, presiding "with a natural grace over their beautiful home." Evans died here suddenly in 1915 following surgical amputation of his right leg, performed to treat cellular edema. He was 75. Mrs. Evans died at 83 in 1940, and her daughter and son-in-law continued to live in the home until the late 1970s. The home is a grand expression of the flamboyant Second Empire style, whose brief popularity during the 1870s coincided with the construction of Helena's first substantial residences. The bell-cast mansard roof, decorative bracketing, and exquisite ornamental iron cresting are noteworthy features of this beautiful, exceptionally well-preserved home.

**Property:** Sanders Home

**Address:** 328 North Ewing, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Frontier lawyer Wilbur Fisk Sanders established his reputation in 1863 by courageously prosecuting Virginia City's most dangerous outlaws. A member of the first territorial legislature and Montana's first United States senator, Sanders was renowned for his eloquent speeches, fiery wit, and passionate dedication to Montana's welfare. Sanders' wife Harriet, praised by Woman Suffrage Association president Susan B. Anthony for furthering women's rights in Montana, proved a good match for her outspoken husband. The Sanders built an Italianate style residence here in 1875. Helena architects Paulsen and McConnell remodeled the home circa 1889, completely altering the square, two-story residence to its present appearance.

**Property:** Ward House

**Address:** 423 5th Ave, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Broad proportions and a horizontal emphasis combine with natural colors to make this classic bungalow a handsome ambassador of that popular style. The residence is unique to the district and an excellent example of early-twentieth-century affluence. Its original brick veneer was stylistically unusual; the present stucco cladding reflects repairs made after earthquakes devastated Helena in 1935. The home was built in 1912 for prosperous wool dealer Arthur Ward, a 48-year employee of the Goodkind Company, who lived here until his death in 1975. Shortly after moving into their new home, Ward planted a small tree as a gift to his wife, Alma; it now shelters the front yard. The interior of this exceptional residence reveals the Wards' discriminating taste. Characteristic bungalow features include a wide staircase, landing windowseats that also provide storage, a built-in dining room hutch with beautiful leaded glass doors, and natural wood floors.

**Property:** Methodist Episcopal Church of Marysville

**Address:** Corner of Grand & 3rd St, Marysville, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:**      **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** churches (buildings)      **Subject 2:**

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

### Sign Text:

Marysville's Methodist Episcopal Church was built in 1886 by its congregation on land purchased from Thomas Cruse, who founded the town in 1876 around his Drum Lummon gold and silver claims. The church's modest clapboard-sided frame and bell tower were erected during a period of heady growth. The Northern Pacific Railroad had reached Marysville earlier in the year, bringing with it a steady supply of machine-milled building materials. Crude cabins of rough-hewn lumber quickly gave way to more modern buildings. By the 1890s, the population reached 5,000, and Cruse's mine, sold to English capitalists in 1882, was on its way to producing an astounding twenty million dollars in silver and gold. Abandoned in 1939, the church was near the point of collapse when it was bought in 1967 by John W. and Margaret C. Hollow of Helena. In the years since, the family has lovingly restored the church and many of its furnishings to their original simple grace. John W. Hollow, whose grandparents John E. O'Brien and Ellen O'Grady were married in Marysville in 1887, painstakingly reconstructed the windows in their original frames. Today, the church's stark silhouette remains a favorite of painters and photographers.

**Property:** Martin M. Holter House

**Address:** 15 South Rodney, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena South-Central **Building Type:** building contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

The flamboyant Second Empire style is exceptionally well articulated in this grand residence, showcasing the considerable talent of its builder and original owner, Martin M. Holter. One of only a few well-preserved examples of this style in Montana, the beautifully restored residence offers a glimpse into the 1870s, when the style enjoyed short-term popularity and Rodney Street was the town's most fashionable neighborhood. Holter and his brother, Anton, were Norwegian immigrants who established Helena's first sawmill in 1865. By 1867, the successful brothers operated several Helena businesses including a distillery and grocery. Martin built this magnificent home in the late 1870s. The distinctive central tower, mansard roof with elaborately capped dormers, and ornately decorated eaves are characteristics of the style. The arched, multi-paned Venetian windows lighting the beautiful, very tall double entry doors open to an interior that continues the outer grandeur. Original hand-grained wood finishes, extraordinarily high ceilings, a wide upstairs central hall, and an elegant curved stairway contribute to an overall impression of great space and luxury.

**Property:** Helena South-Central Historic District

**Address:** Historic District, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena South-Central **Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** historic districts

**Subject 2:** residential structures

### Sign Text:

This first permanent settlement of the gold camp at Last Chance Gulch offers a glimpse of early Helena from the late 1860s to the 1890s. By the 1870s, a Catholic cathedral, St. John's Hospital, two schools, and dormitories presided over the district atop Catholic Hill. In curious juxtaposition, Helena's red-light district emerged just below along Miller and State streets in the 1880s. Mansions and modest dwellings boasted a wealth of architectural design from Second Empire to Queen Anne, Italianate, and Revival styles. The Northern Pacific Railroad in 1883 spurred economic growth and the population swelled. A German community settled on First Street and other ethnic enclaves localized in the district. The South-Central District remained a preferred location into the early 1880s, and Montana's first governor, J. K. Toole, established residency at Rodney and State streets in 1883. But district vitality waned in the late 1880s when wealthy residents built new mansions on the city's west side. The earthquake of 1935 left its indelible mark claiming most of Catholic Hill and other historic buildings. Wood siding

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

replaced fallen brick veneer and stucco concealed exterior cracks. Though the red-light district and dozens of homes were demolished during 1970s Urban Renewal, this once robust neighborhood is still a quiet reminder of Helena's colorful past.

**Property:** Henry Blase House

**Address:** 30 South Davis Street, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena South-Central **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Danish immigrants Henry and Matilda Blase settled on this property in the 1880s. Like other working-class Europeans who lived in the neighborhood, Blase was a man of many occupations: bartender, saloon keeper, jailer, miner, and landscape gardener. Prosperity of the 1880s brought confidence in Helena's economy, prompting Blase to replace his earlier dwelling with this more substantial home circa 1890-92. Columns, corniced windows, and pedimented gables reveal Neo-classical influences popular in this picturesque neighborhood. Mature landscaping in the unusually generous yard undoubtedly reflects Blase's gardening talents.

**Property:** Stearns Hall

**Address:** 2 miles north of the junction of Montana Hwys 200 & 434, , Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** **Building Type:** building | rural

**Subject 1:** community centers **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The small settlement of Stearns emerged in the 1890s as homesteaders filed claims between the towns of Wolf Creek and Augusta. Stearns became a focal point for the scattered community and, by 1900, boasted a school and a post office. The Enlarged Homestead Act of 1909 brought new arrivals and in 1910 Stearns had grown enough to need a community hall. Local members of the Modern Woodmen of America, a fraternal benefits organization, took the initiative in coordinating the community for its construction. Built between 1910 and 1911 on property left in trust by rancher F. M. Stowe, the hall was constructed of lumber milled from logs from the south fork of the Dearborn River. The local builders, experienced in barn raising, designed the spacious hall to reflect their agricultural base. A St. Patrick's Day dance christened the two-story hall in 1911. The second floor was removed in 1912 to allow for basketball games, and the facility became the center of social activity. Drought and depression ended the homestead boom and the population of Stearns dwindled after 1921. The automobile simplified travel to larger towns, and the hall was even less frequently used for community activities. In the 1940s, it served as dining room and dormitory for construction crews working on Highway 200 over Rogers Pass. While other reminders of Stearns have fallen victim to time, Stearns Hall is a lonely representative of one community that rose and fell with America's last homestead boom.

**Property:** Anna Pascoe House

**Address:** 425 5th Ave, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

George and Anna Pascoe, both natives of England, moved to Helena from Butte in 1908. George died soon after the couple purchased this home in 1911. Although he was not long a resident of Helena, George, "with a cheery smile and a good word for everyone," was the well-liked proprietor of a popular downtown billiard hall and bowling alley. Anna kept the house and when her daughter Evelyn was widowed in 1927, they raised Evelyn's two small children together. Anna died in 1935 and Evelyn, newly remarried, inherited the family residence. Widowed

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

again in 1947, Evelyn remained here until the late 1950s. Built circa 1905 on its prominent corner at the edge of the district, the simple hip roof residence with rectangular floorplan is reminiscent of modest turn-of-the-century cottages constructed in urban neighborhoods as company housing. It stands alone, however, in this historic district. A lovely pedimented bay window is a surprising embellishment, adding individuality to the well-maintained home.

**Property:** California Wine House

**Address:** 46 South Last Chance Gulch, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings      **Subject 2:** saloons (bars)

**Sign Text:**

Most of Helena's earliest commercial buildings fell victim to the fires that plagued the gulch. This simple 1860s commercial building, originally a single story of stone construction, was a notable exception, surviving a disastrous conflagration in 1874. Early occupants include the Sands Brothers Dry Goods and William Pruitt's wholesale liquor business and saloon. Pruitt, in business until the late 1880s, advertised a pure product "scrupulously guarded from adulterations." August Fack opened his California Wine House here circa 1890. Fack, who also operated a cigar store, remodeled the stone structure, adding a new brick storefront and a second story. His wine house was known for its fine art collection. From 1902 until Prohibition in 1918, the building housed The Old Stand, another well-patronized watering hole. Brothers Herbert and Archie Goodall relocated their longtime assay business in the old saloon during the 1920s after Herbert served a six-year term as Assayer in Charge at Helena's federal branch. The building's 1860s stone work is visible at the rear while the 1890s brickwork and columned storefront well represent Helena's nineteenth-century commercial architecture.

**Property:** St. Louis Block

**Address:** 17-21 South Last Chance Gulch, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Once connected to the old St. Louis Hotel on Jackson Street, this 1882 building in the heart of Helena's original downtown displays the metal cornices and banded, pedimented windows typical of Italianate style architecture of the time. Pioneer businessman Frederick Gamer's boot and shoe shop, founded in 1867, was located here for many years. The St. Louis Block also housed a bank, a vaudeville house, a saloon, and a bowling alley. It is probably best remembered, however, as "Big Dorothy's," which, until 1973, was the last in a long and colorful succession of Helena's red-light district brothels.

**Property:** D.H. Cuthbert Residence

**Address:** 602 N. Ewing, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:**      **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

During the 1870s this neighborhood, like much of early Helena, was the site of extensive hydraulic mining operations. But by 1883 when the Northern Pacific Railroad reached Helena, its gold had played out. William Chessman and Joseph Davis found their mining claims had new value as real estate and began platting several Helena additions. One of the first to build in the Chessman-Davis Central Addition was David Cuthbert, whose wife Anna was Mrs. Chessman's sister. In 1866, Cuthbert established one of Helena's first drug stores, but lost his

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

uninsured business in the great fire of 1869. He subsequently served as county commissioner, territorial auditor, Helena school board clerk, and postmaster. As the Cuthberts began building this residence in 1885, the local newspaper tracked its progress to completion that fall. The Weekly Herald declared that "...the design is as handsome as it is peculiar." Indeed, heavy porch columns and a third-story brick balconette wall with arched openings lend an unusual appearance to the standard Queen Anne style features. These atypical elements and Colonial Revival style windows on the northeast bay reveal the sophistication of the home's unknown architect. Ten-foot ceilings, a formal hall, and a wrapped stairway highlight the elegant, spacious interior. Beautiful Craftsman style woodwork, added after the turn of the twentieth century, graces much of the first floor. Although Cuthbert died in 1891, his landmark home has long anchored the neighborhood, setting the standard for other fine residences scattered along the block today.

**Property:** Lawrence and Amanda Beaver Residence

**Address:** 595 West Main, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** West Main Street

**Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Early settlers along the gulch made use of the natural landscape by building their homes into the hillside for convenient, climate-controlled storage and maximum space. This gable-front-and-wing style home, built circa 1893, follows this practice. By 1908, Lawrence and Amanda (Olsson) Beaver began renting the home. Lawrence, born Lars Knudsen in Norway, "Americanized" his name. He worked as a blacksmith until an explosion at Marysville in the 1910s incapacitated him. Amanda, who came to the United States in 1902, left a comfortable life in Sweden where, according to the family, her father was the king's veterinarian. The couple married in 1903. After the accident, Amanda struggled to raise their six children, working as a housekeeper and taking in laundry. Amanda's son, Gus, was born and raised in this home, residing here into the new millennium when he celebrated his 90th year. The dwelling and its barn, little changed, strongly reflect the working-class character of the West Main neighborhood.

**Property:** 40 North Benton Avenue

**Address:** 40 North Benton Avenue, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** boardinghouses

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

A square shape, low-pitched roof, wide bracketed eaves, and heavy window crowns suggest that this Italianate style apartment building may date to the late 1870s. Attorney George Bleecker, Mrs. Sarah Martin, and bookkeeper John Street, the first documented residents, lived here in 1890. By 1892, historic maps reveal a change from family housing to "furnished rooms." Mrs. Delia Hooker, boardinghouse keeper in 1900, employed a servant and a Chinese cook who saw to the needs of her seven lodgers. In 1910, occupants included two primary households and four "roomers." Lois Hepperdiezel owned the building by 1920. Her five tenants included three schoolteachers, a stenographer, and a solicitor. A second-story porch, removed by 1892, once spanned the front but the interior configuration appears little changed. Like many of Helena's early brick buildings, this one received its stucco after earthquakes caused widespread local damage in 1935. As a fine, early example of Italianate architecture in Helena modified to reflect the 1935 disaster, this landmark building is a significant element of the historic West Side neighborhood.

**Property:** 229 Spencer

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Address:** 229 Spencer, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena South-Central **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:** boardinghouses

**Sign Text:**

Mining required back breaking labor and, after the easy pickings were gone, substantial capital. How did prospectors decide whether to continue working particular veins? They brought ore samples from their claims to an assay office, where they were weighed and tested for purity. In 1888, Helena boasted a federal assay office as well as three private assay companies. Among the private enterprises was the Utah Assay Office, whose owner, Jacob Gove, advertised "Fifteen Years' Practical Experience in Utah, Colorado and Nevada." Gove first came to Helena as a miner, and circa 1884 he built this two-story front-and-wing house on Spencer Street Alley. In 1891, Julia Otto purchased the residence, which she ran as a small lodging house. The widowed German immigrant would not have had trouble finding tenants; housing was scarce in Helena during this period. Over the years her renters included two cooks, a teacher, and a clerk. Renting rooms or running boarding houses were among the few occupations available to women like Otto, who continued to live here until 1914.

**Property:** Charles K Wells House

**Address:** 520 S Rodney, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena **Building Type:** building contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Gold-seeking miners once turned the soil in this neighborhood, but when the gold played out, residential development began. Charles K. Wells, whose downtown stationery store was well established by 1870, purchased a large tract of land on Upper Rodney Street. He sold off some of the parcels, but he chose this spectacular corner for his own family home. Wells was a founder of the Helena Board of Trade in 1877 and a prominent civic leader. By the early 1880s, he, his wife Sallie, and their young son occupied a modest dwelling on the lot. Architect John C. Paulsen designed the present home for the Wells family in 1887. Paulsen later rose to state architect and designed many Montana institutions. Early in his career, he honed his talents designing numerous Helena residences and commercial blocks as the town grew by leaps and bounds. The Wells family home exemplifies the booming 1880s. Over the years, changes have obscured many of the original Queen Anne style elements, but the home's footprint remains unchanged. A magnificent tall, brick chimney survives, revealing close affinities with the flamboyant Victorian era.

**Property:** Spalding-Gunn House

**Address:** 433 Clarke Street, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Helena's West Side blossomed on the heels of placer mining discoveries. Built on golden fortunes, the grand neighborhood became home to successful entrepreneurs and merchants whose fortunes came from "mining the miners." One of these was Daniel W. Curtiss who established the first local fruit and vegetable farms and amassed much Helena real estate from his profits. In 1876, Curtiss married Sarah E. Griggs who came to Montana with her small daughter, Lena. Daniel died in 1884 leaving Sarah the beneficiary of his holdings, including this land on Clarke Street. Upon her marriage to William S. Spalding in 1888, Sarah engaged John C. Paulsen to design their home. Paulsen served as Montana's first state architect and designed numerous Montana institutions and Helena homes. Builder George C. Appleton, at the beginning of his stellar career in Helena, headed the construction. During the next decade, Appleton built some two hundred pattern book homes. Both Appleton and Paulsen



## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

contributed to the design of the far-famed Broadwater Hotel and Natatorium. Sarah Spalding's stunning home illustrates Paulsen's use of local materials. Decorative brickwork, granite trim, the frame upper story, and fishscale shingles demonstrate the Victorian love of mixed surface textures. A trio of small Gothic windows in the dormers, a dramatic two-story canted bay, stained glass transoms, and turned porch posts make the home a grand ambassador of the Queen Anne style. In 1907, Sarah deeded the home to her daughter Lena and her son-in-law Milton C. Gunn, a prominent attorney and district counsel for the Northern Pacific Railway. The Gunns made their home here until 1921.

**Property:** Alex C. Johnson Home

**Address:** 724 Harrison Ave, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Senator T. C. Power met A. C. Johnson in Chicago and, taking a liking to the young man, offered him a job out west. The nineteen-year-old came to work as chief clerk at Power's Fort Benton Mercantile in 1879. Power and Johnson became friends and both moved to Helena in 1890. Johnson rose to direct Power's American National Bank and its successor, the First National Bank of Montana. Admiringly dubbed the "dean of Montana bankers," Johnson believed a banker's responsibility was to those who trusted him with their money. His home, built in 1892, mirrors the image Johnson cultivated for his financial institutions: strong, fortresslike, and invincible. The home's Romanesque style, with its castle-like tower, round-arched entryway, and rough granite blocks, well reflects Johnson's intention. Banker Henry Hale Piggott and his family, in residence by 1927, raised their three daughters here. In 1956, the Episcopal diocese purchased the residence. It became the home of several Episcopal bishops. The "9 Cross" in the wrought ironwork on the porch, the registered livestock brand of the Episcopal diocese, recalls this past owner.

**Property:** Federal Building (City-County Administration Building)

**Address:** 316 N Park, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** public buildings (governmental buildings)      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Emphasizing balance, symmetry, and restraint, the Renaissance Revival style organizes large buildings into horizontal layers, with each floor becoming increasingly more refined. Designed by James Knox Taylor, the Federal Building achieves this effect through the use of rusticated ashlar on the first floor. An extended belt course separates the upper floors, which are faced with smooth coursed sandstone. Ornate moldings and Corinthian capitals accent the recessed arched windows. Reinforcing the aura of refinement, a diamond-shaped, red, stone tile frieze rests below the wide, overhanging eave, decorated with heavy timber modillions. The 1904 building's traditional exterior masks a steel frame, the construction technique behind the modern skyscraper. On its opening, the building housed the federal court, U.S. Marshals Service, and post office. Two prominent, but unadorned side wings and a rear addition built in 1931 reflect the expanding role of the federal government. In 1978 the City of Helena and Lewis and Clark County jointly acquired the building, which remains an important center of government.

**Property:** Dearborn Cemetery

**Address:** 5394-5398 State Highway 434, Wolf Creek, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:**      **Building Type:** building

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Subject 1:** cemeteries

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Pioneers, homesteaders, ranchers, veterans, and children are among the silent occupants who lie beneath the sod in this small, still active, community cemetery. The area has a rich cultural heritage. Before the arrival of trappers, traders, homesteaders, and ranchers, generations of Native Americans hunted buffalo nearby. They left pictographs on cliff faces and remnants of tools and weapons scattered across the landscape. Lewis and Clark trekked through in July 1805, naming the Dearborn River for Secretary of War Henry Dearborn. The Mullan Road, completed in 1860, cut a primitive swath through the area. Dearborn Crossing sprang up soon after. The rural community quickly grew from a remote stage station along the road from Helena to Fort Benton into a bustling settlement that included a substantial hotel and a school. The Dearborn Crossing Cemetery, located circa 1868 on a high knoll overlooking the Dearborn River, served the early community. When the Montana Central Railroad bypassed Dearborn City in 1887, the settlement died out, and the Dearborn Crossing Cemetery was abandoned. However, families continued local ranching and agricultural operations. In 1909, a tragedy prompted the founding of this burial ground. William A. and Minnie Reinig put their toddler to bed and of necessity left him sleeping as they went out to attend to evening chores. The little boy awakened, crawled out of bed, and pulled a candle off the table. He suffered fatal burns. His grandparents, rancher Frank Reinig and his wife Hattie, gave the land to establish this cemetery in Arthur's memory. Arthur Reinig was the first person interred here. The cemetery incorporated in 1964, and longtime board treasurer and secretary Gary Murphy built the gate. The adjacent log chapel commemorates local ranchers Mary Burggraff and her son Adolph and daughter-in-law Ann, who died in an automobile accident in 1956. The cemetery continues to serve the local community.

**Property:** Alden Block

**Address:** 100-104 North Ewing, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** libraries (buildings)

**Subject 2:** residential structures

**Sign Text:**

Courthouse Square was already the busy seat of county government when the territorial capital moved to Helena in 1875. Isaac Alden, clerk of the Territorial Supreme Court and later state court commissioner, financed this circa 1880 multi-purpose brick building just steps from the courthouse. Originally the ground floor's east portion housed the territorial law library. The public library was on the second floor, and the Alden family residence conveniently occupied the first floor's west end with its entrance on Breckenridge. In 1888, the law library moved and Hans Jensen opened a saloon in its place. Such close proximity to the courthouse probably hurt business; in 1890, a restaurant opened here. By 1892, both floors had become furnished lodgings. Widows Clara Murphy and Grace Thompson operated the furnished rooms in 1911. Then, between 1917 and 1927 under longtime manager Bertha Brackett, remodeling expanded the building with a third floor. Changes to the simple rectangular structure included a new name, the Courtland Apartments, and Spanish Eclectic style elements. The tile roofing, arched entry, stucco wall covering, and detailing at the cornice remain intact.

**Property:** Fire Tower

**Address:** S Cruse, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena **Building Type:** structure | contributing

**Subject 1:** fire towers (watchtowers)

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The welfare of the community depended upon this prominent landmark, strategically placed atop the town's most prominent hill. Fire was the grim reaper that stalked all western mining camps, and Last Chance Gulch was no exception. Hastily built log cabins, crowded together along the streets, created a constant hazard. In the

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

mining camp at Last Chance, wind whipping through the gulch was an added danger. The wind could carry burning embers to distant neighborhoods; every miner's cabin had a fire bucket hanging within easy reach. Citizens organized a warning system and built the first fire tower here in 1868. Volunteers took turns scanning the gulch for wisps of smoke where none should be. Ironically, fire destroyed the first tower. This structure, constructed using millwright techniques of beams bolted together, took its place in 1874. The city added a guardroom and bell in 1886. For many years the bell rang the evening curfew for Helena's youngsters. The "Guardian of the Gulch" served the community for nearly seventy years and has become a symbol of Helena's early history and resilient citizens.

**Property:** Myers Residence

**Address:** 420 Broadway, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

A modern brick veneer does not mask the original footprint of this early Helena home. The large bay window, the steeply pitched roof (which added space for a second story), and the cross gable, once sheltered by a full-length front porch, reflect the classic form of a gable-front-and-wing residence. Helena stonemason William F. Myers built the home in 1878 for \$2,000 (equivalent to approximately \$43,000 in 2007.) Undoubtedly, he used locally manufactured materials since the railroad would not arrive in Helena for another five years. These likely included soft brick (which was less durable than "imported" high-fire brick) and lumber from a planing mill in operation just behind the residence. In 1890 Myers shared this home with Benjamin Clark, who worked in a livery, and Lane Samson, manager of the Northwestern Abstract Company. Frank and Louise Tompkins owned the house in 1935, when earthquakes caused approximately \$1,200 in damage (\$18,000 in 2007 dollars). Frank, the chief timber inspector for the Northern Pacific Railroad, applied brick veneer to repair the damage, ultimately deciding to completely re-side the home in 1949.

**Property:** Lareau House

**Address:** 421 5th Ave, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

In 1892, a small Chinese laundry was the sole occupant of the block's south side. Nearby, booming Rodney Street boasted a mix of businesses, tenements, boardinghouses, and single family homes. Fifth Street, however, had begun to take on a purely residential air, with substantial homes lining the north side of the street. Two economic downturns—in 1894 and 1907—slowed development. In 1912, newspaper circulation manager Leo LaReau and his wife Felicia built this one-story Craftsman style residence, with its tell-tale exposed beams on the porch roof's gable ends. Original wood trim, fireplace, doorknobs, kitchen cabinets, and claw-foot tub grace the interior. A fixed window with decorative headers ornaments the façade. The stucco siding, unusual on a Craftsman style home, was likely applied after the 1935 earthquakes. Sixty percent of Helena buildings sustained damage during the earthquakes, and stucco was a popular choice for repairing homes. The son of a pioneering Montana family, Leo grew up a block away on Breckenridge. He and Felicia lived here until their deaths, hers in December 1963 and his, less than a year later, in July 1964.

**Property:** Joshua and Martha Armitage House

**Address:** 1117 E. Broadway, Helena, Lewis & Clark

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The western gold rushes not only lured miners but entrepreneurs seeking business opportunities. Armed with blacksmithing and wagon-making skills, adventurer Joshua Armitage and his wife Martha arrived at Alder Gulch in December 1863. They moved to Helena in 1867 where the multi-talented Armitage was a placer mining engineer and taught singing. In 1870, the Helena vigilantes appointed Armitage to the jury that convicted Joe Wilson and Arthur Compton of attempted murder. The two were the last of a dozen men hanged on Helena's infamous Hangman's Tree. Armitage then served as Blackfoot Indian agent under President U. S. Grant and later as Helena's police magistrate. As the population boomed with the advent of the Northern Pacific, Armitage rose to prominence in real estate. In 1889, he built this comfortable home in the Montana Avenue Addition he helped to plat. With its steep terrace and commanding view of the Helena valley, the Neoclassical style home reflects conservative taste during a time of Victorian flamboyance. Martha Armitage, a devoted mother of nine and renowned practical nurse, filled this home with music and laughter. But adventure continued to beckon, and the Armitages moved on in 1896. After several owners, Herman Lindstrom bought the property in 1918. A Swedish emigrant, Lindstrom was a skilled carpenter whose sons followed in their father's footsteps. Their home, too, was filled with music, laughter, and family gatherings. The Lindstroms' seventy-year tenure established a pattern for the home's careful preservation. In 2005, daughter Marian Lindstrom Larson returned the original stained glass transom to the current owners. Thus the legacy continues today.

**Property:** Henry M. Parchen Residence

**Address:** 327 Broadway, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** South Central   **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:** apartments

**Sign Text:**

Professor T. F. Campbell built a log cabin on this corner where he opened Helena's first public school in 1865. Druggist Henry M. Parchen founded his long-time Helena apothecary that same year. Parchen acquired this property circa 1872 and commissioned Fred Heinlein as architect. Heinlein and his partner, Thomas Mathias, later became prominent, designing the Masonic Temple at Jackson and Broadway, as well as numerous other Helena landmarks. Then located on the very outskirts of town, the Parchen home was one of the community's most luxurious early residences, and prominent Helenans considered this a choice neighborhood. In 1884, an outhouse and the family's stable (now the residence next door) stood behind the house to the west. By 1888, the Parchens had updated the home with brick veneer and added a third bay on the west. Installation of the latest innovation—indoor plumbing—was likely added around this time. Despite a fire, earthquakes, and conversion to apartments, the home retains its 1870s L-shaped footprint. Half-round windows in the gables are perhaps its most charming feature

**Property:** Western Life Insurance Company Helena Branch Office

**Address:** 600 N Park Ave, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Small in scale but highly distinctive, this colorful Modern style office building is an eye-catching anchor at one of Helena's busiest intersections. When it opened in 1962, it was one of the nation's most up-to-date office facilities. Western Life, founded in 1910 as Montana Life Insurance, grew by leaps and bounds and by 1938, the company served eight states. In 1957, Western Life affiliated with the St. Paul Fire and Marine Insurance Company; two

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

years later Western Life moved with 120 employees to St. Paul, Minnesota. Helena architect Grant Crossman of Morrison-Maierle and Associates designed this building as the new branch office. Its curtain wall construction and bold new styling set a high standard for commercial architecture in Helena. The building is a great ambassador of the Modern style and post-World War II construction techniques. New methods of manufacturing glass, better sealants and insulation, widespread use of air conditioning, and the ready availability of aluminum made curtain wall construction feasible. Separation of the window wall from the structural system as employed here allowed use of lightweight prefabricated aluminum panels, glass walls, and mosaic tiles. Aluminum framing and window walls brought abundant natural lighting inside and allowed colorful embellishments like the blue metal panels and ceramic tiles. The multi-leveled building features an asymmetrical T-shape and varied surface textures. Yellow and brown Norman brick, polished pink granite cladding, and a decorative concrete block screen at the upper entry add to the visual cornucopia. The company logo and motto, "As Enduring as the Mountains," survives to recall the building's original owner.

**Property:** Boyer / Hawkins Residence

**Address:** 524 Dearborn Avenue, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena **Building Type:** building contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Newlyweds Isaac Boyer and Carrie Feldberg Boyer moved to their new home within a year of their 1907 marriage. The refined, hipped-roof residence may well have been built to order. The two-story house features popular Colonial Revival style details, including a symmetrical façade, Acanthus leaf designs in the leaded glass windows, and egg-and-dart molding. The interior still boasts the original molded ceilings and a hand-carved fireplace. A successful merchant, Isaac was also an active community member: president of the Helena Mercantile Club; president of Temple Emanuel, the Jewish synagogue; and a member of the King Solomon Masonic lodge. In this, he was typical of Helena's well-integrated and respected Jewish community. Isaac died at 62 in 1925, and Carrie sold the home in 1929 to physician Thomas Hawkins and his wife Harriet. The Hawkins, who built a rear addition in the early 1930s, raised four children here. Thomas practiced medicine in Montana for 50 years; he was also an avid pilot and, in the 1930s, served as president of the Montana Pilots Association. He owned the home until his death, at age 85, in 1980

**Property:** Jezick House

**Address:** 304 Clancy, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena South-Central **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Stonemason Frank Jezick emigrated from Croatia in 1882, leaving behind his wife Mary and three children. Before long, he had established himself in Helena, and in 1887 his family joined him in a newly constructed two-story home at the corner of Clancy and Sparta. The stone and brick residence, covered with stucco after the 1935 earthquakes, reflected Frank's economic success as well as his skills as a builder. Among other projects, he was a subcontractor for the Hale Reservoir, the original Montana Club, and the old Helena High School (since demolished). In 1900, Mary had not yet learned English; like many immigrant women, she must have relied on her children—eleven in all—to act as translators. She also had Croatian neighbors—employees Frank had helped emigrate and for whom he provided housing. Nine Croatian stoneworkers, ranging from fifty-six to eighteen years old, lived in the one-story building fronting Clancy Street. Frank also constructed two barns on the property, which he used as workshops and for a small dairy operation. The property remained in the family into the 1950s.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Property:** Barry Antick House

**Address:** 522 First Street, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena South-Central **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Stonework of native limestone showcases the masonry skills of Barry Antich, who built this home for his wife Katie and their five children in 1893. The circular ornamentation in the wooden window insets is characteristic of Helena's early architecture. The Antichs came from Croatian Austria, and like other established immigrants in the neighborhood, they took in new arrivals. In 1900, the Antichs' four male boarders were all recently from Austria and worked as laborers at the East Helena smelter. Antich worked there, too. The economic depression that halted construction in the 1890s forced him to find other jobs until the building trade revitalized in the early 1900s. In 1912, Frank Polich, who came from Czechoslovakia with his brothers, married the Antichs' daughter, Elizabeth. By the 1920s, the couple and their two teenage children had moved in with the Antichs. Elizabeth Polich continued to live in the house built by her father until her death in 1975. The sturdy home continues to reflect the strong work ethic and modest lifestyle typical of south-central Helena's hard-working emigrant families.

**Property:** Grand Lodge A.F. & A.M. of Montana

**Address:** 425 N Park, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** fraternal lodges

**Subject 2:** museum (buildings)

**Sign Text:**

Meriwether Lewis's Masonic apron and an O. C. Seltzer mural depicting the first Masonic meeting in Montana are among the treasures displayed in "the home of Montana Masonry." A dynamic political and social force since early territorial days, the Masons founded the Grand Lodge in Virginia City in 1866. Headquarters moved to Helena by 1868. After a catastrophic 1874 fire, Cornelius Hedges, then grand secretary, warned that the lodge needed a "more stable and commodious office than [my] coattails." It took more than sixty years for Hedges' vision to materialize, but in 1935 the lodge retained architect and Master Mason Chandler Cohagen of Billings to design a building to hold its increasingly significant collection of books, photographs, and artifacts. Carved Masonic symbols ornament the windows and doors of the resulting Art Moderne museum, whose horizontal massing, smooth finish, and restrained detailing reflect the streamlined aesthetic of the 1930s. In 1937, the Masons dedicated their new Grand Lodge, which today continues to house a public museum and the Masons' state administrative offices.

**Property:** Yee Wau Cabin

**Address:** Reeder's Alley, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** cabins (houses)

**Subject 2:** residential structures

**Sign Text:**

Typical of the tiny dwellings that once lined Last Chance Gulch, this sturdy log cabin was one of the last built on the heels of the gold rush circa 1870. Its original occupants are unknown. From 1876 to 1886 the Yee Wau brothers, longtime local dealers in Chinese merchandise and groceries, owned the property. Despite discrimination and anti-Chinese legislation, Chinese immigrants comprised ten percent of Montana's territorial population. These important pioneers made significant contributions especially in laying the tracks of the Northern Pacific across Montana in the 1880s. In Helena, Chinese citizens provided services, owned property, and

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

paid taxes. Chinese dwellings, businesses, and expansive gardens spread for five blocks below Reeder's Alley. As the male-dominated Chinese population dwindled by the late 1890s, others continued to occupy the tiny cabin. Clairvoyant Daniel J. Schraier hung his shingle here in 1899. In the 1970s, urban renewal erased all remnants of the Chinese community, sparing only this landmark. Its square- and quarter-hewn logs chinked with cement, wonderfully preserved, still provide a cozy home.

**Property:** Woodman S. Paynter House

**Address:** 3 S. Rodney, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** South Central **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Although modest compared to Helena's imposing West Side mansions of a slightly later period, this well-preserved home was very grand for its early date. Woodman S. Paynter arrived in Helena in 1868 and entered into a business partnership with Henry M. Parchen. He and Parchen, whose home was across the street, ran a retail drugstore. The Paynters' two-story frame house, built between 1869 and 1875, retains many of its original details including graceful wooden porch columns, two original chimneys, and a pediment with dentil trim over the front door. By 1888, the Paynters had remodeled their house with a one-story addition on the south, likely to accommodate indoor plumbing. The outhouse at the back was incorporated into the family's stable, enlarging it substantially. The Paynters lived here until 1893. Later tenants included the Salvation Army's "rescue home" from 1896 to 1897. In the early 1910s, Reverend Jacob Alford, a Methodist minister, rented the residence. From at least 1915 to the early 1960s, various members of teamster Michael Murphy's family resided here.

**Property:** Francis and Hannah Pope House

**Address:** 327 N. Rodney Street, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Rodney Street was prime residential real estate when developer Richard Lockey sold this lot to Francis Pope in 1872. Pope, one of Helena's first druggists, built a modest home on the property. He and his wife Hannah were prominent in the community and Pope served as secretary of both the territorial fairs and the State Fair from the 1860s to 1892. As a county commissioner, Pope helped oversee the construction of the Lewis and Clark County courthouse in the mid-1880s. He also engaged its architect, T. W. Welter, to re-design the Pope family's one-story home. Welter's prolific work includes the nearby William Chessman home (now the Original Governor's Mansion). His high Victorian style incorporated intricate bay windows and dormers, Eastlake style ornamentation, and decorative brickwork. The Popes' grand residence and elaborate carriage house celebrate the permanency Helena realized when the Northern Pacific Railroad put the town on its transcontinental route in 1883. Pope was a thrifty man and, despite its grand exterior, the house was neither originally equipped with indoor plumbing nor grandly finished inside. The Popes added amenities as circumstances allowed. At Christmastime in 1887, Francis Pope gifted the house to his wife Hannah with no strings attached. According to the deed, he gave the gift out of love and affection. Pope, however, did not endear himself to his neighbors. Lizzie Fisk wrote to her mother in 1890 that the Popes' immense, howling boar hounds regularly disturbed the peace. The Popes had seven children, and members of their extended family continued in residence until 1929.

**Property:** Robert and Elizabeth Fisk Residence

**Address:** 319 N Rodney, Helena, Lewis & Clark

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Historic District:**            **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures            **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Robert E. Fisk came to Montana with the 1866 Fisk Expedition organized by his famous wagon-master brother, James. The two brothers and other partners established the Helena Herald in November 1866. Robert, who was a printer before the Civil War, served as editor. The following year he married Elizabeth (Lizzie) Chester in Connecticut. The newlyweds returned to Montana via the steamboat Little Rock. In its cargo were new printing presses and 116 bundles of newsprint. The Fisks brought Yankee Republicanism to Helena and both Robert and Lizzie were at the forefront of the political and social scenes. The Fisk brothers' Helena Herald influenced Helena's rise to territorial capital, achieved in 1875. In September 1870 Robert gifted this corner lot to Lizzie who pronounced it "one of the prettiest building sites in town." Lizzie's letters to her family back east provide details of the home-building. The Fisks completed the core of their residence in 1871, but before they left for California in 1902, the couple had expanded the home several times. The most significant renovation was in the mid-1890s when the Fisks built both a third story and the south addition. The home appears today as it did when the six Fisk children and extended family filled it. Lovely bay windows, simple rounded porch columns, and a hand-carved entry with original beveled glass reflect the period. Inside, conversion to apartments has not diminished the Victorian-era ambiance Lizzie carefully created. Original 1891 chandeliers, hardwood floors, and wood finishing are a credit to the fine details she documents in her correspondence.

**Property:** John and Jennie Atchison House

**Address:** 233 S Rodney, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena South-Central    **Building Type:** contributing building

**Subject 1:** residential structures            **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

In 1879, Jennie Atchison (sister of Montana's first governor, Joseph Toole) moved from Missouri to Helena with her husband Dr. J. B. Atchison. Dr. Atchison became a prominent Helena physician, active in state medical affairs and in Democratic and Populist politics. In addition to bearing nine children, Jennie speculated in real estate. In 1882, she bought this property just south of her brother's and father's homes. A two-story frame house stood here, which the Atchisons remodeled before taking up residence in 1889. To match the neighborhood's growing stature, they covered the front façade with brick and added a one-story addition to the back of the house and a second bay window on the north façade. In 1904 druggist and entrepreneur Henry Parchen, who had moved into a (since destroyed) mansion next door, purchased the residence as a rental. His tenants included George and Stella Hindley, who lived here from 1908 to 1910 with their eight children (ages twenty-six to ten), a servant, and a boarder. George was a Congregational pastor devoted to ministering to men in prison and their families and advocating for prison reform.

**Property:** 220 Fifth Ave

**Address:** 220 Fifth Ave, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena Historic District    **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures            **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The elegant Second Empire style, rare in Helena, is beautifully expressed in this three-story residence built circa 1880 during Helena's stint as territorial capital. Jerome and Marcia Norris, longtime resident owners, counted Helena's social elite among their circle of friends. Jerome had cattle interests and several butcher shops. After 1884, he changed careers to ore mining. By the 1900s, the Norrises took in boarders. Among them, from 1908 to 1911, was photographer S. J. Culbertson whose rented rooms included his studio. From 1911 to 1914, the



## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

residence served as the first home of the Helena Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA), offering safe housing for working women, female travelers, and young girls from rural homes attending high school. The YWCA also ran a lunchroom on the premises, well patronized by courthouse employees. By the 1920s, Mrs. T. J. Walker's boarding house advertised Mrs. Baker's "Good Home Cooking," and by 1940, there were four apartments; Marguerite Mayer was the owner/landlady. The home today retains its mansard roof, molded cornices, and ornate brackets and eaves, grandly symbolizing the importance of Courthouse Square and Helena's significant role as territorial capital.

**Property:** Gehring Ranch Historic District

**Address:** 5488 Lincoln Rd, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** historic district

**Subject 1:** agriculture (ranch buildings)           **Subject 2:** log buildings

**Sign Text:**

Born in Germany and raised on a farm in Indiana, Bartholomew Gehring left home in 1862 at the start of the Civil War. By 1865, he had arrived in the Helena area, where he began raising cattle to supply the area's booming mining camps. According to family stories, neighboring farmer David Auchard summoned his sister Jane west from New York state, in part to meet Bartholomew. In 1871, Jane and Bartholomew married and together they homesteaded here, developing a successful, mixed farming operation along the Helena-Fort Benton Road. To attract customers, the Gehrings placed a trough by the road, where passersby could water their stock while purchasing chickens, dairy products, berries, apples, potatoes, and other garden produce. The Gehrings also raised cattle, horses, and oxen. Twenty-two structures trace the ranch's growth over four generations. Several of the ranch's earliest log buildings remain intact, including a stable, blacksmith shop, and granary, all built before 1878. Bartholomew and Jane's son David mechanized and expanded the operation. In the 1910s he expanded many older buildings and added two hog barns, a second granary, and an engine house, used to work on the farm's tractors. The iconic red, gambrel-roofed barn dates to 1930 while a milk house was built in 1933, reflecting the growing dairy operation. Perhaps the family home best illustrates the ranch's development. Beneath the house's shiplap siding are two 1870s-era log cabins; the large two-story gable rear section was added in 1928. The residence remains home to the fourth generation of Gehrings to make their living from the land.

**Property:** Grizzly Gulch Lime Kilns

**Address:** Grizzly Gulch, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** West Main Street           **Building Type:** structure | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Lime manufacture was an essential industry for building in brick and stone in the nineteenth century. The Grizzly Gulch outcrops and the kilns below them supplied the entire region with lime of the highest quality. Joseph O'Neill built the first of these kilns in the late 1860s. Hewn timbers, hand-forged metal braces, and finely laid fire brick shipped from the East illustrate the kilns' sturdy construction. Workers blasted or quarried the limestone out of the hills behind, conveyed the rocks on handcars to the kilns or tumbled them down the embankment, and dumped them into the tops of the chimneys. Pine fires in the furnace beneath burned constantly. After several days, workers shoveled the powdered lime into the cooling shed adjacent the kiln and teamsters hauled it to the building site. Each kiln could produce some twenty tons of lime every eight hours. Irish-born James McKelvey later leased and then owned the kilns, supplying the mortar for the construction of the State Capitol. Lack of railroad access eventually forced closure circa 1910 although one kiln operated again briefly in the 1930s.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Property:** Mitchell Building

**Address:** 125 North Roberts Street, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Montana State Capitol Campus **Building Type:** contributing building

**Subject 1:** government buildings

**Subject 2:** Vincent Walsh

**Sign Text:**

Throughout the first half of the twentieth century, state government grew to meet the increasing demands of Montana's citizenry. In 1945—following a hiatus wrought by the Great Depression and World War II—the legislature established a Montana Postwar Planning and Construction Commission to address long-delayed building needs statewide. Among the resulting structures was this “State Office Building,” designed by Helena architect Vincent H. Walsh. Walsh chose the Stripped Classical style to mirror the lines of the capitol while reflecting a more modern aesthetic. It features smooth, stucco-covered concrete walls, windows arranged in recessed vertical panels, and a formal, bronze entrance. Completed in 1950, the building was named in honor of Sam W. Mitchell (1872–1955) who served as Montana's Secretary of State from 1933 to 1955. Two decades later, state government once again required more room, including space for a computer center now necessitated by technological advancements. Consequently, the Helena firm of Crossman, Whitney & Griffin designed an addition. Attached to the east side of the building, the “modern box” office features the extensive use of exposed concrete, a stylistic element borrowed from the Brutalist movement.

**Property:** Board of Health Building

**Address:** 1301 East Lockey Avenue, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Montana State Capitol Campus **Building Type:** contributing building

**Subject 1:** government buildings

**Subject 2:** Link & Haire

**Sign Text:**

Established by the state legislature in 1901, Montana's Board of Health was originally housed in two small offices in the capitol building. As the state devoted more attention to public health during the Progressive Era, the Board's responsibilities grew, as did its need for space. The prominent Helena firm of Link & Haire (which was also responsible for the capitol's wings) designed this new home for the Board. Completed in 1920, the three-story building features a restrained revivalist style that combines elements of Italian Renaissance Revival and Neoclassical Revival. Ornamentation includes granite coping and window sills, terra-cotta detailing, and decorative brickwork. A projecting vestibule with a rounded fanlight and trapezoidal-shaped parapet marks the building's entrance. The Board oversaw many programs, including communicable diseases, water quality, food and drug safety, social and industrial hygiene, child welfare, public nursing, and health education. To facilitate its work, the third floor contained “a first-class up-to-date hygienic laboratory,” in use until 1955. With the creation of the State Department of Health in 1967, the Board lost many of its day-to-day responsibilities and was terminated in 1994.

**Property:** 307 Clarke Street

**Address:** 307 Clarke Street, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Exquisite leaded and beveled glass, magnificent classical columns, a denticulated porch frieze, and arched windows with stenciled heads embellish both this 1906 Queen Anne style home and its next door neighbor. The gentle roof pitch is characteristic of the style as it evolved from the nineteenth to the twentieth century. Although the two homes share handsome exterior detailing and interior finishing, each has its own distinctive features. A canted entry and intricate wrought-iron roof cresting set this home apart from its almost-identical neighbor.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

Catherine Wilson was the original tenant in 1906, renting the property from Frank and Lois Hepperdeizel. She and her husband, Luther, came to Helena in 1885, where he was in the shoe business. Widowed in 1895, Catherine was later employed in stocks and bonds, which was an unusual field for a woman at that time. A new front porch and the original oak front door welcome guests into this beautifully refurbished home.

**Property:** Dearborn River High Bridge

**Address:** 15 mi SW of Augusta on Bean Lake Road, , Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** structure | rural

**Subject 1:** bridges (built works)           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Generations of native peoples used this crossing in their seasonal travels to the Great Plains to hunt buffalo. Lewis and Clark christened the river after Secretary of War Henry Dearborn on their trek through the area in 1805, but its location in Blackfeet country left the valley long unexplored by whites. U.S. Army topographer P. M. Engel passed through in 1859 scouting the route for John Mullan's military road. He described the remote timbered valley as difficult to maneuver, "...cut up by a great many sloughs and ditches." Homesteaders later began to settle in the area with the completion of the Montana Central Railroad in 1887. Augusta, strategically located between Helena and Great Falls, became the local trading center. The Dearborn River High Bridge, built in 1897, provided critical access for homesteaders to the railroad in Augusta and Wolf Creek. Until the early 1930s, local farmers and ranchers transported goods and livestock across this bridge. This structure is the last surviving example of a pin-connected Pratt half-deck truss bridge in the United States. The design is unusual because the deck attaches midway on the trusses instead of at the bottom or top. The King Bridge Company of Cleveland, Ohio, tailored the design specifically to the Dearborn River Canyon to carry relatively light loads over the deep crossing. Lewis and Clark County and the Montana Department of Transportation restored the landmark bridge in 2003.

**Property:** Montana Highway Department Building

**Address:** 302 N Roberts St, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Montana State Capitol Campus **Building Type:** contributing building

**Subject 1:** government buildings           **Subject 2:** Bordeleau-Pannell & Amundson

**Sign Text:**

Montana's original Highway Department building reflects the ascendancy of the automobile in twentieth-century America. As drivers began lobbying for good roads, state government responded, forming the Montana Highway Commission in 1913. Five years later, responding to federal road monies, the state created the Montana Highway Department and State Highway System. The 1920s brought more cars to Montana's thoroughfares and more work for the Highway Department. With increased federal funding during the Great Depression, the department outgrew its offices in the state capitol. Consequently, the Highway Commission hired Great Falls architect George Shanley to design a new home for the ever-expanding agency. The resulting Stripped Classical, smooth concrete structure reflects the aesthetics of New Deal-era public architecture. When completed in 1936, it was hailed as being "modern in every way." Two decades later, the federal government established the Interstate Highway System, which led to the 1958 construction of a five-story, Modern addition designed by the Great Falls firm of Bordeleau-Pannell & Amundson. In 1978, the renamed Montana Department of Transportation moved into new headquarters allowing other state agencies to occupy this building.

**Property:** SOCIAL and REHABILITATION SERVICES DEPARTMENT BUILDING

**Address:** 111 N Sanders St, Helena, Lewis & Clark

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Historic District:** Montana State Capitol Campus **Building Type:** contributing building

**Subject 1:** government buildings

**Subject 2:** Capitol buildings

**Sign Text:**

After the federal government began to provide money to address widespread poverty during the Great Depression, Montana established the Department of Public Welfare, which supervised all forms of public assistance. In 1937, that department set up offices in a former synagogue, donated to the state by Helena's shrinking Jewish community. State reorganization in 1971 combined 161 agencies into 19 departments, including the Social & Rehabilitation Services (SRS) Department, which subsumed the Department of Public Welfare. The former synagogue was bursting at the seams and most of SRS's Helena-based employees worked from rented offices. Realizing the state would ultimately save money by constructing its own buildings, the 1973 legislature authorized funding for the SRS building. Completed in 1976, the building's "clean lines and white-chipped-rock façade" promised to add "a classic piece of beauty to the Capitol Complex." In 1995, SRS merged with Health and Environmental Sciences to form the Department of Public Health and Human Services. Its headquarters remains in this New Formalist-inspired building, designed by the Butte architectural firm Knight & Company.

**Property:** Executive Mansion

**Address:** 2 N. Carson Street, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Montana State Capitol Campus **Building Type:**

**Subject 1:** government buildings

**Subject 2:** Chandler Cohagen

**Sign Text:**

Since its completion in 1959, the Executive Residence has not only served as home for Montana's first families, but also played an important part in the functioning of state government. It is the second such structure to fill that role. Initially, Montana's governors were left to secure their own housing. Then, in 1913, the state purchased a Queen Anne style mansion, built in 1888, to house Montana's chief executives. By the early 1950s that stately dwelling "had lost much of its luster" and maintenance costs were becoming problematic. Consequently, in 1953, Billings architect Chandler C. Cohagen produced a design that featured extensive use of glass, native building materials, and an open floor plan suitable for state functions. Funding issues delayed the home's construction for six years and forced alterations to the original design. Throughout the construction process, the project remained controversial because of its cost as well as its "modern... but not modernistic" design. When completed, many Montanans remained critical of its contemporary aesthetic. Others, however, praised it for having the "dignity and elegance befitting Montana's chief executive."

**Property:** Gilpatrick / Root House

**Address:** 604 Dearborn Avenue, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The steamboat Alone brought Stephen Gilpatrick to Montana on the cusp of the 1863 gold rush to Alder Gulch. When mining proved a disappointment, Gilpatrick moved on to Last Chance where he and a partner established the camp's first stationery store. Marriage in 1867 to Luella Fergus, daughter of well-known pioneer James Fergus, brought the newlyweds to live in a miner's cabin. Known today as the Pioneer Cabin, it is Helena's oldest documented dwelling. In 1875, the Gilpatricks built this home, originally a simple brick cottage with gingerbread trim. It was one of the first in the neighborhood, and friends protested that the Gilpatricks were "moving to the country" to build so far from town. The couple raised four sons and Stephen's community service included terms as a commissioner during Helena's incorporation, county sheriff, county assessor, and school board chairman. In 1902, the Gilpatricks held the funeral of James Fergus, first president of the Society of Montana Pioneers, in this

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

home. On New Year's Day 1931, the couple celebrated their sixty-fourth wedding anniversary. Their fabled romance ended with Luella's death in February. Stephen sold the property to Swedish immigrant John Root and his wife, Jennie. John, like the Gilpatricks, was an early-day Helena resident who ran a successful confectionery and clothing store. Many a prospector had Root to thank for his "grubstake." The Roots remodeled the Gilpatricks' Victorian-era home into a stylish Cotswold cottage. Although its original footprint, roofline, and window placements remain intact, the updated style reflects architectural trends of the twentieth century.

**Property:** Justice Building and Montana State Library

**Address:** 215 N Sanders, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Montana State Capitol Campus **Building Type:** contributing building

**Subject 1:** government buildings

**Subject 2:** libraries

**Sign Text:**

The 1982 Justice Building and Montana State Library, designed by Page-Werner and Partners of Great Falls, was the last building constructed under the ambitious 1972 Capitol Campus Master Plan. Designed to house the Supreme Court, Attorney General's office, and the State Library, it is a rare Montana example of the Brutalist style. The style takes its name from the French "béton brut," or raw concrete, Brutalism's predominant material. Key elements of Brutalism are reflected here in the monolithic expanses of buff brick, bands of recessed windows, gravity-defying overhangs, and angular towers. Devoid of ornamentation, architects relied on the contrast of solids, voids, and shadows to add interest. Functionally, Brutalism gained favor across the world in the 1960s as an economical answer to much-needed public buildings. Critics, however, denounced the spare, fortress-like style as cold and inhuman. The building was renamed the Mazurek Building in 2014 to honor three-term state senator and former Attorney General Joseph Mazurek. It remains one of Montana's best examples of Brutalism, a style that did not take hold in the state.

**Property:** John E. Huseby House

**Address:** 511 East Sixth Avenue, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Fifteen-year-old John H. Huseby came from Norway in 1880, three years before the Northern Pacific Railroad arrived in Helena. The placer mining town was on the cusp of a population boom with its attendant need for substantial new buildings. Trained as a brick and stone mason, Huseby was in the right place at the right time to participate in Helena's dramatic expansion. He knew his trade well and his own home, built circa 1891, attests to his success. Its brick construction is unusual in the neighborhood. Huseby was active in fraternal organizations and served a term in the Montana legislature. In 1900, he married Norwegian immigrant Anna Nelsing. Huseby died in 1915; Anna died in 1918. They left two children, twelve-year-old Henry and sixteen-year-old Marie. Marie taught school at Rimini and by 1922 she was principal at Kessler School. Henry and Marie eventually relocated to the Seattle area and tenants occupied the family home. Among them was Helena fire chief Otto Krieg, in residence during the 1935 earthquakes. The home passed out of the Huseby family in 1947 to John P. Morgan, a previous tenant. Brick arches above the windows and stone lintels showcase Huseby's masonry skills. Architectural features include lovely stenciled window heads, decorative brackets, and an unusual roofline reminiscent of the Second Empire style. The interior is a study of Victorian detailing. Bull's-eye molding throughout, stained glass, and transoms over the doorways survive intact. An unusual finished basement with full length windows originally accommodated the Husebys' lodgers. Earthquake damage, however, necessitated reinforcing the foundation and the loss of daylight windows.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Property:** Helena Railroad Depot Historic District

**Address:** Historic District, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena Railroad Depot **Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** historic districts

**Subject 2:** residential structures

**Sign Text:**

The town went wild as the first long-awaited locomotive steamed into Helena on June 13, 1883. The momentous arrival of the Northern Pacific linked Montana to national markets and assured Helena a permanency not previously realized. The Sixth Ward grew almost overnight around the extensive rail yards. Hotels, saloons, and businesses—some in tents—served the first passengers, crews, and Sixth Ward residents, most of whom were railroad employees. Although the depot was a mile from downtown, horse-drawn cabs ferried visitors back and forth. By 1890, the district served four passenger trains daily. Today the small commercial district includes reminders of the territorial period and early twentieth century when the railroad ruled supreme. False-fronted frame buildings from the early 1880s still line Railroad Avenue. Louis Reeder, builder of Reeder's Alley; businessman Alexander Beattie; and, later, the H. Walter Larson family, all invested heavily in buildings standing here. Charles A. Reed of the renowned firm of Reed and Stem designed the depot in 1903 and A. O. Von Herbulis, creator of the St. Helena Cathedral, drew the plans for St. Mary's Church in 1910. Trolley tracks embedded in the brick pavement in 1915 and Beattie Park, financed by the Beattie family in 1930, document twentieth-century improvements. Earthquake damage, visible in the replacement brick on the depot's west end, illustrates the ravages of the 1935 calamity. Eventually rail travel declined and passenger service discontinued, but the district remains a vivid testament to the Northern Pacific line and its enormous importance to the Queen City of the Rockies.

**Property:** Chessman Flats

**Address:** 210–218 N. Ewing, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena Historic District **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:** apartments

**Sign Text:**

Helena entrepreneur William Chessman built these exemplary Queen Anne style townhouse apartments in 1891 while in residence across Sixth Avenue at 304 North Ewing. Gables, bays, and a rounded turret handsomely demonstrate the architectural exuberance of the period when Helena earned the nickname "Queen City of the Rockies." The five, three-story units were designed by T. F. Mathias for upper-class tenants. Mathias and his partner, Frederick Heinlein, designed many impressive Helena buildings including the Iron Front Hotel, Masonic Temple, and the former Jewish synagogue at 515 North Ewing. The row houses represent a trend toward multi-family living as space became limited and Helena's population grew. Chessman was a California "49er" who came to Montana with the gold rush and settled in Helena in 1865. He owned mining interests, developed real estate, and was a key player in the development of Helena's early water system. The Chessman Reservoir still carries his name. Chessman and his wife Penelope retired to one of his town houses after 1900. Other well-known Helena tenants included New York Store owner Herman Fligelman and Montana Supreme Court Justice Theodore Brantly.

**Property:** Joseph E. Allen Livery

**Address:** 312-314 Breckenridge, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings

**Subject 2:** boardinghouses

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

### Sign Text:

Livery stables rented and boarded horses, providing a critical service in the nineteenth century when transportation depended upon reliable mounts. Allen Livery is Helena's best preserved reminder of this vital business and also recalls the extraordinary diversity of the Courthouse Square neighborhood. By 1867, William H. Allen established a livery stable here on his former mining claim. Its location, as now, was just steps away from the center of county business. After 1875 when Helena became the territorial capital, government officials, county employees, residents of nearby boardinghouses, and Rodney Street businessmen stabled their horses and leased conveyances from the livery. Allen's nephew, Joseph, eventually took over the business, replacing the original stable with the present utilitarian stone and brick structure circa 1885. Upstairs lodging accommodated the livery's hostlers and stablemen. Joseph lived upstairs too until he married in the mid-1890s. In 1912, Joseph's wife died and he followed her twelve days later. Others then ran the fading business until Lewis and Clark County purchased the building in 1920. A study in early advertising, its many "ghost signs" are remarkably well preserved.

**Property:** Charles A Broadwater House

**Address:** 1104 Williams St, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:**

**Subject 1:**                   **Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

Montana promoter and Helena businessman Charles A. Broadwater built this house in 1889, less than a year after he opened his opulent resort hotel and natatorium just across Ten Mile Creek. Broadwater came to Montana Territory in 1862 and made his fortune as a merchant, government contractor, and as one of the partners in the fabled Diamond R Freighting Company. He chose this site for his home because of its proximity to the hotel and natatorium. Prolific Helena architect George Appleton, who also collaborated on the hotel's design, drew the plans for Broadwater's residence. Both buildings were of the Shingle style, which was popular among Helena's upper crust citizens during the late Victorian era. The house includes the best parts of the style, including the steeply pitched intersecting gable roofs sheathed in wood shingles, irregular plan, wood shingle siding, decorative scrollwork, and stained glass windows. The rear of the house has an ornate turret clad in octagonal shingles. Elements of the Romanesque style include the rubble stone exterior wall on the façade and the free-standing chimney. Broadwater built the house not only as a home for his family, but also as a place to entertain guests. The house originally included a full-width, open-air porch designed for social gatherings rather than for family use. The State Nursery and Seed Company did the landscaping to complement the grounds of the hotel and natatorium. Broadwater died in 1892 and the house passed through a series of owners. Painstaking restoration of the interior wood details has maintained the elegance of the residence, making it one of Helena's preeminent late Victorian-era homes.

**Property:** Silver Creek School

**Address:** 1635 Sierra Road East, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** public schools (buildings)           **Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

Montana Avenue was a wagon trail when the first students trekked across treeless pastures to class in 1888. The bell rang out over the valley promptly at 8:40 AM, letting children know that they had better not dawdle and were expected at their desks by 9:00. The teacher taught all grades and was also the building custodian. From 1888 to 1920, students pulled their desks close to the center stove in winter and celebrated spring in the schoolyard. Silver Creek's name changed to College Place School in the 1890s when the Wesleyan College campus, and later the Deaconess School, operated down the road. The Little Red Schoolhouse, as it came to be known, was the

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

heart of the surrounding agricultural community. For three decades it served the educational and social needs of farming families far removed from the town life of Helena, three miles distant. In 1921, Helena District #1 began busing students from the valley into town, ending the school's original function, but its role as a critical social link continued. The Sunshine Home Demonstration Club added an east wing and kitchen in the 1920s, and the schoolhouse served as a polling place, picnic center, and meeting place for clubs and 4-H groups through the 1950s. Time took its toll, and the school deteriorated and was finally abandoned in the mid-1960s. A fifteen-couple committee rallied to purchase the property from the school district in 1980. They restored and furnished the building and reinstalled the original bell, assuring the red brick schoolhouse a permanent niche in the valley's history.

**Property:** Charles Edstrom Residence

**Address:** 318 State, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena South-Central **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The solid masonry construction of this exemplary home illustrates Helena's transition from gold camp to permanent settlement. Constructed between 1884 and 1888, the Italianate style residence is of a simple design with a wraparound porch, chamfered posts, corbelled chimneys, and arched windows. Mature shrubbery, a century of infill, and the elevation of State Street by two-and-a-half feet during 1970s Urban Renewal have left the home half hidden from view. Ornate woodwork graces the interior and pocket doors lie intact within the dining room wall. Onetime saddler and saloon proprietor Charles Edstrom resided here in 1890 with boarder Agnes Beauregard and domestic Ida Dickman. Samuel S. Bennett, former county coroner and undertaker, lived in the home from 1911 to 1940. A more recent owner was Howard Kathan, whose furniture store was located below Helena's last bordello, "Big Dorothy's," which closed in 1972. Kathan died in 1995, but his colorful stories about that place and south-central Helena still circulate among his neighbors.

**Property:** Cogswell Building

**Address:** 1401 Lockey, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Montana State Capitol Campus **Building Type:** contributing building

**Subject 1:** government buildings

**Subject 2:** Capitol

**Sign Text:**

Following World War II, Montana's growing state agencies desperately needed all types of space. Consequently, in 1946 the Montana State Postwar Planning and Construction Commission recommended building a laboratory where all testing for state government programs could take place. To meet the need, Helena architect Vincent H. Walsh designed a W-shaped, three-story structure. However, lack of funding delayed construction and altered Walsh's original design, ultimately eliminating the middle wing and third story. When the new State Laboratory finally opened in 1955, it housed the Highway Department's Testing Division and the Board of Health's Divisions of Bacteriology, Health Education, Public Health Nursing, and Disease Control. Almost immediately the State Laboratories Commission—created in 1945 to assess state agencies' "present and future laboratory" needs—declared the space insufficient. Their concerns were not addressed until 1981, after the Great Falls firm of Davidson & Kuhr designed the modern addition that sits between the original two wings. In 1964, the state dedicated the building to Dr. William F. Cogswell, who served from 1912 to 1946 as the Executive Secretary of the State Board of Health.

**Property:** Legislative Restaurant / Capitol Annex



## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Address:** 118 N Roberts, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Montana State Capitol Campus **Building Type:** building contributing

**Subject 1:** public buildings (governmental buildings)

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

During the first decade of statehood, Montana legislators met in downtown Helena where lawmakers enjoyed a variety of options for "lunch arrangements." When lawmakers transitioned into the new Capitol in 1902, downtown Helena was a mile away. A small makeshift lunch counter in the nearby Boiler Plant temporarily filled the need, but Capitol Commissioners envisioned a separate building. Architects Link and Haire included this annex in their plans for the Capitol's wings. Completed in 1910, the Neoclassical Revival style annex continues the tradition of academic eclecticism, popular in American architecture of the time and displayed in the other pre-1920s campus buildings. Distinctive grayish-white brick complements the sandstone and granite of the Capitol. Carved wood brackets beneath the eaves, brick corbelling between the windows, and a pedimented entrance subtly echo the Neoclassical style of the state house. The annex functioned as the legislative restaurant until 1933 when the need for office space became more essential. Later a variety of state agencies occupied the space including the Montana Highway Patrol (1935-1936), the Board of Health (1940-1964), and the Department of Agriculture (1964-1978).

**Property:** Tracy-Power Residence

**Address:** 702 Harrison Ave., Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena **Building Type:** building contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Praised for lending "an air of distinction" to "one of the handsomest residence streets in Helena," this three-story Queen Anne style home was constructed for George and Eva Tracy. The house was completed just prior to the calamitous economic collapse known as the Panic of 1893. The large front porch, bay windows, a three-story tower, and Palladian windows in the gable ends distinguish the prominent residence, which reflects the Tracy's financial success in the wholesale food distribution business. Widowed in 1907, Eva continued to occupy the home until 1912 when she sold it to Sarah E. Power, sister to U.S. Senator T. C. Power and major donor to Helena's charities. In 1920, Jos. E. Bower of the Bower Brothers Sheep Company purchased the property. His wife, Leonora, another leading Helena philanthropist, remained here until her death in 1954. A year later, Thomas C. Power, grand-nephew of Senator T. C. Power and Sarah Power purchased the home, which he occupied until 2004. The home's former residents reflect Montana's rich Gilded Age history, and the house stands as a handsome reminder of Helena's nineteenth-century wealth and promise.

**Property:** Henry Hay Homestead

**Address:** 684 West Main Street, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** West Main Street **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** homesteads

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

English immigrants Frances and Henry Hay came to Helena in the mid-1860s and were among the first to settle on West Main where Hay mined a claim. Their log cabin became the center of the present residence, built circa 1870. A switchback path leads to a small mother-in-law house. Hay and neighbors Joseph Poad and Benjamin Benson operated the New Water Company from 1883 until circa 1888 when the City of Helena bought their water rights extending to Reeder's Alley. Hay ran a fuel business, employing five of his six sons as teamsters. The Hays kept a watering trough out front for teams passing by. The family kept horses and dairy cows in the board-and-batten barn and used the shed as a creamery. Like many of their neighbors, the Hays built the shed into the hillside to

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

keep their dairy products cool. The Hay homestead well represents the self-sufficiency and industry of early Helena pioneers. In 2004, property owner and Hay descendant Margie Broderick, local preservationists, and the Montana Conservation Corps worked together to stabilize the historic barn.

**Property:** Benton Avenue Cemetery

**Address:** Benton Avenue, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:**            **Building Type:** site

**Subject 1:** cemeteries            **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Scattered wooden markers, tall marble obelisks, and iron fences enclosing family plots memorialize the pioneers who rest in this early burial ground. Lewis and Clark County established the cemetery in 1870. In 1875, remains from the original mining camp cemetery on Warren Street were disinterred and moved to Benton Avenue; a few of these graves date to the 1860s. Benton Avenue then became Helena's main nonsectarian, Protestant burial ground. Frequent interments continued through the 1890s. Among the prominent Helenans buried here are John Kinna, Helena's first mayor; Lewis Reeder, the builder of Reeder's Alley; and Edwin Toole, brother of the state's first governor. Masons, a cornerstone of the state's foundation, are a strong presence in the northeast section. Stones predating statehood are often designated M.T. (for Montana Territory), and graves of veterans from all branches of the service represent varied military experience. Poignant memorials to children speak to the heavy toll of epidemics in the early community. After 1900, few placed loved ones in this simple pioneer burial ground. The iron fence, added in 1928, marks the symbolic end of Benton Avenue's active history. By 1966, when Helenan Lucy Baker organized volunteers to preserve the cemetery, it was a tangle of neglect and debris. In 1998, the newly reorganized Benton Avenue Cemetery Association took the lead in recognizing and maintaining this Helena landmark. Under its leadership in 2003, Lucy Baker's dream of National Register listing came to fruition.

**Property:** Adami Barn

**Address:** 316 S Park Ave, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** barns            **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Newlyweds Elizabeth and Jacob Adami left their native Germany and traveled by ship, rail, and finally stagecoach to boomtown Helena in 1872. The Adamis settled here, raising seven children. Their residence, razed in the 1970s to create parking, housed family members until 1968. A freighter, quarryman, and general contractor, Jacob helped Helena rise from gold camp to modern city. He built the town's first stone buildings, taking the limestone from his nearby quarry west of the barn. Jacob was also a cement contractor and served as street commissioner. Many of Helena's first sidewalks were paved under his direction. The one-and-one-half-story barn is all that remains of the Adami homestead. Constructed in the 1870s of stone from the nearby quarry, it long housed the team essential for Jacob's business. Its sturdy construction of rubblestone walls with granite corner quoins and weathered vertical boards testifies to its timeworn service. Inside, exposed stone and original tack pegs remain on the interior north wall. A residential addition, built in 1976 of salvaged materials and stone from the old quarry, complements the barn's original character.

**Property:** Peter J. Conner Residence

**Address:** 109 Edward St., Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena **Building Type:** building contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures            **Subject 2:** boardinghouses

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

### Sign Text:

Originally a combination residence and boarding house/hotel named the Farmer's Home, this survivor of early Helena recalls the days when the territorial capital was a busy commercial hub. In 1879, Peter J. Connor opened the Farmer's Home on what was then the corner of Clore (now Park) and Edwards streets. Before 1970s urban renewal, Edwards was an important commercial thoroughfare, making this prime real estate. Connor came to Helena during the 1860s gold rush, but soon realized he could make more money in commerce than by mining. By 1884, his hotel business included this structure and two others that fronted Park Street. As the name implies, Connor's accommodations catered to traveling ranchers and farmers. He and his wife Olivia ran the hotel until it closed in 1889. The Connor family then switched to the grocery business. The Italianate style building became their private residence, housing two generations of Connors into the 1940s. Soft local brick, a rubble stone foundation, and slightly arched windows with stenciled hoods attest to its late 1870s, early 1880s construction date.

**Property:** Kleinschmidt Block (Harvard Block)

**Address:** 301-309 N. Warren, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings      **Subject 2:** hotels (public accommodations)

### Sign Text:

Entrepreneur Reinhold H. Kleinschmidt built this block with five storefronts and upstairs lodging rooms circa 1892. Among his first commercial tenants was Charles Grossman, a wallpaper hanger and painter, whose business was in the corner storefront. A variety of tenants in 1900 included a U.S. bailiff, a photographer, and a Northern Pacific land examiner and their families. In 1905, real estate developer Richard Lockey purchased the building to serve as an annex to his Grandon Hotel and changed its name to the Harvard Block. The Grandon stood diagonally across Sixth Avenue. By 1929, Edward Loney's barbershop in the corner storefront was the only remaining commercial space and the rest of the building functioned as housing. The building is a stunning example of the flamboyant Victorian-era architecture once common in Helena. Fluted iron columns and scrolled brackets frame the entry while the rounded brick arches on the second story reflect the Romanesque style. A spectacular copper dome originally capped the second-story oriel bay at the southwest corner. These elements contrast with the utilitarian rubble stone walls on the rear and north, common in Helena's nineteenth-century buildings.

**Property:** Montana Statue

**Address:** 1310 E Lockey, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Montana State Capitol Campus **Building Type:** object

**Subject 1:** monuments      **Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

The statue atop the Capitol's grand copper dome was a century-long mystery. No one knew who commissioned her or where she came from. She arrived at the Helena depot on the heels of a scandal that led to the disbanding of the first Capitol Site Commission. Charged with contracting for the Capitol's construction, the Commission had planned to inflate prices and divert funds into their own pockets. After being summoned to appear before a grand jury, one commissioner committed suicide and others burned the records. The mysterious statue, dubbed "Liberty," served the second Capitol Site Commission well, and was installed in 1901. In 2006, Alice Nagle of Hatfield, Pennsylvania, contacted the Montana Historical Society inquiring about her grandfather's copper-clad statue. She had discovered clippings and a photograph of the work in progress. Her grandfather, Edward J. Van Landeghem, a Belgian artist who trained at the Academy of Fine Arts School in Brussels, had created the statue in his Philadelphia studio. He named her "Montana." In her long-flowing gown, "Montana" holds a torch to light the way and a shield to protect the people.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Property:** Montana Aeronautics Commission Operation Historic District

**Address:** 2630 Airport Road, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Montana Aeronautics Commission Operation **Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** historic districts

**Subject 2:** air and space transportation buildings

**Sign Text:**

Shortly before the end of World War II, Governor Sam Ford urged the Montana State Legislature to create a commission to regulate the state's private and commercial aviation industry. The 1945 legislature subsequently formed the Montana Aeronautics Commission to encourage, foster, and assist in the development of aeronautics and encourage the establishment of airports and other air navigation facilities. Its first action was licensing commercial and private pilots operating in Montana. The commission was also responsible for the design, construction, leasing, and operation of small community airports throughout the state. It worked closely with the Civil Air Patrol, conducted search and rescue operations in conjunction with local authorities, kept statistics for the aviation industry in Montana, and aggressively sought to regulate commercial air traffic in the state per federal law. As the importance of aviation increased, so did the commission's responsibilities. In 1957, commission director Frank Wiley, himself a pilot, lobbied the state legislature to authorize construction of a commission operations building adjacent to what was then the Helena Municipal Airport. Helena architects Ostheimer & Campeau designed the Modernist style administrative building in 1958. As commission responsibilities increased, in 1965 the same architects designed an addition and garage to complement the original building. The Modernist style, featuring natural colors and textures, large windows, and lack of ornamentation, characterizes government construction of the period. The Montana Department of Transportation's Aeronautics Division illustrates the maturing of Montana's aeronautical and aviation industries in the wake of World War II. It continues to play a critical role in Montana's aviation industry.

**Property:** Boiler Plant

**Address:** 1310 E Lockey, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Montana State Capitol Campus **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** boiler houses

**Subject 2:** accessory industrial buildings

**Sign Text:**

The 1895 legislative act that allowed construction of Montana's state house included provisions for heating the building. Capitol Commissioners decided a separate heating plant would be required. Built in 1901, the first plant included a brick smokestack. In 1912, a taller concrete smokestack replaced the original to accommodate the new wings and raise the plant's emissions above the Capitol Building. Until the 1930s, the plant provided steam heat to all the campus buildings. After 1936, most new buildings housed their own boiler systems. In 1968, this building replaced the first boiler plant. Built just west of the original plant, Helena architects Morrison-Maierle and Associates designed the sleek, modern building. It features scored concrete block walls that resemble the Capitol's rusticated foundation. An attractive metal Mansard-shaped parapet hides the plant's utilitarian flat roof. Careful placement of the building and artful landscaping allow it to blend into the landscape and protect views of the Capitol Building. A 1998 addition, designed to exactly match the original building, doubled the plant's capacity. It continues to heat the Capitol and several other campus buildings.

**Property:** 555 Fuller Avenue

**Address:** 555 Fuller Avenue, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial building

**Subject 2:**

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

### Sign Text:

Downtown Helena expanded in the 1940s at its north end where there had previously been little development. This two-story Art Moderne-inspired office building reflects the industrial, streamlined architectural trends of the period. E. B. Benson of the architectural firm of Haire and Benson, successors to the prominent firm of Link and Haire, drew the plans. The building was originally designed for the Hawkins-Lindstrom Medical Clinic. Dr. Thomas Hawkins and Dr. Everett Lindstrom were both longtime Helena physicians who formed a partnership in 1939. World War II interrupted their practice while both did military service. The two veterans returned to Helena, reopening as the Hawkins-Lindstrom Clinic in 1945. The clinic operated here from 1948 until the late 1980s. The basement offered office space; original basement tenants included the Merle Norman Studio; accountants Galusha, Higgins and Galusha; the Yellowstone Park Company; and several insurance agencies. The clinic converted to office space in the late 1980s, but the building retains its original appearance. A contrasting band above the second-story windows; smooth, stuccoed façade; offset entrance; and flat roof emphasize the horizontal orientation and stark simplicity of the Art Moderne style.

**Property:** 326 Clarke

**Address:** 326 Clarke, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena **Building Type:** building contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

An open front porch frames the entry of this dwelling, built as a single family home in the early 1880s when the neighborhood was newly developed. John C. Curtin and his family were in residence here from 1889 to 1898. Curtin and a brother, Arthur P. Curtin, were partners in the firm of Clarke, Conrad and Curtin, one of Helena's oldest hardware concerns. The company advertised everything from clothespins to grand pianos. Curtin held several county offices and served two terms as mayor, but adventure beckoned. In 1898, he disposed of his Helena assets to follow the gold rush to Alaska. By 1900, tenants included pawnbroker Siegfried Abrahamson, his wife Clara, their two teenage daughters, and a servant. Bookkeeper John H. Ross moved here in 1912 and eventually purchased the property. Ross and his second wife, Carrie, formally divided the house into a duplex in the 1920s. The two distinct halves of the dwelling remain intact, each entered through a separate door on either side of the main entry. A low hipped roof, locally made brick, and arched windows speak to the simple architecture of the territorial period.

**Property:** Elisha and Joseph Poad House

**Address:** 502-504 W Main, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

Elisha Poad arrived in Helena in 1867 by way of mining camps in California and Nevada. Poad was a native of Cornwall, England, an area with over two thousand years of mining history. Attracted to Helena's placer mines, he was later associated with the New Water Company. Elisha's son Joseph also mined—both on his own account and in an industrial quartz mine. By 1890, Elisha and his wife Grace lived in the south half of this brick dwelling (built before 1888), while Joseph and his wife Mary Anne lived in the north half. The Poads soon expanded the duplex, where family members resided for more than sixty years. By 1892, the one-story building had grown to a substantial two-and-one-half stories, and a brick one-story addition stood where a log chicken coop had been. The ornately trimmed full-length front porch provides the vernacular building's primary embellishment. Turned columns with carved brackets support the porch cornice; turned spindles adorn the frieze; and turned balusters

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

make up the wooden railing. Mass-produced, precut details placed such architectural ornamentation within reach of homeowners of all income levels.

**Property:** Montana State Capital Building

**Address:** 1301 E 6th Ave, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Montana State Capitol Campus **Building Type:** building contributing

**Subject 1:** capitals (seats of government)

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The gentle rise overlooking the Helena Valley enhances the stately character of the "People's House." It is Montana's grandest public space and a stunning example of high style public architecture. Iowa architects Charles Bell and John Kent designed the center portion in the Neoclassical style to reflect the "American Renaissance" of the late nineteenth century. The state had few financial resources, so mining magnate Thomas Cruse bought all the bonds that financed its construction. Completed in 1902, the Capitol embodies the optimism, financial reality, and political climate of the time. The soaring Rotunda, beneath the copper-clad dome and figure "Montana," sculpted by Pennsylvania artist Edward VanLandeghem, serves as the real and symbolic axis of government. Montana architects John Link and Charles Haire designed the wings, added in 1909. Classical elements carry through the interior, but the artistic expression speaks distinctly to Montana. A kaleidoscope of details and stained and art glass set the stage for a theatrical "history pageant." Exquisite paintings by Montana artists Charles Russell, Ralph DeCamp, and Edgar S. Paxson visually dramatize Montana's colorful past.

**Property:** Montana State Capitol Campus Historic District

**Address:** , Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Montana State Capitol Campus **Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** Subject 1

capitals (seats of government)

**Subject 2:** memorials (monuments)

**Sign Text:**

Montana's governmental landscape is an evolving political and cultural expression with deep roots. The seeds of the capital city were planted with local gold discoveries in 1864. Helena became territorial capital in 1875. Upon statehood in 1889, the county courthouse became Montana's first capitol. Voters chose Helena as permanent state capital in 1894. Efforts to build a grand capitol building began immediately. "Capitol Hill" was originally planned on the site of present-day Carroll College, but the owner wanted \$10,000 for his land, and the new state lacked funds. East side booster Peter Winne offered to pay the state \$4,000 to choose this site, knowing that it would spur expansion. The state took Winne's offer. Fields surrounded the neighborhood when officials broke ground in 1899. From 1902 to 1920, smaller revival style buildings, including the 1909 Capitol wings, illustrate minimal expansion. Larger "stripped classical" style buildings underscore Depression-era growth. The Late Modern architectural styles to the east illustrate a new emphasis on campus planning. Today, the 1902 Montana State Capitol is the centerpiece of the sixty-acre campus, whose grounds and buildings mirror the state's development. Monuments include granite tablets, living trees, and metal sculptures commemorating groups such as the Montana Veterans and the Montana National Guard. Individual tributes include the 1905 equestrian statue of Irish hero Thomas Francis Meagher and a memorial to Governor Donald G. Nutter, killed in a plane crash in 1962. The campus remains the heart of state government, as well as a testament to Montana's history and people.

**Property:** Placer Hotel

**Address:** 15-27 North Last Chance Gulch, Helena, Lewis & Clark

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Historic District:** Helena **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** hotels (public accommodations)

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Artist C. M. Russell illustrated the program for the formal ball, held April 12, 1913, inaugurating the largest hotel between the Twin Cities and the Coast. Built almost entirely with donations as a public enterprise, Helena felt real pride of ownership and the Placer quickly became the center of civic activity. Its name derives from the placer gold washed from the gravel during the excavation of its foundation. Architect George H. Carsley designed the building in consultation with Cass Gilbert, architect of New York's famed Woolworth Building. The Placer's wrought iron balconies, overhanging eaves, and wide cornice are reminiscent of the nearby Montana Club, designed by Gilbert in 1905. The seven-story hotel was constructed of reinforced concrete and Western Clay Manufacturing Company (now the Archie Bray Foundation) brick. Each of its 172 guest rooms, arranged around a U-shape, opened onto the outside. Custom-made china, cutlery, and bed linens—supplied by Helena's New York Store—all bore the hotel's prospector insignia. The hotel featured a carriage entrance, a lobby fireplace built for seven-foot logs, and a state-of-the-art kitchen with an automatic dishwasher and central refrigeration system.

**Property:** George Grossberg Residence

**Address:** 710 Madison Ave, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

George and Esther Grossberg built this Craftsman style bungalow in the early 1920s. The mix of multi-colored brick and stucco blends beautifully into the surrounding landscape. Tucked between two Victorian-era homes, this charming 1920s residence represents the careful infill of the neighborhood that took place after World War I. George Grossberg came to Helena as a bachelor in 1910 to join a thriving Jewish community. He married Esther Lesinson of Chicago in 1917. The Grossbergs established the Globe Clothing Company in 1918. The Globe Clothing Store was one of downtown Helena's most successful businesses and remained at the corner of Lawrence and Last Chance Gulch until 1986. The Grossbergs raised two children and spent most of their married life here, until George's death in 1958. The lovely home has an offset porch with a graceful, welcoming arch and Chicago-style picture window. These features and the natural brick harmonize with the shaded streetscape, capturing the ambience of the 1920s and the flair of the bungalow style.

**Property:** Edward C. Babcock Mansion

**Address:** 706 Harrison Ave, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Locally quarried blue-gray granite complements the shingled upper stories in this commanding nineteenth-century home. Both this residence and the one next door are stellar examples of the eclectic Shingle style. The wide porch and asymmetry are Queen Anne hallmarks while the heavy stonework is borrowed from the Romanesque. Classical porch columns and Palladian windows are characteristic of the Colonial Revival style. The curved corners and a tower dormer add to the architectural feast. Inside, refined and elegant features include intricate parquet flooring, imported Italian tile fireplaces, beautiful stained glass windows, and a grand third-story ballroom. E. C. Babcock, proprietor of an elegant "gentleman's furnishings" business, and his wife Minnie were in residence by 1898. William and Ellen Nichols purchased the property circa 1915 and raised their family here. Mrs. Nichols was the daughter of Harry Child, whose highly successful Yellowstone Park Company provided early tourist transportation in the national park. William Nichols worked for the family business, long serving as the

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

transportation company's president. Mrs. Nichols was a generous Helena benefactor, fondly remembered as a founder of the Green Meadow Country Club.

**Property:** Temple Emanu-el

**Address:** 515 N Ewing Street, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** synagogues (buildings)                   **Subject 2:** churches (buildings)

**Sign Text:**

Opportunity drew European Jewish immigrants to the gold camp at Last Chance where business and religion brought them together. The Jewish community contributed a firm financial foundation to the early settlement. It was the Jewish pioneers especially, with ties to resources in larger cities, whose businesses rose again and again in the face of ruinous fires that plagued early Helena. Helena's Jews worshipped together as early as 1866, yet the congregation remained without a temple for over twenty years. In 1890, the public gathered as Governor J. K. Toole ceremoniously laid the cornerstone for the first Jewish temple between St. Paul and Portland. Helena architects Heinlen and Matthias drew the plans for the Romanesque and Moorish style synagogue under the tutelage of a building committee. Strong Eastern influences include the keyhole windows and star-studded domes that once capped the corner towers. The grand temple reflects the congregation's generous intent "to ornament the city" that had become home. But the congregation dwindled by the 1930s and the State of Montana acquired the building, promising to use it for social purposes. Religious symbolism removed and a second story added, the former temple became an early model of adaptive reuse. It housed Social and Rehabilitative Services until 1976 and then lay vacant until the Catholic Diocese of Helena purchased the building in 1981. On April 21, 2002, descendants of Jewish pioneers and the Catholic community together celebrated the centennial of this regional landmark. The Hebrew date on the cornerstone, 5651, remains to document its original purpose.

**Property:** Livestock Building

**Address:** 1310 E Lockey, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Montana State Capitol Campus **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** public buildings (governmental buildings)                   **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Concerns about communicable diseases and unsanitary slaughterhouse conditions prompted the creation of the Livestock Sanitary Board in 1907. Originally housed in the new State Capitol, its duties quickly expanded and the need for laboratory and research facilities—inappropriate in the State Capitol—came to the forefront. Montana stockmen helped generate funding for a new building and Link and Haire, architects of the Capitol's wings, drew the plans. Completed in 1918, it was the first building on the campus constructed for, and by, an individual state agency. Drawing upon the Neoclassical and Renaissance Revival styles, the restrained design harmonizes with that of the Capitol but does not replicate its grandeur. The original floorplan reflected the agency's needs with space for research animals, cages, laboratories, and offices. The work was important and sometimes hazardous. In 1919, state bacteriologist Dr. Arthur McCray died of spotted fever after injecting guinea pigs with the bacteria in the laboratory here. The Animal Health Division of the Department of Livestock absorbed the Livestock Sanitary Board in 1971, but the Livestock Department continued to occupy the building until 1975.

**Property:** 20 South Rodney Street

**Address:** 20 South Rodney Street, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena South-Central **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures                   **Subject 2:**



## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

### Sign Text:

A small L-shaped dwelling with a full-length front porch stood on this lot by 1875 according to an early bird's-eye map of Helena. German Catholic rancher Herman Rosenbaum and his wife Mary purchased the house in 1879. The neighborhood was perfect for the Rosenbaums. Two Catholic schools, a convent, a Catholic hospital, and Helena's first cathedral (later replaced by St. Helena's) made for a thriving Catholic presence just north and west of Rodney Street. The proximity of St. Vincent's Academy for Girls—Montana's first boarding school, which stood where the St. John's building is now—likely appealed to the Rosenbaums, whose daughters attended the academy. Herman arrived in the Helena valley in the 1860s, where he found success supplying beef and farm products to Montana's booming mining towns. Like many successful ranchers, the Rosenbaums lived in town part of the year, allowing their children to attend school. Herman died in 1889, but the family remained in residence until 1903. The family built a rear addition before 1890 and others further expanded the original L-shaped structure

**Property:** 50-52 South Rodney

**Address:** 50-52 South Rodney, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena South-Central **Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:** apartments

### Sign Text:

When William Zartrow built a home for confectioner Charles Reinig in 1889, he used “good, sound, hard and well burned brick, the best that the market affords.” The result was an elegant two-story duplex with tall, Victorian chimneys, narrow windows, and a two-story front porch. During construction Charles and Helena Reinig lived in a small house that still stands behind the main building. The Reinigs had no trouble finding tenants for their building's north half; Helena's booming population had created a housing shortage in the late 1880s. Later, they rented the north side to their daughter, Frances, and her husband, Peter Guillot. Members of both the Reinig and Guillot families still lived here in 1935, when the Helena earthquakes hit. The quakes left a large gaping hole in place of the second-story façade, tore out the first-floor windows, and reduced the original front porch to rubble. Rather than demolish the building, the Reinigs remodeled. They transformed the duplex into four apartments (now six), replaced the brick with wood siding, and added fashionable multi-pane windows to update the facade.

**Property:** Haight-Bridgewater House

**Address:** 502 Peosta, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

Property owner Hattie Haight hosted the Immanuel Mission of the First Baptist Church in this modest home from 1891 to 1893, catering to the neighborhood's multi-ethnic, working-class residents. Widowed in 1894, Hattie retained the home as a rental, supporting herself and her two small children. She sold the property in 1896 to absentee investors. In 1915, Mamie Bridgewater moved in as a tenant. She was the widow of Samuel Bridgewater, a veteran of the Army's all-black Twenty-fourth Infantry. Bridgewater was stationed at Fort Harrison after service in the Spanish American War and died of war-related injuries in 1912. Mamie supported herself and her five children as a domestic. In 1925, she purchased the house. A pillar of the Second Baptist Church, a leader of Helena's African American community, and a nurturing mother, Mamie died in 1950. Daughter Octavia made her home here and continued her mother's warm hospitality. Octavia graduated from New York's all-black Lincoln School of Nursing and returned to Helena as a private nurse in 1930. In 1942, she was one of 56 African Americans accepted into the Army Nurse Corps. Earning the rank of First Lieutenant, Octavia helped lift the military's ban on African American nurses. On her return to Helena, Octavia found racial barriers diminished; St. Peters Hospital,

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

which had refused her a job before the war, hired her as one of its first black employees. The neatly kept home still boasts its original clapboard siding, simple boxed eaves, original trim, and gently hipped roof. The residence is notable for its three dynamic female owners and strong ethnic associations.

**Property:** Morelli Bridge

**Address:** Reeder's Alley, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena **Building Type:** structure | contributing

**Subject 1:** bridges (built works)      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Historic maps show that the area above Reeder's Alley, known as Reeder's Gulch, was long undeveloped and virtually inaccessible. The city gave in to local pressure in the early 1890s and began construction of this bridge, first known as the Howie Street Bridge. Cost of the work exceeded funds, however, and the bridge remained unfinished. When the Silver Panic of 1893 halted most building projects across the state, city commissioners recognized that completing the bridge project could provide much needed jobs. They resumed construction, putting a significant number of local laborers back to work. Finished late in 1893, the four-span timber bridge allowed residential development of the area and provided a bypass around the congested, industrial south end of Last Chance Gulch. The Jacob Adami quarry on Mount Helena supplied the stone. Swiss stonemason Carlo Morelli constructed the impressive bents, or supports, that make the bridge unusual prompting locals to rename the bridge after Morelli, whose home was nearby. Although the city replaced the timber deck in the 1980s, the Morelli Bridge is the oldest timber bridge still in use in Montana.

**Property:** Donovan-Mayer House

**Address:** 46 S. Howie, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:**      **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The Northern Pacific Railroad arrived in Helena in 1883, and the town boomed. Helena's population quadrupled from over thirty-six hundred in 1880 to almost fourteen thousand in 1890. Growth meant good-paying construction jobs for laborers like Edward Donovan, who arrived in Montana sometime before 1875. That year, he married Irish-born Johanna Doyle. By 1887, the couple and their three small children moved into this one-story house. Three blocks from the heart of downtown, the tidy, nine-hundred-square-foot residence included a parlor, living room, two bedrooms, and a kitchen. After Edward's death in the mid-1890s, Johanna managed to buy the home. Working as a housekeeper, she lived here with her five children, who contributed to the family economy as they became old enough. In 1908, Johanna moved to Seattle. Post office employee Fred Mayer and his wife Zetta purchased the residence in 1921, where they lived with their son, Lawrence. Although large enough for a working-class family of seven in the 1890s, by the 1920s the house was too small for a middle-class family of three. In 1926, the Mayers added a sleeping porch, bedroom, and a new roof, transforming the Victorian-era home. A round window, stucco siding, and embellishments at the roofline added a modern flare. The renovated home clearly suited the family. Although Fred died in 1952, Zetta continued to live here until 1967.

**Property:** Unemployment Compensation Commission (Walt Sullivan Building)

**Address:** 1315 Lockey Ave, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:**      **Building Type:** building contributing

**Subject 1:** public buildings (governmental buildings)      **Subject 2:**

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

### Sign Text:

Politician John G. Winant wrote in 1936 that the Great Depression made Americans aware that there were no more frontiers. Individual initiative and enterprise could no longer guarantee financial security. The government subsequently established the unemployment system in 1937 to provide something more than private charity or emergency relief. The Montana Unemployment Compensation Commission expanded during the 1950s and focused on helping workers find employment and unemployment insurance. The federal government financed this building to house the commission in 1961. Architect Lewy Evans Jr. of the Billings firm of Evans, LaMont and Cole used the most recent structural innovations and engineering advances. The Modern style building, simple and “sculptural” in form, employs a steel frame clad in precast concrete panels and curtain walls with aluminum frames. Curtain walls are non-structural and lightweight, hung over load-bearing walls. Corrugated vertical aluminum louvers covering the south curtain wall move with the sun to reduce heat gain, a concept advanced for its time. The building boasted the nation’s largest clear-span structural floor with no interior supporting columns. Montana travertine graces the interior lobby and a colorful six-foot mosaic by Billings artist Robert C. Morrison represents the state’s most common trades of miner, carpenter, and farmer. Reorganization in the 1970s brought the commission under the umbrella of Labor and Industry. A west wing added in 1974 created space for the entire department. In the 1990s, the Department of Labor and Industry Building’s name changed to honor employee Walt Sullivan, who was killed on the job in 1989.

**Property:** Palmquist Residence

**Address:** 428 Flowerree, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

Attention to detail distinguishes this one-story brick residence, designed in 1934 by Helena architect E. B. Benson. Benson’s plan incorporates many Tudor revival style elements: an asymmetrical facade, sloping roofline, prominent chimney, arched doorway, small arched vents, and multi-paned windows. Tudor style houses were particularly popular in the 1920s and 1930s. During these decades, social upheaval and economic uncertainty created nostalgia for bygone eras and an embrace of period styles. Nevertheless, the home was designed for twentieth century life as evidenced by the garage tucked into the basement. Mae and Ernest Palmquist commissioned the residence shortly after their marriage in 1933. Ernest owned Palmquist Electric; he also served as a member of the Federal Housing Administration, as president of the Home Federal Savings and Loan, and as a director of Commerce Bank. Perhaps his connection to the building trades contributed to the high quality of craftsmanship the home reflects. The well-preserved interior—which still boasts most of its original fixtures—testifies to the residence’s livability. The Palmquists owned the house until their deaths; his in 1974, hers in 1999.

**Property:** 488-490 W Main Street

**Address:** 488-490 W Main Street, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena **Building Type:** building contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

Two distinct front porches attest to the separate histories of these two nineteenth-century homes, combined into one in the late twentieth century. The older of the two at 490 West Main was built between 1865 and 1875. Segmentally arched windows and doors with carved wooden heads typify Helena’s first substantial homes. Inside, original woodwork and fourteen-foot ceilings throughout preserve the ambience of the earliest territorial period. A cabin of round notched peeled logs to the south recalls the first mining phase of West Main Street. The house at 488 was built between 1875 and 1888. The modest dwelling has a small room addition with a private entrance to

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

accommodate boarders. A steep, narrow stairway leads to a second-story bedroom. Samuel Dempster and his large extended family occupied the home from 1890. A mining accident claimed Samuel's eyesight prompting the Dempsters to move across the street in 1896, likely for the rental income from this residence. Samuel died in 1901 and the property passed out of the family. Numerous iron tie-rods, a consequence of the 1935 earthquakes, reinforce the brick of both homes.

**Property:** 537 S Rodney

**Address:** 537 S Rodney, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena South-Central **Building Type:** building contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Machinist Frank Hanry and his wife Mary are this well-preserved home's first known owners. Built circa 1891, the house initially shared its lot with a log cabin and a chicken coop. The brick residence features a Mansard roof with two prominent front dormers. Nearly perpendicular, Mansard roofs transformed cramped attics into usable space and are hallmarks of the Second Empire style. Associated with France during the reign of Napoleon III, Second Empire architecture was considered old fashioned by the time this home was built—even on the mining frontier. Thus, the builder added references to the more modern Queen Anne style. Curved braces with turned spindles support the roof of a front octagonal bay, wooden ornaments accent the window heads, and a sun motif decorates the dormer peaks. The main part of the house is one-and-one-half stories. However, the kitchen is under a separate, one-story roof, a common plan in the 1800s. Placing the kitchen under separate roof minimized fire risk. Bucket brigades could more easily reach a one-story roof, perhaps saving the rest of the house in case of a kitchen fire.

**Property:** Home of Peace Cemetery

**Address:** Alexander Street between Brady Street and Custer Ave, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** **Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** cemeteries **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Tranquil, well-cared for grounds provide a lovely setting for the final resting place of many pioneers. The cemetery, established in 1867, is Helena's oldest active cemetery, Montana's oldest Jewish cemetery, and one of very few cultural remnants of a once-vital population. Jewish immigrants from Eastern Europe came to Montana with the first gold rushes to provide goods and services at Bannack and Virginia City. Along with most of the earliest population, they moved on to Helena in the 1860s and 1870s. The Home of Peace appropriately dignifies these early settlers who showed faith and optimism, investing time and money in their adopted community and contributing significantly to its economic stability. Close-knit families cluster together here as they did in Helena's neighborhoods. Stone curbing binds households together and brick walkways separate family units. Among the 240 recorded burials, tombstones mark 204. The oldest stone dates to 1870; the first ten graves lie unmarked, outside the modern fence to the north. The 1890s water tower and the cottonwood trees, planted circa 1910, recall a conscious effort to landscape and maintain the grounds. The original 1867 wrought iron fence, extending well beyond the cemetery's boundaries, illustrates intended expansion. However, as second and third generations came of age, a lack of job opportunities pushed young people elsewhere. Some have returned to their roots and to the Home of Peace for a final resting place. The cemetery is a significant landmark memorializing an ethno-religious group who forged new lives on the western frontier and helped lay the cornerstones upon which Montana's capital city rests.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Property:** 203 North Rodney Street

**Address:** 203 North Rodney Street, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:** apartments

**Sign Text:**

An early one-story wooden dwelling stood here by 1884, replaced by 1888 with a two-story brick residence, set slightly back from the street. The home soon found itself ensconced in a busy commercial district. Neighbors included saloons, grocery stores, and the Iowa House Hotel (since demolished), where renowned Métis revolutionary Louis Riel stayed during a brief visit to Helena in 1882. Just south, on the corner lot, was T. L. Matthews' East Side Meat Market, which advertised "Poultry, fish, and oysters. Game in season. Salt and fresh meats." In approximately 1895, Matthews purchased the brick residence and transformed it into a business block by adding a new façade flush with the street. The remodeled first floor featured large plate-glass windows, facilitating display of the market's wares. The second story became apartments. The elaborate sheet metal cornice perched along the roofline reflects the flamboyant architectural tastes of the 1890s. By the 1930s, when the Helena earthquakes hit, the meat market had become the Cash Grocery. Earthquake damage likely explains the owner's decision to stucco over the original brick in 1939.

**Property:** Beattie Memorial Park

**Address:** Helena, Railroad, and Roberts, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena Railroad Depot **Building Type:** site

**Subject 1:** parks (recreation areas) **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The Northern Pacific's arrival in 1883 brought rapid local changes including development of this pie-shaped block. By 1884, a brick barber shop, three saloons, a cobbler, and a boarding house served the first passenger trains and earliest residents. By 1906, Walter Larson's meat market and Ole Swanson's corner saloon were neighborhood fixtures. But by 1929, the dilapidated, abandoned buildings made the seedy block infamous along the Northern Pacific line. Anna and Mary Beattie of Illinois had given the city a trust fund in memory of their brothers George, Edward, and Alexander. The brothers were early Helena businessmen and Alexander was a first major investor in this district. The City of Helena used the \$16,124 trust to purchase the lots and create the park. Originally it included a wading pool, drinking fountain, and benches. The intent was to establish a recreational "beauty spot" and a favorable first impression for railroad travelers. Beattie Park is still one of Helena's most attractive retreats. After the Northern Pacific retired its steam locomotives in the mid-1950s, the widely used 1902 S-4 Class "workhorse" came to rest here.

**Property:** Thomas P. Regan Cabin

**Address:** Helena Ranger District / McDonald Pass Area, McDonald Pass, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** tourist cabins **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

In 1932, Thomas and Agnes Regan and their five children hiked the Continental Divide searching out the perfect site for a family cabin. A U.S. Forest Service program, available from 1915 through the 1970s, encouraged recreational use of the national forests by offering multi-year leases to those who would build vacation retreats. The Regans, among the first to lease land in this area, chose this clearing for its expansive view, gentle slope, freshwater spring, and proximity to the newly constructed Highway 12. A busy Helena dentist who preferred to reserve Saturday nights for his family, Dr. Regan wanted a place where he could not be reached by phone. He and his teenaged son built this cabin with assistance from some of the doctor's patients. Money was scarce during the

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

Depression, and many people were eager to work off their bills. Elliston-area rancher Ross Teets helped cut and haul trees to the cabin site with his team of horses, while East Helena carpenter and businessman Al Harstead provided construction expertise. Stonemason Neil O'Donnell built the rubblestone foundation, retaining wall, stone entry steps, and the massive interior fireplace. The cabin's Craftsman-style elements include battered (tapered) corners, multi-pane windows, and exposed rafter tails. Both the structure and its setting, with their romantic associations to the pioneering West, provided the perfect antidote to modern life for a family seeking refreshment in the forest.

**Property:** Samuel Dempster House

**Address:** 480 W Main Street, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Small dwellings along this stretch of West Main Street housed miners and other boarders from the mid-1860s. The first plat of the Helena townsite, drawn in 1868, designated this former mining claim Block Number 1. Scottish immigrant Samuel Dempster may have been the home's first occupant. In 1881, Gertrude Weggenman purchased the property. She and her husband Joseph, a blacksmith at Blackfoot City, moved here. Joseph died of consumption in 1883 leaving Gertrude with six children. She married Samuel Dempster in 1885. The Dempsters moved next door to 488 West Main in 1890 while Gertrude's two older children, Joseph and Mathilda Weggenman, continued to live at this address. Like most of its neighbors, the modest dwelling is built into the hillside. At the back of the property there is an entrance to the original mine and a root cellar that provided even temperatures year round for food storage. The 1860s two-room north portion, built of rubblestone, features the original door, a porch with chamfered posts, and wood-framed windows. The south wing was added by 1888, probably to accommodate the large Weggenman-Dempster family.

**Property:** 17-19 South Rodney Street

**Address:** 17-19 South Rodney Street, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** apartments

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

In September 1887, the Helena Weekly Herald noted "nine first-class brick residences" under construction on South Rodney Street. Among them were three nearly identical duplexes, called Galen Estates after one of the development's principal investors. A trader who first visited the area in 1858, Hugh Galen settled in Helena in 1866. The multifaceted businessman ran a freighting company, operated a stage line, owned several large ranches, served as one-time president of the Capital Lighting Company, and was a director of the Montana National Bank. Simply ornamented with a metal cornice and stained-glass transoms above the front picture windows, this two-story building originally provided rental housing for Helena's elite. In 1890, "capitalist" and large-scale sheep rancher Henry Cannon resided in the north duplex with his wife Emma and their live-in servant. Successful merchant James Wells lived in the south duplex. After Helena's wealthiest citizens migrated to the West Side, the class of tenant changed. By 1933, the duplex had been converted into a four-unit building, which housed the families of a miner, an auditor, a smelter worker, and a Northern Pacific watchman.

**Property:** Opp and Conrad Funeral Home

**Address:** 315 E Sixth Ave, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena **Building Type:** building | contributing

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Jacob Opp and his sons Lawrence and Arthur worked for the longtime undertaking firm of Herrmann and Company before opening their own mortuary with partner Ralph J. Conrad in 1926. Both Lawrence and Arthur Opp were graduates of Chicago's prestigious Worsham College of Mortuary Science. Unlike the Opps, Conrad was new to the funeral business; he previously managed the Bozeman telephone exchange. The partners hired builder George Jacoby to construct this facility specifically as a funeral home. Its gently pitched roof, exposed rafter tails, and mixed materials of brick and stucco harmonize with the urban landscape. Concrete-capped brick piers flanking a sleek panel of glass blocks, centered beneath the roof's peak, emphasize a horizontal orientation popular at the time. Finely crafted leaded, beveled, and stained glass windows enhance the façade while handsome wood finishing completes the interior. The state-of-the-art facility was Helena's first undertaking firm to use limousine-type vehicles, thus eliminating antiquated conveyances traditionally associated with funerals. Opp and Conrad operated until 1954 when the name changed to the Retz Funeral Home.

**Property:** Rodney Street News

**Address:** 122 North Rodney, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Helena **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings

**Subject 2:** residential structures

**Sign Text:**

Gambling that Helena would continue to grow, Eliza Roush purchased this lot and several others in 1869. Her bet paid off, and by 1875, Rodney Street was crowded with buildings, including a small wooden dwelling on this site. A series of wooden structures occupied this corner, and by the time real estate developer Richard Lockey purchased the property in 1895, German immigrant Daniel Bahnsen had opened a dairy here. Like many Rodney Street business owners, he lived on the premises. The dairy closed in 1900. John and Elizabeth Ryan opened a confectionary here in 1922. In 1927, they bought the lot and built this one-story brick veneered building, with a store in front and living quarters in the rear. Six schools within a six-block area made the site a prime location for a candy store. The Ryans sold the business in 1937, but the store continued as a confectionary through the 1940s. By 1950, it had become Rodney Street News. The soda fountain, lunch counter, and newsstand remained a neighborhood institution into the 1990s.

**Property:** Montana Veterans and Pioneers Memorial Building

**Address:** 225 North Roberts, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** museums (buildings)

**Subject 2:** libraries (buildings)

**Sign Text:**

The desire to memorialize the contributions of Montana pioneers and veterans and the need for a state museum converged in 1941. That year, veterans groups, the Sons and Daughters of Montana Pioneers, and the Montana Pioneers joined together to promote construction of this building. The Sons and Daughters of Montana Pioneers purchased the site, and veterans groups contributed \$48,000 toward the project. Together they lobbied the legislature to earmark money for a combined memorial, museum, and historical library. World War II delayed the project, but after the war, Governor John Bonner pushed through an additional \$350,000 appropriation for the building. The groups held an architectural competition, and several Montana firms submitted plans. When the veterans and pioneers voted on the designs by secret ballot at separate conventions, the design of Great Falls architect Angus McIver emerged as the clear winner. The plan featured the sleek lines and balanced asymmetry that characterizes modern architecture at its best. Actually two separate buildings, the striking bronze-trimmed entrance creates a seamless connection between the one-story, windowless museum decorated on the exterior

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

with tile, and the three-story building to the north, whose horizontal ribbons of windows provide the primary ornamentation. After several delays, the building was finally completed in 1953 at a cost of \$638,000. The Montana Historical Society soon filled the galleries with exhibits, including a permanent display of Charles M. Russell paintings and sculpture. The state funded building additions in 1970 and 1986 to accommodate the Society's growing staff and collections.

**Property:** Fish and Game Dept

**Address:** 1310 E. Lockey, Helena, Lewis & Clark

**Historic District:** Montana State Capitol Campus **Building Type:** contributing buildings

**Subject 1:** government buildings

**Subject 2:** Mission Revival

**Sign Text:**

In 1865, Montana's territorial legislature passed its first conservation law, limiting the capture of trout to rod or pole. By 1901, Montana had eight deputy game wardens, which grew to twenty-four by 1917. Hunting and angling became increasingly popular leisure activities after World War II, and Fish and Game's growing number of Helena-based employees worked in rented offices scattered across town. In 1976, the department built itself a permanent home. Designed by the Helena architecture firm of Campeau and Crennen, the building still houses the offices of Fish, Wildlife and Parks. Campeau and Crennen's design rejects the austerity of Modernism; instead, it borrows from styles associated with the natural world to reflect the agency's mission. Stucco walls ornamented with false vigas (brick colored blocks meant to mimic beams) reference the Pueblo style of the Southwest. The entryway, covered with rubble stone, echoes the Rustic style popular in the national parks. Inside, carvings of native wildlife adorn office doors and a vaulted ceiling supported by huge exposed beams gives the lobby a rustic look.

**Property:** First State Bank of Chester

**Address:** Junction of Washington Ave and 1st St East, Chester, Liberty

**Historic District:** **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** banks (financial institutions)

**Subject 2:** residential structures

**Sign Text:**

The Great Northern Railway spread its tracks along the windswept Montana Hi-Line in the 1890s and the settlement of Chester emerged, named for the first telegraph operator's Pennsylvania hometown. The rail line was straightened in 1907 and Chester picked up and moved a quarter mile from its original site to the present location. C. M. Atkins founded the First State Bank of Chester in 1909 and this handsome brick building, by far the most extravagant in town at the time, was completed in 1910. The bank served the prosperous agricultural community during the homestead boom. Like other banks across Montana, First State fell upon hard times as crops failed and homesteaders moved on. The bank closed in 1920, but the building continued to serve the community in a myriad of other ways. Over the years it was a residence, rooming house, bakery, pool hall, barbershop, and hospital, where a former lieutenant governor, Allen Kolstad, was born. Although safety dictated the removal of a second-story turret in the 1950s, Ionic columns, swan's neck brackets, and graceful curved steps remain to frame the canted entrance. The original oak entry doors, pressed metal ceilings, woodwork, and the bank vault are still in place. Representative of small-town banks that once flourished across Montana, the landmark building is a community centerpiece and central to the town's history. Students of Chester's graduating class of 1997 researched and prepared the nomination for listing in the National Register of Historic Places in conjunction with the Montana Heritage Project.

**Property:** First Methodist Episcopal Church of Chester



## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Address:** Junction of 2nd Street and Madison, Chester, Liberty

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** churches (buildings)           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The first two decades of the twentieth century saw railroad promotion and homesteaders settling along Montana's Hi-Line. Chester was one of the first communities to spring up along the new Great Northern Railway line in the 1890s. The town incorporated in 1910 and the local newspaper noted, "...a progressive city like Chester is not taking the right course by neglecting the building of churches." At that time church services were held in several locations including the Grand Bar and Hotel. The community unanimously decided a proper church was an immediate necessity. The congregation of the First Episcopal Methodist Church bought the land and construction began in June of 1911. Furnished with items donated in memory of lost family and friends, the first service was held the following November 5. Because the church was built with community labor, it was fitting that the fruits be shared with Catholics, Lutherans, and Presbyterians, who helped in the construction. Sundays were divided so that each congregation could use the church for services until each had its own place of worship. In the summer of 1946, the church was turned to face the east and a cry room and office added. Services were held until 1968 and in 1970, the Liberty County Museum Association purchased the building for one dollar. Students of Chester's graduating high school class of 1997 researched and prepared the nomination for listing in the National Register of Historic Places in conjunction with the Montana Heritage Project.

**Property:** Coram Hotel (Hotel Libby)

**Address:** 302 California Ave, Libby, Lincoln

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** hotels (public accommodations)           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Libby's mining roots extended back to the 1860s, and after the railroad arrived in 1892, the town attracted additional investors. These included Boston capitalist James A. Coram, who thought the community was ready for a luxury hotel. Coram and his partners hired the Des Moines, Iowa, architectural firm of Liebke, Nourse and Rasmussen to design the three-story building. Contractors broke ground in 1898. An economic downturn stalled construction, and the hotel stood framed under a three-story roof but otherwise remained unfinished for a decade. In 1909, local businessmen C. E. Lukens and John Town purchased the building. The creation of Lincoln County that year no doubt motivated their investment. Finishing the luxury hotel was part of a mini-building boom that also brought electricity, concrete sidewalks, and an expanded water system to Libby, as the community vied to become the county seat. Portland contractor and architect Guy Manning revised the original plans to add modern amenities. Completed at an estimated cost of \$35,000, the Coram opened March 1910. Soon after, the hotel was renamed Hotel Libby, and the "show hotel" became the town's social center, even housing Libby's first bank and, later, the public library from 1923 to 1936. Between 1946 and 1949 many changes were made in an effort to update the hotel, including covering the original façade with locally produced siding and the addition of a neon sign. Prominent local artist Roy Porter was commissioned to paint three large landscapes that still grace the lobby today.

**Property:** Farmers and Merchants State Bank

**Address:** 223 Dewey Ave, Eureka, Lincoln

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** banks (financial institutions)           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The Townsite Company began promoting Eureka's agricultural potential in 1907, spurring the need for a local

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

bank. Kalispell and area investors responded by subscribing \$25,000 to fill this need. When the bank opened in 1908 on its prominent corner, the Tobacco Plains Journal pronounced it “without doubt the handsomest brick structure” in the western part of the county, and the Kalispell Journal declared the town quite fortunate since “the most important factor in the development of a new country is a solid banking institution.” The \$12,000 bank building featured the most up-to-date safe and interior furnishings from Chicago. The Townsite Company shared the bank’s ground floor while the town rented the upstairs for police court and council chambers for \$14 a month. The bank’s investors had promised a “good, wide awake man at the helm” and named one of their own, C. A. Hamann of Kalispell, bank president. Deposits of more than \$7,000 on opening day were a grand prelude to the bank’s early success, but heavy irrigation investments and closure of the local lumber mill resulted in its failure in 1925. Subsequent owners included the first town clerk, H. G. Pomeroy, and former bank board member and county sheriff Frank Baney. Simple lines and elegant brickwork provide an excellent example of Western Commercial architecture while an unusual wide central arch with a multi-paned cut-glass transom adds particular distinction to this long familiar landmark. Sensitive restoration of the first floor has preserved the original open commercial space, tin ceiling, and wood trim.

**Property:** Ant Flat Ranger Station

**Address:** 14333 HWY 93 S, Fortine, Lincoln

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** ranger stations                   **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Little was known about Montana’s vast, unmapped wilderness when presidential proclamations set aside U.S. forest reserves during the 1890s. In 1904, this site became one of the region’s first year-round ranger stations. Ample water, land suitable for pasture and domestic gardens, proximity to heavy timberlands, and access to the Great Northern Railway made Ant Flat an ideal location. President Theodore Roosevelt appointed his friend Fred Herrig, a decorated Rough Rider, its first ranger. The primitive facility grew and by the end of Herrig’s tenure in 1920, this strategically positioned district within the Blackfoot Forest Reserve was top-rated for fire detection, prevention, and control. Although no original log buildings remain at Ant Flat, lilac bushes Herrig planted mark the site of the first primitive headquarters. The remaining buildings of the historic complex date to post 1920 when the Forest Service began to serve a wider traveling public. As use of national forests increased, the appearance of official facilities became more important and the Forest Service sought to harmonize its buildings with the environment. Ant Flat Station reflects these trends. The six-stall log barn (1921-1925) recalls the earlier construction phases and the importance of pack animals. The less “rustic” Craftsman style office/warehouse (1927), gas and oil storage building (1932), and garage and mechanic shop (1934) are a more formal expression of the Forest Service ethic. Ant Flat became a seasonal work center in 1963 but its presence chronicles the evolution of the Forest Service from its beginning through the formative 1920s and 1930s.

**Property:** Eureka Community Hall

**Address:** Cliff Street, Eureka, Lincoln

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** community centers                   **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Eureka and the Tobacco Plains area are timber country, and it is fitting that the Community Hall here is made of logs, carefully crafted by local workers into this Rustic Style structure in 1942. As the fortunes of the logging industry rose and fell during the twentieth century, so did those of this area. During the 1920s and 1930s, economic depression thinned Eureka’s population but, as a local historian noted, “citizens ... never thought of their town as a ghost town.” After the elementary school (which itself had done double duty as a community

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

center) on this site burned down, a variety of groups began working toward this building—their goal not realized for seven years. The Grange, Vets' Club, American Legion, Little Theater Guild, Community Club, Farmer's Union, and the Town of Eureka all joined the effort. Just when the logging industry boomed again, this building arose, proving that faith in their community had not been misplaced. Once again, this site was a meeting place for entertainments, celebrations, lectures, and political discussions—a place for Lincoln County residents to set aside the isolation of their rural lifestyle.

**Property:** Troy Jail

**Address:** 316 East Yaak Ave., Troy, Lincoln

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** jails (buildings)                   **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

A single female boarding house (an early twentieth-century euphemism for brothel) shared the block with the original jail in 1912. Set back from the street, the small ten-by-ten-foot wood-framed jail had only enough room for a single cell—which may have been adequate to control disorder in early Troy. In 1916, however, the population jumped from 300 to 700 when the Snowstorm Mining Company started extracting lead, zinc, and silver for use in World War I. Before the mining company arrived, Troy was a “beautiful town,” according to Jesse Walters, wife of Snowstorm’s superintendent. After 1916, however, Troy became “a boom town with the usual drunks, prostitutes, even a murder or two...” By 1926, 1,300 people lived in Troy, mostly single miners, sawyers, and railroad workers. Four brothels bordered the jail, which served as a barrier between the red light district and the more respectable blocks of Troy’s main street. In 1917, a suspicious fire started at the jail, killing its only prisoner, union organizer Frank Thornton, detained for “creating a disturbance.” The City of Troy repaired its jail, which continued to serve the community—however inadequately—until 1924. That year the city contracted with local builder D. E. Crissey to construct a new fire-resistant twenty-by-forty-foot jail from reinforced concrete. Barred windows and the words stamped beneath a bracketed cornice make the building’s function clear, as does the almost complete absence of windows to the side and rear of the building. Three jail cells, an exposed primitive toilet, and bare hanging light bulbs define the interior.

**Property:** Theodore Roosevelt Memorial Bridge

**Address:** Kootenai River at Riverside Drive, Troy, Lincoln

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** structure

**Subject 1:** bridges (built works)           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Before Libby Dam tamed the river, the Kootenai became “a death dealing torrent in high water time.” Raging currents regularly shut down ferries, stranding supplies intended for logging and mining camps and keeping north side children from their school across the river. The lack of roads and bridges also stymied economic development. Proper infrastructure, area boosters claimed, would bring both more settlers and automobile tourists en route to Glacier National Park. Voters concurred, passing a \$125,000 bond measure in 1911 to improve roads and construct bridges at Libby, Troy, and Rexford. The Coast Bridge Company of Portland, Oregon, won the contract for all three bridges and within weeks a crew of engineers arrived in Libby. Work stopped, however, when Eureka residents, possibly angry over not getting their own bridge, filed an injunction to halt construction. Bridge and road contracts provided notorious opportunities for graft, but in this case the court found no wrongdoing. Construction resumed in June, and on December 17, 1912, the Troy Bridge (later renamed after President Theodore Roosevelt) opened to traffic. “The bridge is the best of its kind,” crowed a local newspaper. “Two spans, with a middle pier, and is perfect in every respect.” In fact, the bridge’s Parker through-truss design was well-suited for the location. The rigid triangle trusses provided the structural stability needed to span the

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

wide river, and the pre-manufactured rolled steel beams made on-site assembly relatively simple. Of the three Kootenai valley bridges to share the standardized design, this is the only one still standing.

**Property:** Driggs Outbuildings / "Cabbage Patch"

**Address:** 327 1/2 West Wallace Street, Virginia City, Madison

**Historic District:** Virginia City **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** barns

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

This small L-shaped collection of outbuildings appears in historic photographs dating to the 1860s. Originally owned by Walter Dance and James Stuart among others, E. W. Driggs owned the property by 1869. The small board-and-batten buildings served as barn, coal shed, and outbuilding. Such buildings were essential elements of daily life in the nineteenth century. Zena Hoff, a Virginia City character and Bovey employee, recreated a series of cribs in the buildings, using her own personal experience as a former "girl of the line" and later madam in the famous "Cabbage Patch" in Butte, Montana. The exteriors of these early essential outbuildings are unchanged and thus add significantly to the 1860s Virginia City "image." As the "Cabbage Patch," the small grouping gains added significance for its association with the colorful Zena Hoff, and her contribution to "Bovey history."

**Property:** Julius Kohls House

**Address:** Wallace Street, Virginia City, Madison

**Historic District:** Virginia City **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Carpenter, cabinetmaker, and lumber dealer Julius Kohls purchased this lot from J. F. Stoer in 1875. Early photographs suggest that this was the site of the famous Leviathan Hall where the longest documented bare knuckle fight (185 rounds) took place between Hugh O'Neill and Con Orem on January 2, 1865. Kohls, whose lumberyard was just across Wallace Street, completed this frame dwelling before 1878 and lived here until about 1920. "Aunt Julia" Elledge, a daughter of Virginia City pioneer Lucien Romey, lived in the home until the 1950s. The T-shaped house with its original picket fence fronting Wallace Street is an excellent example of the rural residential character of Virginia City's main street and nicely illustrates the evolution of building materials from log to frame.

**Property:** Original Madison County Courthouse

**Address:** Wallace Street, Virginia City, Madison

**Historic District:** Virginia City **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** county courthouses

**Subject 2:** hospitals (buildings for health facility)

**Sign Text:**

Madison County was one of the original nine counties created by the first territorial legislature in 1865. This building, constructed in 1866, served as the county courthouse during Virginia City's stint as territorial capital (1865-1875). When the present courthouse on Wallace Street replaced it in 1876, three Catholic Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth, Kansas, came to Virginia City at the request of Father Francis Kelleher. The sisters opened St. Mary's Hospital for miners in the old courthouse. The hospital briefly prospered and the three sisters worked tirelessly caring for patients, cooking, sterilizing instruments, and doing endless hospital laundry. Placer gold was soon exhausted and St. Mary's closed for lack of patients in 1879. In 1949, Charles Bovey remodeled the interior as a hotel, but the exterior, with its clapboard siding and tall false front, is little changed from the 1870s.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Property:** Lewis / McKay House

**Address:** 112 East Wallace St, Virginia City, Madison

**Historic District:** Virginia City **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

J. M. Lewis built two small frame dwellings and two others to the east atop this terraced ridge in 1864. They were among the town's first homes to incorporate planed lumber with log construction. By the 1870s, a central addition connected the two separate houses where miner Alex McKay had settled with his wife and two daughters. Scalloped gingerbread and Greek Revival style pediments above the doors and windows relieve the otherwise plain façade while an original log wall remains on the west. Spindled balustrades cap the stone retaining wall that spans this section of Wallace Street. McKay, who came to the United States from Scotland, was among the first settlers at Alder Gulch. His daughter, Flora McKay McNulty, was one of Montana Territory's first women doctors. Passionately interested in local history, Mrs. McNulty was a founder of the Virginia City Library and helped locate it permanently in the Thompson-Hickman building. Her philanthropy was extended to many young people who went to college with her financial assistance.

**Property:** Montana Post

**Address:** 223 West Wallace, Virginia City, Madison

**Historic District:** Virginia City **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:** printing firms

**Sign Text:**

This building, constructed of logs by D. W. Tilton in the fall of 1863, housed Montana's first newspaper, founded in 1864. The stone print shop at the rear was completed in January 1865, and the following year a new Gothic style façade was applied over the log section. Editor Thomas J. Dimsdale first published his *Vigilantes of Montana* in serial form in the *Post* in 1865-1866. It became the first book published in Montana, also printed here. A fire in 1937 destroyed the wooden sections of the building. The Historic Landmark Society of Montana, with donations from Charles Bovey, repaired the stone walls and faithfully reconstructed the original log structure in 1946.

**Property:** J.F. Stoer Saloon

**Address:** 332 West Wallace, Virginia City, Madison

**Historic District:** Virginia City **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Retail liquor dealer J. F. Stoer operated here from the raucous 1860s until about 1890. From that time until 1908, Smith and Boyd, who ran the livery next door, ran this establishment, aptly renamed the "Bale of Hay." After 1908, the building stood empty until 1946, when the Boveys saved it from collapse and added a front porch. In 1983, a fire heavily damaged the building. Construction to repair the building was confined to the saloon's interior, allowing the outer square-hewn log walls, supported by a new inner structure, to remain place.

**Property:** J.S. Rockfellow House

**Address:** 511 East Cover, Virginia City, Madison

**Historic District:** Virginia City **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The "finest house in Montana Territory" was completed in time for the wedding reception of prominent Virginia

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

City grocer J. S. Rockfellow and his bride on January 29, 1867. Guests were transported by wagon to the “mansion on the hill” in a steady stream of “mud, snow, silks, beauty and humanity.” A rare example of luxury in an isolated area, this home had the first running water in Montana Territory. Rockfellow died in 1868, and later owners included shoe dealer W. P. Armstrong, attorney Theophilus Muffly, and the Morris family. Charles and Sue Bovey painstakingly restored the home in 1946 as their Virginia City residence.

**Property:** Henry Elling Clothing Store

**Address:** 314 West Wallace, Virginia City, Madison

**Historic District:** Virginia City **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** museums (buildings) **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Henry Elling, one of Montana’s early prominent businessmen, first arrived in Virginia City in 1864 with a small stock of men’s clothing. In 1867, Elling returned to Virginia City and opened a store where the Buford warehouse is now located. Elling moved his thriving business to the prestigious Content’s Corner in 1872. He became involved in buying and selling gold, entered the banking business in 1873, and was eventually involved in most mining and mercantile ventures in the area and in banking throughout Montana. Charles Bovey built this reproduction of the original Elling Store with its Greek Revival storefront and museum display as part of his intent to create “living history.”

**Property:** Anaconda Hotel (Fairweather Inn)

**Address:** 305 West Wallace, Virginia City, Madison

**Historic District:** Virginia City **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** saloons (bars) **Subject 2:** hotels (public accommodations)

**Sign Text:**

The oldest section of this building, dating to 1863, was first a simple one-story building that housed a restaurant called the “Young American Eating House.” A butcher shop followed from 1866 to the 1880s, and then in the 1880s the building was a hotel/saloon. It became the Anaconda Hotel and Saloon in the 1890s under proprietor Frank McKeen. Renaming it the Fairweather Inn after the discoverer of gold in Alder Gulch, in 1946 Charles Bovey raised the height of the old hotel to two stories and added a “new” façade that duplicates the gold rush-era design of the then-demolished Goodrich House in Bannack.

**Property:** Anna Lyon House / McKeen Place

**Address:** , Virginia City, Madison

**Historic District:** Virginia City **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Martin and Anna Lyon came to Virginia City by covered wagon in 1864 and settled into this small dwelling. Martin, a successful tailor, was on his way home in January of 1865 when thieves attacked and fatally struck him over the head. A blizzard prevented discovery of his body until three days later. He was buried on boot hill at the same time as three outlaws and due to this confusion, his grave was unmarked. Anna kept the family home, supporting her two sons as a domestic and later as a boardinghouse keeper. The 1880 census records that Anna’s eight male boarders included a 14-year-old student, a teacher, three carpenters, a surveyor, and a farmer. Lodgers likely crowded into the small building at the back. In 1905, newlyweds Frank and Amanda McKeen bought the house. Frank was a well-known saloon keeper and proprietor of the Anaconda Hotel (now the Fairweather Inn). This unassuming little dwelling, located on what was once the edge of Virginia City’s Chinatown, is a significant part of the National Landmark.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Property:** G. Goldberg Store (McGovern Dry Goods)

**Address:** 321 West Wallace, Virginia City, Madison

**Historic District:** Virginia City **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

This 1863 building features a classic Greek Revival style storefront with French doors, typical of the 1860s frontier. The lintel above the doors still bears the name of G. Goldberg, who ran the Pioneer Clothing Store Company prior to 1866. The single door on the left led to the Weston Hotel, a series of four tiny rooms. With accommodations at a premium, any inside space was better than sleeping in the snow. Circa 1908 sisters Hanna and Mary McGovern moved their ladies' clothing store here. It remains today exactly as it was left on the last day of business in 1945.

**Property:** Mrs. Slade's House

**Address:** Van Buren Street, Virginia City, Madison

**Historic District:** Virginia City **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Maria Virginia Slade was likely the first tenant of this modest dwelling owned by pioneer merchant/miner F. R. Merk. On March 19, 1864, Vigilantes hanged Jack Slade, swiftly carrying out the controversial sentence because they feared that the beautiful, persuasive Mrs. Slade would arrive and change their minds. Mrs. Slade thundered into town on her black thoroughbred a few minutes too late. Local legend has it that she kept her husband's body here in a zinc-lined coffin filled with whiskey. After spring thaw she took him to Salt Lake City for burial. In the house a year later on March 23, 1865, Mrs. Slade married her husband's friend, Jim Kiskadden. The couple moved to Salt Lake City and divorced in 1868. By the 1890s, the Bartlett family owned this property, and it later served as parsonage for the Methodist Church (1902-1936). The original beveled siding and gable roof are typical of Virginia City's first frame dwellings.

**Property:** Methodist Church

**Address:** 120 West Idaho, Virginia City, Madison

**Historic District:** Virginia City **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** churches (buildings) **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The Methodists established Virginia City's first church at Jackson and Cover Streets in 1864. D. C. Farwell built this Gothic Revival style church, which replaced the older building. The funeral of William Fairweather, discoverer of gold in Alder Gulch, was the occasion for the first service on August 28, 1875. On the front of the church, stucco scored to resemble cut stone covers the rubble stone walls in imitation of stone Gothic buildings back East. Services were held here into the 1920s, and building was then used as the school gym until 1935.

**Property:** Doncaster Round Barn: "Round Barn at Twin Bridges"

**Address:** 175 Bayers Lane, Twin Bridges, Madison

**Historic District:** **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** stables (animal housing) **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Noah Armstrong established Doncaster Stable in Twin Bridges to take advantage of the Jefferson River Valley's ample water and rich soil. Armstrong firmly believed that Montana's high altitude would give his racehorses great

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

lung capacity and endurance. The large, round, three-story barn was completed in 1882. Architecturally stunning with vertical board and batten siding, ornamental window detailing, and an elegant primary entry, it was also technologically advanced. On the first floor, eighteen well-lit stalls around the outer edge allowed the horses to see each other and also gave them outside access to individual pie-shaped paddocks. Inside, there was a circular training track. The main entry could accommodate a ten-horse wagon laden with hay. The second level stored 12,000 bushels of grain and fifty tons of hay while the third floor housed Armstrong's innovative windmill-driven water system. The barn was the birthplace of Spokane, the only Montana-born horse to win the Kentucky Derby. In 1889 Spokane won the fifteenth Kentucky Derby with a time of 2:34:50. This record time cannot be broken since the track was shortened from 1.5 to 1.25 miles in 1896. Despite the success of his horses, financial reverses during the Silver Panic of 1893 ended Armstrong's horse breeding. When the property sold to Max Lauterbach in 1900, the ranch shifted from horses to cattle. After 1933, owner Arthur Bayers used the Doncaster Barn for many years as a sale barn for prize Hereford bulls. In 1997, it became part of the Hamilton Ranch.

**Property:** Kiskadden's Stone Block (Vigilante Barn)

**Address:** 311 West Wallace, Virginia City, Madison

**Historic District:** Virginia City **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Virginia City's first stone building, constructed during the summer of 1863, originally housed three stores on the ground floor and a meeting hall upstairs. Popular legend has long designated this as the meeting place of the Vigilantes, who prosecuted and hung two dozen outlaw road agents in Virginia City between 1863 and 1864. Grocer William Kiskadden, the original occupant, married the former Mrs. Jack Slade after Slade was hung by the Vigilantes. Blacksmith George Thexton remodeled the building as a livery in the early 1870s, removing one of the two original center doors to enlarge the entrance and reusing it on the hay loft above.

**Property:** Hangman's Building

**Address:** 123 West Wallace, Virginia City, Madison

**Historic District:** Virginia City **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

On January 14, 1864, the Vigilantes used the heavy center support beam of this building, then under construction, to hang five of Henry Plummer's road agents: Frank Parish, Boone Helm, Jack Gallagher, Haze Lyons, and Club Foot George Lane. Druggists Clayton, Hale, and then Morris occupied this completed building until the 1880s when the U.S. Post Office was located here. In 1903, the Virginia City Water Company, owned and operated by Sarah Bickford, purchased the property and maintained offices here until her death in 1939. Bickford was perhaps the only black woman in state history to own a utility, a remarkable achievement in turn-of-the-twentieth-century Montana.

**Property:** Gilbert Brewery

**Address:** 201 East Wallace, Virginia City, Madison

**Historic District:** Virginia City **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** breweries **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Montana Territory's oldest brewery, founded in 1863, is today a rare example of once-common small town breweries. Though several additions to the 1860s building expanded the booming business, its exterior



## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

appearance remains unchanged from the 1880s. Proprietor Henry Gilbert's home and the century-old willows of his "beer garden" park enhance the landscape. The brewery was closed by Prohibition in 1919 and Gilbert Beer, proclaimed by connoisseurs among the nation's best, was made no longer. Charles Bovey stabilized the building in 1946 and later remodeled the interior, but original brewing equipment remains in place.

**Property:** Frank Prasch Blacksmith Shop

**Address:** 328 West Wallace, Virginia City, Madison

**Historic District:** Virginia City **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:** blacksmith shops

**Sign Text:**

Like the blacksmith shop next door, this early building was probably a dance hall or saloon in the mid-1860s run by owner John Trollman. In 1865, Trollman was one of Virginia City's seventy-three licensed retail liquor dealers. By the 1870s, a larger door and higher roof had been added to accommodate Frank Prasch and Fred Kohls' blacksmith shop. Prasch operated the shop until about 1914, then sold out to Louis Romey, who continued until 1946. The building, in near ruin, was rescued by the Historic Landmark Society of Montana. With funds donated by C. A. Bovey, its false front was rebuilt using vintage board and square nails.

**Property:** Lewis / Gohn House

**Address:** 124 E. Wallace, Virginia City, Madison

**Historic District:** Virginia City **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

During restoration of this modest dwelling, built in 1864 by J. M. Lewis and later owned by the Gohn family, its unusual construction came to light. Hand-planed planks finely crafted with key joints in between, posts of hand-hewn timbers, and ceiling joists notched to the wall plate with half-dovetailed joints allowed construction without nails. The planks are numbered for ease of assembly. This post-and-plank method is similar to period grain mill construction, and it is possible that the building was disassembled elsewhere and freighted here for reuse. Lewis, who also built three identical houses to the west, apparently harbored a well-kept secret. Inscriptions preserved on the interior walls reveal that he and his friends were Union sympathizers in a town of staunch Confederate supporters.

**Property:** E. L. Smith Store

**Address:** 304 West Wallace, Virginia City, Madison

**Historic District:** Virginia City **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The design of this false-fronted wooden shop, built in 1863, includes hand-hewn timbers and bay windows, which are said to have been Montana's first "show windows." The Star Billiard Hall was an early tenant, followed by a shoe dealer, and, in the 1870s, the "New York One Price Clothing House." E. L. Smith opened a dry goods store here in 1880 and later moved to the Merk Block, now the Pioneer Bar. Many items displayed here are from Smith's actual inventory, donated by the Smith family.

**Property:** Dance and Stuart Store

**Address:** 329 West Wallace, Virginia City, Madison

**Historic District:** Virginia City **Building Type:** building | contributing

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

James Stuart and his brother Granville set up the first sluice boxes in the northern Rockies in 1852. Delaware native Walter B. Dance came to Gold Creek in 1862. James Stuart and Dance opened their mercantile in November 1863. One of Virginia City's most complete and respected shops, Dance and Stuart also briefly housed the post office. Club Foot George Lane, reputed member of the infamous Plummer Gang, lived at the store and was arrested there by the Vigilantes in 1864. A year later, the Montana Historical Society was founded in the building. The original Dance and Stuart was demolished circa 1925, and Charles Bovey built this replica of vintage logs in 1950.

**Property:** Content's Corner

**Address:** 300 West Wallace, Virginia City, Madison

**Historic District:** Virginia City **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

When Solomon Content built this commercial building in 1864, it was one of the area's most impressive, desirable business spaces. Stucco scored to look like stone originally covered the rubble stone walls, and Gothic transoms lent a civilized dignity. While Virginia City was Montana's Territorial Capital (1865-1875), the second floor held the entire territorial government offices. The first floor housed retail stores, including grocers Rockfellow and Dennee (1864) and clothing stores of the Seigel brothers, Henry Elling, Armstrong and Johnson, and Robert Vickers. In 1943, Vickers' grandson Bob Gohn, who lost his sight in a mine accident at age twenty, opened his famous bar, grocery, and hardware store here, which he ran with remarkable ability until his death in 1986.

**Property:** Kramer Building (Dress Shop)

**Address:** 316 West Wallace, Virginia City, Madison

**Historic District:** Virginia City **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:** commercial buildings

**Sign Text:**

The hasty construction of this remarkably preserved early dwelling reflects the excitement of the gold rush to Alder Gulch during the summer of 1863. Its original dirt-covered pole roof predates the first saw mills; the roof was later covered over with sawn boards. The interior illustrates the once-common use of muslin stretched over logs to imitate a smooth plastered wall. Early occupants were blacksmiths, and during the 1880s and 1890s Julius and Frederick Kramer operated a saddlery here. Living quarters were located in the rear, a common arrangement in mining camps and frontier towns.

**Property:** Hillside Cemetery

**Address:** , Virginia City, Madison

**Historic District:** Virginia City **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** cemeteries

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Seven hundred souls lie beneath the sod here in Virginia City's community cemetery. Boot Hill across the ridge to the west was the first burial ground, but after interment of five road agents there in January 1864, citizens preferred to bury relatives elsewhere. Some even moved loved ones' remains from Boot Hill to Hillside. The oldest marked grave is that of Joseph Watkins who died on March 22, 1865, but early-day graves were often left unmarked. Others buried here include Alder Gulch discoverer Bill Fairweather, Vigilantes of Montana author Thomas Dimsdale, African American businesswoman Sarah Bickford, wealthy banker Henry Elling, and many other

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

prominent pioneers. A section at the east end accommodated Catholics. Hillside's rich assortment of markers includes a few wooden headboards, antiquated mail-order obelisk style monuments, symbolic tree trunks—representing life cut short—and locally produced granite headstones. These illustrate the development of gravestone art in Montana. William Boyce Thompson gave the fence and gate in the late 1920s in memory of his three young siblings buried at Hillside.

**Property:** Thomas Francis Meagher Residence

**Address:** , Virginia City, Madison

**Historic District:** Virginia City **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

General Thomas Francis Meagher, political activist in his native Ireland and American Civil War hero, stepped into a political maelstrom when he came to Montana in September 1865. As the first territorial secretary appointed by President Andrew Johnson, Meagher soon became acting governor and lived here on Idaho Street during his tenure in the territorial capital. He was a brilliant orator and a dashing, controversial figure amongst stormy partisan loyalties. Meagher's career ended abruptly when he mysteriously disappeared from the deck of a steamship at Fort Benton on July 1, 1867. His widow searched the river's edges in vain for his body, but his fate remains unknown. With her husband's whereabouts unresolved, Mrs. Meagher purchased their Virginia City home and returned East. The landmark dwelling burned circa 1905. Charles Bovey reconstructed the residence of square-hewn logs on its original site in 1945. The Helena Ancient Order of Hibernians, Thomas Francis Meagher Division, adopted and will maintain this important residence.

**Property:** Creighton Stone Block

**Address:** 120 West Wallace, Virginia City, Madison

**Historic District:** Virginia City **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Brothers John A. and Edward Creighton came west scouting the first transcontinental telegraph lines from Omaha, Nebraska, to the coast. Temporarily settling in Virginia City, Edward hired Thompson and Griffith to construct this building, the first of locally quarried stone. Beautifully returned to its original appearance, the nine arched openings once defined three separate storefronts. Early occupants included E. Creighton and Co. and B. D. Maxham's liquors and groceries. In 1866, the Creightons, who constructed the first transcontinental telegraph line in 1861, brought this critical link to Montana Territory with the first line to Salt Lake City via a pole on this corner. In 1873, the Madisonian began more than a century of publication in the building's east portion. Edward died in 1874 and, following his wishes, his widow endowed Omaha's Creighton University, one of the first Catholic universities in the western United States. John's philanthropy enlarged and developed the school. John partnered with Butte's fourth copper king, Patrick Largely, who once constructed telegraph lines for the Creightons. The State Savings Bank of Butte and the Speculator Mine were among their joint enterprises.

**Property:** Union City / Christenot Mill

**Address:** Southeast of Virginia City, , Madison

**Historic District:** **Building Type:** building | rural

**Subject 1:** mills (buildings) **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Prospectors discovered gold in Alder Gulch, Idaho Territory, on May 26, 1863. Within weeks, the countryside was

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

teeming with thousands of prospectors, but the easily extracted placer gold soon played out. B. F. Christenot, acting independently or perhaps as agent to Philadelphia backers, began acquiring claims in the Summit Mining District in 1864. Christenot later concealed a substantial amount of gold on his person and traveled to Philadelphia where he convinced investors to back construction of a mill. The transition from placer to lode mining, an expensive undertaking that required heavy financial backing, is well documented here at Union City. Machinery, transported in twenty-six ox-drawn wagons over the Bozeman Trail, arrived in October 1866. Thompson and Griffith of Virginia City constructed the mill, which operated by spring 1867. In June, journalist A. K. McClure arrived from the east to assume its management. Most milling of this period was accomplished by stamping, but the Union City operation employed a process using Chilean rollers for crushing the quartz. Although the mill was reported to be the most efficient in the territory, the ore was soon exhausted and the mill closed down in spring 1868. Sixty thousand dollars was said to have been extracted from the company's nearby Oro Cache lode, but the equipment alone cost \$80,000; the operation was a financial disaster. At peak production the Christenot Mill employed up to forty workers, and the site, representing all aspects of gold milling technology from processing to management, fills a significant chapter in the history of mining in Montana.

**Property:** W.P. Armstrong Store

**Address:** Wallace Street, Virginia City, Madison

**Historic District:** Virginia City **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

This false-fronted commercial building with its box cornice and Greek Revival pilasters appears much as it did when it was built in 1863. The original wide plank flooring within is still in use. Owner W. P. Armstrong had his boot and shoe shop here for a time, but by 1878 a saddler had rented the building. Jacob Dick, a cabinet maker and painter, purchased the property in 1883. Dick occupied the shop for many years and probably applied the exterior paint. A. C. Carter operated the original Montana Picture Gallery at another location in the 1860s. Its modern namesake located here in 1946.

**Property:** F.R. Merk Block

**Address:** 210 West Wallace St, Virginia City, Madison

**Historic District:** Virginia City **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:** saloons (bars)

**Sign Text:**

Gold dust was the common currency when George Higgins built this sturdy "fire-proof stone" business block circa 1866. F. R. Merk leased the new building for his mercantile, advertising fancy and staple groceries, liquors, Queensware, woodenware household implements, and a tin shop with "prices to suit the times." Merk bought the building for \$1,800 in 1867, but soon went back to mining. Harrington, Baker and Company sold boots and shoes here during the 1870s, and E. L. Smith located his department store on these premises in the late 1880s. At the start of Prohibition in 1918, this was the Little Club Saloon. Like other such businesses, the club switched to advertising soft drinks until saloons were again legal in 1933. The present Pioneer Bar has served as a popular watering hole and gathering place since 1947. Although its ground-floor window openings were "frontierized" in the 1960s with rough boards and smaller panes, the impressive stone façade of this gold rush era landmark has changed little since the 1860s.

**Property:** Strasburger's Colorado Store (Jewelry Store)

**Address:** 319 West Wallace, Virginia City, Madison

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Historic District:** Virginia City **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:** residential structures

**Sign Text:**

Inspired by the Renaissance Revival style, the impressive façade of this 1863 building reveals a storefront design very innovative for the 1860s. By the 1880s this “reverse bay style” door and window arrangement became a standard storefront treatment. The façade remains unchanged today except for the replacement of the center door circa 1890. The building houses two shops; Isador Strasburger operated a men’s clothing shop in the larger section until the mid 1870s. After 1878, the building served as a residence for many years. The Boveys recreated a jewelry store, similar to J. B. LaBeau’s two doors up, and added the porch in 1949.

**Property:** McClurg and Ptorney Mercantile (Second Wells Fargo Office)

**Address:** 306 West Wallace, Virginia City, Madison

**Historic District:** Virginia City **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

One of Virginia City’s first mercantile stores opened in this false-fronted Greek Revival style frame building in 1863. Over the years it accommodated a variety of tenants, including Meyer and Koerner’s Ten Pin Alley Saloon (circa 1873-1875) and the U.S. Post Office (1878). In 1899, Wells Fargo, originally located where the Wells Fargo Coffee House is now, moved to this location. By this time rail travel had almost displaced the stagecoach, and the turbulence of the 1860s and 1870s, when the famous stage company provided an essential link to the outside world, was a thing of the past.

**Property:** J.B. Labeau, Jeweler (Toy Store)

**Address:** 315 West Wallace, Virginia City, Madison

**Historic District:** Virginia City **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Ford, Robinson and Clark built this narrow building in late 1863 or early 1864. J. B. LaBeau purchased it for \$500 in 1865 to house his shop, and pioneer surgeon Dr. I. C. Smith established his office here in 1870. In the 1890s, the building was known as the Anaconda Hotel Annex (the Anaconda is now the Fairweather Inn). Interconnecting rooms made a nighttime visit to the two-story privy out back, once accessed by a bridge, hardly private. In 1948, the Boveys recreated a toy store in the building and added a porch to protect its classic Greek Revival façade.

**Property:** S.R. Buford and Company

**Address:** 308 West Wallace, Virginia City, Madison

**Historic District:** Virginia City **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Rounded arches and a tall false front characterize Virginia City’s first brick building, built by clothing merchant E. J. Walter in 1875. It is said that construction using locally produced bricks was accomplished as a test before the building of the Madison County Courthouse. Backed by banker Henry Elling, Simeon R. Buford opened the region’s largest grocery store here in 1878. Buford’s was the supply point for most of southwestern Montana, including the infant “Butte City.” In later years, Butte’s huge warehouses would, in turn, supply Buford’s own business. Most of the merchandise displayed, including the canned goods, came from Buford’s inventory.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Property:** Gohn Residence

**Address:** 134 E. Wallace, Virginia City, Madison

**Historic District:** Virginia City **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

George Gohn, a butcher by trade, came to Alder Gulch with the first rush in June of 1863. A member of the vigilance committee and later elected to several county offices, Gohn ran a local meat market. The Gohn family lived in the house next door prior to 1867 until the completion of this fine one-and-one-half-story stone residence in 1892. Originally incorporated into the wooden house (which was moved eight feet west in 1990), the “pleasant and convenient” home boasted excellent stonework, “artistic painting,” and a very handsome interior finished in oak and maple. Most of the original features remain, including windows, doors, and porch brackets, reinforcing the frontier refinement of this well-cared for home.

**Property:** Sauerbier Blacksmith Shop

**Address:** 326 West Wallace, Virginia City, Madison

**Historic District:** Virginia City **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

A notorious dance hall was the original occupant of this 1863 building, which encompasses a small cabin of V-notched logs, one of the first built in June of that year. Tall French doors and a few dentils clinging to the façade recall its former dance hall elegance. Converted to a blacksmith shop in the 1870s, Charles Sauerbier and his son Karl operated the business until the 1940s. In the early years, Sauerbier repaired stage coaches and shod the ox teams that pulled huge freight wagons of goods. Original tools and machinery are still in place, and various additions chronicle the building’s history in boards, nails, and labor.

**Property:** Romey's Gardens / Bickford Place

**Address:** Wallace Street, Virginia City, Madison

**Historic District:** Virginia City **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Swiss-born Lucien Romey came to Virginia City in 1863 not to mine but to follow his former occupation as a truck gardener. He raised vegetables, which he sold all along the gulch and, keeping them fresh with wet gunny sacks, trucked his produce as far as Butte—a three day trip. Romey built the central log core of this house circa 1864. Its subsequent additions and remodelings chronicle its long domestic use. Stephen E. Bickford, owner of the city water system, bought the property in 1894. Widowed in 1900, Sarah Gammon Bickford capably operated the company herself. Sarah, born into slavery in North Carolina, came to Virginia City in 1871. She soon married William Brown and the couple had three children. Within a decade, Sarah’s entire family had died. She later married Bickford and the couple had three children, to whom Sarah told poignant stories of her “other” family. Sarah Bickford carved a remarkable career for herself and served the community well until her death in 1931.

**Property:** Stonewall Hall

**Address:** 220 West Wallace, Virginia City, Madison

**Historic District:** Virginia City **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:** libraries (buildings)

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

### Sign Text:

From 1865 to 1875 when Virginia City was Montana's territorial capital, the Territorial Legislature met on the second floor of this stone building. Constructed in 1864, it is Montana's oldest standing capitol building. The second floor also housed the Virginia City Lyceum, a small library for "civilized" young men. The retail clothing store of Greenhood, Bohm and Company, a national chain whose company salesmen traveled by stage across Montana, occupied the first floor. Their sign remains on the side of the building. After 1882, R. O. Hickman and then Jacob Albright operated the clothing store. In 1914, part of the 1890s storefront was removed and the building was converted into the Dudley Garage.

**Property:** S.L. Simpson Building

**Address:** 322 West Wallace, Virginia City, Madison

**Historic District:** Virginia City    **Building Type:** building contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures        **Subject 2:** commercial structures

### Sign Text:

This narrow frame building may be one of Virginia City's earliest structures, dating to the summer of 1863, when buildings like this were rented for up to \$175 during the initial gold rush. Its odd-sized door appears to have been locally handmade. First owner D. H. Weston also owned a "hotel" across the street, and S. L. Simpson and J. G. Vettters, owners in the 1870s, may have rented this building as a tonsorial parlor. An early photo shows a barber pole out front. The building served as a residence from the 1880s until 1946, when the Boveys acquired it.

**Property:** Smith and Boyd Livery Stable

**Address:** Wallace Street, Virginia City, Madison

**Historic District:** Virginia City    **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** barns                            **Subject 2:** theaters (buildings)

### Sign Text:

This false-fronted rubble stone barn was constructed by Smith and Boyd circa 1900, replacing a log livery stable. The stone part of the building and the front doors and windows remain as they were at the turn of the twentieth century. The barn was converted to a theater in 1949, with additions made to the rear. The porch was salvaged from the famous Morgan Evans Mansion near Anaconda, and was added to the front at that time. The "Old Stone Barn" has been home to the Virginia City Players, Montana's oldest professional acting company, since 1949.

**Property:** Green Front Boarding House

**Address:** 406 West Wallace, Virginia City, Madison

**Historic District:** Virginia City    **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** brothels                        **Subject 2:** residential structures

### Sign Text:

These two adjoining log houses were probably built by Calvin Holly and William Douglas as dwellings in the late 1860s. By 1890, the two buildings were operated as "female boarding houses" or houses of prostitution run by madams Myrtle Butler and Pearl McGinnis. During the early years, this area was Virginia City's thriving red-light district, but by the 1890s the Green Front was surrounded by Virginia City's "China Town." This building faced the Chinese Temple, which stood between the two trees across the street.

**Property:** Territorial Governor's Mansion

**Address:** 116 East Wallace Street, Virginia City, Madison

**Historic District:** Virginia City    **Building Type:** building | contributing

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

When President Grant named Benjamin F. Potts of Ohio governor of the Territory of Montana in 1870, it was to this modest home that the new governor came to begin serving his appointment. Virginia City was then the territorial capital, and this small residence served as the “governor’s mansion” for the first three years of Pott’s twelve-year stint (a longer term than any other territorial governor). Potts was a large and powerfully built man, who must have appeared gigantic in this diminutive dwelling. The unassuming frame house, demurely adorned with decorative bargeboards and perched on a terrace bordered by a balustraded stonewall, has changed little since it was built in 1864 by J. M. Lewis. Lewis, who was its first occupant, also built the houses next door on either side.

**Property:** Pony Public School

**Address:** Jefferson and Isdell Streets, Pony, Madison

**Historic District:** Pony **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** public schools (buildings)

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

This fine Neo-classical style building represents Pony’s most affluent period, when area mines produced significant wealth. In 1902, the population soared to a record 1,000. School trustees secured financing and selected prominent Butte architect H. M. Patterson to design the town’s new school. Pony contractors McDonald and Bradshaw undertook the construction with the help of many area craftsmen. Built of locally made brick at a cost of \$10,138, the building features a central pavilion, arched windows, and decorative pressed metal. The “pride of the community” welcomed its first students in 1903.

**Property:** Gilbert House

**Address:** 203 East Wallace, Virginia City, Madison

**Historic District:** Virginia City **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Christen Richter, Henry Gilbert’s partner in the brewing business, built a home on this site in 1864 and soon added a stone wing. Gilbert purchased both Richter’s interest in the business and the house, moving his own dwelling to adjoin it on the east in 1873. Few changes have occurred to the three-part residence since the 1870s; even the fancy trim and period screen doors remain in place. Margaret and Henry Gilbert raised fifteen children in the sprawling home, including daughters Amelia and Clara, who were the first twins born in the area. Gilbert had a varied career as teacher, saddler, and trader before coming to Virginia City at the height of the gold rush. He was a prominent member of the early community, serving two terms as mayor of Virginia City as well as county treasurer and assessor. Gilbert met a tragic end in 1903 when his wagon overturned and pinned him underneath. Several of his sons carried on the brewery business until it closed in 1919.

**Property:** Moritz House (Alderine Hancock House)

**Address:** Idaho Street, Virginia City, Madison

**Historic District:** Virginia City **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

This modest Greek Revival style dwelling, probably one of the first houses built here in the mid-1860s, features the classic elements of Virginia City’s earliest “high style” residences. Decorative pediments above the windows, clapboard siding, cornerboards, and flat vergeboards characterize this style. Popular before the Civil War,



## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

frequent use of Greek Revival on the Western frontier was a throw-back to that earlier period. Sawn lumber and glass transported overland by freight wagon were expensive commodities, and their use reflects the wealth of first owner Elmer F. Johnson. Owned by the Moritz family between 1888 and 1934, the home represents elegance on the early frontier.

**Property:** Pony Historic District

**Address:** , Pony, Madison

**Historic District:** Pony **Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** historic districts **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

About 1866, a prospector of very small stature, Tecumseh "Pony" Smith, left his nickname attached to the creek where he found gold. In 1875, a settlement bearing his name grew to serve local miners. Pony's early population reflected the whims of gold miners, growing larger when a miner struck pay dirt and dwindling when someone found a bigger lode somewhere else. By the 1880s, mines like the Boss Tweed and Clipper were yielding fortunes in gold ore. Soon after, the Union Pacific Railroad extended its tracks to the town, and by 1895 Pony had a school, a public hall, two hotels, and numerous businesses. As the mines began to play out at the turn of the century, cyanide processing sparked new interest in the area. Pony prospered, acquiring telephone service, electricity, and a more urban appearance. Masons and carpenters produced splendid Queen Anne style residences and fine buildings of locally made materials, such as the Pony School and the Morris State Bank. Mining again waned after 1910, and Pony's economy shifted to serve the surrounding agricultural community. Today, log and frame structures of the 1870s and substantial buildings of the early twentieth century remain to chronicle Pony's evolution and tenacity, a town as small but sturdy as its namesake.

**Property:** Hutchins Bridge

**Address:** Across the Madison River, Cameron, Madison

**Historic District:** **Building Type:** structure

**Subject 1:** bridges (built works) **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Madison County commissioners began discussing the feasibility of a road along the Madison River in 1869. When Congress designated Yellowstone a National Park in 1872, the area was accessible only on horseback. It was not until a year later that the first good wagon road to the Park was constructed along this route. Mathew Dunham built a wooden toll bridge across the river here in 1885 but soon sold it to rancher I. A. Hutchins, who continued to collect tolls. In 1900, Madison County purchased the bridge with a right-of-way through Hutchins' ranch for \$300. Portions of the bridge collapsed when a herd of cattle crossed and it was no longer used. In 1902, John Towle of Omaha, whose builder's plaque is mounted on the bridge's southeast hip, constructed this steel bridge for Madison County at a cost of \$5,999. By 1917, the Hutchins Bridge was part of the Banff to Grand Canyon Road known as the Red and White Trail for the colors of its signs. The West Yellowstone to Butte portion was known as the Vigilante Trail. A new route to the park in 1922 bypassed the Hutchins Bridge, and it has since served local traffic. The bridge is significant as an example of a pin-connected Pratt through truss, a prefabricated design that was the most common form of metal truss bridge until about 1920.

**Property:** Samuel Word House

**Address:** 407 East Cover, Virginia City, Madison

**Historic District:** Virginia City **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:** hospitals (buildings for health facility)

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

### Sign Text:

A central stone room with an open fireplace is the oldest part of this dwelling, probably built by D. A. G. Floweree in 1864. By 1866, pioneer lawyer Samuel Word had expanded the house, adding several rooms, including the stone front section. The Joseph Trenerry family built a tall brick addition onto the low stone house in the 1890s and ran a hospital here. In 1947, fire destroyed the building's brick and wood portions. The fire-damaged stone walls were restored and new additions compatible with the original sections were built in 1973-74 as a residence for Ford Bovey.

**Property:** Dr. Don L. Byam Residence

**Address:** Main Street, Nevada City, Madison

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

Light timber framing with board-and-batten walls characterizes this early home original to the Nevada City townsite. Inside, the original, well-preserved, muslin-covered walls are a rare example of a frontier decorating technique. The cabin's first occupants were Dr. Don Byam and his family, who came to Alder Gulch in 1863 after someone jumped their claim near Bannack. Elected judge of the miner's court, Dr. Byam presided over the murder trial of George Ives, held on Nevada City's main street in December 1863. Ives, convicted and hanged, was incarcerated during the trial in the small cabin behind the house. The trial was the catalyst for forming the Vigilantes. During the Civil War in Confederate-dominated Alder Gulch, Dr. Byam was a member of the anti-Confederate Union League of America. Clandestine meetings were held in the Byam attic. The Byams moved on and Samuel B. Wonderly next owned the house. He removed the original false front and added the gable as camp phase architecture gave way to the settlement period. Lawrence Fenner and his wife Amanda moved into the house in 1875. They remained in Nevada City long after almost everyone else had moved away. Fenner, a Union League activist and self-styled Vigilante like Dr. Byam, was a civil engineer and inventor. He obtained the US Mineral Patent on the Nevada City townsite in 1878 and was the first to dredge in the area using a method he invented. After Fenner died in 1915, Amanda stayed on and died here in 1930 at 84.

**Property:** Susie Marr House

**Address:** Dames and Moore 197-2, Virginia City, Madison

**Historic District:** Virginia City Historic District   **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

The small-scale simplicity of Susie Marr's house belies the owner's rich life. Marr emigrated from Scotland in 1870. In Virginia City, she managed household affairs for banker, William Morris, his wife, and their six children. In turn, Morris took care of Susie and gave her this house, which she shared with her brother, William Marr, a widower. The Marrs were Masons, an organization that formed a caring social circle and set Susie, a maid, and William, a store clerk, on an equal plane with more affluent community members. William, who ran unsuccessfully for sheriff, served stints as Virginia City's postmaster and county clerk. Susie frequently visited her Masonic Sisters of the Eastern Star outside Virginia City and rubbed elbows with Montana's elite as a Virginia City delegate to the 1893 Chicago World's Fair. In 1910, when Susie was sixty-five, brother William died, and Susie's employers, the Morriszes, moved to Bozeman. Nevertheless, Susie remained in Virginia City for another twenty-five years, eventually bequeathing her house to the Masons and moving to the Helena Masonic Home, where she lived to age ninety-seven.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Property:** Finney House

**Address:** Corner of Main and California Streets, Nevada City, Madison

**Historic District:** **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Construction layers of this original homestead tell much of Nevada City's "boom and bust" history. In 1864, miner Frank Finney and his bride, Mary, moved into a cabin on this property that had been constructed the previous year. The cabin forms the core of the present house. The newlyweds soon added the front room, decorating the log walls and ceilings with muslin stretched smooth to mimic plastered walls, then applying wallpaper over the muslin. Clapboard siding covered the rough exterior log walls in the front, and by the end of the 1860s, the house had a second story, some gingerbread trim, and a picket fence. A well provided water for laundry and a nearby spring supplied their drinking water. The Finneys used a fireplace until they could afford a woodstove, then they blocked the chimney. The couple's four children, three of whom survived to adulthood, were born in the house. Another abandoned miner's cabin to the north became the Finneys' summer kitchen. A yearly coat of whitewash in the kitchen grew to be inches thick. The Finneys kept milk cows and Mary made butter and cheese, the best in the region. The Finney family lived here continuously from 1864 until the 1950s when daughter Cora Finney was Nevada City's last resident. Unlike their neighbors who moved on, the Finneys stayed and adapted what their neighbors left to their own uses, helping to preserve a sampling of the local building traditions and structural forms of the original mining camp.

**Property:** Original Madison County Courthouse

**Address:** Dames and Moore 196-7, Virginia City, Madison

**Historic District:** Virginia City Historic District **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** county courthouses **Subject 2:** hospitals (buildings for health facility)

**Sign Text:**

Madison County was one of the original nine counties created by the first territorial legislature in 1865. This building, constructed in 1866, served as the county courthouse during Virginia City's stint as territorial capital (1865-1875). When the present courthouse on Wallace Street replaced it in 1876, three Catholic Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth, Kansas, came to Virginia City at the request of Father Francis Kelleher. The sisters opened St. Mary's Hospital for miners in the old courthouse. The hospital briefly prospered and the three sisters worked tirelessly caring for patients, cooking, sterilizing instruments, and doing endless hospital laundry. Placer gold was soon exhausted and St. Mary's closed for lack of patients in 1879. In 1949, Charles Bovey remodeled the interior as a hotel, but the exterior, with its clapboard siding and tall false front, is little changed from the 1870s.

**Property:** Henderson's Paint Shop

**Address:** Dames and Moore 151-1, Virginia City, Madison

**Historic District:** Virginia City Historic District **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:** log buildings

**Sign Text:**

John Henderson's painting business occupied this humble log building beginning in 1864. In addition to painting buildings, Henderson also offered decorative painting and sign writing. In Virginia City's boom days, when new buildings on Wallace Street emerged and changed owners often, Henderson's artistic hand was in high demand. He designed and hand-painted a wide variety of signs from large dry goods store and political campaign signs to small hand-lettered signs on office doors. He even labeled and decorated Virginia City's first hook and ladder fire wagon in 1865. Henderson was an active member of the Virginia City Masonic Lodge No. 1, ran for alderman in 1865, and county treasurer in 1867. Virginia City's building boom faded by the late 1860s, and like so many other

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

early territorial entrepreneurs, Henderson moved to Helena in 1868. Nevertheless, the name Henderson's Paint Shop stayed with the building for years after. Henderson's shop remained a practical rental property owned by several successful Virginia City residents, including blacksmith George Thexton, businessman James Vanderbeck, Montana's sixth governor Sam Stewart, and builder/butcher George Vickers.

**Property:** Elling House

**Address:** Idaho Street, Virginia City, Madison

**Historic District:** Virginia City **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Three elegant Gothic windows embellish this sprawling stone mansion built for wealthy banker Henry Elling in 1876. The Gothic style was already outdated by the 1870s, but in remote mining camps it served as a visual reminder of urban places far away. German-born Elling worked his way west, learning English, and saving his money. Arriving at Virginia City in October 1864, he established a successful mercantile, but banking later made him wealthy. Elling married schoolteacher Mary Cooley in 1870, and the couple had ten children. When Elling died in 1900, Mary donated funds in memory of her husband to help build the Episcopal Church. Renowned for her warm hospitality, Mary added a ballroom onto the back of the house in 1902. She often gave parties, inviting the public into her home. Her death in 1924 saddened the community. Mourners sent many floral tributes, prompting the *Madisonian* to remark that Mary Elling was "beautiful in life, and beautiful in death." The interior of the older, front portion of the home includes the original huge stone fireplace and beautiful oak floors and woodwork.

**Property:** George E. Gohn House

**Address:** 209 W. Idaho, Virginia City, Madison

**Historic District:** Virginia City **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The Beaverhead Saloon stood here in 1864 when this part of town was the commercial center. By 1878, business activity had shifted to Wallace Street and the saloon had been replaced by a small, two-story frame dwelling, which is now the southwest corner of the residence. Subsequent additions before 1904 gave the home its present appearance. First owned by Sarah McGarry, its simple lines and lack of ornamentation are excellent examples of vernacular frontier architecture and the town's more permanent, second-generation buildings. A Victorian-era hairpin iron fence, manufactured by the Stewart Iron Works in Cincinnati, partially encloses the property. George E. Gohn purchased the home in 1897. He was one of the town's first native-born residents. His wife, the former Mary Francis Vickers, was also born here to pioneer settlers. Upon his father's death in 1906, Gohn took over the family's long-established meat market. He was later elected to several county offices and died in 1935. Mary remained in the home until her death in 1971 at the age of 100.

**Property:** Daems House

**Address:** Dames and Moore 198-6, Virginia City, Madison

**Historic District:** Virginia City Historic District **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Though simple by today's standards, the Daems house exemplifies an upper-middle-class, early-1860s Virginia City dwelling. Dr. Levinus Daems and his wife Marie Daems, a nurse, may have been the first residents of the house. Born in Belgium and trained in Paris, Dr. Daems arrived in Virginia City in 1863 to open the City Drug Store. Marie

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

followed a year later with their young daughter and Marie's two sisters. Levinus served on the first Board of Aldermen in 1865, the Territorial Council in 1866, and as mayor in 1868. He owned more than thirty properties in town. It is unclear if the Daems's continued to live here as their family and fortunes grew, or if the home became a rental property. Nevertheless, its colorful wallpaper, paint, and faux wood-grain trim reflected the Daems's economic status and showcased the decorative products their drugstore sold. Levinus died in 1874, and Marie died in 1904. The house remained in the family until 1952. In 2007, the Montana Heritage Commission documented the house's multi-layered interior finishes before restoring the residence to its 1860s appearance.

**Property:** Square Building

**Address:** Hwy 14 Fairgrounds Rd, Twin Bridges, Madison

**Historic District:** Madison County Fair Grounds **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** assembly halls

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Post-and-beam construction covered with log-veneer siding characterizes this early building inspired by M. H. Lott and built as a community project by area homesteaders in 1894. It is the only remaining building of the original fairground complex, built when the land was privately owned. Salvaged by the WPA-funded project that rebuilt the fairground in the mid-1930s, its remodeling included the addition of casement windows, a hardwood floor, and the log-veneer siding. The building has always served as a central gathering spot at the fair. In the 1960s, the building was renamed the "Jeffers Building" in honor of Lawrence and Jo Jeffers, whose countless hours devoted to Youth Projects, 4-H, and FFA made them true champions of Madison County's youth.

**Property:** Assay Office

**Address:** Dames and Moore 193-6, Virginia City, Madison

**Historic District:** Virginia City **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings

**Subject 2:** reconstructions

**Sign Text:**

Mining is filthy work, a fact that spelled opportunity for African American barber George Turley, who opened a "Fashionable Hair Dressing and Shaving Saloon" in a narrow building on this site. In 1864, Turley advertised bathrooms for miners interested in sprucing up before a night out. He also offered haircuts, shaves, shoe-shines, and "mustache and hair coloring." Barbering was one of the few professions open to African American men after the Civil War, and barbers' services were in high demand in Montana Territory, where approximately 27 percent of African Americans pursued the trade. By 1884, Turley had moved on, and a cobbler occupied the false-front building. By the 1940s, when Charles and Sue Bovey began to take an interest in the town, the building was in ruins. After clearing the rubble, the Boveys constructed this false-front frame building based on an 1870s photograph of the Gilbert Assay Office. The word "assay" comes from a French word meaning "to try or test." Every gold rush town had at least one assay office, where miners could bring ore samples to test the richness of their claims.

**Property:** Montana Picture Gallery

**Address:** Dames and Moore 193-12, Virginia City, Madison

**Historic District:** Virginia City **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings

**Subject 2:** reconstructions

**Sign Text:**

Charles and Sue Bovey began preserving and reconstructing Virginia and Nevada Cities in the mid-1940s. Often, they relocated entire buildings from elsewhere, recreating streetscapes to reflect territorial days. Early fire insurance maps show that W. P. Armstrong ran a clothing store at this location from 1865 to 1883. Following

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

Armstrong, the building hosted numerous commercial and residential uses, stood vacant, and disappeared around 1920 as the area's mining economy and population shrank. The Boveys transplanted this historic building in 1948. Such one-story false-front commercial buildings once commonly lined the streets of Montana's early settlements; relatively few survive. The building's sidewalls are log, and only the façade bears stylistic features. The flat-finished engaged columns that frame the storefront reflect limitations in frontier-era wood milling capabilities but still project civilized respectability on the business and its customers. The multi-pane storefront windows allowed light into the deep, narrow building. The small panes recall the time when each piece of glass, packed in sawdust, traveled by ox cart over bumpy roads from Fort Benton or Salt Lake City, a trip no plate-glass window could survive.

**Property:** Pavilion

**Address:** Hwy 14 Fairgrounds Rd, Twin Bridges, Madison

**Historic District:** Madison County Fair Grounds **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** pavilions (building divisions) **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

WPA engineer C. D. Paxton designed this impressive octagonal community building as part of the federally funded project to rebuild the fairground in 1936. Master log craftsman Tosten Stenberg of WPA headquarters in Livingston supervised the building. The primary construction material is lodgepole pine, chosen for its uniformity and harvested at nearby Ramshorn Creek. Logs are bias-cut and saddle-notched. Poles radiating from a central lantern form the interior rafters and afford a floor space of one hundred feet in diameter. Besides serving as the main hall during fair time, the Pavilion has long been a favorite place for building memories, hosting hundreds of local events. Dances, wedding receptions, family reunions, church functions, political rallies, flea markets, organizational Christmas parties, and even winter roller skating serve to perpetuate the community spirit that built this Madison County treasure.

**Property:** Virginia City Trading Company

**Address:** Dames and Moore 193-15, Virginia City, Madison

**Historic District:** Virginia City Historic District **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:** reconstructions

**Sign Text:**

Carpenter Ray McClurg built this reproduction storefront building in 1948 to house the Virginia City Trading Company, the tourism company owned by preservationists Charles and Sue Bovey. In the early 1950s, Charles acquired and restored many dilapidated Virginia City buildings and moved in or built new buildings to recreate long lost pioneer businesses. Bovey and McClurg referenced historic maps and photographs to make this building resemble the original 1864 Gurney & Co. boot and shoe store that once stood on the site. In the late 1860s, Gurney & Co., a national chain, eventually moved up the street to a more desirable location. The building sat vacant before serving as a dwelling from the 1870s through the early 1900s. It disappeared from the site after 1922. When the new building opened in the late 1940s it housed Sue Bovey's collection of vintage clothing. Charles then used it throughout the 1950s and 1960s as his office and archive. The building has been a seasonal gift shop since 1977.

**Property:** Thexton House

**Address:** Dames and Moore 153-1, Virginia City, Madison

**Historic District:** Virginia City **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

### Sign Text:

A steeply pitched roof and windows with pointed arches reveal Gothic Revival style influence in this finely-crafted 1884 residence, built by George Thexton. The style, often adapted to the frontier in wood, is here expressed in stone as was the norm back east. Fancy brackets between porch supports and a decorative bargeboard in the front central gable echo the arch motif. Thexton, an early Virginia City blacksmith and alderman who later branched out into mining and ranching, forged the machinery used to bore the town's wooden water pipes (some of which were still in use as late as 1971). Restored to its 1880s likeness, the home reflects cosmopolitan tastes that extended even to the western frontier.

**Property:** Ferris / Hermsmeyer / Fenton Ranch

**Address:** 144 Duncan District Road, Sheridan, Madison

**Historic District:**            **Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** ranches (agricultural complexes)

**Subject 2:** residential structures

### Sign Text:

Widowed in 1864 after her husband died in a mining accident, Jane Ferris found work as a housekeeper for Sheridan Valley rancher John Barber. Barber likely built the log cabin core of the main residence for Jane and her two children. Barber died circa 1872, but Jane stayed on, filing a preemption claim on 160 acres. She died within a year of receiving title to the property, leaving two children ages thirteen and fifteen. Her daughter Millicent married neighbor Herbert Noble when she came of age, and the couple lived on the ranch between 1877 and 1882. They sold the land to German immigrant Frederick Hermsmeyer in 1883. A placer miner who came to Montana in the 1860s, Hermsmeyer made his fortune by carefully investing his earnings; this ranch was among his many business ventures. He lived here only briefly before moving to Sheridan, leaving relative George Hermsmeyer and family to manage the property until George's death in 1917. The Hermsmeyers' tenure saw construction of the two-story frame addition to the log cabin, a log bunkhouse, and likely a number of other utilitarian outbuildings. After 1917, the property changed hands several times before Stanley and Helen Fenton purchased it from the bank in 1937. Active members of the Sheridan community, the Fentons became known for the birthday parties they hosted here for children living in the Twin Bridges' orphanage. Stanley died unexpectedly in 1959, after which Helen returned to school, ultimately becoming an award-winning journalist. She resided here until her death in 2000.

**Property:** Green Front Boarding House

**Address:** Dames and Moore 194-3, Virginia City, Madison

**Historic District:** Virginia City Historic District    **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** brothels

**Subject 2:** residential structures

### Sign Text:

During the wild 1860s, Virginia City had no red-light district and "sporting women" intermingled with the general population. By the 1870s, there were few customers to support such activities and the women moved on. After dredging crews began to work Alder Gulch in the 1890s, prostitutes returned to town. Women worked out of three houses labeled "female boarding" on historic maps. Two were on Idaho Street. The third was here at the Green Front, where Mattie "Dutch Mat" Lee was madam in the later 1890s. Mattie was the mistress of Fairweather Inn owner Frank McKeen, who purchased the two adjoining log cabins for her and set her up in business. On the fringe of Virginia City's Chinatown, this building faced the Chinese temple, which stood between the two trees across the street. Prostitutes across the West and here in Virginia City relied upon Chinese businesses for inexpensive meals, herbal remedies, and opium. Recent archaeology at the Green Front proved this relationship. Fragments of Chinese crockery, dinnerware, and the lid of an opium can were among the artifacts discovered in excavations along the building's foundation.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Property:** Samuel Word House

**Address:** Dames and Moore 144-1, Virginia City, Madison

**Historic District:** Virginia City **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:** stone buildings

**Sign Text:**

Virginia City's first stone buildings emerged in mid-1864. Joseph Griffith and William Thompson opened a stone quarry in summer 1864 to build the Creighton Stone Block of rubblestone covered with stucco scored to look like dressed granite. Contents Corner and Stonewall Hall on Wallace Street followed. Similarly, the town's first stone residences emerged in 1864. A central stone room with an open fireplace is the oldest part of this dwelling. By 1866, pioneer lawyer Samuel Word expanded the house, adding several rooms, including the front section. Word ascended to prominence in Helena and sold the house to Joseph and Jane Trenerry, who added an impressive two-story brick addition in the 1890s. Charles and Sue Bovey bought the building in 1945 for their son Ford, but in 1947, a gas explosion destroyed all but the stone walls. In 1973-74, John Ellingsen restored the stone walls and added compatible new additions. The Word House represents one of many Bovey reconstructions meant to maintain Virginia City's territorial character.

**Property:** Virginia City Gymnasium

**Address:** Dames and Moore 191-9, Virginia City, Madison

**Historic District:** Virginia City **Building Type:** contributing building

**Subject 1:** public buildings **Subject 2:** gymnasiums

**Sign Text:**

The Elling, Knight & Buford hardware store, located in the Masonic Temple, built this warehouse in July 1901. Although seemingly mundane, such storage buildings were essential to keeping Virginia City residents supplied with consumer goods. Even after the arrival of a branch rail line to Alder in 1901 (ten miles from Virginia City), merchants hauled in vast quantities of merchandise only a few times a year. They displayed as much stock in their shops as possible and stored the rest elsewhere. When inventory ran low at the Elling, Knight & Buford store, clerks walked up Van Buren Street to the warehouse to bring back new stock. The hardware store closed in the early 1930s, and the Virginia City School District bought this building in 1935. Harvey Romey rallied town residents to remodel it into a gym without a bond issue. In 1970, the Virginia City School closed, and the school board gifted the gym to the Vigilance Club for community use. The town of Virginia City took ownership in 1988, and the building continues to serve the community for recreation and events.

**Property:** Pfouts and Russel (Rank's Drug-Old Masonic Temple)

**Address:** 211 W Wallace, Virginia City, Madison

**Historic District:** Virginia City **Building Type:** building contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:** fraternal lodges

**Sign Text:**

Paris Pfouts, Vigilante president and Virginia City's first mayor, was instrumental in laying out the town. He and his partner, Samuel Russell, built a log store on this site in summer 1863. Local hell-raiser Jack Slade was arrested here on March 10, 1864, and, in an execution controversial even among the Vigilantes, hanged on a corral gatepost behind the building. Pfouts and Russell constructed the present building in 1865. Lime was not yet available for mortar, so the stone walls were secured with adobe mud. A loyal Mason, Pfouts gave the second floor to the Masonic Lodge. There the Grand Lodge of Montana A.F. and A.M. was founded on January 24, 1866. W. W. Morris moved his drug store, established in the Hangman's Building in 1864, to this location circa 1877. C.



## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

W. Rank bought the business in 1889. He and his wife ran it until 1946. Now housing the oldest continuously operated business in Montana, the building has been little altered since the 1860s.

**Property:** Hickman House

**Address:** Dames and Moore 198-3, Virginia City, Madison

**Historic District:** Virginia City **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:** mining towns

**Sign Text:**

An 1868 lithograph drawn by artist Alfred Mathews shows a large commercial structure on this lot, but panoramic mapmaker E. L. Sheldon depicted the entire block occupied by single-family dwellings in 1875. Carpenter Gothic style trim originally decorated the porch supports of this one-story L-shaped wood-frame home, marking its owners' nostalgia for architecture fashionable in the eastern United States in the 1850s. Margaret Hickman, the wife of merchant and territorial legislator Richard O. Hickman, owned the residence by 1888. Margaret was one of many nineteenth-century Montana women to own their family home, but female property ownership was not a straightforward reflection of women's economic power. Under certain circumstances, married women's property was protected from their husbands' creditors, and families often used this fact to protect their assets. The Hickmans moved to Helena in 1889 when Richard became the first state lands agent, but the family's connections to Virginia City remained strong. After daughter Gertrude married William Thompson, son of another Virginia City pioneer family, the couple moved to New York. However, they remembered their hometown, donating funds to build the Thompson-Hickman Library, now also a museum.

**Property:** Methodist Church

**Address:** Dames and Moore 198-7, Virginia City, Madison

**Historic District:** Virginia City **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** churches (buildings) **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The Methodists established Virginia City's first church at Jackson and Cover Streets in 1864. D. C. Farwell built this Gothic Revival style church, which replaced the older building. The funeral of William Fairweather, discoverer of gold in Alder Gulch, was the occasion for the first service on August 28, 1875. On the front of the church, stucco scored to resemble cut stone covers the rubble stone walls in imitation of stone Gothic buildings back East. Services were held here into the 1920s, and building was then used as the school gym until 1935.

**Property:** Tootle, Leach & Company Warehouse

**Address:** Dames and Moore 197-4, Virginia City, Madison

**Historic District:** Virginia City **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** warehouses **Subject 2:** industrial buildings

**Sign Text:**

Thomas Tootle and Richard Leach formed a partnership, operating with various other partners in mercantile stores in Denver, Kansas City, here in Virginia City, and later in Deer Lodge. Tootle and Leach was one of Virginia City's first businesses, opening in 1863. Their mercantile soon expanded, moving here to Idaho Street, four doors up from the corner of Idaho and Jackson. In 1864, Stephen J. Gainan, who was later a successful placer miner at Brown's Gulch, built this fireproof stone building adjacent to the main store as a warehouse to house the mercantile's extensive inventory. Tootle & Leach advertised a variety of hard to find "Fancy and Staple Goods," such as Shaker hoods, hoop skirts, and fine Brussels and hemp carpets. The store offered practical items as well including stationery, miner's blankets, brown muslin, "Missouri" jeans, and housekeeping supplies. Tootle and

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

Leach dissolved their Virginia City partnership in 1872, and the store no longer stands. Its other walls and dirt roof long since collapsed, this single stone wall of the warehouse is the lone survivor.

**Property:** Gilbert/Pankey Cabin

**Address:** Dames and Moore 149-3, Virginia City, Madison

**Historic District:** Virginia City **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:** log buildings

**Sign Text:**

Small one- and two-room log houses like the western portion of this cabin lined the side streets of Virginia City in the mid-1860s. Assistant U.S. Assessor John R. Gilbert was the first resident in 1864, followed by telegraph operator Hiram Brundage in 1869. Teamster Henry Harriman and his family lived here in the late 1880s. By the early 1900s, Virginia City's population had dwindled to 568 souls. Its many drafty log cabins stood vacant and undesirable. In 1907, Anna "Mae" Lowman, a Virginia City native, purchased the house. At the time, Mae served as the Madison County Superintendent of Schools. She later became one of Montana's first women dentists. After attending dental college in Portland, Oregon, Mae married fellow dentist Marcus Pankey in 1916. Together they practiced dentistry in nearby Ennis and spent summer weekends in this cabin. Marcus died in 1919 and Mae continued her practice in Ennis and in Ajo, Arizona, until the late 1940s. She retired to Virginia City and lived here with her brother until her death in 1951. New owners added an addition to the east in 1976.

**Property:** Elling Bank

**Address:** 201 W. Wallace, Virginia City, Madison

**Historic District:** Virginia City **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** banks (financial institutions) **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Bankers Nowlan and Weary set up business in this brick-veneered building, one of the town's oldest stone structures, in 1864. Three well-proportioned Gothic arches with elaborate tracery, removed during 1910 remodeling, originally graced its stone façade. In 1873, Henry Elling took over the banking business. His first fortune, made in merchandising, had disappeared along with his partner, but Elling quickly recouped his losses. The buying of gold dust proved a most profitable venture, and Elling became an expert, able to determine the exact location of extraction from the texture and color of the dust. Under his shrewd direction, Elling's tiny bank became the first financial capital of Montana. The ornate vault, still intact, always carried large amounts of the dust. The Elling State Bank was organized in 1899 and Elling died a millionaire the following year. His family continued to operate the bank for another thirty years.

**Property:** Bartlett's Blacksmith Shop

**Address:** 206 W. Wallace, Virginia City, Madison

**Historic District:** Virginia City **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Virginia City boomed and land prices soared accordingly in 1863 and 1864, a trend well illustrated in the earliest ownership transactions of this choice commercial property. On May 13, 1864, George Parker paid \$800 for the lot and sold it for \$1,400 on June 27. By 1869, the property owner was Herschfield, Hanauer and Company, bankers who specialized in gold exchange. A photograph from the early 1870s shows the original log building that first occupied this lot. The present rubblestone building had been constructed by 1878 to house E. J. Bartlett's blacksmith shop. Bartlett advertised as a "blacksmith and machinist" from 1879 through the early 1890s. The brick

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

vener on the front façade was added over the stone circa 1900, and the building was converted for use as a trading post in 1950.

**Property:** Madison County Fair Grounds Historic District

**Address:** Hwy 14 Fairgrounds Rd, Twin Bridges, Madison

**Historic District:** Madison County Fair Grounds **Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** recreation

**Subject 2:** historic districts

**Sign Text:**

Early Twin Bridges offered few public gathering places, and so these fifty acres, once part of the Lott and Seidensticker homesteads, were developed as “The Park” in 1887. A “harvest home barbecue” was held that year, and two years later the event had blossomed into the first annual county fair. Early fairs were privately run and later partially supported by the county. Then, as now, the fair gave ranchers and farmers a chance to show their best produce and livestock while promoting local pride and friendly rivalry. In 1928, a depressed economy curtailed the event and in 1930 Madison County purchased the fairground property. The economy worsened during the Great Depression until 1934, when more than half Madison County’s workforce was unemployed. In 1935, the federal Works Progress Administration (WPA) approved funding assistance for the rebuilding of the unused fairground. Construction began in 1936, putting a great number of unemployed residents back to work. WPA engineer C. D. Paxton drew the plans and Tosten Stenberg, well known for his log structures in Yellowstone Park, directed construction. Local foreman Fred Sommers was brought out of retirement with a special waiver from Washington to supervise the project. Lodgepole pine, fir logs, and other building materials were gathered locally and prepared by workers on site. When the project was completed in 1937, seven masterfully crafted new buildings and one remodeled 1890s structure lent new significance to the traditional fairground. Today the collection of buildings is architecturally significant for its fine design as well as historically important for its WPA construction using entirely local materials and labor.

**Property:** Coggsell-Taylor Cabins

**Address:** Jackson Street, Virginia City, Madison

**Historic District:** Virginia City **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** cabins (houses)

**Subject 2:** residential structures

**Sign Text:**

The history of these two false-fronted cabins, joined by the 1890s, is interwoven with Virginia City’s African-American pioneers. The two separate, 1860s log cabins served both residential and commercial purposes. Minerva Coggsell acquired this property, according to her will, “by her own hard labor.” She and her sister, Parthenia Sneed, were among a few adventurous, independent black women who carved niches for themselves in western communities. The sisters took in laundry, ran a Wallace Street restaurant, and by 1880 kept boarders like Kentucky-born African-American Jack Taylor. Taylor served in the Union army during the Civil War and came to Virginia City in 1866, freighting for the outfit of Majors and Russell. Taylor continued freighting, accumulated livestock, and owned considerable property, including these cabins purchased after Minerva’s death in 1894. Taylor lived here until he died in 1926. Sarah Bickford, who rose from slavery to become Virginia City’s competent water company owner, cared for Taylor during his last illness and then acquired the cabins. Taylor’s tombstone in Hillside Cemetery recalls a life of honest labor: “While the earth remaineth, seed time and harvest shall not cease.”

**Property:** Mary Harding House

**Address:** Jackson Street, Virginia City, Madison

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Historic District:** Virginia City **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Square hewn log walls combined with drop siding recall the important transition from a gold camp to a settled town and the accompanying desire for attractive, less rustic, permanent housing. The interior of this mid-1870s two-story residence survives with its original floorplan and finishing intact. The steep pitch of the roof earned the house the nickname “Lightning Splitter.” David Keneally, a devout Irish Catholic, built the residence as a rental while the Catholic complex across the street—church, hospital, and sisters’ convent—grew to serve the community. The home’s construction date suggests that Father Frank Kelleher, the parish priest in residence at Virginia City until 1883, may have been Keneally’s first tenant. In 1894, Irish-born widow Mary Harding bought the property from Keneally; he was her husband’s uncle and estate executor. Mary kept house here until her death in 1928. Subsequent owners/landlords included Henry W. Buford, the McGovern sisters, and Charles Bovey. The home’s respectable owners throughout its history cast doubt on rumors that the house functioned as a brothel. Lightning Splitter, included in the Bovey holdings, is now under state ownership.

**Property:** Corbett House

**Address:** Dames and Moore 198-5, Virginia City, Madison

**Historic District:** Virginia City Historic District **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The cozy placement of the Corbett and Daems houses has long been a mystery in Virginia City. The log Corbett house was likely built in summer 1863, and the Daems house by early 1864. No records exist explaining why these two middle-class homes sit so close together but remained separate homes with separate owners (with no adjoining door) for over 140 years. Although Virginia City was formally platted (divided into lots) by July 1863, miners and merchants weren’t worried about city planning. Within eight months of the first gold strike, more than five hundred buildings sprang up, without regard to lot lines or setbacks. With land in high demand, many of Virginia City’s early residences abutted others as a space-saving measure. Early owners of this home included an actress, county surveyor John Corbett, and watchmaker Norris Butler and his family. By 1952, preservationist Charles Bovey owned both houses, which remained in use for paint storage for more than fifty years. In 2007, the Montana Heritage Commission introduced an interior door during restoration, finally connecting the two houses.

**Property:** Ten Pin Alley Saloon

**Address:** Dames and Moore 193-5, Virginia City, Madison

**Historic District:** Virginia City Historic District **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:** saloons

**Sign Text:**

Virginia City grew up almost overnight after William Fairweather found color in Alder Creek. Miners rushed to the rich diggings, leaving Bannack, Montana’s first major gold camp, practically a ghost town. Among the Bannack merchants to follow their customers to Virginia City was J. E. McClurg, who opened a mercantile here with partner James Ptorney. The false-front Greek Revival style building later accommodated other tenants, including Meyer and Koerner’s Ten Pin Alley Saloon (circa 1873-75). A popular nineteenth-century male sport, bowling was not the respectable pastime it later became. Bowling was originally played with nine pins; entrepreneurs added the final pin to circumvent laws banning the game, and ten pin bowling was born. In 1899, Wells Fargo & Co., originally located a few doors east, moved to this location. In the turbulent 1860s and 1870s, the famous stage company provided an essential link to the outside world, but by 1899 rail travel had almost displaced the stagecoach. The last stage departed in 1910 and the building was abandoned until restoration in 1945 by Charles Bovey.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Property:** Metropolitan Meat Market

**Address:** 215 W Wallace, Virginia City, Madison

**Historic District:** Virginia City **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

George Gohn was one of the first to arrive at Alder Gulch in 1863, where he and Conrad Kohrs set up a meat market in a log cabin. Alkali dust sifted through the chinks and covered the meat, prompting Gohn to experiment with various other locations until he settled on this site in 1880. When fire destroyed much of the block in 1888, only Gohn rebuilt. The present building, completed that year, long stood solitary on this section of Wallace Street. Decorative pilasters, brackets, and imitation quarried stone highlight the cast-iron storefront manufactured by George Mesker of Evansville, Indiana. Recent interior renovation included restoration of the tin ceiling. In the process, owners discovered a hidden treasure behind a plastered drywall: Gohn's elaborate oak meat cooler with beveled mirrors intact. This unusual example of 1880s state-of-the-art equipment stands sixteen feet high. Gohn advertised that his cooler was always well stocked with beef, veal, pork, game fowl, and mutton and that his peddling wagons were "run regularly up and down the gulch."

**Property:** Thompson-Hickman Library and Museum

**Address:** Hwy 87, Virginia City, Madison

**Historic District:** Virginia City **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** libraries (buildings) **Subject 2:** museum (buildings)

**Sign Text:**

William Boyce Thompson and his wife, Gertrude Hickman, were born in Virginia City to parents of early pioneers. The couple moved to New York City, but retained local ties. The Thompsons provided the funds to build this facility housing a public library and historical collections. Frank A. Colby and Thomas A. Bruno of New York City designed and constructed the building. Work began in 1918 with the laying of the cornerstone; items sealed inside include coins and Thompson and Hickman family histories. Mayor Jacob Albright and Harry E. Hall served as overseers of construction. Built of locally quarried blue-gray stone, the public facility opened in 1922. Generous fireplaces and huge bookcases at either end welcomed patrons to the upper-level reading room and public library. While residents established the first library as early as 1865, the Virginia City Women's Club organized the current library in 1902. The ground floor museum features local artifacts, photographs, and collections of early Alder Gulch, much of it acquired by former Virginia City mayors James Emslie and James Walker.

**Property:** Sisters of Charity Nunnery

**Address:** Dames and Moore 196-8, Virginia City, Madison

**Historic District:** Virginia City **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** hospitals **Subject 2:** government buildings

**Sign Text:**

A grueling journey by train and stagecoach brought three Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth, Kansas, to Virginia City in 1876. The former Madison County Courthouse (now the Bonanza Inn) had been vacated. The sisters purchased the building, which then sat next to All Saints' Catholic Church, and converted it to St. Mary's Hospital for miners. Hospital patients paid ten to twelve dollars a week. Stabbings, gunshot wounds, mining accidents, tuberculosis, and pneumonia kept the sisters exhausted, and always the specter of epidemics loomed. This small, one-and-one-half-story frame saltbox style residence was built as the sisters' convent. The sisters gathered their own firewood, drew water from a well, kept a huge kettle boiling over a fire in the yard for the endless hospital laundry, and prepared patients' meals over a small cookstove. But by the end of the 1870s, the placer gold had

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

played out, and the sisters—who were never meant to be ornamental—were reassigned. The convent became a private home. In 1946, Charles Bovey made improvements. For the next decades, the former convent housed summer theater staff.

**Property:** Virginia City Café

**Address:** Dames & Moore 192-4, Virginia City, Madison

**Historic District:** Virginia City **Building Type:** contributing building

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:** brick buildings

**Sign Text:**

Fire swept through this block in 1915 destroying all the wood-frame buildings between Stonewall Hall on the west and the F. R. Merk building on the east. Originally this site was home to a small, wood-frame, false-front building. Hellman & Co. clothing store located here in 1865-66, Poznansky and Rosenstein Dry Goods store in early 1867, and Schiller's Clothing Emporium in 1867. Eastern European immigrants Poznansky, Rosenstein, and Schiller all belonged to a close-knit Jewish community that moved on as Virginia City's economy slowed in the late 1860s. The building likely sat vacant for much of the 1880s and 1890s, but a saloon occupied the site by 1904. After the 1915 fire, Elbridge Smith built this modest, cream-colored brick commercial building and opened an electric appliance shop. Smith was an electrical engineer in the mining industry and owned a ten-stamp mill in Williams Gulch. In the 1930s, Charles Goldsmith ran a jewelry store here, and the Miner's Café opened in the late 1950s. The building has been home to the Virginia City Café since the early 1970s.

**Property:** C.L. Dahler House

**Address:** 106 East Wallace St, Virginia City, Madison

**Historic District:** Virginia City **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Two small houses shared this choice corner location in 1866, but after 1875, photographs reveal the unmistakable steeply pitched roof and central gable of this splendid Gothic Revival style residence. Expansion and remodeling during the 1890s added the bay windows, rear gable, and decorative bargeboards that now ornament the front façade. Pioneer businessman Charles L. Dahler owned the home in the 1880s, followed by banker Thomas Duncan in 1897, and Missouri Mining Company superintendent John Henry Pankey in 1917. Although Pankey, his wife Catherine, and their three sons sometimes lived on site at the mines, they always considered this spacious and appealing residence their true home. The Pankey family retained ownership until 1980, when the familiar landmark became home to the law firm of attorney Chester Lloyd Jones and, more recently, the Madison County Title Co.

**Property:** F.R. Merk Block

**Address:** Dames & Moore 192-3, Virginia City, Madison

**Historic District:** Virginia City **Building Type:** contributing building

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:** stone buildings

**Sign Text:**

Gold dust was the common currency when George Higgins built this sturdy "fire-proof stone" business block circa 1866. F. R. Merk leased the new building for his mercantile, advertising fancy and staple groceries, liquors, household implements, and a tin shop with "prices to suit the times." Merk bought the building for \$1,800 in 1867 but soon went back to mining. Harrington, Baker & Company sold boots and shoes here during the 1870s, and E. L. Smith located his department store here in the late 1880s. Before Prohibition in 1918, this was the Little Club

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

Saloon. Like other such businesses, the club switched to advertising soft drinks until saloons were again legal in 1933. The present Pioneer Bar has served as a popular gathering place since 1947. Previous owners changed the façade in the 1960s so the building better matched tourists' ideas of the Old West. A 2010 renovation restored this gold rush–era landmark to its original 1860s appearance. The owners uncovered and restored the façade's original fanlight transoms, reconstructed the second-floor casement windows, and re-installed original wooden cornice brackets discovered in the attic.

**Property:** Frisch / Ferguson Cabin

**Address:** Dames and Moore 152-3, Virginia City, Madison

**Historic District:** Virginia City Historic District **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:** log buildings

**Sign Text:**

The Frisch/Ferguson cabin escaped collapse twice and survives as an excellent example of a one-room log dwelling meant to provide short term, basic shelter for prospectors. The cabin's early history is unknown, but by 1874, miner Fred Frisch and his wife Amelia were residents. Fred died in April 1878, leaving Amelia to care for two young children. In December of that year, Amelia married Fred's mining partner, Abram Thurgood. They left town to settle in the Ruby Valley where Abram worked various mining claims. For nearly eighty years the Frisch/Thurgood family maintained the cabin as a rental property. Abram Thurgood became a successful miner and saloon owner and was elected Madison County Assessor in 1898. By 1901, he and Amelia lived nearby on the southwest corner of Jackson and Cover streets. Widowed prospector Sim Ferguson was the last renter in the 1940s. Preservationist Charles Bovey rebuilt the cabin in the 1950s, but with no tenant in residence it fell into disrepair by the 1980s. The Montana Heritage Commission rescued the cabin once again in 2005, preserving it as a permanent exhibit.

**Property:** Elling-Morris Mill

**Address:** N. Willow Creek Rd, Pony, Madison

**Historic District:** Pony **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Two coarse rubble stone walls, wooden walls extending above and beyond the stone walls at the rear, and a wooden roof housed this twenty-stamp gold mill built in 1883. Henry Elling (1848-1900) and William W. Morris (1840-1904) were the mill's original owners. Each of the mill's twenty stamps probably weighed between 500 and 750 pounds. Lifted in sequence by a camshaft, the giant stamps crushed gold-bearing quartz into fine sand. The quartz came from Pony-area mines, including the Boss Tweed, the Keystone, and the Clipper. Once crushed, the ore was placed on one of the mill's four Frue vanners. New technology in 1884, Frue vanners combined a shaking rubber belt with water jets to wash away "gangue" (worthless rock) while leaving the heavier gold-containing particles. The gold-containing particles were then shipped approximately sixty miles north to a smelter at Wickes, where giant roasting furnaces finished the process of isolating the gold. Once the largest operating concentrator in Pony, the mill ran periodically from 1884 until approximately 1926. Today only the east and west walls remain.

**Property:** Conrey Place

**Address:** 223 W Cover, Virginia City, Madison

**Historic District:** Virginia City **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

During Virginia City's mid-1860s boom, residences and businesses crowded along Cover Street. Most commercial

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

buildings were gone by the mid-1880s and the neighborhood became primarily residential. Irish immigrant Phillip Conrey, a rancher and two-term city treasurer, worked extensive Alder Gulch placer claims and built this two-story home in the 1880s. An open porch with turned spindles; tall, narrow windows; and clapboard siding are characteristic of the period. The interior features wood ceilings and an original staircase. A stone section likely predates the house; Conrey probably stored materials from his placer mining operations there. Conrey sold his Ruby Valley ranch for a mere \$30,000; investors later dredged the property for gold making millions, much of it bequeathed to Harvard University. After several other owners, Anaconda Hotel owner Amanda McKeen bought the home in 1920. Upon her death in 1923, it passed to a niece. Alta Butler began her forty-year ownership of the home in 1933 after the death of her husband, deputy sheriff William Butler. The appearance of the home has changed little from the 1880s when it first appears in Virginia City photographs.

**Property:** Raymond House

**Address:** Dames & Moore 196-1, Virginia City, Madison

**Historic District:** Virginia City **Building Type:** contributing building

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:** log buildings

**Sign Text:**

In the mid-1860s, the east end of Idaho Street, where this cabin once stood, was “suburban,” a place that families could settle away from the dust and noise of downtown. At first, most lived in small cabins like this one, but by the mid-1880s, grander upper-class homes and the new public school transformed the neighborhood. By 1888, widow Delilah Raymond owned this cabin. She and her grown children, Sarah, Hillhouse, and Winthrop followed a wagon train from Missouri to Virginia City in 1865. Upon arriving, daughter Sarah wrote in her journal, “It is the shabbiest town I ever saw, not a really good house in it.” The family paid eight dollars a month for a two-room, dirt-roof cabin at Wallace and Hamilton. Despite their initial dissatisfaction, they stayed and prospered. Hillhouse bred race horses near Sheridan, and Winthrop became successful in banking and real estate. Sarah was one of the town’s first public school teachers. She published her journal, “Days on the Road,” in 1902. In 1980, owners moved the cabin to this location to house visiting actors.

**Property:** City Bakery

**Address:** Dames and Moore 154-13, Virginia City, Madison

**Historic District:** Virginia City **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:** stone buildings

**Sign Text:**

When Charles and Sue Bovey decided to turn Virginia City into a premiere tourist destination in the 1940s, the building that originally stood here was in ruins. The Boveys hired mason Chris Christensen to rebuild the structure’s front wall from the original stone. Christensen did not, however, cover the rubble stone with stucco, a technique used on the original building in 1863 to mimic quarried stone. The rustic false front also reflects the Boveys’ vision of what a Wild West town should look like, not what was actually here in the 1860s. In 1865, J. Oliver’s City Bakery occupied the site. Oliver wholesaled and retailed crackers, “Bread of the best quality and Pies in variety.” He also sold liquor and cigars and provided patrons with “good music” and a “commodious Saloon,” making this establishment more than a bakery. By 1884, a Chinese washhouse operated from the site, and an abundance of Chinese artifacts were found during the 1940s reconstruction. Many Chinese immigrants opened laundries. The business required no training and little capital but provided a much-needed service, especially in mining camps dominated by single men.

**Property:** Albright Clothing Store



## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Address:** Dames & Moore 155-5, Virginia City, Madison

**Historic District:** Virginia City **Building Type:** contributing building

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:** brick buildings

**Sign Text:**

A fire swept through this block in January 1888 destroying Phil Conrey's barbershop on this site. Neighbors to the left, Merkle's Jewelry Store, Gohn's Meat Market, and Jacob Dick's Paint Store also burned down. Gohn rebuilt his decorative tin-front meat market right away, but the other lots remained vacant for many years. By 1913, the massive stone wall of Rank's Drug Store (the original Masonic Temple) next door was sagging without a sister building to shore it up. In response, Virginia City Grand Lodge No. 1 built this classic example of an early twentieth-century brick commercial building for just over \$4,600. Decorative caps on each side of the corbeled (stepped) parapet above the tall glass storefront windows embellish the otherwise modest facade. Merchant Jacob Albright moved his clothing shop from Stonewall Hall across the street and remained in business here until his death in 1933. Various other stores occupied the building over the next thirty years until Rod Marshall opened a candy store in 1969. Since then, the shop has become a beloved stop for kids of all ages.

**Property:** Thexton House

**Address:** 306 E. Idaho, Virginia City, Madison

**Historic District:** Virginia City **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

A steeply pitched roof and windows with pointed arches reveal Gothic Revival style influence in this finely-crafted 1884 residence, built by George Thexton. The style, often adapted to the frontier in wood, is here expressed in stone as was the norm back east. Fancy brackets between porch supports and a decorative bargeboard in the front central gable echo the arch motif. Thexton, an early Virginia City blacksmith and alderman who later branched out into mining and ranching, forged the machinery used to bore the town's wooden water pipes (some of which were still in use as late as 1971). Restored to its 1880s likeness, the home reflects cosmopolitan tastes that extended even to the western frontier.

**Property:** Allen and Millard Bank

**Address:** 120 W. Wallace, Virginia City, Madison

**Historic District:** Virginia City **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** banks (financial institutions) **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The Federal Reserve Bank of Montana identifies the Allen and Millard Bank, which opened here in 1864, as the first real bank in Montana Territory. While other businesses in the territory called themselves banks, most were actually express companies that exchanged gold for cash or offered storage space in their safes. Allen and Millard, in fact, had the power to write drafts on a New York bank. The building itself, beautifully maintained, is one of Virginia City's oldest and best-preserved stone buildings. Although the original French doors and tall, narrow windows were replaced circa 1900, the front façade features the original ashlar stone, bracketed wooden cornice, and wooden window heads, allowing the building to retain its 1860s appearance. The bank operated as Hall and Bennett into the early 1900s and then became the Madison State Bank, which did business until 1930.

**Property:** Kohl's/Little Joe's Cabin

**Address:** Dames & Moore 194-5, Virginia City, Madison

**Historic District:** Virginia City **Building Type:** contributing building

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:** log buildings

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

### Sign Text:

Carpenter Julius Kohls purchased this property in 1882, where he built a one-room log cabin and a combination wood shed and outhouse. In contrast to most of the town's 1860s-era gold-rush log buildings, Kohls' cabin does not have hand-notched logs interlaced at the corners. Instead, he nailed the logs to vertical two-by-four-inch pieces of milled lumber. Hand notching and joining the corners together (like Lincoln Logs) creates a tighter, more stable structure, whereas nailing the logs takes less time and labor. The porch and rear addition were likely added in the early 1900s, when dredge mining renewed the economy, bringing jobs and men to the area. Kohls made wagons, wheels, and cabinets, and was a lumber dealer who lived within sight of this cabin in a then-modern wood-frame house on the north side of Wallace Street. This cabin was one of Kohls' many rental properties; he likely leased it to unmarried men or women. Preservationist Charles Bovey purchased the cabin in the early 1950s and rented it to sheepherder "Little Joe" Shanizie until the early 1970s.

**Property:** Raymond House

**Address:** 120 E Idaho, Virginia City, Madison

**Historic District:** Virginia City     **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures     **Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

Eighteen-year-old Winthrop Raymond arrived in Virginia City from Missouri in 1865. He and his brother, Hillhouse, began a business hauling wood and building materials. Winthrop built this home soon after, perhaps on speculation. First owner B. F. Christnof obtained a city deed in 1869, when the property was valued at \$250. Christnof made a handsome profit when he sold out to Theodore Slosson for a whopping \$1,000 in 1874. The following year, Winthrop Raymond's wife, Hannah Ellen, purchased the home. John S. Allen subsequently lived here from 1892 until 1931. The original building was ell-shaped, with intersecting gables and gingerbread latticework. Despite five additions, this historic home, with its lovely French windows, retains much of its 1860s appearance and well deserves significant status as one of Virginia City's oldest frame dwellings.

**Property:** Virginia City School

**Address:** Idaho Street, Virginia City, Madison

**Historic District:** Virginia City     **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** public schools (buildings)     **Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

Professor Thomas Dimsdale, author of *The Vigilantes of Montana*, opened the first school in the gold camp in fall 1863. In 1864, a log cabin, built where the Methodist Church now stands, served for preaching on Sundays and school during the week. There were eighty-one registered students. Virginia City School District #1 organized in January 1866, and the first public school in Montana Territory opened in March. Sarah Raymond Herndon, later Madison County superintendent of schools, was the first teacher. She paid \$6.00 in "clean gold dust" to take an examination at home earning her teaching certificate. This school opened in January 1876. Designed by Loren Olds, architect of the Madison County Courthouse, the community built the four-room brick school for \$8,400. It is one of Montana's oldest surviving schoolhouses. A 1910 addition accommodated increased enrollment. A severe earthquake in 1959 necessitated the removal of its wooden bell tower and prompted installation of larger windows to the north and south. The school closed its historic doors to the last students in 1976. Today, the building houses City Hall and county offices.

**Property:** Buford Block (Site of Wells Fargo Office)

**Address:** 300-312 West Wallace, Virginia City, Madison

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Historic District:** Virginia City **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Ben Holladay's Overland Stage reached Virginia City in 1864, and from that time until 1899, stages arrived and departed from this site for connections all over the West and the States. Bought out by Wells Fargo and Company in 1866, the office also housed the telegraph. In 1899, S. R. Buford, whose successful grocery and hardware stores were on either side of the older building, tore it down and constructed this building, the Buford Block, to expand his grocery department. The Wells Fargo office then moved to a rented location two doors east. After Buford's death in 1905, his sons carried on the business until 1926.

**Property:** Leander Frary House

**Address:** 117 West Cover Street, Virginia City, Madison

**Historic District:** Virginia City **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Dentist-turned-miner Leander W. Frary came to Virginia City with the gold rush to try his luck. He and his wife Alice owned interests in a number of lode claims. Frary, a prominent citizen, was among the founders of the Grand Lodge of Masons in Virginia City in 1866 and served as Treasurer of Montana Territory in 1869. He went back to his profession in the 1870s, practicing dentistry in Helena. Frary died in California in 1911. Deed records show that in 1866 Frary purchased a house and property here on Cover Street for \$200. This early home has interesting architectural elements that support a construction date prior to its use as the Frarys' residence. The structure originally had a small front porch with a central entry door. Two tall, narrow double French doors running to floor level, like the first Greek Revival style storefronts on Wallace Street, flanked the entry. These features suggest a commercial function, consistent with the character of Cover Street in the mid-1860s. The original gingerbread trim remains tucked under the front gable.

**Property:** Charles W Rank House

**Address:** 2010 E Idaho, Virginia City, Madison

**Historic District:** Virginia City **Building Type:** building contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Charles W. Rank arrived on the third train into Bozeman in 1883. There he launched a career in the drug store business that would span more than half a century. In 1884, he came to Virginia City to manage a small drug store. Partnering with his brother-in-law J. S. Allen, Charles purchased the store and later was the sole owner. Rank Drug Store's inventory was as extensive as the leading stores in Montana's largest communities. Not only was Charles a prominent businessman, but he also served terms as city councilman and mayor. Charles married Irish-born Elizabeth Hill in 1887 and the couple built this home in 1898. They raised an adopted daughter and spent the rest of their married lives here. The home's Victorian-era footprint, with its three-sided bay window, gabled roof, and tucked in corner porch, remains intact. In 1937, well-wishers crowded the home and showered the Ranks with flowers and gifts as they celebrated their golden wedding anniversary. Charles passed away in 1939, and Elizabeth maintained the family home and ran the drug store until her death in 1946.

**Property:** Henry Blake House (John Reed Residence)

**Address:** Hwy 87, Virginia City, Madison

**Historic District:** Virginia City **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

### Sign Text:

Situated prominently along once-busy Idaho Street, this home is one of Virginia City's earliest frame dwellings. The two-story portion—its windows capped by original wooden pediments—dates from 1864. Attorney and later Supreme Court judge Henry Blake bought the property in 1866 and lived here briefly before his marriage in 1870. Miner John Reed was a longtime owner. Reed came west from Pennsylvania to join the Colorado gold rush in 1859. He arrived in Montana in time to join the rush to Alder Gulch in June 1863. Reed walked here from Bannack with 60 pounds of provisions. He and his partners founded the famous Highland District, which produced more than \$1 million in gold dust. Reed married Clara Hathaway, the widow of a business partner. Mrs. Hathaway's husband died when a runaway team threw his sleigh over an embankment. The Reeds spent their entire married life in the home, from 1882 until John's death in 1912. They expanded the house onto adjacent lots with materials likely salvaged from pre-existing homes. The home had assumed its present appearance by 1904.

**Property:** Cole / Batten House

**Address:** 200 Idaho, Virginia City, Madison

**Historic District:** Virginia City     **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures     **Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

This early home, built circa 1868 by C. E. Hill, was reputedly the site of Virginia City's first Chinese wedding. The two-story section was originally finished in vertical siding, the eaves were trimmed in fancy latticework, and a small porch sheltered the entry. The back sections and wraparound veranda were added well before 1900. The front door, original interior hardware, and parlor windows (likely packed in sawdust and shipped via steamboat and overland by ox-drawn freight wagon) remain intact. The Ella Cole family owned the property from 1873 to 1937 when it was sold to B. F. Williams. Richard and Clida Batten Fristedt bought the home in 1947. The family of Clida's first husband, Evan Batten, was one of the first to settle in Nevada City in the 1850s. The property eventually passed to Evan and Clida's daughter, Evalyn, and her husband, Richard Johnson. In 1992, the Johnsons meticulously restored the home to its nineteenth-century appearance, and it is today a prominent feature of this landmark Virginia City neighborhood.

**Property:** Hillside Cemetery

**Address:** , Virginia City, Madison

**Historic District:** Virginia City     **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** cemeteries     **Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

Seven hundred souls lie beneath the sod here in Virginia City's community cemetery. Boot Hill across the ridge to the west was the first burial ground, but after interment of five road agents there in January 1864, citizens preferred to bury relatives elsewhere. Some even moved loved ones' remains from Boot Hill to Hillside. The oldest marked grave is that of Joseph Watkins who died on March 22, 1865, but early-day graves were often left unmarked. Others buried here include Alder Gulch discoverer Bill Fairweather, Vigilantes of Montana author Thomas Dimsdale, African American businesswoman Sarah Bickford, wealthy banker Henry Elling, and many other prominent pioneers. A section at the east end accommodated Catholics. Hillside's rich assortment of markers includes a few wooden headboards, antiquated mail-order obelisk style monuments, symbolic tree trunks—representing life cut short—and locally produced granite headstones. These illustrate the development of gravestone art in Montana. William Boyce Thompson gave the fence and gate in the late 1920s in memory of his three young siblings buried at Hillside.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Property:** William O'Brien House

**Address:** 114 E Poppleton, Sheridan, Madison

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

William O'Brien arrived in the gold-mining and ranching town of Sheridan, Montana, in 1881 and began selling liquor from a small sixteen-by-twenty-foot building. He was one of the town's three suppliers of "wet groceries" (liquor), the quality of which, according to the October 13, 1894, *Madisonian*, was "as good as ever painted landscapes on the brain of man." Sales were brisk, his business flourished, and O'Brien assumed increasing prominence in the community. He served as a school trustee, as one of Sheridan's original aldermen, and as a member of the Montana legislature. In 1889, O'Brien purchased a large, corner lot (100 x 200 feet) for \$160 from the estate of early Sheridan pioneer Hugh Duncan. Five years later he built this two-story, brick residence, where he lived with his wife, Mary, and their three daughters. The home's size, design, and materials spoke to O'Brien's political and financial success. Most homes in Sheridan—a town of 350 people in 1893—were built of wood; thus, the brick O'Brien residence, with its standing-seam metal roof, stood out. The irregularly shaped residence reflects the Italian Renaissance style, as seen in the building's two-story, three-bay façade, its small, restrained porch, and its wide projecting cornice that draws attention to the hipped roof. Segmental brick arches and stone lintels grace the windows, which are set in walls three bricks deep. Although William died of Bright's disease in 1901 at age forty-five, the home remained in the O'Brien family until 1927.

**Property:** Bennett House

**Address:** 115 E Idaho, Virginia City, Madison

**Historic District:** Virginia City   **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

New Yorker Alden J. Bennett, a versatile college educated engineer, arrived at Virginia City in 1870. After teaching, ranching, and bookkeeping, the energetic Bennett found his niche in banking, becoming a partner in the Hall and Bennett Bank in 1889. Bennett's outstanding dedication to the community included serving seven terms as Virginia City mayor. By 1879, Bennett had completed this substantial home for himself and his new bride, Mary. Three children and financial success precipitated several additions, and by 1890, the charming residence had acquired its present Queen Anne appearance. Exquisite interior finishing, including three sets of pocket doors, made the home a Virginia City showcase. In 1912, the Bennetts' youngest son returned here to practice law. Lyman H. Bennett served as judge on the district court for many years and resided in the family home until his death in 1967.

**Property:** Virginia City Historic District

**Address:** Historic District, Virginia City, Madison

**Historic District:** Virginia City   **Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** historic districts           **Subject 2:** mining towns

**Sign Text:**

The spectacular gold deposit discovered in Alder Gulch on May 26, 1863, led to the rapid growth of this colorful and legendary gold camp town. Thousands of fortune-seekers rushed to the area, and by 1864 the Virginia City area boasted 30,000 residents. Rough characters attracted by the gold rush gave Virginia City an unsavory reputation, but these were tempered by pioneers and their families who settled here and helped to shape the new frontier. After the creation of the Territory of Montana, Virginia City became the territorial capital, 1865-1875, and the Madison County seat. As the gold played out, Virginia City's population dwindled. False-

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

fronted commercial structures, simple log cabins, and frame Victorian residences remained as testimony to the transitory gold rush. Among the first to recognize the historical and architectural significance of Virginia City were Charlie and Sue Bovey of Great Falls. They began to purchase and stabilize some of the fragile buildings in the early 1940s. The Boveys' personal efforts and those of their son, Ford, resulted in the town's designation as a National Historic Landmark and its remarkable preservation as one of the most intact gold rush era towns in the West.

**Property:** Elephant Auction House

**Address:** Dames and Moore 193-2, Virginia City, Madison

**Historic District:** Virginia City Historic District **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The livestock trade was big business in emerging gold towns across the West. In the 1860s when livestock was essential to transportation, owners of livery (stables) and corrals stood to profit far more than any gold digger. James Gray and Justus Cooke ran the Elephant Auction House here from summer 1863 to fall 1864. A long, sloped porch roof once extended from this building far into Wallace Street, providing shade for the auctioneer and attracting many passers-by. This corner was already the busiest in town, and at auction time pandemonium ensued as crowds of buyers and spectators blocked the street with horses and wagons. After several traffic jams and accidents, city officials outlawed the sale of livestock on Virginia City's main streets. After the auction house moved, the porch was dismantled, and for the next forty years the building held various stores and offices. It was demolished with its neighbor before 1922, but Charles Bovey reconstructed it in 1948 to house antique fire department equipment. A gift shop has occupied the building since the late 1990s.

**Property:** Virginia City Methodist Church

**Address:** Dames and Moore 198-7, Virginia City, Madison

**Historic District:** Virginia City Historic District **Building Type:** contributing building

**Subject 1:** churches (buildings) **Subject 2:** Gothic Revival

**Sign Text:**

Virginia City witnessed Montana's first Methodist services in 1864. By 1874, however, too many residents had succumbed to "depraved and wicked conditions." Well-known itinerant ministers Revs. W. W. Van Orsdel and T. C. Iliff, then resident pastors at Virginia City, successfully held a revival to inspire the congregation. On May 4, 1875, a large and reverent crowd gathered to witness the laying of the cornerstone of the Grace Methodist Episcopal Church. Territorial Governor Benjamin Potts and Judge Henry Blake delivered addresses. Construction under D. C. Farwell proceeded rapidly. The church was, however, unfinished on August 28 when the first service was held there: the well-attended funeral of Alder Gulch discoverer William Fairweather. The finished church, dedicated on November 14, had a debt of \$1,013. The guest speaker, Rev. Clark Wright of Helena, stood before the congregation, made an eloquent plea, and the debt was paid before the service ended. The building, its rubblestone walls covered in stucco, functioned as a church until 1900. A Gothic-arched entry, Gothic windows—two with original tracery—and a nameplate, which reads "M.E. Church 1875," recall the building's origins.

**Property:** Blue Front Variety Store

**Address:** Dames & Moore 193-3, Virginia City, Madison

**Historic District:** Virginia City **Building Type:** contributing building

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:** reconstructions

**Sign Text:**

Like the Picture Gallery, the Elling Store, and several others, this 1946 building and its neighbor to the left are a

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

faithful reconstruction of the originals. The Elephant Auction House occupied these storefronts from summer 1863 until October 1864. By November 1866, William (Judge) Douglas had painted the storefront a deep azure blue and opened the Blue Front Novelty Store. Douglas leased stalls to various small businesses that offered everything from books and magazines to stationery, toys, produce, footwear, and cigarettes. The sword-wielding man painted on the façade advertised the store's Turkish tobacco products. William Buttermore bought the store in 1879. He ran it with few changes until his death in 1911. At the time, it was one of Virginia City's longest-lived businesses. Despite its status as a beloved institution in town, the Blue Front was torn down, most likely in winter 1919. A nationwide coal miners' strike and ensuing coal shortage hit Virginia City hard, forcing freezing residents to tear down and salvage numerous abandoned buildings for firewood. After reconstruction, the building served as a penny arcade for nearly 40 years.

**Property:** Gladstone Hotel

**Address:** 101 Main Street, Circle, McCone

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** hotels (public accommodations)

**Subject 2:** hospitals (buildings for health facility)

**Sign Text:**

One of the few remaining original buildings on Circle's main street, the Gladstone Hotel welcomed its first guests in the new town on Christmas Day of 1915. Just over a year before, Circle town lots first went on sale. Built to serve travelers on the promised Great Northern Railroad, the Gladstone would wait 14 years to fulfill that duty. Meanwhile, homestead families moved steadily into this part of Dawson County and McCone County was created in 1919. The hotel has seen many uses over the years. In the great influenza epidemic of 1918-1919, it became the community hospital, with one room reserved as a morgue. During World War II, its restaurant was a gathering place for those awaiting radio news from the fronts. The Gladstone's original "high class bar" never reopened after Prohibition ended, but since has been used for many a private party. And the hotel also became a retirement home for some of the community's elders. Originally built with 20 sleeping rooms, the Gladstone received a 10-room addition in 1948 when oil development raised expectations of a new boom for Circle.

**Property:** Lewis and Clark Bridge

**Address:** , Wolf Point, McCone and Roosevelt

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** structure

**Subject 1:** bridges (built works)

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Straddling the McCone and Roosevelt county lines, for many years this was the only bridge over the Missouri River for 350 miles. Between Fort Benton, Montana, and Williston, North Dakota, the bridge connected residents to outside markets and Canadian neighbors. It was long considered a strategic point. Lewis and Clark camped here in 1805 and an army engineer noted in 1860 that this was the logical place to build a bridge. In 1861, the American Fur Company built short-lived Fort Charles just to the west. But even after 1887 when the Great Northern Railway arrived, ferries remained the only means for other traffic. Tribal lands opened in 1913 and as homesteaders poured in, still the only river crossing for man and beast was by ferry or over the ice in winter. In February 1926, the drowning of two teenagers crossing the ice in their Model T finally brought about successful lobbying. The christening of the Wolf Point Bridge took place with great fanfare in 1930. In 1945, the 140th anniversary of the Lewis and Clark Expedition prompted naming the park at the north end of the bridge for the explorers. The Wolf Point Bridge then became known as the Lewis and Clark Bridge. The later twentieth century saw modern traffic changes and the narrow bridge was replaced. Its symbolic importance, however, prompted its preservation and in 1998, the Montana Historical Society accepted ownership. Visible today from a distance of fifteen miles, the

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

bridge appears as three ethereal puffs of gray against the prairie, representing a longtime dream that finally came true.

**Property:** Wellman Block

**Address:** 206 E Main St, White Sulphur Springs, Meagher

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings           **Subject 2:** apartments

**Sign Text:**

The local hot springs had been a business enterprise for almost a decade when in 1880 brothers William H. and Robert N. Sutherlin moved their newspaper, the Rocky Mountain Husbandman, from the waning gold camp at Diamond City to the promising town of White Sulphur Springs. The brothers purchased property from Dr. William Parberry, built this combination business and residential block as an investment, and the commercial district quickly grew around it. Soon the town boasted daily stages to Helena, two doctors, a school, and some twenty businesses. James MacDonald set up a harness shop and saddlery here, purchasing the building in 1884 for eight hundred dollars. After the turn of the twentieth century, harness maker William Wellman continued the leather business, buying the building in 1907. Wellman, a longtime resident who settled here in the mid 1880s, remodeled the building's façade in 1911 after a disastrous downtown fire. A fashionable pressed metal cornice with nameplate and spacious display windows added new vitality to the town landmark. In 1936, Robert Gordon, son of African-American parents who settled here in the 1880s, inherited the building. Robert's brother, noted gospel singer and author Immanuel "Taylor" Gordon, operated an antique store and managed the second-floor apartments. Between 1938 and 1954 the building also housed the local post office. Now returned to its former use as a saddlery and beautifully refurbished, the Wellman Block, with its arched windows and decorative false front, is a stylish example of small-town Western Commercial architecture.

**Property:** Parberry Block East

**Address:** Main Street, White Sulphur Springs, Meagher

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Dr. William Parberry, who constructed this two-story business block in 1891, was one of White Sulphur Springs' founders and biggest boosters. The Parberry Block East's upper story features many Romanesque Revival elements including rounded arches over the windows, intricate stone panel insets within the arches, rough-cut sandstone capitals and lintels, and a decorative pressed-iron pediment. Frontier communities mimicked the Romanesque Revival style for its suggestion of permanence. By incorporating elements from this architectural style, Parberry asserted his belief that this small startup community would prosper for centuries, just as had the buildings of eleventh- and twelfth-century Europe. The first story features plate-glass display windows set in cast-iron frames. Commercial storefronts in larger communities commonly featured large display windows to attract shoppers, but their appearance here is remarkable because the glass likely was transported by ox-drawn wagons from the nearest railhead, forty miles away. In 1893, during a nationwide depression, Parberry's expectations for the town received a setback. That year, the U.S. government stopped purchasing silver to mint coins, causing the area's silver mines to close and White Sulphur Springs' population to fall. Nonetheless, this well-constructed building seldom lacked for tenants. George and Jesse Wiltse opened the first of several clothing stores to occupy the east storefront; their painted business sign is still visible on the east elevation. The west storefront housed various other businesses, including the city's first major grocery store. Upstairs offered residential rooms and professional offices, including those of the city's first telephone exchange.



## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Property:** DeBorgia Schoolhouse

**Address:** Thompson-DeBorgia Road, DeBorgia, Mineral

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** public schools (buildings)           **Subject 2:** community centers

**Sign Text:**

Remnants of ancient Indian trails, the Mullan Trail, the Milwaukee and Northern Pacific Railroads, and old Highway 10 are scattered across the narrow mountain corridor, where this schoolhouse was constructed in 1908. The few remains are evidence of the traffic that once used these historic transportation routes. The DeBorgia Schoolhouse was the first two-story frame building in the West End of Mineral County, built to serve the children of local valley residents. Two years later in 1910, the turn-of-the-century community of DeBorgia, along with the neighboring settlements of Haugan and Saltese, fell victim to a horrendous forest fire. This schoolhouse is the only building now standing that escaped the disaster. The DeBorgia Schoolhouse went on to serve several generations of students from grades one through eight. Sometimes there were very few students. During the 1910s, Mrs. Muriel R. Whinnery taught Neil Stoughton each of the eight grades. The unusual fact that he was the only student in his class was recorded in Ripley's Believe It or Not. Although the school closed in 1956, the simple clapboard building with its wooded lawn and flagpole continued its second function as a social center and gathering place. In 1969, the Happy Homemakers, a small group of spirited ladies, assumed responsibility for the maintenance and preservation of the building. With their dedication and the support of other local groups, this historic treasure, so fondly remembered by many old-timers, continues to serve the tiny West End communities of Mineral County.

**Property:** Methodist Church of Alberton

**Address:** 802 Railroad, Alberton, Mineral

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** churches (buildings)           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Nestled in the forested mountains of the Clark Fork River valley, this early-twentieth-century church recalls the era when prosperity rode the rails of the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railway Company. As the tracks of the "Milwaukee Road" were the lifeblood of the town's economy, this simple church served spiritual needs. The Methodist congregation came together circa 1912 to construct the simple one-story gable-fronted building. It was built on a rectilinear plan and typifies early churches that often doubled as meeting halls in rural western communities. The square belfry, sided with wood shingles and louvered vents, perches off-center atop the roof. Placement of the bell tower to the side was a common signal of denominational affiliation; bell towers on Catholic, Lutheran, Baptist, and Congregational churches were most often centered on the roof. Beveled clapboard siding and windows with orange translucent glass add to its quaint turn-of-the-century charm. The tenacious little town withstood electrification of the Milwaukee Road in 1917 and consequent loss of its division point status, but the townsite never progressed beyond "first phase" frame building. That is why the few buildings that remain from the early period are especially precious. This is one of two churches established in Alberton during the town's prosperity, and the Methodist congregation continues to hold its services here.

**Property:** Gildersleeve Mine

**Address:** Snowshoe Gulch, Lolo National Forest, Superior, Mineral

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** inactive mines           **Subject 2:**

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

### Sign Text:

Rough-sawn lumber and the use of recycled materials testify to the ingenuity, resourcefulness, and industry of the Gildersleeve family, whose members mined gold and barite here beginning in 1924. The Gildersleeves built these board-and-batten (vertical board) structures—including a cookhouse/main house, bunkhouse, small house/office, blacksmith shop, and “dry” (where the family cleaned up and changed clothes after work)—in 1930-31 with lumber they cut on site using a portable steam-powered sawmill. They constructed a unique, gravity-feed system to bring running water from Snowshoe Creek to the cabins and steam engine. A large compressor (since removed from the site), powered by a 1929 car motor, supplied air pressure for pneumatic tools used in the tunnel. Small miners like the Gildersleeves, who arrived after an area’s initial rush was over, patiently reworked diggings hastily mined by earlier gold seekers. The Gildersleeves built their house on a nineteenth-century tailings pile and seasonally mined this property using the same methods employed in the 1800s. Although the area once produced 2 to 3 million dollars in gold, the Gildersleeves rarely found more than seven or eight ounces a season. Remains of their operation include a horizontal tunnel that runs over 300 feet into the mountain, an ore car, a washing plant, and other equipment. Supplementing their mining income by taking jobs during the winter, Gildersleeve descendants continue to work the claim, preserving through use this remarkable operation. It is one of the best remaining examples of Depression-era subsistence mining in western Montana.

**Property:** Milwaukee Road Depot

**Address:** 701 Railroad, Alberton, Mineral

**Historic District:**            **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** railroad stations            **Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

The first of the Milwaukee Road’s steam locomotives rumbled through this valley in 1908, bringing sure stability to the young settlement of Alberton. The town noisily came to life as a division point along the route, where fresh crews waited and engines were serviced. The Milwaukee Road Depot anchored the early community. Machine shops, repair tracks, and a roundhouse occupied the town’s busy center, where four passenger trains made 30-minute stops daily. The depots “beanery” fed both workers and travelers; local businesses thrived. In 1917, railroad officials cast a pall over Alberton when electrification of the line between Harlowton and Avery made this and other division points like it obsolete. The wood-frame depot continued to serve for the next 65 years, but the town’s growth had been arrested at a developmental peak. Consequently, its main street buildings were never rebuilt in more substantial brick. In 1980, salvage crews pulled up the tracks, boarded up the depot and the valley became silent, its heritage apparently forgotten. By 1983, it seemed as if Alberton would become a ghost town. Determined residents, however, refused to write its epitaph. Rehabilitation grants turned the railyards into a city park and refurbished the 1908 Craftsman style depot, sparking community enthusiasm to preserve Alberton’s railroad roots. Now housing a senior citizen center and town offices, the splendid depot is more than the symbol of a once-vibrant economy. It is again the heart of the community.

**Property:** Superior School Building

**Address:** River Street, Superior, Mineral

**Historic District:**            **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** public schools (buildings)            **Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

Travelers along the Mullan Road and prospectors lured by the 1869 discovery of gold on Cedar Creek opened the way for settlement of this area. After the placer gold played out and other mining camps became ghost towns, the town of Superior continued to grow. In 1891, the community organized a school district and elementary classes were held in a small log cabin. By 1892, there were ninety school-age children in the vicinity. Into the 1900s,

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

several rural schools accommodated local children but none offered a high school curriculum. Older students had to leave home to advance beyond the primary grades. Mineral County was organized in 1914 and a year later bonds for the construction of a high school passed. A secondary curriculum was offered for the first time that fall with classes held in the Methodist Church basement; students from all over the county attended. The new high school, constructed by local builder Charles Augustine at a cost of \$10,000, was dedicated on January 28, 1916. Additions in 1925 and 1947 eased overcrowding and the school remained in use until June 1995. It is today one of Montana's few examples of Colonial Revival style school architecture. Along with the Mineral County courthouse, this impressive landmark with its three-stage bell tower, flanking dormers, and strict classical symmetry has always drawn visitors to the center of town. Despite its closure, the Superior School maintains a strong visual presence at the heart of the community where, for eighty years, it served the county and its children.

**Property:** Alberton School

**Address:** 818 Rose Hill Lane, Alberton, Mineral

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** public schools (buildings)           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Alberton came to life when the tracks of the Milwaukee Road were laid through this valley in 1908. Soon in need of a school, the town built its first frame schoolhouse in 1910. Fire claimed the wooden structure in 1916. As classes were held in private homes scattered around town in 1917, the student population of Alberton School District #2 grew to the largest in Mineral County. The community rallied, laying plans for a new facility. Just before completion, the Chicago, Milwaukee and St Paul Railway discontinued its division point facilities at Alberton. Residents, however, realized the importance of a safe and adequate school for their town and vicinity. Despite the town's hard hit economy, the \$70,000 brick school opened in 1919, symbolizing Alberton's transition from railroad boom town to permanent community. Completion in the wake of financial hardship demonstrates the solid commitment to education and faith in the town's future that kept Alberton viable through adversity. The school, designed by acclaimed Montana architect Ole Bakke, reflects the Collegiate Classical Revival style. This substantial brick building dominates the landscape with its fine detailing, classical proportions, and pleasing symmetry. Kalispell architects Fred Brinkman and Percy Lenon designed the visually separate gymnasium addition, built in 1957. From 1919 to 1960, Alberton School was the only high school in forty square miles. It continues to serve local children today. While few of Montana's vintage schools have escaped remodeling, this outstanding community landmark survives virtually unchanged from its original period design.

**Property:** Bestwick's Market

**Address:** Valley Bookstore PO Box 355, Alberton, Mineral

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings           **Subject 2:** fraternal lodges

**Sign Text:**

Established in 1910, this is one of Alberton's earliest businesses. Joe Boileau, a former foreman of the planing mill at Lothrop, moved to the recently platted Alberton and opened a meat market. The original two-story, western false-fronted commercial building features a simple cornice with brackets and is finished in clapboard sheathing with vertical board corner trim. A 1915 addition widened the structure and continued the false-front motif but at a lower elevation. A second addition, lower in height than the previous, occurred before 1925. For many years, the west second floor served as Alberton's first Masonic hall and provided meeting space for the Masons, Eastern Star, and Odd Fellows. William A. Bestwick purchased the property in 1912 and operated a meat market, grocery store, and frozen foods locker until the late 1950s. Bestwick immigrated from Alstonefield, England, to Canada in 1909, arriving in the Missoula area shortly before coming to Alberton. In 1915, he married Beatrice Eddy and

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

together they raised three children. Committed to civic involvement, Bestwick served as mayor, as deputy stock inspector for the Nine Mile Stockmen's Association, as county chairman of U.S. Savings Bonds, as Red Cross director, and was a member of the Alberton Masonic Lodge. The double recessed entrance, a unique feature for a single-business facility, the large plate-glass display windows, intact wood frame, and preserved false-front still retain the feel of Milwaukee Road-era commercial architecture.

**Property:** Savenac Nursery Historic District

**Address:** Frontage Rd at Interstate 90, , Mineral

**Historic District:** Savenac Nursery      **Building Type:** building | rural

**Subject 1:** nurseries (horticulture)      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Creation of the National Forest Service in 1905 brought Elers Koch, one of the nation's first professional foresters, to inspect and evaluate the Forest Reserves of Montana and Wyoming. Appointed Forest Supervisor of the Bitterroot and Lolo National Forests in 1907, Koch happened upon the abandoned homestead of a German settler named Savennach. He thought it a perfect spot to establish a tree nursery. Work began in 1908 and just as the first pine seedlings were ready for transplanting in 1910, fire swept through the region scorching 3 million acres of timberland. The nursery was destroyed, but the disaster influenced Forest Service policy, making fire prevention and conservation its primary mission. Reforestation of burned and logged areas figured prominently in that goal. Savenac Nursery was ideally situated along two railroad routes and the historic Mullan Road ran right through the property. The nursery was immediately rebuilt. Circa 1912 national road improvements incorporated the new Yellowstone Trail into this segment of the Mullan Road and by 1916, Savenac shipped several million seedlings to the vast Northern Region. The Civilian Conservation Corps rebuilt and modernized the facility a final time between 1932 and 1948. Savenac became the largest tree nursery in the northwest producing up to twelve million trees annually. The nursery operated until regional reorganization brought closure in 1969. Savenac Nursery, where much of the theory and practice of silviculture was pioneered, reflects the conservation ethic of the Forest Service.

**Property:** Stark School

**Address:** Ninemile Road in Ninemile Valley, Ninemile, Missoula

**Historic District:**      **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** public schools (buildings)      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Pine and fir surround the clearing upon which this little-changed landmark has stood since 1915. At that time, the Anaconda Copper Mining Company located its logging operations in the Ninemile Valley. Stark School was built in anticipation of population growth on land donated by homesteaders Frederick and Jessie Proebstel. The new school opened its doors to twelve students early in 1916. One teacher had charge of the two classrooms housing grades one through eight and, by 1920, enrollment of eighteen required hiring a second teacher. The building also long served as the heart of the community. Ranchers, miners, and loggers held meetings here. The basement hosted Saturday night dances and Sunday church services were held in the classrooms. During World Wars I and II, it was a place to catch up on news and socialize. Native fieldstone and clapboard illustrate the shift from log to frame construction that signaled the end of the frontier era. Natural materials, a low pitched roof, projecting eaves, and bands of windows reflect the Craftsman style then favored in "modern" schoolhouse design. Although the school closed in 1929, the building remained in use and was renamed the Ninemile Community Center in 1949. Even today, the bell, still in its original tower, is occasionally rung to mark special events. Only a few buildings related to the era of miners, loggers, and homesteaders of the Ninemile Valley stand today. Among

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

them, Stark School is not only a classic example of post-frontier schoolhouse design, but also a fitting tribute to those hearty settlers who made their home here in the Valley.

**Property:** St. Francis Xavier Church

**Address:** 410 W Pine St, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** churches (buildings)           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Jesuits arrived in the Missoula Valley in 1841 en route to the Bitterroot, where they established the first Catholic mission in the Rocky Mountains. In 1873, they opened a chapel in Missoula, building the first St. Francis Xavier Church in 1881. Father Diomedi, S.J.—who oversaw many major building projects during his career—arrived at St. Francis Xavier in 1888. Described as the sort of man “who sows in whirlwinds and reaps in tornados,” he quickly recognized the need for a larger church. Father Diomedi hired a Portland architect, Mr. Blanchard, to furnish the plans and Missoula contractor Patrick Walsh to oversee construction. Designed to hold 600 people in the sanctuary and another 150 in the choir loft, the 1892 brick edifice was then Montana’s largest church. The cruciform church reflects the Romanesque Revival style, displaying semicircular arches over windows and doors, miniature arches along the eaveline, small buttresses, and a soaring bell tower. The Romanesque Revival style provides large interior expanses, making it particularly suitable for murals. Jesuit lay brother Joseph Carignano (1853-1919), who also painted the frescoes at St. Ignatius Mission, decorated the interior. Painters of the Italian Renaissance greatly influenced the Turin, Italy, native, who employed many of the same devices used by early Renaissance artists: feathery trees, oval female faces, classical costumes, and painted pilasters. Decorative stained glass, a magnificent pipe organ, and a 2,270 pound church bell, dedicated to Jesuit missionary Father Lawrence Palladino, complete the interior.

**Property:** Beacom Residence

**Address:** 103 South Fifth Street East, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** University Area           **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Bay windows and a two-story front porch dress up this home’s basic “four-square” pattern. Stately American Four-Squares—marked by their pyramidal roofs, overhanging eaves, and cubical shapes—were extremely popular with middle-class suburbanites in the early 1900s. William Beacom and his wife Jennie likely built this home between 1902 and 1905 in what was then an up-and-coming suburb. Fifth Street residents formed an early neighborhood improvement association to lobby for graded streets, cement sidewalks, and uniform landscaping. Cement sidewalks—many of which were installed in 1909—would have been of particular interest to William, as he made his living as a cement contractor. In 1922, he ran for mayor of Missoula, a post he held (with the exception of one term) until 1932. William died in 1939, at the age of seventy-eight. Jennie continued to live here—along with various nieces and nephews—until her death at age ninety-four in 1966.

**Property:** 116 West Spruce

**Address:** 116 West Spruce, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:** apartments

**Sign Text:**

Missoula boasted twenty-six manufacturing enterprises by 1909, including such diverse production as candy, bricks, gas, marble, and meat products. By 1910, the Northern Pacific Railroad shops employed over three

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

hundred workers and the town's role as a major urban center was secure. Although the first streets were not paved until 1912, the well built business district gave evidence of the town's substance and permanency. Multi-family housing like this fine two-story apartment building was once common in Missoula's commercial neighborhoods. Constructed circa 1902, by 1912 it shared the half-block to the west with another dwelling. A stone-cutting business occupied the lot to the immediate east. Other businesses lining this side of the block to Higgins Avenue included two print shops, a tailor, an automobile tire repair, a restaurant, a confectionery with a billiard room in the back, and a corner grocery store. At this time the Linn family occupied at least half of the building. Landlord/owner Mike Linn was the longtime proprietor of the Waldorf Bar on West Front Street. After his death in 1927, Mike's widow, Tillie, assumed ownership. Although parking lots now surround it, time has been kind to this exceptionally well preserved remnant of Missoula's past. Rusticated sandstone trim complements the decorative brick veneer. A polygonal bay, transomed doorways, and the original two-story front and back porches with turned supports and balusters beautifully illustrate the Queen Anne style as it was expressed after the turn of the twentieth century.

**Property:** Wright Residence

**Address:** 937 S. 5th W., Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** McCormick Neighborhood      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The distinctive gambrel roof defines the Dutch Colonial style. The style takes its name from farmhouses Dutch settlers built in rural New York and New Jersey in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. However, twentieth-century Dutch Colonial Revival style homes only loosely resembled their historical counterparts. The style had the advantage of economy: the roof shape created second-story living space without the added expense of constructing full second-story walls. Equally, its simplicity appealed to twentieth-century builders looking for alternatives to the highly decorated Queen Anne style. The heavy oak doors, leaded and beveled glass windows, and stone fireplace of this circa 1910 home reflect the early-twentieth-century emphasis on quality materials and craftsmanship over ornamentation. Henry E. and Lura Wright were the home's first known residents, and Henry—a house painter and sometime contractor—may well have had a hand in its construction. Henry came to Montana in 1883 to work as a cowboy. Later, he watched survey crews plat the town of Kalispell. The Wrights moved to Missoula in 1908 and lived here into the late 1930s.

**Property:** Hardenburgh Residence

**Address:** 243 McLeod, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** University Area      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Floyd and Kathleen Hardenburgh hired prominent Missoula architect H. E. Kirkemo to design this two-story residence in 1935. Best known for his commercial buildings, Kirkemo also created plans for many University District homes. For the Hardenburgh family, he envisioned a modern version of a Tudor style Cotswold cottage. Less elaborate than Tudor style homes built a decade earlier, the residence still features many elements of the style: an irregular roofline, multi-paned windows, small dormers, and upper rooms with sloping walls. The Tudor style's characteristic asymmetry allowed for two primary facades, maximizing the benefits of the corner lot. An elaborate, two-bay garage features distinctive Tudor style half-timbering to complement the primary residence. The home's interior reflected a more modern sensibility than its exterior. Instead of traditional Tudor style elements, it boasts Art Deco and Craftsman style details. It also features a divided basement with one of the earliest recreation, or rec, rooms in Missoula. Kirkemo was known for client-pleasing designs, and the

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

Hardenburghs' long residency suggests this was no exception. Floyd lived here until his death 1966; Kathleen stayed on until 1976.

**Property:** 341 Keith Avenue

**Address:** 341 Keith Avenue, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** University Area

**Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The decorative brackets, low pitched roof with dormers, wide overhanging eaves, and extended flared rafters mark this home as a Craftsman-style residence. A welcoming wraparound porch accents the front entryway with a centered gable supported by double columns. The open front porch and the use of natural materials (rock for the foundation and wood for the siding and shingles) visually link the home to the outdoors, a defining Craftsman style principle. One of the first structures on the block, the prominent corner residence graces the Hammond Addition, an area promoted as "The Choice Residence Section of Missoula." The elegant bungalow was home to William and Alta Dixon and their two children by 1915. The Dixons continued to live here into the 1950s. William Dixon was a quintessential Progressive-era businessman. In addition to owning a shoe store and serving on the board of the Montana Building and Loan Association, he was a prominent community leader, active in both fraternal organizations and civic groups.

**Property:** Woman's Club Art Building 1937-1955

**Address:** 32 Campus Drive, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** The University of Montana Historic District

**Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** universities (buildings)

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Architects designing campus buildings between 1935 and 1939 were faced with a dilemma. Should they choose the Renaissance Revival style of most previous campus buildings or opt for the modern designs prevailing throughout the nation? In a compromise, three of the five buildings constructed during this phase allude to the previous style, but the Student Union and this building proudly illustrate the modern Art Deco architectural movement. Very simple in design, the building features a flat roof, windows framed in terra cotta, and a stepped parapet. Completed in 1937, the building was financed by the Woman's Club of Missoula and the PWA. It originally served as a clubhouse and art building housing the first art museum in the inland Northwest. Later occupied by the Alumni Association, the building now accommodates Continuing Education and the Woman's Club of Missoula.

**Property:** Missoula Southside Historic District

**Address:** Historic District, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** Missoula Southside

**Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** historic districts

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

This colorful district charts Missoula's transformation from rough frontier town to established community. When the Northern Pacific Railroad chose Missoula as its division headquarters in the 1880s, the burst of activity brought investors, wealthy businessmen, and broadened horizons. Anticipating a need to escape the flurry and bustle of the town's center, Federal Judge Hiram Knowles platted this addition in 1889. By the mid 1890s, gracious Queen Anne style residences proclaimed the southside a wealthy haven with horse-drawn streetcars carrying residents across the newly widened Higgins Avenue Bridge. Influenced greatly by prominent Missoula architect A.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

J. Gibson, who made his home in this district, Revival styles appeared, merging asymmetrical Queen Anne with the classical symmetry of Colonial Revival. Neighborhood businesses and services brought another dimension to the district. Between 1908 and 1910, the arrival of the Chicago, Milwaukee, and St. Paul Railroad on the southside's edge added a depot and hotel. Row house apartments and smaller residences were built to accommodate a variety of professionals, entrepreneurs, and laborers. Today, the Southside District well reflects its history, mixing small businesses and Craftsman/Bungalow and vernacular style homes with the larger Queen Anne and Revival styles that recall its former exclusivity.

**Property:** Moon-Randolph Homestead Historic District

**Address:** 1515 Spurlock Rd, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** Moon-Randolph Homestead **Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** homesteads **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

In 1889, Ray and Luella Moon filed a homestead claim on 160 acres two miles north of Missoula. The Minnesota couple built a shed-roofed claim shack, broke an acre of land, dug a well, and planted a garden. Five years later, the Moons had installed 580 rods of fence, constructed a 23-by-27-foot barn, planted seventy-five fruit trees, and expanded their cultivated acreage to thirty. The day after the Moons "proved up" in 1894, they sold the homestead to Ray's parents. William and Emma Randolph purchased the farm in 1907. Over time, they expanded their operation to 414 acres, on which they raised fruit, vegetables, poultry, dairy cows, a few beef, honey bees, and pigs. Six days a week, William peddled the farm's produce to Missoulians in a horse-drawn wagon along an established route. Cobbling together a living from small-scale mining, agriculture, and odd jobs, the Randolphs were well-known for their willingness to share food and coal—mined from a seam on their property—with those in need. The Randolph's farm reflected the family's necessary frugality. William constructed buildings from salvaged boxcar siding and incorporated car parts, shovels, and bed frames into his fences. After World War II, an expanding trucking industry, mechanization, and industry consolidation transformed agriculture. Small, diversified farms like the Randolph's became increasingly rare. Although he lived here until 1995, William and Emma's son Bill worked in Missoula to make ends meet. In 1995, the city purchased the property, which remains a testament to the era when local farmers produced most of the food that Montanans consumed.

**Property:** 415 Connell Avenue

**Address:** 415 Connell Avenue, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** University Area **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Contractor E. S. Newton, who purchased this lot in 1910, undoubtedly constructed this fashionable bungalow. With its low-pitched hipped roof and wide, sheltering eaves, the one-story residence was designed to convey a sense of comfort and security. Doubled square wooden columns add dignity to the inviting front porch, whose rubble-stone foundation reflects the early twentieth century's enthusiasm for natural building materials. The front bay window, decorated with leaded glass, echoes the style of an earlier era. Newlyweds Charlotte and Albert Whitlock purchased the residence in 1912, and in 1930 the couple still lived here with a full-time Filipino manservant. An early instructor at the law school, Albert had an illustrious legal career. He became the school's dean in 1915, all the while maintaining an active private practice. In 1935, the Chicago, Milwaukee, and St. Paul Railroad hired Albert as general council, and he and Charlotte moved to Seattle. He later became the railroad's vice president. In 1937, the Whitlocks sold their longtime home, which still looks much as it did almost one hundred years ago.



## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Property:** 1028 Wolf Street

**Address:** 1028 Wolf Street, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** Northside Missoula Railroad **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Expansion of the railroad after the turn of the twentieth century brought many new residents to Urlin's Addition on Missoula's Northside. Rental housing such as this one-story Pyramid Cottage style residence, constructed circa 1907 and originally owned by the Missoula Real Estate Association, provided comfortable living quarters convenient to the railyards. Like its neighbors to the north and south, simple stylistic features include a hipped pyramidal roof and west-facing porch. Northern Pacific car repairman Robert MacLean and his wife, Marion, were the first known residents in a long line of railroad-employed tenants. In 1920, Swedish immigrant Otto Meyer, his wife Inga, and their two children rented the home. Meyer was brakeman with the Northern Pacific. During the 1940s, Northern Pacific laborer Henry Kuntz and his family rented the home. The Kuntz family broke the rental pattern by purchasing the property in 1947 and lived here until 1973.

**Property:** T-1 Post Headquarters

**Address:** South Lawn / Parade Grounds, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** Fort Missoula **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** military buildings **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The old post chapel once occupied this site where, in 1940, officials located the fort's administrative center. Built for \$15,300, the tall stucco-covered frame building housed the commanding officer and his staff. After the bombing of Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, the U.S. government detained thousands of Japanese and German American citizens, as well as Italian nationals. During this dark period, Fort Missoula was one of the nation's largest internment camps. The camp was not a relocation center. It housed more than one thousand internees of Japanese descent and as many Italian nationals during the course of World War II. Government officials took Japanese American citizens from their communities, often separating them from family. They were interned at camps like Fort Missoula, far from home. Although they were not necessarily mistreated, according to the son of one Fort Missoula internee, the pain and shame of this experience can never be forgotten. Administrative staff processed internees' records and questioned them, compiled rosters and duty schedules, dispensed military justice, and managed fort business until 1962.

**Property:** Lindsay Commission Company Warehouse

**Address:** Orange Street, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** Northside Missoula Railroad **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The arrival of the Northern Pacific Railroad transformed every aspect of life in Montana, including the food available for purchase. Frank Lindsay opened his first fruit warehouse in Helena in 1883, the year the railroad arrived and made importing fresh fruit and vegetables practical. He expanded his business to Bozeman and Billings and in 1909 had this substantial, brick warehouse constructed in Missoula. Missoula architect A. J. Gibson designed the state-of-the-art warehouse, which featured a four-ton, electric-powered ice machine and two refrigeration areas. Oriented toward the tracks, the forty-by-sixty-foot building has an oriel bay, commonly seen on railroad buildings. Such windows were used to pass messages to railroad personnel. Montana fruit farmers, particularly apple farmers in the Bitterroot, stored their crops here before shipping them east. The warehouse also received carloads of apples, apricots, pears, peaches, and other fruit from Washington and points south.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

Plans for the warehouse even specified a "banana room," attesting to the way fruit wholesalers like Lindsay were able to capitalize on the far-flung rail network and the invention of refrigerated cars to bring exotic provisions to Montanans.

**Property:** 708 Toole Avenue

**Address:** 708 Toole Avenue, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** Missoula Downtown **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Recognizing that a successful democracy demands an educated populace, the federal government required new states to establish public schools and to set aside land claims in each township to financially support education. In April 1897, brick maker and real estate speculator Patrick Cone purchased this lot in Missoula's "School Addition" from the State of Montana for \$180. Two months later, he sold it to general contractor George Dildine for \$200. By 1902, Dildine had built this one-story, wood-frame residence. An open front porch—decorated with turned columns and wooden brackets—a projecting bay, and gable dormers embellish the basic hipped-roof cottage form. Although the home was situated on a residential block, railroad spur lines, the Big Blackfoot Milling Company lumber and coal yards, and the Missoula Iron Works defined the neighborhood. Swedish immigrant Amanda Nearman, whose husband farmed near Hellgate, purchased the house in 1914, likely as an in-town residence to make it easier for their children to attend school. Nearman retained ownership of the property until her death in 1933.

**Property:** Church of the Holy Spirit

**Address:** 130 S. 6th Street, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** University Area **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** churches (buildings) **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Bishop Daniel Tuttle conducted Missoula's first protestant service in 1870. The bishop noted in his journal that in the rough-and-tumble community, formerly called Hellgate, both the devil and the Holy Spirit were at work. When Reverend George Stewart established the parish in 1877, Bishop Tuttle gave a \$500 gift from a New York donor to build a chapel. The donor requested Church of the Holy Spirit as its name. It was more than appropriate. A brick church located at Broadway and Adams replaced the tiny chapel in 1884, and a Fort Missoula officer procured a stained glass window to embellish it. By 1915, the congregation had outgrown the small church. Under Reverend H. S. Gatley, Whitehouse and Price of Spokane designed this impressive Gothic style church and parish hall. H. H. Kirkemo designed the rectory, completed in 1933. Renowned stained glass artist Charles Connick of Boston designed the altar window in 1947, memorializing the ten parishioners who died during WWII. The 1884 window, reinstalled in the nave, recalls the long service of this historic neighborhood landmark.

**Property:** Rozale Apartments

**Address:** South Fifth Street East, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** Missoula Southside **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** apartments **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Turn-of-the-twentieth-century social critics warned that apartment living was the "most dangerous enemy American domesticity has had to encounter." But as Missoula outgrew its living space, investors ignored the admonition. This splendid large-scale apartment house, built circa 1906, accommodated as many as fifteen

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

separate households. Catering to a short-term, mostly professional clientele, early residents included a professor of literature, a music teacher, an attorney, an optician, a physician, and several business owners. During the later 1920s, pioneer bridge builder Obert Peppard, who built the first bridges across the Clark Fork River, was proprietor. A grand Roman entry arch highlights the Classical Revival style façade, while fashionable Chicago windows with stained glass transoms illustrate a significant stylistic transition. Today the well-maintained landmark, remarkably unchanged in both appearance and function, firmly anchors the district's eastern edge.

**Property:** 808 South Sixth Street West

**Address:** 808 South Sixth Street West, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** McCormick Neighborhood **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Norwegian brothers Theodore and Andrew Reed arrived in Missoula in 1907. The ambitious and experienced carpenters purchased multiple building lots in the Knowles Addition and set to work. They built this one-and-one-half-story gable-front residence in 1908. At the time of its construction, John Mahoney's lumberyard and millworks stood right across the alley, providing the Reeds easy access to materials, including lumber, window sash, shingles, and doors. Attention to detail—including the use of wide frieze boards, decorative cornice returns, beaded drop siding and a gable-end embellishment of diamond and fish-scale shingles—reflects the brothers' eye for aesthetics and careful craftsmanship. As was common in the early 1900s, the Reeds placed the kitchen under a separate, one-story roof, increasing the likelihood that firefighters could extinguish a kitchen fire before it spread to the rest of the house. Theodore and his wife Hilda owned the residence into the 1940s. Among their first tenants was Arthur Simerson, manager of the Day Produce Company, who lived here with his wife Mary and their four children in 1909.

**Property:** Missoula County Courthouse

**Address:** 200 W Broadway, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** county courthouses **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The Neoclassical style sandstone Missoula County Courthouse was designed by prominent local architect A. J. Gibson, and erected 1908-1910. Inside the copper-domed clock tower hangs a two-ton bell, and a notable interior decoration is the series of eight historical murals for the main, south entrance, commissioned from Missoulian Edgar S. Paxson for a fee of \$1,000. Missoula County is one of Montana's oldest political subdivisions, organized in 1860 as the section of Washington Territory extending from about the crest of the Bitterroot Mountains eastward to the crest of the Rocky Mountains. Subsequently, the county was in Idaho Territory (1863) and finally Montana Territory (1864). Missoula's original county seat was at Hell's Gate, four miles west of here, until 1865, when Higgins and Worden moved their store to the site of the current city. Their saw mill and grist mill, plus the store of Bonner and Welsh, led county commissioners to move the seat of government here in 1866. The original courthouse stood on this site, but had become too small by 1907.

**Property:** McIntosh House

**Address:** 538 North 3rd West, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** Northside Missoula Railroad **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

This beautiful gable-front-and-wing residence, built for newlyweds John and Sophie McIntosh, captures the best

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

of the exuberant 1890s with a wealth of Queen Anne details. The Flathead Herald-Journal declared upon its completion in 1894 that the marvelous home rivaled Kalispell's best in "style, finish and comfort." Set atop a natural rise dubbed "Knob Hill," the newspaper went on to comment that its owner would thus occupy "the most exalted position in Kalispell." Finely crafted details, including fishscale shingles, wavy clapboard, a sunray pattern, and elaborate stained glass parlor transoms, embellish the canted, or "beveled," front gable. McIntosh had a successful and varied career in Kalispell, selling everything from hardware and pianos to automobiles. His opera house, built in 1896, was the town's longtime cultural center. Sophie died in 1920 and John McIntosh in 1947, but the home remained in the family until 1979.

**Property:** McIntosh House

**Address:** 538 North 3rd West, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** Northside Missoula Railroad **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Unlike many neighborhoods in railroad towns, the lots here in Urlin's Addition were not owned and developed by the Northern Pacific, but sold to private individuals who built rental housing for railroad employees. This gable-front vernacular style home on its prominent corner follows that pattern. Built circa 1902, early tenants were Northern Pacific conductor John Butler and his wife, Lillie. Later, Northern Pacific engineer Frank J. McIntosh owned the property and lived here from 1922 until his death in 1959. His wife, Bertha, kept the home for almost another decade before it once again housed a series of tenants. The residence reflects the trend to utilize extra space on corner lots by building slightly larger homes for higher paid employees. A band of spindles under the front porch eaves, corner brackets, decorative window trim, and a stained glass transom above the back door spark its personality. Quality interior finishing includes a built-in dining room oak hutch with leaded glass doors and beveled mirror. On the opposite kitchen side is a built-in "Hoosier" style cabinet with a zinc counter.

**Property:** Draper Residence

**Address:** 418-420 E Broadway, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** East Pine Street **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Neoclassical influences complement the Queen Anne style in this striking transitional home built between 1905 and 1907. A polygonal two-story bay, hipped roof with intersecting gables, and wraparound porch lend visual asymmetry characteristic of the Victorian-era Queen Anne style. Square columns and capitals, pedimented gable above the porch, and little further ornamentation reveal the twentieth-century trend toward simplicity. Originally constructed as an owner-occupied rental, the home still serves that function today. Sutton H. Draper, master mechanic for the Northern Pacific's Rocky Mountain Division headquarters at Missoula, was its first longtime owner and resident. Draper began his railroad career as an engineer and retired in 1928 after forty-five years with the company. In 1883, he engineered an excursion train that carried passengers to witness the driving of the "Golden Spike" near Gold Creek, Montana, symbolizing completion of the line over the Rocky Mountain Division. Draper pioneered the scientific study and practical operation of the airbrake and trained employees in its use, thus making significant contributions to railroad safety.

**Property:** 335 McLeod Avenue

**Address:** 335 McLeod Avenue, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** University Area **Building Type:** building | contributing

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Battered by drought and agricultural depression, Montana lost population in the 1920s. Even Missoula, which had a relatively stable economy, ended the decade 2,250 people shy of where it started. One bright economic light locally was the university, whose continued expansion influenced the surrounding neighborhood. The 300 block of McLeod saw seven homes constructed during the 1920s, including this charming one-story bungalow. Craftsman style bungalows featured low, sheltering rooflines to convey the idea of security and open porches to encourage a connection to nature. This bungalow also features the wide, overhanging eaves, exposed rafter tails, and battered porch supports common to the Craftsman style. Intersecting gables and multi-paned windows add visual appeal to the residence. Real estate agent Walton Marsh lived here in 1929. The house changed hands several times before attorney Tom Higgins purchased it in 1941. The Higgins family (Tom, his wife Ella May, and their daughter Colleen) cultivated a large "victory garden" in the backyard during World War II. Tom and Ella resided here until their deaths, his in 1985 and hers in 1996.

**Property:** Headquarters Building and Daily Company Annex

**Address:** 113-119 W Front St, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** saloons (bars)

**Subject 2:** commercial buildings

**Sign Text:**

An exuberant ambassador of the late nineteenth century and its more Spartan complement comprise this architectural duet, whose history spans Missoula's development. The older and more impressive Headquarters Building, designed by architect John Larkin for Mitchell and Bennett in 1888, was originally built as a gambling house and saloon. West Front Street was then an unpaved, dusty thoroughfare in a rough neighborhood, where many like establishments catered to the boarding house culture that followed the railroad. In 1892, the Headquarters Building witnessed a major fire and the mysterious murder of Maurice Higgins, son of a Missoula founder. In 1909, its prominent corner was the scene of fiery IWW rallies and related arrests. During Prohibition, when many neighborhood taverns became speakeasies, J. R. Daily located retail offices for his full-service meat company in the old saloon and built the 1917 annex as its meat production plant. The company operated here for the next fifty years. Remodeling in 1932 and 1967 sheathed the façades in aluminum, stucco, and paint. Removal of these coverings during 1990s restoration unveiled the simple annex and its spectacular Victorian-era companion. Windows, masonry, and the cast-iron storefront of the Headquarters Building remained intact, while other spirited details have been carefully reconstructed. Pedimented pocket and swing doors, exquisite wainscoting, and exceptional oak trim of the handsome upstairs club rooms were carefully preserved as reminders of the time when high stakes could make or break a patron.

**Property:** Florence Hotel

**Address:** 111 N. Higgins, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** hotels (public accommodations)

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The original Florence Hotel, built on this site in 1888, offered weary railway travelers and settlers a comfortable night's lodging. When it burned in 1913, the Florence was rebuilt as a major 106-room hostelry and was a longtime regional gathering place until it, too, was destroyed by fire in 1936. Missoula's lack of a major hotel had serious implications, and even though the nation was then in the midst of the Depression, Walter H. McLeod and other influential businessmen secured community support to rebuild. When the elegant new Florence Hotel opened in 1941, Missoulians were especially proud that 67 percent ownership belonged to community

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

shareholders. Spokane architect G. A. Pehrson masterfully designed the \$600,000 “jewel of a hotel” in the new Art Moderne style, characterized by its rounded corners and horizontal emphasis. Terra cotta and glass blocks accent the shiny-smooth concrete and metal surfaces. The splendid 140-room hotel boasted the Northwest’s first central air conditioning system, novel glass shower doors, and first-class interior appointments in a “harmony of color.” One of only two local examples of the style, the third generation Florence reflects the town’s steadfast regional importance into the twentieth century, the growth of tourism, and the civic pride that prompted its construction.

**Property:** Northside Missoula Railroad Historic District

**Address:** Historic District, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** Northside Missoula Railroad **Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** historic districts

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Generations of Northsiders have grown up in the shadow of the railyards since the Northern Pacific Railroad’s arrival in 1883 transformed Missoula into a modern city. Accepting land as an enticement from A. J. Urlin and other leading businessmen, the Northern Pacific located its depot above where the Orange Street Underpass is now. Two blocks to the north, the railroad built its employees’ Beneficial Hospital in 1884. A constellation of commercial enterprises, boarding houses, hotels, and private homes developed on both sides of the tracks around these original railroad properties. After the construction of the new passenger depot at the north end of Higgins in 1900, the area surrounding the intersection of Woody Street and the tracks became Missoula’s wholesale grocery district. The unity with downtown disappeared later with the closing of grade-level street crossings. In 1891, one of Missoula’s first public schools, the Northside School, was constructed at a location four blocks northwest of the original depot, and residential development soon surrounded it. The Northside became home to Germans, Irish, French, Chinese, African Americans and later, Greek, Italian, and Japanese immigrants employed by the railroad during its expansion between 1900 and 1916. Ethnic ties and common employment lent a cohesiveness to this neighborhood, which boasts some of Missoula’s oldest homes. Pyramid cottages and other simple vernacular style residences, built largely between 1883 and 1915, densely populate blocks that form the backbone of working-class Missoula neighborhoods.

**Property:** Connell-Leonard Residence

**Address:** 736 Poplar Street, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** Lower Rattlesnake **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The prominent Worden family originally owned this undeveloped land nestled beneath the shadow of Mount Jumbo. The property changed hands several times before construction of the house sometime after 1902. The earliest known resident was William “Bill” Connell, a successful miner with claims in the Superior area. Connell lived here during the winter months. Married at age 52 in 1906, Connell and his wife, Annie, enjoyed a brief life together; Connell died in 1910. By 1913, Annie had married Andrew Leonard, a bartender and miner who, like her former husband, had claims near Superior. After Annie’s death in 1926, Leonard rented the house to railway express agent William J. Tonkin and his wife. The Tonkins eventually purchased the home and raised their family here. The hipped roof cottage features a front porch with Doric columns, double beaded siding, and ornamentation beneath the eaves. These original elements are a charming reminder of the simple elegance that often graced the practical homes of the Lower Rattlesnake’s hard-working residents.

**Property:** Reid Residence

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Address:** 526 East Front Street, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

William and Eliza Reid built this elegant home around 1890. Primarily used as a rental, the house began as a much simpler ell-shaped residence. Widow Jennie Thompson, who rented the home in 1900, lived here with her three grown children, one of whom worked as a photographer. A remodel between 1902 and 1912 added hallmark Queen Anne features, including a full-length porch with a spindlework frieze and delicately turned porch supports, an east bay window, and a square tower, which housed the newly plumbed indoor bathroom. It also expanded the rear addition. Even as the Reids converted their vernacular home into a fashionable Queen Anne, mainstream taste had already begun to turn away from the style. The Reids, who lived here between 1910 and 1913, shared their home with their twenty-five-year-old son, fourteen-year-old nephew, and two roomers. A "tinner," William managed the tin and sheet iron department for Missoula Mercantile between 1887 and 1910, when he opened his own shop. In 1920, the Reids sold the property, which changed hands several times before printer Fred Zeh purchased it in 1924. Zeh, who worked for the Missoulian for forty-six years, served fourteen years as president of the Missoula Typographical Union No. 277 and one term in the state legislature. He and his wife, Mabel, had five children. Their three daughters worked in Germany as civilian employees of the occupying forces after World War II. After their father's death in 1948, two of the daughters moved back home. They continued to live here until 1984.

**Property:** Keim Building

**Address:** 314 N 1st W, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** Northside Missoula Railroad   **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings           **Subject 2:** apartments

**Sign Text:**

Arrival of the Northern Pacific in 1883 brought sweeping changes, and this elaborate 1891 business block is a grand illustration. The railroad prompted major building booms and made architectural pieces and parts readily accessible. Levi Keim, an early-day farmer and stage stop operator, worked as a Northside policeman when he built this commercial building as an investment. Originally a drug store was at street level and apartments were upstairs. Its varied tenants included the Northwest Steam Laundry in 1909 and A. W. Allen's grocery in 1913. Keim spared no expense on the project. Romanesque arches with granite sills, a unique central gable above the roof, elegant brickwork, and a pressed metal cornice make the building a stellar example of Victorian-era commercial architecture. The mail-order cornice and plate glass windows arrived via the Northern Pacific. The availability of large commercial windows like these revolutionized advertising, offering merchants better opportunities to display their goods. Economic depression in 1893 ended construction projects and the period of flamboyant commercial architecture passed. The beautifully restored Keim Building is one of Missoula's few surviving examples.

**Property:** Roxy Theatre

**Address:** 718 S. Higgins Ave, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** University Area           **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** theaters (buildings)           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

"May You Prosper Well in Your New Theatre with Your Steadfast Faith in Forsyth," read one of the many ads that filled the August 28, 1930, Forsyth Times. Car and clothing merchants joined building contractors and suppliers in congratulating Anthony Wolke and Frank Faust on the construction of their new theatre. Movies had played in

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

Forsyth since the turn of the century, first in the Commercial Hotel, then in a converted Main Street storefront. The Roxy, however, was the first building in Forsyth constructed specifically as a theatre; it was also one of the few buildings constructed in Forsyth during the Great Depression. Equipped with RCA sound-producing equipment, the new theatre boasted red velour curtains, spring cushion seats, Spanish lanterns in the foyer, and six small Spanish balconies in the auditorium itself. The Spanish décor carried to the exterior, where stucco walls and exotic-looking Spanish roof tiles tempted passersby to escape the sometimes grim reality of the Depression. Entrance into the realm of romance and entertainment cost only fifty cents (sixty cents for balcony seats).

**Property:** Steiger Apartments

**Address:** 427 / 429 E Pine Street, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** East Pine Street      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:** apartments

**Sign Text:**

Classical details add character and prestige to this brick apartment building constructed by Joseph Steiger in 1903. First-story windows with gentle arches soften the strict classical symmetry while eaves trimmed in dentils and a grand entry porch supported by Doric columns create a stunning façade. Joseph Steiger died soon after the building was completed but his wife, Theresa, lived here with her young son, managing the building until about 1917. In 1910, the federal census records thirteen additional roomers in the building besides Theresa's own household and that of her primary tenant family. Five of the occupants were engaged in the booming railroad industry that promised Missoula's permanence; others were employed in ancillary businesses providing laundry, restaurant, retail, and livery services. This neighborhood landmark, representative of the heady time when Missoula gained status as a center of commerce and trade, continues to serve as apartments.

**Property:** Northern Pacific Railroad Depot

**Address:** 100 Railroad, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:**      **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** railroad stations      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

When the tracks of the Northern Pacific reached Missoula in 1883, it was possibly the most significant event in the town's history. Reliable transportation transformed the minor trade and lumber center to a major economic and commercial distribution hub for western Montana. The Northern Pacific constructed Missoula's first depot in 1883. This temporary wooden structure was replaced with a fine new building in 1896, constructed by the Higgins brothers, who intended to turn it over to Northern Pacific officials in exchange for building costs. Just prior to completion, arson reduced the uninsured building to ruins. Several years later, the Northern Pacific built the present depot, which opened in 1901. The celebrated St. Paul architectural firm of Reed and Stem, which specialized in railroad depot design (and eventually designed over one hundred depots, as well as the engineering specifications for New York City's Grand Central Station) drew the blueprints for this splendid symbol of Missoula's importance. The brick depot, designed in simplified Renaissance Revival style, presides over Circle Square at the foot of the commercial district. Terra cotta roof tile, brick pilasters, and gently arched windows lend refined dignity. Terra cotta medallions, which enclose the Northern Pacific emblem, recall the original function of this commanding building, when the railroad reigned supreme.

**Property:** Mrs. Lydia McCaffery's Furnished Rooms

**Address:** 501 W. Alder, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:**      **Building Type:** building



## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Subject 1:** boardinghouses

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

At the turn of the century, social critics saw apartment living as morally suspect. Instead, single working men and women who could not stay with their families typically lived in rooming or boardinghouses, where housekeepers ostensibly kept an eye on their behavior. Housekeepers were typically women, as the business was one of the few options for married or widowed women to earn a living. The need for rooming houses was great; Missoula's population had grown over 250% between 1900 and 1910, and people continued to flock to the booming community. Lydia McCaffery and her widowed daughter, Mary Kroll, had this rooming house constructed in 1910 shortly after Lydia's husband moved to Mexico. A full-length neoclassical porch distinguishes the brick foursquare residence. McCaffery expanded the two-story brick building circa 1915, adding dormers, which created space for three new rooms in the attic; a back addition with a kitchenette; and a separate wood-frame home in the rear, which she also leased to tenants. A diverse population rented Mrs. McCaffery's furnished rooms. They included a dance teacher, a shoemaker, carpenters, railroad conductors, nurses at the neighboring hospital, and the widowed cook at the Northern Pacific Railroad's lunchroom. Lydia died in 1921, and her daughter, by then remarried to local rancher George McCauley, took over the business. The McCauleys continued to live here and manage the rooming house into the late 1940s. More recently, the building has housed those in need, including families of patients at nearby St. Patrick Hospital.

**Property:** Bellows Residence

**Address:** 1637 S. Higgins, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:**            **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:** hospitals (buildings for health facility)

**Sign Text:**

Missoula's rapid expansion after the turn of the twentieth century created a need for new neighborhoods such as this one in the Glenwood Park Addition. The charming Neoclassical style Bellows Residence, constructed in 1909, was one of the first homes to be built this far south of the river. Its lengthwise orientation accommodated the narrow urban lot. Stylistic details include a one-story porch spanning the front, Doric columns, and a fanlight in the front gable end. Clapboard and cast concrete simulating stone provide an unusual and attractive exterior contrast. Cast concrete block construction, although commonly found in other Montana towns, is less common in Missoula. Workers used special machinery and molds, sold through mail-order catalogues, to prepare the concrete and cast the blocks on site. Charles Bellows, secretary/treasurer of the D. J. Donohue department store in downtown Missoula, was the first owner and resident of the home. After 1918, the Bellows family rented the property to a variety of tenants through the 1940s. While still a residence, the home was beautifully refurbished and received the Missoula Historic Preservation Award for interior and exterior renovation. Subsequent conversion to a medical clinic between 1992 and 1994 required some interior changes, but keen sensitivity to historic elements allowed existing windows, wood trim, and fir floors to remain intact. The original front door with its graceful oval window and the front windows with leaded glass transoms recall a quieter era when this neighborhood was on the outskirts of town.

**Property:** 514 Daly

**Address:** 514 Daly Avenue, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** University Area

**Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The block was sparsely developed when this Craftsman style bungalow took its place in the neighborhood circa 1921. A front-gabled roof, multi-paned Chicago style windows, wide overhanging eaves with exposed rafter tails,

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

and square columns supporting the front porch are characteristic Craftsman style features. Fred E. Buck was the home's first owner. He began his career as a public utilities engineer in Missoula in 1909 and eventually became Helena's chief city engineer. Brice and Orell Thompson owned the property by 1924. Thompson was a fireman for the Anaconda Copper Mining Company at the lumber mill in Hamilton and later at Bonner. The Thompsons' tenants at various times in the 1930s and 1940s included Pacific Life Insurance district manager Alfred Stephenson, prominent Missoula physician Dr. James J. Flynn, and grocer Curtis J. Austin. In the later 1940s, the Thompsons briefly occupied the home before it sold again. Inside, original built-in seating and a bookcase to either side of the fireplace express the cozy, family-oriented Craftsman ideal.

**Property:** John R. Toole House (Kappa Kappa Gamma Sorority House)

**Address:** 1005 Gerald Ave, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** University Area

**Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:** universities (buildings)

**Sign Text:**

Full-length Doric columns make a bold architectural statement, drawing the eye to this imposing neoclassical style home. Butte architect J. F. Everett drew upon the style popularized following the 1893 Chicago World's Columbian Exposition. The 1902 residence, built for industrialist John R. Toole, retains its original symmetry and classical ornamentation despite three additions. Fanlights above the main entry, a three-part "Palladian" window, and a covered colonnaded terrace recall the time when this was the gracious home of a prominent family. John Toole served in the territorial and state legislatures and was later president of copper king Marcus Daly's bank and his Missoula-based milling company. But home was the center of Toole's affections and a grand one it was. Twelve-foot ceilings, pocket doors, oak columns, and seven fireplaces of imported tile support the notion, according to Toole's biography, that "there was not a more attractive fireside in Montana." In 1931 Toole's widow, Anna, sold the home to the Kappa Kappa Gamma Alumnae Association. A number of the Tooles' descendants are among the Kappas who have subsequently called this house their college home.

**Property:** Swift Building

**Address:** 315 South Fourth Street, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** University Area

**Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings

**Subject 2:** warehouses

**Sign Text:**

Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railroad administrators envisioned a bustling warehouse district paralleling its spur line along South Fourth St. East. That district never materialized, but by 1912, the warehouse stood here, kitty-corner to the freight depot. The Swift Co., a national meat processor, occupied the solid brick structure from 1913 into the 1920s. The company shipped freight cars full of meat and meat byproducts (including soap, glue, and fertilizer) from its Chicago processing plants to warehouses like this one across the country. Designed to hold heavy loads, the warehouse relied on massive timbers and rebar-reinforced brick walls to bear the weight of the stored freight. The architectural format is typical masonry construction and exhibits a craftsman's flair in the raised brick accents (quoins) at the corners. Two large front openings (now window bays) once served as loading docks, reflecting the building's original function. After 1927, Blair Transfer and Storage occupied the warehouse into the 1960s.

**Property:** Fred T. Sterling House

**Address:** 1310 Gereld Avenue, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:**

**Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

### Sign Text:

Prominent businessman Frederick Sterling and his wife Lucina, daughter of one of Missoula founders Frank Worden, commissioned architect Albert J. Gibson to design this splendid Arts and Crafts style residence, built in 1912. The home reflects a stylistic shift in Gibson's much-celebrated work from classicism (as demonstrated in his design of the Missoula County Courthouse) to the popular Arts and Crafts and Prairie School movements. Gabled dormers with shallow roofs, exposed rafter ends, a half-timbered and stuccoed second floor, and massive corbelled chimneys characterize the style, here quite elegantly expressed. Rich appointments include leaded and stained glass, mahogany doors and banisters, a billiard room fireplace of lava rock trimmed in brass, and silver plated doorknobs and window lifts. Between 1883 and 1906 the well-respected Sterling worked his way from clerk to vice president of the Missoula Mercantile Company. The influential businessman was part-owner and president of the Western Montana National Bank from 1918 until his death in 1934. For these and other interests, Sterling has been called a "silent partner" in the molding of Montana's early business affairs. This beautiful and well-maintained residence is today a lasting tribute to both architect and owner, each of whom contributed to the growth of this city on the Western frontier.

**Property:** 439 Connell Avenue

**Address:** 439 Connell Ave, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** University Area

**Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

Low-pitched gables, large sheltering eaves with decorative braces, and an inviting front porch supported by "battered" piers mark this circa 1916 residence as a Craftsman style home. Irene Risley, married to railroad supply salesman Dalton Risley, is the first known owner. While Irene was one of many women who owned property in Montana in the early twentieth century, female property ownership was not a straightforward reflection of women's economic power. Under certain circumstances, married women's property was protected from their husbands' creditors, and families used this fact to protect their assets. When the Ripleys moved into this substantial, corner residence, they joined an elite, well-situated suburb. Three blocks to their west was the neighborhood's centerpiece, the luxurious Bonner Mansion (since demolished). Two blocks to their east was the university. By 1930, the Risleys had moved on. The house, then valued at \$6,200 (approximately \$81,000 in 2010 dollars) became home to train master Jacob Smith, his wife Ida, and their two children: Herbert and Rhea. Twenty-two-year-old Herbert worked installing telephones, while twenty-eight-year-old Rhea was a comptometer operator (a comptometer was an early type of business calculator).

**Property:** 613 North Third Street West

**Address:** 613 North Third Street West, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** Northside Missoula Railroad

**Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

Born of the 1883 arrival of the Northern Pacific Railroad, the Northside grew with the railroad's early twentieth-century expansion. Simple housing predominated in the working-class neighborhood, which contained few brick homes. This circa 1904 house, along with its neighbors, was an exception, probably because all three were built by A. C. Hollenbeck, Missoula's leading brick manufacturer. Architectural detailing—pedimented gables, fluted porch columns, arched entries and window openings, and fish-mouth projections over gable windows—lent further distinction. This was, nonetheless, worker housing. Norma and Addison Darrow bought the property in 1911, when Addison worked for the railroad. At the time, it also contained a small two-story alley house, presumably a rental, a common feature on the working-class Northside. The Darrows and their four children owned the

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

property for almost fifty years. At one time, both Addison and Norma worked for the Northern Pacific, as did at least one of their sons. Addison and sons also sometimes worked at the Anaconda Company's Bonner mill, and the family occasionally lived near the mill and rented their Northside house.

**Property:** Northern Pacific Railroad Depot

**Address:** 100 Railroad, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** railroad stations           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The Gebo Mine, founded in the Clarks Fork Valley in the late 1890s, brought the tracks of the Northern Pacific to this area. The railroad, however, bypassed the coal mine and the town of Gebo that flourished near it because of difficult accessibility. A spur line to the mine was constructed in 1898, and by early 1899, a small wood-frame depot stood ready north of where the Gebo spur left the main tracks. The railroad named the station "Fromberg" after Northern Pacific stockholder Conrad Fromberg, and it immediately provided local ranchers with a link to distant markets. William Swallow recognized that his land near the depot offered potential for a new townsite. The original six-block townsite of Fromberg was platted in "T-town" form, with the main street perpendicular to the tracks. The depot, constructed by the railroad from standardized plans for "fourth class combination stations," originally included a ticket office and waiting room on one end, freight room on the other end, and central living quarters for the agent. Remodeling in 1909 expanded the waiting area into the central apartment, and clapboard siding was applied over the board-and-batten walls. The depot served passengers and freight until 1970. Later moved seventy-five feet to its present location, the building today is the only remaining Northern Pacific depot along the historic Clarks Fork branch line and the last railroad building in Fromberg. In its new function as the Clarks Fork Valley Museum, this railroad veteran is an appropriate ambassador of the region's rich history and a significant reflection of Fromberg's roots.

**Property:** 227 South 3rd Street West

**Address:** 227 South 3rd Street West, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** Missoula Southside   **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures       **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The charm of the early Southside neighborhood is well expressed in this classic Queen Anne style residence built circa 1900. A pattern book undoubtedly provided plans for its builder, likely Andrew Nelson, a carpenter/contractor whose wife, Louisa Lenora, owned the property at the time of construction. The characteristic cross-gabled roof, return gable ends, beaded clapboard siding, and porch with gracefully turned columns and railings appear today as they did at the turn of the twentieth century.

**Property:** 906 Worden

**Address:** 906 Worden, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** Northside Missoula Railroad   **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures       **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

As Hellgate trading post grew into Missoula after 1860, farms sprouted north of the city center. The 1883 arrival of the Northern Pacific railroad brought residential construction to the Northside. The new neighborhood housed mainly railroad workers, many of them immigrants who came via the Midwest. Among them were Swedish-born John and Johana Swanson, who farmed in Wisconsin before buying this lot in 1897. They built this wood-frame,

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

gable-front-and-wing house (with kitchen under separate roof in case of fire) that reflected the vernacular National Folk style. This style proliferated in the late nineteenth-century with the advent of balloon framing and the spread of railroads (which made lumber affordable). It proved popular on the Northside: larger versions often occupied corner lots. John and Johana also built a small alley house, presumably a rental, a common neighborhood feature. A railroad family, the Swansons raised seven children on John's railway wages, two of whom also worked for the railroad. In 1918, eldest daughter Emma Strothman moved home from Spokane after her husband, also a railroader, died. Emma, a rural mail carrier, lived here until her death in 1969.

**Property:** John S. Johnston House

**Address:** 412 W. Alder, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Missoula blossomed at the turn of the twentieth century as railroad transportation facilities expanded, securing the town's prominence as a trade, manufacturing, and lumbering center for western Montana. As Missoula gained importance, this residential area enjoyed increased status as a fashionable upper-middle-class neighborhood. Prior to 1902, builder-carpenter John S. Johnston had purchased this property, which included a small one-story wood-frame dwelling. Between 1902 and 1912 a two-story Queen Anne style addition was constructed to the front of the original structure. The finished residence was a worthy contribution to the now prestigious neighborhood. It was probably Johnston himself, working from a pattern book, who skillfully crafted the new residence around the old. The irregular plan is typical of Queen Anne design and includes a corner turret with conical roof and wide wraparound porch with Doric columns. Decorative bracketing beneath the turret roof, narrow clapboard siding, and beautiful curved and leaded glass reveal tasteful and meticulous attention to detail. A tin-ceilinged dining room and exquisite interior finishing disclose the loving hand of a talented craftsman. The original structure was altered to serve as the kitchen, but the Queen Anne addition remains an intact and remarkably well-preserved example of period architecture.

**Property:** Cook Farm

**Address:** 5185 Old Marshall Grade, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** site

**Subject 1:** homesteads           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Trees of great age line the unpaved driveway leading to this historic homestead, built at the intersection of an early wagon route and the 1860s Mullan military road. Albert H. Cook homesteaded here in 1879, settling in a cabin built by railroad loggers Richard Eddy and Edward Bonner, after whom the town of Bonner was named. Cook stated in his "proving up" testimony in 1885 that he had raised grain, hay, and vegetables for five seasons and planted 70 shade and fruit trees. In 1887, Cook leased a portion of the property for use as a brickyard. Neighbors Alexander and Elizabeth Delong bought the farmsite in 1889, and it became known as the "Old Marshall Grade Ranch." A brick in the northeast corner of the kitchen addition, probably of Marshall Grade manufacture and dated 1889, is inscribed with the name "Delong." German-born Anton and Christina Lerch bought the homestead in 1899. Changes they witnessed included trolley service that ran nearby between Missoula and Bonner on the tracks of the rerouted Northern Pacific mainline from 1910 to the 1930s. The Lerches operated the farm until 1968, marketing their produce by horse-drawn cart. Their inviting home became a gathering spot for the local German community. While most of the original 149-acre farm has now been subdivided into residential lots, the substantial 1880s brick home remains little-changed in its pastoral setting and continues to beckon visitors who happen along this once-busy roadway.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Property:** 501 Daly

**Address:** 501 Daly, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** University Area

**Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Missoulians lobbied hard for their city to become home to the University of Montana, and none worked harder than A. B. Hammond, whose business interests included the South Missoula Land Company. Along with his rival C. P. Higgins (who also invested heavily in south side real estate), Hammond donated a large tract of land to the university, certain its construction would increase property values. It worked. Lots near the campus were considered a prime investment and speculation was rampant. This lot sold three times in 1917. Finally, in 1922, Missoulian business manager C. Arthur Colby and his wife Madge purchased the property, building this one-story bungalow where they lived into the 1940s. The comfortable residence displays many Craftsman style features: decorative brackets, an open front porch (since enclosed), wide overhanging eaves, and a low-pitched roof punctuated by dormers. The Anaconda Copper Mining Company, founded by Marcus Daly for whom this street is named, owned the Missoulian during Arthur's tenure there. Exercising control over the news statewide was a key part of the copper monopoly's strategy to control Montana politics.

**Property:** Thomas J. Christie House

**Address:** 401 McLeod Ave, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:**

**Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Three other homes and a sorority house were sparsely scattered over this block when contractor Thomas J. Christie added a residence here circa 1911. Apparently constructed as an investment, Christie never lived in the home himself but probably banked on its prime location near the university to make it an attractive investment. This would explain a series of owners and occupants of this gracious Queen Anne style residence. (The house changed hands at least three times during its first decade.) By 1921, numerous residences had filled in the entire neighborhood, and Christie's original property entered a new era. The home was well suited for student housing and later served as a sorority house for Kappa Kappa Gamma (1929), Alpha Chi Omega (1930-1931), Kappa Delta (1932), and Alpha Xi Delta (1933-1936). Engineer James E. Schecter purchased the home in 1936 while his son, Harold, attended the university. The Schecters, who lived here until 1948, were the first owners to live in the residence for any length of time. Painstaking renovation, including the preservation of original border-inlaid flooring, has recently restored the stately home to its former prominence in this historic neighborhood.

**Property:** Milwaukee Depot

**Address:** 250 Station Dr, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:**

**Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** railroad stations

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The tracks of the Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul and Pacific Railway were laid across Montana between 1907 and 1909. Completion of this final transcontinental line and the fierce competition it generated renewed interest in the railroads. Its far-reaching effects revitalized the lumber industry, boosted a sagging economy, encouraged agricultural expansion, and precipitated a homesteading boom. Completion of the line through Missoula solidified the town's role as a major urban and trading center. This splendid brick passenger depot was built in 1910. Its grandeur and stylistic sophistication are indicative of the railroad's importance to the town. Designed by architect

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

J. A. Lindstrand, it is one of the finest examples of railroad station architecture in Montana, rivaling Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul and Pacific Railway stations in Butte and Great Falls. One of Missoula's few surviving remnants from the era of railroad supremacy, the design is particularly noteworthy for its castle-like appearance enhanced with contemporary poured concrete and Mission style detailing. Five-story and three-story towers crowned with Romanesque style windows, castle-like parapets, and Spanish tile roofs emphasize the monumental proportions of the two depot buildings. Now connected by a modern addition, the two-story building originally accommodated passengers while the one-story building was used for baggage. The depot's grand interior still boasts 15-foot coffered ceilings with milled wood beams, relief-paneled wainscoting, and elegant molded wood trim.

**Property:** Milwaukee Depot

**Address:** 250 Station Dr, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:**            **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** railroad stations            **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

From the 1880s to the 1950s, trains assured Butte's survival by transporting everything from passengers and mail to ore. This marvelous depot, with its 95-foot clock tower, was constructed in 1916 to serve passenger trains of the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railway, or "Milwaukee Road." The station consisted of a head house for passenger services and a baggage/express building connected by a glass vestibule. St. Louis pressed brick, marble floors, and oak-and-burlap paneling added interior elegance to the 160 tons of structural steel used in the construction of the complex. Electrically powered engines brought no dirt, dust, or smoke into the station, earning it a reputation as a "model of cleanliness." The depot ceased its original function when train travel diminished in the 1950s. Home of KXLF television since 1957, the depot was one of Butte's first major restoration projects in the 1970s. It is today an excellent example of preservation and adaptive reuse.

**Property:** Guy Ressler Homestead House

**Address:** near Huson, , Missoula

**Historic District:**            **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** homesteads            **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

While prairie homesteads dominate the popular imagination, agricultural land in Montana's western forests also attracted settlers. The Forest Homestead Act, passed in June 1906, opened land within the national forests. Three months later, a presidential proclamation established the Lolo Forest Reserve (now Lolo National Forest). Not long after, Elmer Breen of Missoula became the fourth applicant to file for 160 acres within the reserve boundary. By 1909, Breen had built a cabin and plowed ground, but he never proved up. In 1913, Great Northern Railway car repairman Guy Ressler filed his own homestead entry for land included in Breen's original application. Ressler's mother Elizabeth, who ran a boardinghouse in Missoula, filed on the adjacent 160 acres. Guy (and possibly his wife, Mary) moved into Breen's cabin in 1913. Over the next ten years, he cultivated rye, timothy, and hay and built many improvements, including an irrigation ditch, root cellar, hen house, two barns, a wagonshed, and log cabins for both his mother and himself. Guy's 18-by-24-foot, one-story, saw-cut, peeled-log cabin is the only structure that remains on the property. Although Elizabeth never lived steadily on her land, both she and Guy were issued homestead patents in 1923. Within a year, they sold out to Seattle merchant Sanford Manheimer. Guy, who suffered from diabetes, died soon after. Norwegian immigrant Fred Thisted bought the land from Manheimer's estate in 1938. Thisted first homesteaded in Cascade County, but he sold that land to move west of the divide where there was water. The Thisted family raised cattle here into the 1980s.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Property:** Target Range Elementary School

**Address:** 4095 South Ave W, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** public schools (buildings)                   **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Proximity to Fort Missoula's target range gave the Target Range School its name. Area residents organized the school district in 1893. The Army built the first school, soldiers from the fort hauled the students' drinking water, and many who attended were the children of officers. In 1907, the district built a new, gable-roofed, wood-frame building with a vestibule/coat room. A formal pedimented entrance referenced classical bastions of learning while a bell tower asserted moral authority. The classroom featured a bank of windows on the east wall. These windows allowed sunlight in while preventing "cross-lighting," considered harmful for childrens' eyes. The district added indoor bathrooms in 1935, enclosed the front entrance in 1948 (removing the classical columns), and constructed a girl's locker room in 1972. After World War II, the area attracted young families and a record 50 children attended school here in 1946. To meet the rising demand, the district built a simple yet modern two-story brick addition in 1948-49, which included the superintendent's office, a large upstairs classroom, a basement classroom/cafeteria and attached kitchen, and an enclosed glass vestibule entrance. By the early 1980s, even this expanded space was too small. Students dispersed to other districts until a new, twenty-room school was completed just east of the original building in 1992. Like many Montana schools, Target Range also served as a community center, providing space for card parties, community dances, elections, and Rocky Mountain spotted fever inoculations. In 2006, volunteers began restoring the deteriorating property to make it a community center once again.

**Property:** 642 South Fifth Street West

**Address:** 642 S 5th St W, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** McCormick Neighborhood           **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures                   **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Elegant Colonial Revival and classical stylistic elements define the architecture of this two-and-one-half-story residence. Round columns support the open front porch while hipped roof dormers add living space and light. Boxed eaves, an ornately bracketed cornice, and dentils (toothlike projections) beneath the cornice line reflect the builders' attention to detail. By 1902, developers had platted the 600 block of South Fifth. Eight years later, William and Clara Berry and H. G. and Lottie Ford purchased lot seven, building this house as an investment. Furniture salesman David Haviland rented the home for his wife Leta, their two daughters, and Leta's brother, a drapery salesman, in 1910. Grocer Thomas Farley and his wife Edna occupied the residence by 1920, purchasing it in 1922. In 1926, the Farleys sold the house to Oscar and Effie Wold. Born in Norway, Oscar immigrated to the United States as a young boy. His career with the Forest Service began in 1908, and he served as longtime fiscal agent in Missoula. The couple and their daughter lived here, sometimes joined by other family members, until after World War II.

**Property:** Potomac School

**Address:** 220 Potomac Road, Potomac, Missoula

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** public schools (buildings)                   **Subject 2:**



## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

### Sign Text:

At the onset of the twentieth century, the community of Potomac evolved from a small mining and ranching outpost to an established logging and agricultural town. Population growth in the first decade of the new century triggered a need for improved educational facilities. In July of 1912, the trustees of Potomac School District #11 voted to establish a local high school. Taxpayers voted fifty-six to four in favor of bonding \$10,000 to finance its construction, and the Missoula husband-and wife architectural team of John and Josephine Kennedy supplied blueprints for the substantial four-room building. Their design features a central belltower, typical of period schoolhouse architecture, but innovatively incorporates wide eaves, a hipped roof, multiple window groupings, and banded brick façades characteristic of the then-fashionable Craftsman style. By the fall of 1913, the completed and well-equipped building included twenty large desks, newly purchased at four dollars each. Two secondary and three primary teachers managed fifty-two students ranging from grades 1 to 12. Zoology, Latin, German, and bookkeeping were among the courses offered by the accredited high school program. Today, as generations of graduates fondly remember the Potomac School, it continues to serve as an anchor to the community and a doorway to the future for its children.

**Property:** 235 South 4th Street West

**Address:** 235 South 4th Street West, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** Missoula Southside      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

Pioneer stockman James L. Goodwin, a resident of Deer Lodge, was the first owner of this home, built circa 1903. Goodwin sold the property to Northern Pacific engineer Harry H. Deering in 1914. The Southside's association with the railroads is further demonstrated by the third owner, Gilbert Pring, a Northern Pacific dispatcher, who purchased the residence in 1910. The cross-gabled roof with end returns, open porch with Doric columns, and simple drop siding illustrate the excellence achieved with pattern book blueprints. The simple carriage house, added before 1909, enhances the picturesque charm of this attractive, well-maintained home.

**Property:** Henry Tripp Residence

**Address:** 1002 S 6th St W, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** McCormick Neighborhood      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

German immigrants Henry Tripp and his wife Johanna were the first known owners of this home, which they occupied by 1910. Henry was in the cement contracting business, but he and Johanna also maintained a lucrative cottage industry breeding poultry. They acquired the parcel west of their home, razed the house that stood on it, and expanded their poultry business by converting existing outbuildings into poultry houses. Their prize-winning Blue Jacket Barred Plymouth Rock chickens were then the world's most popular breed. With the home as their business headquarters, the Tripps sold stock and eggs for hatching. The home's architectural details reflect a variety of eclectic styles popular during the late 1800s and early 1900s. Its low-profile hipped roof and overhanging eaves are characteristic of both Prairie and Craftsman styling, while exposed rafter ends and details in the porch railing are more typical of the latter style. In contrast, the classical porch columns reflect Colonial Revival influences. Brick veneer, applied over a traditional balloon frame, and stone used in the rubble foundation, in window sills, and porch details lend an aspect of Old World solidity to the home.

**Property:** Gleim Building II

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Address:** 255 / 257 West Front, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** brothels           **Subject 2:** service stations

**Sign Text:**

Mary Gleim, one of Missoula's most colorful characters, built this "female boarding house" at the heart of the red light district between 1893 and 1902. It operated as a brothel until progressive reforms closed the district in 1916. The building later became an automobile repair shop. Mary owned considerable property in Missoula and elsewhere. Her splashy career included conviction for attempted murder and a prison term at Deer Lodge. Future governor of Montana Joseph Dixon was the prosecuting attorney. While awaiting trial at the county jail, officials let Mary out ostensibly to collect rents from her red light properties. She assaulted a rival but escaped conviction on that charge. During her penitentiary stint, Mary was viciously attacked by another female prisoner and reportedly never quite recovered from the stab wounds. Reputedly a smuggler of laces, diamonds, opium, and Chinese railroad workers, the mountainous madam weighed in at 300 pounds. She was a formidable opponent, "a relentless hater," and a match for any man. "Mother Gleim," as she was also known, retained title to this two-story vernacular commercial style brick building until her death in 1914. She left an estate of \$100,000 and explicit instructions for her burial in the city cemetery. According to her wishes, Mary's tombstone—unlike all others which face east and west—faces the railroad tracks. This way, Mary could bid farewell to the many railroad men and others who were her customers.

**Property:** Studebaker Building

**Address:** 216 West Main Street, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings           **Subject 2:** service stations

**Sign Text:**

As the automobile gained popularity in the 1910s, stables and garages existed side by side until motor travel prevailed over horses in the 1920s. The succession of businesses at this address documents the transition that must have been hard on old-timers like Joseph P. Nagle, who first advertised his livery at this location in 1896. By 1912, at least one nearby business catered exclusively to the automobile, but Nagle continued to serve customers preferring horse-drawn conveyances. When the paving of this block of West Main Street in 1914 forecast the area's development as an automobile-related business corridor, Nagle still held out. The present building replaced the stable after 1918. By 1921, the Main Street Motor Company advertised repairs and rental space for 70 vehicles. Most automobile owners in the early years stored them in garages for \$15 to \$20 a month, where they could be maintained and protected from cold weather. The spacious second floor, accessed by an interior ramp, served as such a facility. A Chevrolet dealership operated here in 1930, and in 1936, Louis Nybo sold Studebakers, the choice of the Missoula police force, until the 1950s. A vibrant example of 1920s utilitarian commercial architecture, the crenelated polychrome corner parapet with its repeating cloud-shaped ornamentation is an exceptional example of deco style "arc zigurat." The original industrial steel-frame show windows, carefully refurbished, illustrate design elements associated with the early auto industry.

**Property:** John M. Keith House

**Address:** 1110 Gerald Ave, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The prestigious architectural firm of Link and Haire designed this handsome residence, which reflects the Midwestern taste of its first owner, John M. Keith. Son of a farmer from New Brunswick, Canada, Keith came to

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

Missoula in 1881. Taking a job as a cashier at the Missoula National Bank in 1888, he worked his way up to vice president. Keith had completed a third term as mayor of Missoula and been made president of the Missoula Trust and Savings Banks when his grand home was completed circa 1910. The Prairie School style, promoted by architect Frank Lloyd Wright of Chicago, was intended to imitate the “rolling Midwestern prairie terrain.” A low-pitched hipped roof and widely overhanging eaves augment the horizontal emphasis characteristic of the style, which is further enhanced by terra cotta tiles capping hip-roofed chimneys. A granite foundation and detailing add contrast to the walls of high-fired brown-rust brick. Much of the first-floor interior retains its original opulence, strongly influenced by the Craftsman style of the period, including exquisite woodwork, elegant paneling, pocket sliding doors, and a copper-clad entry hall fireplace. This distinctive home served as a private residence until the 1930s when it was purchased by the Sigma Chi fraternity.

**Property:** Frederick C. Scheuch Home

**Address:** 319 South Fifth Street West, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** Missoula Southside **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

William J. Kendall of the Northwest Milling and Lumber Company built this regal Queen Anne style home circa 1899. Professor Frederick C. Scheuch and his family were the longtime occupants from 1902 until 1936. Scheuch was one of the University of Montana’s first three instructors, initially teaching mechanical engineering and then French and German. Revered by several generations of students, Professor Scheuch also served as the university’s vice president, stepping in as interim president six times. He helped found the student newspaper, Montana Kaimin, and the U of M chapter of the Sigma Chi fraternity. The professor and his wife, Jimmie, were known for their warm hospitality. Scheuch retired in 1936, moved away, and under later owners, the home began to deteriorate. In 1987, the first of several preservation-minded owners bought the abandoned ruin. Each contributed to the home’s rebuilding, salvaging everything that could be saved. Eventually, the original features, from the stone foundation to the grand turret, re-emerged. In 2000, the City of Missoula bestowed a well-deserved preservation award upon this magnificent, and again well-cared for, neighborhood landmark.

**Property:** The Oval

**Address:** 32 Campus Drive, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** University of Montana **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** universities (buildings) **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Professor Frederick Scheuch and first university President Oscar Craig created the original campus master plan in 1895. The plan specified that the entrances of all immediate and future campus buildings were to face the center of a large oval. Ovals were a formal element commonly used in landscape design of the late nineteenth century, especially on academic campuses. Although only Main Hall and Science Hall (razed in 1984) were placed exactly according to the Craig-Scheuch plan, the beautifully landscaped Oval, surrounded by its eclectic collection of early buildings, remains a focal point of the campus.

**Property:** Parade Grounds

**Address:** Reserve Street and South Avenue, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** Fort Missoula **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** parade grounds **Subject 2:**

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

### Sign Text:

The original Fort Missoula was constructed of log and frame and was neither fortified nor enclosed. The buildings, arranged around the first parade grounds, no longer stand, but their foundations are clearly visible, bordering the area where early troops did their drills. During reconstruction of the fort from 1904 to 1912, new officers' housing was built facing southwest toward the new parade grounds which then became the center of the fort. In addition to military drills, the parade grounds served as a baseball diamond. As reconstruction neared completion in June of 1911, Fort Missoula held an open house and hosted a technological milestone. Two special Northern Pacific trains brought excited visitors from the Bitterroot Valley to the fort while extra streetcars delivered crowds of well wishers every 15 minutes. Guests were invited to view Eugene Ely's Curtiss biplane, which was parked on the parade grounds, and inspect the fort's newly reconstructed buildings. Later in the day, Ely took off from here in his flying machine, marking Missoula's first aviation event.

**Property:** Post Headquarters

**Address:** Reserve Street and South Avenue, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** Fort Missoula **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** military buildings **Subject 2:** recreation

### Sign Text:

Originally the post exchange, this building served as a recreation hall for the stationed men. The exchange evolved from the post trader's store, an integral element in early forts where the men could buy staples and supplies. As early as 1888, the post exchange or canteen had replaced the post trader's store. In time, the post headquarters began to carry food, clothing, jewelry, personal effects, gifts, and other items so that personnel could shop for almost any occasion without leaving the post. Built in 1906 for \$21,800, the building served as the post exchange until 1962 when it became the post headquarters. Under the army's sell/lease program, the Naval Reserve training center was located here. The building has since housed Forest Service personnel, the U.S. Army facilities manager, and the Montana Natural History Center.

**Property:** Post Cemetery

**Address:** Reserve Street and South Avenue, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** Fort Missoula **Building Type:** site; contributing

**Subject 1:** military buildings **Subject 2:** cemeteries

### Sign Text:

Established on less than an acre of ground north of the main buildings, Fort Missoula's post cemetery is still in active use. The first person buried here was Private William Gerick in 1878. Subsequently, soldiers who served in the Civil War, Indian Wars, Spanish American War, World Wars I and II, the Korean War and the Vietnam War are buried on these grounds. Among some two hundred graves are more than forty soldiers of the all-black 25th Infantry, garrisoned at Fort Missoula from 1888 to 1898. When Fort Ellis near Bozeman was abandoned after 1886 and remains shipped to other active national cemeteries, thirty-six individuals were transferred to Fort Missoula. Not all burials, however, are soldiers. A few women, wives of officers and senior sergeants, are also interred here, and more than fifty children who lived at the fort. The youngsters died from a variety of causes including premature birth, rickets, and flu.

**Property:** Powder Magazine

**Address:** Reserve Street and South Avenue, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** Fort Missoula **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** military buildings **Subject 2:**

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

### Sign Text:

Built in 1878 at a cost of \$485, this one-story stone building is one of only two structures that date to the original fort. The 3rd Infantry Regiment arrived at Fort Missoula from Texas in November of 1877 to replace the 7th Infantry troops, temporarily garrisoned here from Fort Shaw. The men lived in tents while they first constructed their own barracks. They then built the non-commissioned officers' quarters and this powder magazine. The solid structure, built of fieldstone quarried at McCauley's Bluff less than a mile away, was used to store munitions while the fort was active. The dirt floor and ceiling were constructed in layers filled with sand for protection against explosion. The log non-commissioned officers' quarters northeast of here and the powder magazine are the only standing structures original to the 1870s fort. The powder magazine survives as a striking reminder of military protection on the western frontier.

**Property:** 227 South Fourth Street West

**Address:** 227 South Fourth Street West, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** Missoula Southside **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

A clipped gable roof, a wide inviting porch, classical Doric columns, and a central corbeled chimney are characteristic of the pattern book houses that dot Missoula's Southside neighborhoods. Catalogue pattern book house plans promoted the American Dream and made stylish homes readily available. This well-maintained 1903 residence was likely built as an investment property. Pioneer stockman James Goodwin, who owned several other Southside rentals and lived in the neighborhood, purchased the home from the South Missoula Land Company in 1903. It served as a rental until 1922 when the William Jameson family became its longtime residents. Jameson was an attorney, a realtor, and served a term as secretary to the president of the nearby university. After Jameson's death in 1933, his widow Annie, Annie's elderly mother Charity Roberts, and daughter Lucille Ormsby made their homes here. Annie kept house at this address until 1959. The interior features many original finishings including graceful high ceilings, a spindled staircase with the original newel post and banister, and lovely bullseye rosette moldings throughout.

**Property:** Fort Missoula Historic District

**Address:** Historic District, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** Fort Missoula **Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** forts **Subject 2:** military buildings

### Sign Text:

Fort Missoula, established in 1877 to provide military control over western Montana's Indian tribes and protect local settlers, was the only permanent military post west of the Continental Divide. There was little conflict, but the fort's non-combative service was long and diverse. From 1888 to 1898, the black 25th Infantry Regiment was stationed at the fort. Twenty of the men explored potential military applications of the bicycle, riding 1,900 miles from Missoula to St. Louis in forty days. During the Spanish-American conflict in 1898, volunteers known as Grigsby's Cowboys were garrisoned at the fort. Citizens protesting its closure in 1904 prompted U.S. Senator Joseph Dixon of Missoula to successfully lobby for the fort's reconstruction. Eighteen Mission style buildings from this period (1904 to 1912) form the core of the present complex. The fort served as a technical training center during World War I, and between 1933 and 1941, it became the nation's largest regional headquarters for the Civilian Conservation Corps. During World War II, it was the nation's largest civilian detention camp interning Japanese Americans, Italian nationals taken from merchant and luxury ships in New York's harbor, and World's Fair employees. Italian internees affectionately dubbed the fort "Bella Vista." After World War II, the fort served as a medium security army prison. Closed in 1948, the fort had a military service that long outlasted other early

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

Montana forts. The army began to sell and lease portions of the property, but adaptability and strong community involvement has assured the buildings at Fort Missoula an active future. Most of the district's buildings are now administered by the Northern Rockies Heritage Center.

**Property:** Lynn and Daisy Ambrose Residence

**Address:** 433 McLeod, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** University Area      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Wide overhanging eaves and decorative braces mark the Craftsman style's influence on this cross-gable home. The low-pitched roofline is intended to project an aura of comfort and security. Built circa 1904, the residence is an early adaptation of the style. Its shingle siding imparts an idealized cottage feel. The body of the home still boasts its original narrow clapboard siding, embraced by homebuilders because it made houses look larger than they actually were. The brick foundation suggests that the home might be a "kit house"; at the turn of the twentieth century, several mail order companies sold homeowners the plans and materials necessary to construct their own residences. These plans often featured brick foundations since brick was readily available in most locations. Lynn and Daisy Ambrose lived here from 1913 through 1941 with their six children. Lynn was a carpenter, teacher at the manual training school, and cabinetmaker. Marcus Daly, grandson of the copper king, owned the home briefly in the 1940s before selling it in 1947 to Mary Tucker, a saleswoman at the Montana Mercantile

**Property:** Missoula Downtown Historic District

**Address:** , Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** Missoula Downtown      **Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** historic districts      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

In 1865, Christopher Higgins, Francis Worden, and David Pattee constructed grist and lumber mills near where the Mullan Road (now Front Street) intersected with present day Higgins Avenue. Worden's 1874 Carpenter Gothic home on East Pine, once a quiet residential street, commemorates this early period. Arrival of the Northern Pacific Railroad in 1883 brought new growth. Soon Western Commercial style hotels and business blocks lined Missoula's streets, including the brick-paved Railroad Street. Noteworthy architect-designed buildings from the period included the Tudor style Missoula Hotel, the Richardsonian Romanesque style Higgins Block, and the eclectic expansion of the Missoula Mercantile (originally constructed in 1877). The economic Panic of 1893 stilled Missoula's development. After 1900, economic recovery fostered a new building boom, especially after the 1908 arrival of the Milwaukee Road, Missoula's second railway. High style façades topped with elaborate cornices signified the city's coming of age. Classical civic buildings from the era include the A. J. Gibson-designed 1903 Carnegie Library and 1910 County Courthouse. Architects of statewide and regional note designed other landmark buildings within the district, including the 1910 neoclassical Independent Telephone Company, the 1921 Sullivanesque Wilma Theater, the 1937 Art Deco Zip Auto Building, and the 1941 Moderne Florence Hotel. Construction slowed during the Great Depression, but two large public works projects—the 1936 Forest Service Regional Headquarters and a 1937 addition to Missoula's Federal Building and Courthouse—demonstrated the federal government's importance to Missoula's economy. The preservation of these and almost 400 other buildings in the fifty-two block district record Missoula's history on its streets.

**Property:** 904 Monroe

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Address:** 904 Monroe, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Newspaper pressman Portus B. Thornton and his wife Victoria were the original owners of this Colonial Revival/Folk Victorian transitional cottage built circa 1905. Thornton came to Missoula from his native Canada in 1901 and married that same year. A trained printer, Thornton went to work at the Missoulian and, in the mid-1910s, he and a partner established the Missoula Bureau of Printing. As a veteran member of the local printer's union and its longtime secretary, Thornton was a key player in the development of the local press. The Thorntons were at home here until 1929. Their charming home features a centered entry, front gabled roof, clapboard siding, and square Tuscan columns. These elements showcase the clean lines and classical features designed to recapture a simpler, more modest time. Influenced by the various expositions and World's Fairs, such classical elements began to replace the well-loved Queen Anne style of the Victorian era. The home beautifully illustrates this shift. The open porch with pedimented roofline and latticework at the foundation as well as original interior bullseye molding throughout reveal the persistence of Victorian-era details.

**Property:** 635 South Fourth West

**Address:** 634 South 4th West, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** McCormick Neighborhood           **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Julia and Aaron Conner homesteaded in the Bitterroot Valley in 1882 where they prospered and raised six children. Aaron was elected judge at Darby in 1886 and served as Speaker of the House in the Montana legislature in 1900 and 1903. After Aaron died in an accident in 1905, locals named the community Conner in his memory. Julia moved to Missoula so her youngest daughter could attend high school and her son the university. She was the first owner of this newly built home, in residence with her two children and several boarders by 1909. The side-gabled Craftsman style cottage shares similarities with the Reed residence next door. Norwegian carpenters Andrew and Theodore Reed built that home and dozens of others in the neighborhood. They likely built this home as well. The two neighboring homes feature dominant front-facing dormers and horizontal clapboard cladding but are not identical. The Reed brothers' characteristic wood moldings finish the doors and windows, but this house emphasizes the Craftsman style. Decorative triangular braces accent the gables, and the wide, overhanging, open eaves have exposed rafters.

**Property:** Taxidermist Shop and Warwick Apartments

**Address:** 823 & 825 Wolf Avenue, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** Northside Missoula Railroad           **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:** apartments

**Sign Text:**

The two buildings along Wolf Avenue that are joined today as apartments have separate histories. The older building fronting Second Avenue was listed in the 1890 city directory as a taxidermy shop and residence. By 1893, the wood frame structure (now stuccoed) stretched along most of this block of Wolf Avenue. In 1903, state taxidermist Moses L. Gulden lived and conducted business in the building. Gulden eventually moved his shop but continued to live on site until 1911. Attorney Floyd J. Logan bought the property and removed a section of the former taxidermy shop to construct the four-flat apartment building of precast concrete. Architecturally unique to Missoula, the newer building features faceted blocks that mimic granite, ornamental columns, and a front door with oval glass. The gabled roof and porch details of the older dwelling, products of an earlier era, add to the

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

uniqueness of the complex. Railroad conductor F. H. Warwick purchased the two buildings in 1925, residing in the house and managing the apartments for more than five decades.

**Property:** 605 North Second West

**Address:** 605 North Second West, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** Northside Missoula Railroad **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Tucked between two other historic dwellings, this small residence adds significantly to the maturity of the block. Floyd J. Logan, an attorney and local agent for Ford automobiles, built the house as an investment rental between 1908 and 1910. The dwelling is an excellent example of the basic one-story vernacular shotgun house, a type of folk housing typically one room wide and several rooms deep. The shotgun house is common in Missoula, tracing its origin to nineteenth-century New Orleans. The form made its way west associated with lumberyards and the railroad. A front-gabled entry with heavy brackets and a vintage window box, both inspired by the popular Craftsman style, give this home its distinct personality. Henry McNamara, his wife Joanna, and their two grown sons rented the house in 1910. Henry and one of his sons, like many of their neighbors, worked for the railroad. The importance of this well-maintained cottage to the blue-collar character of the district exceeds its small size.

**Property:** Laird's Lodge Historic District

**Address:** Historic District, Seeley Lake, Missoula

**Historic District:** Laird's Lodge **Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** tourist cabins **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Amiable, gregarious Eli "Cap" Laird, a Lake Coeur d'Alene steamboat captain, was a well-known big game hunter in the Idaho panhandle and western Montana by the time he built Laird's Lodge and cabins between 1927 and 1935. Never a true "dude ranch" in that guests did not participate in the chores, it was built specifically as a tourist retreat with recreational offerings from the strenuous to the relaxing. Laird advertised the area as "chuck-full o' hush" at a time when tourism was still an infant industry here. His own designs for the buildings are in the deliberately "Rustic" log-and-stone style popular in western resorts from the 1910s into the 1940s, what visitors expected as part of an "Old West" experience based on Hollywood images rather than on actual frontier architecture. Laird further chose cabin names such as "Round-up," "Stampede," and "Lariat" to emphasize his theme. In the 1930s, he added modern amenities, including electricity generated by a paddle wheel in the river. After Laird died during World War II, his wife sold the property and it continued as the Diamond L-Bar Ranch, after the Lairds' original stock brand, until 1968. During the 1970s, the lodge and cabins were sold to separate private owners.

**Property:** Company Officers' Quarters

**Address:** Reserve Street and South Avenue, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** Fort Missoula **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:** military buildings

**Sign Text:**

The reconstruction of Fort Missoula after 1904 equipped the facility to serve as a regimental headquarters. The new cast concrete buildings in the Mission style were built along a curved boulevard a few hundred feet northeast of the original parade grounds. These seven Mission style residential buildings, including the Commanding Officer's Quarters, were known as Officers' Row. Built in 1910, they were a significant part of the reconstruction. Four single-family units, a duplex, and a fourplex housed junior officers and their families from 1910 to 1941.



## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

From 1941 to 1944 when the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Services operated the Alien Detention Station at the fort, the housing units accommodated civilian personnel. Army personnel were quartered here from 1944 to 1947. Since 1947, these buildings have housed military personnel assigned to the Reserve Officers Training Corps, the Army and Navy Reserve, and the Montana National Guard. In 1993, Congress authorized transfer of the Officers' Quarters to the Northern Rockies Heritage Center for cultural, educational, and historical purposes.

**Property:** 1112 Vine Street

**Address:** 1112 Vine Street, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** Lower Rattlesnake      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The Shingle style was just past its prime when an unknown architect designed this stellar example in 1901. The style, a uniquely American adaptation of several architectural traditions, achieved its distinctive look by emphasizing an asymmetrical shape sheathed in a smooth cover. A gabled roof with sweeping slopes, shingles covering the wall surfaces, and a one-story gabled porch distinguish this striking style. The eaves are set close to the wall and the windows are unadorned so that, in theory, visual disruption of the continuous shingles could be kept to a minimum. Missoula valley farmer E. M. Ratcliffe and his wife, Mary, were likely the builders and first owners. Ratcliffe died in 1903 and Mrs. Ratcliffe moved to town. She occupied one half of the dwelling, renting the other to tenants until her death in 1912. Among Mrs. Ratcliffe's tenants were granddaughter Ernestine Geiger and the Fred Reid family. The home was originally constructed as a duplex; a third apartment was added after 1945.

**Property:** Forestry Building

**Address:** 32 Campus Drive, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** University of Montana      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** universities (buildings)      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Completion of this facility in 1922 provided the School of Forestry a permanent home. In the Renaissance Revival style specified by Carsley-Gilbert's master plan, Missoula architect Ole Bakke designed a distinctive building that vividly proclaims its discipline. Simple lines enhance the beautiful green pine and ax emblem repeated in terra cotta thirty-seven times around the building. Murals within depicting the history of forestry in Montana by Helena artist Irvin "Shorty" Shope further individualize this unique facility. The building's only significant alteration is a greenhouse added in 1951, named in memory of six students who perished fighting the 1949 Mann Gulch fire.

**Property:** Corbin Hall

**Address:** 32 Campus Drive, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** University of Montana      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** universities (buildings)      **Subject 2:** residential structures

**Sign Text:**

The construction of this women's residence hall, completed in 1927, marks the end of an era. It was the last building erected in strict accordance with the Carsley-Gilbert campus master plan and placed within the intended U-shaped dormitory arrangement. George Carsley and Missoula architect C. J. Forbis collaborated on the design of this Renaissance Revival style building. It was to be Carsley's last contribution to the campus and one of the last of his prolific career. Red-brown brick, cream-colored terra cotta, and green Spanish roof tile mirror the features of Brantly Hall, but the omission of a horizontal line on the third story visually diminishes their differences in size.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Property:** Natural Science Building

**Address:** 32 Campus Drive, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** University of Montana **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** universities (buildings)

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The first building added to the campus after 1908 was this facility, which housed the most modern equipment for all branches of life science research, including a stereopticon and motion picture apparatus. Begun in 1917 and completed in 1919, it was the first of eight campus buildings designed according to the new Carsley-Gilbert master plan, which inspired ordered expansion of the University. Architects McIver, Cohagen, and Marshall of Billings chose the Renaissance Revival style thus setting the standard for the remaining Carsley-Gilbert plan buildings added between 1922 and 1927. In 1977, the facility was renamed the Botany Building in honor of its sole remaining occupant.

**Property:** Milwaukee Road Substation #10 (Primrose Substation)

**Address:** 5901 Primrose Dr, , Missoula

**Historic District:** **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** electric substation

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The Primrose Substation was one of thirteen Montana substations that stood sentinel next to the Milwaukee Road Railroad between Harlowton and St. Paul Pass on the Idaho border. Completed in 1909, the Milwaukee Road was the third and last transcontinental railroad to cross Montana. In 1916, the railroad electrified the line between Harlowton, Montana, and Avery, Idaho, to increase the efficiency of its operations. The Milwaukee's 440-mile Rocky Mountain Division was the longest electrified railroad in the United States. Electrification required substations, like this one, spaced at thirty-seven-mile intervals along the railroad. High tension power lines fed 100,000 volt alternating current (AC) to the substations, where motor-generator sets, transformers, and switching equipment stepped down the current to 3,300 volts direct current (DC) for use by the railroad's locomotives. Built in 1915, the Primrose Substation reflects the Milwaukee Road's standard architectural design for this type of building. The two-and-one-half-story Industrial style building appears austere from a distance, but exhibits ornamental brickwork around the base and windows as well as decorative tiles along the cornice. The large south-facing, multi-light windows provided ample natural lighting for the building's interior. The lightning arresters and horn gaps on the roof dissipated lightning strikes when they occurred. The Primrose Substation also functioned as a ticket office and waiting room for local passengers. The substation was an integral part of the Milwaukee's Rocky Mountain Division for nearly sixty years until 1974 when the line converted to diesel power locomotives. The Milwaukee Road abandoned its line in Montana in 1980.

**Property:** BPOE Lodge #383

**Address:** , Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** Missoula Downtown **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** fraternal lodges

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the U.S.A., Hell Gate Lodge #383, has offered conviviality, community service, and social support since its founding in 1898. In 1911 lodge members contracted with Montana's premier architectural firm of Link and Haire to design this Neoclassical style building. One of the most outstanding examples of institutional Neoclassical architecture in Missoula, the three-story brick lodge features a recessed, arcaded gallery; monumental columns and balconies; large, scrolled brackets; and extensive use of terra cotta.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

Decorative terra cotta graces the cornice, window surrounds, scrolled brackets, and the massive, Ionic style fluted columns. Like many fraternal organizations, the Elks chose to meet on the second floor, for privacy, while earning income by renting the first floor. The Missoula Mercantile implement store occupied the prime retail space. A 1950 remodel transformed the first floor, but the upper floors' exterior look much as they did in 1911. In addition to meeting rooms, the Elks Lodge contained two bars, thirty-two apartments, a swimming pool (later transformed into a basketball court), a weight room, locker room, shooting range, and bowling alley (now a third bar).

**Property:** Commanding Officer's Quarters

**Address:** Reserve Street and South Avenue, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** Fort Missoula **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:** military buildings

**Sign Text:**

Reconstruction of Fort Missoula between 1904 and 1912 transformed the old log and frame complex into a more modern, more attractive facility. The Mission style, at the height of popularity during this period, was well suited to this purpose. The attractive, red-tiled roofs added color but the sturdy design ethic followed Spartan military standards in the use of concrete and steel with minimal surface ornamentation. Built in 1910 at a cost of \$15,596, this two-and-one-half-story single family residence was primarily designed to house the post commander or his civilian counterparts. From 1910 to 1940, more than ten commanding officers and their families resided here at different times. Most stayed at the fort a few years before being transferred elsewhere. The commanding officer and his family often hosted social gatherings while in residence at the fort.

**Property:** H.O. Bell House

**Address:** 380 Keith Ave, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** University Area **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Harry and Grace Bell commissioned the Spokane firm of Rigg and Vantyne to design this elegant two-story home. A textbook example of a high-style Craftsman residence, its design features a cross-gable roof, exposed rafter tails, decorative braces, heavy porch supports, large gabled dormers, and stylish multi-paned windows. The self-conscious rusticity often associated with the Craftsman style is evident here through the use of Helena-manufactured clinker brick—"over-fired" brick that resembles stone. The Bells, who were known for their hospitality, lived here from 1922 to the early 1960s. They hosted lavish and frequent parties, and their daughter remembers the house as always filled with friends. A pioneer automobile dealer, Bell had an unusually large garage built to match the house. The two-car garage sheltered the latest model Fords, custom fit with police interceptor engines for extra speed. Bell was a civic and business leader and generous philanthropist. An early proponent of commercial air travel and airport development, he was recognized for his work promoting aviation in 1968 when Missoula renamed its airport the Johnson-Bell Field.

**Property:** Lariat Cabin

**Address:** Lindberg Lake, Seeley Lake, Missoula

**Historic District:** Laird's Lodge **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** tourist cabins **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

This small cabin was constructed about 1935 to accommodate guests of Laird's Lodge. Complementing the rustic architecture of the main lodge, logs of peeled, rounded lodgepole pine are joined with saddle notched corners

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

and finished with quarter-sawn poles. Built-in furnishings, handcrafted on site of logs and sawn poles, reinforce the cabin's rustic character. The log addition attached to the rear in the 1950s was originally part of a historic bunkhouse that was divided and reused.

**Property:** McCormick Neighborhood Historic District

**Address:** Historic District, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** McCormick Neighborhood      **Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** historic districts      **Subject 2:** residential structures

**Sign Text:**

Ancestors of the Salish and Pend d'Oreille lived in this area for thousands of years, and tribal members continued to gather bitterroot in South Missoula into the 1960s. The neighborhood's non-Indian development accelerated after construction of the Bitterroot Valley Railroad in 1887. Judge Hiram Knowles purchased a large tract from rancher Saron Blain for \$2,200, platting the Knowles Additions in 1889 and 1890. It proved a good investment, and in the first year real estate speculators purchased over 220 lots from Knowles. The neighborhood infrastructure grew quickly. Electric lights were installed from South Third to South Orange and water pipes lined some blocks as early as 1891. Nevertheless, most construction awaited the arrival of the Milwaukee railroad in 1908. Neighborhood businesses included a flour mill, lumber mills, the Bitterroot Valley Railroad (whose tracks mark the historic district's western boundary), and the Missoula Gas and Coke Company, all of which provided work for many McCormick residents. Other residents caught the streetcar to jobs downtown or ran their own businesses as contractors, grocers, or restaurateurs. By 1912, buildings occupied almost every lot; later development often occurred on quarter or half lots, with many homeowners converting outbuildings into rental properties. Although construction of the Orange Street Bridge in 1937 transformed the district's eastern boundary into a busy commercial thoroughway, most of the neighborhood retains the same features that attracted earlier residents: well-built homes, peaceful streets, proximity to recreation, particularly McCormick Park (founded in 1938), and easy access to downtown.

**Property:** Reed Residence

**Address:** 643 S 4th W, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** McCormick Neighborhood      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Hilda Reed purchased this lot for \$600 on January 16, 1907, shortly after she moved to Missoula with her husband Theodore, their daughter, Hulda, and her brother-in-law Andrew. A second daughter, Theodora, arrived shortly thereafter. Both carpenter-contractors, Theodore and Andrew almost certainly worked together to build this meticulously crafted one-and-one-half-story home, where Hilda, Theodore, and family lived until 1945. The Craftsman-style residence features a low-pitched roof with wide flaring eaves and a centered dormer; the front porch is tucked beneath the main roof. The home provided a silent advertisement for the Norwegian-born brothers' carpentry skills. Its subtle detailing includes leaded glass windows, decorative crown molding, and a wood belt separating the foundation from the tidy, lap wood siding. A lifelong bachelor, Andrew lived in a small home behind the main house until his death in 1942. Sometime after 1958, new owners replaced Andrew's house and the Reeds' garage with a small modern home. They were not alone: in the 1950s and 1960s, many homeowners took advantage of their neighborhood's prime location to add a rental house on a portion of their lot.

**Property:** 618-620 South Fifth Street West

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Address:** 618-620 S 5th St W, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** McCormick Neighborhood **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** apartments **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Arrival of the Milwaukee Railroad in 1908 created a new demand for housing. Now a four-plex but originally a duplex, this flat-roofed, two-story rental property was undoubtedly built to help fill the market for appropriate, middle-class housing. Eminently modern and respectable, the circa 1910 building features an eclectic mix of architectural elements. The flat roof and rooftop parapet references the Mission Revival style. The large wood-shingled second-story dormer echoes the Queen Anne style, but the dentils beneath the dormer cornice, the doubled porch columns, and the symmetrical façade reflect the Colonial Revival style. The building's most distinctive—and modern—feature is the choice of concrete block, molded in a traditional stone finish—except for the decorative curlicue pattern chosen to accent the cornice. Practically unknown before 1900, concrete block became wildly popular shortly thereafter thanks to improvements in Portland cement and the invention of a machine that allowed for mass production. Modern consumers welcomed the new technology, which provided a fireproof, durable, ornamental, and economical alternative to stone.

**Property:** Missoula Laundry Company

**Address:** 111 East Spruce, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

In 1915, Nettie and Joseph Hagen expanded their Model Laundry Company by purchasing the Missoula Laundry Company and moving their business into the newly completed west section of this building. That original structure and its later additions represent three different commercial architectural styles. Built during the construction boom that followed the advent of the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railroad in Missoula, the first of the laundry's three parts features the crenelated roof and ornamental brickwork of a vernacular style. In 1928 and 1929, architect H. Elmer Kirkemo, then associated with the distinguished Missoula firm of Gibson and Bakke, designed the two stylistically sophisticated, pre-Depression era additions. The central portion dominates, with its terra cotta parapet, window sills, and detailing providing one of Missoula's best examples of the mature Art Deco style. The final addition on the east end reflects the Western commercial style and features a concrete cornice and pilasters that echo the styling of the center section. The Hagens sold their business in 1947 to nephews Larry, Herman, and Karl Topel, and it has since remained in the Topel family. The old-fashioned advertising signs painted directly on the brick speak to a bygone era, reminding customers of long-standing service.

**Property:** University Area Historic District

**Address:** , Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** University Area **Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** historic districts **Subject 2:** residential structures

**Sign Text:**

Prominent business rivals C. P. Higgins and A. B. Hammond and others began to invest in this area during the late 1880s, platting additions and naming the streets after their children and associates. Creation of The University of Montana in 1893 prompted both the Hammond and Higgins families to donate land for the new campus, believing that the university would foster residential growth nearby. Building began in earnest circa 1900. The City of Missoula landscaped the boulevards and by 1912, paved the streets; electric trolleys, streetlights, and beautification efforts were all visible. Broad shaded boulevards, lawns, and elegant mansions of Missoula's pioneers showcase the work of such noted architects as A. J. Gibson, H. E. Kirkemo, John G. Link and C. S. Haire,

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

and others. Yet for all its grand appearance, residents have always considered the district to be a “quaint and quiet place” for families. Even the most elaborate houses were touted as “real” family homes with livable rooms and practical amenities. As the university experienced growth over the decades, apartments, old family mansions purchased by fraternities and sororities, and modest bungalows began to appear side by side along the forty-plus blocks bridging the area between campus and downtown. Yet, as it was at the turn of the century, the university neighborhood today is a cohesive community built upon the same early-nineteenth-century ideals of moderate living. Whether mansion or bungalow, the historic University Area reinforces the notion that Missoula is a city that respects and enjoys its history.

**Property:** Francis L. Worden Residence

**Address:** 328 East Pine Street, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** East Pine Street

**Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

A steeply pitched roof and a Gothic-arched attic window embellish this Folk Gothic style farmhouse, built by Francis L. Worden in 1874. Worden left New York in 1852 for adventure in California, traveled to Panama, clerked for Washington’s Territorial Governor Isaac Stephens, and served as postmaster at Walla Walla. In partnership with C. P. Higgins, Worden came to Montana in 1860 to establish a trading post along the Mullan Road. In 1864 Worden, Higgins, and David Pattee built the Missoula Mills Company and thereby founded Missoula. Worden and his wife, Lucretia, moved into this home, then well outside town, where they raised seven children. Worden planted maple trees from his native Vermont in the yard and along the country road, endowing East Pine Street with a lasting legacy. He was a territorial legislator and county commissioner and helped develop Missoula’s water system. Lucretia organized the Western Montana National Bank in 1889. The charming home, modest like its builder, remained in the Worden family until 1946. Family members re-purchased it in 1994, saving it from demolition. It is Missoula’s oldest standing residence.

**Property:** The Palace Hotel

**Address:** 147 West Broadway, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:**

**Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** hotels (public accommodations)

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Missoula’s first commercial district developed southwest of the Northern Pacific Railroad depot in the 1880s and 1890s. But as the town blossomed, a new central business district began to take shape. The Palace Hotel, constructed at what was then the corner of West Cedar and Stevens (now Broadway and Ryman), became a cornerstone of this new key district. First opened in 1909 as the Savoy Hotel, it is one of the few remaining symbols of the prosperous period between 1900 and 1910, when the expansion of railroad service through Missoula enhanced the growth of lumber and manufacturing industries. Located on the main east-west highway route through Missoula, the hotel was in an excellent location for the growing popularity of auto travel, particularly in the 1930s and 1940s. The original 1909 structure and a 1941 annex form Missoula’s largest single hotel. The earlier five-story portion reflects the vernacular commercial style with Egyptian influence. Open vertical shafts from the roof top to the first floor provided natural lighting for the windowless interior. The six-story annex displays a late art deco character, but the older Egyptian elements blend with the new to produce an impressive and pleasing composite. As time passed, the hotel’s upper floors became an empty, decaying shell. A 1995 rehabilitation project combining the owner’s private investment with federal tax credits for historic preservation and downtown redevelopment funds created 60 upper-floor housing units. The Palace, 1996 recipient of both local and state historic preservation awards, beautifully illustrates how preservation can rejuvenate a city center.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Property:** Berne House

**Address:** 805 Hilda Street, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** University Area

**Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Longtime Missoula resident John C. Berne and his wife Agnes moved into this Queen Anne style home around 1912. The Bernes moved here from Billings where John was a brick manufacturer. John continued manufacturing bricks once in this city and made many of the bricks that were used in the building of downtown business blocks, the Montana State Prison at Deer Lodge, and the State Hospital at Warm Springs. Aside from manufacturing bricks, John was also a well-known miner in the Butte area and served as a prison guard at the state prison for a number of years. In addition to his numerous business ventures, John was a charter member of the Missoula council of the Knights of Columbus. The two-and-one-half story home retains a simple wraparound porch supported by six classical columns. A tower on the northeast side highlights the structure's period characteristics. Coarse shingles and brick, reflecting the Victorian love of varied wall textures, cover the exterior.

**Property:** Brunswick Hotel

**Address:** 223 Railroad St, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** hotels (public accommodations)

**Subject 2:** commercial buildings

**Sign Text:**

The Brunswick Hotel, built 1890-1891, is an excellent example of vernacular commercial architecture, with a Queen Anne emphasis. It is one of Missoula's oldest remaining hotels associated with the beginning of the railroad era here, when hotels arose to serve rail workers and passengers. The architect, whose name is not recorded, used a dentilated cornice, brick arched windows, and brick pilasters to add visual interest to this unique, triangular, clipped corner design. When the Brunswick Hotel was new, a thriving commercial district ran along Woody Street, centered on the railroad depot just across Railroad Street. Historical city maps show that the Brunswick housed a saloon at 642 Woody, with a dining room at 223 Railroad and its kitchen at the east end of the building. Starting in 1925, the former dining room housed the "Brunswick Store" and barber William Talbert took over that address in the 1930s. The one-time saloon became Peek's Drug Store in the late 1920s and 1930s. About 1930, the Brunswick Hotel was converted into an apartment building.

**Property:** University Apartments

**Address:** 400-422 Roosevelt Ave, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** apartments

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

When the University of Montana was begun at the turn of the twentieth century, this portion of Missoula quickly developed with single-family, upper middle-class dwellings. About 1909, Charles E. Johnson built the University Apartments (then Johnson Flats) as one of the area's first multi-family housing units, and it appears today almost as it did upon completion. Its architect was Albert J. Gibson, then Missoula's most prominent, who also designed the Greenough Mansion, County High School (Hellgate), St. Patrick Hospital, Missoula County Courthouse, and several university buildings. This structure is one of Gibson's finest apartment designs in the city, with neoclassical detailing in the cornice, windows, and entrance adding to its importance. The Ohio-born architect was not formally trained, but apprenticed with H. M. Patterson in Butte before moving to Missoula in 1887. Built for

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

white-collar families, the building reflects Missoula's new affluence when the lumber industry and agriculture boomed, and the university brought new jobs. During the 1920s and 1930s, University Apartments was home to several university professors.

**Property:** Gleim Building

**Address:** 265 W Front Street, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** brothels                   **Subject 2:** commercial buildings

**Sign Text:**

Built in 1893, this is an excellent example of vernacular adaptation of Romanesque architecture, with its arched windows, checkerboard banding, and rusticated granite sills. Today the building has been restored on its façade and east and west sides to the original appearance. Historically, the building is a reminder of the effect of the railroad on Missoula in earlier days. Mary Gleim built it as a "female boarding house," a euphemism for brothel, in the heart of what then was the city's red light district of honky tonks and hurdy gurdy houses. Such establishments—legal under city law—had appeared along West Front Street early on, but proliferated with the arrival of railroad construction crews in the 1880s. Gleim herself owned at least eight houses of prostitution in the 1890s and early twentieth century, and was a notorious figure who assaulted people and was given to noisy outbursts during her court appearances. She sold this building in 1903, and in 1916 city officials bowed to public pressure and closed the red light district. The building housed a series of billiards parlors over the next decades.

**Property:** Olive McLeod House

**Address:** 541 Mcleod, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** University Area           **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Olive McLeod, granddaughter of Missoula Mercantile founder Charles H. McLeod and Clara Beckwith, fell in love with this 1940 Neocolonial style home. Nine years later, she purchased the house from Luther Powell for whom it was built. A high-spirited woman with a degree in business administration from The University of Montana, Olive was active in the As You Like It Club, served on the UM local executive board, and was a member of the Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority. She married Thomas Mulrone, an attorney, in 1939 and had three daughters, Mary, Helen, and Nancy. After Thomas' death, Olive married photographer Robert Haugen and lived here until 1992. The modest exterior belies an elegant interior designed for entertaining, featuring a foyer, a formal dining area, and servants' quarters. Finished moldings, pocket doors, built-in bookshelves, hardwood floors, and crystal chandeliers accentuate the teal and ivory interior. Bay windows, decorative curved windows above the doors, and an attached garage highlight the exterior. Since 1993 its present owners have lovingly restored the home.

**Property:** Camp Paxson Boy Scout Camp

**Address:** Seeley Lake, Seeley Lake, Missoula

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** camp sites (recreation spaces)                   **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Seeley Lake is one link in a chain of five lakes nestled between the lofty Swan and Mission mountain ranges in western Montana. Two hundred acres of ancient larch trees surround the area, which has drawn visitors since the early 1900s. In 1924, the USDA Forest Service granted a permit to the Western Montana Council of Boy Scouts to construct a summer camp. The facility was originally a tent camp but by the late 1930s there was need for a more permanent facility. The Works Progress Administration (WPA) and the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC), New



## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

Deal programs vital to the nation's economic recovery during the depressed 1930s, provided funds and manpower to construct the present camp. The rustic log buildings were constructed in 1939-1940 under the direction of Forest Service engineer Clyde Fickes. It is the only CCC-constructed youth camp in Montana. Designed to fit the natural landscape, the twenty buildings of saddle-notched native larch demonstrate excellent craftsmanship, remarkable since CCC workers were primarily "city boys" trained on the job. Several interior fireplaces of uncut native stone likewise reveal extraordinary masonry skills. Because of its public ownership and support, Camp Paxson has long provided recreational opportunities to diverse youth organizations. In 1995, the Missoula Children's Theatre secured a special use permit from the Lolo National Forest to manage Camp Paxson. Named for Montana artist Edgar S. Paxson, the facility now serves as a center for drama training and retreats, children's music camp, disadvantaged youth and other youth groups, family reunions, and community organizations.

**Property:** Greenhood Residence

**Address:** 125 University Ave, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** University Area

**Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Changing architectural tastes are central to the story of this elegant home, built for Henry and Leah Greenhood. A successful liquor wholesaler and real estate developer, Henry was one of Missoula's early Jewish residents, arriving here by 1904. He married Leah in 1908, and the following year they hired Missoula's best-known architect, A. J. Gibson, to design a home in the prestigious Hammond Addition. Gibson responded with plans for a grand two-story residence with ornate classical details, including balusters on the porch roof, classical columns on the front porch, and dentils beneath the porch cornice. The home was built soon thereafter. Trends in architectural fashion quickly made the house seem outdated, so in 1914 the Greenhoods hired Gibson's successor, Ole Bakke, to update the look. Bakke replaced the classical flat porch roof with a Craftsman style hipped roof and the classical porch supports with tapered Craftsman style piers. Leah had only a few years to enjoy the renovation. In 1920 she died of typhoid at age thirty-six, survived by her husband and two children, ages nine and four.

**Property:** Frank A. Roberts Home

**Address:** 400 Connell Ave, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** University Area

**Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The Craftsman style evolved as the architectural expression of simplicity and domestic harmony, merging nature with the built environment. Its popularity in the early 1900s eased the transition from Victorian fussiness to the modern era. This one-and-one-half-story Craftsman style home was built circa 1913 for Frank A. and Eva Roberts. Stylistic elements include the full-width porch spanning the front which, according to the Craftsman style dictum, provided a necessary link between outdoors and indoors. A railed balustrade and three floor to ceiling columns highlight the façade. Roberts was a prominent Missoula attorney whose untimely death in 1919 occurred at the peak of his career. At his funeral the Reverend J. N. MacLean, father of noted author Norman MacLean, eulogized Roberts as a "friend of the Friend of men." Eva Roberts sold the home in 1920 to realtor M. R. Rutherford. Throughout the decades occupants included Missoulian Publishing Company partner George C. Rice (1920), Reverend John R. Hahn of the University Congregational Church (1930), M. R. Rutherford (1936), and photographer Ace Woods (1940-1945).

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Property:** Charles C. Brothers Residence

**Address:** 240 University Ave, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** University Area

**Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Two wings at right angles with a two-story section at the juncture form a very unusual floor plan in this unique eclectic residence, built circa 1927 for Charles and Ida Brothers. Inspired by the Prairie style, characteristic architectural elements include wide overhanging eaves, the low-hipped roof on the central section, a wide flat chimney, and bands of tall windows along the wings. Galvanized metal tiles that snap together to resemble ceramic tiles are reminiscent of the Mission style. Such Spanish-influenced details frequently accompany the Prairie style. A brick arch and arched French doors at the entry lend an oriental flare. The southwestern corner sports a gargoyle that originally functioned as a fountain. Inside, handsome quarter-sawn oak floors, a sideboard with dust proof drawers flanked by two curved china closets, and other built-in furniture add warm period ambience. Brothers, originally from San Francisco, was attorney for the Northern Region of the US Forest Service headquartered in Missoula and, later, regional law officer for the US Department of Agriculture. The couple was at home here in Missoula until 1949.

**Property:** University Area Historic District

**Address:** Historic District, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** University Area

**Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** historic districts

**Subject 2:** residential structures

**Sign Text:**

Prominent business rivals C. P. Higgins and A. B. Hammond and others began to invest in this area during the late 1880s, platting additions and naming the streets after their children and associates. Creation of The University of Montana in 1893 prompted both the Hammond and Higgins families to donate land for the new campus, believing that the university would foster residential growth nearby. Building began in earnest circa 1900. The City of Missoula landscaped the boulevards and by 1912, paved the streets; electric trolleys, streetlights, and beautification efforts were all visible. Broad shaded boulevards, lawns, and elegant mansions of Missoula's pioneers showcase the work of such noted architects as A. J. Gibson, H. E. Kirkemo, John G. Link and C. S. Haire, and others. Yet for all its grand appearance, residents have always considered the district to be a "quaint and quiet place" for families. Even the most elaborate houses were touted as "real" family homes with livable rooms and practical amenities. As the university experienced growth over the decades, apartments, old family mansions purchased by fraternities and sororities, and modest bungalows began to appear side by side along the forty-plus blocks bridging the area between campus and downtown. Yet, as it was at the turn of the century, the university neighborhood today is a cohesive community built upon the same early-nineteenth-century ideals of moderate living. Whether mansion or bungalow, the historic University Area reinforces the notion that Missoula is a city that respects and enjoys its history.

**Property:** 315 Daly

**Address:** 315 Daly, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** University Area

**Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The Craftsman style created such local fervor that in 1911 the Missoulian Publishing Company hosted a local

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

contest offering a Craftsman bungalow style home as the grand prize. That home stands today just outside the University Area district. By the 1920s, bungalows predominated in the University neighborhoods. This fine example, constructed circa 1922, is said to have been partly built with bricks from Butte's Finlen Hotel, a landmark that was razed and rebuilt at about this same time. Dr. Edward Ramaker, a local dentist, was an early owner living here with his wife Pearl and three daughters from the late 1920s to the early 1940s. The next long-term owner was Leo Kelly, land agent for the Anaconda Copper Mining Company. Weather bureau meteorologist Asahel Burnham and his wife Beulah bought the home in 1959. Craftsman style details include heavy wood columns resting on brick piers, a gabled open porch, and multi-paned windows. A dark brick fireplace with red tile hearth, coved ceilings, and nine-inch rounded baseboards continue the Craftsman style inside.

**Property:** Dildine House

**Address:** 312 South Fifth Street East, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** University Area

**Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Architect A. J. Gibson—best known locally for his work on the Missoula Courthouse—designed this fashionable residence at the height of Queen Anne style. Built on two lots sometime before 1902, its defining features include an irregular roofline, asymmetrical façade, wooden turret, elegant front porch, and delicate spindlework. Gibson designed several other University District homes, including a neighboring Queen Anne at 206 South Fifth Street East. Fifth Street neighbors met in 1903 to initiate a landscaping plan, which included planting the Norway maples that still shade the block. Real estate speculation may have been the motive for this home's construction at the start of a building boom that transformed this neighborhood into a well-to-do enclave. No evidence exists that its owner, builder and general contractor George Dildine, was ever in residence. Sold frequently in the early years, it was home to Northern Pacific Railroad engineer John Mason and his wife Martha in the 1920s and 1930s. Converted into a rooming house during the Depression, its condition deteriorated, but the residence has since been lovingly restored.

**Property:** 340 Daly Avenue

**Address:** 340 Daly Avenue, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** University Area

**Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Levi and Jennie Withee built this charming Craftsman style home circa 1920. Withee was a longtime railroad man who began work as a "shotgun" messenger for the Montana division of the Northern Pacific Railroad in 1894. Promotion to express agent brought Withee, his wife Jennie, and their four children to Missoula in 1909. By 1930, the Withees' son Alfred and daughter Ethel were still at home here and like their father, they were also railroad employees. Illness forced Withee to retire in 1939, but he remained an active Mason. At his death in 1941, he was a board member and longtime secretary of the Masonic Temple. The Withees' home, likely constructed from pattern book plans, features a prominent full-width wraparound porch. According to the Craftsman style dictum, an open porch was essential for a smooth transition from outdoors to indoors. Ground to ceiling columns emphasize the porch as a focal point while natural materials such as clapboard siding and wooden railings bolster the back-to-nature Craftsman ideal.

**Property:** John E. Patterson

**Address:** 304 South Fifth Street East, Missoula, Missoula

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Historic District:** University Area

**Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Frank Lloyd Wright developed the Prairie style because he believed that “Democracy needed something basically better than the box.” One of few homegrown architectural styles, its horizontal emphasis is the Prairie style hallmark. Attorney John E. Patterson and his wife, Caroline, built the home in 1906 with a \$4,000 fee from a verdict won for the widow of a Northern Pacific engineer. Interior plans were slightly changed, moving the fireplace to an inside wall because it cost \$400 more to build it in the corner as specified in the plans. This would have been over budget, and Caroline said she couldn’t “sleep right in a house with a mortgage.” Two of their five children, Phillip and Phoebe, were delivered in the house by a doctor who had come out from Chicago. Patterson was appointed district judge in 1914, then returned to his law practice. Just before retirement in 1950, he admitted grandson John F. Patterson Jr. into the firm. John and his wife Laura purchased the home in 1954 and continue in residence into the twenty-first century.

**Property:** Parsons House

**Address:** 231 So. 5th East, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** University Area

**Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Christopher P. Higgins, a Missoula founder, bought 160 acres in 1887 in this area now known as the Montana Addition. He died in 1889 before the southside building boom, but in his will Higgins directed his heirs to complete unfinished housing constructed on speculation. In 1893, this house—completed circa 1892—and the unimproved lot next door sold for \$3,000, nearly twice what Higgins had paid for the entire quarter section six years before. Dr. William Buchanan Parsons purchased the property in 1898. The doctor, a leading surgeon and partner in the Parsons and Brown Hospital, cared for patients in far-flung communities and the Flathead Indian reservation. From 1929 to the 1960s, the family of Northern Pacific foreman Claude Marcyes resided in the home. Marcyes served as longtime historian for the Montana Pioneer Society. The regal Queen Anne style residence features gables, patterned chimneys, and a grand tower-like dormer. Spindework, decorative eave brackets, and fish-scale shingles further embellish this “painted lady.” In 1995, the beautifully maintained neighborhood landmark received a Missoula Historic Preservation Award.

**Property:** Lenox Flats

**Address:** 300-306 W Broadway, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:**

**Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** apartments

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Poised on the brink of the homesteading boom, Missoula prospered at the turn of the twentieth century with signs of urban growth evident in the hotels and row houses that began to line this busy corridor. Local contractor/architect Eugene Morin purchased this property in 1904 and designed the three-story Lenox Flats to help ease Missoula’s housing shortage. Ideally situated along the town’s busiest thoroughfare, Lenox Flats offered several dozen European style hotel rooms and furnished lodgings. Its completion in 1905 was opportune as the early commercial district shifted from the rail yards at the north end to Missoula’s geographic center. Construction of the Milwaukee Road (1907-1908), local agricultural development, and the popularity of the automobile added to the success of Morin’s Lenox Flats. He and subsequent owners lived around the corner at 317 Woody while tenant proprietors like Amelia Cameron and Mrs. Amanda Hemmick ran the hotel. Its clientele included both transient railroad crews and longtime lodgers. Built in the Western Commercial style, the building

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

reflects the transition from lavish ornamentation of the Victorian era to the simpler designs that characterize the twentieth century. A crenellated roofline and flat-arched windows illustrate restrained decorative elements while diamond-lead transoms and a carved interior stairway recall nineteenth-century elegance. Although the ground floor now accommodates commercial use, the building continues to fill a need for housing. Through homeWORD's sensitive rehabilitation of this landmark, the Lenox will continue as an anchor to Missoula's historic urban streetscape.

**Property:** 425 Connell

**Address:** 425 Connell, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** University Area

**Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Insurance agent George F. Gould and his wife, Susie, purchased this lot from the South Missoula Land Company in 1913. The deed stipulated that a dwelling worth at least \$3,000 be constructed on the premises within fifteen years. The Goulds, however, settled in Bozeman and sold the lot in 1921 to Will H. Clark, assistant cashier of the Western Montana National Bank. Clark promptly built this residence in accordance with the building clause. Subsequent owners were Clara and Eldon Myrick, Lolo National Forest supervisor, and later Bernice and Henry Viche, regional air officer with the U.S. Forest Service. A classic Craftsman bungalow, design elements include tapered columns, wide eaves, exposed rafter ends, and charming three-over-one "Chicago style" windows. The Craftsman style promoted family living through quality, affordable housing, and economy of space, beautifully expressed in this home's interior. Built-in bookcases and a storage bench of rich finished oak flank a brick fireplace in the living room. Built-in chests divide the living and dining rooms, and a built-in dining room bench provides extra seating. Original light fixtures and crown molding add to the 1920s ambiance.

**Property:** 525 Keith Avenue

**Address:** 525 Keith Avenue, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** University Area

**Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The architectural character of this home, built in 1922, reflects the eclectic Craftsman style popular during the 1920s. The one-and-one-half-story cottage features a shallow, front-gable roof with wide eaves and exposed rafter ends. Horizontal beams with beveled ends support the front and rear fascia boards, which have deep, decorative end notches. Another Craftsman element is the single and paired three-over-one double-hung windows in the home's ground floor. Rough-sawn wood shake siding covers the exterior walls. Although applied in regular courses, the length and angle of edge cut varies with each shingle. Two columns, each consisting of three square posts, support the roof of the generous front porch, enclosed on two sides with a shingled half wall. Built-in window box supports further reflect the Craftsman style. A detached garage with cross-hatched doors enhances the ambiance of this historic property. Original interior features include a built-in credenza and a laundry chute. Proximity to the university campus drew football coach Douglas Fassenden to this home in the 1940s and psychology/philosophy professor Bert Sappenfield in the 1950s.

**Property:** A.P. Tietjen Residence

**Address:** 329 East Pine Street, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** East Pine Street

**Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

### Sign Text:

Construction of this exemplary Queen Anne style residence began in 1891 but was not completed until its purchase by Missoula cigar maker A. P. Tietjen in 1902. Its fine design and workmanship reflect East Pine Street's major period of development (1880-1910). Gabled polygonal bays with decorative shingles in the gable ends highlight this gracious frame home. Converted to a funeral home in the 1940s, the structure was again remodeled in 1991 with particular sensitivity to the original details.

**Property:** West Fork Butte Lookout

**Address:** Near Lolo Hot Springs, Lolo National Forest, Missoula

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** structure

**Subject 1:** fire lookout towers           **Subject 2:** civilian conservation corps

### Sign Text:

Unlike most fire lookout houses, which are typically placed on towers, the West Fork Butte Lookout sits directly on a rocky knob. The fourteen-by-fourteen hipped-roof structure features ribbons of nine-light windows, a testament to the building's original purpose. The lookout follows the Forest Service's standard L-4 plan, created by Clyde Fickes in 1931. Fickes' detailed plans specified pre-cut and labeled lumber, so crews with limited carpentry skills could assemble them. One of seventeen lookouts built in 1934, West Fork Butte Lookout reflects the Forest Service's emphasis during the 1930s on improving infrastructure to facilitate fire-fighting. Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) crews—employed as part of a New Deal work relief program designed to provide jobs for young men during the Great Depression—deserve credit for most of these improvements. In Region 1, which includes Montana, the CCC built over 2,500 miles of forest roads, installed ninety-three lookouts, and strung the hundreds of miles of telephone lines that lookouts used to report fires. Two telephone poles from the spur line that connected West Fork Butte to the Skookum Butte Lookout still stand. Although the Forest Service preferred to employ men, women sometimes did staff lookouts, especially during World War II, when male labor was scarce; Missoula resident Dortha Stritch, wife of Forest Service employee Hollis Stritch, worked here in 1943. The Forest Service downgraded West Fork Butte to an "emergency lookout" before 1967. It now manages the property as a cabin rental, although the Missoula Ranger reserves the right to reclaim it as a detection point in severe fire years.

**Property:** Ninemile Remount Depot

**Address:** 20325 Remount Road, Huson, Missoula

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** forest service buildings           **Subject 2:** agriculture (ranching)

### Sign Text:

In the early days of the U.S. Forest Service, pack animals carried critical supplies and equipment to crews fighting forest fires. In 1929, a severe fire season exhausted the supply of trained mules and skilled packers. Forced to use unbroken animals, inexperienced packers, and poorly fitted tack, the Forest Service saw serious delays and injuries to animals and humans. Regional Forester Evan Kelley vowed never again. A former World War I cavalry officer, Kelley acquired the Ninemile Ranch to breed and train mules. Between 1933 and 1935, the Civilian Conservation Corps built roads, fences, and Cape Cod style buildings modeled after U.S. Army Cavalry remount depots. The Ninemile Remount Depot became the largest mule ranch in the Northwest with sixty Forest Service staff and some two hundred pack animals prepared for immediate dispatch during fire season. Depot shops provided packsaddles to the entire Northern Region and supplied horse and mule shoes to Forest Service animals across the U.S. The site accommodated both the Ninemile Ranger District and the Remount Depot. Aerial firefighting diminished the need for pack animals and the depot closed in 1954, but mules and horses continue to fulfill a critical need. Still a working ranch and district headquarters, the site is now home to the Northern Region Pack Train and Ninemile Wildlands Training Center, providing training in horsemanship, packing, and traditional

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

skills. The crisp white siding, shuttered windows, and green-gabled roofs of the shops, barns, and residential buildings have been carefully preserved. Although some buildings have been repurposed, the grounds visually recall the facility's original function.

**Property:** Mineral Peak Lookout

**Address:** Lolo National Forest, Lolo National Forest, Missoula

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** structure

**Subject 1:** fire lookout towers           **Subject 2:** forest service buildings

**Sign Text:**

Sweeping views of the Mission and Swan mountain ranges at an elevation of nearly 7,500 feet aided the U.S. Forest Service in early fire detection. From 1957 through 1967, Mineral Peak was a primary lookout point. Lolo National Forest Service staff built the current station to replace a previous lookout. The Wood Fabricating Company in Portland shipped the lookout house kit to Montana. Since the site was accessible only by pack trail, a Forest Service crew bulldozed and bladed a thirteen-mile road from Gold Creek to the top of Mineral Peak. They then drove the bundled materials to the site for assembly. The 1936-pattern L-4 Lookout House sits atop a 53-foot straight timber tower. The house portion is of simple V-Rustic wood siding capped with a pyramidal roof of green-stained sawn cedar shingles. Ribbons of windows on all four sides afforded views of the surrounding forest. Most of the original top-hinged shutters, all but one now in the closed position, remain. Four flights of open stairs lead to the catwalk that spans the perimeter of the lookout. The site served until 1968 when an inspection determined that Mineral Peak had reported few first discovery fires. The 15,400 acres of surrounding forest contained no high values of timber and the access road was poor. Given these deficiencies, the Forest Service downgraded the site to an emergency lookout. By 1974 it was manned only during extreme fire danger and began to deteriorate. Vacant from 1980 to 2005, the Missoula Ranger District refurbished the lookout to shelter occasional backpackers and hikers.

**Property:** Missoula Mercantile Warehouse

**Address:** 221, 229 and 231 East Front Street, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** warehouses           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Established in 1866 under the name Bonner and Welch, the Missoula Mercantile Company quickly grew into an economic and political powerhouse. In 1890, the company handled about 60 percent of the city's retail trade, worth \$1.5 million. At the turn of the twentieth century, it was the largest mercantile business between Seattle and Minneapolis, operating Montana stores from Eureka to Bozeman. To help it handle its growing business, the mercantile built this warehouse a block east of its flagship store. Here it stored everything from farm implements and dry goods to electric pumps and crockery. An irrigation ditch known as the "Mill Race" once ran beneath the building through brick arches still visible on the interior and on the exterior's west facade. The Mill Race brought water from Rattlesnake Creek to the town's first grist mill located northeast of today's Higgins Avenue Bridge. Missoula Mercantile constructed the western and middle sections of this warehouse between 1893 and 1902 and the eastern section between 1902 and 1912. Large stones on the building's far western wall provide evidence of an even older stone warehouse that once adjoined this building. By the 1940s, Missoula Mercantile faced increasing competition from chain department stores. Company officials responded with an aggressive modernization campaign that included remodeling the warehouse. In 1948, the company hired noted stucco

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

craftsman O. B. Parsons to update the warehouse's front façade. Nevertheless, the business continued to lose market share and sold out to Allied Stores Corporation in 1959.

**Property:** John J. Lucy Home

**Address:** 414 Eddy Lane, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** University Area

**Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The Tudor style as it evolved from medieval England to twentieth-century America is well expressed in this charming one-story home. Hollow tile faced with smooth brick, gables with decorative brackets, and a gabled and round arched doorway are classic stylistic elements. Pairs of small-paned French style windows, arranged in ribbons, open inward and retain their original wavy glass. John J. and Fannie Lucy built the home circa 1917. Lucy's father, John M. Lucy, was an Irish immigrant who founded a Missoula furniture and undertaking business in the 1880s. John J. attended the university, was a charter member of the Gamma Phi Chapter of Sigma Nu fraternity, and graduated in 1908. He and his two brothers joined the family business. Lucy and Sons, Inc. operated the undertaking business until the 1950s; Lucy's furniture store was a Missoula fixture until 1981. John J. and Fannie raised their daughter here where they were at home until 1944. In 1943, John J. Lucy served as a member of the special hearing board for the Italian seamen interned in Montana.

**Property:** Double Arrow Lookout

**Address:** Near Seeley Lake, Lolo National Forest, Missoula

**Historic District:**

**Building Type:** structure

**Subject 1:** fire lookout towers

**Subject 2:** forest service buildings

**Sign Text:**

Pack mules provided the only access to this site in 1932, when U.S. Forest Service personnel constructed the Double Arrow Lookout. Built following the L-4 plan designed by Clyde Fickes, the structure overlooks the Clearwater River drainage from atop a twenty-foot tower. Fickes' detailed plans specified pre-cut and labeled lumber, so employees with limited carpentry skills could assemble the structures. Notable design elements include a three-foot catwalk, ribbons of nine-light windows (providing a 360-degree view), and a pyramidal hipped roof. Hipped roofs used shorter lengths of lumber than gable roofs, making it easier to transport material to the site by pack train. The fourteen-by-fourteen-foot structure doubled as living quarters for the lookout man stationed here during fire season. This is one of the first L-4 style lookouts built after Region 1, which included all of the forests in Montana and Northern Idaho, approved Fickes' design in 1931. After World War II, Region 1 increasingly abandoned "fixed detection points" (lookouts) for "aerial detection" (airplanes and helicopters), and the number of lookouts dropped from 844 in 1945 to 272 in 1954. The Forest Service continued to staff lookouts with views of high value lands that suffered frequent fires; the Double Arrow Lookout remained in use at least until 1967 and likely into the 1980s. Once it was no longer needed as part of the Lolo National Forest's ground detection network, the structure was abandoned and began to deteriorate. Crews restored the lookout in 2006 to become part of the Forest Service's cabin rental program.

**Property:** 434 McLeod

**Address:** 434 McLeod, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** University Area

**Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Missoula businessman A. B. Hammond platted this southern portion of the historic district in 1899. McLeod Street



## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

bears the name of Hammond's business partner, C. H. McLeod. It was not until the university blossomed in the early twentieth century that the Hammond Addition began to see development. The fortunes of this neighborhood mirror the growth of The University of Montana. Craftsman style bungalows like this appealing example built circa 1922 predominate, lending a unique ambience to the neighborhood streetscape. Craftsman features include an open front porch, heavy squared porch supports, exposed rafter tails, and decorative gable posts. These classic elements in combination with natural materials, colors, and textures harmonized so well that Craftsman homes were said to "sing into the landscape." Hugh Kennedy, proprietor of the Kennedy Motor Company, was the home's first documented resident in 1922.

**Property:** Evaro School

**Address:** 6688 Grooms Road, Evaro, Missoula

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** public schools (buildings)           **Subject 2:** community centers

**Sign Text:**

For eighteen years after the Evaro School District was created in 1902, its students attended school in area homes and barns. In 1920, the district purchased this site for fifty dollars, where it constructed a one-story frame building. The first class in the new building included twenty-seven students, most between ages eight and thirteen. The school's design was based on plans developed in 1919 by W. R. Plew for the State Department of Health and Public Instruction. As per Plew's recommendation, the school avoided "cross-lighting," considered harmful for pupils' eyes, by placing a bank of windows on only one side of the building. Plew's guidelines did not call for a belfry. Many twentieth-century school administrators considered belfries outdated relics, a sentiment with which the local board clearly disagreed. After 1926, the district added two shed additions, living quarters for the teacher (called a teacherage) and a storage room. Located near the border of the Flathead Reservation, Evaro School catered to both Indian and non-Indian students. Among the Salish children to attend the school was Louis Charlo, one of the four Marines who raised the first American flag at Iwo Jima during World War II. Evaro School closed in 1944, but the building continued to serve as a community center and polling place. Longtime residents particularly remember the dances, when they would spread cornmeal on the wood floors and dance in stocking feet. In 1987, a nonprofit group assumed ownership of the building, which fosters the Evaro community by remaining a place where residents gather.

**Property:** 128 South Sixth St West

**Address:** 128 South Sixth St West, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** Missoula Southside   **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

In the 1890s, members of Missoula's genteel middle class had a problem. While they welcomed the business opportunities brought by the Northern Pacific Railroad, they feared the "unsavory" characters and "seedy" nightlife that accompanied the town's growth. Their solution: the establishment of Missoula's first suburb, separated from the raw downtown by the river. After construction of the Milwaukee railroad in 1908, the Southside's character changed from an elite enclave to a mixed-income suburb, but it remained primarily residential. Many Southside homes, including this one, were originally built as investments. Carpenter E. P. Wohlschlager, who owned several lots on S. Sixth West, owned and perhaps built this two-story residence before 1912. Adding interest to the front façade is a bay window and full-length porch, tucked beneath the roofline. Victor Skinner, a traveling salesman for the Missoula Mercantile Company, rented the house with his wife, Eliza, from 1913 to 1932. In 1920, they lived here with their grown son, Major, a meter reader; Major's wife, Gladys; and Gladys's widowed sister, a store clerk.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Property:** 140 University Avenue

**Address:** 140 University Place, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** University Area

**Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:** fraternal lodges

**Sign Text:**

Advertised as “The Choice Residence Section of Missoula,” the Hammond Addition attracted successful businessmen like David J. Haviland, who could afford the exclusivity the neighborhood offered. Lots in the Hammond Addition cost \$500, as compared to \$125 in nearby subdivisions, and homebuilders were required to erect houses that cost at least \$3,000 to build. As this Colonial Revival residence demonstrates, however, expensive did not necessarily mean ornate. Fashion in the teens dictated the clean lines of homes “intended for comfort and service rather than show.” The elegant six-bedroom home, built by Haviland in 1912, personifies this trend. Its full-length front porch supported by classical columns, centered front gable covered with fishscale shingles, and multiple dormers create a welcoming, well-balanced façade. In 1920, it made a more than serviceable residence for attorney and state senator John Campbell, and his wife, Mary, who lived here until their deaths in the 1940s. In later years it was used as a fraternity house before becoming, once again, a single-family home in 1995.

**Property:** Lucy Building

**Address:** 330 N. Higgins Ave, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:**

**Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

John M. Lucy’s furniture store and undertaking business was twenty years old when he had this building constructed for it in 1909. By then, the Irish immigrant (who had arrived in Montana as a workhand building the final leg of the Northern Pacific Railroad) had been joined in business by his sons John J. and Abbott. Their family firm continued to own the Lucy Building until 1963. The structure was designed by Missoula’s premier architect of the late nineteenth and early twentieth century, A. J. Gibson. It is one of the best examples of his commercial design, as well as an emblem of Missoula’s second major period of post-railroad economic development and growth. The building’s original features include brick patterned quoined corners and polychromed belt courses above and below the upstairs windows. Its most outstanding original feature is the projecting welded metal cornice, with molded fascia and modillions and dentils.

**Property:** Hammond Arcade

**Address:** 101 S Higgins Avenue, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:**

**Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The Hammond Arcade Building is an outstanding example of Art Deco commercial architecture, with its polychrome brick work, concrete column construction, and original wraparound metal awning. Its interior arcade, which never has been remodeled, is unusual for the period. On this site had stood another building owned by A. B. Hammond, built in the 1890s and destroyed by fire in the early 1930s. Receiving insurance money, the Hammond Building Company planned to replace the building with a two-story structure, but financial constraints during those early years of the Great Depression called for a smaller edifice. Still, work on the Hammond Arcade brought much-needed employment to Missoula construction workers, and this is one of very few commercial

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

buildings that arose here during the 1930s. From its completion in 1934, the Arcade had been home to a variety of professional offices and businesses, including the Missoula Drug Company that had been located in the original, burned Hammond Building.

**Property:** Moratz House

**Address:** 512 East Broadway, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** East Pine Street

**Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The Moratz House is an outstanding example of the Queen Anne influence that seems to dominate in the East Pine Street Historic District. Constructed in 1891, the residence displays features and detailing that typify the Queen Anne style as it was adapted to small-town America. The conical-roofed turret, polygonal bay, intersecting gables off a centered hip roof, eave dentilation, and shingle detailing featured here are elements of this highly textural style.

**Property:** Lower Rattlesnake Historic District

**Address:** Historic District, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** Lower Rattlesnake

**Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** historic districts

**Subject 2:** residential structures

**Sign Text:**

Nestled in a watershed tributary of the Clark Fork River, Lower Rattlesnake drainage has a long and significant history. Salish Indians named Rattlesnake Creek Kehi-oo-lee, and Captain Meriwether Lewis recorded the creek's existence in his homeward trek through the region in 1806. William T. Hamilton operated a trading post nearby from 1858 to 1865, and the Mullan Road, built in 1860, skirted the area crossing Rattlesnake Creek. The creek powered the sawmill of Missoula Mills from which grew Missoula's earliest settlement. The drainage accommodated the town's first cemetery, and the creek supplied Missoula's first water system. The Town Company and Woody Additions were platted here after the arrival of the railroad in 1883, and by 1890 the neighborhood was home to railroad conductors and engineers as well as teamsters, carpenters, and machinists. Legislator T. L. Greenough and his wife Tennessee donated a large wooded area to the city in 1902 for a "comfortable, romantic and poetic retreat." Greenough Park, situated between the commercial and residential neighborhoods, attracted middle-income families, who settled along the quiet streets. To the east, extensive gardens stretched along the Clark Fork River, providing fresh produce for the city. Dwellings from simple workers' cottages to Craftsman bungalows and traditional style homes reflect the Rattlesnake's growth between the 1880s and 1940s. Today, twenty residential blocks and Greenough Park comprise the Lower Rattlesnake's Historic District, listed in the National Register in 1999. Unique for its scenic amenities and isolated geography, the district bolsters Missoula's claim as the "Garden City."

**Property:** Labor Temple

**Address:** 208 East Main Street, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:**

**Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** assembly halls

**Subject 2:** fraternal lodges

**Sign Text:**

In 1896, a Union Hall was constructed here on property donated by copper magnate Marcus Daly. That building served as local headquarters for unions affiliated with Federal Union Local 83, the precursor of the building trade unions that later organized into separate crafts. When first completed, the facility also housed Missoula's only theater and hosted the town's 1896 Democratic Convention. By 1904, fifteen unions were affiliated with the

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

Missoula Trade and Labor Council. These included the Stationary Engineers, Federal Labor Union No. 43, Printers, Carpenters, Woodworkers, Cooks and Waiters, Plumbers, Lumber Workers, Farmers, Barbers, Electricians, Retail Clerks, Painters, and Bricklayers. The original wood-frame union hall burned in 1911, and construction of a new building was not begun until 1916. When the present temple opened in 1917, the second and third floors housed union, lodge, and dance facilities. The ground floor and basement accommodated a Dodge automobile dealership. Though the windows are now infilled with glass blocks and the street level bays remodeled, the upper façade with its metal cornice, pilasters, and decorative capitals reflects the period's Prairie style of commercial architecture. Owned by the Union Hall Company (in which local unions own stock) since 1908, the temple is Missoula's only building clearly associated with the growth of the national labor movement.

**Property:** Labor Temple

**Address:** 208 E. Main St., Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** assembly halls                   **Subject 2:** fraternal lodges

**Sign Text:**

In 1896, a Union Hall was constructed here on property donated by copper magnate Marcus Daly. That building served as local headquarters for unions affiliated with Federal Union Local 83, the precursor of the building trade unions that later organized into separate crafts. When first completed, the facility also housed Missoula's only theater and hosted the town's 1896 Democratic Convention. By 1904, fifteen unions were affiliated with the Missoula Trade and Labor Council. These included the Stationary Engineers, Federal Labor Union No. 43, Printers, Carpenters, Woodworkers, Cooks and Waiters, Plumbers, Lumber Workers, Farmers, Barbers, Electricians, Retail Clerks, Painters, and Bricklayers. The original wood-frame union hall burned in 1911, and construction of a new building was not begun until 1916. When the present temple opened in 1917, the second and third floors housed union, lodge, and dance facilities. The ground floor and basement accommodated a Dodge automobile dealership. Though the windows are now infilled with glass blocks and the street level bays remodeled, the upper façade with its metal cornice, pilasters, and decorative capitals reflects the period's Prairie style of commercial architecture. Owned by the Union Hall Company (in which local unions own stock) since 1908, the temple is Missoula's only building clearly associated with the growth of the national labor movement.

**Property:** 521 University Avenue

**Address:** 521 University Ave, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** University Area           **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Deed records show that the Northern Pacific Railroad sold this property to the South Missoula Land Company in 1889. Company shareholder A. B. Hammond subsequently platted the Hammond Addition. Buyers of his lots signed an agreement promising to build homes worth at least \$3,000. This lot, however, remained undeveloped. Real estate investor George L. Steinbrenner bought the property in 1912, but it was not until the late 1920s that he built this Craftsman style home as an investment. Anthony and Cora Dawes were its first residents. Cora operated the Varsity House here from 1929 to the mid-1930s, offering student lodgings close to campus. In 1944, George and Margaret Pramenko purchased the home. Pramenko, the longtime owner of the Flame Lounge, was a well-known businessman and a wonderful entertainer, a master at playing the tamburitza, and famous for his trademark Tom and Jerrys. Wide eaves with exposed rafters and a shed dormer characterize the Craftsman style, but decorative windowpanes and half-timbering in the gable ends lend it a personality as distinctive as its longtime owner.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Property:** North Hall

**Address:** 32 Campus Drive, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** University of Montana **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** universities (buildings)

**Subject 2:** residential structures

**Sign Text:**

Constructed in 1922 following the 1918 Carsley-Gilbert campus master plan, this women's residence was intended to be part of two U-shaped clusters of men's and women's dormitories. Its identical contemporary counterpart, Elrod Hall, and Corbin Hall were the only three buildings of the two "U"s erected before the plan was abandoned in the 1930s. Renowned Helena architects J. G. Link and C. S. Haire designed the handsome Renaissance Revival style facility with its striking red-brown brick façade and simple cream-colored terra cotta ornamentation. Renamed Brantly Hall, the building functioned as a women's residence until 1987.

**Property:** Botany Laboratory and Greenhouse

**Address:** 32 Campus Drive, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** University of Montana **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** universities (buildings)

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

This 1938 addition to the Renaissance Revival style Botany Building (formerly Natural Science) offers an excellent example of the importance of Public Works Administration funds during the Depression Era to the expansion of the University of Montana. The U-shaped annex of brick and glass originally contained a fully equipped botanical laboratory, experimental animal rooms, and a greenhouse. Equipped now solely for use by the Botany Department, the annex, with its red-brown exterior and hipped roof, was carefully designed to be architecturally compatible with the older building.

**Property:** Alumni Center

**Address:** 32 Campus Drive, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** University of Montana **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** universities (buildings)

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Architects designing campus buildings between 1935 and 1939 were faced with a dilemma. Should they choose the Renaissance Revival style of most previous campus buildings or should they opt for the modern designs prevailing throughout the nation? In a compromise, three of the five buildings constructed during this phase allude to the previous style, but the Student Union and the Alumni Center proudly illustrate the modern Art Deco architectural movement. Very simple in design, the building features a flat roof, windows framed in terra cotta, and a stepped parapet. Completed in 1937, the Women's Club and Art Museum later occupied the Alumni Center. The building now houses Continuing Education.

**Property:** Prescott House

**Address:** 32 Campus Drive, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** University of Montana **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** universities (buildings)

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Prominent state legislator and county commissioner Charles R. Prescott homesteaded here in 1891, planting a vast orchard of plum, cherry, pear, and apple trees. In 1898, Prescott replaced his original log dwelling with this

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

beautiful Queen Anne style residence. The home was patterned after the childhood home of Prescott's wife Julia, a schoolteacher, who had come to Montana from Pennsylvania in 1880. Today the Prescott homestead is one of the few remaining links to the agricultural foundations of Missoula. The property was owned by the family until 1955 when the University of Montana purchased the Prescott acreage. Son Clarence Prescott, Jr., was then granted life tenancy of the house and one acre.

**Property:** Student Union

**Address:** 32 Campus Drive, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** University of Montana **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** universities (buildings)

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Missoula architect C. J. Forbis ushered in a new campus building phase in 1935 with the construction of this student union. The building's placement and modern Art Deco façade broke ranks with the Renaissance Revival style called for in the old Carsley-Gilbert campus master plan. The old plan had contained no such facility, and the new building was sited contrary to the previous symmetrical campus arrangement. Partially funded by Public Works Administration funds so important to the university during the Depression, in concept and form the building provided an architectural statement of renewed vigor and growth. It now serves as the Fine Arts Building.

**Property:** The Atlantic Hotel

**Address:** 519 Higgins, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** hotels (public accommodations)

**Subject 2:** commercial buildings

**Sign Text:**

The construction of the Milwaukee Road and the reconstruction of the Northern Pacific Railroad through Missoula sparked a second railroad-era building boom in the early twentieth century. The need for accommodations for both railroad workers and passengers occasioned the construction of several hotels at the city's north end near the depot. The Atlantic Hotel was one such establishment, designed by Missoula's most celebrated turn-of-the-twentieth-century architect, A. J. Gibson. Completed in 1902, the ground floor included a barber shop, saloon, and restaurant with the "best meals in the city." Patrons could secure lodging on the two upper floors for seventy-five cents and up. Commercial façades often received more architectural attention than a building's sides and back, and these differences often reveal stylistic changes. The hotel's façade reflects twentieth-century tastes with its fine high-fire polychrome brick detailing, flat window heads, and elaborate molded metal cornice. The rest of the building exhibits more traditional construction of low-fire bricks and arched window design carried over from the previous century. Original signs adorning its side further enhance the historic charm of this well-preserved, turn-of-the-twentieth-century landmark.

**Property:** Central Heating Plant

**Address:** 32 Campus Drive, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** University of Montana **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** universities (buildings)

**Subject 2:** heating systems

**Sign Text:**

Red-brown brick, cream terra cotta, and huge Tudor style windows belie the utilitarian function of this lofty building. Missoula architects Ole Bakke and Clarence Forbis ingeniously applied the Renaissance Revival style of other contemporary campus buildings, completing the plant in 1922. The smokestack, boilers, mechanical works, and the tall coal-storage structure tucked onto the building's east side were designed by the engineering firm of

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

Charles L. Pillsbury Company of Minneapolis and St. Paul. Though situated just outside the edge of the plan designed by Carsley and Gilbert, the building's design makes an important contribution to the overall quality of the university's historic architecture.

**Property:** South Hall

**Address:** 32 Campus Drive, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** University of Montana **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** universities (buildings) **Subject 2:** residential structures

**Sign Text:**

The first men's residence on campus renamed Elrod Hall, opened in 1923 with seventy student rooms. Like its near-twin Brantly Hall, the facility was originally intended to be part of two U-shaped residential complexes. The Helena architectural firm of Link and Haire drew the blueprints for the Renaissance Revival style hall, which reflects the exuberance of spirit in campus buildings constructed under the Carsley-Gilbert campus master plan. Each floor is organized into horizontal divisions typical of the style. Red-brown brick, cream-colored terra cotta, and green Spanish roof tile label the building part of the Carsley-Gilbert group.

**Property:** 426 North First Street West

**Address:** 426 North First Street West, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** Northside Missoula Railroad **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

One hundred thirty-seven Missoulians—mostly railroad workers—lived in the Ross House, a large hotel complex that occupied half this block in 1890. Ten years later, a covered walkway still connected the two-story wooden building on this site—home to white day laborers and their families—with the next-door boarding house for Japanese railroad section men. The block lost its large boarding houses between 1902 and 1909, but it retained its working-class character and connection to the railroad. By that year, Northern Pacific engineer Arthur Rogers and his sister Marguerite lived in this wood-framed residence, constructed after the boarding houses were demolished. Frank Pfau, who worked as a packer for the Northern Flour Mill, lived here throughout the 1930s with his wife Katie and their nine children. The hipped-roof house, which boasts a large front gable, is more elaborate than many in the neighborhood. Turned porch supports and crown casing over the gable window are among the home's Queen Anne style details.

**Property:** University Library 1922-1974

**Address:** 32 Campus Drive, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** University of Montana **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** universities (buildings) **Subject 2:** academic libraries (buildings)

**Sign Text:**

Of the eight campus buildings constructed on the Carsley-Gilbert master plan, the library appropriately best expresses the Renaissance Revival style. Billings architects McIver and Cohagen designed this architectural gem with its Spanish tile roof, simple terra cotta ornamentation, and distinctive windows, symbolizing in form and function the heart of the University. In 1955, a four-story utilitarian addition and division of the lofty reading room on the second story into two floors expanded the space. A new library opened in 1974 and the building changed in function, but its stately presence remains the symbolic heart of campus.

**Property:** Patterson Building

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Address:** 610 / 612 / 614 S Higgins Ave, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** University Area

**Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

South Higgins Avenue saw rapid commercial growth as a business hub during the period 1915-1925. This Western Commercial style building illustrates the district's early evolution. Missoula attorney John E. Patterson was serving as judge of the Fourth Judicial District when he developed the property circa 1915. Prominent Missoulian H. O. Bell was the first tenant, operating his early Ford automobile dealership here. Between 1915 and 1929, Bell sold 4,500 new Fords, 2,700 used cars, and many Fordson tractors from his showroom. Bell was also an aeronautical pioneer, remembered in the naming of the Missoula International Airport/Johnson-Bell Field. The Quality Market was another early tenant; its 1930s "ghost sign" remains on the façade. The Patterson family continued to own the building until 2013. Sensitive rehabilitation of this stunning slice of early Missoula exposed decorative polychromatic brick panels, a stepped parapet, pressed-metal interior ceilings, and restored the prismatic glass transoms. Introduced in the 1890s, prismatic glass transoms were a popular and practical means of directing daylight into building interiors. Their distinctive purple hue is the result of decades of exposure to sunlight.

**Property:** Joseph Dixon Residence

**Address:** 312 East Pine, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** East Pine Street

**Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:** fraternal lodges

**Sign Text:**

Missoula architect A. J. Gibson designed this grand Neo-classical style landmark for progressive politician Joseph Dixon. Dixon married Caroline Worden, daughter of Missoula founder Frank Worden, in 1896 and the couple made their home here. Dixon rose from Missoula County attorney (1893-1895) and Theodore Roosevelt's campaign manager (1912) to Governor of Montana (1921-1925) and Assistant Secretary of the Interior (1929-1933). The home, originally a one-story house, was remodeled between 1912 and 1921. A Palladian window and classical details including dentils, modillions, and an ornamental frieze embellish the façade. The monumental portico, richly ornamented with full-height Corinthian columns, shares similarities with the Neo-classical style Missoula County Courthouse, also designed by Gibson. In 1915, Dixon petitioned the city to create the East Pine Street divided boulevard, thus leaving an indelible mark on the neighborhood. The Knights of Columbus purchased the home for use as a hall in 1946. The Chalice of Repose Project, St. Patrick Hospital, and McCue Construction, in partnership with the Knights of Columbus, began cooperative rehabilitation of the building in 1999.

**Property:** Elrod Residence

**Address:** 205 South 5th Street East, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** University Area

**Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Intricate spindlework and turned columns on the wraparound porch decorate this Queen Anne style house. The northeast corner of the porch roof once supported stacked second- and third-story balconies, topped by a decorative turret. Montana botanist Morton Elrod and his wife Emma lived here from 1897 until their deaths, hers in 1938 and his in 1953. A scientific dynamo, Professor Elrod operated a weather station at the house until 1935. He almost lost his post at the university when he testified on behalf of Deer Lodge farmers suing the Anaconda Company because its Washoe smelter was damaging their crops and livestock. An outpouring of public support allowed him to retain his position. In 1899, he founded the Montana Biological Station on Flathead Lake, one of



## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

the first freshwater laboratories of its kind in the United States. The director of the American Bison Society, he also located the site for the National Bison Range in Moiese and, after Glacier National Park's establishment in 1910, spent summers working as the park's first naturalist. His many publications included Elrod's Guide and Book of Information of Glacier National Park (1924).

**Property:** St. John The Babtist Catholic Church

**Address:** 16680 Main St, Frenchtown, Missoula

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** churches (buildings)           **Subject 2:** parochial schools (buildings)

**Sign Text:**

French-speaking immigrants from Quebec and eastern Canada settled here in the Missoula Valley in the late 1850s. By 1864, French-Canadian Catholics worshiped in a crude log chapel, the second church in Montana Territory established for non-Native Americans. The Rev. S. J. Tremblay, the community's first secular priest, arrived from Montreal in 1884 and at once realized the need for a larger church. The cornerstone was laid during the St. John's Day Celebration in June of that year. Ship's carpenter Lugar Forast is credited with the design. All labor and materials were furnished by the parish community. Built at a cost of \$8,000, St. John the Baptist Catholic Church was dedicated on August 10, 1884. Montana's oldest Catholic church in continuous use, its simple plan recalls classical revival traditions. Its arched doors and windows, bell-capped tower, and barrel vaulted ceiling are reminiscent of late Romanesque style. The bell, installed in 1885, carries a dedication inscribed in French. A winding staircase constructed with wooden pegs and magnificent carpentry grace the interior. The red, white, and blue color scheme commemorates the French national flag. Original pews, numbered and divided for individual families, remain in place. In an attempt to maintain French heritage, from 1914 to 1922 the Sisters of Providence staffed an academy under the auspices of St. John's offering children a Christian education taught in French. Although the community now embraces cultural diversity, St. John's remains a heritage landmark and a tribute to its founding families.

**Property:** Tracy House

**Address:** 319 South Second Street West, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** Missoula Southside   **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

This one-story vernacular style residence, built circa 1902, and its contemporary carriage house illustrate the changing landscape of Missoula's Southside. Modest homes like this pyramidal-roofed cottage with its characteristic square plan and attached front porch attest to a growing blue-collar population. Originally owned by county poor farm foreman Gordon H. Tracy, Hannah McClain acquired the title in 1906. Hannah's husband, J. P. McClain, was with the U.S. Cavalry in Dakota Territory, became Montana Sate Commander of the Grand Army of the Republic, and later was a partner of C. P. Higgins in the cattle business. Other early owners included a carpenter, a mechanic, a baker, and a bookbinder.

**Property:** East Pine Street Historic District

**Address:** Historic District, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** East Pine Street           **Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** historic districts           **Subject 2:** residential structures

**Sign Text:**

Missoula's evolution from trading post to railroad center, university town, and federal government hub is revealed in this distinctive downtown residential neighborhood. Francis L. Worden, among Missoula's most

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

influential early merchants and leaders, built his home here in 1874-1875. Political leader Joseph Dixon built his home in 1891, modifying it through 1921 as he served in the House of Representatives, the U.S. Senate, and as Montana's governor in 1920. Other early business and civic leaders built large homes at the west end of the district as the arrival of the Northern Pacific in 1883 spurred Missoula's growth. With the University's development in the late 1890s and construction of original portions of the Federal Building in 1911, the district attracted construction of apartments and smaller residences. The district's architecture reflects sixty years of evolution featuring Queen Anne styling with turrets, asymmetrical features, decorative shingles, and the more symmetrical Neo-classical style. East Pine Street, with its boulevard and unique centered medians, is the product of Francis Worden's imported maple trees and Joseph Dixon's 1915 petition to the city for creation of a formal boulevard. This landscaped corridor pulls together a slice of Missoula's early development.

**Property:** University of Montana Historic District

**Address:** , Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** University of Montana **Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:** universities (buildings)

**Sign Text:**

An 1881 act of Congress granted the Territory of Montana seventy-two sections of land to use in funding a university. When the Montana legislature finally created the University of Montana in 1893, the Missoula community expressed its support by refurbishing a condemned schoolhouse as an interim campus. Fifty students enrolled in the first classes in 1895. From their temporary quarters, University President Oscar Craig and Professor Frederick Scheuch designed a campus to be built on forty donated acres at the base of Mount Sentinel. With revenue from the 1881 land grant, the first campus buildings were designed by Missoula architect A. J. Gibson and constructed between 1897 and 1908. The new campus opened in 1899, housed in Main and Science Halls. After World War I, a second campus master plan by Helena architect George Carsley and his New York mentor Cass Gilbert allowed for the University's orderly expansion. Eight buildings following the Carsley-Gilbert plan enlarged the campus between 1918 and 1927. Federal grants financed five additional buildings from 1935 to 1939, forming a stylistic transition to the modern campus. While the campus now accommodates over 10,000 students, the University of Montana proudly reveals its evolution through architectural diversity, displaying Montana's changing architectural tastes and the work of its best-known designers.

**Property:** Journalism Building

**Address:** 32 Campus Drive, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** University of Montana **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** universities (buildings) **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Dean Arthur Stone pitched four tents near the Oval in 1914, thereby founding the University's School of Journalism. An old bicycle shed and later World War I army barracks served as quarters for this discipline, then considered "non-essential." After a long struggle, the Public Works Administration appropriated building funds. Architects R. C. Hugenin of Butte and Norman DeKay of Helena designed the 1937 Renaissance Revival-inspired building, adding liberal modern touches and asymmetrically placed windows. Home of the university newspaper, The Kaimin, and dedicated to Dean Stone, this building represents the hard-won acceptance of journalism as an academic discipline.

**Property:** University Library 1908-1923

**Address:** 32 Campus Drive, Missoula, Missoula

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Historic District:** University of Montana **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** universities (buildings)

**Subject 2:** academic libraries (buildings)

**Sign Text:**

This enduring landmark was the fifth and final contribution to the campus by renowned Missoula architect A. J. Gibson. A work of exquisite craftsmanship and the university's only example of Neo-classical architecture, the dramatic classical portico on the front of the building is typical of this style, which peaked during the early twentieth century. The interior was extensively remodeled in 1923 to accommodate the University Law School, and again in 1961 to house the Psychology Department. In 1983, the building was renamed Rankin Hall after 1902 graduate Jeannette Rankin, the first United States congresswoman.

**Property:** 341 Keith

**Address:** 341 Keith, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** University Area

**Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The decorative brackets, low pitched roof with dormers, wide overhanging eaves, and extended flared rafters mark this home as a Craftsman-style residence. A welcoming wraparound porch accents the front entryway with a centered gable supported by double columns. The open front porch and the use of natural materials (rock for the foundation and wood for the siding and shingles) visually link the home to the outdoors, a defining Craftsman style principle. One of the first structures on the block, the prominent corner residence graces the Hammond Addition, an area promoted as "The Choice Residence Section of Missoula." The elegant bungalow was home to William and Alta Dixon and their two children by 1915. The Dixons continued to live here into the 1950s. William Dixon was a quintessential Progressive-era businessman. In addition to owning a shoe store and serving on the board of the Montana Building and Loan Association, he was a prominent community leader, active in both fraternal organizations and civic groups.

**Property:** Charles E. Johnson Residence

**Address:** 215 5th Street East, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** University Area

**Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Twenty-year-old Charles E. Johnson came to Missoula with the Northern Pacific as a dining car employee. He worked his way up to conductor, and after a seven-year career, changed professions. Putting his love of horses to use, he opened a livery business in 1893. Johnson did well, and before 1900, he, his wife Edith, and their three children settled into this transitional Queen Anne style residence. The livery closed in 1908 and Johnson briefly operated a cement contracting business. Then for thirty years he was secretary to the local Elks' Lodge. When Edith died in 1936, the Missoulian described her as a woman of high courage and forward thinking. "Pops" Johnson sold the property in 1941. He died at ninety-five in 1959, outliving all his children. The Johnsons' longtime home is a splendid example of the shift away from flowery Victorian ornamentation to the simpler Colonial Revival style. Its wraparound porch, multiple bay windows, irregular plan, and fish-scale shingles are classic Queen Anne style features, but the clapboard siding, corner boards, and simple window frames signal newer trends. Restoration of the home began in 1996.

**Property:** University Hall

**Address:** 32 Campus Drive, Missoula, Missoula

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Historic District:** University of Montana **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** universities (buildings)

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Fronting the Oval at the heart of the campus, the university's oldest standing building, also known as Main Hall, proudly represents the birth of this noble institution. Celebrated Missoula architect A. J. Gibson designed the Richardsonian Romanesque style building that, along with its now-demolished companion Science Hall, comprised the campus at the school's opening in 1899. During the university's dedication ceremony in 1898, corn, oil, and water symbolizing plenty, joy, and peace were poured over the building's cornerstone. Today the hourly chiming of the bells in the majestic bell tower serves as constant reminder of the enduring solidity of the university.

**Property:** Men's Gymnasium

**Address:** 32 Campus Drive, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** University of Montana **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** universities (buildings)

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Helena architect George Carsley and New York architect Cass Gilbert designed the campus master plan implemented between 1918 and 1927. Although Carsley continued as consultant on other buildings erected under the plan, this 1922 gymnasium is the only university building that he designed exclusively. It is also the only one of the group deviating from the Renaissance Revival style Gilbert and Carsley specified. Strong vertical emphasis, blocky massing, and stylized decoration characterize this early expression of the Art Deco style, while materials used in construction visually conform to other Carsley-Gilbert campus buildings. Renamed Schreiber Gym, the facility now houses ROTC.

**Property:** Dixon-Duncan Block

**Address:** 240 N. Higgins, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Two Missoula attorneys on opposing sides of the political arena teamed up to construct this attractive commercial building in 1897. Republican Joseph Dixon, who later became Governor of Montana (1921-1925), began his political career as Missoula County attorney in 1894. He returned to practice law in this newly completed building while his building partner, Democrat Asa L. Duncan, succeeded him as county attorney. Duncan soon resigned, however, to serve as captain of Company L in the first Montana Volunteers during the Spanish American War/Philippine Insurrection. He saw action at Manila and was mustered out as a major in 1899. By 1903, both men had their respective law offices in the building. Dixon served as U.S. senator from 1906 to 1913, maintaining his offices here until 1911. Duncan practiced law until he was elected fourth judicial district judge in 1913, a position he held until 1937. Upon retirement, Duncan had the state's second longest service record as a trial jurist. In the 1920s, the building became known as the Duncan and Peterson Block where the Peterson Drug Store was a longtime first-floor occupant. The graceful Romanesque arches and unique brickwork reflect Missoula's turn-of-the-century good fortune and are a lasting tribute to two dynamic Montanans. Unlike most historic storefronts long since modernized, the first floor retains its multi-pane leaded transom and original metal window frames. Carrara glass surrounding the street-level stairway entry, added during the 1920s or 1930s, speaks to more recent stylistic trends.

**Property:** Women's Hall

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Address:** 32 Campus Drive, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** University of Montana **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** universities (buildings)

**Subject 2:** residential structures

**Sign Text:**

Construction of this women's residence, dedicated in 1903, attests to Montana's early commitment to coeducation. Architect A. J. Gibson chose the simple, elegant Second Renaissance Revival style for his third campus building. Deviating from the specifications of the original campus master plan, the building faces the end, rather than the center of the Oval. Room and board could be had for eighteen dollars a month with space for seventy-two students. Renamed Craig Hall in 1911 after first university president Oscar Craig, the building also housed the school's first two sororities. When a new women's dormitory opened in 1924, Craig Hall was extensively remodeled for classroom use.

**Property:** 408 Keith

**Address:** 408 Keith, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** University Area

**Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The 400 block of Keith boasts four Tudor Revival style homes, a testament to European influence on American architecture in the 1920s and early 1930s. Thousands of American soldiers served in Europe during World War I, and many veterans returned home with a new appreciation for European architecture. The Tudor style, with its emblematic half-timbering, steeply pitched roofs, and multi-paned windows, particularly caught their imagination. In the face of short skirts and speakeasies, the style struck a chord with Americans longing for a supposedly simpler past. While the exterior design reflected suburbanites' ambivalence toward modernity, the homes themselves offered all the modern conveniences. This circa 1931 example features a characteristically arched, accented doorway, half-timbering in the dormer, and an asymmetrical front gable. Accents using clinker bricks—bricks purposely over-fired so they would resemble stone—add to the home's rustic charm.

**Property:** New Hall

**Address:** 32 Campus Drive, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** University of Montana **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** universities (buildings)

**Subject 2:** residential structures

**Sign Text:**

The placement of this women's residence hall prohibited further development of a women's U-shaped dormitory complex as outlined by the Carsley-Gilbert campus master plan of the previous decade. Architects H. E. Kirkemo of Missoula and J. Van Teylingen of Great Falls designed the building, completed in 1939, in the Renaissance Revival-inspired style outlined by the older plan. Yet the architects were not to be bound by Renaissance Revival. Liberal modern touches such as a towered entryway and asymmetrically placed windows deny emphasis of the older style, and suggest the subtle encroachment of Art Deco ideas. The former women's residence, renamed Turner Hall, now houses offices.

**Property:** Chemistry-Pharmacy Building

**Address:** 32 Campus Drive, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** University of Montana **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** universities (buildings)

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

A Public Works Administration loan and bonds funded the construction of this facility, completed in 1939.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

Architects R. C. Hugenin of Butte and Norman DeKay of Helena designed the distinctive building amidst criticism over the unusual mixing of styles. The rusticated red-brown brick and horizontal division between the first and second floors are elements of the Renaissance Revival style seen in earlier campus buildings. A central projecting pavilion, however, reminiscent of Beaux Arts Classicism, interrupts the façade with a vertical focus. Even though an animal laboratory (1951) and skywalk (1981) have been added to the building, the façade retains its original appearance.

**Property:** McCullough Home

**Address:** 402 So 3rd St West, Missoula, Missoula

**Historic District:** Missoula Southside      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The early development of Missoula's Southside is well represented in this classic Queen Anne style residence, constructed in the early 1890s. Originally a single family home, stylistic features include the asymmetrical façade, clad in a mixture of stone, brick, and decoratively patterned wood shingles; gables and open porches; and arched, multi-paned windows. Longtime resident Dr. George McCullough came to Missoula in 1890 after completing graduate studies at New York City's Bellevue Hospital. He and his wife, Mollie, moved into this residence in 1908. A past president of the Montana State Medical Society and the first vice president of the Missoula Trust and Savings Bank, the doctor is remembered by the medical community for his research on Rocky Mountain spotted fever. Mollie died in 1912, but Dr. McCullough's grown daughter and her family later lived with him. Upon his death at age 80 in 1938, Dr. McCullough had maintained an active medical practice that spanned almost fifty years.

**Property:** Central School

**Address:** 600 First Street West, Roundup, Musselshell

**Historic District:**      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** public schools (buildings)      **Subject 2:** museum (buildings)

**Sign Text:**

Kalispell residents exulted over the construction of the community's first permanent schoolhouse, and the Inter Lake proudly declared that "nothing decides the intellectual status of a town or city as surely as its schools." The Richardsonian Romanesque style brick building, designed by William White of Great Falls, welcomed its first students on January 1, 1895. Four teachers had charge of almost 200 high school and elementary students; a fifth teacher joined the staff a month later. The high school graduated its first six students in the spring of 1898, but it moved soon after 1900, leaving Central School's eight rooms to the lower grades. The school became Kalispell's first junior high when elementary students relocated and seventh and eighth grades moved here in 1929. All other city schools were renamed in 1940, but as the hub of district activities, Central School kept its original name. Administrative offices remained here until 1969. In 1927, city officials declared the workmanship of this splendid building a lesson in "old-time thoroughness and pride ... worthy of emulation." So it remains today.

**Property:** St. Benedict's Catholic School

**Address:** 524 1st St. W, Roundup, Musselshell

**Historic District:**      **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** parochial schools (buildings)      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

St Benedict's Catholic School was erected in 1920-1921, just as Roundup's early prosperity peaked. Father

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

Hennessy (1914-1929) and his flock worked diligently to create the school, with twenty church members loaning \$500 each to the Diocese of Great Falls for construction. St. Benedict's, designed by Roundup architect John H. Grant—who created many commercial and residential buildings here between 1910 and 1922—has a classic early-twentieth-century school design. The school served the community of European Catholic immigrants who came to Roundup after the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railroad established coal mines here in 1907-1908. From many nations, these immigrants found their ethnic identities melting away in American society, but through the church they preserved an important part of their heritage. When this school opened, Ursuline Sisters were in charge of 123 students in eight grades, housed in four classrooms. The Sisters lived in the building's basement, as did boarding students from rural homes. The school closed in 1950.

**Property:** Central School

**Address:** 600 First Street West, Roundup, Musselshell

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** public schools (buildings)                   **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Construction of Helena's first permanent schoolhouse began in 1875 after relocation of the old mining camp cemetery that originally occupied these grounds. Opening its doors in January, 1876, it was the first public school in Montana Territory with graded classrooms, a high school curriculum, and kindergarten. By 1889, Central was considered the "most prized" of Helena's seven public schools. A high school and public library (neither of which remain standing) were added to the block in the 1890s, followed by the school gymnasium in 1908. As Helena grew, Central's seven rooms became inadequate. The present building, designed by George H. Carsley, was constructed behind the older school in 1915. Two symmetrical wings were added in 1921 and the older landmark was demolished. Still in service today, Central School maintains a place of honor as a historic cornerstone of Montana's public school system.

**Property:** Pape Building

**Address:** 117 W Park, Livingston, Park

**Historic District:** Livingston Commercial Historic District **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial building                   **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

In 1883, Wetzstein Hall, a two-story wooden building with a liquor wholesale operation on the first floor and a public hall on the second, stood on this site. In 1902, Fred Pape opened the National Park Steam Laundry here. He purchased the building in 1903, only to see it burn to the ground a few months later. The fire, which started in Pape's laundry, caused an estimated \$20,000 of damage and destroyed two other wooden buildings on this block. The street's brick buildings were spared. Pape hired builder-architect John Sundberg to construct a dignified two-story, fire-resistant brick business block. Completed in three months, the 1904 building originally housed Frank Bliss's Solo Saloon on the first floor. The second floor became a lodging house, managed by Pape's wife Clorinda. In 1910, Clorinda rented the rooms to a baseball player, farm laborer, waiter, real estate agent, waitress, and railroad conductor. During Prohibition, the Solo became a soft drink parlor and relocated, but according to local lore, the New York Candy Kitchen, which occupied the first floor, doubled as a speakeasy.

**Property:** Chico Hot Springs

**Address:** #1 Chico Road, Pray, Park

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings                   **Subject 2:** hotels (public accommodations)

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

### Sign Text:

Generous verandas, period furnishings, and healing waters invite the visitor to experience turn-of-the-century hospitality under the shadow of Emigrant Peak. The hot springs, long appreciated by native peoples, got their commercial start during the territorial period when miners stopped by to bathe and "wash their duds." In 1876, an inventive settler tapped into the 112 degree water, piping it under his greenhouse to grow vegetables for local residents. A hotel was planned in the 1880s, but in 1892, there were still no facilities and families camped nearby to enjoy the springs. Percie and Bill Knowles inherited the property in 1894. They ran a boardinghouse for miners and, in 1900, built the long-awaited hot springs hotel. Under Knowles' active promotion, uniformed drivers ferried such guests as Teddy Roosevelt and artist Charlie Russell from the Emigrant depot to the springs. When Bill Knowles died in 1910, Percie and her son Radbourne transformed the luxurious hotel into a respected medical facility. Dr. George A. Townsend joined the staff in 1912 and under his direction, the hospital and healing waters gained renown throughout the northwest. After the 1940s, new owners and new directions included gambling and dude ranching. In 1976, Mike and Eve Art began recapturing the once-famous hotel's turn-of-the-century ambiance. Chico Hot Springs, with its Georgian-inspired architecture and warm Craftsman style interiors, is one of Montana's best preserved examples of an early-twentieth-century hot springs hotel and health resort.

**Property:** Livingston Eastside Residential Historic District

**Address:** , Livingston, Park

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** historic districts                   **Subject 2:** residential structures

### Sign Text:

From 1900 to 1910, the Northern Pacific Railroad's good fortunes overflowed into Livingston. Expansion of railroad services brought an influx of blue-collar workers and their families who located on the convenient Eastside, near the railroad shops north and east of the yard. An underground walkway beneath the tracks and emerging at the timekeeper's office was constructed in 1902, providing workers a safe crossing. Carpenters and speculators constructed three-fourths of the small, wood-frame houses in the district before 1907, two or three at a time, to rent or sell to families of modest income. The foursquare, hipped-roof design and simple detailing was easy to build and proved easy to expand. Large enclosed porches, side bays and rear shed-roofed additions account for wide variation, yet the repetition of this basic design unifies the district. A few two-story, gable-roofed residences add visual interest while the Norwegian Lutheran Church (now American Lutheran) built in 1905 provides architectural focus for the neighborhood. Many Scandinavian and Italian families settled here, bringing strong ethnic identities to the district. Today the Eastside continues to be a neighborhood of hard-working families who form the true heart of this railroad town.

**Property:** Livingston B Street Historic District

**Address:** , Livingston, Park

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** historic districts                   **Subject 2:** brothel

### Sign Text:

These four small one-story houses are the only remnants of Livingston's once-thriving red-light district. A convenient but respectable distance from the railroad hub, commercial district, and residential neighborhoods, here the "painted ladies" quietly plied their trade. The houses were originally built as duplexes between 1896 and 1907. Their design resembles the gables and porches of larger houses with subtle decorative variations. B Street's establishments prospered from the 1890s to the 1920s, catering to ranch hands, sheepherders, itinerant railroad workers, and local residents. Though technically illegal, prostitution in Livingston achieved a certain "illegitimate respectability" and the district grew to encompass nine houses along a block and a half. Old-timers recall the



## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

ladies sitting in the windows with their companion lap dogs, illuminated by a red light. Though they were not socially accepted, restricted to the last rows of the Opera House, and not allowed in saloons, local merchants profited from the ladies' earnings spent on clothes, perfumes, and furs. Deliveries, however, were made only to B Street's back doors. In the late 1940s, B Street's establishments closed and the ladies moved to the outskirts of town. Some long-time residents say that Livingston "lost a lot of its color when the red lights went out."

**Property:** Oliver and Lucy Bonnell Gothic Arch Barn

**Address:** 247 Shields River Rd. E., , Park

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building | rural

**Subject 1:** ranches (agricultural complexes)           **Subject 2:** barns

**Sign Text:**

Oliver Bonnell, his wife Lucy, and their seven children settled in Livingston in the early 1890s, where Bonnell operated a boot business and later a feed store. In 1905, they acquired title to 640 acres from the Northern Pacific Railroad. The Bonnells first ran cattle and, like many ranchers, they maintained a residence in Livingston so the children could attend school. In 1915, they purchased an additional 80 acres and some of the older children received homestead patents on adjoining land. The family established a small dairy in the early 1920s. Bonnell and his sons milked the herd by hand, and each day Lucy drove the milk to the creamery in Livingston. The Bonnells built this Gothic-arched barn in 1922 for their milking operation. The Gothic arch design provided maximum storage for loose hay without the interference of interior braces. The Bonnells also hosted dances in the loft. In 1929, the Bonnells sold to Noble Irwin, a local bootlegger who continued to run a dairy. In 1944, Ralph and Alma Woodring bought the farm, installed a milking machine system, and continued in the dairy business. They raised six sons on the farm who remember playing basketball in the loft. In 1959, the Woodrings sold the farm to Gus and Margaret Sarrazin, who used the barn for their beef cattle operation. This handsome barn reflects the ultimate architectural innovation for the storage of winter feed in the early dairying industry. Its majestic silhouette continues to dominate the Lower Shields Valley landscape.

**Property:** I. Orschel and Bro.

**Address:** 122 N Main, Livingston, Park

**Historic District:** Livingston Commercial **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The intersection of Main and Park was the heart of Livingston's compact commercial core, convenient to both railway passengers and local customers. Here in the mid 1880s brothers Isaac and Herman Orschel, who also had a store in Miles City, did a booming business. In 1884 and 1885, their varied inventory included "everything that is attractive" in men's furnishings: plain and fancy underwear, boots, suits, hosiery, and shirts as well as trunks and valises, bar fixtures, groceries, blankets, cigars, and wholesale liquor. By 1891, a back addition linked 106 E. Park and 122 N. Main, forming one L-shaped business block. A beer bottling plant operated in the basement. The tall parapet with its fancy brickwork showcases the work of Livingston's early masons while the building's side chronicles its several stages of construction.

**Property:** Hugh J. Miller Home

**Address:** 323 W. Callender, Livingston, Park

**Historic District:** Livingston Westside **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:**

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

### Sign Text:

A harmonious blending of architectural styles yields an unusual façade in this elegant residence, built by noted attorney Hugh J. Miller circa 1900. A pedimented entry of classical design, gracefully flared roof of oriental influence, and square Italianate-inspired tower demonstrate the eclecticism favored during this era. Interior pocket doors, hard maple floors, a double stairway, formal dining room, and gracious receiving hall with a built-in oak bench demonstrate the refined lifestyle of Miller and his wife, Georgiana. Denticulated eaves grace the high-pitched roof, and paneled leaded glass enhances the windows. Miller, who was “unexcelled in the complete preparation of his cases,” served several terms as county attorney and was appointed Judge Advocate of Montana by Governor R. B. Smith in 1897. Once a focal point of turn-of-the-twentieth-century social gatherings, the home on its prestigious corner continues to command the respect of discerning passersby.

**Property:** Murray Hotel

**Address:** 201 West Park, Livingston, Park

**Historic District:** Livingston Commercial **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** hotels (public accommodations)

**Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

Antique furniture, red oak doors, a towering lobby, and 700 square feet of marble make this historic hotel a timeless ambassador of the “real West.” Built circa 1904, the Murray began as the Elite Hotel (locally pronounced EE-light) when Livingston was a busy tourist hub. Its unassuming brick façade reflects the great age of American hostelries and their inevitable link with the railroad. In 1922, the Senator James E. Murray family of Butte financed expansion to four stories, but foreclosed on owner Josephine Kline in 1925 and renamed the hotel. The popular Murray contained the town’s only elevator (which is still in use) and its lobby was a favorite rendezvous. The demise of rail travel figures into the Murray’s decline in the 1960s. Recent owners breathed new life into its seasoned rooms and suites, where celebrity outlaws such as Sam Peckinpah and Jack Palance have hung their hats. And the likes of Robert Redford, Peter Fonda and Whoopi Goldberg—to name just a few—have patronized the Murray’s Art Deco bar.

**Property:** West Side Residential Historic District

**Address:** , Livingston, Park

**Historic District:** West Side Residential **Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** historic districts

**Subject 2:** residential structures

### Sign Text:

Livingston was inextricably tied to the railroad, but its business community also influenced the town's character. After 1900, professionals and entrepreneurs built new homes on the Westside when the expansion of downtown encroached on the previous residential neighborhoods. The less pretentious homes of Livingston's lawyers, merchants, doctors, and businessmen comprise the majority of the Westside, but the district includes Livingston's most architecturally significant residences. These were home to important figures such as Charles Garnier, founder of the exclusive "Montana Sport" cigar factory whose Livingston payroll was second only to the Northern Pacific. Garnier built a residence here in 1902. The 1903 mansion of Livingston mayor and bank president Edward Talcott sprawls over six city lots on "Banker's Row." Wealthy rancher J. H. Harvat moved to town, building a home so that his children could attend school. Telephone company franchise owner Joseph Swindlehurst, banker J. C. Vilas, and renowned criminal lawyer Hugh J. Miller were other wealthy residents. Among the larger homes, examples of Queen Anne, Colonial Revival, Shingle, and Prairie styles reveal an astute awareness of national architectural trends of the early twentieth century. After the 1920s, more modest homes were added to the district. The wide, inviting tree-lined streets, churches, and schools make this Livingston's preferred residential area even today.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Property:** OTO Dude Ranch

**Address:** Park County, , Park

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** site | rural

**Subject 1:** dude ranches           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

James Norris (Dick) Randall, “The Man who put the ‘Dude’ in Dude Ranching,” worked as a cowboy before heading to Yellowstone National Park in 1888. There, as a stagecoach driver for tourists, he soon recognized the business potential of outfitting hunting adventures for wealthy easterners and European aristocrats. In 1898, while Dick continued to work as a guide, he and his wife Dora purchased squatters’ rights to this land along Cedar Creek, in the shadow of the Absaroka Mountains. The ranch had a one-room log cabin with a dirt floor and sod roof and a corral. Soon wealthy hunting clients began sending their kids to the OTO to work as cowboys for the summer, the start of the Randalls’ dude ranching business. To accommodate the growing number of guests, the Randalls added to and upgraded their facilities into the 1920s. The new buildings evoked the rugged, frontier West through the use of native materials; a fine example is the 1921 grand lodge, which features a rubblestone foundation and unfinished log walls. The OTO’s consciously rustic style extended beyond its architecture. From 1912 to 1934, the Randalls promised western accommodations and pack trips long enough to give a person “the feel of the mountains.” During the OTO’s heyday, guests escaped the pressures of modern life while enjoying good food, horseback riding, ranch work, and music in the evenings. The Randalls retired in 1934, when former guest Chan Libby took over the operation. The OTO closed permanently in 1939.

**Property:** John Hepburn Place

**Address:** East River Rd, Emigrant, Park

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** ranches (agricultural complexes)           **Subject 2:** museum (buildings)

**Sign Text:**

Nestled between dramatic cliffs and the Yellowstone River, this collection of buildings catered to the tourist trade between Livingston and Yellowstone National Park. Local entrepreneur John Hepburn came to Montana in 1888 and worked for many years in America’s first national park. In 1906, he filed a homestead claim nearby and ranched until the early 1920s. Hepburn began developing this property in the mid-1930s, crafting the buildings to look like the handiwork of early pioneers. The half-log house doubled as a roadside museum and residence. Hepburn and his son, Ralph, erected a windmill and installed a generator to provide power. Electric windmills were common in early Montana rural homesteads, but this is one of the last intact systems of its kind. Five generations of Hepburns lived at this homestead using wind-generated electricity for light bulbs and other appliances designed for twenty-four volts. John Hepburn again used the wind when he built a unique wind-powered polisher to finish geological specimens he sold to museum visitors. For over two decades, tourists and local school children regularly visited Hepburn’s museum, marveling at its eclectic collection of rare geological specimens, fossils (including a petrified turtle), Native American artifacts, historical photographs, and items that told the story of Yellowstone Park and the upper Yellowstone Valley. When Hepburn died in 1959, the museum closed and his family dispersed the collections to other area museums. Today, the John Hepburn Place offers a rare illustration of the rural use of wind power and is a unique souvenir of Montana’s early tourism industry.

**Property:** Livingston Westside Residential Historic District

**Address:** , Livingston, Park

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** historic districts           **Subject 2:** residential structures

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

### Sign Text:

Livingston was inextricably tied to the railroad, but its business community also influenced the town's character. After 1900, professionals and entrepreneurs built new homes on the Westside when the expansion of downtown encroached on the previous residential neighborhoods. The less pretentious homes of Livingston's lawyers, merchants, doctors, and businessmen comprise the majority of the Westside, but the district includes Livingston's most architecturally significant residences. These were home to important figures such as Charles Garnier, founder of the exclusive "Montana Sport" cigar factory whose Livingston payroll was second only to the Northern Pacific. Garnier built a residence here in 1902. The 1903 mansion of Livingston mayor and bank president Edward Talcott sprawls over six city lots on "Banker's Row." Wealthy rancher J. H. Harvat moved to town, building a home so that his children could attend school. Telephone company franchise owner Joseph Swindlehurst, banker J. C. Vilas, and renowned criminal lawyer Hugh J. Miller were other wealthy residents. Among the larger homes, examples of Queen Anne, Colonial Revival, Shingle, and Prairie styles reveal an astute awareness of national architectural trends of the early twentieth century. After the 1920s, more modest homes were added to the district. The wide, inviting tree-lined streets, churches, and schools make this Livingston's preferred residential area even today.

**Property:** East Side Residential Historic District

**Address:** Historic District, Livingston, Park

**Historic District:** East Side Residential    **Building Type:** districts

**Subject 1:** historic districts                      **Subject 2:** residential structures

### Sign Text:

From 1900 to 1910, the Northern Pacific Railroad's good fortunes overflowed into Livingston. Expansion of railroad services brought an influx of blue-collar workers and their families who located on the convenient Eastside, near the railroad shops north and east of the yard. An underground walkway beneath the tracks and emerging at the timekeeper's office was constructed in 1902, providing workers a safe crossing. Carpenters and speculators constructed three-fourths of the small, wood-frame houses in the district before 1907, two or three at a time, to rent or sell to families of modest income. The foursquare, hipped-roof design and simple detailing was easy to build and proved easy to expand. Large enclosed porches, side bays and rear shed-roofed additions account for wide variation, yet the repetition of this basic design unifies the district. A few two-story, gable-roofed residences add visual interest while the Norwegian Lutheran Church (now American Lutheran) built in 1905 provides architectural focus for the neighborhood. Many Scandinavian and Italian families settled here, bringing strong ethnic identities to the district. Today the Eastside continues to be a neighborhood of hard-working families who form the true heart of this railroad town.

**Property:** Livingston City Hall and Fire Station

**Address:** 124-126 East Callender Street, Livingston, Park

**Historic District:** Livingston Commercial    **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** fire stations                      **Subject 2:** city halls

### Sign Text:

The territorial legislature created Park County with Livingston as county seat in 1887. By the mid-1890s city officials needed office space and a firehouse was even more critical. Fiery disasters had long plagued the community, and destruction of the opera house in January of 1896 underscored this need. A \$10,000 bond issue provided funds to build adjoining facilities on this site. City officials moved in before the end of 1896, and a volunteer fire company formed in early 1897. By 1900, the company boasted twenty-eight volunteers, two hose carts, a hose and ladder wagon, and 2,200 feet of cotton hose. Fire driver M. J. McGinnis, hired in 1894, was Livingston's only paid fireman until 1906. The city purchased its first motorized fire truck in 1915 and it remained

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

in use until the late 1950s. Despite removal of a grand bell tower that originally crowned city hall, the substantial brick building with its graceful arches presides over this corner. Its presence is a monument to Livingston's early civic achievement.

**Property:** 221 South Yellowstone

**Address:** 221 S. Yellowstone, Livingston, Park

**Historic District:** West Side Residential **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

In 1891, only eight years after Livingston's founding, Julia Rolfson and her husband John, a stone mason, lived in this substantial, brick, cross-gable home. The Italianate style inspired the one-and-one-half-story residence's wide, overhanging eaves, decorative brackets, and narrow windows. Builders placed the kitchen at the back of the house under a separate, single-story roof, a common nineteenth-century practice to minimize fire risk. Bucket brigades could more easily reach a one-story roof, perhaps saving the main house in case of a kitchen fire. Locomotive engineer Thomas Manzer and his wife Mabel purchased the residence in 1898. The Manzers added the wraparound front porch and remodeled the back portion of the house between 1907 and 1921. Sometimes called "labor's aristocracy," locomotive engineers were the highest paid workers on the railroad; nevertheless, few could afford homes as elegant as this one. In 1925, fellow locomotive engineer Christy Teters and his wife Effie purchased the residence. To make ends meet during the Depression, the family took in roomers. Five roomers joined Christy, Effie, and their two children here in 1930, including two teachers at the nearby high school.

**Property:** Miles Hall

**Address:** 113 W Park, Livingston, Park

**Historic District:** Livingston Commercial Historic District **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Entrepreneur brothers Tommy and Billy Miles constructed this dignified building in 1903 strategically located across from the Northern Pacific's new passenger depot. The first floor of the masonry business block provided the booming community with much-needed retail space. Early tenants included a sign painter, the National Guard Armory, and Western Union Telegraph. On the second floor, grand windows provided good ventilation and natural light for a public ballroom and concert hall. According to the newspaper, it was "a place for public amusement" unequalled "by any other edifice in the city." The "elegantly fitted" facility seated more than 700 people, and local organizations, from the Order of Railway Employees to the High School Glee Club, quickly put it to use. After a new ballroom opened in 1907, the Park Theater and a rooming house shared the second story. In 1945, the American Legion Park Post No. 23 bought the building to serve its rapidly growing membership, bolstered by soldiers returning after World War II. By 1969, the post was Montana's fourth largest, with 458 members. The Legion's historic bar room remained as of 2017.

**Property:** North Side School

**Address:** 118 W. Chinook St, Livingston, Park

**Historic District:** **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** public schools (buildings) **Subject 2:** museum (buildings)

**Sign Text:**

Expansion of the Northern Pacific Railroad in the early 1900s assured Livingston a bright future, and civic building

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

of this period reflects the high economic and cultural levels achieved by the community. The North Side School, built in 1907 in simplified Renaissance Revival style, is a splendid example of that prosperous era. Built for \$12,940 of concrete block simulating rusticated stone, the stately new school replaced an 1892 frame building two blocks distant. Its rusticated finish, quoins accentuating the building's corners, and a decorative frieze delineating first and second stories are hallmarks of the Renaissance Revival style. Four classrooms and a small library room accommodated grades one through four while the basement featured two playrooms and restroom facilities, boys on one side and girls on the other. Ella Smith was North Side's principal when the new facility welcomed its first students in the fall of 1908. She and three other teachers managed the four grades. School district policy at this time in Livingston and elsewhere on the western frontier dictated that only single women could be hired as elementary teachers; the local school board finally set that policy aside in 1942. Although North Side was the smallest of Livingston's three earliest elementary schools, it had served area children for more than sixty years when it closed in 1971. Home of the Park County Museum since 1976, it is appropriate that the classrooms, which saw several generations of Livingston's children, now house artifacts and memorabilia of local history.

**Property:** St. Mary's Catholic Church

**Address:** 226 South 3rd St, Livingston, Park

**Historic District:** Livingston Westside      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** chuches (buildings)      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Father Lawrence Palladino said the first Catholic mass at Livingston in the summer of 1883, on the cusp of the Northern Pacific Railroad's arrival. The town was still a makeshift settlement of canvas tents and temporary dwellings. In 1884, Rev. J. B. Halton, Livingston's first resident priest, set the cornerstone for this church on land donated by the Northern Pacific. Under Rev. A. Coopman, the simple, Gothic style brick church was finally completed in December 1890 and dedicated as St Mary's on January 24, 1891. A new Catholic school (now the apartments diagonally across the street) was nearing completion when the Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth, Kansas, arrived to teach in 1914. They set up temporary classrooms in St. Mary's sanctuary. For two months, sixty-four students sat on the pew kneelers, using the pews as desks. St. Mary's continued to serve Catholics until 1967. At that time, construction of a new church and school on F Street prompted the Catholics to sell St. Mary's to the Congregationalists. It has since served as the Livingston Congregational Church.

**Property:** B Street Historic District

**Address:** , Livingston, Park

**Historic District:** B Street      **Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** historic districts      **Subject 2:** commercial buildings

**Sign Text:**

These four small one-story houses are the only remnants of Livingston's once-thriving red-light district. A convenient but respectable distance from the railroad hub, commercial district, and residential neighborhoods, here the "painted ladies" quietly plied their trade. The houses were originally built as duplexes between 1896 and 1907. Their design resembles the gables and porches of larger houses with subtle decorative variations. B Street's establishments prospered from the 1890s to the 1920s, catering to ranch hands, shepherders, itinerant railroad workers, and local residents. Though technically illegal, prostitution in Livingston achieved a certain "illegitimate respectability" and the district grew to encompass nine houses along a block and a half. Old-timers recall the ladies sitting in the windows with their companion lap dogs, illuminated by a red light. Though they were not socially accepted, restricted to the last rows of the Opera House, and not allowed in saloons, local merchants profited from the ladies' earnings spent on clothes, perfumes, and furs. Deliveries, however, were made only to B

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

Street's back doors. In the late 1940s, B Street's establishments closed and the ladies moved to the outskirts of town. Some long-time residents say that Livingston "lost a lot of its color when the red lights went out."

**Property:** Auditorium Block

**Address:** 124 South Main, Livingston, Park

**Historic District:** Livingston Commercial **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Montana State Senator Charles S. Hefferlin was Park County's wealthiest resident and a prolific investor in numerous local building projects. He financed the first local flour mill, a hotel at Corwin Hot Springs, and numerous business blocks, including this one known as the Auditorium Block. C. S. Haire, whose firm of Link and Haire planned the 1910 additions to the state capitol, designed the building in 1905. Originally named The Florence after Hefferlin's wife, the front half includes four stories while the back portion has three. The ground-floor accommodated retail tenants; the upper front floors were furnished rooms. At the back, the second-story auditorium featured an elegant dance floor with a ceiling open to the third story. A third-floor gallery for 400 spectators overlooked the dance floor. The facility hosted many memorable dance parties. In the 1940s, the furnished rooms became the Auditorium Apartments. These were renamed The Wilmont, combining the names of Wilcoxson's Ice Cream, a nearby Main Street fixture, and Montgomery Ward, which then occupied the Auditorium Block's retail space. Flamboyant exterior details and original interior woodwork make this a Livingston treasure.

**Property:** Olaf W. Mattson Home

**Address:** , Livingston, Park

**Historic District:** Livingston Westside **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Olaf Mattson came to the United States from Sweden in 1861 at the age of twenty. He learned the trade of stonemason and migrated west. In 1882, he set out on horseback from Dakota for Montana. After his traveling companions were killed in a conflict with Indians, Mattson pushed on alone to homestead in the Yellowstone Valley. He married Swedish-born Mary Elason in 1886. The couple raised four daughters while Mattson farmed and operated a lime kiln business. The family moved into town in 1901, settling here where many of the neighbors shared the Mattsons' Scandinavian heritage. Under Mattson's skillful eye, a frame dwelling that stood on the lot before 1891 was likely incorporated into the present Queen Anne style brick home. Decorative bargeboards, stained glass, and a corner porch with turned posts and spindle railings preserve the home's period ambiance. The stone stable Mattson built behind the house remains today, converted to a residence. A .44 caliber bullet hole in the metal finial at the roof's peak and another near the front door are souvenirs of either a past celebration or a skirmish.

**Property:** 128 South Yellowstone Street

**Address:** 128 South Yellowstone Street, Livingston, Park

**Historic District:** Livingston Westside **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

This very early Westside home was the first on the block, built during the year Montana achieved statehood in 1889. Its anonymous builder, using locally manufactured brick, constructed the solid walls with three layers of masonry. The front porch with its lovely Queen Anne style trim preserves the home's picturesque nineteenth-century appearance. During the late 1920s, the residence became the Lott Birthing Hospital run by local nurse

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

Edith Lott. Maternity patients at that time were not usually kept in regular hospitals, and numerous “maternity houses” were scattered throughout Livingston. Nurse Lott, renowned for her compassion, never asked if a patient could pay.

**Property:** First National Bank / Masonic Building

**Address:** 121-129 W Park St., Livingston, Park

**Historic District:** Livingston Commercial Historic District **Building Type:** building contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:** Masonic halls

**Sign Text:**

The solid massing of this building follows a long Masonic tradition of erecting lodges whose size and bulk symbolize the permanency and stability of Masonry itself. Seemingly a colossal white stucco box, the building is actually comprised of three earlier structures: The First National Bank and the Fogarty Block (both built by real estate speculators in 1884) and a substantial rear addition constructed by the Masons in 1903. A 1954 renovation tied all three structures together by infilling windows and stuccoing the main façades, giving the edifice a striking, mid-century Modern appearance. On North Second Street, a large decorative panel reflects Masonic symbolism and rituals with its etched scenes of Egyptian builders, architectural elements, and hieroglyphs. Livingston Lodge #32, which organized in 1883 and was chartered in 1885, has met in the bank building since 1890. Since the 1903 expansion, which added a banquet room and two-hundred-seat meeting room, other organizations also met here, including the Elks, Eagles, Odd Fellows, and many trade unions. Businesses renting first-floor commercial space included Tolhurst Taxidermy—“Taxidermist for the tourist”—and Western Union.

**Property:** 122 South Yellowstone Street

**Address:** 122 South Yellowstone Street, Livingston, Park

**Historic District:** Livingston Westside **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** boardinghouses **Subject 2:** hotels (public accommodations)

**Sign Text:**

Hand-cut local sandstone showcases the fine craftsmanship of master stonemason Martin Rolfson, who built this Colonial Revival style home in 1900. A hipped roof with front-facing gable and off-center frame porch create balanced asymmetry, while a graceful semicircular window in the gable, denticulated eaves, and multi-paned windows with leaded beveled glass add rich elegance to the dignified stone façade. Interior finishing reflects discriminating turn-of-the-twentieth-century taste: Corinthian columns, maple hardwood floors, and oak pocket doors. One of the district’s five stone residences, the home has served primarily as a private dwelling, although for a time it was a boarding house and, more recently, an inviting bed and breakfast inn.

**Property:** Winslow Mercantile Company

**Address:** 103 & 105 S Main, Livingston, Park

**Historic District:** Livingston Commercial **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

George Winslow came to Livingston in the 1880s, secured employment at the Blue Front Grocery Store, and eventually bought the business. By 1903, Winslow had expanded his business in this commercial building. The two storefronts were long connected; the Blue Front Grocery was on one side while the mercantile was on the other. Surplus and large items were warehoused in the back. Winslow’s advertised stoves, ranges, farm implements, and shelf and heavy hardware. Livingston’s direct link to the railroad allowed the freshest produce and the grocery store offered all manner of “staple and fancy” goods. One Blue Front specialty in 1903 was “all kinds of Salt Fish.”



## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

As an outlet for Studebaker wagons and buggies, Winslow's catered to homesteaders whose rail travel terminated at Livingston. As in most commercial buildings in towns along the railroad, there were rooms for rent upstairs. The large second-floor window openings and the simple brickwork reflect architectural trends in vogue after the turn of the twentieth century.

**Property:** 810 East Callender Street

**Address:** 810 E Callender St, Livingston, Park

**Historic District:** Eastside Residential **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Blue collar railroad workers were the backbone of the Livingston community and many settled in this area opposite the Northern Pacific shops. Between 1900 and 1910, housing for workers began to fill this neighborhood to accommodate the railroad's expanding services. This cottage, built in 1907, is of balloon-frame construction, a method that replaced timber framing and made house construction much simpler. Cottages like this one could be built quickly. The wood siding in this case is covered in stucco while its basic four-square plan mirrors its neighbors. In 1910, newlyweds Iva and Milton Shadoan were tenants. Like many of his neighbors, Milton worked for the Northern Pacific. The John Topp family eventually owned this property as well as the other two homes on the half block, and rented them to family members. The railroad brought a diverse population and many immigrants made their homes in this neighborhood. Italian families especially put down roots here on Livingston's Eastside. Their descendants, including a longtime owner of this home, maintain their Italian heritage here in "Little Italy."

**Property:** 802 East Callender Street

**Address:** 802 East Callender St, Livingston, Park

**Historic District:** Eastside Residential **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

As the Northern Pacific Railroad made its push across the upper tier of the western states in the early 1880s, Livingston grew to serve its passengers and crews. Convenient to the shops and yards, the Eastside especially was home to the many blue collar workers the railroad employed. Carpenters and speculators built modest houses, often two or three at a time, to sell or rent to the large work force. Proximity to the railyards, safely accessed via an underground walkway, prompted many workers to settle along Callender Street. This home on its prominent corner has a square plan and a hip roof like its two nearest neighbors, reflecting the repetition common throughout Livingston's working-class neighborhoods. These simple cottages allowed owners to individualize them, adding awnings, or porches, or rear additions. By 1910, engineer Hilery J. Burchett was in residence here with his wife Esther and two-year-old daughter. Subsequent occupants included machinist Daniel Shawver in 1920 and fireman Charles Mikesell in 1930. All were employed at the Northern Pacific yards, underscoring the importance of the railroad to Livingston's economy.

**Property:** The Mayne Store

**Address:** 107 S. Main, Livingston, Park

**Historic District:** Livingston Commercial **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Historic maps of Main Street show that a vendor's stand occupied this lot in 1891. By 1896, this small but very fashionable commercial building added to Livingston's stylish downtown streetscape. The building is a fine

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

example of the Western Commercial style of architecture with its tall arched windows and characteristic recessed and transomed storefront. Beautiful decorative brickwork reveals the presence of skilled masons in Livingston before the turn of the twentieth century. Pioneer resident and businessman Alva B. Mayne, who operated The Mayne Store at this location at the turn of the century, stocked “everything in dry goods and shoes.” Mayne was described as a man of kindness and charity who made many donations to the city and county “without comment.” Upon his death in 1913, he was honored as someone who “...did more for the material benefit of the city... than any other one man.” The store continued to operate during the 1910s under the management of W. E. Weber.

**Property:** Donnelly-Van Brocklin Block

**Address:** 119 W Park, Livingston, Park

**Historic District:** Livingston Commercial Historic District **Building Type:** building contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:** E.P. Bassford

**Sign Text:**

St. Paul, Minnesota, architect E. P. Bassford designed three buildings side by side in 1884: The First National Bank Building on the corner, then two identical business blocks. The twin commercial buildings were constructed for members of the bank’s board of directors, John Donnelly and D. E. Fogarty. Mismanagement caused the bank to close within months of its completion, and scandal forced Fogarty out of town. Donnelly, however, continued to invest in Livingston, even as his work as a railroad contractor took him to Spokane. While the Masonic Temple subsumed the bank and the Fogarty Block, the Donnelly Block retains its original ornate brickwork, including one of two original pilasters. Barber Alexander Van Brocklin purchased the building in 1904. He remodeled, adding the prismatic glass transom, large display window, and a rear addition that doubled the building’s size. He also installed a stairwell to the basement where he, and then his son George, ran a barbershop. Recreational businesses were the main floor’s primary tenants, including the Wrangler Bar, featured in the 1975 film Rancho Deluxe.

**Property:** Cooke City General Store

**Address:** Main Street, Cooke City, Park

**Historic District:** **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

As the mining town of Cooke City flourished into the 1880s, temporary structures gave way to more permanent establishments. In 1886, John A. Savage and partner John Elder opened a general mercantile, whose long history reflects both the lean and prosperous times of this remote community. In 1907, ambitious proprietor George Allison remodeled and enlarged the establishment, covering the original rough board siding with a lavish display of pressed metal. Financial difficulties forced a sheriff’s sale of his inventory in 1908, but not before Allison had removed some of the fixtures and furnishings to equip his new store across the street. Allison’s new mercantile went bankrupt in 1911, and Nels and Elizabeth Soderholm, owners of the Cooke City Store (as it was called by this time), bought back and reinstalled many of its original fixtures. When Yellowstone Park opened to auto travel in 1915, the Cooke City Store prospered as a major source of supplies to seasonal visitors. The store’s present appearance, with its decorative pressed metal, oak shelving, floor-to-ceiling rolling ladders, and other turn-of-the-twentieth-century merchandising equipment, reflects the 1907 renovation. While this wonderfully intact mercantile recalls the small town general store of yesteryear, it is also an enduring survivor of Cooke City’s early boom period.

**Property:** Hefferlin Mercantile Company

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Address:** 102 N. Main, Livingston, Park

**Historic District:** Livingston Commercial **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial structures

**Subject 2:** mercantiles

**Sign Text:**

The look of Livingston's Main Street can be traced to Charles S. Hefferlin, who built at least twelve stores at different times along this thoroughfare. Friendly rivalry between Hefferlin and fellow developer A. W. Miles, who vied for similar importance of Second Street, engendered a lively debate over which would be the town's "main" street. The Hefferlin Mercantile Company opened in this building in 1888, operated by Charles' brothers John, William, and Orlando. Hefferlin's stocked a myriad of goods from caps and boots to furnishings and groceries. In 1903, the store advertised free gold gild chinaware with cash purchase; "Give us a call when you are wanting Groceries and get your dishes FREE." Tall windows, ornate brickwork, and a marvelous Coca-Cola advertisement painted on the side speak to a bygone era. Six tall chimneys and an outer stairway, now removed, once served the rooming house upstairs. The second-floor doorway remains intact. Since the 1930s, the Mint Bar has operated on the ground floor corner.

**Property:** Danforth Block

**Address:** 106 N. Main St., Livingston, Park

**Historic District:** Livingston Commercial Historic District **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** Commercial buildings

**Subject 2:** Western Commercial

**Sign Text:**

A wood-frame cigar factory and shooting gallery stood here in 1884. After fire destroyed the buildings in 1886, owner J. A. Danforth quickly rebuilt in brick. Four years later, he added a second story, but the addition was so heavy it damaged the first floor. In 1891, he remodeled, adding iron support columns to carry the weight. The flamboyant Gilded Age business block features a distinctively corbelled (projecting) brick cornice that evokes the top of a fortress. For much of the building's history, the second floor housed club and card rooms while a saloon filled the first floor. Bar owners included Democratic political "boss" John Hogan, who came to Livingston as a Northern Pacific "road master" and then went into sheep ranching. Hogan purchased the building in 1914, and his ghost sign still marks the north façade's second story. In 1927, during Prohibition, Herman Bauer, a union activist blackballed by the railroad as an "agitator," opened a soft drink parlor. Antlers Bar opened in 1937, four years after Prohibition's repeal. It operated until 1967.

**Property:** Hefferlin House

**Address:** 224 S. Yellowstone, Livingston, Park

**Historic District:** Livingston Westside **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Delicate turned spindles, classical columns, red-rippled stained glass, and a welcoming front porch evoke the gracious hospitality of a bygone era. City planners intended South Yellowstone Street, with its unusual width and spacious feel, as a haven for Livingston's prominent citizens. The Hefferlin family built this Queen Anne style home around 1891. Members of the large Hefferlin clan were pillars of Livingston's early commerce. Patriarch Charles Hefferlin built Livingston's grand opera house, organized the Merchants' Bank, and owned much local real estate. In 1901, William N. Hefferlin acquired the property, where he and his wife Kate raised their son Willard. William was a machinist by trade, but with his two brothers Orlando and John, he organized the Hefferlin Mercantile Company, a commercial cornerstone from the 1890s to about 1915. William and Orlando also founded the Old Faithful Camping Company, operating horse-drawn transportation in Yellowstone Park. In 1917, with the advent

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

of motorized travel, William returned to his first occupation. He worked as a machinist for the Northern Pacific until his death in 1935. Kate remained in residence for more than another decade.

**Property:** Commercial Historic District

**Address:** Historic District, Livingston, Park

**Historic District:** Commercial      **Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** historic districts      **Subject 2:** commercial structures

**Sign Text:**

As the Northern Pacific Railroad pushed its tracks westward in 1882, representatives arrived at this bend in the Yellowstone River to open a company store. They pitched a tent, stocking it with 140,000 pounds of goods hauled by ox-drawn wagons. Other merchants set up shop as track-laying crews spilled into Clark City. By 1883, Northern Pacific surveyors had platted a townsite nearby for their division headquarters, and Clark City's tents moved to the new town of Livingston. Named after a company director, Livingston's early Main Street was a muddy track bordered by wooden sidewalks, and the false-fronted wooden stores, offices, and many saloons did a lucrative business. Madame Bulldog's Bucket of Blood Saloon served a rowdy and transient clientele, among them the notorious Martha "Calamity Jane" Cannary. In 1885-86, fires destroyed much of downtown prompting reconstruction of more substantial, permanent brick buildings. Advertising painted on downtown buildings boasted all manner of goods and services while local cigar factories, mills, brickyards, and breweries further assured Livingston's survival. By the 1890s, the town had become essential to tourists as the departure point for Yellowstone Park. Finally, the construction of the grand Northern Pacific depot in 1901-02 displayed the railroad's promotion of Park tourism and commitment to Livingston's future.

**Property:** Judge Frank Henry Mansion

**Address:** 332 W. Callender St, Livingston, Park

**Historic District:** Livingston Westside      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:** hospitals (buildings for health facility)

**Sign Text:**

When the new state of Montana held its first elections in 1889, Frank Henry became judge of the sixth judicial district. He served on the bench until 1912, longer than any other Montana judge. Henry built this exemplary Queen Anne style residence, one of the first on the Westside, in 1892. Its complex roofline, irregular floorplan, wraparound porch, second-story engaged balcony, and elegant ornamentation demonstrate the talent of an unknown architect. In 1928, the home became a hospital, founded by Nurse Edith Lott, which served Livingston until 1955. Expanded and remodeled during the 1940s, the hospital featured thirty-two beds and averaged twenty-four patients daily. Now a private residence, this neighborhood landmark contributes greatly to the district's historic roots.

**Property:** KPRK Radio

**Address:** East of Livingston off US Route 89, Livingston, Park

**Historic District:**      **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

World War II put a damper on the growth of radio broadcasting by freezing expansion of existing stations and disallowing the licensing of new stations. When the freeze finally lifted, KPRK Radio in Livingston was one of the first new postwar stations to sign on in Montana. At 8:00 P.M. on January 9, 1947, more than twenty prominent local residents representing a broad spectrum of interests participated in the opening ceremonies with organizer/owner Paul McAdam and general manager Walter Carle. KPRK's new facility was completed in time for

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

the premier broadcast. Missoula architect William Fox designed the futuristic Art Moderne style station in 1946 to contrast with the town's many turn-of-the-twentieth-century brick buildings and affirm Livingston's connection with the latest technology. Its streamlined presence reflects the era's appreciation for technological progress. Horizontal banding, a rounded vestibule, and glass blocks highlight the striking façade, while a whimsical radio tower in miniature crowns the entry. KPRK's stylized call letters accented by lightning bolts were prominently featured on the front. Jack Hinman joined the station two weeks after its opening. Hinman, a familiar voice to Livingston residents, owned KPRK from 1963 until his death in 1977. His widow, Roberta, sold the station in 1978 to veteran Montana broadcaster Bill Holter whose daughter, Jann, became owner-operator in 1985. Still broadcasting under the same call letters on its original 1340 AM frequency, KPRK Radio continues to perform a service vital to a well-informed community from its longtime home.

**Property:** Josiah C. Vilas Residence

**Address:** 132 S Yellowstone Street, Livingston, Park

**Historic District:** Livingston Westside    **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures    **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The blocks between Clark and Calender streets were known as "Banker's Row" because three prominent bankers made their homes in the neighborhood. Josiah C. Vilas was one of these men directly involved in Livingston's financial welfare. Vilas came to Montana in 1881 and was the first postmaster at Gardiner appointed under President Grover Cleveland. He later settled in Livingston, entered the banking business in 1893, and was president of the National Park Bank of Livingston from 1908 to 1929. When Vilas died at 83 in 1937, he was still president of the bank's board of directors. This gracious two-story residence was home to Vilas and his wife, Ida, by 1904. One of seven homes in Livingston constructed of locally quarried stone, its fashionable façade and fine details showcase the work of skilled local craftsmen. Elegant classical columns, windows with diamond muntins and stained glass, and "eyebrow" windows with intricate leaded glass enrich the Queen Anne style home. Inside, handsome fluted columns, decorative wood finishing, and original light fixtures remain in pristine condition under conscientious owners.

**Property:** 315 W. Callender

**Address:** 315 W. Callender, Livingston, Park

**Historic District:** Livingston West Side    **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures    **Subject 2:** Italianate

**Sign Text:**

In 1891, only eight years after Livingston's founding, Julia Rolfson and her husband John, a stone mason, lived in this substantial, brick, cross-gable home. The Italianate style inspired the one-and-one-half-story residence's wide, overhanging eaves, decorative brackets, and narrow windows. Builders placed the kitchen at the back of the house under a separate, single-story roof, a common nineteenth-century practice to minimize fire risk. Bucket brigades could more easily reach a one-story roof, perhaps saving the main house in case of a kitchen fire. Locomotive engineer Thomas Manzer and his wife Mabel purchased the residence in 1898. The Manzers added the wraparound front porch and remodeled the back portion of the house between 1907 and 1921. Sometimes called "labor's aristocracy," locomotive engineers were the highest paid workers on the railroad; nevertheless, few could afford homes as elegant as this one. In 1925, fellow locomotive engineer Christy Teters and his wife Effie purchased the residence. To make ends meet during the Depression, the family took in roomers. Five roomers joined Christy, Effie, and their two children here in 1930, including two teachers at the nearby high school.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Property:** Goughnour Lumber Office

**Address:** , Livingston, Park

**Historic District:** Livingston Commercial **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:** lumberyards (buildings or lots)

**Sign Text:**

Emanuel Goughnour arrived in Livingston in late 1882 and formed a general lumber business. He also operated a saw mill on Willow Creek and a steam planing mill at the foot of Second Street. Between 1885 and 1891 he assembled six lots on Second Street and East Lewis, establishing the E. Goughnour Lumber Yard. This commercial structure, built in 1891, was his office. Its western vernacular style with fancy brickwork and arched windows reflects Livingston during this busy period. Goughnour's lumber yard eventually included four contiguous lots on Third Street. He expanded his lumber business and at various times operated sawmills on Mulherrin Creek (Cinnebar Basin) and in Big Timber, Castle, and St. Regis, Montana. Goughnour was also active in civic affairs. He helped establish the Livingston Board of Trade, served on the board of the National Park Bank, helped erect the first public school, and was a prominent Republican advocating the creation of Park County. In 1902 Goughnour sold his lumber business. It became the Livingston Lumber Company as advertised in a well-preserved ghost sign on the side of the building.

**Property:** Livingston Commercial Historic District

**Address:** , Livingston, Park

**Historic District:** **Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** historic districts **Subject 2:** commercial buildings

**Sign Text:**

As the Northern Pacific Railroad pushed its tracks westward in 1882, representatives arrived at this bend in the Yellowstone River to open a company store. They pitched a tent, stocking it with 140,000 pounds of goods hauled by ox-drawn wagons. Other merchants set up shop as track-laying crews spilled into Clark City. By 1883, Northern Pacific surveyors had platted a townsite nearby for their division headquarters, and Clark City's tents moved to the new town of Livingston. Named after a company director, Livingston's early Main Street was a muddy track bordered by wooden sidewalks, and the false-fronted wooden stores, offices, and many saloons did a lucrative business. Madame Bulldog's Bucket of Blood Saloon served a rowdy and transient clientele, among them the notorious Martha "Calamity Jane" Cannary. In 1885-86, fires destroyed much of downtown prompting reconstruction of more substantial, permanent brick buildings. Advertising painted on downtown buildings boasted all manner of goods and services while local cigar factories, mills, brickyards, and breweries further assured Livingston's survival. By the 1890s, the town had become essential to tourists as the departure point for Yellowstone Park. Finally, the construction of the grand Northern Pacific depot in 1901-02 displayed the railroad's promotion of Park tourism and commitment to Livingston's future.

**Property:** Ebert Ranch

**Address:** NE of Livingston, Livingston, Park

**Historic District:** **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:** ranches (agricultural complexes)

**Sign Text:**

Born in Vermont in 1842, Napoleon Ebert came to the West from Wisconsin in the 1880s, following the construction of the Northern Pacific railbeds. Ebert found his fortune here in the upper Yellowstone Valley, where he spent several months in a construction camp west of the new town of Livingston in 1883. This site became the

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

nucleus of his original 160-acre land claim. The land claim expanded to include several thousand acres, and Ebert and his sons eventually raised sheep and grew grain and alfalfa. Active in local politics, Ebert served as county commissioner and in the state legislature, defeating his friend, neighbor, and fellow sheepman John Harvat. This one-and-one-half-story home of wood and locally quarried sandstone was constructed as ranch headquarters in 1892. A large octagonal bay and irregular roofline combining a hipped roof and gabled dormers reveal influence of the Queen Anne style. These popular nineteenth-century elements, together with a wooden porch, box posts, and bead-jointed stonework, present an unusual and pleasing combination. The appearance of the ranch house today remains little changed from the 1890s, a sturdy reminder of the agricultural side of Livingston's heritage.

**Property:** Talcott House

**Address:** 206 South Yellowstone, Livingston, Park

**Historic District:** Livingston Westside **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Edward Talcott came West in 1883, settling in the newly platted town of Livingston. As the town grew, Talcott discovered his professional niche. By 1891, he had risen from manager of a mercantile to assistant cashier and then to president of the National Park Bank. Talcott served his adopted community well, both as an able financier persuading Eastern capitalists to invest in local concerns and as twice-elected mayor. This beautiful home, built on six city lots in 1903, reflects Talcott's respected position in the community. A two-and-one-half-story pedimented entry porch accents the symmetry characteristic of the Colonial Revival style, while multi-paned windows, fanlights, denticulated eaves, and a second porch with upper-story balustrade add sophisticated elegance. The home today appears much as it did in 1903, maintaining its reputation as a "...center of gracious and refined hospitality."

**Property:** Grabow Hotel

**Address:** 204 East Callender, Livingston, Park

**Historic District:** Livingston Commercial **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** hotels (public accommodations) **Subject 2:** apartments

**Sign Text:**

German immigrant William Grabow settled in the Livingston area in the early 1880s. There he established a flour mill and helped introduce the manufacture of brick. Between 1908 and 1911, William built this prominent corner building, where he and his wife, Elizabeth, established the Grabow Hotel in 1911. It was soon recognized as one of Montana's leading hostleries. Guests at the Grabow enjoyed "every known convenience," including hot and cold running water in each of the thirty rooms and a fine European style restaurant. William died at the height of the 1918 flu epidemic and Elizabeth, six feet tall and eminently capable, ran the business until 1936 when the hotel fell victim to the Great Depression. The once-popular hotel was sold at sheriff's sale and later converted to offices and apartments. In 1998, William and Elizabeth's grandchildren, sisters Patricia Grabow and Bonny Grabow Milligan, brought the building back into the family and began its restoration. They burned the 1936 sale document, the source of three generations of family grief, over the graves of their grandparents.

**Property:** H. Earl Clack Service Station

**Address:** Highway 2 (Southside), Saco, Phillips

**Historic District:** **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** service stations **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The service station industry was still in its infancy when businessman H. Earl Clack began building a network of

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

retail gasoline and bulk oil outlets across the northern plains into the Pacific Northwest. His company headquarters were in Havre, and the orange and green Hi-Power logo could be found during the 1930s in virtually every community along the Montana Hi-Line. Prior to World War II, Clack outlets in Montana comprised the most extensive network of retail stations marketing regionally produced petroleum products. Clack was an early proponent of functional gas station design and one of the first retailers to adopt the modern flat-roof that came into vogue in the early 1930s. A rounded canopy over the pump island and three sets of raised chevrons incorporated into the design are distinctive stylistic additions that established Clack's corporate identity. This vintage example, first operated by Walter "Timber" Woods in the early 1930s, is one of few remaining in the state. Husky Oil Company acquired Clack assets in 1955, and the station was vacant for several years after 1957. In the early 1960s, the Town of Saco leased the property. The community added a picnic shelter east of the office and repaired the inside facilities so that the former station could be used as a rest stop for weary US 2 travelers.

**Property:** Sleeping Buffalo Rock

**Address:** West of Saco, Saco, Phillips

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** site

**Subject 1:** site               **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

A nearby wind-swept ridge overlooking the Cree Crossing on the Milk River was the original resting place of this ancient weather-worn effigy. There the boulder sat as the leader of a herd of reclining buffalo envisioned in an outcrop of granite. Incised markings made in the distant past define its horns, eyes, backbone, and ribs. Since late prehistoric times, native peoples of the Northern Plains have revered the Sleeping Buffalo's spiritual power. Oral traditions reveal that it was well known to the Cree, Chippewa, Sioux, Assiniboine, and Gros Ventre as well as the more distant Blackfeet, Crow, and Northern Cheyenne. Stories passed from generation to generation tell how the "herd" fooled more than one buffalo-hunting party. While each tribe has its own culture and beliefs, native peoples share a worldview intertwining the sacred and secular. A Chippewa-Cree elder explained, "These rocks are sacred, just like our old people." In 1932, the Sleeping Buffalo was separated from its ridgetop companions. Relocated to the City Park in Malta, the Sleeping Buffalo was said to have been restless; stories are told of its changing position and nighttime bellowing. Moved to this site in 1967 from old Highway 2, the Sleeping Buffalo was later rejoined by the larger "Medicine Rock" in 1987, also collected near Cree Crossing. These timeless objects continue to figure prominently in traditional ceremonies. They provide a link to ancestral peoples of the high plains and the long ago time when, as one elder put it, "The power of the prairie was the buffalo."

**Property:** Valier Public School

**Address:** 820 3rd Street, Valier, Pondera

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** public schools (buildings)               **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

When the town of Valier was founded in 1909, a wood-frame schoolhouse was quickly erected to serve the children of the new community. Less than two years later, the school board moved to replace that school with a more substantial building. In 1911, with funds provided by the sale of bonds, the board commissioned prominent Great Falls architect George Shanley to design the new school. Sandstone was chosen as the building medium in order to keep the work local and avoid importing materials. Shanley selected a quarry site on Dupuyer Creek. William Young of Great Falls supervised the quarry, cutting and transporting the stone by horse-drawn wagon to the building site three miles away. Seven months later the new school opened with 121 students in attendance. The masterful stone architecture illustrates the high aspirations of Valier's citizens for the prosperity of their community. Notable features include a stuccoed bell tower with applied metal and wood detailing and a tall, half-



## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

circle window that lights the inner stairway. Originally four classrooms opened onto central corridors and served all grades. With the completion of a high school in 1918, Valier Public School became a grammar school that served the children of Valier until 1952.

**Property:** Cheever / Cain Ranch

**Address:** 8 Trails End Rd, , Powder River County

**Historic District:** **Building Type:** building | rural

**Subject 1:** ranches (agricultural complexes) **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

George and Martha Cheever arrived in Miles City with daughter Lucretia in 1889. There Martha and Lucretia taught music while George worked as an engineer for the state reform school. In 1905, Lucretia married Ernest Shy, and the newlyweds accompanied the Cheevers, then age 65 and 58, to a homestead along Little Pumpkin Creek. They brought with them Lucretia's piano, despite the difficulty of transporting it by team and wagon. George died in 1909, but with the help of her daughter and son-in-law, Martha successfully proved up. By 1912, the ranch boasted "an excellent house of 7 or 8 rooms ... a large barn, several sheds, a large cellar, outhouses, big substantial corrals, etc." Martha died in 1918, but the Shys continued ranching here into the 1930s. When advancing age slowed Ernest, he leased the ranch to his closest neighbors, Oscar "Sal" and Gladys Cain, who ultimately purchased the property. The Cains moved into the ranch house in 1943, adding two porches and, after electricity arrived in the 1950s, a bathroom. (Indoor toilets require electric water pumps to function). The Cains used, preserved, and sometimes updated other buildings that the Cheevers constructed, maintaining a living connection to the ranch's homestead origins. These buildings include a substantial barn, a milk shed (for milking dairy cows), a tool shop/granary, a loafing barn (which shelters livestock in bad weather), a garage, corrals, and a chicken house (which saw almost a century of use). More modern buildings store fuel, grain, and machinery, reflecting the evolution of this twentieth-century farmstead.

**Property:** Rialto Theatre

**Address:** 418 Main Street, Deer Lodge, Powell

**Historic District:** **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** theaters (buildings) **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

"What you hear and what you will see will linger in your memory like a beautiful dream," proclaimed the Powell County Press when the Rialto Theatre opened with a glittering production of the opera Robin Hood in May of 1921. The Butte architectural firm of Arnold and Van Hausen designed the theater for Jens Hansen, Sr., and Peter Pauty's partnership, the "Rialto Theatre Corporation." The theater is a classic example of Beaux Arts inspired American "movie palace" architecture. Light-colored walls of glazed brick and rich decorations including ornate Corinthian columns, terra cotta garlands, and a mansard roof with wrought iron balustrade are elements frequently incorporated into this eclectic genre. Exotic, romantic movie palaces like the Rialto were designed to enhance the magical spell of motion pictures. Inside are marble wainscoting in the foyer, intricate gilt moldings, silk tapestries, elegant lighting, and air-cushioned leather seats outfitted underneath with wire hat racks. Equipped with state-of-the-art projection equipment and a custom-built Cremona Theater organ for silent movies, the Rialto also possessed an ample stage, orchestra pit, and dressing rooms. The beautiful scenery backdrops made by the esteemed Twin Cities Scenic Studio of Minneapolis still grace the stage. The first "talking" picture was shown in 1929, and the stage has hosted countless high school plays, concerts, and other events. The partnership was dissolved in the 1950s but the Hansen family continued to operate this entertainment showpiece until 1995 when it was purchased by the non-profit Rialto Community Theatre, Inc.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Property:** Deer Lodge Central Business Historic District

**Address:** Historic District, Deer Lodge, Powell

**Historic District:** Deer Lodge Central Business **Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** historic districts **Subject 2:** commercial buildings

**Sign Text:**

Situated on a key gold rush trail, Deer Lodge grew into an important ranching and retail center during the 1860s. By 1869, the thriving village boasted grocery stores, harness and saddle shops, barber shops, photography galleries, blacksmiths, breweries, furniture and drug stores, a hospital, and even a bowling alley. An 1872 fire destroyed over twenty buildings in the commercial center. Today, only a few wooden false-front buildings, of the type that originally lined Main Street, still stand. Deer Lodge's economy received a boost with construction of the territorial prison in 1870, the opening of Montana's first college in 1878, and, particularly, the arrival of the Northern Pacific Railroad in 1883. The railroad made it easy to import large architectural elements, and soon flamboyant brick business blocks displaying pressed metal cornices, iron pilasters, decorative stone accents, and large plate glass windows lined Main Street. Deer Lodge boomed during the homesteading era, especially after 1908, when the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railway made Deer Lodge a division point on its transcontinental line. Population increased by a third between 1910 and 1920. The downtown grew in kind with such important buildings as the Hotel Deer Lodge and the Larabie Brothers Bank. Despite an agricultural depression, new landmarks joined the streetscape in the 1920s, including the Beaux Arts Rialto Theater. Today the business district's architectural mosaic testifies to a long line of foresighted developers, committed to making Deer Lodge the "the prettiest and most healthful little city in the West."

**Property:** Hartley's Photo Studio

**Address:** 504 Main Street, Deer Lodge, Powell

**Historic District:** Deer Lodge Central Business **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** photography studios (organizations) **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Minnesota-born Otho Hartley returned home from World War I and attended photography school in Illinois. He married in 1921 and the newlyweds moved to Deer Lodge to establish a photo shop. Hartley was the photographer and his wife Vera served as darkroom technician. Their business did well, and in 1927 the Hartleys constructed this commercial brick building as their studio. The Hartleys wanted their business to stand out, so they chose Mission style elements that are unique in Deer Lodge. A product of California, the Mission style gained momentum between 1890 and 1920, but by the time the Hartleys built their studio, its popularity had waned. Since the style was already out of the limelight, no other Mission style buildings appeared in Deer Lodge; the studio is one of Main Street's most distinctive elements. A graceful cement-capped parapet, ornamental inlaid brickwork, and arched window and doorway are Mission style characteristics. Otho Hartley retired in 1946, but for more than twenty-five years he and his wife documented their adopted community. Their work remains a valuable record of Deer Lodge's history.

**Property:** William K. Kohrs Memorial Library

**Address:** 501 Missouri Ave, Deer Lodge, Powell

**Historic District:** **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** libraries (buildings) **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Pioneer cattle baron Conrad Kohrs and his wife, Augusta, gave Powell County's first public library building to the

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

community of Deer Lodge in memory of their son, William, in 1902. William had gone to Columbia University in New York to study electrical engineering and died suddenly following an appendectomy in 1901. Conrad and Augusta Kohrs decided that a library would be a fitting tribute to him, since academic pursuits were integral to the community. A circulating library was established in Deer Lodge in 1869, and Montana Territory's first institute of higher learning, the College of Montana, was founded at Deer Lodge in 1878. Using the libraries donated by entrepreneur Andrew Carnegie as a model, the family spent \$30,000 constructing and furnishing the facility. Architects Link and Carter of Butte designed the building, drawing upon Classical Revival and Beaux Arts traditions. The use of the Beaux Arts style clearly points to the career directions of J. G. Link, later associated with the highly acclaimed Montana firm of Link and Haire. The design emphasizes contrasting textures of granite and Columbus sandstone, which conceal a superior inner brick, structural steel, and concrete framework. Dentils at the cornice line, a terra cotta tile roof, pedimented portico, and Ionic columns richly enhance the façade. The sumptuous interior features a central dome of colored glass, oak woodwork, and an exquisite memorial window titled "A Reading from Homer" given by William's uncle, John Bielenberg. The library symbolizes the intellectual aspirations of Deer Lodge in 1902 and the significance of the Kohrs family to western Montana.

**Property:** Mitchell Block

**Address:** 414-416 Main, Deer Lodge, Powell

**Historic District:** Deer Lodge Central Business      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings      **Subject 2:** boardinghouses

**Sign Text:**

Deer Lodge flourished after its designation in 1908 as a division point for the Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul and Pacific Railroad. Housing, dining, and entertainment were then at a premium. The Mitchell Block opened in 1913 to help fill these niches, offering a saloon, grill room, dining rooms, and private card rooms in its two storefronts. Nineteen "large and airy" second-floor sleeping rooms featured hot and cold running water while two shared bathrooms encouraged Saturday-night baths. H. B. Grant drew the plans for this handsome example of the Western Commercial style. The façade features inlaid squares of contrasting decorative brick, dentils and brackets at the cornice line, and cement coping. A central molded wood panel proclaims the date, 1913, and the name "Mitchell." Dr. Armistead H. Mitchell was a civic leader in the Deer Lodge community and co-founder of what became the state hospital at nearby Warm Springs. Dr. Mitchell died in 1898; his estate financed the Mitchell Block. By 1920, Kate McGillis, who later owned the building, lived upstairs with her two young sons and ran the lodging house.

**Property:** Larabie Bros. Bank

**Address:** 401 Main, Deer Lodge, Powell

**Historic District:** Deer Lodge Central Business      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings      **Subject 2:** banks (financial institutions)

**Sign Text:**

Wide cement pilasters, a gabled pediment above the entrance, large plate-glass windows, and a roofline balustrade distinguish the Larabie Bros. Bank. The building's solid construction, dignified façade, and luxurious interior—finished in marble and mahogany—assert stability, respectability, and permanence. Designed by Seattle architect Michael Beezer, the 1912 structure combined modern materials with neoclassical elements, presenting customers visual assurance that their money was safe. This was no small matter in the days before Federal Deposit Insurance. The reputation of the firm's owners offered additional security. The bank grew from a Virginia City mercantile business, whose principals included S. E. Larabie and W. A. Clark, later better known as one of the Butte copper kings. In 1869, the partners operated from an adobe building on Main and Cottonwood. The firm dissolved in the 1880s, with Larabie continuing to run the Deer Lodge bank from a brick building on this corner.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

Half of Montana's banks failed in 1923, but through prudent management, Larabie Bros. Bank survived the 1920s agricultural depression. Unable to comply with New Deal banking regulations, it closed in 1933.

**Property:** Safeway

**Address:** , Deer Lodge, Powell

**Historic District:** Deer Lodge Central Business **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Before 1910, grocery store customers typically purchased food on credit. They relied on clerks to fill their orders and delivery boys to carry their packages home. By 1915, "groceries" began experimenting with a new model that offered lower prices and wider selection to customers willing to serve themselves, pay cash, and forgo home delivery. Among the new stores was Safeway, whose name promoted the idea that paying cash was the "safe way to shop" because it kept families from going into debt. Safeway expanded rapidly, merging with several other chains in the 1920s. These included O. P. Skaggs Food Stores, which had introduced its "efficient service system" and "cash and carry" policy to Deer Lodge by 1928. Known variously as Skaggs, Skaggs-Safeway, and finally just Safeway, the chain served customers from this brick storefront into the 1940s. The long narrow building with centered recessed entry included a rear warehouse that reached to the alley. Built between 1912 and 1928, the storefront was remodeled after World War II when owners sought a sleek, modern look, characterized by aluminum framing and minimal ornamentation.

**Property:** Thompson Photo Shop

**Address:** 300 Main St, Deer Lodge, Powell

**Historic District:** Deer Lodge Central Business **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Hiding behind its brick façade is one of the oldest standing buildings in the business district. Before the Northern Pacific arrived in 1883, Deer Lodge builders relied on locally available materials. They constructed walls from wood or rubble stone and roofs from sapling poles and sod or dirt. The owner of this early single-story building modernized it once the railroad made commercially manufactured materials widely available. By 1884, he had covered the dirt roof with shingles and the original stone walls and roof gable with a brick false front (still visible from the alley). More often constructed of wood than of brick, false fronts added style to essentially utilitarian structures. By 1889, the Deer Lodge Drug Company occupied the building, selling "pure drugs, paints, oils, medicines, blank books, school books, cutlery, etc." Later owners expanded with rear additions and, sometime before the mid-1940s, once again updated the façade, installing new display windows. The building housed the post office in 1908, a grocery store between 1912 and 1929, and, after 1944, the Thompson Photo Shop.

**Property:** Deer Lodge Women's League Chapter House

**Address:** 800 Missouri, Deer Lodge, Powell

**Historic District:** **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Woman suffrage was at the political forefront when Edward Gardner Lewis, a St. Louis promoter and publisher of women's magazines, founded the American Women's League in 1908. Lewis saw the League as the perfect means to promote American womanhood and among several League institutions he founded was a correspondence school called the People's University. Chapter houses across the country served as University branches. League membership was achieved through magazine subscription sales or pledges of \$52 worth of Lewis' publications. In

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

exchange, the League constructed 39 local chapter houses in 16 states including two in Montana at Avon and Deer Lodge. Deer Lodge women's groups banded together to collect the requisite subscriptions and C. D. Terret donated the lot. This Prairie style bungalow, designed by St. Louis architects, was built according to one of five standardized chapter house plans. Wide bracketed eaves, heavy piers, and low side planters emphasize the horizontal orientation typical of the Prairie style, while exposed beams, dark moldings, and original stenciling highlight the Arts and Crafts interior. Financial reversals sent Lewis into bankruptcy as this house reached completion. Founding League member Alma Bielenberg Higgins appealed to her father, Nicholas J. Bielenberg, who purchased the mortgage. He donated the building to the women of Deer Lodge in memory of his daughter, Augusta, who died in 1901. The Deer Lodge Woman's Club has since maintained the facility, which has always served its intended function as a women's cultural, literary, and social center.

**Property:** National Bank

**Address:** 500 Main, Deer Lodge, Powell

**Historic District:** Deer Lodge Central Business    **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:**                      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The December 1910 issue of Moody's Magazine: The International Investors' Monthly predicted a strong future for Deer Lodge's new U.S. National Bank. The community only had one other bank, and the local economic forecast was bright, especially since the Milwaukee Railroad had recently situated its repair shops in Deer Lodge. With \$50,000 in capital and a brand new building, the bank confidently opened for business on December 7, 1910, offering "a complimentary remembrance to ... lady callers." "A first class barber shop with modern bath rooms" occupied the daylight basement, while the bank took up the first floor. Butte architect Herman Kemna designed the brick and concrete building, which was constructed at a cost of approximately \$12,000 and featured Greek Revival elements. Massive pilasters and a gabled pediment accent the cutaway corner entrance. A dropped wooden cornice wraps around the roofline on two sides. Asserting stability and permanence, the solid construction and dignified façade assured customers that their money was safe from both theft and bank failure—a tenuous assumption in the days before federal deposit insurance.

**Property:** N.J. (Nick) Bielenberg Home

**Address:** 801 Milwaukee Ave, Deer Lodge, Powell

**Historic District:**              **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures              **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Pioneer stockman, financier, and mining investor Nick Bielenberg came to Montana via Fort Benton in 1865. He, his brothers John and Charles, and half-brother Conrad Kohrs were all butchers by trade. They eventually settled in Deer Lodge. During the era of the Montana cattle barons, the brothers were involved in large-scale cattle operations. Among many business ventures, Nick Bielenberg established a wholesale meat business in Butte that became famous throughout the Northwest for pioneering cold storage methods. A prominent, progressive member of the Deer Lodge community, Bielenberg was one of the first members of the Montana Stockgrowers Association, brought some of the first livestock into the Deer Lodge Valley, and pioneered Montana's sheep industry. Bielenberg built this outstanding Craftsman style home in 1910, exchanging his elegant Victorian mansion for the less pretentious comfort of a "modern" bungalow. Its brick came by rail from Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and a contractor brought in from St. Paul, Minnesota, supervised the masons and carpenters. Broad sweeping eaves with projecting rafters, bands of windows, and the use of natural materials speak to the Craftsman style. Bielenberg's trophies, placed in the glassed-in gable upon completion of the home, add a personal footnote. Oak-framed arched doorways, handsome oak finishing, and original brass fixtures grace the

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

interior where the Bielenbergs entertained such famous guests as artist Edgar S. Paxson, Congresswoman Jeannette Rankin, actor Gary Cooper, and pioneer minister Reverend William Wesley Van Orsdel.

**Property:** Masonic Temple

**Address:** 501-503 Main, Deer Lodge, Powell

**Historic District:** Deer Lodge Central Business **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** fraternal lodges

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Seventeen charter members formed Kalispell Lodge No. 42 in 1892. Masons first held lodge meetings in several locations. Work began on this building in 1904, but when the Great Northern Railway moved its division point to Whitefish, the town paused and construction stopped. In a show of faith in the town's future, the Renaissance Revival style temple was completed in 1905. Designed by architect George Shanley, the lodge hall was upstairs while commercial tenants, including J. C. Penney's from 1924 to 1956, occupied the ground floor. During World War I, the Century Club ran a store in the basement. There, 115 "liberty-loving women"—including one who had also knitted during the Civil War—sewed and knit everything from surgeons' gowns and bed caps to sweaters and socks for men in the trenches. The store raised \$2,000 for the Red Cross. By 1922, Lodge No. 42 had grown to 400 members who filled the upstairs lodge hall. Despite some changes, the Renaissance Revival style upper story remains pristine, featuring grand arched windows with keystones, intricate brickwork, and ornamental concrete and rough-cut stone.

**Property:** Masonic Temple

**Address:** 501-503 Main, Deer Lodge, Powell

**Historic District:** Deer Lodge Central Business **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** fraternal lodges

**Subject 2:** commercial buildings

**Sign Text:**

The Ancient Free and Accepted Masons offered its members support, camaraderie, connections, and community. To the geographically mobile men of the Montana frontier, nothing was more valuable. In 1870, Deer Lodge became home to the fourteenth Masonic lodge chartered in the territory, and on February 22, 1870, some fifty Masons came together to dedicate its new hall. Lauded by the Deer Lodge newspaper as "the second best building on the west side of Montana," the two-story frame structure cost approximately \$6,000 to complete. Fifty years later, Masons replaced that early hall with this brick edifice. The three-story business block incorporates Renaissance Revival features, including an ornate cornice and recessed arched brickwork above the third-floor windows. A variety store, barbershop, telephone company, and other offices rented space on this prime downtown corner. To assure privacy during secret Masonic rituals, no windows look into the lodge's third-floor ceremonial rooms. Nearly 175 members attended the first meeting held here on March 16, 1920; weather and bad roads caused the Masons to delay the formal dedication ceremony, to allow "visiting brothers to come in their automobiles."

**Property:** Masonic Temple

**Address:** 501-503 Main, Deer Lodge, Powell

**Historic District:** Deer Lodge Central Business **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** fraternal lodges

**Subject 2:** commercial buildings

**Sign Text:**

Terra-cotta medallions sporting the Masonic emblem of square and compass and the words "Masonic Temple" centered beneath the cornice proudly announce this building's primary purpose. Chartered in 1898, the Forsyth

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

Masonic Lodge met in borrowed quarters until 1905, when enthusiastic Mason Hiram Marcyes included a lodge room in his new Commercial Hotel. Six years later, the Masons hired Miles City architect Brynjulf Rivenes to design this Beaux Arts style temple, constructed of local brick from Marcyes' brickyard and finished with a façade of high-fire Hebron brick trimmed with Bedford limestone. Rent from the first-floor storefronts subsidized the building's \$21,000 price tag. The second floor boasted the lodge room as well as a cloakroom and clubroom designed for members of the short-lived Forsyth Club. During the 1918 flu epidemic, clubrooms were converted into a temporary hospital. In 1921 the public library, founded by the Forsyth Woman's Club, occupied the space. While the library moved to the old courthouse in 1927 and into its current building in 1971, Masons continue to meet in this lodge, built by their predecessors in 1911.

**Property:** 304 Cottonwood

**Address:** 304 Cottonwood, Deer Lodge, Powell

**Historic District:** Deer Lodge Central Business **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** museums (buildings) **Subject 2:** fraternal lodges

**Sign Text:**

Only the jail, the county courthouse, the Episcopal Church, and a few Main Street businesses boasted two stories when this frame building joined their ranks, sometime before 1884. That year the false-front building served as a combination residence and carpentry shop; carpenters often constructed particularly elaborate dwellings to demonstrate their skill. Beginning in the 1880s, several additions expanded the building. A carpentry shop remained on the first floor in 1888, by which time the International Order of Odd Fellows had moved its lodge rooms to the second story. Like many fraternal organizations, the Odd Fellows preferred second-story meeting rooms to maintain privacy during secret rites. The fraternal organization continued to meet here into the 1940s. According to local legend, bootleggers operated a still here during Prohibition. At various times, the building also served as a Wells Fargo office, a saloon, an apartment, and a cold storage facility. In the 1970s and 1980s, it became home to the Powell County Museum, which added the two-story porch and balcony.

**Property:** William E. Coleman House

**Address:** 500 Missouri Ave, Deer Lodge, Powell

**Historic District:** **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Seventeen-year-old William Coleman joined the Union ranks of Ohio's volunteer infantry during the Civil War and then, drawn by tales of gold, came west with his brother Lewis in 1866. Although trained as a carriage blacksmith, Coleman preferred prospecting and mining until injury from a falling timber ended that career. Coleman came to Deer Lodge where he opened a general merchandise business in October of 1871. The store long prospered and Coleman became a vital community leader. He was instrumental in organizing the city water system and helped found the electric company, serving as its vice president. He and his wife Lucy constructed this Victorian-era showplace in 1891-1892. Designed by architects Ameryre and Thori of Superior, Wisconsin, and St. Paul, Minnesota, the magnificent home illustrates the Victorian passion for eclectic details. A wraparound veranda enhanced with spindlework, soaring paneled chimneys, decorative brickwork, and more than a dozen exquisite stained glass windows highlight the Queen Anne style mansion. Exceptional interior features include golden oak woodwork milled in Wisconsin, fireplaces with ornately carved mantles and imported tile, and an elegant paneled stairway richly embellished with spindles and coffering. A hand-carved pineapple newel post, the symbol of hospitality, welcomes guests. As the only well-preserved Victorian-era home in Deer Lodge, the Coleman House is a visual cornerstone of the community and a testament to the importance of its original owner.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Property:** Deer Lodge Post Office

**Address:** 314 Main, Deer Lodge, Powell

**Historic District:** Deer Lodge Central Business **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** post offices **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Banker S. E. Larabie financed the construction of this one-story brick post office in 1911. The Silver State pronounced it “the finest post office of any city of its size in Montana.” The interior featured finished oak, while protective wire screening from floor to ceiling separated the public from official business. Postmaster Ithel S. Eldred’s private office was at the front. Next were the money order, registered mail, and general delivery windows, separated by wire screen partitions. Receptacles for letters and large packages and a second private office were at the back. Three wired glass skylights and tall windows at the front and rear brought in plenty of natural light. An entry on the right provided access to the postmaster’s office; an identical door at the left served as the public entrance. Decorative brickwork, dentils, and a wooden cornice at the roofline preserve the original Western commercial style details. A small ancillary brick structure at the rear originally functioned as a bake house with a built-in oven. By the 1920s it served as a furnished room.

**Property:** Trask Hall

**Address:** 444 Montana Ave, Deer Lodge, Powell

**Historic District:** **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** universities (buildings) **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Eleven years before statehood, Deer Lodge became home to Montana’s first postsecondary school: the Montana Collegiate Institute. The nonsectarian, coeducational college offered both high school classes and a classical graduating course “as comprehensive and thorough as that of most seminaries and female colleges.” Architects H. DeWitt and Henry L. Gay of Chicago designed the institute’s first building. However, the building committee stripped the design of much of its ornamentation after it received the initial construction bids. The simplified hipped-roof, two-story Trask Hall was constructed in 1878 for approximately \$13,000, using locally quarried granite and bricks imported from Helena. The school folded under financial strain after only a year. Three years later, the Presbyterian Church acquired the institute and changed its name to the College of Montana. Nationally, Presbyterians saw the college as part of their campaign to civilize and Christianize the West, and a generous East Coast donor, Alanson Trask, paid the school’s remaining \$6,000 debt. Trask Hall was renamed in his honor. At its peak, the college boasted 15 faculty and 160 students, housed in two dormitories. Among the faculty was Theodore Brantly, who became chief justice of the Montana Supreme Court upon statehood. The school closed in 1900, unable to compete with the new, state-funded university system. It reopened under different management in 1906 only to close for good in 1917. In 1921, School District One purchased the campus, including Trask Hall. Nevertheless, Montana’s Presbyterians continued to support higher education, ultimately uniting with other denominations to found Rocky Mountain College in Billings.

**Property:** Yellowstone Bridge

**Address:** Milepost 1 on I-94 Frontage Road (Old US Highway 10), Fallon, Prairie

**Historic District:** **Building Type:** structure

**Subject 1:** bridges (built works) **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The Yellowstone River Bridge is the longest truss bridge built in Montana at 1,142 feet. It is also one of the few bridges built in Montana during World War II. During the 1930s, the Montana Highway Department welcomed an influx of New Deal money by embarking on ambitious road improvements, including building more than 1,000



## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

bridges. After the attack on Pearl Harbor, however, bridge building screeched to a halt, except on roads designated as critical to national security. These included U.S. Highway 10, which connected Seattle to Minneapolis. Thus, in 1943, when an ice jam destroyed the bridge at Fallon, forcing motorists and critical war materials to make a 55-mile detour, the Secretary of Defense ordered the highway department to build a replacement. Specifically designed for wide river crossings, the steel and concrete bridge is a continuous span Warren through truss structure. The trusses are arranged in a "W" configuration that identifies them as Warren trusses. The highway department used this style of bridge from 1933 to 1946. Despite authorization from the War Production Board, labor and steel shortages slowed construction, as did high water and inclement weather. The W. P. Roscoe Company of Billings hired men from the Crow Reservation to help pour the concrete piers and subcontracted with another company to erect the steel trusses. To spectators' amazement, crews worked high in the air, sauntering across I beams seventy feet above ground "as nonchalantly as if traveling on a broad highway." The bridge opened to much fanfare in late November 1944.

**Property:** St. Paul's Rectory

**Address:** 207 DeSmett, Hamilton, Ravalli

**Historic District:** Hamilton Southside Residential **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** churches (buildings)

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

In its earliest years, St. Paul's Episcopal Church held services twice monthly. The Reverend George Stewart traveled from Missoula to officiate. By 1900, the diocesan bishop recognized the need for a resident priest. The Reverend John Fogerty was called to serve the congregations of Hamilton, Darby, and Victor. Under his guidance, the Hamilton church grew to fifty-six communicants. In 1901, the congregation raised approximately \$1,200 to build a rectory for Fogerty. The one-and-one-half story, wood-frame residence, which supplied all the modern conveniences, originally sported a full-length front porch. The kitchen was placed under a separate one-story roof at the back of the house. This common, nineteenth-century building practice helped keep heat and soot away from the main house and minimized damage in the event of a kitchen fire. Clergy families resided in this building until the late 1900s, when it fell into disuse. In the 1980s, a group of ambitious parish men undertook the needed repairs, restoring the building, which became an adjunct to the church building.

**Property:** John Lagerquist Home

**Address:** 701 N 4th Street, Hamilton, Ravalli

**Historic District:** **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The transitional blend of Queen Anne and Classical Revival styles in this quietly elegant residence reveals the fine talents of its architect, builder and first owner. John Lagerquist, a native of Sweden, came to Butte in 1888, worked for the Anaconda Copper Mining Company, and came to Hamilton in 1891 in the employ of Marcus Daly. Though Lagerquist worked for Daly, even directing construction of the Daly home, he retained his professional independence, operating a lumber and contracting business in direct competition with Daly's powerful Anaconda Copper Mining Company. Lagerquist's meticulous craftsmanship is evident in many southside Hamilton residences, including this appealing northside home he built for himself circa 1907. A simple, rectangular floorplan and Doric columns are evidence of the newer Classical Revival style, while projecting bays and narrow lap siding reflect the Queen Anne style popular in the previous century. An exquisitely wrought scroll and spindle bracket detail in the peak of the gable and gable bays yields a perfect example of the eclectic Queen Anne ideal. A single-story wood-frame barn with hayloft doors, contemporary with the home and once common in Hamilton's turn-of-the-twentieth-century neighborhoods, is today a fine and rare reminder of the era before the automobile.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Property:** El Capitan Lodge

**Address:** Access Rd 1111 on the North Shore of Lake Como, Hamilton, Ravalli

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** campsites (recreation spaces)           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The Hamilton Hikers' Club built this lodge in 1935-36 as a destination and meeting place for their newly formed hiking, skiing, and camping group. Named after one of the highest peaks in the Bitterroot Range, El Capitan Lodge sits on Bitterroot National Forest land here at the edge of Lake Como, close to the Selway Bitterroot Wilderness. This site was chosen for its beauty and remoteness, and Hamilton Hikers' Club members were careful to keep disturbance of the natural setting to a minimum when erecting the building. They fashioned locally gathered stone and logs into this Rustic style lodge with clean simple lines that blend with the natural environment and reflect the group's conservation ethic. The Lake Como area has always been a significant wildlife corridor and was an important hunting ground for Native American people. Over the years, the lodge has been used as a community retreat and has served scientific groups, photo clubs, and many other area organizations. Hamilton Hiker's Club has actively used and maintained El Capitan Lodge since its construction during the Great Depression.

**Property:** Daly Mansion (Riverside)

**Address:** 251 Eastside Hwy, Stevensville, Ravalli

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Riverside served as the summer residence of Margaret Daly, widow of copper magnate Marcus Daly, from its completion in 1910 until her death here in 1941. Daly himself had begun buying Bitterroot Valley land in 1887, eventually owning 28,000 acres. After Daly's death in 1900, Mrs. Daly had Riverside constructed and managed local family properties and the family syndicate that oversaw Daly interests. This home is a unique Montana example of early-twentieth-century revival styles that successful capitalists used to display their wealth. Because the Panic of 1893 destroyed many mining-based fortunes here, and out-of-state investors financed later mining ventures, grand homes were a thing of Montana's past by the time Mrs. Daly constructed Riverside. Missoula architect A. J. Gibson designed this house in the Georgian Revival style. Although comparatively restrained for mansions of this period, the house's outstanding features include its monumental, classical portico, symmetrical façade, hipped roof, and balustrated roof deck. Today, the appearance of the interior decoration and professionally landscaped grounds is virtually unchanged from that of 1910.

**Property:** E.G. Ellis House

**Address:** 801 N 3rd St, Hamilton, Ravalli

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The end of the nineteenth century brought a shift in architectural trends from the highly decorative Queen Anne style to the simpler, more symmetrical forms of Colonial Revival. This gradual transition often imposed a blending of the old and the new styles on turn-of-the-twentieth-century architecture. This interesting two-story residence is an example of the transitional Queen Anne/Colonial Revival style. The house is believed to have been built in 1900 and was originally a one-story home. Dr. E. G. Ellis, a dentist with offices on Main Street, resided in the home with wife Matilda and sister-in-law Bessie Rudolph. Several owners later, circa 1908, the addition of a second

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

story gave the home its present tall, vertically proportioned appearance. A full wraparound front porch supported by wooden columns with small scroll brackets and a fancy cut spindle railing reveals characteristic Queen Anne elements. Vertical corner board trim, return gable ends, and symmetrical placement of the windows indicate the more modern Colonial Revival influence. An interesting feature of this transitional home is the exterior placement and construction of the fireplace. The protruding stucco and brick exterior chimney is of the kind used on log cabins, but not commonly on larger frame residences.

**Property:** Martha J. Allison-Reinkeh House

**Address:** 207 Adirondac, Hamilton, Ravalli

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** photography studios (organizations)           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

John and Martha Allison came to Montana from Philadelphia in 1882 and established a photographic studio in Missoula. In the 1880s Mrs. Allison acquired land through purchase and homestead claim north of the newly platted town of Hamilton. Mrs. Allison began construction of a house in 1889 on the property, and in 1891 and 1894 she divided her land into lots, platting the Riverview Addition and Subdivision. Circa 1895, Mrs. Allison added a cross-axis section on the east to her Queen Anne style dwelling. One of Hamilton's earliest homes, this combination Queen Anne/vernacular style farmhouse is a reminder of the early agrarian settlement of the Bitterroot Valley. Its rather odd placement on the rear of the lot suggests that streets and blocks were platted at a later date around it. A steep irregular roofline, decorative bargeboards, fishscale shingles, and angled bay reflect the Queen Anne style while corner boards, eave returns, a hipped roof over the porch, and a Georgian style relief-paneled door illustrate the eclecticism so favored during the Victorian era. Mrs. Allison-Reinkeh, now remarried, sold her interest in the Riverview properties before realizing substantial profit, but the New York-born homesteader left an indelible mark on Hamilton in the Eastern street names of her Riverview blocks.

**Property:** Stevensville Grade School / United Methodist Church

**Address:** 216 College, Stevensville, Ravalli

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** public schools (buildings)           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The evolution of this architectural landmark reflects the growth of both education and religion in Stevensville, documenting the stability and changing needs of the community. Children had been attending classes at the Henry Buck home when Stevensville's first permanent facility opened here in 1885. The school began as a two-story, cross-shaped Italianate style building, which featured tall corniced windows, two entrances with single-story porches, and a lantern-style ventilator atop the roof. The school grew with its enrollment: 325 students warranted a two-room addition in 1906, and by 1910 a full high school curriculum had been added. But by the 1920s, the building had outlived its usefulness as a school. Purchased and remodeled in 1928 by the combined congregations of the North and South Methodist-Episcopal Churches, the new façade transformed the building and its complex additions into a more unified whole. A monumental portico with graceful Tuscan columns replaced the original porches and entrances, a large domed cupola displaced the ventilator, and the once-plain windows were embellished with exquisite stained glass. Today the United Methodist Church is Stevensville's finest example of the Classical Revival style, a well-maintained community treasure that is rich in history.

**Property:** Rocky Mountain Laboratories Historic District

**Address:** 903 South 4th Street, Hamilton, Ravalli

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Historic District:** Rocky Mountain Laboratories **Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** historic districts

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Rocky Mountain spotted fever (RMSF), or "black measles," fatal in eighty percent of adult cases, plagued early-day settlers in the Bitterroot Valley. In 1906 Howard Ricketts identified ticks as carriers of this disease. State efforts to control the insects were only partially successful, and in 1921 the U.S. Public Health Service agreed to fund a vaccine development program. An abandoned schoolhouse across the river was converted into a laboratory where Drs. Ralph R. Parker and Roscoe Spencer developed an effective RMSF vaccine. Its manufacture required large-scale tick rearing under makeshift conditions, which resulted in tick-related illnesses among the technicians and two deaths from lab-acquired RMSF. In 1927, the State Legislature authorized construction of a new research facility. Despite local opposition, this laboratory opened in 1928 and soon gained national significance when RMSF was diagnosed in the eastern United States. In 1938 Dr. Harold Cox developed an improved method for RMSF vaccine production in embryonated chicken eggs. By 1940 the facility included ten buildings, and research was expanded to include the study of other insect-borne diseases. During World War II, the lab manufactured typhus and yellow fever vaccines for the military, producing and distributing 3,360,000 doses at peak production in 1945. After World War II, the need for RMSF vaccination diminished with the discovery of broad-spectrum antibiotics. The death of Dr. Parker in 1949 brought the pioneer era of RMSF research to a close, but Rocky Mountain Laboratories continues to pursue research on immunologic, allergic, and infectious diseases.

**Property:** Fort Owen State Monument

**Address:** 0.5 Miles NW of Stevensville, Stevensville, Ravalli

**Historic District:** **Building Type:** structure

**Subject 1:** forts **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Fort Owen's log and adobe walls witnessed dramatic changes as the Bitterroot Valley emerged from remote wilderness to settled agricultural community. The Jesuit fathers who had established St. Mary's Mission nearby in 1841 closed their doors in 1850, and trader John Owen purchased the property. Owen operated and expanded St. Mary's mills, cultivated the fields, enlarged the fort, and kept a well-stocked trade room, thereby transforming the mission compound into a vibrant trading post complex. A man of many talents, Owen also served as agent to the Flathead Nation from 1856 to 1862, and for a time the fort was agency headquarters. Owen and his Shoshone wife, Nancy, created a refined and comfortable haven in the vast timberland, extending gracious hospitality to Indians, traders, trappers, missionaries, settlers, and travelers. With the 1860s came gold-seekers and a fresh clientele, but the newly completed Mullan Road by-passed Fort Owen and trading dwindled. Upon Nancy's death in 1868, Owen's mental health deteriorated. In 1872, Fort Owen was sold at sheriff's sale to Washington J. McCormick, who operated the fort's mills until 1889. In 1937, the Fort Owen site was donated to the State of Montana, and the donors sponsored stabilization and partial reconstruction of its sole remaining building, the East Barracks. Archaeological investigations initiated in 1957 by the University of Montana continued through 1980, exposing the fort's walls and foundations. Since 1971, the Stevensville Historical Society has been instrumental in interpretive reconstruction, continued stabilization, and maintenance of this noteworthy site.

**Property:** St. Paul's Episcopal Church

**Address:** 600 S 3rd St, Hamilton, Ravalli

**Historic District:** Hamilton Southside Residential **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** churches (buildings) **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Reverend George Stewart designed this English Gothic church, constructed in 1899. Congregant Lena Crutchfield

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

organized numerous pancake suppers, ice cream socials, and offered generous donations to make this historic landmark a reality. Margaret Daly, wife of copper king and lumber baron Marcus Daly, was also a prominent financial contributor. The wood-frame structure incorporated elements typical of British ecclesiastical architecture, and its pointed-arch windows, decorative wooden tracery, steeply pitched rooflines, and square towers allude to the denomination's English roots. The interior ceiling is intended to remind worshippers of an inverted Noah's ark. The towers, originally asymmetrical, were modified in later years. The stained glass windows were more recently added. In 1941, Mrs. Daly's funeral, one of the largest ever held in the vicinity, took place in this building. Many businesses closed to allow community members to attend. Today, St. Paul's Episcopal Church continues its long tradition of providing a source of Christian fellowship to the community of Hamilton.

**Property:** Jennie Clark House

**Address:** 423 Pine St, Stevensville, Ravalli

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Stevensville experienced an intense period of economic growth and land speculation fueled by the "apple boom" of 1905-1922. This period in the Bitterroot Valley brought massive subdivision of agricultural lands, ambitious irrigation schemes, and aggressive marketing to entice homesteaders to settle on 10- to 20-acre orchard tracts. Prominent businessman and rancher George May joined the speculative fervor by subdividing a portion of his own 3,000-acre holdings. The parcel of land containing this lot was part of the May Addition, purchased by Emily E. Lepley in 1905 and officially added to the city plat in 1907. Circa 1914 the lot, further subdivided and including a newly built house, was purchased by widow Jennie Clark. This modest residence provides a very fine example of the Craftsman style, a design that was both practical and economical for the early middle-class residents like Jennie Clark. A covered porch with gabled roof supported by square posts on cobblestone bases enhances the simple lines. A gently sloped roof and bands of shingle and clapboard siding give the whole a horizontal emphasis typical of the Craftsman style. In 1931, Jennie's daughter and heir, Genevieve, sold the property to Oscar and Mildred Enebo, and today this charming home remains in the Enebo family.

**Property:** City Hall

**Address:** 119 S 3rd St, Hamilton, Ravalli

**Historic District:** Hamilton Commercial   **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** city halls           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Town halls originated in twelfth-century Italy, where bells were rung to call public assemblies. Missoula architect A. J. Gibson's city hall design references this history. Allusions to Italy include such Italian Renaissance features as a low-pitched hipped roof, wide eaves, an arch above the front door, and a symmetrical façade. The prominent bell tower, common to American town halls, symbolizes the significance of democratic assembly. The building was designed in 1906 to house city offices, the fire department, and the public library. Originally, two sets of large bay doors, used for horse-drawn fire wagons, flanked the front entrance. Small communities frequently combined city services under one roof, but multiple use was not always ideal. Hamilton library patrons, for example, sometimes complained about the smell of horses. The library moved to a new facility in 1914, and in 1940 Hamilton remodeled the city hall/fire station, adding a truck bay to the building's south side. While city offices moved to South Second Street in 1990, the fire department continues to operate from its original home.

**Property:** W.T. Caple House

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Address:** 210 Church Street, Stevensville, Ravalli

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The Caple family came to the Burnt Fork in 1884 from Webster County, Missouri. Caple became a successful rancher and real estate agent, profiting from brisk land speculation in the Bitterroot Valley during the early 1900s. Upon retirement from ranching, the Caples moved to Stevensville to supervise the building of their new home in town. Completed in 1909, the Stevensville Register proclaimed the Caples' new residence one of the town's most attractive and nicely furnished. The two-story Dutch Colonial style home features a gambrel roof with cross gambrel dormers and claims a prominent place in this residential neighborhood. Tuscan columns and decorative railings grace the full-width porch, inviting entry through the main door, which is beautifully glazed with oval beveled glass. Unusual and elegant pressed hardwood moldings around the doors and windows enhance the interior. The home was designed by W. R. Rodgers, a prominent architect-builder, who was largely responsible for the promotion and use of decorative cast concrete block throughout Stevensville during 1906-1916. The rock-faced cast concrete block foundation here reveals Rodgers' specialty. Though the Caples soon returned to rural life on their son's nearby ranch, this significant residence verifies the distinction of its well-respected first owners.

**Property:** Charles Granke Home

**Address:** 406 So 7th St, Hamilton, Ravalli

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

In 1899, Charles W. Granke left his family in Wisconsin and set out to establish a new and better life for them elsewhere. Charles' travels led him to Montana, where he found employment with the Anaconda Copper Mining Company and settled here in Hamilton. A year later, Charles' wife and three children made the long and hazardous journey to their new Montana home. Charles was one of two sawyers employed at the company's sawmill and held that position until the mill shut down in 1915. He and his family, however, remained in Hamilton. The company built this Queen Anne/Colonial Revival cottage for which Charles obtained title in 1906. This charming home offers an unusually well-preserved example of the turn-of-the-twentieth-century transition between these styles. While symmetrical lines, vertical corner board trim, and return gable ends reveal influence of the newer Colonial Revival style, the home is rich in Queen Anne detailing: scroll brackets, abundant decorative molding, and turned spindles above the porch. The cutaway porch itself is of special interest because it is a feature that rarely survives intact in Montana, where enclosures offer added weather protection.

**Property:** Popham Ranch

**Address:** 460 NE Popham Lane, Corvallis, Ravalli

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** ranches (agricultural complexes)           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

This ranch embodies the history of progressive agriculture in Montana. Missourian John W. Popham brought his family to a homestead covered with sagebrush and bitterroot. They gradually cleared the land, did subsistence farming, and supplemented their diet with fish, grouse, and wild rabbit. Son Edward claimed an adjoining 160-acre homestead and joined his father and other settlers in surveying and digging the "Surprise Ditch" to bring irrigation water from the Bitterroot River. John and Edward, with other community leaders, helped found Corvallis's Presbyterian Church and Odd Fellow's Lodge. In 1909, Edward was a leader in forming the Farmer's Mutual Fire Insurance Co., which is still active. Edward Popham pioneered mechanization of agriculture in the

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

area, which allowed farmers to increase their land holdings and raise cash crops. In 1932, his son Clarence took over the farm operation and further mechanized it, making it possible to grow sugar beets and pears. Continuing the family tradition, Clarence Popham made many contributions to civic and governmental endeavors, including the Bitter Root Valley Resource Conservation and Development Project.

**Property:** St Mary's Mission Historic District

**Address:** , Stevensville, Ravalli

**Historic District:** St Mary's      **Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** historic districts      **Subject 2:** churches (buildings)

**Sign Text:**

Jesuit priests and lay brothers founded St. Mary's Mission—the first mission in the Northwest—near this site in 1841. The Jesuits closed the mission in 1850, returning in 1866. For the next quarter century, they helped the Salish adapt from hunting to farming as the buffalo disappeared. The priests helped support and advocate for the Salish people and provided medical services and spiritual guidance to both Indians and whites. When the U.S. government forced the impoverished Salish to leave their beloved Bitterroot Valley for the Flathead Reservation in 1891, St. Mary's closed. An influx of homesteaders prompted the creation of St. Mary's Parish in 1910, and the old mission church reopened. In 1911, the Salish returned to St. Mary's to celebrate their Bitterroot heritage, a tradition they still maintain. The historic district includes the 1866 church and pharmacy, designed by the multi-talented Father Anthony Ravalli. Ravalli, also the architect of Idaho's famed Cataldo Mission, employed log building techniques, ingeniously adapting European ecclesiastical architecture to the remote frontier. Chief Victor's log home and the Indian burial ground recall the Salish presence. Adjacent is St. Mary's Cemetery and Father Ravalli's final resting place. Two gnarled apple trees provide living evidence of the Jesuits' agriculture. The new St. Mary's, built in 1954 with donations from Montana and beyond, represents an unprecedented preservation effort to save the endangered mission church from deterioration through constant use. Today, St. Mary's churches—old and new—define the historic complex as a place of significance to both Indian and white communities.

**Property:** Whaley Homestead

**Address:** Lee Metcalf National Wildlife Refuge, Stevensville, Ravalli

**Historic District:**      **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:** homesteads

**Sign Text:**

Gold strikes at Bannack and Alder Gulch brought Irish immigrant Peter Whaley to Montana in the 1860s. Whaley's wife and nine children shared his adventures, including his service as the first agent on the Flathead Reservation, until the family settled here on a desert land claim in 1877. The house, built circa 1885, survives as an outstanding example of vernacular frontier architecture. Weatherboard siding conceals a massive complicated understructure of square-hewn logs. Vergeboards with a hand-carved clover motif, tall pedimented windows, and porches (originally adorned with chamfered columns and spool-like ornamentation) reveal frontier elegance achieved through resourceful adaptation of crude techniques and limited materials. The Whaleys farmed and raised livestock until 1905 when they sold the property to a short-lived horse breeding operation. At the height of the "apple boom" in 1909, the Bitterroot Valley Irrigation Company purchased the homestead, planting the upper fields with MacIntosh apple trees and gooseberry bushes for nursery stock. In 1921, new owners Fred and Anna Hagen returned the homestead to a self-sufficient farm, raising corn, potatoes, hogs, and dairy cows. After more than fifty years of farming, the Hagens sold the land and their son retained life use of the house. He remained here until 1988. Though the land again belongs to nature, the house, several old foundations, and the outbuildings chronicle the agricultural development of this fertile valley.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Property:** Othar C. Wamsley House

**Address:** 200 N 5th St, Hamilton, Ravalli

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

In 1905, a group of Bitterroot Valley residents combined with Chicago financiers and began digging a seventy-five-mile irrigation ditch along the valley's east side. The plan was to create an apple-growing center of national importance. Although the "apple boom" eventually left a legacy of abandoned apple orchards scattered throughout the valley, between 1908 and 1912 Big Ditch developers heavily advertised and promoted the venture. "Boosterism" brought homesteaders and fortune-seekers to Hamilton and vicinity. One of these newcomers was Spanish American War veteran Othar C. Wamsley, a carpenter and builder by trade, who arrived in Hamilton in 1908. Wamsley built local homes during his ten-year residency, but most noteworthy among them is this Hamilton landmark, which he built for himself in 1909. The octagonal-shaped residence is a rare twentieth-century example of an unconventional architectural form that gained limited popularity across the nation in the mid 1800s. Wamsley House is one of only three residential examples found in Montana. The interesting design incorporates Doric columns and other classical elements ornamenting the wraparound porch as well as a right-angled bay above the main entry suggesting the Prairie style, a solidly American architectural tradition. Wamsley's choice of the octagonal house form was a statement of his own courageous initiative to be different and experiment with the unusual. This individualistic attitude mirrors the speculative atmosphere that characterized Hamilton during the height of the "apple boom."

**Property:** Lancaster House

**Address:** 407 E 3rd St, Stevensville, Ravalli

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

In 1905, a devastating fire swept through Stevensville destroying many of the town's vulnerable wooden buildings. The tragedy prompted local officials to pass an ordinance requiring architects and contractors to build with non-flammable materials. Consequently all concrete block buildings in Stevensville date from the post-fire period between 1906 and 1916. Concrete block construction was a new technology at the time, but inexpensive on-site production was easily accomplished with a minimum of special equipment. D. L. Cannon, who lost his own general store in the fire, began Stevensville's first concrete blockworks in 1907. Along with builders W. R. Rodgers and Lon Young, Cannon did much to promote the new building method. This fine example of early-twentieth-century cast-concrete construction was built by Cannon in 1909. The L-shaped, pyramidal-roofed cottage of vernacular design well illustrates Cannon's excellent craftsmanship. Two large cottage windows with leaded glass and concrete lintels add to the appeal of this well-preserved home. Former Stevensville postmaster and Fort Owen Grange officer John Lancaster purchased the newly constructed modern home in 1909. Upon his death three years later, the property was bequeathed to James Lancaster, and the home remained in the family until 1928.

**Property:** First Baptist Church

**Address:** 402 Church St, Stevensville, Ravalli

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** churches (buildings)           **Subject 2:**



## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

### Sign Text:

The Stevensville Baptist congregation first organized as the Etna Baptist Church of Christ at the nearby Etna schoolhouse in 1882. In 1884, the growing membership purchased land in Stevensville and hired talented Missoula architect Thomas W. Longstaff to draw the plans for a church. The building, completed in 1886 at a cost of \$2,904.39, is an excellent example of architect Longstaff's adaptation of the Stick Style. Clapboard siding with decorative vertical, horizontal, and diagonal accents characterize this style, uncommon in Montana. The angles created through external ornamentation are intended to mimic the building's structural skeleton. The classical symmetry of the floor plan and window placement, lavish Queen Anne style details including fish-scale shingling and beautiful stained glass, and the stick ornamentation blend to produce a statement of surprising elegance for a modest rural church. By 1887, all building expenses had been paid and the congregation had bought an organ. The church included Sunday school and baptismal services in the Bitterroot River. The bell, purchased by the membership from Sears Roebuck for eight dollars, was installed in the square bell tower in 1901. This architectural landmark, important for its association with one of Montana's most respected architects, is equally significant for its long service as the religious and social center of the local Baptist community.

**Property:** Thornton Hospital

**Address:** 107 E Third Street, Stevensville, Ravalli

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** hospitals (buildings for health facility)           **Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

Amidst economic prosperity brought on by the local "apple boom," Stevensville physician Dr. William Thornton established this surgical center, then the only such facility in the entire Bitterroot Valley. Completed in 1910, builder W. R. Rodgers used brick and cast concrete of his own manufacture to construct the splendid Classical Revival style building. Dormers, arched windows, Tuscan columns, and a wraparound two-story veranda (originally surrounded by a spindled railing) typify the simple, elegant style. Modern equipment included a pressure sterilizer and photo X-ray machine. The hospital engaged private nurses to care for the patients. Surgical procedures were performed on the second floor, seventeen patients' rooms were on the second and third floors, and the first floor housed Dr. Thornton's office and family living quarters. In 1917, Dr. Thornton moved to Missoula where he continued to make lasting contributions to the quality of health care in Montana. New owner Dr. P. S. Rennick remodeled the hospital in 1928, enlarging the sun porch and altering the west dormers. The medical center continued under Dr. Rennick's management until his death in 1939. The closure of this landmark medical facility illustrates the loss suffered by rural communities as small hospitals could no longer compete with urban centers in the age of specialized medicine.

**Property:** John C. Emhoff House

**Address:** 401 Church Street, Stevensville, Ravalli

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

In 1901, John Emhoff purchased this property and built a one-story home for himself, his wife, daughter Elizabeth, and twin daughters Lois and Lora. John Emhoff was locally well known as owner and proprietor of the Stevensville Stage and Transport Company, the only outfit operating between the railroad depot and the central business district. In 1904, Emhoff commissioned local builder-architect W. E. Godfried to expand the home. Godfried added a second story to the east gable and north side, shaping the residence to its present appearance. This vernacular form, known as the gabled ell, was popular in rural areas across the country during the late 1800s and early 1900s. Delicate ornamentation in the spindle-and-scroll decorated gables, the turned posts with decorative

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

brackets and spindles on the porch, and a leaded glass transom above a cottage window exhibit popular Queen Anne elements held over from the late 1800s. The clean lines, evenly spaced windows, and corner boards reveal newer classical tendencies. These features, typical of turn-of-the-twentieth-century transitional Queen Anne/Classical Revival styles, serve to anchor the residence to the streetscape of this quiet neighborhood. Lora and her husband, Ray Golder, made the residence their home, and ownership today remains in the Golder family.

**Property:** John McLaughlin House

**Address:** 105 Main St, Stevensville, Ravalli

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Considerable skill made up for a lack of capital when Scottish-born John McLaughlin arrived in Stevensville in 1895. He immediately began to practice his trade as a blacksmith, setting up shop across the street from this property, which he purchased a few years later. In 1898 McLaughlin married, and in 1899 he and his bride, Florence, moved into this newly built residence, where they remained for more than forty-five years. The one-story frame home is a variation of the pyramidal cottage, a very simple architectural form popular at this time. The Register reported in 1909 that the McLaughlins' unpretentious home was one of the town's most pleasant, spacious, and well arranged, and the nine lots upon which it rested included "fine shrubbery and a beautiful lawn, as well as good orchard and garden." McLaughlin did his part "to make the town look more progressive and modern" with wood sidewalks and later a poured concrete walk at the front. A full-width porch was added in 1912 and the back extension in 1927. This well-liked Stevensville booster was not only a fine blacksmith but also an accomplished preacher at the Methodist-Episcopal Church, South. Dubbed the "jolly smithy and preacher" by the editor of the Northwest Tribune, McLaughlin served as state representative and several terms as mayor between 1928 and 1941. Although the orchard is now gone, the trim home with its sweeping lawn and mature shrubbery continues to enrich the local landscape.

**Property:** Daniel T. Goff Home

**Address:** 115 No 5th St, Hamilton, Ravalli

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Hamilton experienced a flurry of activity related to the construction of the Big Ditch beginning in 1905. This heightened activity precipitated a building boom that extended to 1915, and residential neighborhoods began to assume their own identities, which mirrored contemporary architectural trends. One such trend was the transition from the ornate Queen Anne style of the 1890s to the newer, more staid Colonial Revival style. This residence provides an excellent example of the blending of features from the two styles. Working from a pattern book, the anonymous builder chose Colonial Revival elements such as Doric porch columns, narrow siding with cornerboards, and dentilated window hoods and eave returns to contrast with steeply pitched rooflines and a two-story half-hexagonal bay characteristic of the Queen Anne style. Other typical Queen Anne details include gable-end decorative shingles, a diamond-paned attic window, and a splendid stained glass panel. Built in 1910, Bitterroot Land and Development Company manager Daniel Goff owned the home until 1915. In 1920, Mabel Robbins, widow of County Clerk and Recorder Fred Robbins, moved here with her family, taking in boarders to supplement her income. Today the appearance of this well-maintained home remains almost unchanged, a charming illustration of eclectic turn-of-the-twentieth-century taste.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Property:** George May Residence

**Address:** 100 Park Avenue, Stevensville, Ravalli

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

George May and brother Albert entered the sheep and cattle business here in 1892, leasing Fort Owen where George lived and where his children were born. As the business succeeded, he continued to purchase land, including in 1899 the plot where this home stands. The brothers' Bitter Root Livestock Company owned 3,000 acres of land, on which it ran 20,000 sheep and 500 cattle. In 1900, along with a third brother, William Harry May, the Mays organized the Stevensville Mercantile Company. In less than a decade it became one of Western Montana's largest businesses. For its building—the largest in Stevensville—as well as his own home, George May hired prominent Missoula architect A. J. Gibson (designer of the Missoula County courthouse among many other buildings). The May home was constructed in 1909. Its fine interior oak woodwork is especially notable, for the rancher-merchant did it himself. At age sixteen in his native Canada, he had apprenticed as a cabinetmaker. Although his fortune came from other endeavors, George May never forgot his craft.

**Property:** First Baptist Church

**Address:** 402 Church St, Stevensville, Ravalli

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** churches (buildings)           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

In 1882, the Baptists established their first church in Butte. By 1890, membership numbered 65 and steadily grew until, at 450 members in 1905, new quarters were imperative. The following year marked the beginning of an unprecedented commercial building boom, and the Butte Miner reported on June 17, 1906, that the week would "...witness the beginning of several splendid structures not exactly in the business heart of the city." One of these buildings was the impressive First Baptist Church, designed and built by Charles Passmore and Company at a cost of \$25,000. Triple-arched windows with beautiful stained glass highlight the main tower, whose pyramidal roof dignifies the neighborhood. Comparison of this church and the nearby Mountain View Methodist Church reveals distinct similarities, but window placement and architectural detailing make each unique.

**Property:** St. Paul's Episcopal Church

**Address:** 600 S 3rd St, Hamilton, Ravalli

**Historic District:** Hamilton Southside Residential **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** churches (buildings)           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Fort Benton's oldest church, is the oldest Episcopal Church in Montana. In continuous service since August 11, 1881, it appears today almost as it did upon opening. Architecturally, this Gothic style building is a fine example of the small community churches being built in Montana at that time. But its story illustrates the difficulties of civilization's arrival on the raw frontier. After Bishop D. S. Tuttle established a congregation here in 1879, its members held services in the schoolhouse, a saloon, and finally in the courthouse while raising money to build a church. The building fund's first substantial contribution even came from the East, from the Rev. Joseph Coit, headmaster of St. Paul's School in Concord, New Hampshire. Thus the church was named St. Paul's. Here worshipped notable Montana pioneers including W. G. Conrad, C. E. Conrad, Joseph A. Baker, and Paris Gibson. Note the leaded stained glass lancet windows, all placed as memorials and each a work of art.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Property:** Calvin and Magdalene Cook House

**Address:** 501 Main Street, Stevensville, Ravalli

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Calvin and Magdalene Cook came to Montana from Kansas in 1880 and settled near Stevensville. Like many early settlers, the Cooks' intent was to farm. After more than a decade of farming, however, business opportunities in Stevensville beckoned and the family moved to town. In 1894, Calvin opened a transfer business, and in 1899 the Cooks became owners and managers of the Stevensville Hotel. Calvin added merchandising to his list of interests as partner in the Stevensville Trading Company. In 1910, the Cooks made plans to build a new home that would reflect their hard-earned success. Local architect Warren Roscoe Rodgers drew the plans for this beautiful residence, which provides a model example of the transition from Queen Anne to Classical Revival styles. Asymmetry of the roof line, ornate porch railings, and a two-story front bay reveal lingering Queen Anne elements fashionable in the late 1800s. A simple floor plan, classical Tuscan columns, and projecting portico reflect the emerging Revival style. Rodgers' skillful use of concrete block, visible throughout Stevensville, is evident in the home's decorative concrete block foundation. The residence passed to daughter Cora and husband John Emerson in 1930. It has since remained in the Cook family, a well-preserved, lasting tribute to these early settlers who put down roots in Montana.

**Property:** Denayer House

**Address:** 327 Main Street, Stevensville, Ravalli

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The DeNayer House is a fine example of transitional Queen Anne/Colonial Revival style architecture. The combination hipped and gabled roof and irregular floorplan are characteristic of the Queen Anne style while corner pilasters and clapboard siding clearly reveal transitional Colonial Revival style elements. In February of 1899, Dr. J. B. "Doc" DeNayer returned to Stevensville with his family to reopen his water-powered sawmill on the west side of the Bitterroot River. DeNayer's wife, Julia, purchased these lots in 1899 and hired G. L. Martin, a local contractor, to build this residence. Construction began the following spring and the DeNayers moved into their fine new home in August, 1900. Two years later the DeNayers built a second residence just north of their home. In 1907, Mrs. DeNayer exchanged these properties for a business building owned by H. F. Hooper and planned to open a restaurant. The property changed hands several times until 1918, when Dr. William P. Reynolds bought the home. Reynolds and his wife, Winifred, were both medical doctors whose commendatory reputations were based, not only upon medical skills, but also upon their benevolent care, "...serving anyone, any time, and they were never overly concerned about a patient's ability to pay." The home remained in the Reynolds family until 1950. Over the years the residence suffered insensitive alterations, including removal of the original porch, removal of the bay window area on the first floor, and replacement of the wood shake roof with heavy asphalt shingles. Major restoration conducted during the early 1990s returned this marvelous home to its former place of honor on Main Street.

**Property:** Grill Building

**Address:** 325 W. Main, Hamilton, Ravalli

**Historic District:** Hamilton Commercial   **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings           **Subject 2:**

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

### Sign Text:

Marcus Daly began construction of Hamilton's water system in 1896, making indoor plumbing possible for local residents. Hot and cold running water and bathrooms in homes—found in larger cities by the 1860s—did not become commonplace until the early 1900s. With plumbers in demand, William J. Fullerton came to Hamilton in 1905 to operate the Valley Mercantile's plumbing and sheet metal business. In 1910, he bought the mercantile's interest in those departments and established his own store, which he opened here in 1911. Missoula businessman Julius Grill had just completed constructing the building and Fullerton became his longtime tenant. Arrangements like this between landlord and service-oriented renter were typical of Hamilton businesses at this end of Main Street. The upper portion of the one-story building features a unique, sophisticated, basket-weave design of polychrome brick. The metal mullion storefront and glass transom are typical of early-twentieth-century commercial architecture. Fullerton and his son were in business at this location until 1937 and elsewhere in Hamilton until about 1951. A series of appliance and electrical stores later occupied the building, including Valley Electric Shop in 1948.

**Property:** Hamilton Commercial Historic District

**Address:** , Hamilton, Ravalli

**Historic District:** Hamilton Commercial **Building Type:** districts

**Subject 1:** historic district

**Subject 2:** commercial structures

### Sign Text:

Hamilton was born of the Anaconda Company's voracious appetite for lumber, nurtured on the Bitterroot apple boom, and sustained by medical research. Copper King Marcus Daly—whose Big Mill cut millions of board feet annually to feed his mines and smelter—created this timber town after coming to the area to raise race horses. Working as Daly's front man, engineer James Hamilton quietly bought 160 acres from area farmers. He platted the townsite in 1890, with Main Street running between the Big Mill on the west and the railroad on the east. By 1893, over forty businesses had opened downtown, catering to the mill workers whose heavy boots resounded on the wooden boardwalks that lined Main Street. Fearful of fire, downtown merchants steadily replaced many of Hamilton's earliest false-front wooden buildings with buildings constructed from locally manufactured brick or blue-gray stone quarried in nearby Corvallis. New money arrived in Hamilton after 1907 with the Bitterroot apple boom. Hamilton's population burgeoned to three thousand, and its downtown gained several stylish architect-designed buildings, identifiable by their high-fire brick, metal mullion storefronts, and leaded glass transoms. In the 1920s and 1930s the Rocky Mountain Laboratory, founded to combat spotted fever, sustained Hamilton's economy, and up-to-date business owners introduced a sleeker architectural style to downtown. Designed by Missoula architect H. E. Kirkemo, the Bower Building at South Second and West Main typifies the smooth lines fashionable in the 1930s, while the wood-frame false-front building at 411 West Main reflects the community's earliest history.

**Property:** Telephone Exchange

**Address:** 339-345 W. Main Street, Hamilton, Ravalli

**Historic District:** Hamilton Commercial **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings

**Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

State officials turned out on January 21, 1937, for the grand opening of Hamilton's new telephone system. The event marked the modernization of telecommunications in the Bitterroot Valley. Ivan C. Gustafson owned this property and built the building, according to the telephone company's specifications, for its exclusive use. The old quarters in the Teidt Building on Second Street had been home to Hamilton's telephone office for a quarter of a century. That facility had a huge six-operator switchboard, but only two operators were needed at any given time.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

This streamlined facility offered a much more compact, two-person switchboard. A public phone booth, unlocked at all times, opened on Main Street to simplify night calls. In addition to its own hot water plant and stoker, the building's amenities included an operators' restroom off the main office, "fitted with modern lockers and a davenport," and a two-car garage at the rear. The building of red brick features a prominent Romanesque arched entry and buff-colored brick trim. The small apartment was added in 1952, and the telephone exchange operated here until 1964.

**Property:** O'Hara House

**Address:** 109 South 4th Street, Hamilton, Ravalli

**Historic District:** Hamilton Southside Residential **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Irish-born Robert A. O'Hara, retained by Marcus Daly as land agent and developer of Daly's "company town," came to the Bitterroot Valley in 1890. O'Hara had the distinction to serve as the first mayor of the town of Hamilton from 1894 to 1896. Having purchased these choice lots, O'Hara built this home in 1896, initially a modest one-story dwelling. The family grew to include three daughters, while O'Hara established himself as a prominent attorney in private practice and as Daly's water rights attorney. Remodeling of the home circa 1909 attests to O'Hara's success and community status. Eric Trosdahl, the original builder, added the south parlor and second story with the narrow clapboard siding at that time. A low-pitched Prairie style roof with extended eaves combines with the wider clapboard siding and cornerboards of the first floor to create a handsome blend of stylistic elements. Narrow bays emphasize the vertical lines and exaggerate the height of this gracious residence, which was home to Robert O'Hara until his death in 1954.

**Property:** First National Bank

**Address:** 163-167 South 2nd Street, Hamilton, Ravalli

**Historic District:** Hamilton Commercial **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** banks (financial institutions)      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

"No year has favored the business section like 1910. And best of all, the buildings are of a better class than last year," enthused the Ravalli Republic. Part of this boom, the First National Bank building replaced two wooden structures that housed a general store and Hamilton's first hospital in the mid-1890s. The second floor of the new masonry building was divided into inexpensive apartments. The building's first-floor façade reflected its dual purpose as a bank and store. Large display windows with an aluminum mullion frame marked Hub Clothing, which occupied the business block's south half. Double-hung windows accented by brick voussiors (wedge-shaped bricks or stones) adorned the more formal façade of the First National Bank. F. H. Drinkenberg, president of First National Bank, also owned an interest in Hub Clothing. Mayor of Hamilton in 1910, his real estate investments reflected his faith in the town's future. In addition to this building, Drinkenberg owned interests in two other Second Street business blocks also constructed 1909-1910.

**Property:** Dr. George B. Taylor Home

**Address:** 710 3rd St., Hamilton, Ravalli

**Historic District:** Hamilton Southside Residential **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Architect Everett Peterson took inspiration from the popular Tudor Revival style when designing this cross-gabled

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

residence. Typical Tudor Revival elements include the steep rooflines, curved lines on the small gabled entrance, false half timbering, multi-paned windows, and tightly cropped eaves. Brick detailing accents the stucco-sided home, and a large iron stay and chimney pots decorate the prominent chimney. The picturesque form of Tudor Revival design of the 1920s and 1930s brings to mind the quaint charm of English cottages. During these decades, social upheaval and economic uncertainty created nostalgia for bygone eras and a fondness for period styles. Nevertheless, this home was designed for twentieth-century life as evidenced by the single-story attached garage tucked beside the residence. Dentist George Taylor and his wife Marjorie, who commissioned the home in 1935, were longtime Hamilton residents. According to local sources, Dr. Taylor practiced dentistry in the basement as well as at his Main Street office. The storybook dwelling clearly suited the couple. George lived here until his death in 1976; Marjorie remained in residence until her death in the mid-1980s.

**Property:** McFarlane House

**Address:** 200 College Street, Stevensville, Ravalli

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Farmer Thomas McFarlane and his wife, Ellie, built this comfortable two-story gable-front-and-wing home in 1895. Turned porch supports and fish-scale shingles decorate the front façade. Those features are associated with the Queen Anne style, but the home sports classical elements as well, including regularly spaced windows, most finished with molded wooden entablatures; corner boards with suggestive capitals and rounded corners; and a wide frieze beneath the enclosed eaves. Although it looks like an addition, the one-story hipped roof room behind the house was part of the original design. Placing the kitchen under separate roof minimized fire risk. Bucket brigades could more easily reach a one-story roof, perhaps saving the main house in case of a kitchen fire. The design also provided good ventilation, a boon during hot summers. Netta Powell and her husband James, a farm laborer, bought the residence in 1900, selling it in 1904 to the First Presbyterian Church for \$1,100. A block from the church, which then stood at Third and College, the home was well suited for a parsonage. Presbyterian ministers and their families lived here until the church disbanded in the 1930s. Although officially the minister's home, a parsonage often served as a focal point for the congregation, the site of church committee meetings, small weddings, and other gatherings. Thus, the space provided by a rear shed-roof extension, constructed between 1900 and 1909, and an open back porch, constructed before 1927, served the church community as a whole, as well as providing more comfortable accommodations for the minister and his family.

**Property:** Carnegie Library

**Address:** 306 State Street, Hamilton, Ravalli

**Historic District:** Hamilton Commercial   **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** libraries (buildings)           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The Red Lodge City Library opened in the Savoy Hotel in 1914 thanks to the efforts of the Women's Club of Red Lodge. The hotel, however, was just a temporary home. The Club soon took up the campaign to secure a permanent library facility. The city appropriated \$1,000 toward the effort and agreed to apply to the Carnegie Foundation for assistance. The Foundation awarded Red Lodge \$15,000. In return, the city promised to provide land upon which to build and annual maintenance. Before the issue could be put to public vote, World War I intervened. At the close of the war, the city successfully applied again. Billings architect W. K. Kendrick drew the plans to conform to Carnegie standards, which included modest Classical detailing, meeting room space, open stacks and a central desk for the librarian. Construction began in 1919, and in March of 1920, the city library

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

moved into its new quarters. The library, still in use today, is a tribute to the Carnegie Foundation and the determination of the Red Lodge Women's Club.

**Property:** I.O.O.F. Hall

**Address:** 110 N 2nd St, Hamilton, Ravalli

**Historic District:** Hamilton Commercial **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** fraternal lodges

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

A plaque centered under the cornice of this imposing two-story building reads "No. 48 I.O.O.F. Hall 1918." I.O.O.F. stands for International Order of Odd Fellows, an organization that advocates love, friendship, and truth while offering fellowship and a social safety net for its members. Historically, lodges paid members sick benefits and funeral expenses, contributed to a statewide retirement home, and supported local and national charities. The I.O.O.F. constituted Hamilton Lodge #48 in 1892 with eleven members; that year the order numbered approximately three-quarters of a million men. As early as 1895 the Odd Fellows met here every Monday on the second floor of a wooden commercial block. Early lodge members included Skalkaho farmer Robert Nicol, First National Bank president F. H. Drinkenberg, and merchant Oliver Cooper, partner in the store that occupied the hall's first floor by 1901. In 1918 the Odd Fellows replaced their wooden building with this solid brick business block. Today the Odd Fellows and their sister organization, the Charity Rebekah Lodge, still meet here, continuing a Hamilton tradition of over a century.

**Property:** Frank Dudley House

**Address:** 419 Bedford, Hamilton, Ravalli

**Historic District:** Hamilton Southside Residential **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Marcus Daly's taste influenced Hamilton, a town the copper king founded to supply timber to his Butte mines. Daly liked the Shingle style, and his Anaconda Company carpenters incorporated Shingle style elements into several Hamilton residences. Uninterrupted shingled walls (particularly on the second story), asymmetrical massing, and irregular, steeply pitched rooflines characterize the style. Shingle style homes were typically less ornate than their Queen Anne style cousins. That was not the case for this Queen Anne-Shingle style hybrid. Constructed circa 1892, the two-story residence originally boasted decorative sunburst gable ornaments, carved brackets beneath the bay window, and spindlework on the porch. Stained glass windows still embellish the upper floors. Part of "company house row," the residence was home to Frank Dudley and then to D. J. Donahue, both managers for the company store. By 1909, when Myrtle and F. H. Bailey purchased the residence, Anaconda's interest in Hamilton had waned. The Baileys participated in the region's new economy. A civil engineer, Bailey helped build the "Big Ditch," the irrigation project that sparked the Bitterroot's apple boom.

**Property:** Etna Schoolhouse

**Address:** 2853 Eastside Hwy, Stevensville, Ravalli

**Historic District:** **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** public schools (buildings)

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The Homestead Act of 1862 drew settlers to the Bitterroot Valley and by the end of the decade, the newly settled community of Etna had established one of the first local school districts. A two-room log schoolhouse was built near this site in 1871. The school term was only three months long and children arrived, tucked snugly in straw and buffalo robes, in sleighs or wagons. That school burned in 1880 and a larger wood-frame building replaced it.



## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

Josephus and Callie Million at that time deeded this land to the school district. By 1890, there were forty students. At the turn of the century, the Bitter Root Valley Irrigation Project attracted investors and new residents. Etna thrived with the “apple boom.” Agricultural expectations dwindled after World War I but the Etna School still had plenty of students. Builders John Peterson and Adam Horning constructed this larger, more up-to-date facility in the summer of 1918. Financed with \$6,000 in bonds, the building is noteworthy for its quality craftsmanship and Prairie styling, unusual in school architecture of western Montana. The school hosted many community activities over the years and served a many as 60 students before it closed in 1957. The building sat empty for a decade before new owners carefully converted it to a private residence. Now a bed and breakfast inn, landscaping and outbuildings have softened the once-stark panorama, and its demeanor has changed slightly, but the original function of the important valley landmark is readily apparent. It is an outstanding example of preservation and adaptive reuse.

**Property:** City Hall

**Address:** 119 S 3rd Street, Hamilton, Ravalli

**Historic District:** Hamilton Commercial **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** city halls

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Town halls originated in twelfth-century Italy, where bells were rung to call public assemblies. Missoula architect A. J. Gibson’s city hall design references this history. Allusions to Italy include such Italian Renaissance features as a low-pitched hipped roof, wide eaves, an arch above the front door, and a symmetrical façade. The prominent bell tower, common to American town halls, symbolizes the significance of democratic assembly. The building was designed in 1906 to house city offices, the fire department, and the public library. Originally, two sets of large bay doors, used for horse-drawn fire wagons, flanked the front entrance. Small communities frequently combined city services under one roof, but multiple use was not always ideal. Hamilton library patrons, for example, sometimes complained about the smell of horses. The library moved to a new facility in 1914, and in 1940 Hamilton remodeled the city hall/fire station, adding a truck bay to the building’s south side. While city offices moved to South Second Street in 1990, the fire department continues to operate from its original home.

**Property:** City Hall

**Address:** 119 S 3rd Street, Hamilton, Ravalli

**Historic District:** Hamilton Commercial **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** city halls

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Copper magnate Marcus Daly had great expectations for Anaconda when the town was platted in 1883, hoping one day the town would become Montana’s capital. It was with that goal in mind that plans for a magnificent city hall were conceived. Architects Lane and Reber of Butte, winners of a competition for the building’s design, drew the blueprints for the symbolically and historically significant civic landmark, completed in 1896. Built in a “straightforward manner ... using local materials,” the architects employed pressed brick, Anaconda granite, and Anaconda copper trim. The complex design illustrates the passionate eclecticism of the late Victorian era, incorporating elements of a variety of styles. A massive corner tower, bays, and pavilioned entrance visually define the original separate functions of the building: city government, fire hall, and police department. Contrasts of round and square forms serve to augment these divisions. Classical detailing, Roman and Romanesque style arches, Moorish “keyhole” windows, Gothic tracery, and a Chateausque style roof capping one of the bays are a visual feast and showcase local craftsmanship. Abandoned in 1976 and slated for demolition, the building was rescued by local citizens in 1978. Though a clock tower housing the fire bell was removed, the rehabilitated City Hall Cultural Center is once again a thriving and impressive source of civic pride.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Property:** City Hall

**Address:** 119 S 3rd Street, Hamilton, Ravalli

**Historic District:** Hamilton Commercial **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** city halls

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Butte had over eighty working mines and a teeming population by 1890. The resulting flurry of industrial and commercial activity initiated a building boom, prompting Mayor Henry Mueller to oversee the construction of this handsome three-story Richardsonian Romanesque-inspired municipal building in 1891. The tall, narrow edifice of brick and stone features a clock tower, arched entrance, and arched windows with stained glass transoms. Butte's last standing example of nineteenth-century civic architecture, this noble hall served as the seat of city government from 1891 until consolidation of city-county governments in 1977.

**Property:** 315 South Fifth Street

**Address:** 315 South Fifth Street, Hamilton, Ravalli

**Historic District:** Hamilton Southside Residential **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Although Sam Lucas only lived in Hamilton for ten years, he left his mark on the community. Copper king Marcus Daly hired the Kentucky horse trainer in 1890 to work at his Bitter Root Stock Farm. Nothing was too good for Daly's race horses, and Lucas—who came to the Bitterroot from the famed Belmont Stables—had a reputation as the best trainer in America. The copper magnate paid Lucas a princely \$10,000 a year (over half a million in today's dollars) and even named one of his race horses "Sam Lucas." Lucas invested some of his wages in rental houses like this one-story wood frame home. Fine carpentry distinguishes the small, gable-front-and-wing cottage. A diamond-shaped window and decorative shingles ornament the front gable, and turned columns with scroll brackets accent the small wooden porch. When Daly died in 1900, his racing stables disbanded and Lucas returned to Kentucky. Five hundred people gathered at the Lucas Opera House (another Hamilton building constructed by Lucas with Daly's backing) to bid the popular trainer farewell.

**Property:** Carnegie Library

**Address:** 306 State Street, Hamilton, Ravalli

**Historic District:** Hamilton Commercial **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** libraries (buildings)

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Hamilton's Ministerial Association opened the first free library in Ravalli County in April 1903 in a room donated by the Ravalli County Bank. Three months later, Hamilton voters levied a one mill tax to support the library, and the enterprise passed into public hands. In 1907, the library moved to the newly constructed city hall. When that space became inadequate, the community approached steel magnate Andrew Carnegie for money for a new building. The process stalled because Carnegie, who helped finance over 1,600 library buildings across the country, required towns to provide a building site. The Hamilton Woman's Club revived the campaign in 1914 by procuring the necessary gift of land from Margaret Daly, widow of copper king Marcus Daly. On July 8, 1916, the new building opened to the public. The \$9,000 structure's symmetrical façade, daylight basement, and classical detailing are characteristic of Carnegie libraries. The front portico was added later. Community support led to construction of an addition in 1988, which has allowed the Bitterroot Public Library to meet the growing needs of its patrons.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Property:** Wilbur Cook House

**Address:** 3717 East Side Highway, Stevensville, Ravalli

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

“The music of the carpenter’s hammer is heard in all parts of the city,” reported the Stevensville Register in March 1910. “A sure indication that spring is here.” Construction of the Wilbur Cook house may have contributed to that spring music. Cook, who owned the property from 1909 until 1950, worked at a variety of jobs, including as a bartender at the Stevensville Hotel, a farmer, and the co-owner of a drayage (hauling) business. In 1920, he lived here with his wife, Mattie, and their three-year-old daughter, Helen. The Cook residence, with its exposed rafter tails, wide eaves, and large front porch, is one of three Craftsman style homes constructed circa 1910 on what was originally the John Catlin ranch. A Civil War veteran and early settler, Catlin led local volunteers in the Battle of the Big Hole against the Nez Perces in 1877. Sometime after 1903 he sold part of his ranch to James M. Higgins, an area farmer likely caught up in the rampant land speculation fueled by the Bitterroot apple boom. In 1909, Chicago entrepreneurs were excavating what was called the “Big Ditch” to irrigate ten- to twenty-acre orchard tracts throughout the valley, and a Missoula newspaper predicted that Stevensville would become headquarters to over ten thousand people. Cook, who bought this nine-acre property from Higgins, did not seem unduly affected by the short-lived boom. Born to area pioneers in 1884, he remained in this modest, but stylish home long after most apple speculators had left the valley.

**Property:** Nels Petersen House

**Address:** 310 S. 4th St, Hamilton, Ravalli

**Historic District:** Hamilton Southside Residential **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Early twentieth century architects widely rejected the elaborate ornamentation and complicated lines associated with the Queen Anne style, the late nineteenth century’s most popular architectural style. Among the general public, however, taste changed more gradually. The complicated roofline of this two-story home reflects Queen Anne’s tenacious appeal, but other architectural choices—including Doric columns, wide eave returns, and an overall lack of fussiness—reflect the growing attraction of classical simplicity. The Anaconda Copper Mining Company likely constructed this outstanding example of transitional Queen Anne/Colonial Revival architecture before 1909. That year, Swedish immigrants Nels and Mathilda Peterson purchased the house. Nels came to America in 1888 and found work on the Northern Pacific Railroad in Missoula, where he and Mathilda married in 1898. The couple later moved to Hamilton, where six of Nels’s siblings also settled. In Hamilton Nels owned and operated a livery stable, and he and Mathilda raised four children. This house must have suited them; the Petersons lived here until their deaths, hers in 1937 and his in 1948.

**Property:** Nicholas Blindauer Building

**Address:** 246 W. Main Street, Hamilton, Ravalli

**Historic District:** Hamilton Commercial **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Charles Fonger built a two-story building on this corner in 1893. The saloon on the first floor was one of twenty-one taverns serving the thirsty men in this town of nine hundred residents. A lodge hall occupied the second floor. In 1902, Matthew Blindauer purchased the saloon. According to his 1905 obituary, Blindauer was “the second

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

man to go into business in Hamilton.” Like many pioneer businessmen, he was plagued by fire; he was “burned out four times” during his career, “but, phoenix like, reestablished himself” after each disaster. The wooden saloon on this lot burned once more in 1911. Circa 1916, Matthew’s son Nicholas, a civil engineer by trade, built this one-story storefront. Basket weave brickwork ornaments the façade—the only example of this technique in downtown Hamilton. In 1893, an open irrigation ditch ran across the lot, carrying water from the river to farms on the east side of town. Still in use today, the irrigation ditch extends under several residential blocks and into downtown, briefly surfacing by the Bitterroot Public Library before retreating underground once more.

**Property:** 230 West Main

**Address:** 230 West Main, Hamilton, Ravalli

**Historic District:** Hamilton Commercial **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Wynne Roberts sold books and notions from a one-story brick building constructed on this lot circa 1900. Wynne’s wife Sophie is listed on the deed as the building’s sole owner. She is one of many women who owned property in Montana at the turn of the twentieth century. Female property ownership was not, however, a straightforward reflection of women’s economic power. Under certain circumstances, married women’s property was protected from their husbands’ creditors, and families used this fact to protect their assets from the boom-and-bust cycle that characterized Montana’s early economy. Sometime before 1914, Sophie and Wynne added a second story, occupied by the telephone company, to their business block. Although the first-story façade has been dramatically remodeled, evidence of the building’s original appearance remains on the second story. There, corbelled brick belt courses and a simple cornice exemplify the restrained aesthetic of early twentieth-century Main Street Commercial architecture.

**Property:** John A. Landram House

**Address:** 113 College Street, Stevensville, Ravalli

**Historic District:** **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Stevensville, officially platted in 1879, was hardly on the map when John and Mary Landram came to the Bitterroot in 1875. Landram, a native of Missouri and a carpenter by trade, put his skills to immediate use helping to build the frame buildings that rapidly sprang up along Main Street. Building was not Landram’s only talent; he gained a fine reputation as a casket-maker. In November of 1890 the couple purchased several lots on this block and soon after acquired three adjoining lots. Their Dutch Colonial Revival style residence, completed by 1899, illustrates John Landram’s resourceful creativity and demonstrates his skills as a builder. At a time when new methods of printing made architectural photographs in books and periodicals more readily available, Landram no doubt took advantage of these in designing and building his own residence. A gently pitched front-facing gambrel roof, boxed cornice, cornerboards with classically detailed entablatures, and simple molded window lintels place the home within this architectural genre. Original woodwork and hardwood floors grace the well-planned interior. Two outbuildings, both in place by 1909, contribute to the historic ambience of this well-preserved home. The Landram House, one of the first residences constructed east of Stevensville’s business district, is equally significant for its association with this early pioneer family and for its locally unusual architecture.

**Property:** O'Hara's Office

**Address:** 220 W. Main Street, Hamilton, Ravalli

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Historic District:** Hamilton Commercial **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Twenty-three-year-old attorney Robert O'Hara had passed the bar less than a year before he arrived in the Bitterroot in 1890. Working for copper king Marcus Daly, he served as town site agent for the Bitter Root Development Company. He is recognized—along with another Daly employee, James Hamilton—as the town founder. Four years later, enough people had arrived to incorporate Hamilton, and residents elected O'Hara as their first mayor. O'Hara built this one-story building, one of Main Street's earliest brick buildings, in approximately 1893. That year, a dwelling, cobbler's shop, and office all shared the space. William Higman opened a bakery, confectionery, and ice cream parlor here in 1896. In later years the building housed, at various times, a drugstore, jewelry store, and O'Hara's law office. O'Hara added a sixteen-foot addition to the rear of the building in 1909, and he may have overseen a 1940s or 1950s façade renovation that disguised the building's rich history. O'Hara owned the building until his death in 1954.

**Property:** City Market

**Address:** 113 North Second Street, Hamilton, Ravalli

**Historic District:** Hamilton Commercial **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Walter Fox sold meat from a one-story, wooden building on this site in 1893. An 1896 expansion added an icehouse, and the building, later occupied by a confectionery and fruit stand, still stood in 1909. Not long afterward, M. L. Kelley purchased the lot to construct this brick building, where he opened a billiard hall. Joseph Haigh ran the business as the Owl Pool Room in 1915. After Haigh moved to South Second Street, the establishment became the Rainbow Bar. Later remodels significantly changed the façade, but the interior still boasts a pressed metal ceiling and an oak back bar. Decorative, durable, and fire resistant, metal ceilings proved popular from the 1890s through the 1920s. Because their heyday coincided with a period of growth for Montana's historic downtowns—including Hamilton's—metal ceilings ornament businesses across the state. The back bar is decorated with stain glass panels featuring stylized branches laden with apples. The reference, of course, is to the apple boom, at its height when a recreational establishment originally opened here.

**Property:** Varnum Oliver Blood Home

**Address:** 524 South First Street, Hamilton, Ravalli

**Historic District:** **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The transition from the Victorian era to the twentieth century is well illustrated in this striking turn-of-the-century home, which incorporates elements of two architectural styles. The steeply pitched asymmetrical roofline, corner wraparound porch, and bay windows are typical characteristics of the Queen Anne style. Classical Doric columns, a richly ornamented relief panel above the front door, cornerboards capped with a classical motif, and elegant window treatments reveal strong Colonial Revival style influence. This prominent corner property originally belonged to Hamilton founder Marcus Daly. The transitional Queen Anne style residence was built circa 1902 by David Freeze for Daly's Anaconda Copper Mining Company. Varnum Oliver Blood purchased the home from William and Abraham Johnston as an investment in 1910. Blood came to the Bitterroot Valley in 1895 where he was a well-known rancher and stockman with a large operation two miles south of town on what is now Blood Lane. Bee-keeping and honey production for the Marcus Daly Stock Farm was a major business concern of the ranch. The Bloods initially maintained this Hamilton residence as a rental. In 1920, the family of Arthur E. Walsh,

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

chief engineer for the Bitter Root Valley Irrigation Company, was in residence. When Blood and his wife, Nettie, retired from ranching circa 1930, they moved into town and lived here until 1941. By 1957, local preservationists Frank and Sallie Brutto owned the property and for many years it was the home of Sallie's sisters, Elizabeth and Nelma Maclay.

**Property:** 337 West Main Street (Sears)

**Address:** 337 West Main, Hamilton, Ravalli

**Historic District:** Hamilton Commercial **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

With material and manpower redirected to winning the fight against fascism, commercial and domestic construction practically ceased during World War II. After the war, pent up demand led to a mini construction boom. With very few lots left on the 100 and 200 blocks of Main, downtown expanded west. Ravalli County Deputy Clerk and Recorder Anna Read owned this property in 1947. That year contractor Lyle Rasmussen constructed a one-story building here for use as a restaurant. It later housed an auto parts store and then the Sears Department Store. The modest, brick structure represents the shift away from ornamentation. The architectural movement toward simplicity, which began in the 1930s, solidified after World War II. The building's design echoes earlier Hamilton business blocks with its large display windows, designed to attract pedestrians. In addition, like the business blocks that preceded it, the building abuts the sidewalk rather than providing room for landscaping or a parking lot, as later businesses would do. Unlike those earlier buildings, however, striated multicolored brick provides almost its only decoration.

**Property:** Methodist Episcopal Church

**Address:** 1st St & Eastside Highway, Corvallis, Ravalli

**Historic District:** **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** churches (buildings) **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The Reverend L. B. Stateler brought Southern Methodism to Montana when he arrived at Virginia City in 1864. First services in the valley were held in 1870 and G. O. Hilton was appointed first pastor at Corvallis in 1871. His promising tenure ended a month later when he was killed by a falling tree. E. G. Frazier then took charge of the small congregation. A remarkable revival held in the town in 1874 brought 100 new members, but building plans were not realized until 1894 with the construction of this simple Gothic style church. Graceful pointed arches are hallmarks of the style while decorative shingles and spindlework in the belltower reflect Victorian-era detailing. Inside, wooden pews and matching pulpit convey the ambience of the 1890s. The sanctuary overflowed in 1896 when a crowd of three hundred mourned the passing of the beloved Rev. Stateler who died while visiting here. The church he helped found continued to prosper, serving its members and the lay community. When the high school burned in 1932, the 1920s annex provided classroom space; for a time it housed the public library and even served as a kindergarten. The Methodist Episcopal Church South became the United Methodist Church in 1940 when the various denominations came together for the first time since the Civil War. At the 1994 centennial celebration, special graveside services honored Rev. Hilton, who helped lay the spiritual foundation for this modest frame church. Under the careful stewardship of past and present members, it symbolizes the first active Protestant organization in the Bitterroot Valley.

**Property:** Dudley C. Bass Mansion

**Address:** 100 College St, Stevensville, Ravalli

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Brothers William and Dudley Bass crossed the plains from Missouri by mule team, lured west in 1864 by tales of rich diggings. Disappointed in prospecting, the brothers homesteaded in the Bitterroot Valley near present-day Stevensville, where they pioneered the fruit industry in Montana. By the turn of the century, the Basses' renowned Pine Grove Farm produced 10,000 boxes of apples shipped to such distant markets as New York and the Atlantic coast. By 1901, Dudley Bass had bought his brother's interest in the business. He sold the ranch in 1907 and moved to Stevensville with his wife, Etta, and their son, Lee. In 1908, Dudley commissioned noted Montana architect A. J. Gibson to design this Neoclassical style landmark. Its grand entry with full-height porch and classical order columns bears a striking similarity to the entrances of the Missoula County Courthouse and the Daly Mansion in Hamilton, buildings designed by Gibson and also under construction at that time. The style required such strict symmetry that a false chimney was added to balance the composition. With all the grace of an antebellum plantation home, the interior features a regal U-shaped staircase, dining room with decorative beamed ceiling and pocket doors, and fine hardwood finishings throughout. A second-floor sitting room, entered through an archway off the hall, accesses the upstairs bedrooms. Wide windows with elegant beveled and leaded glass transoms invite unusually generous lighting. The gracious residence remained under Bass family ownership until the 1960s.

**Property:** 407 West Main

**Address:** 407 West Main, Hamilton, Ravalli

**Historic District:** Hamilton Commercial   **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings           **Subject 2:** printing firms

**Sign Text:**

The owner of the Western News built this false-front building to house its newspaper office and print shop in 1895. Its editor, Miles Romney, Sr., was a strong Democrat and advocate for progressive reform; the Western News became known for its independence during a time when the Anaconda Company controlled most of the state's newspapers. By 1902, the Western News had moved its operation to South Second Street, and a plumbing shop occupied this space by 1909. Today this is the last well-preserved false-front building in Hamilton, but wooden storefronts like this one once dominated the town's streetscape. Lumber was plentiful in this mill town, and false fronts not only made buildings appear larger and grander than they actually were, but they also added a touch of style to what were essentially utilitarian structures. Psychologically, false fronts visually assured people that they lived in a civilized and secure place—no matter how isolated it actually was. Quick and inexpensive to erect, these buildings are icons of the western frontier.

**Property:** Carnegie Library

**Address:** 306 State Street, Hamilton, Ravalli

**Historic District:** Hamilton Commercial   **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** libraries (buildings)           **Subject 2:** museum (buildings)

**Sign Text:**

Citizens organized the Kalispell Public Library in 1897 and reorganized it as the Free Library a few years later. Holdings included 772 circulating volumes and 269 reference works. In 1900, Kalispell banker J. Harrington Edwards met with the private secretary of New York philanthropist Andrew Carnegie to discuss funds for the construction of a library building. Carnegie agreed to donate \$10,000 and the city promised to furnish the site plus \$1,000 per year over the next decade for maintenance. Architect George Shanley drew the plans while his father, Bernard, won the contracting bid for \$9,860. Constructed of gray sandstone from the Columbus quarries near

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

Butte and pressed brick shipped by rail from Menominee, Wisconsin, the unusual Colonial Revival style building features a domed octagonal entry. Citizens flocked to the grand opening on January 12, 1904. The library boasted 4,500 volumes and, by 1921, that number had increased to 10,000. Carnegie's gift served as Kalispell's library until 1969 when its holdings were consolidated with the county library. This landmark building then acquired a new function as the Hockaday Center for the Arts, a non-profit community art center and museum.

**Property:** McCart Fire Lookout

**Address:** Bitterroot National Forest, Sula, Ravalli

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** structure

**Subject 1:** fire towers (watchtowers)           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

McCart Lookout, built in 1939 and named for longtime district employee Bill McCart, is a classic example of the L-4 series developed in 1929 by Forest Service engineer Clyde Fickes. The prefabricated wood-frame house was packed in by mules, and native timber was cut on site to support it. The lookout, which provided living and work space, was designed for simple assembly with a hammer, screwdriver, and level "by a couple of handymen who could read." Sliding glass windows and a two-foot catwalk surrounding the cab allowed the watchman to be on constant alert for forest fires, a major concern for the early Forest Service. Lack of radio technology and isolation in this vast unroaded wilderness required a complex telephone communications network. Intact segments of phone line insulators are still visible in the trees between McCart and the East Fork Guard Station. Vintage equipment inside the lookout includes an Osburne fire finder, used to pinpoint fire locations, and a hand-cranked telephone. Even though lookouts provided a panoramic view of the surrounding forest, like this one of the Anaconda Pintlar Wilderness, by 1960 most fire detection was accomplished by aerial surveillance. McCart provided a vital communication link, however, and remained in service until 1984. Carefully restored in the early 1990s, the lookout exemplifies innovative use of precut and prefabricated buildings.

**Property:** United States Post Office

**Address:** 340 W Main St, Hamilton, Ravalli

**Historic District:** Hamilton Commercial   **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** post offices           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

When construction began on Hamilton's post office in August 1940, the worst of the Depression was over. Nevertheless, the building is a legacy of the New Deal, when the number of federal construction projects soared to put people to work. Montana congressman Jerry O'Connell secured the \$100,000 appropriation for the combined post office and federal building as part of a bill that authorized \$130 million for "emergency construction" across the United States. Constructed from a standardized plan provided by the Public Works Administration, the building has a symmetrical and dignified design. The post office expanded in 1997. To preserve this historic structure, officials placed the addition, and the new main entrance, on North Fourth Street. The original building, including the mural, Flathead War Party, remains open for viewing. Commissioned as part of a national project to employ artists and bring art to the people, the mural by Montana-born artist Henry Meloy depicts Flathead Indians preparing to attack their traditional enemies, the Blackfeet. It is one of only six Depression-era post office murals in Montana.

**Property:** First National Bank

**Address:** 163-167 South 2nd Street, Hamilton, Ravalli

**Historic District:** Hamilton Commercial   **Building Type:** building | contributing



## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Subject 1:** banks (financial institutions)

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

“No year has favored the business section like 1910. And best of all, the buildings are of a better class than last year,” enthused the Ravalli Republic. Part of this boom, the First National Bank building replaced two wooden structures that housed a general store and Hamilton’s first hospital in the mid-1890s. The second floor of the new masonry building was divided into inexpensive apartments. The building’s first-floor façade reflected its dual purpose as a bank and store. Large display windows with an aluminum mullion frame marked Hub Clothing, which occupied the business block’s south half. Double-hung windows accented by brick voussiors (wedge-shaped bricks or stones) adorned the more formal façade of the First National Bank. F. H. Drinkenberg, president of First National Bank, also owned an interest in Hub Clothing. Mayor of Hamilton in 1910, his real estate investments reflected his faith in the town’s future. In addition to this building, Drinkenberg owned interests in two other Second Street business blocks also constructed 1909-1910.

**Property:** Frank Wallin House

**Address:** 608 N 7th Street, Hamilton, Ravalli

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Distinctive detailing drawn from two architectural traditions subtly illustrates the transition from the popular Victorian-era Queen Anne to the slightly later Colonial Revival style in this charming cottage built in the late 1890s. The gable-front-and-wing house form developed as the railroad spread across the continent. Such national folk housing reflected both regional and period architectural tastes. Queen Anne style elements here include the steeply pitched roof, placement of the porch, and spindled posts with decorative brackets. The hip roof of the porch and its triangular pediment are influenced by the Colonial Revival style. Inside, the home features original hardwood flooring and bull’s-eye molding. Martha Allison-Reinkeh, an early Bitterroot homesteader and colorful local character, subdivided this section of her ranch property as the Riverview Addition in 1894. Frank Wallin, a Hamilton teamster, owned the home at the turn of the century. In 1908, Wallin planted the apple orchard north of town for the Bitter Root Orchard Company, contributing significantly to the local “apple boom.” Wallin also planted several apple trees in his own neighborhood. When Wallin’s wife, Ida, died in 1917, the funeral was held here at the family home and Wallin sold the property soon after. From the late 1920s through the 1970s, the residence was the home of the Henry See family. The beautifully maintained home is a classic example of working-class housing in Hamilton at the end of the nineteenth century.

**Property:** Summers-Quast Farmstead

**Address:** 1288 Eastside Hwy, Corvallis, Ravalli

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** site

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:** homesteads

**Sign Text:**

John and Juda Summers began married life in a log cabin near this site in 1878. The couple worked hard raising cattle and eventually owned more than 1,000 acres and 1,500 head of cattle. Copper King Marcus Daly purchased most of their land in 1894. The Bitterroot pioneers started over in 1904 with the purchase of 160 acres. Summers built this gracious Colonial Revival style home and developed a highly successful diversified farming operation. In 1907, the yield was 22,000 bushels of oats, the largest crop ever produced by one farm in the Bitterroot Valley. Failing health forced John Summers to sell the home in 1911. New owners Otto and Helena Quast further diversified the farm, adding a herd of 150 Holstein dairy cows. After his father’s death in 1931, Otto Jr., took over the farm and by 1957 it was “one of the finest diversified farms in the valley, consisting of 660 acres devoted to

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

raising cattle, beets, and grain." Upon Otto Quast's retirement in 1971, the house and farm were sold separately. Today, the marvelous home is a treasured reminder of the early importance of agriculture in the Bitterroot Valley and the pioneers who made it successful. John Summers expressed his prominence with this imposing residence, yet its elegant simplicity reflects the prudence that assured his financial security. Seasoned landscaping, an inviting veranda, and commodious rooms today inspire visitors to experience another era.

**Property:** Hamilton Southside Residential Historic District

**Address:** , Hamilton, Ravalli

**Historic District:** Hamilton Southside Residential **Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The architectural character of this pleasant district was initially shaped by copper king Marcus Daly. Between 1890 and 1905, Daly's Anaconda Copper Mining Company constructed substantial high style residences for its managers and modest houses in various vernacular forms for its workers. Fashionable homes were also built by local businessmen who owed their success in part to Daly's encouragement of entrepreneurial enterprise. Construction of the Catholic and Christian churches, which Daly helped finance, added to the district's early diversity. The Romanesque style Ravalli County courthouse symbolizes Daly's considerable political influence in Hamilton's designation as county seat. Daly's death in 1900 and slowdown of the ACM mill precipitated a local recession. Renewed interest in Hamilton came with the start of the "Big Ditch" project in 1905 as investors and speculators promoted their schemes in the Bitterroot Valley. Craftsman and Colonial Revival style residences began to mingle with the older homes. Decline of the apple industry after 1916 triggered another local economic slowdown, but construction of the Rocky Mountain Laboratory in 1927 once again spurred Hamilton's residential growth. Picturesque Revival and Cape Cod style cottages filled in open spaces while a high school and hospital reflect the 1930s economic upswing. The 1946 Moderne style medical arts building completes the district's broad spectrum of architectural styles. Along the tree-lined boulevards, elegant 1890s residences with smaller homes built upon their once-spacious grounds well reflect Hamilton's changing fortunes and bestow a timeless appearance upon the district's neighborhoods.

**Property:** Ravalli County Courthouse

**Address:** 225 Bedford Street, Hamilton, Ravalli

**Historic District:** **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** county courthouses

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Copper king Marcus Daly established local logging operations and platted the town of Hamilton in 1890 to fuel his Anaconda copper mining ventures. When Ravalli County was carved from Missoula County in 1893, Stevensville won designation as county seat. But Daly's interests soon brought Hamilton a more substantial population and the town became the Ravalli County seat in 1898. County offices were first housed at the local opera house. In 1900, voters approved a \$20,000 bond issue, and Daly's Anaconda Copper Mining Company donated the land on which to build this courthouse. A. J. Gibson designed the new facility while Charles Stabern won the bid as contractor. Gibson's stunning design merges the Richardsonian Romanesque style with strong classical elements. The result is a pivotal example of the transition between nineteenth and twentieth century tastes. Graceful round-arched Romanesque style windows, popular in Victorian-era public architecture, blend with smooth wall surfaces and a horizontal orientation that reflects a newer trend toward classical styles. The tall corner tower visually interrupts the classical symmetry creating an artistic balance between old and new that is a credit to Gibson's talent. Completed in 1901, the building originally featured a large second-story courtroom with an eighteen-foot ceiling. Dark-finished wood and plastered walls brightened by electric lighting throughout made this

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

courthouse a source of community pride. The facility served until 1974 when the county built a new courthouse and this building appropriately became the Ravalli County Historical Museum.

**Property:** William and Rose Brennan House

**Address:** 205 South 3rd St., Hamilton, Ravalli

**Historic District:** Hamilton Southside Residential **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Copper king Marcus Daly contracted with William Brennan to supply his Butte mines with 1.5 million feet of timber monthly in 1889. Brennan and a partner first established a mill at the mouth of Skalkaho Creek. Two years later, at Daly's direction, they moved their mill to the new town of Hamilton. Not long after Daly purchased Brennan's operation, and Brennan became a concrete and stone contractor. He and his wife Rose had this stately home constructed circa 1891. It was the first brick-façade residence in Hamilton. (Asphalt shingles have since replaced the second-story brick.) Devout Catholics, the Brennans hosted mass here—served twice monthly by a traveling Jesuit priest—until the construction of St. Francis Church in 1896. In 1909, the residence became home to Robert and Minnie Beck. Robert was a dentist, auto enthusiast, and an active participant in the Good Roads movement. Local sources credit his lobbying efforts for the construction of Skalkaho Road. The residence underwent several remodels: sometime after 1944, owners built two large additions on the north and west and converted the house into a duplex.

**Property:** Albert May House

**Address:** 218 Church Street, Stevensville, Ravalli

**Historic District:** **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Albert May came to the Bitterroot valley with his four brothers in 1892. The Canadian-born May brothers raised stock, farmed, and operated several Stevensville businesses. Albert, his wife Phoebe, and daughter Alberta settled into this home circa 1899. In 1900, Albert became the newly incorporated town's first mayor, securing 50 out of 54 votes. But tragedy marred the family's success. An adopted son died young and Phoebe succumbed to respiratory illness in 1905. Alberta married and moved away while Albert remained in Stevensville with a second adopted son. Incapacitated by mental illness in 1914, he died in California in 1917. Dr. Frank Prince purchased the property in 1920, establishing his living quarters and medical offices here. According to an inscription in the dining room plaster, the residence dates to 1898. Its construction likely incorporated a log cabin which stood on the property by 1892. Described by the local newspaper in 1899 as "palatial," this transitional Queen Anne style home features an ornate wraparound porch with decorative brackets, turned posts, and square balusters. A smaller back porch balances the asymmetrical plan. Lovely scrollwork in the gable ends, stained glass, and a clipped bay with delicate scrolled brackets and finials are quintessential Victorian-era elements. Clapboard siding with cornerboards and classical window treatments reveal the turn-of-the-century trend toward the Classical Revival style. Inside, original wood finishings, decorative woodwork, and period picture moldings reflect warm hospitality and period ambience.

**Property:** Roberts Building

**Address:** 232 Main Street, Hamilton, Ravalli

**Historic District:** Hamilton Commercial **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:** printing firms

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

### Sign Text:

A native of Manchester, England, Wynne Roberts came to Hamilton in 1892. He opened a book and stationery store with only \$300 in capital and conducted more than \$9,000 worth of business his first year selling fruit, crockery, and wallpaper in addition to books. Wynne and his wife Sophie built this brick business block in 1894; they lived above the bookstore with their six children. The solid building reflected the Roberts' ambitions for both their store and the young town of Hamilton, then only four years old with dirt streets and wooden sidewalks. Particularly notable is the building's elaborate metal cornice. Prefabricated metal cornices were relatively inexpensive substitutes for carved stone or wood. They were readily available through mail order catalogs and easily transportable by rail, allowing even small towns to participate in big city fashions. In 1900, the Robertses constructed the building next door, where they moved their business. The Ravalli Republican newspaper purchased the building in 1922. It has published from this location ever since, changing its name to the Ravalli Republic in 1973.

### Property: Burns Block

**Address:** 128-132 W. Main Street, Hamilton, Ravalli

**Historic District:** Hamilton Commercial **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

Decorative brickwork ornaments this two-story Western Commercial style building constructed for jeweler Frank L. Burns. The Canadian-born Burns came to Hamilton in 1894, four years after the town's founding. He originally ran his business from a one-story wooden building on this site. But in 1906, a giant steam shovel began excavating the "Big Ditch." Bitterrooters hoped this irrigation canal would transform their valley into an oasis, and Burns saw an opportunity for expansion. His new fifty-by-seventy-foot building included two storefronts. Occupying one was his jewelry store, which in 1909 stocked "a full line of watches, clocks, diamonds and small jewelry, hand painted china, cut glass, [and] souvenirs" as well as musical instruments and fancy stationery. The other storefront he leased to various businesses, including a Chinese restaurant and a general store. The second floor he left undivided as a hall for "entertainments and dances." As Hamilton's first large public hall, it contributed markedly to the community's social life. In later years, the second floor was reconfigured into apartments.

### Property: Burgess Garage

**Address:** County Rd 120, Lambert, Richland

**Historic District:** **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** garages **Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

The Burgess Garage was constructed circa 1913 and is the oldest building standing in Lambert. That year the Northwest Improvement Company, a subsidiary of the Northern Pacific Railroad, platted the new townsite. Business at the garage (then called Winkes Garage) was already booming by the time the first train pulled into Lambert in 1914. One of the first sources for motorized vehicles and machinery in Richland County, the garage is a testament to the role mechanization played in the homesteading boom. By 1915, local physician Dr. George Armour had established his practice in the front office while Winkes continued operating his garage in the rear. Winkes died of acute appendicitis in 1918, and his widow sold the garage to Dr. Armour. Armour hired two mechanics and continued to run both his medical practice and the garage from the building, which was renamed Armour's Garage. Drought, agricultural depression, and depopulation caused many Lambert businesses to close after World War I, including Armour's garage and medical practice in 1927. In 1931, Alvin Burgess purchased the building from Richland County for \$62.00 and reopened the garage, which he operated until his death in 1966. Originally built of wood, the building was covered with stucco early in its history; the one-inch stucco may have

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

protected the garage from a series of catastrophic fires that burned much of Lambert's business district in 1923, 1925, and 1931. Now owned by the Lambert Historical Society, the building today looks much as it did in the 1920s.

**Property:** McCuistion Building

**Address:** 1025 Main Street, Forsyth, Rosebud

**Historic District:** Forsyth Main Street      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** service stations      **Subject 2:** commercial buildings

**Sign Text:**

A rear door big enough to drive through hints at this building's original purpose. Rancher, banker, and businessman Joshua P. McCuistion initially intended to construct a one-story automobile dealership and repair shop, but the demand for office space led him to add a second story. McCuistion purchased this lot in April 1913, and almost immediately Miles City contractor Charles Weston began construction of the two-story garage and office building. Arthur Sickler sold Fords, Hudsons, and Franklins here and ran the Main Street Garage, which advertised itself as a "Tourist's Headquarters," offering "Everything for the Auto Traveler." Automobile tourism was new and entailed some risk. In 1916, a young man caused a fire when he stopped at the garage for gas. After the attendant began filling his tank, the "tenderfoot" lit a match over the gas tank to check the progress. Luckily, the fire only damaged the car itself. Forsyth gained its first stand-alone filling station in 1923, and Stickler sold his business to McCuistion in 1924. However, automobile dealerships continued to sell cars from this building until 1950.

**Property:** Forsyth Residential Historic District

**Address:** Historic District, Forsyth, Rosebud

**Historic District:** Forsyth Residential      **Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** historic districts      **Subject 2:** residential structures

**Sign Text:**

Founded for the railroad, Forsyth's residential neighborhoods were platted in 1882 but much of the land lay undeveloped until the 1900s. Forsyth's first-generation homes were simple dwellings rapidly constructed of wood or log to serve the immediate needs of the railroad workers who were Forsyth's first residents. The historic district northeast of the commercial area was home to many of these. By the 1890s, however, the railroad crews had moved on, the population had become more diverse, and the town was more settled. The landmark vernacular Gothic style Methodist Episcopal Church, built in 1890, represents this earliest period of permanent development. A few carpenter-built American foursquare and gable-front-and-wing cottages survive from the 1890s. These dwellings follow the national folk housing trends of the era. Builders and owners added distinctive details such as bay windows, small dormers, and porches, lending each home a distinct personality. As Forsyth residents prospered, fashionable Queen Anne style residences began to lend prestige to the neighborhood. After 1901, domestic building styles became more varied when pattern books made the latest architectural plans widely available. Forsyth enjoyed rapid growth and new prosperity in the first decades of the 1900s. Stylish Colonial Revival homes and Craftsman bungalows reflect the optimism of the homestead era. Today the historic district is a dynamic mix of these later elements interspersed with the earlier carpenter-built cottages. The quiet, inviting avenues personify the enthusiasm of hard-working citizens and early town boosters.

**Property:** Blue Front Rooming House

**Address:** 1187 Main, Forsyth, Rosebud

**Historic District:**      **Building Type:** building

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Subject 1:** boardinghouses

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The Northern Pacific Railroad was the lifeblood of many small Montana towns like Forsyth, which was founded in 1882 to serve as an operations base for rail crews. Since unmarried men filled most railroad positions, towns like Forsyth had need of inexpensive, basic housing facilities. Originally the railroad provided housing for its Forsyth workers, but when the “section house” burned in 1902, the railroad did not replace it. Gustaf “Gus” Swanland built this rooming house in 1912 to fill a need for housing. He lived here himself along with his single tenants, many of whom were Northern Pacific employees. Although advertised as the Swanland Hotel, the building was commonly known as the “Blue Front” because of its bright blue paint. Boarding houses were usually residential in appearance but Swanland’s narrow lot and location in the business district dictated a more commercial look. A 1905 city ordinance required fire-resistant brick construction, and, like its neighbors, the vernacular Italianate style façade was enhanced with a layer of light-colored brick veneer. A bracketed wooden cornice and pediment soften the rather austere, utilitarian image. The Blue Front’s interior, which survives almost intact, provides a fascinating glimpse into turn-of-the-twentieth-century accommodations. Both stories reflect typical boardinghouse living arrangements with small, wall-papered rooms opening onto a central hallway. The Spartan sleeping room had little space, not even closets, but the Blue Front’s common kitchen, parlor, and dining room offered a more homelike atmosphere.

**Property:** McCuiston Residence

**Address:** 214 N 13th Ave, Forsyth, Rosebud

**Historic District:** Forsyth Residential

**Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The deep eaves and flared rooflines of this two-story home were meant to evoke the Far East, while its octagonal tower, ornamental brackets, decorative beveled glass, and corbelled chimneys reveal the attention to detail that accompanied the home’s construction. Forsyth contractor Louis Wahl built the elegant residence for rancher and businessman Joshua McCuiston and his wife, Grace, in 1914. Grace, who had traveled to Asia, had a great appreciation for eastern architecture and was reportedly intimately involved with the home’s design and construction. She is said to have checked every load of lumber delivered to the site, sending back any boards that didn’t meet her specifications. Described by the Forsyth Times as “one of the most costly in the city,” the residence served as the McCuiston’s “town house.” In 1928 they sold it to Whit and Elsie Carolan. The home’s location was particularly convenient for Whit, a lawyer who served as county attorney and whose office was at the county courthouse. Elsie, who taught piano to generations of Forsyth children, lived here until 1978.

**Property:** Maurice and Mary Lord Residence

**Address:** 357 North 13th Avenue, Forsyth, Rosebud

**Historic District:** Forsyth Residential

**Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

When the Milwaukee road arrived in 1907, Forsyth boomed, and carpenter Maurice S. Lord decided to open his own business. “It won’t cost you anything to talk to me,” he advertised, “and if I can’t suit you as to price and quality, then give the job to the other fellow and we will still be friends.” A few years earlier, he and his wife Mary built this two-story transitional Queen Anne/Colonial Revival home. Lord likely constructed the residence himself. Its unusual T-shaped floor plan was a good advertisement for his skills as a homebuilder, especially since the house doubled as his office. Nevertheless, evidence suggests that business was slower than he hoped. Plumbers who added a bathroom in 1909 sued the Lords for payment, and three years later Richardson Mercantile

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

temporarily attached a lien to the property. The Lords sold the home in 1912 and left Forsyth to try their hand at farming. By 1914, however, the family had moved to Columbus, where Maurice once again worked as a carpenter.

**Property:** 411 North Twelfth Avenue

**Address:** 411 North Twelfth Avenue, Forsyth, Rosebud

**Historic District:** Forsyth Residential      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Early pioneers Thomas and Mary Alexander owned large swaths of land in and around Forsyth, including most of this block, which they subdivided into lots. They sold this tract to Edward Jones in 1903, who likely built this asymmetrical two-story residence soon after. Builders like Jones had begun to turn away from Victorian excess after the turn of the century. Although this home features a number of Queen Anne elements—multiple roof faces, an octagonal bay, and decorative spindlework—it is less ornate than earlier examples of the style. Edwin and Isobel Katzenstein rented the home in 1912. Edwin, known affectionately as “Katie,” was proprietor of the Forsyth News Co., a community institution. John and Mabel Hefferin lived here with their family in 1914. John was co-owner of a Main Street saloon. That the Hefferins lived in this elegant home on a prestigious corner lot reflected the family’s rising fortunes. The Twelfth Avenue residence was certainly quieter and more comfortable than their earlier accommodations on Main Street.

**Property:** Meredith Residence

**Address:** 440 N. 12th Ave., Forsyth, Rosebud

**Historic District:** Forsyth Residential      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Carpenter Gustav Hoff purchased this lot in 1900, and sometime before 1920 he built this one-story, hipped roof house, likely as an investment. Robert “Shorty” Meredith and his wife Mary bought the residence in 1920 for \$2,500. The couple had moved to Forsyth four years earlier; shortly thereafter, Shorty found work at Sickler’s Garage as a mechanic. He is credited with assembling the first twenty-five Ford cars to enter Rosebud County. As was typical for the time, the Merediths paid half the cost of the house up front. Large down payments and five-year mortgages were standard before 1934. That year, the government created the Federal Housing Administration, a New Deal agency that tried to stimulate the economy by aiding potential homebuyers. In 1931, the Merediths hired two men to hand dig a basement and install a rock foundation for \$500. Sometime after 1941, they enclosed the front porch to provide much needed room for their large family. Mary raised eight children before her death in 1967. Shorty lived here into the 1980s.

**Property:** Beeman Residence

**Address:** 262 North 13th Avenue, Forsyth, Rosebud

**Historic District:** Forsyth Residential      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Arrival of the Milwaukee railroad and the masses of homesteaders who followed in its wake meant land-office business for Forsyth. As Rosebud County seat, Forsyth provided plenty of work for lawyers like Henry Beeman, who opened a title abstract company in 1911. The following year, he and his wife, Maude, erected this Craftsman style home a half block from the county courthouse where Henry conducted much of his business. The one-and-one-half-story residence boasts many classic Craftsman style features, including a front gable dormer, exposed rafter tails, and decorative roof brackets, while an inset front porch and polygonal side bay window enhance the

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

façade. In the 1920s, the Beemans, who had two children, let rooms to unmarried schoolteachers. Before becoming a lawyer, Henry served as Forsyth's first superintendent of schools. Both Henry and Maude were active in the community. Henry served as county attorney for eight years and city attorney and clerk for thirty years, while Maude was a charter member of the Forsyth Woman's Club. After Maude's death in 1958, Henry continued to live here until 1963.

**Property:** Forsyth Main Street Historic District

**Address:** Historic District, Forsyth, Rosebud

**Historic District:** Forsyth Main Street    **Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings    **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Captain William Clark trekked through this area on his journey down the Yellowstone River in 1806. By the time General George Armstrong Custer passed by en route to the Little Bighorn in 1876, homesteads dotted the area. As the Northern Pacific Railroad pushed west in 1882, officials platted the town of Forsyth to serve its crews. They planned the town with a one-sided Main Street facing the railroad right-of-way. Growth at first was tentative with businesses clustered around the principal intersection at Main and Ninth Streets. Early urban development resulted from the efforts of Hiram Marcyes and Thomas Alexander, rival businessmen who controlled much of Forsyth's early economy. As the railroad attracted a more diverse population that included doctors, lawyers, merchants, and service providers, Forsyth became a regional trade and social center. In 1901 Rosebud County was established with Forsyth as the county seat. Main Street expanded rapidly during the homestead boom of the 1910s. Although drought and depression in 1918 halted most development, Forsyth's importance as a local trade center was undiminished. Today twenty-four buildings span the period 1888-1931, offering small-town ambiance. The Marcyes Building and the Alexander Hotel, built by the town's two rivals, represent the early period. Several fine architect-designed blocks from the twentieth century also enrich the streetscape. The Renaissance Revival style Commercial Hotel (1903-6), the Beaux Arts style Wacholz Building (1917), and the Spanish Eclectic Roxy Theatre (1930) illustrate the vitality of this small but thriving community.

**Property:** Lida Parker Residence

**Address:** 325 N 12th, Forsyth, Rosebud

**Historic District:** Forsyth Residential    **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures    **Subject 2:** boardinghouses

**Sign Text:**

Cattleman Lafayette H. Parker and his wife, Lida, purchased a small home on this lot in 1910. Lafayette died two years later of tuberculosis, but Lida continued to live here, and in 1917, she obtained a mortgage to replace her home with a two-story clapboard residence with a full basement, which she opened as a boarding house. Both Forsyth newspapers commented on the new construction. The Democrat called the building "among the best and most expensive residences being constructed in the city this year," while the Times-Journal noted that "the house will be thoroughly modern in every respect" with steam heat and "hot and cold running water." For the lodgers' convenience the upstairs bathroom did not have a washstand; instead each bedroom had its own sink. In 1920 Parker lived here with her divorced daughter and two-year-old granddaughter, three single male lodgers (an engineer, railroad fireman, and bookkeeper), and a married couple and their ten-month-old baby. She sold the building in 1928, but it continued to serve as a boarding house until 1966, after which it became a private residence.

**Property:** 610 North Twelfth Avenue



## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Address:** 610 North Twelfth Avenue, Forsyth, Rosebud

**Historic District:** Forsyth Residential      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Standing just outside the original town site, this two-story home is believed to be one of the first residences constructed so close to the Yellowstone River. It was a dangerous place to build since despite early dikes, the river was still prone to floods. The concrete block foundation of this wooden home dates its construction to around 1906, after local mason Carson Conn had begun manufacturing the “pressed stone building material,” which he “guaranteed against frost and dampness.” Although several local buildings used the material in their foundations, only two Forsyth homes prominently feature the decorative concrete blocks. These were built by E. A. Richardson, founder of the Richardson Mercantile, and his nephew and employee E. A. Cornwell. Hal Withington, who is believed to have built this home, may well have learned about the technology from them. He worked with both men as manager of the Richardson Mercantile’s grocery department.

**Property:** Masonic Temple

**Address:** 1041-1047 Main Street, Forsyth, Rosebud

**Historic District:** Forsyth Main Street      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** fraternal lodges      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The first Masonic Lodge in Butte was chartered October 3, 1876. With a membership of 550 after the turn of the twentieth century, the organization had outgrown its old quarters on West Park. The new temple, completed in 1902, provides an early example of the grandly scaled Beaux-Arts style that came to dominate Butte’s later civic structures. Link and Carter, the forerunner of the prestigious architectural firm of Link and Haire, created the new temple, enhancing its façade with Ionic columns, a cornice of lions’ heads, and decorative borders of acanthus leaves and geometric designs.

**Property:** Merchant's Bank

**Address:** 971 Main, Forsyth, Rosebud

**Historic District:** Forsyth Main Street      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** banks (financial institutions)      **Subject 2:** commercial buildings

**Sign Text:**

Pioneer businessman Thomas Alexander founded Forsyth’s first bank in 1892. In 1898, he built this ashlar stone bank building with material quarried within a mile of Forsyth. Three small panels on the cornice commemorate the year of construction and the building’s original function. Although stone was widely used for foundations, Merchant’s Bank is one of the few Forsyth buildings built completely of stone. Large, plate-glass commercial windows and an inset entryway originally marked the street level façade. Inside, “commodious vaults of stone and steel” helped safeguard deposits from theft or fire. Capitalized at \$12,000 in 1900, Merchant’s Bank was a small bank even for its day. Nevertheless, it remained Forsyth’s only bank until 1901. By 1903, the bank had moved, and two storefronts, occupied by a barbershop and a carpentry/tin shop, shared this space. Not long after, J. Z. Northway opened a butcher shop here, where he sold meat and fresh sausage, which he manufactured in the circa 1910 rear brick addition. A community institution, the Forsyth Meat Market operated on Main Street into the 1930s.

**Property:** Bachelors Club

**Address:** 471 Nth 13th Ave, Forsyth, Rosebud

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Historic District:** Forsyth Residential      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** boardinghouses

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

A large central dormer and an inset front porch distinguish this Craftsman style residence. Businessman and real estate developer Winnie Dowlin likely had the home constructed circa 1910 along with the two houses immediately to the south for rental and resale. By 1914, the side-gabled, one-and-one-half-story residence had become home to the "Bachelors Club," an upscale boarding house for professional gentlemen. Housekeeper Alice A. Coleman created a comfortable, homelike atmosphere for the residents, who included dentist Mark Baker and the legendary Charles L. Crum. One of the most prominent victims of the anti-German hysteria that flourished during World War I, Crum served as judge of the Thirteenth Judicial District from 1912 to 1918. That year the Montana state senate impeached him as punishment for his outspoken anti-war views. Over seventy years later, the state senate reconsidered his case. With a unanimous vote of 46-0, it passed a resolution exonerating Crum in a "re-avowal of the principles of free speech and . . . desire to right a historical wrong."

**Property:** 474 North Thirteenth Avenue

**Address:** 474 North Thirteenth Avenue, Forsyth, Rosebud

**Historic District:** Forsyth Residential      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:** homesteads

**Sign Text:**

A single-story octagonal cutaway bay with prominent wooden brackets and a multi-sided screen porch mark the street façade of this T-shaped, two-story home. An excellent example of vernacular Queen Anne style architecture, the home displays much historic detail common to the form: irregular angles, cutaway bays, decorative multi-paned windows, wooden bracketing, a large porch, and a flared roofline. Inside the home, many of the corners are convex rather than the traditional 90 degrees. According to papers found tucked inside the home's walls for safekeeping, the house was built in 1897. However, it was not moved to this lot until circa 1909. Robert Lane, who owned a sheep ranch near Big Porcupine, lived here with his wife, Dora, and their three children from 1909 to 1914. Rosebud County rancher Charles Straw and his wife, Mabel, owned the home between 1914 and 1918. Both the Lanes and the Straws left Rosebud County before 1920, likely due to the extended drought, which made it difficult to make a living from the land.

**Property:** Forsyth Bridge

**Address:** 3rd Avenue at Yellowstone River, Forsyth, Rosebud

**Historic District:**      **Building Type:** structures

**Subject 1:** bridges (built works)

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Although heavy rain disrupted the celebrations, it couldn't dampen the enthusiasm Forsyth residents felt for their new bridge, dedicated on July 4, 1905. Prior to the bridge's construction, Rosebud County residents had to ford the Yellowstone River in low water or depend on an irregular ferry service; the nearest bridge was forty-five miles downstream at Miles City. Rosebud County commissioned William S. Hewett and Co. to construct this pin-connected Pennsylvania through-truss bridge for \$53,200. One of Montana's most prolific bridge builders, Hewett was responsible for the construction of at least fifteen Montana bridges in and around the Yellowstone Valley between 1897 and 1906. Construction began on December 22, 1904. The crew poured the massive concrete piers before assembling the large steel components, fabricated in the east and shipped to Forsyth by rail. Warming weather and spring flooding sometimes forced the bridge crew to work chest deep in cold water. Nevertheless, construction was completed ahead of schedule. Providing convenient access to the county seat and the Northern Pacific terminal, the bridge saw a marked increase in traffic after construction of the Milwaukee railroad brought

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

homesteaders to north Rosebud County. Originally three spans in length, the southern span crossed the primary river channel; the two northern spans crossed the flood plains. When the bridge was closed in 1958, replaced by a concrete bridge several hundred yards upstream, two of its three spans were salvaged for scrap metal. The southernmost span remains, an example of the tremendous public investment in infrastructure that accompanied the homesteading boom.

**Property:** Howard School

**Address:** Old Highway 10, Howard, Rosebud

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building | rural

**Subject 1:** public schools (buildings)           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Children first attended school in a log cabin at this site in 1882, the year the Northern Pacific Railroad completed its line through the Yellowstone Valley. The railroad brought growing numbers of homesteaders, and in 1904 the community replaced the old schoolhouse with this clapboard school. The two-story building expressed the homesteaders' commitment to education and their faith that the area would continue to grow. The bell tower—a status symbol for early schools—had moral overtones; bell towers are most commonly found in church architecture. The large front porch added a homey touch. Two teachers taught fifteen children at Howard School in 1904. A 1916 addition expanded the first floor elementary classroom space to serve the children of settlers who arrived after the 1909 Enlarged Homestead Act. Children of Mexican sugar beet workers also attended the school. High school classes, including Latin, geometry, and chemistry, were held upstairs. Also upstairs was the teacherage, or teachers' apartment. Howard closed the high school in 1932. Improved roads had made it easier for students to attend school in Forsyth while the Great Depression and declining enrollment had made it increasingly difficult to keep the high school open. In 1947, the grade school also closed and consolidated with Forsyth schools. After the formation of the Howard Community Club in the early 1980s, the Forsyth School District returned ownership of the school to the Howard community. The building continues to serve as a place for community gatherings, dances, club meetings, parties, baby showers, and family reunions.

**Property:** Wilson Residence

**Address:** 209 N. 11th Ave, Forsyth, Rosebud

**Historic District:** Forsyth Residential   **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Dr. Arthur C. Wilson moved to Forsyth after graduating medical school in 1891. He worked as a surgeon for the Northern Pacific Railroad, as a medical examiner for insurance companies, and as the county health officer. Forsyth's first resident physician, he also maintained an active general practice and is said to have covered "the territory between Miles City and Musselshell and to the Wyoming line." He and his wife Ida had this home built in 1903 either replacing or substantially enlarging the small wooden home that occupied this lot by 1897. The two-and-one-half-story residence on a double corner lot reflected the prominence of its owners, who lived here until Dr. Wilson's death in 1929. Popular Queen Anne elements ornament the home: a wraparound porch, two-story octagonal bay, and decorative leaded glass. Although it looks like an addition, the one-story room behind the house was part of the original design. Placing the kitchen under separate roof minimized fire risk. Bucket brigades could more easily reach a one-story roof, perhaps saving the main house in case of a kitchen fire.

**Property:** Sorenson Residence

**Address:** 510 N 12th Ave, Forsyth, Rosebud

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Historic District:** Forsyth Residential      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Northern Pacific Railroad engineer Thomas Sorenson and his wife Hannah built this one-and-one-half-story residence circa 1910. That year the Norwegian immigrant couple lived here with their five children and two boarders, both of whom also worked for the railroad. The large gambrel roof dormer distinguishes this home from its neighbors. That distinctive shape—often associated with barns—characterizes Dutch Colonial Revival architecture. However, other elements—including the first floor octagonal bay, pedimented dormer, inset porch, and asymmetrical massing—reflect a number of different styles. The stylistic mix suggests that the design came from a pattern book, a book of mass-produced architectural plans. Such plans sometimes came with precut lumber for easy assembly on site; other times, the popular plans simply provided local builders with specifications for complex structures that may otherwise have been beyond their skill. In either case, pattern books expanded housing options for families like the Sorensons who wanted more than what local builders could easily offer, but who could not afford to hire an architect to design a home exclusively for them.

**Property:** 310 N 11th

**Address:** 310 N 11th, Forsyth, Rosebud

**Historic District:** Forsyth Residential      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

At the turn of the twentieth century, inviting porches fronted many houses in Forsyth. Built before 1910 on a prominent corner lot, this hipped-roof home retains its full-length porch, supported by Doric columns. As with many early-twentieth-century homes, the kitchen, located at the back of the house, was placed under a separate roof. This design provided some protection for living and sleeping rooms in case of a kitchen fire. The one-story residence became home to John and Mabel Hefferin and their children by 1912. When the Hefferins purchased the home, it sat across the street from the Methodist Episcopal Church and parsonage. A leading voice for Prohibition, the church was a potentially awkward neighbor for John, a successful Main Street saloonkeeper. Montanans voted to outlaw alcohol in 1916 with the support of 64 percent of Rosebud County voters. Prohibition went into effect December 31, 1918, and John converted his saloon into a “club,” still operating in 1920. The family had moved on by 1923. That year, stenographer Alice Files, her father John, and her younger sister Margaret made their home here.

**Property:** Meyerhoff Residence

**Address:** 286 N 13th, Forsyth, Rosebud

**Historic District:** Forsyth Residential      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Emmett and Anna Meyerhoff arrived in Forsyth in 1902 and quickly became prominent in Forsyth society. The assistant cashier of the newly organized Forsyth State Bank (later First National Bank), Meyerhoff was bank president by 1913. Anna was active in the Forsyth Woman’s Club, whose meetings she sometimes hosted here, while Emmett was a committed Mason and a founding member of the Chamber of Commerce. He also served a term as mayor. The Meyerhoffs purchased this plot in 1907, and sometime before 1910 constructed an elegant, hipped-roof bungalow. The home boasts an interesting combination of decorative features including Craftsman style exposed rafter tails and multi-paned windows. After the agricultural depression forced the closure of all of Forsyth’s banks in 1923, the Meyerhoffs moved to Los Angeles, where Emmett found work as an accountant. Forsyth businessman Walter Dean purchased the home in 1945 for his son, Walter, and daughter-in-law, Esther.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

In the early 1960s, during the Cold War, the Deans installed a bomb shelter in the basement. Although Walter died in 1998, Esther still lived here in 2004.

**Property:** Roxy Theatre

**Address:** 981 Main Street, Forsyth, Rosebud

**Historic District:** Forsyth Residential      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** theaters (buildings)      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

“May You Prosper Well in Your New Theatre with Your Steadfast Faith in Forsyth,” read one of the many ads that filled the August 28, 1930, Forsyth Times. Car and clothing merchants joined building contractors and suppliers in congratulating Anthony Wolke and Frank Faust on the construction of their new theatre. Movies had played in Forsyth since the turn of the century, first in the Commercial Hotel, then in a converted Main Street storefront. The Roxy, however, was the first building in Forsyth constructed specifically as a theatre; it was also one of the few buildings constructed in Forsyth during the Great Depression. Equipped with RCA sound-producing equipment, the new theatre boasted red velour curtains, spring cushion seats, Spanish lanterns in the foyer, and six small Spanish balconies in the auditorium itself. The Spanish décor carried to the exterior, where stucco walls and exotic-looking Spanish roof tiles tempted passersby to escape the sometimes grim reality of the Depression. Entrance into the realm of romance and entertainment cost only fifty cents (sixty cents for balcony seats).

**Property:** Taber Residence

**Address:** 309 North Eleventh Avenue, Forsyth, Rosebud

**Historic District:** Forsyth Residential      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Civil engineer Charles Taber helped survey the original Northern Pacific line through Forsyth in 1881. He must have liked what he saw because he soon returned to Forsyth, becoming the town’s first mayor after it incorporated in 1904. Taber purchased this two-story Queen Anne style home in 1906, living here with his family into the 1930s. The cross-gable residence, built circa 1892, features bay windows, turned porch supports, carved porch brackets, and a small spindlework frieze. Railroads brought such pre-cut architectural elements to towns along their tracks, allowing builders to personalize homes for their clients. The interior boasts a narrow, sharply curved wooden staircase that, according to local legend, came from a steamboat that wrecked on the Yellowstone River. Very few boats traveled the Yellowstone after the Northern Pacific completed its railroad line in 1883, but the staircase does, in fact, look like those found in nineteenth-century steamboats. The 1870s saw at least two steamboat wrecks on the Yellowstone, and thrifty Montanans always salvaged what they could from the wreckage, from freight and machinery to building materials.

**Property:** E.A. Cornwell Residence

**Address:** 389 N. 12th, Forsyth, Rosebud

**Historic District:** Forsyth Residential      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:** concrete buildings

**Sign Text:**

“E. A. Cornwell, the popular Forsyth merchant and banker, will move this week into the first cement block house ever built in Forsyth,” reported the Forsyth Times on October 3, 1907. “It is fitted with steam throughout, electric lighted, and modern in every convenience.” Relatively new technology in 1907, cement blocks cost less than wood or stone, came in a variety of finishes, and were easier to lay than brick. According to local mason and cement block manufacturer Carson Conn, the material was “the warmest in winter; the coolest in summer. Guaranteed

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

against frost and dampness.” Nevertheless, in Forsyth the material was mainly used for foundations. In fact, Forsyth’s only other cement block home was that of prominent merchant E. A. Richardson, Cornwell’s uncle and employer. Clearly a fan of the new technology, Richardson owned the land on which this house was built and may have had some say in the home’s design. In 1909, Richardson transferred the title to Cornwell, who lived here with his wife, Edith, into the 1920s.

**Property:** Claude O. Marcyes House

**Address:** 390 S 7th Ave, Forsyth, Rosebud

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Five brick houses, all built by early Forsyth merchant Hiram Marcyes, lined this block in 1903. Marcyes arrived in Forsyth in 1882 when it was just a tent town. In 1888, he built the first brick business block in Forsyth; fifteen years later he constructed the grand Commercial Hotel. The owner of a brickyard, Marcyes was responsible for most of Forsyth’s brick residential construction. While the town’s other businessmen built elegant wooden homes on the north side, Marcyes built a brick house for himself (since razed) and several rental properties on the south side. He also had south side homes built for each of his five children, including this one-and-one-half-story Queen Anne style residence, constructed in 1899 for his oldest son Claude. Claude was in college when his father built this house. In 1910, he was living on a nearby ranch. He may have used this residence as a town house until he sold it in 1916. In the 1920s he worked for the Northern Pacific Railroad. He reportedly crossed the picket line during a 1923 strike, after which the Northern Pacific relocated him to Missoula, where he worked as foreman in the tool department. Relatively few turn-of-the-century Forsyth homes display this level of detail and complexity. The residence’s contrasting textures, steeply pitched roof, patterned shingles, and asymmetrical façade all speak to its Queen Anne origins, while its graceful three-part Palladian window adds particular visual interest.

**Property:** Merchant's Bank Block

**Address:** 925 Main, Forsyth, Rosebud

**Historic District:** Forsyth Main Street   **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** banks (financial institutions)           **Subject 2:** fraternal lodges

**Sign Text:**

A 1912 fire at the next-door American Hotel likely provided the impetus to stucco the façade of this brick building. Thomas Alexander, a pioneer businessman and founder of the Merchant’s Bank, built the first story of the two-story business block around 1893. Alexander’s bank occupied the east half of the main floor; the Post Office Store occupied the west half. The second story was completed in late 1894 and features a geometric, elaborately corbelled brick cornice. According to local legend, business competitor Hiram Marcyes blackballed Alexander from the Masons. However, Alexander was active in other fraternal organizations, and he incorporated a hall on the second floor “for the use of secret societies.” Both bank and post office had moved by 1900, and the Main Street storefronts became home to other businesses. In 1903, a short-lived bowling alley was tacked onto the rear of the building. Around 1910, the American Hotel, also owned by Alexander, took over the second floor. A passageway cut between the second-story walls connected the guest rooms in this building to the main hotel.

**Property:** J.A. Bookman General Store

**Address:** Main Street, Ingomar, Rosebud

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings           **Subject 2:**

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

### Sign Text:

J. Abraham “Abe” Bookman came from Ireland with his wife, Anna, and brother-in-law, Simon Sigman. By 1912, they had settled in Ingomar, where Bookman operated the town mercantile and Sigman served as postmaster. The business was so prosperous that once, when Bookman was at the depot to receive a shipment of groceries and clothing, settlers waiting for the next train bought every single item before it could be carried to the store. In 1914, Bookman’s success allowed him to finance Sigman’s opening of a general store in nearby Vananda. Although Rosebud County’s economy was obviously in trouble by 1921 and many homesteaders had moved on, Ingomar’s commercial area remained relatively stable. When fire devastated the small district that year, this prominent brick building with its lively diamond pattern of polychromatic brick was built to replace Bookman’s original store. Now connected to its neighbor through an interior doorway, the well-preserved vintage building is a classic example of the commercial structures once common in small prairie settlements. The intact survival of its two-bay storefront is particularly noteworthy. Although most Ingomar businesses closed during the 1920s and 1930s, the Bookmans struggled through hard times and loss of their property at sheriff’s sale in 1933. They repurchased the store in 1935, and Abe hung on to the business until his death in 1941. Anna retired two years later, closing the store for good. Its closure marked the true end of Ingomar’s pioneer era.

**Property:** Harry and Frances Cornwell Residence

**Address:** 310 N. 13th Ave, Forsyth, Rosebud

**Historic District:** Forsyth Residential      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

Decorative half-timbering and an intricate roofline distinguish this elegant one-and-one-half-story home. Mary Philbrick had the residence built as a wedding present for her daughter Mary Frances and son-in-law Harry Cornwell, a hardware merchant. The Philbricks were a wealthy Rosebud County ranching family, and Mary reportedly gave “munificent gifts of property” to each of her three children on their marriages. Harry and Frances Cornwell married in Minneapolis in 1916, and the house was still under construction when they returned to Forsyth after a month’s honeymoon. One of Forsyth’s largest and most finely detailed Craftsman style residences, the home features many of that architectural style’s hallmarks, including large overhanging eaves, exposed rafter tails, wooden braces, and multi-pane windows. The Cornwells enclosed the front porch sometime after 1941. The couple raised two children in this home, and their son Howard, who later managed the Philbrick family ranch holdings, lived here into the 1990s.

**Property:** 933 Main Street

**Address:** 933 Main Street, Forsyth, Rosebud

**Historic District:** Forsyth Main Street      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings      **Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

In 1882, pioneer Thomas Alexander traded a parcel of land to the Northern Pacific in exchange for other property nearby. Alexander’s farm became the town of Forsyth and Alexander became an important local merchant and real estate developer. Among his other ventures, he constructed four brick buildings on Main Street’s 900 block. In 1897, he rented this one to a hardware and saddlery shop; construction of the second floor, which features a cornice decorated with a row of short pilasters, was still underway. In 1902 Alexander sold the western commercial style building to Peter Droese, who operated a drugstore here until 1933. Droese helped found Forsyth’s telephone service in 1900 and, despite being a man, worked as its first “Hello Girl.” In the teens, Droese stuccoed the building’s exterior, which perhaps had suffered damage when the nearby American Hotel burned in

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

1912. In 1933, Ike Blakesley and Jack Mason converted the drugstore into “Club Cigar,” later known as Blakesley’s. Ike’s son Glen continued to operate the popular bar and lunch room into the 1980s.

**Property:** Thurston Residence

**Address:** 290 North 14th Avenue, Forsyth, Rosebud

**Historic District:** Forsyth Residential      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Small touches add elegance to this one-and-one-half-story Colonial Revival residence and matching garage. Particularly noteworthy are its overall symmetry, prominent eave returns, shingled gabled ends, and classical pillars supporting the hipped roof of the front porch. The home’s relative lack of adornment owes much to the early twentieth century’s emphasis on simplicity and clean lines. Its longest-term residents were Andrew and Ellen Thurston and their four daughters. Andrew managed the Yellowstone Elevator Company before becoming a car salesman while Ellen was locally known for her hospitality. The popular Forsyth couple may have built the home after purchasing the lot from prominent businessman and banker Emmett Meyerhoff in 1919. They owned the residence until 1937. The wooden home with clapboard siding has changed little since it was first built. Except for the modern porch screens, storm windows, and metal roof, the exterior looks much as it did in 1920. The interior still boasts hardwood floors, wood trim, crown molding, and even some of the original light fixtures.

**Property:** Northway Residence

**Address:** 1059 Cedar St, Forsyth, Rosebud

**Historic District:** Forsyth Residential      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

A truncated hipped roof reflects this circa 1895 home’s modest beginnings. Carpenters used shorter, less expensive pieces of lumber for hipped roofs than for triangular-shaped gable roofs. Owners added a full-length front porch (since removed) and a rear addition before 1903. That year Ida Northway purchased the residence, where she lived with her husband Joseph and their son Glen. Women like Ida often owned their family homes because in some circumstances their property could be protected from their husbands’ creditors. Montana’s boom-and-bust economy made any such protection welcome. An open range cowboy in the 1880s, Ida’s husband Joseph tried several businesses before his election as Rosebud County sheriff in 1902. He later owned a successful meat market at Tenth and Main, an easy walk from here. Ida, for her part, was a renowned homemaker. “Home was the dearest place of all to her,” according to her 1927 obituary. “...As a consequence, she kept it so that not only her own family delighted to be there, but her many friends to drop in for a little time of its fellowship.”

**Property:** Bland Residence

**Address:** 273 N 13th Ave, Forsyth, Rosebud

**Historic District:** Forsyth Residential      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

“The three Longley cottages in the eastern part of the city have been completed and are ready for occupancy,” announced the Forsyth Times in November 1901. Two of those cottages were almost certainly this hipped-roof residence and its twin next door, both owned by M. Longley. The homes are typical of Forsyth’s turn-of-the-century masonry residences, most of which have since been covered with stucco. Mass production of decorative details allowed even modest houses to partake of architectural fashion. In the case of these two homes, the fish scale shingles ornamenting their front gable ends and the turned wooden posts supporting the gabled porch roofs



## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

visually reference the popular Queen Anne style. In 1914, real estate salesman Arthur Bland lived here with his wife, Maude, and their daughter, Marvel. The public administrator for Rosebud County from 1913 to 1928, Bland had to scramble to make a living after the homestead boom dried up; by 1920, he was working for the railroad as a brakeman. In 1928, the Blands moved to Billings, where Arthur once again sold real estate.

**Property:** 558 North Twelfth Avenue

**Address:** 558 North Twelfth Ave, Forsyth, Rosebud

**Historic District:** Forsyth Residential      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Exposed rafter tails add a fashionable Craftsman style accent to this one-story residence. The inviting, open front porch also reflects the Craftsman ideal; the style's southern California originators intended large front porches to connect homeowners to their natural surroundings. In other respects, the house resembles the working-class hipped roof cottages common to company towns and railroading communities across the United States. In Forsyth, the prevalence of these houses reflected a large population of railroad workers, whose well-paid union jobs meant that they could afford to live in single family homes. Likely built circa 1907, after the Milwaukee Road arrived in Forsyth, the residence became home to Hallet (Hal) and Bertha Withington by 1914. Withington lived in Montana for seventy-two of his ninety-five years, primarily in Forsyth. He managed the grocery department of the old Richardson Mercantile for thirty years and was an active Mason. However, he was best known locally for an uncharacteristically adventurous episode—his youthful, brief, and unprofitable expedition to the Klondike during the 1897 gold rush.

**Property:** Vredenburgh and Sawtelle Sanitarium

**Address:** 342 No. 13th Ave, Forsyth, Rosebud

**Historic District:** Forsyth Residential      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** sanitarium      **Subject 2:** hospitals (buildings for health facility)

**Sign Text:**

Osteopaths Norman Vredenburgh and Claude Sawtelle built this Craftsman style bungalow in 1915 as a "sanitarium," a small hospital and nursing home. From its inviting inset front porch to its prominent hipped dormers, the building looked more like a house than a hospital. However, according to its newspaper advertisements, the sanitarium served as a center for "Osteopathy, Hydrotherapy, Electrotherapy, Violet Rays, Electric Light Sweat Baths, and the famous Ozon Treatment." In particular, the partners specialized in "chronic and maternity cases, eye, ear, nose, and throat work" and optometry. Dr. Vredenburgh lived next door while Dr. Sawtelle resided at the hospital. Many such private hospitals opened in towns across Montana before resources were available to construct larger facilities. In this case, the venture was short-lived. The sanitarium closed before the 1918 flu epidemic hit Forsyth; flu victims received treatment at a makeshift emergency hospital in the Masonic Lodge. Forsyth finally gained a permanent hospital when Rosebud County contracted with the Deaconess organization to open a thirty-two-bed facility in 1922.

**Property:** First Presbyterian Church and Manse

**Address:** 1160-1180 Cedar Street, Forsyth, Rosebud

**Historic District:**      **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** churches (buildings)      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

When an overheated furnace set fire to the First Presbyterian Church in December 1919, the congregation lost

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

everything but the Prairie style manse built next door in 1910. While church members temporarily held services in the Masonic Hall, news of the fire and pleas for help rebuilding spread through the national Presbyterian press. Among those who responded was an unnamed benefactress from Illinois, a member of Chicago's distinguished Fourth Presbyterian Church. Because she admired her own church building, the benefactress hired Howard Van Doren Shaw, a Chicago architect associated with Fourth Presbyterian, to design a new church for Forsyth. Shaw's design, as adapted by Montana architects McIver and Cohagen, echoed on a much smaller scale the basic lines of the prestigious Chicago church. The result: this beautiful single-story yellow brick building with a tall gabled clerestory flanked by three small cross gables. Its simplified Gothic style details include buttressed walls and a prominent pointed-arch entranceway. Although church trustees originally estimated reconstruction would cost \$30,000 to \$35,000, Shaw's design was more ambitious than they expected, and more than the small congregation, hit hard by the declining homesteading economy, could afford—even with substantial national support. Compromises were made; for example, many of the church's rectangular windows lie beneath window arches originally intended to frame dramatic stained glass, and some of the interior detailing remained uncompleted until the 1970s. In 1950, Forsyth's Presbyterians and Methodists joined together to form the Federated Church; the united congregation continues to meet in this downtown landmark.

**Property:** Dowlin and Sweetser Block

**Address:** 863-871 Main Street, Forsyth, Rosebud

**Historic District:** Forsyth Main Street      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The arrival of the Milwaukee railroad in 1907 and the homesteaders who followed created new business opportunities for Forsyth, which grew in population from 726 people in 1904 to 1,398 in 1910. Recognizing the town's potential, Mayor J. W. Sweetser purchased this tract of land from early Forsyth pioneer Hiram Marcyes in 1907. With financial backing from W. E. Dowlin, he erected this two-story brick business block on Forsyth's unpaved Main Street. At the time, its relatively large scale was atypical, but it quickly became a model for others to follow. The second floor offered rental rooms, while a variety of businesses, including Walter Dean's jewelry and drug store and J. C. Penney, occupied the street-level storefronts. The building's detailed brick cornice may have been inspired by ones in Anoka, Minnesota. The Forsyth Times reported that Dowlin planned to select the building's façade on a trip there to visit family in September 1907. The owners' pride in the structure was obvious: centered beneath the elaborate brick cornice is a concrete panel with the words "Dowlin 1907 Sweetser."

**Property:** F.V.H. Collins Residence

**Address:** 389 North 11th Ave, Forsyth, Rosebud

**Historic District:** Forsyth Residential      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

In 1901, prosperous rancher Thomas Hammond built "a fine residence in Forsyth ... one of the architectural adornments of the city." He and his wife, Adelaide, and their four children used the home as a town house until 1905. That year they sold the two-story, four-square residence to Fred and Jemima Collins. A prominent lawyer and real estate developer, Fred later made a fortune in coal and oil near Roundup. By 1910, the Collinses had added a one-story back addition and remodeled the front porch to create a jutting, prominent entryway. They changed the porch a second time before 1920 to feature a screened second-floor sleeping room and balustrade atop the second story. Decorative leaded glass, original fixtures, and a secret room behind the second-floor bathroom add interest to the home's interior, as does a fireplace lined with river rocks. Local sources say that

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

Jemima Collins collected the rocks herself, and that before bringing them inside, she placed them in a fire in the backyard to make sure they could stand the heat of a fireplace.

**Property:** 542 North Twelfth Avenue

**Address:** 542 North Twelfth Avenue, Forsyth, Rosebud

**Historic District:** Forsyth Residential      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Northern Pacific conductor Frank Runyan and his wife, Nellie, built this one-story bungalow in 1914. County jailor Dick Wright and his wife, Edith, lived here from 1919 to 1923. A. J. and Ina Freeman owned the home in 1940. A. J. was justice of the peace; Ina helped found the Forsyth library and served as its first librarian. Before dentist Craig Phillips and his wife, Julia, purchased the residence in 1942, the house had been used as a duplex. One family lived in the daylight basement and the other on the main floor. Both families shared a single bathroom by the basement stairs. A community-minded dentist, Craig served on the school board, the hospital board, and as a church trustee. His business records show that he charged the same rates from 1934, when he opened his Forsyth practice, until his death in 1966. After Craig died, Julia worked for twenty-one years as secretary of the Federated Church. She lived here full time until 1990 and then in the summers until her death in 2000.

**Property:** Commercial Hotel

**Address:** 807 Main Street, Forsyth, Rosebud

**Historic District:** Forsyth Main Street      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** hotels (public accommodations)      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Decorative brickwork marks this impressive hotel designed by Montana architects Link and Haire. A vivid diamond pattern of light and dark brick provides a decorative band below the cornice, while raised brickwork divides the building vertically. A smooth belt line separates the street façade from the upper levels. In this, it mirrors traditional Renaissance Revival design, which organized large buildings into horizontal layers, with each floor becoming increasingly more refined. Rusticated stone was often used to make the first floor seem rougher than the upper levels, an effect simulated here through brickwork. Owned by pioneer entrepreneur Hiram Marcyes, the hotel was built in stages from 1903 to 1906. Marcyes, who owned a brickyard south of town, had earlier built Forsyth's first brick business block as well as several other properties. A 1905 newspaper article gave Marcyes "credit for constructing not only the most [buildings], but the largest building in the city"—the new Commercial Hotel. The hotel, it said, was "the result of much personal effort," Marcyes "having been carpenter, mason, and painter . . . at different times."

**Property:** Wiley, Clark and Greening Bank

**Address:** Main Street, Ingomar, Rosebud

**Historic District:**      **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** banks (financial institutions)      **Subject 2:** commercial buildings

**Sign Text:**

Completion of the "Milwaukee Road" brought hundred of homesteaders to Ingomar during the 1910s. By 1914, wood-frame homes and a small commercial district proclaimed the town a permanent settlement. On July 2, 1914, the Ingomar Index announced that a bank would soon open, marking an important milestone in the community's development. Investors H. B. Wiley, C. W. Greening, and E. B. Clark hired bookkeeper W. T. Craig. All, declared the Index, were businessmen of sterling reputations. When the new building was completed that October, the newspaper declared it a "pippin," noting that "cashier Craig feels like a kid with a new toy." It was

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

Ingomar's first brick building. The bank indeed prospered, reorganizing and expanding in 1917 as a state bank, and reorganizing again in 1921 under federal charter. Economic reversal led to the bank's sudden closure later that year. Craig was convicted of misuse of bank funds, a ruling that was later overturned on appeal. The bank stood empty, a painful reminder of delinquent loans and failed homesteads. In 1933, the Oasis Bar opened in the building and the Jersey Lilly Bar and Café moved here in 1948. The former bank has since served as a community gathering place with a devoted clientele. Original pressed tin ceilings, bank vaults, and the outline of teller cages on unfinished hardwood flooring suggest the building's previous function. Its dignified outward appearance reflects the time when Ingomar was the commercial and social center of a vital agricultural community.

**Property:** Ingomar Public School

**Address:** 2nd Avenue, Ingomar, Rosebud

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** public schools (buildings)           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

As hundreds of farmers and ranchers homesteaded the arid, treeless plains of northwestern Rosebud County, the townsite of Ingomar was platted along the tracks of the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railway in 1912. That year, one teacher and a borrowed building served Ingomar's first public school students. By the following year the western one-room portion of the present building was completed and fourteen students attended classes. In 1915, the school district contracted with Melstone builder Neils Hanson to construct an addition. At a cost of \$9,000, the enlarged schoolhouse would serve not only local children, but would also provide a place for community functions. The teachers and their thirty-seven scholars presented a dedication program on November 24, 1915, for the visiting State Inspector of Schools. The school continued to be well attended during the 1920s and 1930s partly because of the closure of other area rural schools. A second building, no longer standing, was built in 1922 to accommodate elementary students, and this building was then converted for use as a high school. It served as such until 1951 and again briefly during the 1960s. Activity at the site ended permanently when Ingomar's school district closed in 1992. Today the spacious, well-lighted classrooms with hardwood floors, wood wainscot walls, and pressed tin ceilings remain intact. One of the area's few surviving examples of public architecture, it is also eastern Montana's most outstanding example of post-frontier prairie schoolhouse design. This splendid landmark is all the more remarkable because time and service have left its appearance virtually unchanged.

**Property:** Forsyth Water Pumping Station

**Address:** 3rd Avenue at Yellowstone River, Forsyth, Rosebud

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** utilities (infrastructures)           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Recognizing that successful communities require infrastructure, Forsyth's civic leaders proposed construction of a waterworks and sewerage system in 1906. As the town council asserted when it posted the bond issue, "We desire to improve the town.... If the people do not want the city to advance, they may signify their desire by their votes." Approving \$45,000 for a waterworks and \$5,000 for sewerage, a majority of voters signaled their support for municipal progress. Construction of the waterworks fell to the Des Moines Bridge Building Co. The project included building a brick pumping station, settling ponds, and a concrete reservoir on the bluffs above town and installing a network of pipes through Forsyth's developed streets. Forsyth's frugal city council did not believe in architectural frills; the stark, industrial design of the pumping station reflects its utilitarian purpose. By February 1908, the waterworks was complete; city residents had only "to tap the mains" to "pipe the purest and clearest of water" into their homes and businesses, according to the Forsyth Times. The newspaper's description of the

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

water's purity was somewhat exaggerated, as Forsyth's 1917 typhoid scare and boil order attests. Nevertheless, the new water system did represent a considerable advance for the community, especially in the area of fire suppression. The amount of water needed to fight a fire in the business district determined the design specifications for Forsyth's waterworks, and the community quickly took advantage of its new capacity, establishing a volunteer fire department within weeks of the waterworks' completion.

**Property:** Richardson Mercantile Implement Division

**Address:** 175 North 9th Avenue, Forsyth, Rosebud

**Historic District:** Forsyth Residential      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

"Forsyth No Longer a String Town—Side Streets Are Being Utilized" proclaimed a 1910 Forsyth Times article lauding the development of Ninth Avenue. Side streets lined with businesses marked a railroad town's coming-of-age, as did construction of brick buildings featuring whatever architectural flourishes their owners could afford. Rusticated quoins and a small brick cornice ornament the façade of this relatively simple one-story building constructed between 1907 and 1910. In 1910, a large wooden warehouse stood in back; the Richardson Mercantile used both the warehouse and this brick storefront for its farm implement division. In 1915, the law firm of Loud, Collins, Brown, Campbell and Wood purchased the building. The firm, which also operated in Billings and Miles City, completely remodeled the structure to make it "as modern as possible." Large plate glass windows provided ample light for the stenographic department, while skylights provided light and ventilation for the private offices of the firm's principals. Later remodels changed the building further, but its function remained constant: law firms continued to occupy this space until 1988.

**Property:** Choisser Block

**Address:** 167 N 9th Ave, Forsyth, Rosebud

**Historic District:** Forsyth Residential      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings      **Subject 2:** hotels (public accommodations)

**Sign Text:**

Sunrays filtering through a window apparently ignited straw packing in the basement of the J. E. Choisser Wholesale Liquor Company in July 1917. Bottles of liquor burst in the flames, fueling a fire that ultimately gutted the two-story building. Self-made entrepreneur Joseph Choisser built the original business block in 1908 for approximately \$30,000. The post office shared one of the storefronts with a newsstand from 1910 to 1968. A women's clothing store was also a long-term tenant. The manager of the Alexander Hotel, Choisser used the second floor as a hotel annex. A pedestrian overpass connected the two buildings. After the fire, Choisser hired Billings architect Curtis Oehme to renovate and add a third story to the property. The original 1908 pediment, inscribed "J. E. Choisser," tops the three-story building, one of only two in Forsyth. Oehme's design included a central, open light well to draw sunlight and fresh air into each hotel guestroom. Today, the building—remodeled again in the 1980s—remains a hotel frequented primarily by railroad crews laying over in Forsyth.

**Property:** Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers Hall

**Address:** 278 7th Ave, Forsyth, Rosebud

**Historic District:**      **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** assembly halls      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

On May 8, 1882, the first train rumbled through Forsyth, and the growing town soon became home to many

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

Northern Pacific Railway workers. Among them were locomotive engineers, whose skills were in high demand, particularly in the West during the heady days of railroad expansion. The Forsyth engineers operated their steam-powered locomotives to the crew change point of Billings (and later Laurel). By September 1882, enough engineers had moved to Forsyth to form Division 195 of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers (BLE), the United States' first railroad union. Founded in Detroit in 1863, the BLE generally avoided strikes in favor of negotiations; it became a pioneer in collective bargaining and a strong lobby for railroad safety. BLE Division 195 built this meeting hall in 1886 with labor and funds donated by its members. Constructed of logs, the hall was later sided and eventually stuccoed. The building contains a small vestibule, a closet, and a single meeting room that still boasts its original wood floor, baseboards, and chair rails. From 1886 to 1899, the engineers leased the land on which the hall stands from the Northern Pacific Railway; in 1899 they purchased the lot when the railroad sold the land to a townsite company, creating Forsyth's NP Addition. Many organizations used the BLE Hall for meetings, dances, and family gatherings, and one early Forsyth congregation worshipped here until it could build its own church. One of the best surviving examples of Forsyth's early architecture, it is still occasionally used by the BLE.

**Property:** Rosebud County Courthouse

**Address:** 1250 Main Street, Forsyth, Rosebud

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** county courthouses           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Scandal and intrigue surrounded the construction of Rosebud County Courthouse in 1914. Rosebud County citizens recognized the need for a new courthouse when they passed a \$125,000 bond issue in 1911 to fund the building. To design a suitable replacement for the original courthouse—a wood-frame former schoolhouse—county commissioners hired Montana architects Link and Haire. That highly respected firm ultimately designed courthouses for eighteen of Montana's fifty-six counties. Featuring a colossal portico and an octagonal tower topped by a copper dome, Link and Haire's design was well received, and Gray's Construction Company of South Dakota began excavation amid high praise in 1912. Trouble commenced when it became clear that the project was more than \$40,000 over budget. In September 1913, the editor of the Forsyth Times-Journal lambasted the county commissioners for the cost overrun and brought suit to restrain them from further expenditure. Apparently worried that his company would not be paid in full, Gray's foreman refused to turn over the keys to the completed building, despite a court order. The clash had moments of high comedy: at one point, the foreman locked himself inside the building and secreted himself between the ceiling and the roof. Ultimately, a grand jury vindicated the commissioners. Ruling that the building's design was "imposing and attractive" and its interior "very harmoniously and artistically decorated," the grand jury declared that the county received "full value for the money expended." Their judgment still stands. The elegant Neoclassical building remains one of Rosebud County's architectural jewels.

**Property:** Herman and Hannah Anderson House

**Address:** 209 S 7th, Forsyth, Rosebud

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:** apartments

**Sign Text:**

Twenty-year-old Herman K. Anderson arrived in the United States in the late 1880s. One of over 1.5 million Swedes who left their homeland between 1850 and 1930, he quickly found work in North Dakota and eastern Montana on the Northern Pacific Railroad. Lonely, he corresponded with an old sweetheart, Hannah Svenson, and convinced her to join him in America. She traveled first to New York, where she worked at a children's home to

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

earn money before moving west. The couple married in 1895 in Glendive, Montana. In 1902, the Andersons returned to Sweden to visit family and investigate buying a farm. Some 13 percent of Swedish immigrants to the United States returned home, but the Andersons soon decided that they preferred life in the United States. Herman once again found work with the Northern Pacific, and the family lived briefly in Howard, Montana, before moving to Forsyth in late 1903. In 1908, longing for their own home, the Andersons hired contractor J. W. Waddell to build them an eleven-room house. It was completed just in time for the birth of the family's fifth, and last, child. The comfortable, two-story, clapboard residence with a large wraparound porch was within easy walking distance of the railroad shop where Herman worked until his retirement in 1935. The home remained in the family until 1954. A subsequent owner converted it into five small apartments, but the building's exterior looks much as it did when Swedish, rather than English, resounded in its halls.

**Property:** Masonic Temple

**Address:** 1041-1047 Main Street, Forsyth, Rosebud

**Historic District:** Forsyth Main Street      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** fraternal lodges                      **Subject 2:** commercial buildings

**Sign Text:**

Terra-cotta medallions sporting the Masonic emblem of square and compass and the words "Masonic Temple" centered beneath the cornice proudly announce this building's primary purpose. Chartered in 1898, the Forsyth Masonic Lodge met in borrowed quarters until 1905, when enthusiastic Mason Hiram Marcyes included a lodge room in his new Commercial Hotel. Six years later, the Masons hired Miles City architect Brynjulf Rivenes to design this Beaux Arts style temple, constructed of local brick from Marcyes' brickyard and finished with a façade of high-fire Hebron brick trimmed with Bedford limestone. Rent from the first-floor storefronts subsidized the building's \$21,000 price tag. The second floor boasted the lodge room as well as a cloakroom and clubroom designed for members of the short-lived Forsyth Club. During the 1918 flu epidemic, clubrooms were converted into a temporary hospital. In 1921 the public library, founded by the Forsyth Woman's Club, occupied the space. While the library moved to the old courthouse in 1927 and into its current building in 1971, Masons continue to meet in this lodge, built by their predecessors in 1911.

**Property:** 258 North Twelfth Avenue

**Address:** 258 North Twelfth Avenue, Forsyth, Rosebud

**Historic District:** Forsyth Residential      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures              **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Built between 1895 and 1900, this residence began as a brick cottage with a rear kitchen addition and a small front porch. Kitchens were often built under separate roofs at the turn of the century. This separation kept smoke from the kitchen stove from entering the rest of the house, increased ventilation during the hot summer months, and reduced the possibility of a kitchen fire spreading out of control. Before 1910, the owners added a larger porch, and before 1920, they added a back room. At some point they also covered the brick with stucco. Edmond and Hattie Christoph lived here with their daughter from 1914 until at least 1930. A locomotive engineer, Edmond worked for the Northern Pacific Railroad, a mainstay of Forsyth's economy, especially after the homestead boom went bust. In 1930, the home was valued at \$1,500. The Christophs owned it free of mortgage, and Edmond had full-time employment, making the family better off than many at the start of the Great Depression.

**Property:** E.A. Richardson Residence

**Address:** 316 N 12th, Forsyth, Rosebud

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Historic District:** Forsyth Residential      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Cast concrete block was an exciting new technology in the 1900s. While critics labeled it “cheap and vulgar,” builders and homeowners embraced it as a “substantial and beautiful substitute for stone.” Durable, affordable, and simple to manufacture, the material—virtually unheard of in 1900—was widely used by 1906, when Forsyth mason Carson Conn began producing concrete blocks in a variety of finishes. Nationally, cast concrete brought architectural ornamentation within financial reach of the masses. In Forsyth, however, this elegant “free classic” Queen Anne house is one of the few to feature the decorative substitute. In typical Queen Anne style, the 1908 home boasts a variety of surface shapes and textures, while its classical front porch columns and hipped roof suggest a Colonial Revival influence. E. A. and Lillian Richardson, for whom the house was built, moved to Forsyth from Crow Agency in 1907 to take advantage of the booming homestead economy. Richardson first opened his Forsyth store in 1903; under his watchful eye, it grew into the city’s largest department store.

**Property:** Edwards Residence

**Address:** 313 N 11 Ave, Forsyth, Rosebud

**Historic District:** Forsyth Residential      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Distinctive pointed-arched, Gothic style windows and a decorative three-story square tower, tucked in the L of the cross-gable, originally distinguished this unique residence, constructed between 1896 and 1903. In March 1903, John and Julia Edwards purchased the home, where they lived with their children into the 1920s. The Edwardses remodeled the residence, removing the tower and replacing the Gothic windows by 1910. The outline of the doorway to the cupola is still visible in an upstairs bedroom. By 1920, the Edwards had also expanded the living room and added an attached garage with a bedroom and sun porch above. John Edwards arrived in Montana in 1890 as foreman of a cross country cattle drive. He and his family moved to Forsyth in 1902, where he became president of the Bank of Commerce, vice president of Richardson Mercantile, and served as state senator. Despite remarkable business and political success, he ultimately lost his fortune. He died almost destitute in 1925. The house suffered neglect in later years but recent owners repaired the residence, including restoring the original hardwood floors.

**Property:** Kennedy-Fletcher Block

**Address:** 180 N 9th Ave, Forsyth, Rosebud

**Historic District:** Forsyth Main Street      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

A pressed metal cornice, door surrounds made of cast iron, and an exposed steel I-beam distinguish the façade of the 1907 Kennedy-Fletcher block. Geo. L. Mesker and Co. of Bedford, Indiana, the largest architectural ironworks in the country, manufactured the decorative metal elements, which feature ornamented floral and leaf designs, simple swags, fleur-de-lis, and other classical motifs. Mass-produced metal detailing was a less expensive form of decoration than stone. By contrast, the steel I-beam separating the first and second floors has a primarily structural purpose. The I-beam transfers weight away from the large display windows used to beckon customers. Its defining decorative rosettes are actually a glorified plate-and-bolt assembly that holds structurally important tie rods. The largest commercial building in Forsyth at the time of its construction, the department store was also the first brick commercial block erected off Main Street. E. A. Richardson bought the business in 1908. In 1916, he



## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

sold an expanded operation to his department managers, who transformed the building into three separate stores that sold groceries, dry goods, and hardware and furniture.

**Property:** Masonic Temple

**Address:** 1041-1047 Main Street, Forsyth, Rosebud

**Historic District:** Forsyth Main Street      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** fraternal lodges      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Terra-cotta medallions sporting the Masonic emblem of square and compass and the words “Masonic Temple” centered beneath the cornice proudly announce this building’s primary purpose. Chartered in 1898, the Forsyth Masonic Lodge met in borrowed quarters until 1905, when enthusiastic Mason Hiram Marcyes included a lodge room in his new Commercial Hotel. Six years later, the Masons hired Miles City architect Brynjulf Rivenes to design this Beaux Arts style temple, constructed of local brick from Marcyes’ brickyard and finished with a façade of high-fire Hebron brick trimmed with Bedford limestone. Rent from the first-floor storefronts subsidized the building’s \$21,000 price tag. The second floor boasted the lodge room as well as a cloakroom and clubroom designed for members of the short-lived Forsyth Club. During the 1918 flu epidemic, clubrooms were converted into a temporary hospital. In 1921 the public library, founded by the Forsyth Woman’s Club, occupied the space. While the library moved to the old courthouse in 1927 and into its current building in 1971, Masons continue to meet in this lodge, built by their predecessors in 1911.

**Property:** 241 North Eleventh Avenue

**Address:** 241 North Eleventh, Forsyth, Rosebud

**Historic District:** Forsyth Residential      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

By 1897, a single-story home stood on this site. Owners had added a wing and two porches by 1910, but by 1920 that house had been replaced with this one-story bungalow. The full-length front porch tucked beneath the roof, exposed rafter tails, and decorative wooden brackets on both home and garage all suggest Craftsman style influence. When railroad conductor William Moore and his wife, Ruth, purchased the home in 1918, it was worth more than \$2,500. Four years later, the couple sold it to Northern Pacific yardman Fred Gardkey, who rented it to various tenants. Among them was Burt Clark, a self-proclaimed “finger print expert.” In 1928, Fred and his wife, Bessie, died of pneumonia within days of each other. Fred did not have a will, and his estate was tied up in court until 1936. That year, roundhouse foreman T. E. Beals and his wife, Ella, purchased the home for \$675—much less than its \$1,250 appraised value. They continued to own and presumably rent out the residence until Ella sold the property in 1946.

**Property:** St. Phillips Episcopal Church (Rosebud Community Chapel)

**Address:** 701 Main Street, Rosebud, Rosebud

**Historic District:**      **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** churches (buildings)      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

From its origins as a railroad siding established by the Northern Pacific in 1882, Rosebud grew into a bustling homesteading community. The town boasted 300 residents when Fred and Mary Mefford arrived from the Midwest in 1896, bringing with them a strong religious faith and a commitment to community building. A devout Episcopalian, Mary founded a sewing circle, which evolved into an active church guild, and taught Sunday school.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

Fred arranged for the Miles City minister to travel regularly to Rosebud to hold services in the schoolhouse. In 1906 they decided to build a church. Fred donated the land and hired local builder Alfred Drescher to supervise construction. He also wrote off a \$300 debt owed to his hardware store in exchange for cottonwood logs, which farmer Billy Merrill cut from his land and hauled to the church site. The resultant square-notched log church, named St. Philip's Episcopal, features decorative shingles in the south gable end; a square, hip-roofed bell tower; and Gothic arched windows with stained glass imported from Bavaria. Nearly everyone in town (Episcopalians and non-Episcopalians alike) helped with construction in some way. Store owner Rod McCrae, who also served Rosebud as postmaster, justice of the peace, and first schoolteacher, donated the church bell, which came upriver by steamboat. Proceeds from a St. Patrick's Day dance provided money to purchase the church's first organ. In 1968, the Episcopal diocese sold the building; today, the church operates as the Rosebud Community Chapel.

**Property:** Rosebud County Deaconess Hospital

**Address:** 251 N 17th Ave, Forsyth, Rosebud

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** hospitals           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

"Remember the Flu epidemic" declared a notice advocating support for Rosebud County Hospital. In 1918 and 1919 influenza killed over 5,000 Montanans. Flu victims in Forsyth received care at the Masonic Hall, temporarily converted into an emergency hospital, but the epidemic underscored the need for a well-equipped hospital close to home. Despite drought and declining crop prices, Rosebud County voters responded to the call, passing a \$70,000 bond issue in November 1919 and a second \$20,000 bond issue in 1920. Billings architects McIver, Cohagen, and Marshall designed the hospital and then modified the plan when post-World War I inflation placed the original design out of financial reach. The thirty-two-room hospital, constructed by Billings contractor Alfred Lyle, included a lobby, kitchen, patient rooms, and solarium on the main floor; operating theaters and additional patient rooms on the second floor; and laundry and storage areas in the daylight basement. The hipped-roof building, ornamented with a row of stone medallions, exhibits Georgian Revival style features in its symmetrical composition and classical detailing. To manage the hospital and nurses' training school, the county contracted with the Deaconess organization, a Methodist women's order that opened its first Montana hospital in 1896 in Great Falls. On April 22, 1921, Rosebud County Deaconess Hospital held an open house and "shower day"; Approximately 1,000 visitors, many bearing donations for the hospital's food pantry, came to admire the new facility. Three days later, under direction of Deaconess superintendent Lyra Sanborn, the hospital admitted its first patient.

**Property:** Ainsworth House

**Address:** 1507 Maiden Ln, Thompson Falls, Sanders

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

In 1910, the newly incorporated town of Thompson Falls was shedding its frontier image. That year saw the organization of local power and water companies, the opening of a public library, and the construction of the town's first Bungalow style residences. These fine new homes, proclaimed a "credit to Missoula or Spokane," added a new dimension to the architectural landscape. One outstanding example is this 1910 carpenter-built Bungalow style home constructed from a pattern book for prominent attorney Auburn S. Ainsworth. Square columns, a full-width front porch, over-scaled wooden brackets, wide overhanging eaves, and a slight flair at the foundation reflect elements of the style. A white quartz mantle flanked by glassed-in cabinets, stained and leaded glass cabinets built into columns separating the music and living rooms, and built-in window seats reveal exquisite

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

interior finishing. This stylish dwelling, which once boasted a fountain on the broad front lawn, well reflects the wealth of its first owner. A very shrewd and clever lawyer, Ainsworth long served as town attorney and argued some notorious cases. He once persuaded a client accused of murder to be a horse and cavort on the lawn of the old County Building. The ruse worked and the client was declared insane.

**Property:** Sanders County Jail

**Address:** 109 S. Madison, Thompson Falls, Sanders

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** jails (buildings)                   **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Prominent landowner and state senator Edward Donlan won a political victory in the 1906 legislature with the designation of Thompson Falls as county seat for Sanders County over the rival town of Plains. By compromise, most county posts were filled by Plains appointees, but Donlan donated his own land for the new county courthouse and jail. The two-story Italianate style jail was built in 1907 by contractors Christian and Gobelet at a cost of \$5,000. It is Thompson Falls' oldest surviving county building. The structure was originally divided into incarceration cells on the second level and living quarters for the sheriff and his family on the first, with separate entrances for each level. The Paully Jail Company of St. Louis installed the four cells, each designed to hold four individuals. One cell, separated from the others, was for women and children detainees. Steel bars fastened by beams to a concrete floor and cement ceiling assured strict security within the cell room, while an eighteen-inch solid brick wall with steel door and locks isolated it from the stairway entrance. Though steel bars have been recently added to the downstairs windows, the building retains its 1907 appearance and is a fine example of a combination jail/sheriff's residence of the period.

**Property:** Randolph Hoyt House

**Address:** 204 Gallatin, Thompson Falls, Sanders

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

On Christmas Day of 1914 the Sanders County Ledger reported that "...no town in western Montana ... has advanced with the same rapid strides as Thompson Falls." Indeed, the town possessed all the modern trappings: new streetlights illuminated the courthouse, the Mountain State Telephone Company provided phone service, and a skating rink and two motion picture theaters had recently opened. That same year successful businessman Randolph Hoyt, co-proprietor of the Thompson and Ward Hotels, had this spacious Bungalow style home built. The residence was likely designed by prolific builder Charles Doenges, although he left the community after 1913. Doenges' pattern book Bungalows distinctly mark the town's residential neighborhoods; Hoyt's residence was the last of a series of such dwellings built within the city limits. The lovely wood-frame home features a full-width porch supported by square columns, narrow clapboard siding, and a hipped roof with exposed rafter ends typical of the style. The bay window is an adaptation of a Victorian period motif and clearly demonstrates Doenges' influence. Beautiful leaded glass windows complete this charming portrait of early-twentieth-century elegance in a progressive western town.

**Property:** Weber's Store

**Address:** 510 Main Street, Thompson Falls, Sanders

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings           **Subject 2:** residential structures

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

### Sign Text:

Thompson Falls enjoyed a growth spurt and a new sense of stability at the dawn of the twentieth century, underscored by the construction of several substantial brick buildings. Charles Weber's general mercantile store was the town's second building constructed of locally manufactured masonry. Built between 1900 and 1903, its dual residential/commercial function and simple design typify the utilitarian architecture of small western towns of the period. A continuous band of inlaid fleur-de-lis below the roofline supplies the only adornment. In 1906, Weber built the cold air well and storehouse at the rear of the building. It is the town's last remaining commercial evidence of a unique natural phenomenon tapped by early settlers. In digging wells for water, currents of icy air ranging from 55 to 33 degrees Fahrenheit were discovered issuing from a porous layer of gravel at a depth of thirty to forty feet. Eventually nearly every business owner made use of this resource, building an insulated shed over a cold air shaft for the storage of perishable goods. The system worked until modern technology stepped in: backwater from the hydroelectric dam, built less than a decade later, blocked the cold air currents. From the early 1900s to 1917, Weber's service as postmaster made the store a place visited daily. The store continued to play a key role in the economic life of the community until Weber's death in 1940.

**Property:** Ward Hotel

**Address:** 919 Main Street, Thompson Falls, Sanders

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** hotels (public accommodations)

**Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

Edward Donlan, who built this building as the Ward Hotel in 1907-1908, was significant in Thompson Falls' history. At age twelve, the Canadian boy of Irish descent left home and went to work. Laying track south of Neihart brought him to Montana, where by 1895 he owned a saw mill in the timber camps. In the early 1900s, he extended his holdings here, with vast tracts to the west and east of town, and many town lots. He also started the Thompson Falls Mercantile Company. Politics was a second love for Donlan, elected state senator in 1902, 1906, 1910, and 1918. In his 1908 bid for governor, he lost by only 2,000 votes. He heartily joined the battle to make Thompson Falls the county seat of Sanders County, and saw a boom period ushered in with that victory. He interested investors in the Thompson Falls Power Company—owning himself several small dams on the Clark's Fork River. In 1913-1914, he moved on to Milltown and sold much of his property here. His fortune dissipated, Donlan died in 1952.

**Property:** Thompson Falls Hydroelectric Dam Historic District

**Address:** Historic District, Thompson Falls, Sanders

**Historic District:** Thompson Falls Hydroelectric Dam   **Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** historic districts

**Subject 2:** utilities

### Sign Text:

Missoula senator Edward Donlan, Dr. Everett Peek, and Arthur Preston organized the Thompson Falls Light and Power Company in 1910 to develop electricity for the community and promote the concept of a hydroelectric power station. The monumental project promised progress and opportunity for the little frontier town along the riverbank. In anticipation, Dr. Peek built a hospital near the proposed power plant site. In 1911, the county erected two steel bridges across the Clark Fork River retiring the old cable-drawn ferry. The Thompson Falls Power Company constructed a small plant to service the community and the project itself. The town bustled, construction boomed, and a glorious future seemed inevitable. The Ledger confidently predicted lucrative future projects. By 1916, the main and dry channel dams, power house, and superintendent's house were among some thirty project structures sprawled along the riverbank. By 1917, the plant supplied 30,000 kilowatts of electricity to the region, crossing into Coeur D'Alene, Idaho. Technology loomed downriver in the huge dam. But after World

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

War I no more major projects boosted the local economy, and men like Donlan and Peek "...who had championed those ideas had already left town to find that dream some other place." The power company dismantled all but a few of the project buildings, leaving Thompson Falls to survive on its own. Today the remaining structures represent the community's early development, providing an excellent example of early-twentieth-century hydroelectric technology.

**Property:** Symes Hotel

**Address:** 209 Wall St, Hot Springs, Sanders

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** hotels (public accommodations)

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Native peoples occupied the Little Bitterroot River Valley and enjoyed its healing hot springs long before European trappers and traders encroached upon local resources. In 1855, an 80-acre area around the hot springs was set aside as a government reserve. In 1910, the Flathead Reservation opened to homesteading and the sale of tribal allotments, along with the land of early settler Ed Lamereaux, became the townsite of Hot Springs. Originally platted as Pineville, the town lies astride Warm Springs Creek within the modern borders of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead Indian Reservation. European-American settlers from the outset enjoyed the hot springs and residents catered to visitors seeking the curative mineral waters. Businessman Fred Symes purchased this property in 1929 and built a \$50,000 Mission style hotel, completed in early 1930. Mission style features include the curvilinear roofline, quatrefoil windows, and stuccoed walls. The original hotel featured twenty baths, ivory enamel finishings, and doctors' services on the premises. The Symes proved a depression-proof business; expansion and improvements continued throughout the 1930s and into the mid-1940s. In the 1950s, the popularity of hot springs across Montana began to wane. Closing of the tribally owned Camas Hot Springs in 1973 was a blow and the local population, once 5,000, fell to 411 by 1990. Under new ownership and in partnership with the Hot Springs Artists Society, Inc., the Symes Hotel today has a new direction hosting local events. Once again it is a vital contributor to the community.

**Property:** St. Luke's Hospital

**Address:** Main Street 1 blk south of Hill, Thompson Falls, Sanders

**Historic District:** Thompson Falls Hydroelectric Dam   **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** hospitals (buildings for health facility)

**Subject 2:** residential structures

**Sign Text:**

Thompson Falls was on the brink of intense development when local druggist and physician Dr. Everett Peek built the region's first substantial medical facility. Its original twenty rooms accommodated Peek's hospital and briefly served as a residence. After completion of the hydroelectric dam project, Peek moved to Missoula and the Montana Power Company eventually acquired the building. After 1927, a three-story back wing and second-story wraparound porch were removed, leaving seven of the original rooms. Now a private residence, the front façade appears much as it did in 1910. Tuscan columns and turned wooden posts grace the porch while lovely stained and diamond-patterned leaded glass windows add elegance to this significant architectural landmark.

**Property:** 102 Park Street

**Address:** 102 Park Street, Thompson Falls, Sanders

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

### Sign Text:

Prominent contractor Charles Doenges built this delightful Bungalow style dwelling in 1922 during a housing shortage related to the building of Thompson Falls' hydroelectric dam. The home was one of several rental properties built and maintained by Doenges at that time. The first occupant was Irving E. Keith, bookkeeper for the Thompson Falls Mercantile. In 1913, Keith purchased the home from Doenges and remained here until 1922. In Thompson Falls the popularity of the Bungalow style, a descendant of the Queen Anne cottage with Craftsman elements, was largely promoted by Doenges, who added at least seventeen homes to the town's streetscapes between 1905 and 1913. Five of these are nearly identical pattern book Bungalows, but each has its own personality. Bungalow characteristics include a full-width porch with battered (sloping) columns and solid railing, narrow lap siding, and a hipped roof with exposed rafter ends. Typical of Doenges' fine craftsmanship and eye for elegance, this small but lovely home features multi-paned windows and an east side window seat, whose four windows have thirteen panes each. An interesting highlight is a stained glass window with the inverted image of two candles, three bells, and a ribbon. The exact window appears on this home's near twin, but the motif is not inverted.

### Property: Bedard House

**Address:** 207 Spruce St, Thompson Falls, Sanders

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

The beginning of the twentieth century brought a new and conscious emphasis on natural surroundings, which found architectural expression through the Bungalow style. The Bedard House, built by Charles Wicksell and Ecton Browne from a pattern book design in 1912, is an excellent example of that form. The broad hipped roof combined with narrow lap siding creates the Bungalow's characteristic low, horizontal lines. The horizontal emphasis and full-width open-air porch, originally of wood, communicate simplicity and harmony with the environment. Indeed, the home beautifully fulfills the general stylistic requirement that the Bungalow "sing into and blend with" the landscape. A bay window, corbelled chimney, three hip-roofed dormers with leaded glass windows, and window boxes illustrate the builders' excellent craftsmanship and freedom to individualize the pattern design. First owner Thomas Bedard, vice president of both the Thompson Falls Mercantile and the Thompson State Bank, resided here until 1926. Henry Larson, new part-owner of the Thompson Falls Mercantile (later Larson and Green), purchased the home in 1935 and remained here until the long-established store burned in 1968. Except for the brick replacements to the porch, this lovely home appears today much as it did in 1912, a charming and significant part of the neighborhood.

### Property: Griffen House

**Address:** 205 No Gallatin, Thompson Falls, Sanders

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

The U.S. Forest Service sent Claude W. Griffen to Thompson Falls in 1911 to head its expanding local operations. Griffen held the position of Supervisor to the Cabinet National Forest until 1816-1917. In 1912, respected local contractor/carpenter Walter McCurdy, who also served as an alderman for the district, built this Bungalow style home for the Griffen family. Like his fellow carpenter/contractors of the period in Thompson Falls, McCurdy drew his plans from a pattern book, utilizing the characteristics of this enormously popular style: oversized brackets under a gable roof, exposed rafter ends, full-width front porch, narrow lap siding, and wood shingles. The interior boasts high ceilings, built-in cabinets with leaded glass, interior double doors, and a window seat. These elegant

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

touches reveal McCurdy's fine craftsmanship and Griffen's discriminating taste. The residence remained in the Griffen family until 1942 when it was purchased by Orin Kendall. Kendall served as Sanders County Superintendent of Schools from 1946 to 1968, in the state legislature, and as mayor of Thompson Falls. A few additions and changes have slightly altered its 1912 appearance, but this appealing home is today one of Thompson Falls' best-preserved examples of early-twentieth-century residential construction.

**Property:** Norby House

**Address:** 107 Pond, Thompson Falls, Sanders

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The construction of Thompson Falls' hydroelectric plant in 1911 fostered a period of increased growth between 1911 and 1914. In 1912, the U.S. Forest Service expanded its operations here, Thompson Falls' post office received official government designation, and residents signed up for electrical service. Amidst all this excitement, the town took on a new appearance. Quality homes were built, according to the Sanders County Ledger, that were "...not the ordinary kind." The Norby House is one of these quality homes built in 1912. Probably constructed by prolific local builder Charles Doenges, it is one of five remarkably similar Thompson Falls residences. The builder followed Bungalow style plans from a pattern book, adding features to make the home unique. A full-width engaged porch was incorporated into the basic design and the unusual, yet functional placement of the home is square to the cardinal points of the compass. This position, combined with extended eaves and careful window placement, allows the naturally well-lighted rooms to be cool in summer and warm in winter. Built for physician J. B. Norby in 1912, the charming wood-frame residence today retains its historic appearance. Leaded glass, window seats, and high ceilings within reveal quality craftsmanship and meticulous attention to detail.

**Property:** H.D. Rossiter Store (J.M. Maddison Store)

**Address:** 115 South Main Street, Plentywood, Sheridan

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Early in 1872 a mercantile store was established on this corner under the name of Hamilton and Sweet. On February 15, 1884, Henry Douglas Rossiter bought a share of the store and the name was changed to the H. D. Rossiter General Store. For more than a decade, Rossiter worked hard in the store six days a week, and on Sundays he would load a wagon and head for the mountains to sell his goods at one of the mining camps. Probably because H. D. Rossiter was also a miner, he couldn't help but "grub stake" other miners as they headed for the hills. In 1898, Rossiter leased the dry goods business to Ogden Brothers so that he could concentrate on the construction of this brick building. It was completed in October of 1899. Rossiter built the first bank in Sheridan, became the town's mayor, and later, a state representative. J. M. Maddison bought into the business in October 1902. In its heyday, the business included seven other buildings: a granary, tack shop, grocery warehouse, glass house, pipe shed, ice house, and a powder-dynamite house, which is still standing by the cemetery. Maddison and later his son, Jim, operated the store for over seventy years. Thus, the prominent Sheridan landmark with its classic Western Commercial style façade continues to anchor the business district. As H. D. Rossiter used to say, "STILL DOING BUSINESS AT THE OLD STAND." Come on in!

**Property:** Largey Flats

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Address:** 403-407 W. Broadway, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** apartments **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Patrick A. Largey, Butte's "fourth copper king," got his start freighting goods into early-day Virginia City. After he settled in Butte, Largey's many business interests included founding both the Inter-Mountain newspaper and the State Savings Bank. The Largey family, whose opulent mansion once stood next door on the corner, suffered a tragedy in 1898 when miner Thomas Riley murdered Largey at his bank. Riley had lost a leg in the cataclysmic 1895 explosion in Butte's railroad yards that claimed 58 lives. Because Largey's hardware company owned one of the buildings involved in the blast, Riley held Largey responsible for his injuries. The Largey family built these flats in the 1890s where many of Butte's wealthier families stayed while looking for permanent housing. Built by contractor Moses Bassett, the stunning multi-family residence is styled after an Italian villa with tile roofs, portico, and arched entrances. Egg-and-dart moldings, corner window tiles, garland reliefs, and stained and beveled glass embellish the façade. Each of the three, two-story "townhouses" is exquisitely finished with rich wood wainscoting and an oak staircase.

**Property:** 826 South Main Street

**Address:** 826 South Main, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The fish scale shingles ornamenting the front gable end reveal the Victorian-era roots of this home, built between 1891 and 1900. The front gable and originally a large wraparound porch added room and elegance to the structure's core: a basic hipped roof worker's cottage. In 1900, livestock dealer Stephen Fitchett owned the residence with his wife, Anna. The Charles and Nellie Foley family lived here from 1908 through 1918. As was typical in Butte, the Foley children boarded at home after they went to work. In 1910, nineteen-year-old daughter Winifred worked as a stenographer while seventeen-year-old son Cornelius worked as a "nipper" in the St. Lawrence mine. Also unfortunately typical was the toll mining took on the family. Workplace accidents and disease cut short the lives of many miners. In particular, silicate dust scarred miners' lungs, making them susceptible to tubercular bacteria, which bred freely in the hot, humid, and poorly ventilated mine shafts. "Miners con" killed approximately a man a day in Butte, including Charles Foley, who died of pulmonary tuberculosis in 1913 at the age of forty-nine.

**Property:** 614 North Alaska

**Address:** 614 North Alaska, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** boardinghouses **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Close proximity to the Original and Stewart mines guaranteed a steady stream of miners to keep the beds of this boardinghouse occupied. Built circa 1890, the two-story bay-fronted flat accommodated at least a dozen lodgers. From 1895 to 1906, Welsh miner John Williams owned the building, and his wife Mary looked after the boarders. In 1910, Michael Sullivan owned the house. While he listed "own income" as his profession, his wife Mary and a servant must have worked long hours keeping their twelve single miners well fed and housed. The house is an excellent illustration of 1890s boardinghouse architecture and its kinship with the Queen Anne cottage, a popular form of workers' housing common to urban areas during the 1890s. Arched windows, turned porch posts, a transomed front door, and decorative metal brackets are elements indicative of the Victorian era. Three finials



## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

highlight the metal cornice at the roof line and four interior chimneys are evidence of the period heating system, which kept residents comfortable during brutal Montana winters.

**Property:** 431 West Mercury

**Address:** 431 West Mercury, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** apartments

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

A round turreted entry with an elaborate porch is the focal point of this Queen Anne style home. Built circa 1890, its prefabricated decorative features were designed to add individuality and elegance to the homes of Butte's working class. Turned posts, scroll brackets, stained glass transoms, and a cutwork frieze under the porch eaves are elements that enrich the personality of this Victorian-era home. Originally an investment property, its first owner was Helena attorney Massena Bullard. By 1910, Michael Doody was the resident owner and landlord. He and his wife, son, and grandson shared half the house with several lodgers while a second family rented the other half. Doody came to the Mining City employed by the Northern Pacific, working on a construction crew when the tracks reached Butte in 1882. Doody developed mining properties in Philipsburg and eventually settled in Butte working as a blacksmith for the mines. When he died in 1928, his daughter and son-in-law, Elizabeth and Paul Ott, inherited the property. The Otts and later, their son, occupied the home until 1945.

**Property:** J. Fred and Sophia Gamer Residence

**Address:** 503 W. Mercury, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Ornamental wooden brackets tucked under wide overhanging eaves, spacious dormers, exposed rafter tails, and a full-length front porch reflect the Craftsman style's influence on this two-story residence. The style was initially touted as "the ideal home for the lover of the out-of-doors." Its originators intended the large front porch to connect homeowners to their natural surroundings. Butte's urban streetscape had almost nothing in common with the lush California suburbs where the Craftsman style got its start. But by the 1910s the style's popularity was so widespread that it seemed a logical choice for J. Fred and Sophia "Babe" Gamer. The couple hired contractor George Wortman to build the two-story residence circa 1917. In the 1930s, the Gamers converted the residence into a duplex to accommodate Fred's brother, Charles, and mother, Emma. Charles and Fred worked together in the family shoe business, originally founded by their father in Helena in 1868. Fred and Sophie also founded Gamer's Confectionery, a restaurant famous for its pasties. The couple lived here until their deaths, Sophie's in 1949 and Fred's in 1950.

**Property:** 402-412 West Mercury

**Address:** 402-412 West Mercury, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** apartments

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Apartments played an integral part in Butte's residential history as an alternative to the single family home. Housing was scarce in this crowded urban industrial center at the turn of the century. Apartment living offered more privacy and convenience than boarding houses, although some social critics viewed them as a detriment to the American family. At least in a boarding house, they argued, meals were prepared at regular intervals and on

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

time. While some nineteenth-century boarding houses and dwellings were converted into single-family units, newly built, “modern” apartment buildings filled in neighborhood gaps. Butte contractor Hermads Godin built this exceptional porch-fronted flat as an investment for Virginia Girard in 1907. At a cost of about \$10,000, the multi-family dwelling offered seven separate units. In 1910, residents included a physician, newspaper editor, saloonkeeper, and photographer, all family men with one or two small children. The seven apartments remain intact today and then, as now, two transomed entries and interior stairways access the upper floor.

**Property:** Charles Walker Clark Mansion

**Address:** 321 West Broadway, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:** museum (buildings)

**Sign Text:**

The eldest son of copper king William Clark built this twenty-six-room mansion for his bride, Katherine Quinn Roberts, in 1898. Massachusetts architect Will Aldrich reputedly modeled the residence after a French chateau the couple visited while honeymooning in Europe in 1896. The exterior features patterned brick enhanced by gray limestone, steep slate-covered roofs, and circular turrets. Yale-educated Charles spared no expense on details: exquisite stained glass, hand-painted wallpaper, a stately curved stairway, and the use of many kinds of rare woods reveal the work of talented craftsmen. The structure now serves Butte and Silver Bow County as a heritage museum and arts center.

**Property:** Wynne / Conroy Residence

**Address:** 815 W Broadway, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Scattered development marked this Butte neighborhood during the 1890s as the population grew and the demand for all types of housing increased. By 1900, few lots remained on this side of the block. Merchandise broker E. Walter Wynne, at this address as early as 1895, was likely the home's first owner/occupant. Wynne, who later served as Butte's police chief, lived here until about 1901 with his wife Nellie and two children. Michael V. Conroy, a self-employed insurance and real estate broker, had purchased the property by 1903, where he and his wife Estella raised their two children. The Conroys enlarged the home circa 1916 with an addition at the back. The residence changed owners in the late 1920s, and 1930s remodeling updated the Victorian era façade. A gabled and stuccoed vestibule with stick trim replaced the original front porch and small-paned casement windows were added to the first story. These dramatic changes stylistically transformed the home from vintage 1890s to the more modern English cottage.

**Property:** 819 North Henry Avenue

**Address:** 819 North Henry Avenue, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Butte's voracious appetite for laborers created a huge demand for housing and sent rental rates skyrocketing beyond the means of most working folks. Real estate companies responded, platting new additions and building inexpensive, modest houses that could be purchased on time payments. One company advertised: "Slavery is abolished when you get out of the clutches of the landlord and become a home owner." This gable front cottage, built between 1900 and 1907, is one of several popular styles of early tract housing. Decorative shingles, full-

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

width porch, leaded glass, three-sided bay, and ornamental scrollwork are Queen Anne style elements added to dress up and individualize an otherwise modest, basic dwelling. Carpenter Peter McKenzie was an early owner who lived here briefly in 1907-1908, perhaps while finishing the interior. Not only miners but also small business owners lived in the neighborhood as demonstrated from the late 1920s until 1940, when this was the residence of wholesale grocer J. Frank McLanahan.

**Property:** 823 West Park

**Address:** 823 West Park, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

James H. Lynch was a man of many hats. Lumber, livery, mine development, hotel management, and wholesale liquor are but a few of his successful business ventures. A founder of the Silver Bow National Bank, Lynch also owned substantial Butte real estate and served terms as alderman and city council president. In 1894, President Grover Cleveland appointed Lynch postmaster of Butte, and he served a four-year term. Although James and Mary Lynch had no children, they opened their home to a niece and nephew, who lived with them in 1900. A turn-of-the-century biographer noted, "In their beautiful home in Butte, Mr. and Mrs. Lynch evince a truly western hospitality." The 1890s residence, built as the twin of its next door neighbor, is little altered. Elegant period details include a pedimented porch trimmed in dentils, Tuscan columns, and miniaturized classical motifs on the entry door. An ornamental iron fence, crafted by the Butte Carriage Works, fronts the property.

**Property:** 615-617 1/2 North Excelsior

**Address:** 615-6171 / 2 North Excelsior, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** apartments **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Bay-fronted flats with large, two-story porches were a popular solution to Butte's housing shortage. The city boasted over two hundred of these characteristically urban buildings by 1920, with the majority constructed before 1910. The bay windows brought light and air into the apartments, while the second-story porch provided upstairs residents with ready access to the out-of-doors. Saloonkeeper and neighbor J. E. Lynch was an early owner of this fourplex, constructed between 1900 and 1907. Intended for middle-class residents, the building boasted Tuscan columns on the porch, window transoms with diamond-shaped leaded panes, and attractive brick corbelling along the roofline. In 1910, residents included a Christian Science practitioner, a wholesale tea merchant, and a bookkeeper. Unlike later apartment buildings, the bay-fronted flat features exclusive entrances to each residence. Private entrances represented a compromise between the necessity of sharing a building and the prejudice against apartment living. A common entryway would have been more space efficient, but the separate doorways provided greater privacy in imitation of single-family homes.

**Property:** Butte-Anaconda Historic District

**Address:** , Butte/Anaconda, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte-Anaconda **Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** historic districts **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

It took millions of miles of copper to build the telegraph, telephone, and electrical lines that transformed the United States from a collection of small, isolated communities to a cohesive, industrialized nation. Looming

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

gallows frames and the towering Anaconda Company smokestack recall the industrial roots of these sister cities, the source of much of that copper. Extracting the metal was hazardous work, and the danger bred solidarity among miners and smelterworkers. Two of the nation's most radical unions had their roots in Butte and Walkerville, "The Gibraltar of Unionism." They were the Western Federation of Miners and the Industrial Workers of the World, whose rhetoric opposing "wage slavery" challenged the foundations of American capitalism. Clashes between capital and labor marked the district, especially after the 1917 Butte Granite Mountain/Speculator Mine fire, the worst hard-rock mining disaster in the nation's history. Labor unrest and years under martial law followed in Butte, while in Anaconda, the Company fired suspected Socialists and agitators, devastating the unions. Butte and Anaconda workers reorganized during the New Deal after the federal government guaranteed the right of workers to unionize. Their four-month industry-wide strike in 1934 precipitated the birth of the CIO, an organization that helped rejuvenate the labor movement nationwide. In 2006, the National Park Service recognized Butte, Anaconda, and Walkerville's significance to the intertwined histories of mining and labor by declaring the district a National Historic Landmark. It is the largest NHL in the West, covering the period 1876-1934 and encompassing nearly 10,000 acres with over 6,000 contributing resources.

**Property:** William Hardcastle Residence

**Address:** 800 South Montana, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Contractors William A. O'Brien and Fergus Kelley were partners from 1893 to 1899. They built this home in 1897, where Fergus Kelley and his family lived until 1900. O'Brien went on to build some of Butte's landmarks, including the Leonard Apartments and the Con Kelley mansion. By 1901, William and Grace Hardcastle had moved into the home. Hardcastle learned stenography at the Mechanics' Institute in his native Great Britain and came to America in 1891. He was well known in Butte as stenographer of District Court No. 3. A veteran of the 1899 Philippine campaign, Hardcastle fought with Company G of the First Montana Volunteers. He died of pneumonia at age 45 in 1912, but this remained the family home through the 1980s. Tucked away behind mature landscaping, the large well cared for Victorian-era cottage is a credit to its few owners. Varied textures of cut ashlar stone and brick, transomed windows, open arches, and elegant period trim preserve its nineteenth-century appeal.

**Property:** Dr. Donald Campbell Residence

**Address:** 307 W. Broadway, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Elaborate and diverse architecture characterizes the homes along this stretch of Broadway today, but during the 1880s rather modest dwellings lined the street. This was one of Butte's first settled neighborhoods and historic maps indicate that the core of this home predates 1884. By the mid-1890s, Dr. Donald Campbell, personal physician to copper king F. A. Heinze, was in residence. Until about 1905 Dr. Campbell had his medical offices at the home; he later became president of Murray Hospital. Campbell enlarged the original T-shaped, one-story house to two stories in 1896, expanding it at the back and to the east. By 1916 the home had again been dramatically remodeled to its present appearance. A graceful arched entrance, unusual decorative cast ironwork, and mission style parapet reflect the Spanish Revival style. Arched, circular, and oval windows and friezes with garlands, dentils, and bull's eyes further enhance the façade. Its neighbors complement the home's distinctive architecture. Together the three residences were known as the Mediterranean Block.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Property:** John Gillie Home

**Address:** 27 No Excelsior, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Armed with a degree in mining engineering, Canadian John Gillie arrived in Butte via stagecoach on April 6, 1880. The mining camp was so crowded that even hotel floor space rented at a premium. Gillie bedded down in the hayloft of a barn, a rude beginning to a long and distinguished career. Gillie became known as “dean of Montana mining engineers.” He was so highly regarded that, even though copper kings W. A. Clark and Marcus Daly were at daggers’ points, both employed Gillie as examining engineer; he later served as superintendent of the Anaconda Copper Mining Company. In 1895, the Montana legislature appointed Gillie secretary of the commission to establish the Montana School of Mines (now Montana Tech). By 1890, he and his wife, Margaret, settled into this home, which they owned until Gillie’s death in 1941. One of the first residences west of the original townsite, its simple elegance and more rural appearance set this home apart from its later high-styled neighbors.

**Property:** 119 West Daly

**Address:** 119 West Daly, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Joseph Walker, president of the Alice Gold and Silver Mine, platted the streets near his mine to provide convenient housing for mine workers. However, when he sold the lots, he kept the mineral rights. By separating mineral rights from property rights, the mining company retained permission to tunnel beneath area homes, a fact that deterred home owners from investing heavily in their houses. By 1891, a shotgun house stood here, part of a crowded residential block. Saloonkeeper John French purchased the property in 1892, which soon accommodated a one-story hipped-roof cottage. A second small home and an outbuilding with an attached chicken coop stood behind the main house. By 1910, French had left the saloon business to deliver coal and wood by wagon. He and his wife Cassie occupied the front house while brothers Dan and James Caddigan, both miners, lived in the back house. After John died in 1912, Cassie remained in residence until 1921, when she sold the property to Ursulla Hawthorn. During the 1960s, as part of “urban renewal,” the city demolished the rear house and outbuildings.

**Property:** 821 West Granite

**Address:** 821 West Granite, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

In 1890, the sound of hammers echoed throughout Butte’s West Side, a result of the community’s phenomenal growth as it converted from a silver town to a copper metropolis. Butte grew over two hundred percent during the 1880s, and this home was one of many built to accommodate the newcomers, who numbered middle-class professionals as well as miners. Early residents included William and Christina Paxson, parents of well-known western painter Edgar S. Paxson, whose work includes six murals in the Montana state capitol building. William died at age eighty-three in 1908, and by 1910, the one-story, brick-veneered residence had become home to drugstore owner Charles Hoskins and his wife Mary Ann. The couple lived here with their children and a live-in servant until Charles’s death in 1934. Sometime between 1900 and 1916, owners added a large rear addition and

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

a spacious front porch supported by Tuscan columns, a reflection of changing architectural taste. Fashion dictated classical simplicity rather than Queen Anne style excess after the turn of the century.

**Property:** First Church of Christ, Scientist

**Address:** 229 N. Montana, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** churches (buildings)

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Christian Science was a young religion when believers first gathered in a private Butte home in 1893; according to church teachings, Mary Baker Eddy discovered this system of prayer-based healing in 1866. The congregation grew rapidly, and Butte's First Church of Christ, Scientist, formally incorporated in 1911. Church members purchased a brick house on this site in 1914 and launched plans to build a new church two years later. In 1920 the congregation broke ground for its new edifice; increasing membership led it to expand the building in 1929. Prominent Butte architect Walter Arnold designed the Neoclassical building, which cost almost \$100,000, all raised locally. The 1893 Columbian Exposition in Chicago had popularized Neoclassicism just at the moment that Christian Scientists began building permanent houses of worship. Thus, Neoclassicism became the denomination's style of choice. Modern auditoriums designed for utmost comfort, large foyers to encourage sociability, symmetrical façades, and prominent porticos supported by classical columns were church hallmarks. Neoclassicism's association with "beauty, harmony, and unity" suited the church's ideology. The style also asserted permanence, a factor particularly important for the young religion.

**Property:** 1340 West Granite

**Address:** 1340 West Granite, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Mature landscaping surrounds this cozy cottage bungalow built circa 1915. Colin L. Christie and his wife Ruth built the home where they raised two sons. Ruth was the daughter of Judge John Lindsay, who came to Butte in 1895 as secretary and legal counsel to Marcus Daly and later practiced law. Colin was the son of Alexander Christie, a partner in Leys Jewelry, a family business established in 1888. Colin Christie attended the Morgan Park Academy in Chicago, optometry school in Minneapolis, and was a certified gemologist. The Christies married in 1912 after a four-year engagement, and Colin joined the family business as manager of the jewelry store. A "ghost" sign at 20 N. Main recalls the Christie family's longtime business, which closed in 1965 when Colin retired. The home passed out of the Christie family in the mid-1950s. Thanks to careful stewardship, the small frame bungalow retains many original stylistic features including brick porch piers, exposed rafter ends and eave brackets, leaded glass windows, and original interior fixtures and hardwood finishings.

**Property:** Newton / McCrimmon House

**Address:** 317 W. Broadway, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Lively and diverse architectural styles distinguish this part of Butte, where grand residences built for prominent citizens intermingle with simpler homes, churches, and a few businesses. H. M. Patterson, author of some of Butte's most captivating architecture, designed this noteworthy home circa 1896 for Montana Iron Works

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

proprietor Thomas P. Newton. Newton moved to California after 1902 but maintained his business here for at least another decade. The next owner was physician and surgeon Dr. Frederick McCrimmon, who lived here until about 1918 with his wife Alice, their young son, and a servant. Joseph B. Parker, president of the Morelli Motor Company, was longtime owner and resident from at least 1929 until the 1950s. Original features include a beautiful turned balustrade, modified Corinthian columns, decorative pendants along the roof line, and mansard roof. Lovely curved glass highlights the bay window while the original front door, sidelights, and transom complement the entry. Although perhaps not as flamboyant as some of its neighbors, this home has its own distinctive elegance that emphasizes Patterson's unique designs.

**Property:** 635 West Granite

**Address:** 635 West Granite, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

"For years, it has been almost impossible to accommodate all the people with comfortable houses or apartments," a Butte newspaper reported in 1901. "The city is growing very fast, and the builders have all they can do to put up enough buildings to accommodate them all." This block is a case in point: only two residences stood here in 1891, but almost every lot was filled by 1900. Saloon owner Frank Lynch and his wife Fannie were among those to have a home built for them here in the 1890s. Frank worked as a bartender in Butte as early as 1889; by 1896 he and his brother owned their own saloon, and Frank was prosperous enough to hire prominent Butte architect H. M. Patterson to design this one-and-one-half-story, brick-veneered residence. The charming Queen Anne style home features decorative shingles, multiple bay windows, turned porch supports, and stained glass. In back was a second small house—likely rented to relatives. The project was a small one for Patterson, whose designs include several grand commercial buildings on West Broadway.

**Property:** Helsinki Bar and Steam Bath

**Address:** 402 Broadway, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** boardinghouses **Subject 2:** saloons (bars)

**Sign Text:**

Twelve saloons, six grocery stores, eighteen boarding houses, a community hall, and three saunas served "Finn Town," a bustling ethnic enclave in the 1920s. Finns were relative latecomers to Butte, arriving in numbers around 1910. Miners of other nationalities lived here in the 1890s when this two-story brick-veneered boarding house was first constructed. However, by 1906, Hilda Nurmi managed the boarding house, the first of several Finnish proprietors. By 1911, the property boasted that treasured Finnish institution: the sauna. Here, for twenty-five cents, Finns bathed, socialized, and renewed their connection to their homeland. In 1915, the baths were open from three to midnight, with Fridays reserved for ladies. In 1937, John Neimi opened a beer parlor here; it later became the Corner Bar, then the Helsinki. In the 1950s, the Anaconda Company purchased much of the Eastside—including Finn Town—to feed the Berkeley Pit's rapacious appetite and to create a buffer zone around its open-pit mining operation. Today, the Helsinki Bar and Steam Bath stands alone, a potent reminder of the once vibrant Finnish neighborhood.

**Property:** 315 West Broadway

**Address:** 315 West Broadway, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

### Sign Text:

Judge John McHatton, his wife, Rose, and their children made their home in this two-and-one-half-story Queen Anne style residence from 1895 until 1918. Built in 1892, the elegant brick and clapboard home designed by Butte architect John Patterson features the abundant angles and decoration that distinguish the Queen Anne style. The second story was added in 1905. The growing popularity of the Colonial Revival style likely influenced the decision to incorporate an upper-story Palladian window, broken pediments above the second-floor windows, and other classical details. McHatton arrived in Butte in 1885. He served as district judge from 1889 to 1897 before resigning to work as chief council for copper king F. Augustus Heinze. At the turn of the century, Heinze employed thirty-seven lawyers in his fight against the Anaconda Company, a legal battle that at one time included 133 active lawsuits. When McHatton retired from active practice, he moved to California, but his Montana connections remained strong. Before leaving the state, he donated his entire law library—reportedly some two thousand volumes—to the University of Montana law school.

**Property:** Butte, Anaconda & Pacific Railway Historic District

**Address:** Historic District, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte, Anaconda & Pacific Railway      **Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** historic districts      **Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

Tired of exorbitant freight rates, copper king Marcus Daly decided to build his own railroad in 1892 to haul ore from the Butte mines to his Anaconda smelter. Daly envisioned the Butte, Anaconda and Pacific Railway extending to the Pacific Ocean. Instead the railroad ran twenty-six miles between Anaconda and Butte. With construction expertise from the Great Northern Railway, the railroad was built with seventy-five-pound steel rails in anticipation of heavy freight traffic. By 1900, the BAandP was said to carry “more tonnage to the mile the year around than any other railroad in the country.” This earned it the moniker “The Biggest Little Railroad in the Nation.” Most of the freight was copper ore from the Butte mines with a destination of the Anaconda smelter. Finished copper from the smelter was then transported across the nation. In 1913, the BAandP converted from steam to electric-powered engines, becoming the first electrified railroad in the country to haul heavy freight. Two factors allowed the BAandP to electrify affordably: access to inexpensive hydroelectric power and the fact that the Anaconda Company supplied the necessary copper wire from its own mines. The BAandP’s early success in electrification became a model for other railroads, most notably the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railroad. The modern age of electricity fueled demand for copper from 1892 through the 1920s. Notably, the BAandP transported more than half of the nation’s supply during this era.

**Property:** Morier Block

**Address:** 74-76 W Broadway, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings      **Subject 2:** apartments

### Sign Text:

A rounded corner and distinctive brick give this commercial/residential combination an unusual appearance. Historic maps reveal that before 1884, a collection of frame dwellings occupied this corner. North Dakota Street was then named Academy because the Butte Public School took up the neighboring block. By 1890, businesses lined this block of Broadway. A millinery, lodgings, furnished rooms, and dwellings occupied the collection of corner buildings. By 1891, individual frame buildings had been partially unified by brick veneer. In 1895, Henry E. Morier was among the upstairs residents. Morier, who served as Deputy County Clerk and Recorder in 1903, was a longtime Butte businessman and the building’s owner. In 1914, basement and storefront businesses included a taxidermist, a cobbler, a tailor and a saloon. Although Morier left Butte in 1925, the Morier Apartments continued



## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

to operate under that name into the 1990s. The building today reflects remodeling done between 1916 and 1931, which added the present light-colored brick veneer and four “up-to-date” storefronts.

**Property:** Socialist Hall

**Address:** 1957 Harrison Ave, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** assembly halls                   **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Hands and forearms clasped in solidarity symbolize a movement of local and national significance during the first decades of the twentieth century. One of the few socialist meeting halls remaining in the United States, the building is a monument to a turbulent era of labor unrest and political action. Socialists in Montana played an active role in forcing mainstream politicians to consider labor reforms. At the turn of the twentieth century, the Anaconda Copper Mining Company dominated Montana politics, much of the economy, and nearly everything in Butte, personifying all the negative aspects of the capitalist system. Butte, known as the “Gibraltar of Unionism” with its huge working class, was thus central to the socialist movement. Members constructed this hall in 1916. It was the heart of socialist activity in Montana, housing the Socialist Party of Montana, the Butte Local, and the Butte Socialist Publishing Company. World War I hysteria prompted Montana to enact the nation’s most stringent measures to suppress radicalism and dissent. The Socialist Party suffered severely. In 1920, it deeded the building to the Bulletin Publishing Company, whose Butte Bulletin, edited by electrician and radical unionist W. F. Dunne, carried on the party’s principles by supporting the Non-Partisan League. Dunne lost the building to taxes in 1924 and the Bulletin ceased publication. Socialist Hall, with its rallying inscription “Workers of the World Unite,” is a poignant reminder of the efforts to create a “cooperative commonwealth” and the solidarity engendered by the Socialist Party of Montana.

**Property:** 820 North Main

**Address:** 820 North Main, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte   **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** apartments                   **Subject 2:** saloons (bars)

**Sign Text:**

Built into the hill, so that the second story is level with the ground, this two-and-one-half-story structure dominates the block. By 1900 the first floor housed a saloon and billiards parlor as well as a small residence. The second floor also served as a dwelling. By 1916, the building accommodated four apartments, whose residents included Ruth Barnicoat. Ruth moved here after her husband, a miner, died of pericarditis myocarditis (a heart infection), possibly brought on by tuberculosis, a disease common to Butte miners. Tasked with supporting children ages sixteen to four, Ruth purchased this income-producing property; she and the children lived in one apartment and rented out the other three. The building still contained four apartments in 1957, when Bud Aschenbrenner, a shift boss, and his wife Lillian, a switchboard operator at St. James Hospital, purchased it. Bud worked at the neighboring Mountain Con Mine; at times, he tunneled directly under the house. Both Bud and Lillian lived here until their deaths in 1980 and 2007, respectively. The residence’s most prominent feature—its two-story wraparound porch—is not historic, but was rebuilt to match the original pattern.

**Property:** Miner's Savings Bank and Trust Co.

**Address:** 55 West Park, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte   **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures                   **Subject 2:** banks (financial institutions)

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

### Sign Text:

Butte experienced its second mining boom in the teens before World War I. The Miner's Bank is indicative of the healthy economy during these years when copper rose to a high of twenty cents a pound. On September 1, 1912, fire claimed the Thomas Block, which housed the Miner's Savings Bank. Depositors suffered no losses and the bank immediately planned to rebuild. John Shackleton designed and constructed the current building, completed in 1913. A flat roof, decorative brickwork, large display windows flanking three recessed entries, and rows of windows above the street level reflect the high demand for office and living space. A row of concrete "M"s uniquely embellishes the space between the first and second floors. The bank occupied a ground floor office until the 1960s. Upstairs, Lawrence and Katherine Graves were the longtime proprietors of the Miner's Bank Block Furnished Rooms. In 1930, among their thirty-five lodgers were an architect, an actress, a teacher, miners, and salesmen. Also curiously lodged under the same roof were government Prohibition agent Carrol Olson and declared bootlegger Henry Allexis.

**Property:** Independent Order of Good Templars

**Address:** 42 W. Broadway, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** fraternal lodges

**Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

Both men and women were admitted to this temperance organization, whose Montana Grand Lodge was organized in 1868. Butte Lodge #14 commissioned architect H. M. Patterson to design this appealing three-story building, completed in 1891, which served as the group's meeting hall. While Patterson demonstrated exceptional talent in local residential design, his commercial and public commissions were the key to his considerable reputation. This was his first major commercial project. The upper floors reveal Patterson's creative flair: graceful semi-circular arches, recessed windows with rough-faced stone sills, and fine decorative brickwork. The building's present use as a bar defies the Templar ethic to "...never cease until the last vestige of that fearful vice ... is driven from our land."

**Property:** 822-824 West Park

**Address:** 822-824 West Park, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

Tucked snugly between its neighbors, this modified Queen Anne style home began as a one-story cottage designed by architect William White and built in July of 1897. Albert Elliot, an electrician for the Montana Electric Company, was an early resident who lived here with several boarders in 1898. Mining surveyor Azelle E. Hobart had purchased the property by 1906. Second-story additions were a rather common occurrence in Butte, reflecting the growing financial security of property owners. The second story of this residence, added by the Hobarts in 1908, is an excellent example of that trend. In 1920, household residents included Azelle and Elizabeth Hobart and their two sons. Clothing store proprietor Alfred Wertheimer and his wife, Bella, rented a portion of the home. The projecting front bay, mixed exterior cladding, transomed windows, and decorative porch elements mirror Victorian era sensibilities, while an ornamental iron fence complements the view from the street.

**Property:** Scovil Residence

**Address:** 201 N. Excelsior Avenue, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

### Sign Text:

John Scovil worked as a watchman for the Anaconda Company after he first arrived in Montana in 1884. He opened a laundry in 1894; six years later he purchased the Union Laundry in Butte. By 1911, Scovil and a partner owned almost all of the laundries in Butte and employed approximately 175 people. Scovil also invested widely in real estate. He built this two-and-one-half-story monument to his success, along with the duplex next door, in 1917 for the considerable sum of \$19,800. Behind the residences was a two-story garage with an apartment on the second floor. The elegant garage may have reflected John's wife Lalia's interest in motoring; Lalia was thought to be the first woman in Montana to own and drive her own automobile. A dark brown brick veneer and repeating architectural details visually connect the three buildings. Lalia assumed presidency of the Scovil-owned Taylor Laundry Company after John died in 1925, remarrying in 1927. She continued to live here with her second husband, attorney Laurence Myers, until her death in 1942.

**Property:** Butte-Anaconda Historic District

**Address:** , Butte/Anaconda, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte-Anaconda

**Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** historic districts

**Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

It took millions of miles of copper to build the telegraph, telephone, and electrical lines that transformed the United States from a collection of small, isolated communities to a cohesive, industrialized nation. Looming gallows frames and the towering Anaconda Company smokestack recall the industrial roots of these sister cities, the source of much of that copper. Extracting the metal was hazardous work, and the danger bred solidarity among miners and smelterworkers. Two of the nation's most radical unions had their roots in Butte and Walkerville, "The Gibraltar of Unionism." They were the Western Federation of Miners and the Industrial Workers of the World, whose rhetoric opposing "wage slavery" challenged the foundations of American capitalism. Clashes between capital and labor marked the district, especially after the 1917 Butte Granite Mountain/Speculator Mine fire, the worst hard-rock mining disaster in the nation's history. Labor unrest and years under martial law followed in Butte, while in Anaconda, the Company fired suspected Socialists and agitators, devastating the unions. Butte and Anaconda workers reorganized during the New Deal after the federal government guaranteed the right of workers to unionize. Their four-month industry-wide strike in 1934 precipitated the birth of the CIO, an organization that helped rejuvenate the labor movement nationwide. In 2006, the National Park Service recognized Butte, Anaconda, and Walkerville's significance to the intertwined histories of mining and labor by declaring the district a National Historic Landmark. It is the largest NHL in the West, covering the period 1876-1934 and encompassing nearly 10,000 acres with over 6,000 contributing resources.

**Property:** Hirbour Block

**Address:** 7 E Broadway, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings

**Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

Less than a decade after the skyscraper made its debut in Chicago, the new technology of steel frame and curtain wall construction was employed in Butte. This engineering principle, coupled with use of the elevator, allowed the Hirbour Block to tower over other masonry structures in the district. Owner S. Emanuel Hirbour constructed Butte's first skyscraper in 1901, housing a first-floor grocery with rooms to let above. "H" medallions at the corners, egg-and-dart moldings with dentilation, and display windows in fancy metal frames enhance the façade of this eight-story showcase.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Property:** James Ross Clark Residence

**Address:** 309 W Broadway, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The exceptional preservation of this very elegant home can be attributed to the meticulous care of its few long-term owners. Built circa 1886-1888, the first resident was James Ross Clark, brother of copper magnate W. A. Clark. By 1906, John MacGinniss, who married into the Clark family, lived in the home. He served one term as mayor of Butte from 1905 to 1907 and was president of the Silver Bow National Bank. MacGinniss' daughter, Rosemary, and her husband, mining engineer William L. Creden, lived with the MacGinnisses. The Credens eventually assumed ownership and remained here until the Ducich family purchased the home in the early 1950s. An elaborate gate with paneled newel posts and turned balustrade, a graceful wraparound porch, a beautiful two-story oriel window on the rear façade, and decorative chimneys highlight this stunning example of Italianate style architecture. An authentic Tiffany window on the west façade confirms that the Clarks spared no expense in building this splendid residence.

**Property:** Hirbour Block

**Address:** 7 E Broadway, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Occupying a place of prominence in the business district, this eight-story Main Street landmark of steel and brick was one of Butte's first skyscrapers. Owner S. Emanuel Hirbour constructed this showcase of architectural detailing in 1901 to house a first-floor shop with rooms to let above. "H" medallions at the corners between the first two floors, egg-and-dart moldings with dentilation between the lower three floors, and display windows set in fancy metal frames characterize this fine, well-preserved example of Butte's elaborate, commercial architecture during the city's prosperous boom years.

**Property:** Montana Tech Campus Residence Halls

**Address:** West Park Street, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** universities (buildings) **Subject 2:** dormitories (buildings)

**Sign Text:**

The Montana School of Mines continued to grow even during the lean years of the Great Depression. One of the challenges facing early students was locating living quarters within a reasonable distance of the school. Credit for the building of this H-shaped residence hall goes to Francis A. Thomson, president of the school during the 1930s, who organized and saw to completion this phase of campus improvement. An appropriation from the Federal Emergency Relief Administration of Public Works (PWA) made construction possible. The residence hall was one of only nine Montana buildings constructed with PWA assistance. Completed in 1935, the brick and terra cotta-trimmed building features a main hall with two entirely separate wings occupied by the Theta Tau and Sigma Rho fraternities. The hall originally provided accommodations for 110 students as well as apartments for the house mother, proctor, instructors, and guests.

**Property:** 125 West Copper

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Address:** 125 West Copper, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

A row of small one-story dwellings occupied the west half of this block in 1884. By 1900, the James McBride family was in residence. Like most of his immediate neighbors, James was a miner born in Ireland. He and his wife Margaret—a native of County Kerry, Ireland—had four children. By 1910, mining had taken its toll leaving Margaret a widow. The family took in boarders and, like many miners' widows, Margaret worked as a laundress and ironer to support her family. By 1920, she owned the property. After Margaret's death in 1948, extended family continued housekeeping here into the 1950s. Despite its small size, the frame cottage housed numerous family members on the first floor, in the daylight basement, and in a tiny cabin that once stood at the rear. The unfinished attic also likely served as sleeping space. Although the neighborhood is now much more sparsely populated, the steel headframe towering behind West Copper Street is a sober reminder of the industry that bound its first residents together.

**Property:** 111 West Copper Street

**Address:** 111 West Copper Street, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Built in the shadow of the Anaconda Copper Mining Company's sprawling Original and Gagnon mines, boarding houses and apartments once crowded along this block. The Scandinavian Methodist Episcopal Church occupied the second story of a rooming house on the corner of Copper and Alaska, reflecting the neighborhood's ethnic mix. This shotgun style duplex, constructed in 1916, represents the last phase of Butte's growth when housing was at a premium and copper miners had received a twenty-five cent per day pay raise. Buff-colored terra-cotta brick veneer with a striking, diamond-patterned, crenellated parapet and a two-story walk-up porch with simple wood railings make a visually stunning statement. A row of ornamental red brick above the doors and windows and quoin-like corners accent the buff-colored façade. By the 1920s, copper miner Albert L. Bush was the owner and ground floor occupant while Fannie Dreyfuss, widow of copper miner Julius, was his long-term upstairs tenant. An innovative roll-away bed stored beneath the adjacent bathroom floor slides out from a built-in buffet, maximizing the small second-floor living space.

**Property:** 409 Alaska

**Address:** 409 Alaska, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Among the oldest survivors in the neighborhood, this four-room shotgun house was built between 1888 and 1890. That year, Butte boasted almost 11,000 people and over eighty operating mines. Mining refuse dumps separated the home from the Gagnon Hoisting Works, Clark's Original Hoisting Works, and an extensive tram and rail network that hauled the ore to nearby smelters. By 1900, the Gagnon and Original works ran day and night; the roar of the steam engines and rattle of ore cars made it impossible for this home's residents to forget Butte's reason for being. A short walk down the hill led to busy Granite Street and the city's commercial and governmental center. The house's proximity to mines and businesses reflected the intricate interconnection of Butte's industrial, residential, and commercial zones. Widow Ellen Burns, who lived here from 1923 until her death at age sixty in 1931, surely appreciated the home's proximity to Granite Street, where she worked as a

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

“janitress” at the Butte Water Works. She shared the small residence, valued at \$1,200 in 1930, with her miner brother, Dennis Leary.

**Property:** Inter Ocean Hotel

**Address:** 1112 South Wyoming St, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** hotels (public accommodations) **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Originally built by Ben Johnson in 1881 as a one-story hotel convenient to Montana Union Railway brakemen, firemen, engineers, and conductors, this residence ballooned in stages with the addition of a basement, upper floors, kitchen, and back rooms. Annie Boland was proprietress in 1885. By 1911, Chris Wolffs advertised furnished rooms. Wolffs’s widow, Annie, operated a grocery, confectionery, and rooming house here until her death in 1929. Her daughter Anna Stopher Berkley provided a midwife service—perhaps for unwed mothers—and ran the boarding house. Anna’s son Russell took over the longtime family business in 1952, and with his wife, Alma, offered furnished rooms until the mid-1980s. Recent renovations have produced some surprising hints at a colorful past. New owners discovered women’s Depression-era skull-cap hats stuffed in walls as insulation, 1920s silver coins buried in the basement, hand-painted Hennessy’s streetcar placards used as kitchen walls, candy jars concealed in crawlspaces, and hotel guest registers. Excavation of a rear cesspool yielded a Model A Ford and a turn-of-the-century handgun.

**Property:** Butte Telephone Company

**Address:** 124 W Granite, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:** telephone systems

**Sign Text:**

The end of a long court battle between Amalgamated Copper and renegade mine entrepreneur F. Augustus Heinze in 1906 brought about an unprecedented building boom. The Beaux Arts style, with its grandiose composition and exuberant detail, was the perfect façade to symbolize Butte’s new-found optimism. Prolific Montana architect George Shanley designed this three-story office building in 1907 for the Montana Independent Telephone Company. Home of the Butte Water Company since 1918, the structure, with its slender Ionic columns, arcade, and balconies, comprises one of a group of civic buildings in this expressive style.

**Property:** 412 West Broadway

**Address:** 412 West Broadway, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

In 1890, a wooden shotgun house stood at 412 West Broadway, while a substantial brick residence stood to the east. When wholesale produce merchant H. E. Morier and his wife, Teresa, decided to build this two-story home in 1907, they discovered that the neighboring brick residence encroached on their lot by five feet. The Moriers successfully sued the home’s owner, O. B. Barber, who responded by slicing his house in two at the property line, perhaps hoping that the dramatic gesture would convince the Moriers to buy him out. With the missing west wall covered by canvas, renters continued to reside in the remaining part of the Barber house while the Moriers began construction of their transitional Colonial Revival home. A one-story projecting bay, a second-story Palladian window accented with pilasters, and terra-cotta egg-and-dart trim along the parapet of the flat roof distinguish

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

the resulting residence. The Moriers did ultimately purchase Barber's property, which they transformed into a garden.

**Property:** 723 West Daly (Dewey Point)

**Address:** 723 W Daly, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Shortly after F. J. Brule's 1906 survey, Walkerville carpenter Ed Reimel built this one-and-one-half-story, brick-veneered home with extended eaves and a hipped roof dormer with flared ends. Victorian elements include beveled glass windows in the gable end, segmented arch accents over the windows, and a hairpin fence providing symbolic protection from the outside world. Cornish immigrants John and Mary Rich were the first owners. John worked as a bookkeeper. He was also bandmaster for the Alice Mine and Mill Band and secretary of the Musicians Mutual Protective Union. In 1917, as a musician at the Rialto Theater, he doubtless played the sound tracks for silent movies. Mary was in women's groups including the Miriam Rebekah Lodge #3 and the Walkerville Circle #547, Neighbors of Woodcraft. In 1924 the Riches moved down the street to a smaller home. From 1925 to the 1940s, this was home to William Richards, co-lessee of the Goldsmith Mine, and his wife Bessie and their four children. Their daughter Lavina lived here until 1990.

**Property:** 410 West Granite

**Address:** 410 West Granite, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

"Next to mining and smelting, litigation is the chief industry of Butte, and highly profitable to the lawyers," reported a writer in 1901. One of Butte's many lawyers, Frank T. McBride arrived in Montana in 1879. He and his wife, Rose, and son, Francis, lived in this two-story Queen Anne from 1896 to 1910. The home's next owner also engaged in a traditional Butte occupation: saloon owner Frank Walker lived here in 1910 with his wife, Bertha, daughter, Georgia, and two boarders, a salesman and a miner. The height of fashion when it was constructed circa 1890, the house boasts many classic Queen Anne features including multiple bays, a round tower, a single-story front porch, roof cutaways, and an eyebrow dormer. These create the random changes in horizontal and vertical planes for which the style is famous. Decorative trim, elegant stained glass, and contrasting wall textures through the use of fish-scale shingles, brick, and stone complete the residence. The front porch was added before 1900, the attached garage before 1916.

**Property:** 315 West Broadway

**Address:** 315 West Broadway, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Judge John McHatton, his wife, Rose, and their children made their home in this two-and-one-half-story Queen Anne style residence from 1895 until 1918. Built in 1892, the elegant brick and clapboard home designed by Butte architect John Patterson features the abundant angles and decoration that distinguish the Queen Anne style. The second story was added in 1905. The growing popularity of the Colonial Revival style likely influenced the decision to incorporate an upper-story Palladian window, broken pediments above the second-floor windows, and other classical details. McHatton arrived in Butte in 1885. He served as district judge from 1889 to 1897 before resigning

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

to work as chief counsel for copper king F. Augustus Heinze. At the turn of the century, Heinze employed thirty-seven lawyers in his fight against the Anaconda Company, a legal battle that at one time included 133 active lawsuits. When McHatton retired from active practice, he moved to California, but his Montana connections remained strong. Before leaving the state, he donated his entire law library—reportedly some two thousand volumes—to the University of Montana law school.

**Property:** 1115 Lewisohn

**Address:** 1115 Lewisohn, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

New York capitalist Leonard Lewisohn—a principal in both the Boston and Montana and the Butte and Boston mining companies—invested heavily in Butte even though he never lived here. Among his other business ventures, he and business partner Simon Jacobs platted the Waukesha Addition in 1891. The street named for his family was alternately spelled Lewisohn and the more easily remembered Lewishon—sometimes on the same map. Many of the neighborhood’s homes were built between 1900 and 1915, including this one-story bungalow, which Dan and Mary Crowley constructed in 1915 for approximately \$1,000. The flared roof, inset porch, horizontal lines, and front dormer are typical of bungalows, a housing style of unmatched popularity in 1915. The Crowleys lived here only a year. Frank and Lillian Stanaway owned the home from 1926 to 1936. Frank worked as a bookkeeper for the Montana Hardware Department of the Anaconda Company. He and Lillian moved to Billings in 1936, where he became branch manager of the Crowley Motor Supply Company. Agnes Callahan, who worked at the courthouse, lived here from 1936 to 1982.

**Property:** 1129 Lewisohn

**Address:** 1129 Lewisohn, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Craftsman style bungalows were phenomenally popular in the 1910s, nationally and in Butte. A low-pitched gable roof, open porch, exposed rafter tails, and decorative knee braces identify this well-preserved example of the style. Constructed between 1900 and 1915, the home boasts its original windows, which feature a diamond pane motif. Built-in bookcases serve as room dividers; oak floors, a beamed ceiling, and a prominent fireplace ornament the living room. Architects lauded bungalow designs for their symbolism and efficiency. Low-pitched roofs gave “an impression of comfort and security.” The central hearth provided a symbolic focus for the family, and the interior use of wood (such as the ceiling beams in this house) brought nature into the home. According to architects, the open floor plans reflected a healthy informality and provided an efficient use of space. Homeowners like Herman and Barbara Smith, who lived here from 1915 through 1949, also embraced the bungalow style. Usually costing between \$1,500 and \$3,000 to build, bungalows put fashionable homes within financial reach of skilled craftsmen like Smith, who worked variously as an ironworker, ropeman, contractor, depot supervisor, and salesman.

**Property:** Bridget Shea Residence

**Address:** , Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**



## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

### Sign Text:

Tucked into the steep slope of Butte hill, this wonderfully preserved four-square cottage well represents Butte's working backbone. Real estate mogul Josiah Beck built the modest home in 1885 over the Silver King Lode. Charles Eltinge, its first owner, was a correspondence clerk for W. A. Clark. The Eltinge family was strangely connected to America's first famous female impersonator, William Julian Dalton, who was a neighbor and chum of Eltinge's son. The performer took Julian Eltinge as his stage name. By 1916, James and Bridget Shea owned the home. Widowed during the influenza epidemic of 1918, Bridget raised four small children working as a waitress. She began a 25-year career in 1930 as business agent for the Women's Protective Union, likely having experienced this need firsthand. The Shea family owned the house until 1978. Unusual decorative lattice and diamond openings at the porch base add individuality to the standard vernacular design. Original varnished woodwork, French doors, and hardwood floors grace the interior. Bridget's carefully tended garden of shrub roses, lilacs, and lavender are a fragrant and lasting legacy.

**Property:** First Presbyterian Church

**Address:** 215 West Broadway, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** churches (buildings) **Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

Charter members George and Helen Miles bestowed this land on the church in 1882. Since that time the First Presbyterian Church has occupied this space. Church trustees met in 1911 to discuss the construction of a larger \$30,000-\$40,000 church. Pastor Reverend J. Forsythe Smith reasoned that a new house of worship would "provide better social advantages, better intellectual advantages, and better moral and spiritual advantages." In addition to a larger worship space, the modern facility would include a Sunday school and choir room. Architect Brynjulf Rivenes designed the concrete and brick edifice on the same site as the old church, which was sold and relocated to face North Prairie. Western Granite and Marble Works of Miles City donated the cornerstone, laid on November 26, 1914. C. N. Strevell gifted the main stained glass window fronting Montana Avenue. The oak finished, 871-pipe Estry organ was specially designed to fit the organ chamber. Dedicated in 1917, this impressive Gothic Revival Style church conveys a sense of stability and permanence.

**Property:** Hirbour Block

**Address:** , Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

Less than a decade after the skyscraper made its debut in Chicago, the new technology of steel frame and curtain wall construction was employed in Butte. This engineering principle, coupled with use of the elevator, allowed the Hirbour Block to tower over other masonry structures in the district. Owner S. Emanuel Hirbour constructed Butte's first skyscraper in 1901, housing a first-floor grocery with rooms to let above. "H" medallions at the corners, egg-and-dart moldings with dentilation, and display windows in fancy metal frames enhance the façade of this eight-story showcase.

**Property:** 1200 West Steel Street

**Address:** 1200 W Steel St, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

### Sign Text:

Copper was a primary component in warships, ammunition casing, and tanks. No wonder Butte's economy boomed during World War I. The city's population more than doubled between 1910 and 1918, and real estate developers scrambled to meet the demand for housing, building over 700 residences between 1915 and 1918. Not all of Butte's new residents were miners, and among the middle-class enclaves that grew up during the war was the Corona Addition, surveyed by James King in 1915. Most of the new homes were Craftsman style bungalows, but there were exceptions, including this grand Colonial Revival house, prominently situated on a corner lot. The singular gambrel-roofed residence features shuttered windows, two shed dormers, and a welcoming gable-roofed entryway. Attorney Joseph Griffin lived here in 1918, but from 1926 through 1944, the distinctive residence was home to Lee and Myrtle Smith, their three children, and a live-in housekeeper. A prominent ear, nose, and throat doctor, and vice president of Murray Hospital, Dr. Smith was also an "ardent sportsman," a "scattergun artist," and devoted member of the Butte Trap and Skeet Club.

**Property:** Butte Miner Building-Butte Floral Company

**Address:** W Broadway near Main, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:** printing firms

### Sign Text:

The publisher of copper king W.A. Clark's newspaper, the Butte Miner, used this space as a printing office from 1884. In 1906, Butte florist James King partly demolished the older structure and erected this unique two-story building. The year 1906 marked the beginning of a new period of growth precipitated partly by a thriving copper industry. This optimism is mirrored in the architectural exuberance seen not only in Butte's much grander buildings of the time, but in small businesses as well. The green-glazed brick and exotic Moorish revival arched windows provide an excellent example of this building trend.

**Property:** Hirbour Block

**Address:** , Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

Occupying a place of prominence in the business district, this eight-story Main Street landmark of steel and brick was one of Butte's first skyscrapers. Owner S. Emanuel Hirbour constructed this showcase of architectural detailing in 1901 to house a first-floor shop with rooms to let above. "H" medallions at the corners between the first two floors, egg-and-dart moldings with dentilation between the lower three floors, and display windows set in fancy metal frames characterize this fine, well-preserved example of Butte's elaborate, commercial architecture during the city's prosperous boom years.

**Property:** Dumas Hotel

**Address:** 45 East Mercury Street, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** hotels (public accommodations) **Subject 2:** brothels

### Sign Text:

French Canadian brothers Arthur and Joseph Nadeau built this house of prostitution in 1890. Reflecting the architecture of the trade, each room features a door and window so customers could "shop." In 1900, when Grace McGinnis was madam, the Dumas was in the heart of the red-light district, an area roughly two blocks

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

square and crowded with saloons and gambling halls. Prostitutes worked everywhere from squalid alley “cribs” to high class “parlor houses” such as the Dumas. Prostitution, although never legal in Butte, was tolerated as a necessity for miners and “gentlemen” alike. The district faded as years passed, but women at the Dumas serviced customers until 1982.

**Property:** Knights of Columbus

**Address:** 224 W Park Street, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** fraternal lodges **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The Butte chapter of this fraternal organization was founded in 1902 and its present quarters constructed in 1917-18. Architect Wellington Smith designed the three-story Renaissance Revival style building, which features “tapestry” brick from Helena and cast or artificial stone that was hand-carved and engraved. The building included a pool, track, ladies’ parlor, and a grand octagonal room with a twenty-five-foot domed ceiling. Situated between the business district and west side residential area, this spacious hall was one of the last buildings constructed during Butte’s final building boom of 1916-1918.

**Property:** B'Nai Israel Temple

**Address:** 327 West Galena, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** synagogues (buildings) **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Butte’s ethnic diversity is well represented in this beautiful synagogue, dedicated in 1904. After the Jewish community split into one reform and two orthodox groups, this temple was built for use by the reform congregation. The three-story masonry building features a corner bell tower with an onion dome roof, an ornately corbelled front gable with rosette window beneath, and semicircular brick arches. In 1969, the three groups reunited and a congregation of thirty families now worship together in the synagogue.

**Property:** Kelly Block

**Address:** 7 East Broadway, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:** apartments

**Sign Text:**

The early 1890s brought an urgent need for more living and street-level commercial space. John F. Kelly commissioned the Butte architectural firm of Freys, Bartlett and McMillan to design this commercial-residential Queen Anne style structure in 1892. The upper façade, reminiscent of row house construction in eastern cities of the period, may well reflect the Chicago affiliations of C. T. Freys. Ground-floor commercial space first housed Kelly’s wholesale fruit and produce firm, before Shiner’s Furniture located here from 1898 to 1980. Apartments and lodgings were available on the upper floors.

**Property:** First National Bank

**Address:** 101 N Main St, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** banks (financial institutions) **Subject 2:**

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

### Sign Text:

Farmer, trader, and grist mill operator Andrew Jackson Davis, reportedly Montana's first millionaire, founded the First National Bank in partnership with influential politician Samuel T. Hauser in 1877. Upon Davis' death in 1890, a nephew of the same name took over banking operations. The younger Davis planned new quarters commensurate with the bank's dignified status. Prominent architects Link and Haire designed the new Greek Revival style building, completed in 1909 and enlarged in 1915. Square classical lines, ornately carved stone, and decorative terra cotta highlight this well-preserved landmark.

**Property:** 61 Bennett

**Address:** 61 Bennett St, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

Almost a quarter of the buildings in Walkerville are four-square, hip-roof residences, what housing catalogs called "workingman's cottages." Quick and inexpensive to build, they provided homes for Walkerville miners and their families. Roughly a third of those miners emigrated from England, many of them from the copper mining district of Cornwall. James and Edith Burnett lived here by 1910, with their two children and two of James's older brothers, John and Steven. All three men worked as miners. Their father was originally from Cornwall, but the brothers grew up in Lancashire, where their dad mined iron. John was the first of the brothers to seek his fortune in Butte, leaving England in 1898. James was next, arriving in Butte in 1902, followed by Edith and the children in 1906, and Steven in 1909. It seems that James left the mining life behind as quickly as he could. By 1920, the family had moved to Oakland, California, where James worked as a railroad machinist. By that year, another family of English immigrants occupied the residence: fifty-three year-old miner William Rowe and his wife Martha.

**Property:** Renick House

**Address:** 831 West Granite, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

This Victorian-era residence exhibits many Queen Anne details, including an ornate floral pattern in the transom above the windows and a large sunray motif in the gable. The interior boasts three hand-milled fireplaces, oak doors, a stunning white oak staircase, and Tiffany stained-glass windows in the front entry. Built around 1891, a second story was added to the home during a \$6,000 remodeling in 1900. Early ownership of the home is unclear, but by 1900 Katherine Q. Clark, wife of copper king W. A. Clark's son Charles, owned the home. Katherine sold the home to her sister Ada Renick in 1903. Ada and her husband W. L. became the first owners to actually live in the residence. W. L. Renick was a respected physician in Butte until the family relocated to California in 1920. Local attorney and miner John Templeman and his wife Irene Isabella purchased the home from the Renicks and lived here until 1943. The home has been well preserved and maintained over the years, retaining its historic integrity.

**Property:** 827 West Park

**Address:** 827 West Park, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

Emerson B. Weirick purchased the land to build this home in 1897 for a total of thirty dollars. Construction of the residence began that same year. Preeminent Butte architect W. A. O'Brien designed the home and Fergus Kelley

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

served as contractor. O'Brien and Kelley teamed up on the construction of a number of Butte's commercial landmarks and most prestigious homes including the C. F. Kelley mansion next door to the west. Weirick's elegant, finely detailed home fit his social status as vice president of the First National Bank. The residence is an excellent example of turn-of-the-century transitional architecture. Tuscan columns, dentils framing the porch, and wide overhanging eaves reflect the newer classical trend. The irregular floorplan, bay window, floral-patterned stained glass, and varied surface treatments are characteristic of the Victorian-era Queen Anne style. Stunning views of the city with the mountains beyond and a desirable southern exposure made this stretch of West Park Street highly preferred.

**Property:** 205 North Washington

**Address:** 205 N. Washington, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Neoclassical design elements define this substantial two-story brick home built in 1891. Dentils ornament the eaveline, multi-pane windows dominate the symmetrical front façade, and doubled columns provide support for what was once a full-length front porch with a second-story balustrade. A decorative iron fence symbolically separates the family sanctuary from the outside world and likely dates to the home's construction. The small garage, added sometime between 1900 and 1916, reflects the increasing importance of the automobile. Physicians were particularly indebted to their cars for ready transportation on late-night calls, and this residence was home to two doctors. Abram Leggat, a general physician and surgeon with an office in the Hennessey Building, lived here between 1900 and 1902, before he and his wife, Hattie, decided to move with their daughter to St. Louis. Dr. John McIntyre, a skilled surgeon and the medical examiner for several fraternal organizations, lived here with his wife, Annie, between 1910 and 1917.

**Property:** Ramsay Historic District

**Address:** , Ramsay, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Ramsay Historic District **Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** historic districts **Subject 2:** company towns

**Sign Text:**

World War I (1914-1918) created an insatiable demand for copper, a primary component in warships, ammunition casing, and tanks. Since copper mining required explosives, in 1916 the DuPont Company decided to locate a dynamite manufacturing plant seven miles from Butte, home to rich copper mines. DuPont built the company town of Ramsay to attract workers to the isolated plant, which could produce 750,000 tons of dynamite a month. It situated Ramsay near the railroad, but far enough from Butte that an explosion—always a risk in a dynamite plant—would not affect the larger community. Believing that better living conditions resulted in greater worker efficiency, DuPont created a pleasant town with good infrastructure. Along wide, tree-lined streets the company built a large boarding house for single workers, attractive bungalows for married workers, and three large residences for company managers. The homes mainly followed three standard architectural designs, named after other DuPont company towns. Most common were the hipped-roof "DuPont-style" cottages, with a front hipped-roof dormer and small cutaway porches. The company also constructed six gable-roofed "Hopewell-style" cottages, with shed dormers and decorative shutters, and three smaller hipped-roof "Louviers-style" cottages. Demand for dynamite dropped precipitously after the war and DuPont closed the Ramsay plant in 1921. Throughout the 1920s, only three to four families lived in Ramsay. During the Great Depression, DuPont opened houses for non-company tenants. In the 1940s, DuPont sold the entire town to a former employee, who improved the houses and resold them to private buyers, transforming the company town into a Butte suburb.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Property:** 815-817 West Mercury

**Address:** 815-817 West Mercury, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:** duplexes

**Sign Text:**

Beautiful brickwork crowns this grand bay-fronted flat, built in 1904. Architectural highlights include a two-story polygonal bay, transomed entries, and arched windows trimmed in rough-faced granite. Originally built as a duplex, Queen Anne style mutli-family housing like this is characteristic of Butte's older historic neighborhoods where urban crowding compromised domesticity. In an attempt to mirror more traditional housing, apartments were designed to resemble in appearance and floorplan the popular Queen Anne cottage. This premier example first belonged to real estate proprietor Thomas Stephens who lived here with his wife Emma and two sons from 1904 to at least 1910. The Stephenses rented out the other flat. In 1910, Anaconda Copper Mining Company salesman Norton Scott and his wife Mary were tenants. Through the 1990s, new owners reversed alterations made during the 1960s and 1970s, converting the duplex to a single family home. Interior and exterior restorations have returned much of the home's period grandeur. The addition of a columned front entry porch and a side porch, along with other original features, now make this an impressive neighborhood landmark.

**Property:** Dr. John D. McGregor Residence

**Address:** 1139 West Mercury, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Newly graduated from the University of Toronto with a degree in veterinary surgery, Dr. John D. McGregor arrived in the Mining City in 1889. Copper king Marcus Daly launched the young doctor's career, hiring him to care for horses on the Butte hill. That began a long association with the Anaconda Company and a lucrative private practice. In 1918, the doctor, his wife Laura, and their two daughters settled into this impressive home. Built in 1915 and grandly placed on a prominent rise, the New England style English cottage is a model of perfect symmetry with its paired gabled dormers and centered entry. Rich Classical Revival style details include two sets of regal ionic columns that flank the entrance and support a triangular gable, or pediment. A Baroque style wreath and intricate scrollwork embellish the pediment. A gated brick retaining wall at street level and mature landscaping add historic ambiance. Daughter Helen—a beloved speech and drama teacher at Butte High School—kept house here after her parents' deaths in the 1950s. The McGregor family retained ownership until Helen's death in 1989.

**Property:** Silver Bow County Poor Farm Hospital

**Address:** 3040 Continental Drive, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** hospitals (buildings for health facility) **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Built as a hospital in 1902, this building illustrates the early development of care for the indigent in Montana and is the only such structure remaining in the state. Silver Bow County had previously maintained a poor farm and quarantine house on these premises while contracting out for hospital services. But the mines of Butte attracted an influx of immigrant workers, many of them impoverished. More adequate medical care was desperately needed for this burgeoning dependent population. Silver Bow County contracted prominent architect C. S. Haire

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

to design the new hospital. The original center section is of brick-bearing wall construction and features terra cotta string courses in rope and egg-and-dart designs. The facilities included an operating room, offices, patients' rooms, and wards. An innovative ventilation system circulated fresh air throughout the building. North and south wings in the same style were added within the next two decades. The hospital served the needy until the current system of welfare was adopted in the 1930s. After that the hospital continued services to the county until a new facility replaced it in 1956. The National Center for Appropriate Technology has occupied the building since 1976.

**Property:** 167 West Pacific

**Address:** 167 West Pacific, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Outlying settlements like Centerville sprang up so that miners could live near their work. Perched on the slope, Centerville's steep streets witnessed many a wild winter bobsled ride down the long hill. A clanging bell cleared the way of horse-drawn traffic. Rise and fall of the copper market and increased automobile use reduced Centerville's once substantial population. Little remains today along the streets where small businesses and lodge halls catered to the working class and small cottages housed families dependent on mining. This modest corner residence was built between 1890 and 1891. By 1895, Welsh miner Stephen H. Northey, his wife Margaret, and their two children were in residence. Like 40 percent of Centerville's nineteenth-century population, both Stephen and Margaret were born in England. Stephen Northey had been diagnosed with tuberculosis when he died suddenly in 1909. At 45, he was a 25-year veteran, and victim, of Butte's mines. The two-story, gable-front residence is typical of Centerville's remaining historic dwellings that stand today in the shadow of the steel headframes.

**Property:** 138 N Alabama Street

**Address:** 318 N Alabama St, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** contributing building

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:** Queen Anne

**Sign Text:**

Fish-scale shingles, a bay window, and a porch tucked into the entry define this Queen Anne style cottage and its mirror image next door. Irish-born Patrick McCarthy, a well-known meat market proprietor, built the two houses in 1897 as rental properties. Although originally joined by a breezeway at the rear, throughout their histories the sister houses have always sheltered separate families. In 1900, McCarthy's tenant on this side was mining engineer George Moulthrop and his wife France. McCarthy moved from the neighborhood in 1905 and sold this side to John P. Harrington. Like McCarthy, Harrington and his wife Margaret were Irish immigrants. John was a college graduate who worked his way up from bookkeeper to manager/part owner of the Butte Brewing Company. The company survived Prohibition by switching from beer to the manufacture of soft drinks. John was esteemed for his generous nature, but a dislike of politics prompted him to decline numerous requests to run for sheriff, mayor, and school trustee. He died in 1934, just after the repeal of Prohibition put beer back in his brewery.

**Property:** Kelley Mansion

**Address:** 829 W Park St, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** contributing building

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:** W.A. O'Brien

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

### Sign Text:

A large circular portico with surrounding Ionic columns dominates the facade of this grand residence, constructed in 1906 for Cornelius "Con" Kelley and his wife Mary for the then princely sum of \$20,000. Butte architect W.A. O'Brien's design for the Neoclassical Revival home also features a wraparound porch supported by Ionic columns and topped with a decorative balustrade. Other detailing includes semi-circular and angled bay windows and repeating cornice brackets at the soffits. Con Kelley became president of the Anaconda Copper Mining Company and relocated to New York City in 1918, but in 1906 he worked for the Company as an attorney. He fought some of the Company's most famous legal battles, including defending it against Augustus Heinze's attempt to claim its copper as his own at the turn of the century. J. Bruce Kremer and his wife Cornelia lived here until 1933. Kremer was an attorney and chairman of the Democratic National Committee and presided over the Democratic Convention in San Francisco in 1920. Dan Kelly, ACM president of western operations, and his wife, Helen, lived in the home until the 1950s.

**Property:** Matt's Place Drive-IN

**Address:** 2339 Placer Street, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:**            **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** drive-in restaurants            **Subject 2:** restaurants

### Sign Text:

Entrepreneur Matt Korn opened a tiny restaurant here in 1930 featuring a drive-in window, an idea he imported from southern California. Matt's Place was likely Montana's first drive-in, but unlike its California counterparts, this business never advertised. Good food built its reputation and business boomed. Korn married, added upstairs living quarters, and expanded the drive-in to include curb service. In 1936, high school student Mabel Waddell, who used to visit Korn's tiny drive-in window as a child, joined the staff of seven carhops. Korn had "Mae" embroidered on her uniform prompting Mabel to change her name. Mae continued to work at Matt's Place, went to beauty school, graduated, and became engaged to teamster Louis Laurence. When a deal to buy her own shop fell through, Louis and Mae bought Matt's Place in 1943. They spent their honeymoon waiting on customers. The couple couldn't afford a new sign, so the name remained. When Louis passed away in 1962, Mae saw to it that her longtime customers didn't miss a homemade burger or a shake. During better than half a century behind the counter, more than 28 family members have worked for Mae at the drive-in, whose menu hasn't changed since the 1930s. Matt's Place won national acclaim for its fabulous made-from-scratch cuisine, vintage equipment, and period furnishings. One gentleman summed it up when he signed Mae's guest book, "Now I know it's not the mountains and lakes that makes Montana special – it's Matt's Place!"

**Property:** 633 West Quartz

**Address:** 633 W. Quartz, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte   **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures            **Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

Carpenter Lewis Morris built this Queen Anne style cottage in 1898 for approximately \$300 during Butte's second building boom. Lap siding, turned porch supports, and decorative glass ornament the home's basic form, while a hundred-year-old cottonwood shades the yard. Originally, the home's pyramidal roof likely had a flat top, a style that tended to leak. Capping the roof with a second pyramid was a common solution. Over the years, a variety of white-collar workers and their families rented the home. Residents included Robert and Honora Haydn, who resided here in 1900. Robert was the advertising agent for the Butte Daily Miner. From 1908 to 1911, mining engineer James Egan lived here with his family. Leonard Huber, a timekeeper at the Anselmo mine, and his wife, Gertrude, made their home here from 1945 to 1951. In the 1960s a lattice arch connected this home to 631 W.



## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

Quartz. Members of the Sultzter family occupied both houses. The Sultzters had lived at 631 W. Quartz since 1904 and various family members lived here from 1923 until 1931 and again from 1956 until 1975.

**Property:** Mueller Apartments

**Address:** 501 W Granite, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** apartments

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Turn-of-the-century critics called apartment living “a shortcut . . . to the divorce court.” These moralists believed that the proximity of bedrooms to living areas—and the easy access to both by neighbors—encouraged promiscuity, while apartment dwellers’ limited housekeeping duties encouraged a dangerous lack of domesticity among wives. Nevertheless, apartments increasingly attracted middle-class residents, particularly young, childless couples, older couples whose children had grown, and bachelors and working women, who didn’t need as much space as larger families. White-collar workers occupied the five-story, fifty-five-unit Mueller Apartments, built in 1917 as an investment by A. H. Mueller, president of Centennial Brewing Company. The building incorporates Italian Renaissance style design elements: a symmetrical façade, a rusticated first story, keystone arches over the first-floor windows, and paired brackets and dentils under the cornice. Stained glass windows decorate the front entrance while a belt course and a distinct window pattern distinguish the fifth-floor penthouse apartments. These elegant, yet restrained architectural details announce the building’s respectability and, by extension, the respectability of its tenants, who included teachers, a doctor, salesclerks, accountants, and business owners.

**Property:** 128-130 West Galena Street

**Address:** 128-130 West Galena, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Frank H. Cooney, one of four brothers in the merchandising business in Butte, purchased this lot on the William Penn Quartz Lode for \$30 in 1898. As was usual in early Butte real estate deals, the mining company retained ownership of the property below the ground surface. Cooney, who later served as governor of Montana (1933 to 1935), built this two-flat residence in 1901 and lived here briefly. By 1904, barber Charles M. Joyce lived in one of the flats. His 24-hour shop at Broadway and Main won Butte national press as the “town where the barbershops never close.” Before Joyce came to Butte in 1881, travels across the continent yielded him an unusual clientele that included Tombstone, Arizona’s gunmen Doc Holliday and the Earp brothers. During Joyce’s 54-year career in Butte, he served the tonsorial needs of rival copper kings Marcus Daly and W. A. Clark and many other colorful characters. Joyce lived at this address until his death in 1929. The two-story brick residence, typical of early 1900s Butte, features a central oriel window, polychrome brickwork, and an interior stairway.

**Property:** The Napton

**Address:** 25 East Granite Street, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** apartments

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

A grand arched entryway topped by a wooden bracketed cornice and ornate iron rail welcomes visitors to the Napton. Because downtown apartment buildings were a hallmark of big cities like New York and Chicago, construction of the Napton Apartments in 1906 contributed to Butte’s image as a booming metropolis. Its

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

construction also reflected investor confidence in Butte's future, confidence justified by the over \$3 million worth of building projects undertaken that year. Architect W. A. O'Brien designed and oversaw construction of the four-story, three-bay, forty-eight-unit apartment building. As expected, the Napton soon became home to members of Butte's professional class from teachers and mining engineers to business owners and stenographers. Judge George M. Bourquin, who lived here from 1915 through 1939, was undoubtedly the Napton's most renowned resident. Appointed to the federal bench from 1912 to 1934, Bourquin was a courageous defender of individual civil liberties in the face of the mass hysteria that swept the country during World War I. His decisions, highly controversial at the time, upheld such rights as freedom of expression and protection from unreasonable search and seizure.

**Property:** Butte-Anaconda Historic District

**Address:** Historic District, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** historic districts **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

It took millions of miles of copper to build the telegraph, telephone, and electrical lines that transformed the United States from a collection of small, isolated communities to a cohesive, industrialized nation. Looming gallows frames and the towering Anaconda Company smokestack recall the industrial roots of these sister cities, the source of much of that copper. Extracting the metal was hazardous work, and the danger bred solidarity among miners and smelterworkers. Two of the nation's most radical unions had their roots in Butte and Walkerville, "The Gibraltar of Unionism." They were the Western Federation of Miners and the Industrial Workers of the World, whose rhetoric opposing "wage slavery" challenged the foundations of American capitalism. Clashes between capital and labor marked the district, especially after the 1917 Butte Granite Mountain/Speculator Mine fire, the worst hard-rock mining disaster in the nation's history. Labor unrest and years under martial law followed in Butte, while in Anaconda, the Company fired suspected Socialists and agitators, devastating the unions. Butte and Anaconda workers reorganized during the New Deal after the federal government guaranteed the right of workers to unionize. Their four-month industry-wide strike in 1934 precipitated the birth of the CIO, an organization that helped rejuvenate the labor movement nationwide. In 2006, the National Park Service recognized Butte, Anaconda, and Walkerville's significance to the intertwined histories of mining and labor by declaring the district a National Historic Landmark. It is the largest NHL in the West, covering the period 1876-1934 and encompassing nearly 10,000 acres with over 6,000 contributing resources.

**Property:** Butte-Anaconda Historic District

**Address:** Historic District, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** historic districts **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

It took millions of miles of copper to build the telegraph, telephone, and electrical lines that transformed the United States from a collection of small, isolated communities to a cohesive, industrialized nation. Looming gallows frames and the towering Anaconda Company smokestack recall the industrial roots of these sister cities, the source of much of that copper. Extracting the metal was hazardous work, and the danger bred solidarity among miners and smelterworkers. Two of the nation's most radical unions had their roots in Butte and Walkerville, "The Gibraltar of Unionism." They were the Western Federation of Miners and the Industrial Workers of the World, whose rhetoric opposing "wage slavery" challenged the foundations of American capitalism. Clashes between capital and labor marked the district, especially after the 1917 Butte Granite Mountain/Speculator Mine fire, the worst hard-rock mining disaster in the nation's history. Labor unrest and years under martial law followed

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

in Butte, while in Anaconda, the Company fired suspected Socialists and agitators, devastating the unions. Butte and Anaconda workers reorganized during the New Deal after the federal government guaranteed the right of workers to unionize. Their four-month industry-wide strike in 1934 precipitated the birth of the CIO, an organization that helped rejuvenate the labor movement nationwide. In 2006, the National Park Service recognized Butte, Anaconda, and Walkerville's significance to the intertwined histories of mining and labor by declaring the district a National Historic Landmark. It is the largest NHL in the West, covering the period 1876-1934 and encompassing nearly 10,000 acres with over 6,000 contributing resources.

**Property:** Henry Jacobs House

**Address:** , Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Henry Jacobs, Butte's first mayor (1879-80), was a native of Baden, Germany. He immigrated to America's South at the age of nine and to Montana in 1866, where he established the H. Jacobs and Company clothing store. He and his wife, Adele, completed this charming home circa 1879. It was one of Butte's early all brick residences. Mr. Jacobs served as a school trustee, an officer of the I.O.O.F., and president of the Hebrew Benevolent Association.

**Property:** First Presbyterian Church

**Address:** 215 West Broadway, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** churches (buildings) **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

While Butte's personality was taking shape in the form of impressive commercial buildings, the construction of five major churches in little more than two decades added grace and eloquence to the city's demeanor. The Presbyterians, organized in Butte in 1878, commissioned the town's most prominent architect, H. M. Patterson, to design their new church. Patterson, whose style left an indelible print on Butte's streetscape, completed the building in 1896. The wood-frame construction with brick veneer is enhanced by a square tower, double arched doors, and an elaborate stained glass window set in Gothic arches.

**Property:** Campana Building

**Address:** , Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:** saloons (bars)

**Sign Text:**

Swiss-born Rocco Campana came to Butte in 1886 when it was still a mining camp with a precarious future. Rocco first opened a saloon then, confident of the town's potential, invested his savings in property on this corner. By 1890, three brothers had joined him. Clemens, Celeste, and Constante Campana operated a grocery, hay, and grain business while Rocco handled wholesale liquors and cigars. The entire family lived on the premises. In 1894, the Campanas hired Butte architect H. M. Patterson to combine the corner storefront with a new two-story building next door. The family residence then sprawled over both second floors above the grocery and bar. A feed store and stable were on the alley. In 1898, Rocco died leaving his wife Pellegrina and nine children, the youngest twelve days old. Pellegrina raised her children here, running the bar and grocery until her death in 1925. The centered name and date may not be the only reminder of this family prominent in Butte's commercial history. Some recently claim to have seen the ghost of Pellegrina presiding behind the bar.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Property:** Mantle Block

**Address:** 14020 W Broadway, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:** theaters (buildings)

**Sign Text:**

Prominent politician Lee Mantle had this impressive four-story masonry building constructed during 1892, the year he was elected mayor of Butte. Architect H. M. Patterson designed the commercial-residential structure, which incorporates a wealth of decorative architectural forms popular at the time. The curved corner turret and the mixing of stone and brick on the façade reflect Patterson's distinctive eclectic style. Griffins and scrolls on the capitals between the third and fourth floors enhance the lively treatment of the façade. Remodeling in 1916 to accommodate the building's long-time occupant, the Liberty Theater, somewhat altered the original storefronts, but fragments of decorative plaster within recall this former use.

**Property:** Hennessy Building

**Address:** 16 E Granite, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

In little more than a decade, entrepreneur Daniel Hennessy's mercantile business became Montana's first and most elegant department store. Minneapolis architect Frederick Kees designed the magnificent 1898 Renaissance Revival style showcase of steel, terra cotta, decorative glass, and wrought iron grille work to house Hennessy's thriving business. The Anaconda Copper Mining Company added to the building's prestige, moving its executive offices to the sixth floor in 1901. There the company reigned over its empire atop the city's most modern building. Façade restoration in 1989 by ENTECH, Incorporated, rejuvenated the building, which now serves as a major business center accommodating modern offices.

**Property:** First National Bank

**Address:** 101 N Main St, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** banks (financial institutions) **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

"No year has favored the business section like 1910. And best of all, the buildings are of a better class than last year," enthused the Ravalli Republic. Part of this boom, the First National Bank building replaced two wooden structures that housed a general store and Hamilton's first hospital in the mid-1890s. The second floor of the new masonry building was divided into inexpensive apartments. The building's first-floor façade reflected its dual purpose as a bank and store. Large display windows with an aluminum mullion frame marked Hub Clothing, which occupied the business block's south half. Double-hung windows accented by brick voussiors (wedge-shaped bricks or stones) adorned the more formal façade of the First National Bank. F. H. Drinkenberg, president of First National Bank, also owned an interest in Hub Clothing. Mayor of Hamilton in 1910, his real estate investments reflected his faith in the town's future. In addition to this building, Drinkenberg owned interests in two other Second Street business blocks also constructed 1909-1910.

**Property:** Masonic Temple

**Address:** 314 W. Park, Butte, Silver Bow

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** fraternal lodges

**Subject 2:** commercial buildings

**Sign Text:**

Terra-cotta medallions sporting the Masonic emblem of square and compass and the words “Masonic Temple” centered beneath the cornice proudly announce this building’s primary purpose. Chartered in 1898, the Forsyth Masonic Lodge met in borrowed quarters until 1905, when enthusiastic Mason Hiram Marcyes included a lodge room in his new Commercial Hotel. Six years later, the Masons hired Miles City architect Brynjulf Rivenes to design this Beaux Arts style temple, constructed of local brick from Marcyes’ brickyard and finished with a façade of high-fire Hebron brick trimmed with Bedford limestone. Rent from the first-floor storefronts subsidized the building’s \$21,000 price tag. The second floor boasted the lodge room as well as a cloakroom and clubroom designed for members of the short-lived Forsyth Club. During the 1918 flu epidemic, clubrooms were converted into a temporary hospital. In 1921 the public library, founded by the Forsyth Woman’s Club, occupied the space. While the library moved to the old courthouse in 1927 and into its current building in 1971, Masons continue to meet in this lodge, built by their predecessors in 1911.

**Property:** Carpenter's Union Hall

**Address:** 156 W. Granite, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** union halls

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Butte’s reputation as the “Gibraltar of Unionism” in the Rocky Mountains was further strengthened with the construction of this finely appointed Renaissance Revival style labor temple, one of the first built in the United States. The Butte Carpenters’ Union, Local #112 chartered in 1890, financed the construction, which was completed in 1906. The temple housed most of Butte’s unions including the Women’s Protective Union, the Teachers’ Union, the Laborers’ Union, the Machinists’ Union, and the Butte Building and Construction Trades. The hall, which is still used as a union labor temple, provides a fine example of the talent and skills of local craftsmen of the time.

**Property:** Masonic Temple Annex (Fox Theatre)

**Address:** 315 W. Park, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** fraternal lodges

**Subject 2:** theaters (buildings)

**Sign Text:**

An overabundance of copper on the world market all but halted building activity in Uptown Butte during the 1920s. This splendid, long-established theater is one exception, completed in 1923. Following the example of Butte’s most significant twentieth-century buildings, the Masons commissioned the architectural firm of Link and Haire to create the impressive Beaux-Arts style structure. Four colossal engaged columns with Ionic capitals, lions’ heads, decorative iron work, and multi-colored terra cotta highlight its monumental façade. Today the Fox Theatre continues to provide entertainment to the public.

**Property:** Masonic Temple

**Address:** 314 W. Park, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** fraternal lodges

**Subject 2:**

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

### Sign Text:

The first Masonic Lodge in Butte was chartered October 3, 1876. With a membership of 550 after the turn of the twentieth century, the organization had outgrown its old quarters on West Park. The new temple, completed in 1902, provides an early example of the grandly scaled Beaux-Arts style that came to dominate Butte's later civic structures. Link and Carter, the forerunner of the prestigious architectural firm of Link and Haire, created the new temple, enhancing its façade with Ionic columns, a cornice of lions' heads, and decorative borders of acanthus leaves and geometric designs.

**Property:** Masonic Temple

**Address:** 314 W. Park, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** fraternal lodges

**Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

Seventeen charter members formed Kalispell Lodge No. 42 in 1892. Masons first held lodge meetings in several locations. Work began on this building in 1904, but when the Great Northern Railway moved its division point to Whitefish, the town paused and construction stopped. In a show of faith in the town's future, the Renaissance Revival style temple was completed in 1905. Designed by architect George Shanley, the lodge hall was upstairs while commercial tenants, including J. C. Penney's from 1924 to 1956, occupied the ground floor. During World War I, the Century Club ran a store in the basement. There, 115 "liberty-loving women"—including one who had also knitted during the Civil War—sewed and knit everything from surgeons' gowns and bed caps to sweaters and socks for men in the trenches. The store raised \$2,000 for the Red Cross. By 1922, Lodge No. 42 had grown to 400 members who filled the upstairs lodge hall. Despite some changes, the Renaissance Revival style upper story remains pristine, featuring grand arched windows with keystones, intricate brickwork, and ornamental concrete and rough-cut stone.

**Property:** Wah Chong Tai Company Building and Mai Wah Noodle Parlors

**Address:** 17 West Mercury, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings

**Subject 2:** restaurants

### Sign Text:

These two buildings are at the heart of what was Butte's Chinatown. By 1890, nearly 400 Chinese lived and worked in this area. Chinese businesses—physicians, druggists, tailors, laundries, and restaurants—served the population. The Wah Chong Tai Company constructed its building in 1891 to house a mercantile stocked with a general line of Chinese goods, including porcelain, teas, and silk. In 1909, the company added the Mai Wah Noodle Parlor. The "beautiful, luxurious" noodle parlor occupied the second floor of the building.

**Property:** St. John's Episcopal Church

**Address:** 15 N. Idaho, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** churches (buildings)

**Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

A small stone building erected on this site in 1881 was one of Butte's first churches. After 1900, the church was remodeled several times, incorporating the original building into a much larger structure. When fire swept through the chancel in 1919, one of Butte's first preservation projects followed. Though not identical to the original, the restoration completed in 1921 is sympathetic to the original design. Today the crenelated towers and

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

magnificent stained-glass window of St. John's provide an excellent example of the Norman style as adapted to the Episcopal church in the United States.

**Property:** Forestell Flats

**Address:** 916 Galena, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** apartments **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The impressive appearance of this 1906 bay-fronted multi-family dwelling, a common building type in early day Butte, reflects a compromise between the desire for a single-family home and the need for living space in this city bursting with inhabitants. Built at a cost of \$7,000 by prolific westside builder/contractor William Robertson, the marvelous Romanesque Revival-inspired flats of frame and brick veneer feature stone lintels, Doric columns, rounded arches, and a second-story deck with balustrade. Prosperous attorney Lewis B. Forestell was an early resident and likely the building's first owner.

**Property:** Thornton Block

**Address:** 65 E Broadway, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** hotels (public accommodations) **Subject 2:** commercial buildings

**Sign Text:**

Beautifully detailed and thoroughly cosmopolitan, this \$75,000 five-story hotel opened in 1901 featuring over one hundred rooms, a saloon, restaurant, barber shop, and bowling alley. A cast-iron and glass entrance canopy, stone balconies, Tudor arches, and decorative carving highlight the elegant exterior. Turn-of-the-twentieth-century hotel patrons, no doubt impressed with Butte's metropolitan character, could even take an electric street railway direct to Sutton's Broadway Theater. After 1947, the Thornton Block served for many years as a club for Anaconda Copper Mining Company employees.

**Property:** 127 East Center Street

**Address:** 127 East Center Street, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:** duplexes

**Sign Text:**

H. M. Patterson, Butte's most gifted architect, designed four identical duplexes along this block in 1899 for William A. Clark, Jr., the son of copper king W. A. Clark. Two other duplexes around the corners on Silver and Mercury were also designed by Patterson and built by Clark at about the same time. Each duplex cost a substantial \$4,000. Young Clark's development of this residential neighborhood signaled the move of Butte's affluent, socially prominent citizens to the far west side with Excelsior as the main artery. George Cochrane, agent for the Revere Rubber Company, and Clark's business partner, John Templemen, were early residents of this double dwelling. Patterson's keen talent is well apparent in the distinctive Period Revival residences, which feature exaggerated street-facing gables and multi-textured wall surfaces of granite, brick, clapboard, and wood shingles. Leaded, beveled glass in sunburst transoms and semicircular windows in the gables add elegance to the unique design.

**Property:** 815 West Granite

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Address:** 815 West Granite, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Butte boomed as copper production doubled in the 1890s. The city issued 1,684 building permits between 1897 and 1898 as carpenters worked furiously to keep up with the demand for housing. The availability of mass-produced decoration allowed builders to embellish residences, and houses like this one showcased the Queen Anne style's complicated textures and angles. Here the steeply pitched roof, cutaway front bay, square turret, fish-scale shingles, stained glass, and elaborate gable ornament all reflect the popular style. Added between 1900 and 1916, the enclosed porch mirrors a later, simpler aesthetic. The hairpin fence, however, is likely original. Symbolically separating the 1897 residence from the street, the fence signals the Victorian notion that a dwelling should be a sanctuary from the larger world. In 1900, the residence became home—and perhaps sanctuary—to Cyrenus and Martha Smith. Cyrenus was a principal in the Owsley Realty Company and the Phoenix Electric Company. Victorian ideals aside, the house clearly suited them; the couple lived here until their deaths, his in 1938 and hers in 1955.

**Property:** Duggan Residence

**Address:** 31 E Copper St, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Butte miners called the deadly rocks that fell in mine tunnels “Duggans.” The reference was to undertaker Lawrence Duggan, who lived in this house from 1910 until his death in 1939. One of the first professionally trained embalmers in Butte, Duggan opened a mortuary at 322 N. Main in 1895. Perhaps he chose the location for its proximity to the Miners Union Hall and the mines. In 1910, he and his wife, Mary, built this home, designed by Butte architect Herman Kemna. Only a block from the mortuary, the stylish bungalow, which cost approximately \$6,000 to build, stood amidst the working-class cottages of the families Duggan served. Behind the house was Duggan's heated sixteen-car garage, where he kept his hearses. Active in Irish fraternal organizations, the Workingman's Union, and local politics, Duggan served three terms as sheriff during the 1920s. Vigilant against the Ku Klux Klan—whose members he threatened to shoot “like wolves”—Duggan was likely more tolerant of bootleggers and moonshiners. Butte retained its reputation as a wide-open town throughout Prohibition.

**Property:** 643 South Main Street

**Address:** 643 South Main, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

“Ores, mineral and mining rights reserved” stated the title abstract when contractor C. C. Goddard purchased this lot for \$1,200 in 1897. Goddard, who lived next door, likely built this two-story brick home, which stood on the lot by 1900. The beautiful curved bay decorating the front façade brought sunlight into the interior. The design is most often associated with duplexes constructed in crowded neighborhoods, but this building always seems to have been a single family home. Banker Thomas Hodgens purchased the property in 1900; although the sellers still reserved the mineral rights, they agreed “not to mine or excavate within 20 feet of the present surface.” Hodgens rented the house to switchman James Hughes, who lived here with his family and two roomers, a lawyer and a law student. In 1913, widow Mary Stanley purchased the residence, where she lived with her daughter



## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

Leone, a stenographer. When Leone married musician Howard Kitto, Mary deeded them the home, but she continued to live with them until her death in 1942. Members of the Kitto family resided here until 2003.

**Property:** Hawley Residence

**Address:** 644 South Montana, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Charles and Anna Hawley arrived in Montana Territory before 1873, when Butte was still a silver camp. By 1880 the couple and their four children lived in a log dwelling on this lot. They lived there still in 1900, taking water from their own well and perhaps raising poultry in the two-story chicken coop behind the house. This brick home—much more elegant than the log cabin it replaced—was constructed between 1900 and 1916. Elaborate three-dimensional brickwork (corbelling) distinguishes the residence, which at one time boasted a full-length front porch. A carpenter by profession, Charles may have constructed the home himself. If so, he did not enjoy it for long. He died in 1902 at age sixty-three. Before his death, he helped build Columbia Gardens, the legendary amusement park. Anna lived here until 1929, with her son Walter next door and her other children periodically boarding with her. Her grandson Robert Ackler, who became a reporter for the Montana Standard, moved in after 1926. He continued his residency until 1937, almost sixty years after his grandparents first purchased the property.

**Property:** Rookwood Hotel

**Address:** 24-26 N. Main Street, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** hotels (public accommodations) **Subject 2:** boardinghouses

**Sign Text:**

James Pratt, proprietor of the Red Boot and Shoe Company, spent \$30,000 on the construction of this hotel/rooming house in 1912. The shoe company occupied the ground floor space through the 1930s. Large display windows and a Tudor-arched entry, designed to entice customers and guests, enhance the ground floor. Green tile embellishes the façade and caps the unique copper-clad cornice. Inside, a wrought iron staircase with marble treads leads down to the hotel lobby. Marble wainscoting and a marble floor recall its once-elegant hospitality. The lodging house above, renamed the La Salle Hotel in 1938, had more than forty-five rooms. During Prohibition in the late 1910s and 1920s, the hotel's thirty working-class lodgers perhaps enjoyed the hidden bar tucked beneath the sidewalk. Discovered during cleanup of the building, the clandestine establishment had all the trappings of a period speakeasy including a secret entry and two-way mirror. The room continues the architectural motif with decorative Tudor arches spanning the ceiling. Elaborate support columns sporting carved griffins, terrazzo flooring, dark hardwood wainscoting, and marble trim expose a piece of Butte's once-spirited underground.

**Property:** William A. Clark Mansion

**Address:** 219 W Granite, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Self-made multimillionaire William Clark spent an estimated \$260,000 on the construction of this splendid thirty-two-room residence between 1884 and 1888. Though an astounding sum, that figure represented only a half-

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

day's earnings out of Clark's seventeen-million-dollar a month income. The irregular architectural plan, a classic of Queen Anne styling, features porticos, arched windows, and elaborate decorative elements. The interior boasts finishing in a different wood for each room, frescoed ceilings, and Tiffany stained glass windows and chandeliers. The intricately carved staircase took four years to complete and was dismantled and displayed at the 1904 Worlds' Fair in St. Louis.

**Property:** Clark Duplex

**Address:** 224.226 Excelsior, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:** duplex

**Sign Text:**

H. M. Patterson, Butte's most gifted architect, designed four identical duplexes along this block in 1899 for William A. Clark, Jr., the son of copper king W. A. Clark. Two other duplexes around the corners on Silver and Mercury were also designed by Patterson and built by Clark at about the same time. Each duplex cost a substantial \$4,000. Young Clark's development of this residential neighborhood signaled the move of Butte's affluent, socially prominent citizens to the far west side with Excelsior as the main artery. George Cochrane, agent for the Revere Rubber Company, and Clark's business partner, John Templemen, were early residents of this double dwelling. Patterson's keen talent is well apparent in the distinctive Period Revival residences, which feature exaggerated street-facing gables and multi-textured wall surfaces of granite, brick, clapboard, and wood shingles. Leaded, beveled glass in sunburst transoms and semicircular windows in the gables add elegance to the unique design.

**Property:** Silver Bow Club

**Address:** 125 W Granite, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** clubhouses **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The elegance of Renaissance Revival-inspired details conveys the extravagance of Butte's first men's social club, established in 1882. The prestigious Helena architectural firm of Link and Haire designed the club's new quarters, completed in 1907, which provided an opulent meeting place for Butte's mining and commercial barons. With the onset of the Great Depression in the 1930s, however, lifestyles changed and the club ceased to exist. Since the 1950s, the building has served as the Butte Miners Union facility. This magnificent structure thus came to serve, in turn, both owners and workers of Butte's mines.

**Property:** First Presbyterian Church

**Address:** 215 West Broadway, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** churches (buildings) **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

This grand cut-stone structure was formally dedicated in 1913, becoming a major contributor to Lewistown's character as a "city of stone." Although Lewistown had Presbyterian services as early as 1890 and an early Presbyterian Church and manse, planning for this building began in 1909 during Lewistown's period of greatest growth. The congregation hired local architects Otto F. Wasmansdorff and George Eastman. They created a design with many Gothic Revival details, to be built of native sandstone by local Croatian stone masons under the direction of builder T. J. Tubb. Look for the Gothic Revival influence in the square crenellated bell tower, engaged buttresses with dressed stone weathering caps, the arched windows, and the dressed stone cornice. Imagine the

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

sandstone slabs weighing 140-180 pounds per cubic foot, quarried south of Lewistown, being hauled to the site and then fashioned into precise blocks with hand chisels, hammers, and mallets.

**Property:** Silver Bow County Jail

**Address:** 225 North Alaska Street, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** jails (buildings)

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The Beaux Arts style building complex comprising the county courthouse and jail serves to firmly anchor Butte's business district. Montana's most distinguished architects of the period, Link and Haire, designed both the courthouse and this substantial three-story jail. The steel frame, brick, and stone structure, erected in 1909, for a time served as the courthouse until the new building opened in 1912. An underground tunnel connects the two structures. A Smithsonian exhibition of Teddy Roosevelt's African trophies provided the model for ten terra cotta lions' heads beneath the building's wide cornice.

**Property:** 1047 South Wyoming

**Address:** 1047 S. Wyoming, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** fraternal lodges

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Deed records indicate that a Knights of Labor Hall stood here by 1887. Open to both skilled and unskilled workers, the Knights helped found the 1886 Silver Bow Trades and Labor Assembly. The influential organization advocated for an eight-hour day; it also organized against Chinese immigration and businesses that employed Chinese workers. A one-story brick building replaced the earlier structure sometime between 1888 and 1890. By 1897, that brick building had become home to carpenter George Selfridge and his wife Elvira. The Selfridges shared their home with their children, including son Bert (a machinist) and daughter Gertie (a seamstress). Both children contributed to the family economy by paying room and board. Sometime before 1916 owners added a small rear addition and a second story with a large front porch tucked underneath. By 1920, Irish-born Dan Holland had purchased the enlarged residence. A time keeper for various mines before becoming chief deputy county clerk and recorder, Holland lived here with his wife, Bridget, their four children, and two widowed roomers, both of whom worked as clerks at the nearby Depot News Stand.

**Property:** Quartz Street Fire Station

**Address:** 17 West Quartz, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** fire stations

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

A catastrophic fire in 1879 destroyed all evidence of Butte's first commercial district. Wooden buildings were subsequently outlawed on Main Street, but even so, fire has altered the commercial landscape in every decade from 1879 to the present. This indispensable community fire hall, completed in 1900, served as the Butte headquarters until the 1970s. The station, with its three garage bays, housed the fire chief and twenty-two men. A corrugated metal tower above the roof at the rear was used for hanging hoses. The building, rehabilitated in 1992, now houses the Butte-Silver Bow Public Archives.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Property:** Finlen Hotel

**Address:** 100 E. Broadway, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** hotels (public accommodations) **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The decade following World War I brought an excess of copper to the world market and Butte suffered a severe economic slowdown. The Finlen Hotel and the Fox Theater were the only two substantial structures built in Butte's business district during the 1920s. New Year's Day, 1924, marked the opening of this grand hotel modeled in miniature after New York City's Hotel Astor. The nine-story hotel with a French Second Empire mansard roof was designed by Butte builder Albert Broadland. James Finlen, son of wealthy mining pioneer Miles Finlen, financed the building.

**Property:** St. Patrick's Catholic Church

**Address:** 329 W Mercury, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** churches (buildings) **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Butte's early Catholic community built its first parish church, a temporary wooden structure, west of this site in 1879. Father John Dols, the first pastor, arrived in the spring of 1881. The following year the cornerstone for a new church was laid, and formal dedication of St. Patrick's took place in 1884. Two one-story wings were added to the original central portion in 1896, shaping the structure to its present appearance. Although exterior remodeling has somewhat altered St. Patrick's original façade, the graceful spire and elegant Gothic arches reflect its original design.

**Property:** Curtis Music Hall

**Address:** 15 West Park, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** music halls **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Irish-born lawyer and businessman John H. Curtis constructed this lavish four-story Queen Anne style commercial building in 1892. A skillful yet unknown designer combined gables, turrets, arched and keyhole-shaped windows, carved stone, and decorative metal to produce one of Butte's most treasured landmarks. This outstanding showpiece of Victorian-era commercial architecture has served various functions including music hall, theatre, saloon, and rooming house. While the untouched façade of the upper floors recalls the exuberant 1890s, the ground floor has accommodated Gamer's Confectionary since its remodeling in 1933.

**Property:** 1117 North Emmett

**Address:** 1117 North Emmett, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

"Let us help you breathe the air of freedom by selling you a home on the monthly payment plan." So advertised the Butte Land and Investment Company, which sold William and Louvia Rowe this lot in 1919. Home ownership offered the Rowes a piece of the American dream, even as they struggled financially—William worked variously as a miner, meat cutter's helper, and even a peddler during the Great Depression. In 1937, Jim and Stella Hollow

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

purchased the three-room home, with an outhouse out back, for \$750, payable in \$50 monthly installments. Working nights at the Original mine, Jim spent his days building a second home around the original residence. The family lived here during the construction, moving out only when it came time to demolish the original structure. No sheetrock was available because of the war, so the Hollows finished the interior in 1941 by installing the paperboard walls that remain today. Stella, known locally as Grandma Stella, volunteered for decades at Kennedy School. The couple lived here until their deaths, his in 1952 and hers in 2000.

**Property:** Mayer Building

**Address:** 127 W. Park, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Rapid population growth during the boom years between the 1880s and 1910s necessitated the combination of housing and business space. This three-story masonry building constructed in 1900 on a choice corner lot provided owner Dora Mayer with upper rooms to let and ground-level space for the family business. Dora and her husband Max, an assayer, operated the Mayer Electric Company, which advertised: "Bring your motors to us ... we will make them satisfactory." Sensitive restoration of the building by the law firm of Corette, Pohlman, Allen, Black and Carlson has revitalized its fine façade and reaffirmed its prominence in the central business district.

**Property:** 510 West Galena Street

**Address:** 510 West Galena, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

William Mosby, proprietor of the King and Mosby Saloon, acquired this property in 1889. By 1890, a one-story residence with a square corner bay occupied the lot. Mosby and his wife, Eliza, sold the house for \$2,000 to Jeremiah and Kate Mullins in 1893. Mullins, also a prosperous saloon proprietor and secretary/treasurer of the Tivoli Brewing Company, was likely responsible for extensive remodeling. Mullins built the one-story extension before 1900 and later added a second story. He left his name carved in the granite doorstep and his initials etched in the beveled glass of the front door. The striking curved glass parlor bay, reconfigured from the square bay, highlights the façade. Original Victorian-era interior finishings include a double staircase, wainscoting, a large ornately crafted support pillar, maple floors, and light fixtures untouched by twentieth-century remodeling. By 1920, widow Elizabeth Dolan Kane lived here with five of her children. The home remained in the Kane family until 1976.

**Property:** Kelly House

**Address:** 107 O'Neill, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Beveled lap siding, turned porch supports, and a spindle frieze decorate this functional, working-class residence, built circa 1896. The hipped-roof cottage was home to the Kelly family for over seventy years. Irish miner Cornelius Kelly and his wife Julia owned the home free of mortgage by 1900, but Cornelius did not have long to enjoy his piece of the American dream. He died in 1907 of chronic bronchitis. Caused in large part by breathing the quartz dust produced by drilling and end-of-shift explosions, lung diseases were an occupational hazard. Historians estimate that lung diseases killed between a third and a half of Butte's hard rock miners. In 1910 widow

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

Julia supported herself and her children—Jerry (13), Michael (12), and Virginia (11)—by providing room and board for her brother and brother-in-law. By 1920, “Verge” worked as a stenographer and both Michael and Jerry had become miners. All three lived at home. In 1940, the children still lived with their mother, who undoubtedly relied on their incomes. Jerry was the last Kelly in residence; he sold the home in 1971.

**Property:** 832 West Park

**Address:** 832 West Park, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Jennie Tallant, a founding member of the Montana Society Daughters of the American Revolution, and her husband, Walter, were early residents of this home. Named first regent of the Silver Bow DAR chapter in 1897, Jennie became the third state regent in 1901. This home was the site of many DAR meetings, including the State Society’s first meeting in 1904. For that occasion, Mrs. Tallant decorated the home “in flags and the national colors, with a profusion of flowers.” Nationally, the DAR was founded in 1890 out of a concern that immigration was diluting American values. The society worked to promote patriotism, education, and an appreciation of American history. Among other projects, the State Society spearheaded recognition of historic sites. Important for its DAR connection, this home, built between 1890 and 1898, is also architecturally significant. Its irregular shape, leaded glass, ornate transoms, and ornamental iron fence associate it with the popular Queen Anne style. The classical style front porch was added after 1916. In 1928, painter John Redman and his wife Mary purchased the home, which remains in the Redman family.

**Property:** 923 West Mercury

**Address:** 923 W Mercury, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

In 1896, W. Mead Hanson departed Utah for Butte with his wife, Nellie, and their children. Leaving his job as mail clerk for a short-gauge railroad, the thirty-two-year-old Mead opened a cigar store in the Lewishon Building in the heart of Uptown. By 1900, the family had purchased this home, then a duplex. The Hansons lived on one side and rented the other to machinist Timothy Martin and his family (including his wife, sister-in-law, two children, and a nursemaid). Only one other residence stood on the block, even though developers had started selling lots ten years earlier; construction had only just begun on the massive Paul Clark Home across the street. By 1916, the Hansons had converted the duplex into a single-family home and neighbors on both sides crowded their one-story, hipped-roof, four-square cottage. The couple remained in residence until Mead—by then working as an insurance agent—died in 1932. An unusual two-story outhouse—on site throughout the Hansons’ residency—still stood behind the home in 1957, a surprising remnant of an earlier time.

**Property:** Tony's Tin Shop

**Address:** 108 S. Arizona, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:** residential structures

**Sign Text:**

Swiss-born Antone Canonica pioneered the tin business in Butte, opening his first shop in 1898. In 1915, he constructed the ground floor of this building, moving his business and family residence here. By 1920, Canonica

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

had completed the second story and named the building after his wife, Myra, as the elaborate nameplate attests. From 1926 to 1929, the Canonicas leased a portion of the upper story to Mrs. Mary Owen. During Prohibition, federal law closed red light districts across the nation and these activities scattered to rooming houses and hotels. Mary's "furnished rooms" was probably a guise for prostitution. In 1927, Mary's husband was with a female companion in the Grady Block when he died suddenly. Officials investigated his death as possible "moonshine" poisoning. After this rather shady business venture, the Canonicas were the building's sole occupants and their six children grew up in the neighborhood. Canonica died in 1948; Myra kept house here until her death in 1955. A son, known as Butte's legendary "Tony the Trader," owned the vacant building for nearly four decades.

**Property:** City Hall

**Address:** 24 East Broadway, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** city halls **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Butte had over eighty working mines and a teeming population by 1890. The resulting flurry of industrial and commercial activity initiated a building boom, prompting Mayor Henry Mueller to oversee the construction of this handsome three-story Richardsonian Romanesque-inspired municipal building in 1891. The tall, narrow edifice of brick and stone features a clock tower, arched entrance, and arched windows with stained glass transoms. Butte's last standing example of nineteenth-century civic architecture, this noble hall served as the seat of city government from 1891 until consolidation of city-county governments in 1977.

**Property:** City Hall

**Address:** 24 East Broadway, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** city halls **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Town halls originated in twelfth-century Italy, where bells were rung to call public assemblies. Missoula architect A. J. Gibson's city hall design references this history. Allusions to Italy include such Italian Renaissance features as a low-pitched hipped roof, wide eaves, an arch above the front door, and a symmetrical façade. The prominent bell tower, common to American town halls, symbolizes the significance of democratic assembly. The building was designed in 1906 to house city offices, the fire department, and the public library. Originally, two sets of large bay doors, used for horse-drawn fire wagons, flanked the front entrance. Small communities frequently combined city services under one roof, but multiple use was not always ideal. Hamilton library patrons, for example, sometimes complained about the smell of horses. The library moved to a new facility in 1914, and in 1940 Hamilton remodeled the city hall/fire station, adding a truck bay to the building's south side. While city offices moved to South Second Street in 1990, the fire department continues to operate from its original home.

**Property:** Powers Residence

**Address:** 724 W. Granite, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

For almost one hundred years, members of a single family lived in this Queen Anne style cottage. Carpenter R. R. Williams, who lived in the duplex next door, built the residence in 1898. By 1900, Irish immigrants John and Catherine Powers had purchased the home, where they lived with their infant daughter Margaret. John worked as a miner before going into real estate. By 1916, the Powers had improved the residence, replacing the outhouse

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

with indoor plumbing, adding a rear screen porch, and installing a gambrel dormer to expand the attic's storage capacity. After John and Catherine's deaths, Margaret inherited the home. She lived here into the 1990s, joined for many years by her friend Virginia Orton. The seven-hundred-square-foot home features a projecting bay and many other Queen Anne style embellishments. These include stained glass, fish-scale shingles, turned wooden porch supports, a turned balustrade, and a spindle frieze—all mass produced and thus affordable to Butte's working class. Such architectural ornamentation helped transform small houses like this one into much loved homes, as the Powers' long residence testifies.

**Property:** Silver Bow County Courthouse

**Address:** 155 West Granite Street, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** county courthouses

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Prestigious architects Link and Haire designed this magnificent four-story courthouse in the Beaux Arts style. This grandiloquent form introduced at Chicago's 1893 Columbian Exposition was often utilized in American civic buildings. Offices within are laid out around a rotunda with an elaborate stained glass dome, and a molded stone figure of blind-folded Justice presides over the façade. Dedicated in 1912, the courthouse has served as podium for such famous statesmen as William Jennings Bryan and Franklin D. Roosevelt. In 1914, the courthouse became barracks for state militia when Butte was under martial law following violent labor disputes.

**Property:** 801 North Montana

**Address:** 801 North Montana, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Members of the intertwined Sullivan and Hogan families shared this two-story residence as early as 1895. The early, wood-frame home originally had a small porch to the north of the large bay window; the full-length front porch was added between 1901 and 1916. Joseph Hogan was a member of Montana's first constitutional convention and Montana's first state mining inspector, but the 1895 city directory listed him and his brothers-in-law, Eugene and Daniel Sullivan, as miners. When Joseph died in 1900, Daniel was working as county deputy treasurer; his sister Margaret (Joseph's widow) continued to live with him. So did her four children, ages one, three, four, and seven. A teacher before her marriage, Margaret returned to the classroom after Joseph's death. In 1906, eight years before Montana women received the right to vote in general elections, she was elected County Superintendent of Schools, the only elected position women were allowed to hold. Margaret's daughter Maybelle followed in her mother's footsteps, becoming a teacher and then, for almost forty years, the county school superintendent. Maybelle remained in residence until her death in 1970.

**Property:** Butte Buick Company / Schumacher Building

**Address:** 25 S Montana, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

In 1910, Butte had only three automobile-related businesses, one of which also repaired bicycles, typewriters, slot machines, and revolvers. By 1918, auto dealers, repair shops, garages, and tire stores numbered over fifty. "No other town in Montana is so well supplied in the automobile trade as is Butte," crowed the Butte Miner in March



## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

1920. Among those supplying Butte customers was Butte Buick Co, which moved into the first floor of this newly constructed building in 1920. Here the company maintained a service station, garage, and salesroom, where those bitten by the auto bug could buy a five-passenger touring car for \$1,750 (approximately \$18,700 in 2009 dollars). The second floor of the brick commercial building was intended for a dance hall and incorporated a spectator's gallery with a seating capacity of 500. The Schumacher Meat Co. owned the building, which replaced three dwellings that stood on this lot in 1916. The Schumacher name remains commemorated on the parapet. In 1940, the Butte Pioneer Club purchased the building. Open to any longtime Butte resident, the social club held bimonthly dances in the second-floor ballroom.

**Property:** 922 South Main Street

**Address:** 922 South Main, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Railroads were crucial to facilitate industrial-scale copper mining, and it was South Butte that became the city's great railway hub. Because a variety of industries located here along with the railroad, South Butte reflects a colorful ethnic and occupational diversity. This picturesque residential/commercial building was constructed circa 1903 for T. T. Fitzmaurice and adds significantly to the area's architectural variety. The distinctive Tudor look, achieved with the use of half-timbering on the upper story, is unique to the area. The building long served as a neighborhood grocery store and residence catering to railroaders, laborers, teamsters, and others who lived and worked in South Butte. The top floor originally accommodated up to five tenants in separate rooms with a common kitchen and bath. Two exterior stairways provided access to the upper floor. From 1918 to 1920, Ellen Ivey operated her grocery here. English-born Mrs. Ivey was the widow of a miner and lived upstairs with her daughter, Nellie. Jess Dearborn, a miner, boarded with the family.

**Property:** 107 West Center Street

**Address:** 107 West Center Street, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

A gable-topped polygonal bay and small porch add charm to this brick hip-roofed cottage. Built in 1912, it was home to English (undoubtedly Cornish) miner Edward Dower and his wife Clara in the 1910s. The Gilmore family occupied the house by 1923, and members of the family continued to live here until 1992. A miner and then a janitor at the Hennessy building, Martin Gilmore emigrated from Ireland in 1891. He and his wife, Mary, also from Ireland, raised seven children in this house. A religious and close-knit family (five of the Gilmores' adult children shared their home in 1940), the Gilmores were also clearly passionate about education. Most of the Gilmore children attended college; some received advanced degrees. In 1940, daughters Gertrude, Florence, and Marjorie were teachers, and daughter Dorothy worked as a laboratory technician. Their sons were also successful: Martin Jr. became a doctor; Emmett served as an officer in the Marine Corps, and Edward, ordained a Catholic priest in 1931, was elevated to monsignor in 1958.

**Property:** Pekin Noodle Parlor

**Address:** 117 S Main, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:**

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

### Sign Text:

Butte's Chinese community settled on this block in the 1880s. Dwellings, club rooms, laundries, restaurants, and stores selling Chinese goods crowded its thoroughfares and alleyways. This business block is a lone survivor displaying Asian roots. G. E. DeSnell designed the building on speculation for Butte attorney F. T. McBride. Upon completion in 1909, Hum Yow moved his Mercury Street noodle parlor to the second floor and soon owned the property. Upstairs noodle parlors were common in urban Chinese communities and the Pekin's central stair and sign long beckoned customers. Close proximity to Butte's once teeming red light district has fueled local legends about the Pekin's curtained booths. However, these booths were a fixture in Asian restaurants and simply offered diners privacy. The two ground-floor storefronts housed Hum Yow's Chinese Goods and Silks and G. P. Meinhart's sign painting business. Hum Yow and his wife Bessie Wong—both California-born first-generation Chinese—raised three children in the rear living quarters. The Hums retired to California in 1952 and several more generations of the family have maintained this landmark business.

**Property:** Metals Bank Building

**Address:** 8 West Park Street, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** banks (financial institutions)

**Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

The strength of Butte's early financial community is well represented in this monumental steel, brick, and stone skyscraper completed in 1906. Copper king F. Augustus Heinze financed the \$325,000 bank building, incorporating the newest steel-frame and curtain-wall construction techniques. Nationally renowned architect Cass Gilbert (1859-1934) drew the blueprints and Montana architects Link and Haire supervised the local work. Gilbert's best known work is New York City's sixty-story Woolworth Building (1913) and the U.S. Supreme Court Building in Washington, D.C. (1932-1935). One of Montana's first skyscrapers, the Metals' eight floors add significantly to Butte's urban skyline. A copper-trimmed entry complements the gray stone. Above, brick walls and stone arches culminate at the sixth floor. Ornate wrought iron balconies punctuate the second and seventh floors. An open wrought-iron staircase carries this element inside, where copper-trimmed windows with African mahogany frames and a marble-walled elevator lobby reflect 1906 Butte's wealth. A huge polished steel bank vault recalls the building's first use.

**Property:** 1047 South Wyoming

**Address:** 1047 South Wyoming, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** fraternal lodges

**Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

Deed records indicate that a Knights of Labor Hall stood here by 1887. Open to both skilled and unskilled workers, the Knights helped found the 1886 Silver Bow Trades and Labor Assembly. The influential organization advocated for an eight-hour day; it also organized against Chinese immigration and businesses that employed Chinese workers. A one-story brick building replaced the earlier structure sometime between 1888 and 1890. By 1897, that brick building had become home to carpenter George Selfridge and his wife Elvira. The Selfridges shared their home with their children, including son Bert (a machinist) and daughter Gertie (a seamstress). Both children contributed to the family economy by paying room and board. Sometime before 1916 owners added a small rear addition and a second story with a large front porch tucked underneath. By 1920, Irish-born Dan Holland had purchased the enlarged residence. A time keeper for various mines before becoming chief deputy county clerk and recorder, Holland lived here with his wife, Bridget, their four children, and two widowed roomers, both of whom worked as clerks at the nearby Depot News Stand.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Property:** 125 North Main Street

**Address:** 125 North Main, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Like its immediate neighbors, this is one of Butte's earliest substantial buildings. Dating before 1884, it documents various periods of use through a distinct sequence of visible alterations. The ground floor commercial space was originally occupied by a jeweler and a tailor. Furnished rooms were available at the back and upstairs, accessed by an interior stairway. The upper windows with their graceful brick arches are typical of this earliest period. A dry goods/notions and millinery shop next shared the commercial storefront. Butte architect H. M. Patterson designed a new façade in 1895, connecting this address with the two buildings to the south. The cast-iron pilasters of that remodeling remain visible next door. In 1900, an inner doorway opened into J. V. Harmon's saloon at 123 North Main. Clothing store owner Samuel Clerke installed the metal cornice in 1910, further linking numbers 123 and 125. By 1930, Hoenck's Fur Shop occupied this building, once again separating the two addresses. Art Deco style metal sheathing, added circa 1940, further chronicles the building's alterations as its function changed over time.

**Property:** Emanuel Lutheran Church

**Address:** 300 S. Montana, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** churches (buildings) **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Immigrants to Butte during the mining boom often lived, socialized, and worshipped with fellow nationals. Swedish Lutherans first congregated in 1896, and in 1901 they built a small wooden chapel on the back of this lot. They quickly outgrew the building, which was a mattress factory when it burned in 1937. In 1912, the congregation, which kept its early records in Swedish, began construction of this brick church at a cost of \$15,000. Modest compared to neighboring St. Mark's (a German Lutheran church), Emanuel Lutheran's most prominent feature is its octagonal spire, which rests on a wooden tower ornamented with pinnacles and projecting gables. The steep pitch of the gables, lancet-arched tracery windows, and diagonal buttresses capped with contrasting sandstone trim all mark the church's design as Gothic Revival. Butte Unity Truth Center, a nondenominational Christian church, purchased the building in 1958 when Emanuel Lutheran followed its congregants to the flats. By then Emanuel Lutheran no longer exclusively served Swedes; its days as an immigrant church—bringing comfort to worshippers far from home—were over.

**Property:** 805 West Granite

**Address:** 805 West Granite, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Architect J. Roy McGlauflin designed this Queen Anne style home in 1898 during Butte's second building boom. Ornamental brackets beneath wide gable trim draw attention to the gable end, decorated with fish-scale shingles. McGlauflin placed the kitchen of this two-story home under a separate one-story roof, a common plan in the 1800s because it minimized fire risk. Bucket brigades could more easily reach a one-story roof, perhaps saving the rest of the house in case of a kitchen fire, such as the small one that occurred here in 1910. The stable that stood

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

at the back of the lot in 1900 was converted into a garage by 1916. Stationary engineer Edward Neeley and his wife Petra moved from a modest hipped roof cottage in South Butte into this elegant clapboard residence in 1908. Edward did not have long to enjoy their new home; by 1910, Petra was widowed and supporting herself and two children by renting rooms and providing meals to a teacher and the owner of a retail grocery. Petra continued to operate her small boardinghouse until 1930.

**Property:** 303 West Park

**Address:** 303 West Park, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Historic maps reveal that this magnificent Renaissance Revival style building had rather humble beginnings. From 1888 to 1900, a one-story frame dwelling with a simple open-air porch spanning the front occupied this site. By 1916 the residence had received a second story and a covering of brick veneer. A handsome semicircular central bay flanked by square entrance porticos with hipped tiled roofs, elaborately detailed windows, scrolled brackets, and a decorative cornice are exemplary of the style. Butte businessman Thomas Lavell, whose home was next door at 803 West Park, was the building's longtime owner/landlord and likely responsible for its splendid makeover. Tenant Jeremiah Flanigan, cigar dealer and vice president of the Rocky Mountain Bottling Works, lived here from 1906 to circa 1915, when the house was still a single-story residence. His household included daughter Margaret and a live-in servant. Today this neighborhood landmark appears much as it did in the 1910s. Recent efforts to restore the original interior grandeur include reproduction of the original oak wainscoting and crown moldings.

**Property:** 721-723 North Henry Avenue

**Address:** 721-723 North Henry, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** apartments **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

With a two-story, north-side bay window providing extra light and air, this brick duplex takes full advantage of its corner lot. Tuscan columns support the gabled porticos that define the private entrances to a first-floor flat and an interior staircase that leads to the second-story apartment. Private entrances were socially and symbolically important to nineteenth- and early twentieth-century families, who viewed apartment living as somewhat risqué, since neighbors could enter each other's dwellings without being seen from the street. Real estate manager Philip Dunn and his wife Gertrude rented the first-floor apartment in 1910. Upstairs lived widow Mary Prater and three grown children. Thirty-two-year-old daughter Janie and twenty-eight-year-old son Jack helped support their mother, working as a housekeeper and laborer respectively. Despite conversion to a single-family home, the residence retains a great deal of integrity. Renovations in 2011 uncovered, among other items, a newspaper from 1915, a case of empty pint liquor bottles, milk caps, and the bones of a bird with a note reading "Sparrow killed June 6, 1916."

**Property:** Wold Barn

**Address:** Hella & Third Street, Melrose, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** barns **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Melrose was the supply center for a prosperous mining district, especially after the railroad arrived in 1881. Rich

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

mines at Hecla and the smelter at Glendale ordered goods shipped to the Melrose depot, and at the height of the silver boom, a hundred horses arrived in Melrose each day, delivering ore from the smelter in "big-wheeled, ten-ton wagons, drawn by six to eight horses." Among the many teamsters who lived in Melrose was Norwegian immigrant Oscar Wold, who in 1900 advertised his "heavy teaming" service to haul "engines, pumps, boilers, and heavy machinery ... to and from [the] station." By 1900, Wold may have received more jobs transporting equipment out of the district than into it; the smelter at Glendale closed in 1900 and by 1904, most mining had ceased. Small-scale operations continued to hire freighters, however, and sometime between 1906 and 1914, Wold constructed this barn to house his horses and, perhaps, as a boarding stable for area ranchers delivering wool and cattle to the railhead. The two-story structure is a well-preserved example of a Mountain Horse Barn—a barn type that originated in the Big Hole and Beaverhead Valleys. Its first story, built of hand-hewed, square-notched logs, reflects traditional Scandinavian building techniques and the work of a highly skilled craftsman. The wood-frame second story provided ample storage for the hay needed to feed horses through the long, cold winters. The large barn, situated two blocks from Main Street, suggests Montanans' continuing dependence on horses, long after the invention of the automobile.

**Property:** Albert J. Campbell Residence

**Address:** 805 W Broadway, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Architect William A. O'Brien designed and built this striking home in 1906 for ACM attorney Albert J. Campbell. The massive brick-veneered residence demonstrates O'Brien's bold employment of the new Prairie style promoted by Chicago architect Frank Lloyd Wright. A single-story porch, concrete balustrade with stepped cutwork, and hipped roof of red mission tile are stylistic features. Overall symmetry and beveled window glass emphasize the horizontal lines characteristic of this innovative style. Campbell was in New York City when he died of appendicitis, and he never saw his distinguished home completed. It was later owned by bank presidents Charles J. Kelly in 1914 and Andrew J. Davis in 1930. In 1931, Davis reputedly tore down the house next door to enlarge his grounds, an action viewed by some as particularly frivolous at the height of the Depression. Walter P. Cooney, vice president of the Cooney Brokerage Company, subsequently owned the home for many years.

**Property:** 615 South Clark

**Address:** 615 S Clark, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Architects promoted the Craftsman style as ideal "for the lover of the out-of-doors." Large front porches and the use of natural material like wood shingles and cobblestones connected homes "directly to the world of nature." Such symbolic associations may seem out of place in the mining city of Butte, but Craftsman style bungalows had other virtues that assured their popularity. The design of these affordable homes emphasized "simplicity and efficiency" and architects praised bungalows for offering "the man of small means all the necessities and comforts that a mansion house could give." Built before 1916, this Craftsman style residence, with model low-pitched roof, wide-overhanging eaves, and exposed rafter tails, was the first home constructed on this block. By 1918, blacksmith Benjamin Davey lived here with his wife Dena and six children, including two daughters who worked as teachers. By 1929, the residence had become home to Howard and Julia McIntyre. Howard held several different jobs during the Great Depression, including one as a compensation representative for the WPA, a New Deal program designed to put people to work during the Great Depression.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Property:** 625-627 West Park

**Address:** 625-627 West Park, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Real estate developers platted much of Butte's West Side in 1889, anticipating the building boom that soon followed. Among the many residences constructed in 1890 was this one-story duplex, which owner George E. Clark likely built as an investment property. The residence's most distinguishing characteristic is its mansard roof. First popularized in France, Mansard roofs allowed builders to squeeze a full floor of living space above the cornice without adding another story. In 1900, widow Martha Matlock lived here with her four children, ages 23 to 13. All but the youngest child worked to help support the family: the two boys as miners, the girl as a housekeeper like her mother. From 1906 through 1923, the residence was home to members of Rebecca Richards' family. Twice widowed, Rebecca married for a third time in 1890 to Joseph Richards, a miner ten years her junior. City directories suggest that after 1906, he lived with her only occasionally. Her more reliable companions were her daughters: sales clerk Jennie Bennett and Elizabeth and Mary Bennett, both teachers at Blaine School.

**Property:** Len Waters Music

**Address:** 119 N Main, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The distinctive façade of this longtime Butte business conceals a building whose varied history extends back to the early 1880s. Originally a grocery warehouse and stationery/variety store, other businesses that operated here include the Montana Music Company (1898) and the Anaconda Standard (1917-1918). It is, however, Len Waters Music that has made this vintage relic a Butte landmark. In 1913, young Len Waters went to work for Orton Brothers Music. He also organized "Len's Plectrum Five," a popular musical group that played at events throughout southwestern Montana and at theaters between silent movies. Thirty years later in 1943, Waters scraped together a \$500 down payment and purchased Orton's small instruments department. He soon moved the business here. For decades Waters practiced his own special business philosophy based on the idea that service should be given and not sold. In 1977, he said of the music business, "I've loved it, lived it, dreamed it." Waters died in 1991 at the age of 98, and new owners continue his business under the same unique "piano" canopy.

**Property:** Orphan Girl Mine

**Address:** West of Butte, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** mines (extracting complexes) **Subject 2:** industrial museums (buildings)

**Sign Text:**

From the time it was located in 1875 until it was purchased by Marcus Daly and associates in 1879, ownership of fractional shares in the Orphan Girl Mine changed hands faster than the ante in a poker game. The Orphan Girl eventually operated to a depth of over 3,000 feet. While not a huge producer according to Butte standards, by 1944 hardrock miners had removed a respectable 7,626,540 ounces of silver as well as lead and zinc from her depths. Cool temperatures between 55 and 65 degrees made the Orphan Girl—affectionately nicknamed "Orphan

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

Annie” or “the Girl”—a desirable place to work unlike some “hot boxes” where temperatures could top 100 degrees. By the end of the 1920s, the Anaconda Company owned the Girl which operated until the 1950s. In 1965, the Girl became the site of the World Museum of Mining. Each year this unique museum hosts visitors from every continent, fulfilling its mission to preserve the history of mining and the rich cultural heritage of attendant mining communities.

**Property:** 126-134 South Main Street

**Address:** 126-134 South Main, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

When this five-storefront corner business was built between 1918 and 1923 for Montana Leather Company owner MacPherson, it stood on the very fringe of respectability. The “female boarding house” that was then immediately next door on Mercury Street was the first in a series of like establishments literally lining the block. Legitimate businesses occupied these commercial spaces, but turnover was frequent and they were also vacant much of the time. During the 1920s and early 1930s at the height of the neighborhood’s red light activity, tenant businesses included Peter Ike’s fruit store, Theo Foley’s Midway Cigar Store, and the Rainbow Cafe run by Irene Cartulis. The building’s fine design, attributed to architect Herman Kemna, features a stepped parapet on the Main Street façade and gray stone trim against tan brick. It must have appeared strikingly modern compared to its older and infamous Mercury Street neighbors. The building remained in the MacPherson family until the early 1990s.

**Property:** Thomas Lavell Residence

**Address:** 301 West Park Street, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Traveling by stagecoach from Quebec, Canadian-born Thomas Lavell arrived in Deer Lodge in 1874 to join his brother, Geoffrey. The two came to Butte the following year and established a sawmill, providing lumber for the town’s first sawn-wood buildings. With characteristic “push and pluck,” Thomas established the Butte Cab and Transfer Company in the mid-1880s, which grew from a pioneer livery stable to Montana’s largest taxicab and light trucking business. Thomas built this beautiful home for himself and his wife, Melissa, circa 1887. The couple had six children, four of whom survived childhood. According to the Montana Standard, the Lavells entertained extensively, and their home “for many years was the scene of outstanding social affairs.” A tower with a Second Empire style mansard roof, ornate wooden brackets, and decorative cornices are a lively reminder of fashionable, early-day Butte. Melissa died in 1923 and Thomas, who came to be known as Butte’s “dean of business,” made his home here until he died in 1941.

**Property:** Scandia Hall

**Address:** 535-539 S. Main, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** fraternal lodges **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The Scandinavian Brotherhood, organized at the Silver Bow County courthouse in 1889, endeavored to unify Scandinavians through fellowship, promote high standards of citizenship, and “fulfill a vacancy in the social world.” Butte No. 1, the mother lodge, built this ornately embellished three-story meeting hall with residential and commercial space in 1898. It was the first lodge hall built by this national organization. Early businesses

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

included Rosina Stuart's popular neighborhood grocery and both electricians' and bricklayers' union offices. By 1919, the Brotherhood had become the Scandinavian Fraternity and counted women among its members. Intensive rehabilitation during the 1990s has restored much of the building's 1890s elegance. This grand landmark, the neighborhood's only fraternal hall, features an unusual arch motif repeated in the third-story windows, centerpiece, and in miniature along the parapet.

**Property:** Montana Leather Company

**Address:** , Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** boardinghouses

**Subject 2:** commercial buildings

**Sign Text:**

A log barbershop did business at this location in 1884. By 1891, a frame carpenter's shop occupied the premises, and at the back was an iron-clad corral serving the Oregon Livery next door. By 1900, the livery stable had become the Montana Concert Hall, the corral had been remodeled into dressing rooms, and a saloon had replaced the carpenter's shop. This building was constructed circa 1908, likely incorporating the frame saloon into the new brick building. A wooden porch accessed by a central doorway once spanned the front façade, serving residents of the second-floor rooming house. Although the rooming house backed up to Butte's most notorious red light alley, it was a respectable business. In 1920, tenant landlady Mary Tallon lived upstairs with her three children and eight lodgers. Downstairs the MacPherson family, owners of this building and the one next door, ran the Montana Leather Company, which specialized in wholesale leather, shoe machinery, shoe findings, and repairs. The MacPhersons operated their business here from 1918 through the 1980s.

**Property:** Gannon Residence

**Address:** 1401 N. Excelsior, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Home ownership symbolized independence and respectability when John and Rose Gannon constructed this five-room cottage circa 1904. A pared-down version of a high-style asymmetrical Queen Anne residence, the brick home represented a stake for thirty-six-year-old John Gannon, an oiler at the Diamond Mine. A 1900 report noted the construction of many such homes across Butte, asserting that the "pretty little cottages" provided "eloquent testimony to the improved morale of the labor employed in the mines" and the miners' assimilation into civic and community life. The Gannons raised four children here, including daughter Rosemary, who continued to occupy the residence into the 1980s. A dedicated elementary school teacher and accomplished pianist, Rosemary typified the unsung women whose volunteer service sustained many community institutions. Her causes included the Big Butte Volunteer Fire Department, the Daughters of Isabella (a Catholic women's organization), and Delta Kappa Gamma, an honor society for women educators. In 1972 she received national recognition as an Outstanding Elementary Teacher of America for her distinguished service at Sherman School in Walkerville, where she taught for 43 years.

**Property:** Thomas Block

**Address:** 37-47 West Park Street, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings

**Subject 2:**



## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

### Sign Text:

Radical building improvement on West Park Street during 1913 included the construction of this large retail and business block. The original 1890 Thomas Block had fallen victim to fire the previous year. Butte architect Herman Kemna, who also designed the Phoenix Block across the street, drew the plans for the \$75,000 replacement of brick and reinforced concrete. In 1916, the building's diverse commercial tenants included a drug store, saloon, basement candy factory, and second-floor combination bowling alley and billiard hall. Although the ground floor now has modern storefronts, the upper floor retains Kemna's fine design, featuring a metal cornice, tall transomed windows grouped an interesting arrangement, and a brick parapet with stone coping.

**Property:** 13 West Broadway

**Address:** 13 West Broadway, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:** residential structures

### Sign Text:

The stone foundation and masonry fabric of this early 1880s commercial building reflect the change to fireproof building materials after 1879, when a catastrophic fire destroyed most of Main Street. In 1884, the two-story building, like many of its neighbors, had multiple uses. A millinery shop occupied the first floor, the second floor housed a carpet warehouse, and the basement functioned as a dwelling. A second-story, wood-frame bridge connected the warehouse with a dry goods establishment across the alley. By 1890, Thibault and Inghran ran a saloon on the premises, thereby establishing the building's major commercial use that continues today. Blue and yellow tile highlight the 1930s ground-floor façade, which adds to the architectural history of this well-seasoned building. The upper-floor façade with its two front windows and decorative parapet preserves the building's 1880s appearance.

**Property:** Chope Residence

**Address:** 609 W. Granite, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

Paired Ionic columns support a classical one-story porch while the parapet atop the curved two-story bay window evokes the image of a medieval castle. Kitty Paxson and her husband, pharmacist Robert Paxson, lived in the elegant brick residence in 1900. By 1920, Thomas and Anna Chope lived here with their five children. An Irish immigrant, Thomas began his career in Butte as an underground miner and served as a union officer before becoming foreman at the High Ore Mine. There he compiled one of the Company's best safety records. The Chopes lived across the street in 1917, when the Granite Mountain-Speculator fire killed 167 men in the nation's deadliest hard-rock mining disaster. To appease the miners after the fire, the Company named Chope to the newly created position of labor commissioner. According to family legend, Chope offered his children a new car or this home after he received word of the promotion. They chose the house, which remained in the Chope family until 1995. Thomas barely had time to enjoy his new home; he died in 1921, at age fifty, after an emergency appendectomy.

**Property:** 929 South Main Street

**Address:** 929 South Main Street, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

### Sign Text:

By 1891, South Butte was a flourishing suburb, linked by streetcar to the uptown business district and the mines. Nevertheless, this lot remained empty until after 1900. By 1913, carpenters had constructed a one-story, flat-roofed duplex notable for its prominent porch pediment and its corbelled brick cornice. At one time, more elaborate columns likely supported the porch roof, which features wide gable trim, decorative shingles, and an ornamental wooden sunburst in the gable end. William and Carrie Bennetts lived in the north duplex from 1913 into the 1920s, renting out the south side to tenants, who included teamster William Raper and his family. William Bennetts worked alternately as a watchman and a hoisting engineer. Carrie owned the duplex. As in this case, early twentieth-century deeds often list the wife as sole owner of the family residence. This legal arrangement sometimes provided a measure of protection from a husband's creditors. Salesman Jack Dorgan purchased the building in the 1940s, converting it into a single family home in the early 1960s.

**Property:** Corby Residence

**Address:** 426 North Wyoming St, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

A one-story wooden residence built between 1888 and 1890 marked the earliest development of this lot. A brick-veneered Queen Anne style cottage stood in its place by 1916. Smaller than its high style counterparts, the one-story residence still managed to reflect turn-of-the-century fashions with its jumble of rooflines, asymmetrical façade, octagonal front bay, decorative shingles, and spindle-work porch supports. Frugal builders often preferred to incorporate existing structures into new buildings; the narrow window on the north side wall suggests that the original 1880s-era home may have provided the core of the new residence. From 1900 through 1913, Joseph and Sena Corby lived here with their daughter Edith. A hoisting engineer, Corby came to Butte in 1887 from Pennsylvania. In 1891, Corby served as president of the Butte chapter of the Patriotic Order Sons of America, an organization known for its anti-immigrant and, especially, anti-Catholic sentiments. Despite this early association, he managed to gain enough respect among Butte's heavily immigrant population to be elected mayor in 1907.

**Property:** 834 West Quartz

**Address:** 834 West Quartz, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

As its population tripled in the 1890s, Butte began its transformation from a mining camp to a small city. The percentage of married men grew by 10 percent, and local builders worked busily to fulfill the increasing demand for single-family homes. Carpenter John Shackleton constructed several, almost identical cross-gable residences, including two on the 800 block of Broadway and one on this lot. Built in 1897, the two-story, wood-frame residence was home to Edward and Alice Holden in 1900. Edward worked as telegraph editor for the Butte Miner, a daily newspaper. Ella Heuser and her husband Edward, a drugstore owner, purchased the residence circa 1908, and were likely responsible for building the one-story rear addition. By 1920, the home belonged to Jacob and Cora Pincus. Jacob had a varied career as a jeweler, watchmaker, and tobacco merchant. While he was "industrious," "trustworthy," and one of the city's "most conservative and substantial" businessmen by his own account, others remembered him as a "black sheep... [who] never did anything right." The Pincuses lived here until Jacob's death in 1942.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Property:** Central Business District

**Address:** , Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** central business districts                   **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

A catastrophic fire consumed much of Main Street in 1879, removing traces of Butte's mining camp past and ushering in a new era of masonry and stone construction. In the 1880s, single miners remained the primary customers of the district's gambling halls, saloons, and brothels. However, the city was maturing, and architect-designed theaters, banks, lodges, and churches soon joined the streetscape. Dozens of commercial blocks incorporated locally manufactured metal cornices and cast-iron facades, and by 1891, even Chinatown boasted substantial brick buildings. By 1896, Butte had become a leading copper producer, and architects consciously designed edifices worthy of the city's new status as an industrial giant. The War of the Copper Kings caused economic uncertainty and slowed commercial development, but with the victory of Amalgamated Copper Company (later renamed the Anaconda Copper Mining Company), the early twentieth century witnessed construction of some of Butte's most distinguished buildings. Multistoried apartments like the 1903 Hirbour Tower and the 1906 Metals Bank building, hallmarks of big cities like New York and Chicago, added urban flair, while the 1910 Beaux Arts county courthouse provided another assertion of permanence. Progressive Era attempts to clean up Chinatown and the Red Light district drastically reshaped the district's southern end. After 1911, automobile garages, showrooms, and service stations replaced deteriorating wooden cribs and Chinese laundries. Butte reached its economic zenith during World War I, and today's business district still reflects the copper metropolis's pre-World War I history. Over 100 buildings constructed before 1900 still stand, as do more than another 100 built between 1900 and 1920.

**Property:** Centerville Neighborhood

**Address:** , Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures                   **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Tightly clustered wooden houses built into the steep slopes of the Butte Hill characterize Centerville. Mostly constructed before 1900, the small Queen Anne cottages, hipped-roof workers' houses, and vernacular gable-roof homes primarily sheltered immigrant miners and their families. Head frames surrounded Centerville on all sides, and mining supported over three-quarters of the residents. Most homeowners leased the land upon which their houses sat from the Anaconda Company, which retained the right to reclaim the property to expand its mines. During the historic era, Centerville remained outside the city limits. As a result, the neighborhood also lacked city fire protection and street maintenance, further impeding development. Nevertheless, vibrant, ethnic strongholds developed, with cultural and occupational ties creating tightly knit communities amidst the industrial landscape. The neighborhood's large Cornish population worshipped at Trinity Methodist Church (still extant) and gathered at the Sons of St. George Hall, now gone except its foundation. Cornish miners found work in copper king William A. Clark's mines, among them the Mountain View, also known as the "Saffron Bun" for the large number of Cornishmen employed there. Centerville's Irish immigrants also worked in nearby mines, like the legendary mile deep Mountain Con owned by Clark's Irish rival, Marcus Daly. They fraternized at the Ancient Order of Hibernian Hall, formerly a block from the Sons of St. George. Local children attended the since demolished Adams School, Butte's first public school. While the extensive collection of commercial and fraternal buildings that once lined Main Street are now gone, the many working-class residences continue to reflect the neighborhood's rich history.

**Property:** 216 E Quartz

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Address:** 216 E Quartz, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:** mining industry

**Sign Text:**

When John Harrington sold this lot in 1888, he reserved the right to mine within twenty feet of the surface—without reinforcing his mine with timbers. Understandably, the purchasers, miner Con Ambrose and his wife Sarah, built a functional, no-frills gable-front-and-wing residence. Deeds like this one provided a disincentive to invest heavily in a home, and for good reason. Mining took precedence as the nearby Berkeley Pit—once home to crowded neighborhoods—demonstrates. In 1894, the Ambroses sold the home to Philip Goodwin, city circulation manager for the Butte Miner newspaper. Most of the other early owners were miners, many of whom worked at the nearby Parrot Mine. Among them were John Wallace, who lived here in 1910, and Maurice Condon, whose family purchased the residence in 1912. Maurice died in 1925 at age fifty-two of pneumonia, one of the many lung ailments common to miners working amid dynamite, damp, and dust. After his death, his widow, Annie, worked as a clerk and housekeeper. She lived here with her son, also a miner, into the 1930s.

**Property:** 939 South Main Street

**Address:** 939 South Main Street, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Distinctive enough to have its own society column in the Butte Miner, South Butte was less oriented toward the mines than other Butte neighborhoods. In fact, only two people on the 900 block of South Butte worked as miners in 1910. The rest found employment elsewhere: with the railroad, as store clerks or teachers, at the coal company, or performing deliveries. Elsworth and Alice Bradford, who had this one-story home constructed circa 1906, fit this pattern. Alice worked at home as a dressmaker while caring for their daughter Florence; Elsworth drove a delivery wagon for Taylor Laundry, whose stable was only four blocks north on Main Street. Elsworth witnessed the transformation from horse-drawn delivery wagons to motorized trucks, but by 1918, he had left the delivery business to ranch near Feely. The Bradford home features its original shiplap siding and decorative wooden shingles in the gable end. The front canted bay was typical of the period, a practical design that increased the amount of sunlight admitted into the house from the street.

**Property:** St. Mary's Neighborhood

**Address:** , Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

This historically Catholic neighborhood appropriately takes its name from St. Mary's parish, which included the Irish communities of Dublin Gulch (since leveled) and Corktown. Known as the "miner's church," St. Mary's scheduled services around shift changes, and early Sunday mornings miners' lunch buckets filled its vestibule as men stopped for mass on their way to work. The first St. Mary's, built in 1902 on North Wyoming, burned in 1931; the parish quickly rebuilt on North Main across from the Original Mine. Slavs and Finns moved to the area in the 1910s, and like their Irish neighbors, the men worked in the mines. Miles of mine tunnels wind their way below St. Mary's streets. Above ground, the head frames of the Original, Steward, and Anselmo Mines dominate the skyline, potent symbols of the industry's significance to those who lived in their shadows. Amidst this industrial backdrop stand tight clusters of working-class houses, over 70 percent of which were built before 1900. Often located on small dead end streets or tucked right up against the railroad tracks, these vernacular wooden homes

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

evoke an earlier time, when miners walked to work. At the turn of the twentieth century, the narrow streets were filled with noise: shouting children and bellowing livestock (many in the neighborhood kept cows and pigs) and the unceasing din of the mine yards and railroads. Mine whistles punctuated the clamor, announcing shift changes. When pit mining replaced underground mining in the 1950s, many families moved on. With its parishioners gone, St. Mary's Church closed in 1986.

**Property:** 135 East Park

**Address:** 135 East Park, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** boardinghouses

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

A row of one-story frame shops including a harness maker, two carpenters, a cobbler, a saloon, a bakery, and a millinery filled this block in the 1880s. By 1890, most had been replaced. The present two-story storefront and lodging house replaced a blacksmith shop. A grocery store was the first ground-floor tenant; furnished rooms were upstairs, and a stable stood at the rear. Seven rooftop skylights well illuminated the second story where, in 1900, Josephine Stacy had fifteen male lodgers and a female cook in her furnished rooms. Tenants included a carpenter, house painter, plumber, and five copper miners. Stacy and a string of other lodge-keepers after her leased the second floor. Various businesses occupied the storefront including the Western Meat Company from 1928 to 1958. The building's fine cast-iron storefront, once a common element in Butte, incorporates fluted iron pilasters with floral designs, a scalloped metal cornice, and corner brackets. Elaborately embellished window hoods with a central scroll and circle ornament the upper story.

**Property:** Mennie House

**Address:** , Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

An ornamental iron fence atop an ashlar retaining wall adorns the front of this charming L-shaped Victorian-era home. The second-story windows are highlighted by a decorative entablature and the façade features a bay window with a partial gable overhang. George Mennie, a boss carpenter at the Original Mine, likely built this house in 1907. Mennie lived here until 1913 when salesman Thomas Casey and his family purchased the property. A native of Indiana, Casey was one of the last old-time traveling salesmen, covering territory in northern Washington, Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, and parts of Utah in a horse and buggy. During his thirty-six years in Butte he was part owner and partner in the manufacturing agents firm of Casey and Lanphier with T. J. Lanphier. Casey died of a sudden heart attack just six weeks after his wife's death. Frank Schilling purchased the home in 1937 and remained here until 1963. Schilling was a salesman for T. J. Lanphier and was Casey's nephew.

**Property:** Finberg's Furniture Store

**Address:** 44 E. Park Plaza, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

French-Canadian brothers founded the Nadeau Investment Company in the late 1800s and amassed Butte real estate, much of it red-light properties that made the family wealthy. Their holdings at the height of Butte's tenderloin included the far-famed Mercury Street Dumas Hotel and the Copper Block at Wyoming and Galena. The Nadeaus also owned legitimate commercial real estate like this property they purchased in 1886; portions of

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

the present building date to circa 1885. In 1927, the Nadeaus remodeled the façade. The buff brick in a herringbone pattern with diamond and triangle concrete insets speaks to the 1920s trend toward subtle ornamentation. By 1928, E. J. McMahon's cigar store and the Central Café occupied the ground floor. The Olympia Club, a soft drink parlor likely disguising a speakeasy, operated in the rear during Prohibition. Russian Jewish immigrant Samuel Finberg moved his furniture store to this location in 1932 where he became a local fixture, eventually purchasing the building from the Nadeaus in 1946. Finberg was in business here until he handed over the store to his son in 1966.

**Property:** 1600 North Main Street

**Address:** 1600 North Main, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

In 1880, when Joseph Broughton arrived in Walkerville, the booming silver town was a relatively isolated settlement. The Walker brothers—for whom the town is named—had purchased the Alice Mine only four years earlier with the help of their agent, future copper king Marcus Daly. With the Walkers' backing, Broughton opened a store at the corner of Daly and Main, where he sold everything from peanuts to threshing machines. Broughton, who lived in an apartment above the store, also served as Walkerville's postmaster, and his mercantile became a community focal point. Butte soon overshadowed the small silver town, but low prices and quality goods kept Broughton's customers loyal even after streetcars gave Walkerville residents easy access to Butte's large shopping district. Between 1891 and 1900, Broughton replaced his pre-1884 building with this stone-and-brick structure. A stepped wooden cornice with scrolled brackets adorns the building, whose canted corner entrance welcomes customers from both Daly and Main.

**Property:** 403-405 West Granite

**Address:** 403-405 West Granite, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:** boardinghouses

**Sign Text:**

Hardware merchant William M. Jack built this two-story dwelling circa 1890. Scottish-born Jack was a dealer in hardware, tinware, stoves, pumps, and mining equipment. A collection of several outbuildings, a small house, two large warehouses for stoves, and an underground stable covered the site in 1888. Jack razed these utilitarian buildings and replaced them with much more attractive housing for himself and a tenant. Jack soon moved on, but over the next decades, the building served several purposes. By 1916, it had been converted to housekeeping rooms to satisfy a greater need for housing as the copper industry boomed. In the 1920s, physician Neil O'Keefe and dentist John F. Kane had their offices along with Ingersoll-Rand mining machinery at 403. The United Press Association occupied the other side at 405. During the 1930s, the building again provided residence housing, this time for the Hubert Neal and Leonard Backstrom families. Originally clad in brick veneer, the double dwelling has long been divided into four apartments. Residents access the two halves through central doorways opening onto a shared porch.

**Property:** 856 West Granite

**Address:** 856 West Granite, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

### Sign Text:

Stone, brick, and wood combine to add texture to this Queen Anne style residence, whose design includes a projecting bay and a small turret topped by a metal finial. Built before 1900, the house originally featured an open front porch. Insurance agent Wilbur Bachelor, his wife Kitty, and their four children lived here in 1900. Sigmund and Emma Schilling purchased the residence by 1904 and added a rear addition and lap-sided back porch (since enclosed) before 1916. Sigmund emigrated to the United States from Germany in 1884, arriving in Butte by 1885. He worked first as a tailor before opening the Sig Schilling Cigar Co., a billiard and pool hall that sold cigars, tobacco, and candy. A member of Butte's thriving Jewish community, Sig became a prominent businessman and served as the third president of Temple B'nai Israel, the second synagogue built in Montana. He and his wife Emma participated in many of Butte's elite social clubs and were frequently mentioned in the Society pages. Sig died in 1936, but Emma continued to reside here into the 1940s.

**Property:** 105 West Center Street

**Address:** 105 West Center Street, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

William and Ellen Burt owned this L-shaped residence free and clear in 1920, but not the ground upon which it sat. As with many Centerville homes, the Anaconda Company kept ownership of the land, retaining the right to extract or explore for ore "in, on, or beneath the surface of the Property." Understandably, Centerville homeowners tended to build functional, no-frill houses; leases like this one provided a disincentive to invest heavily in a home. The threat of eviction was real as residents of nearby Meaderville learned when the Berkeley Pit swallowed their neighborhood in the 1960s. Yet, despite the implied impermanence, Centerville was a congenial place for families like the Burts, who wanted affordable, single-family dwellings, compatible neighbors, and easy access to work in the mines. William and Ellen Burt, who emigrated from England in 1908, would have felt particularly welcomed by Centerville's large Cornish population. And the streetcars that passed their house every twenty minutes provided William with reliable transportation when he was not working at one of the mines in walking distance.

**Property:** The Concord

**Address:** 118-122 N Montana St, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** boardinghouses

**Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

Two stories and a daylight basement provided ample room for the many lodgers that lived comfortably in this spacious turn-of-the-twentieth-century rooming house. The building's first owner, boilermaker Carl M. Swanson, lived here with this wife, Tessie, who managed The Concord between 1901 and 1907. Under a tenant proprietor in 1910, census records show forty-one residents of varied backgrounds, ranging from professionals (including a dentist, a newspaper editor, and several business managers) to clerks and The Concord's domestic employees. While many of Butte's residential flats and walkups reflect similar architectural styles, The Concord's magnificent appearance is unique to the business district. A rough-quarried stone foundation and handsome stone trim contrast sharply with dark red brick, making the building a district highlight. In the 1930s, some of The Concord's furnished rooms were converted to ten apartments. These, along with nine individual rooms, remain today. The graceful arched entry still welcomes its residents to an elegant interior, where the original oak staircase with turned spindles and skylight above are grandly intact.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Property:** 919 Delaware

**Address:** 919 Delaware, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Once part of a bustling urban neighborhood, the 900 block of Delaware accommodated four single family homes, six apartment buildings, and a corner store. Three buildings stood on this lot. With houses built so closely together, little light entered residences from the side windows. The beautiful bay windows that mark this brick home served a practical function: to let light in from the street. Typically, bay-fronted flats were divided into first- and second-floor apartments, but this brick residence, built in approximately 1901, seems always to have been a single family home. Miner, pumpman, and one-time shift boss in the Minnie Healy Mine John Coulter moved here with his wife Jennie and their three children shortly after the home's construction. The family owned the house outright before John's death at age fifty-one in 1910; the residence remained in the family until 1965. The Starins—Jack, an ironworker in the mining city, his wife, Willene, and their seven children—lived here from 1967 until 1995. Today the house stands alone on a large lot, its urban design a testimony to changes in the neighborhood.

**Property:** Immaculate Conception Church

**Address:** 410 N. Western, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** churches (buildings) **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The bright white façade of this stunning church, prominently located beneath Big Butte, serves as a beacon proclaiming the heart of Butte's west side Catholic community. The Immaculate Conception Parish was created from the overflowing St. Patrick and St. Lawrence O'Toole parishes in 1906. The original church building across the street also served as convent and school. The cornerstone of the present church was laid on December 10, 1939. It indicates that the church, dedicated to the Immaculate Mother of God, is also designated a shrine to Our Lady of Victory and St. Therese. Noted architect John G. Link designed this Butte landmark, completed in 1940 at a cost of almost \$200,000, which features an unusual blend of the Mission Revival and Art Deco styles.

**Property:** Push Saloon / Silver Dollar Saloon

**Address:** 133-135 S. Main, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** saloons (bars) **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Butte saloons bragged of their diversity, specialization, and peculiarities. Frenchmen drank white whiskey at the Canadian, and the Scotch were entertained by bagpipes at McGregor's. Swedes patronized the Scandia Hall and blacks the Silver Tip. Engineers frequented Jerry Clifford's saloon, "high class miners" the Southern, and theatergoers the Orpheum. In addition, the nearby red light district (commonly called the "twilight zone") boasted "very, very naughty saloons." When the Push Saloon opened in this building in 1894 it was one of Butte's 165 saloons. A four block walk up Main Street offered a choice of 35 similar establishments. During Prohibition owners sold "soft drinks and cigars" here, and later the Midget Creamery at this location accepted shipments from distant Virgelle, Montana—a place too accessible to the border and "bootleg" not to raise eyebrows. The Silver Dollar, established after Prohibition in 1934, is today a working link to this colorful and distinctive heritage.



## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Property:** Blodgett Residence

**Address:** 1253 W. Aluminum, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The increased demand for copper created by World War I sparked spectacular growth in Butte's mining industry and population. A massive housing shortage resulted, leading to the construction of over 700 residences between 1916 and 1918, half of them on the "Flat." Lots went on sale in this Lower West Side area—part of the Corona Addition—in 1915, and soon the streets were lined with Craftsman style bungalows. A break from the more formal Victorian architecture that dominates Butte, the Craftsman style touted simplicity and efficiency, with its promoters arguing that "beauty does not imply elaboration." Decorative brackets and exposed rafter tails beneath broad sweeping eaves, a large open porch, and heavy porch supports are hallmarks of the style, as are the exposed beams adorning the nine-foot ceilings inside the living/dining rooms. In 1917, engineer Frank Blodgett purchased the residence. He lived here until 1929 with his wife Annie and their two grown children: Mary, a telephone operator, and Francis Earl, a lawyer, Democratic state representative, and workers' advocate. Among Representative Blodgett's causes were eight-hour workday laws for women and a teacher's pension bill.

**Property:** W.A. Clark Jr. Carriage House

**Address:** 836 & 834 W. Galena, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** barns **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The opulent stables and carriage house of William A. Clark, Jr., son of copper king millionaire William A. Clark, bear the unmistakable hallmark of Butte architect H. M. Patterson. The symmetrical Renaissance Revival design features a grand entry arch in a mixture of sandstone trim and mottled chocolate brick, a granite foundation, and servant quarters above. Constructed for \$35,000 in 1900, the front area of the carriage house has space for cleaning and storage of ten horse-drawn vehicles. The back portion of the building was devoted to stable purposes. The six stalls, outfitted with polished brass and iron accoutrements, had white porcelain side walls. The floor was heated and equipped with bell traps connected to the city sewer. The Butte Miner in 1901 declared: "The horses belonging to Mr. Clark can congratulate themselves that, so far as they are concerned, they are living in a palace."

**Property:** 518 Henry Avenue

**Address:** 518 Henry, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Attorney Louis Sanders, who resided next door, owned this lot in 1905. Likely constructed that year, this one-and-one-half-story residence became home to fellow attorney John E. Corette in 1906. By 1910, Howard Music Company president John Howard had purchased the house, where he lived with his wife Blanche, their one-year-old daughter, and live-in servant Lydia Nevin, a nineteen-year-old immigrant from Sweden. The residence reflects the evolving tastes of the early twentieth century. By 1906, the complicated lines of the Queen Anne style had begun to fall out of fashion in favor of simpler, more austere designs. This transitional residence refers to the Queen Anne style with its eclectic mix of materials and textures. These include the randomly coursed cut-stone foundation, a first floor of brick, cedar and fish-scale shingles, a decorative sun-ray motif, and false Tudor molding

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

in the gable peak. At the same time, the symmetrical façade, Tuscan columns, and triangular pediment marking the porch entrance reflect the growing popularity of a more classical aesthetic.

**Property:** 843 West Broadway

**Address:** 843 West Broadway, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

James H. Monteath, assistant manager of the Inter-Mountain Publishing Company and assistant secretary of the Aetna Savings and Trust Company, was the original owner of this lovely two-story home built of frame with brick veneer circa 1891. A graceful elliptical porch serves as focal point while open brick window arches, embellished with wood relief and eyebrow labels, enhance its elegant lines. Overlapping eaves with decorative brackets and sidelight of glass bricks at the front entry afford further ornamentation. Originally snug between its two neighbors, the home's east wing was added circa 1916 when demolition of the residence at 837 West Broadway allowed expansion. This well-maintained vintage residence, constructed at the height of Butte's first building boom, deserves a prominent place among the period homes of the West Side.

**Property:** James M. Orton Residence

**Address:** 1205 W. Park, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

A prominent place at the top of West Park Street emphasizes the importance of this 1916 Craftsman style residence. Its first owner was James M. Orton, one of eight talented brothers who brought music to generations of residents in the Mining City. The Ortons came to Butte in 1879 where the brothers, only one of whom could read music, formed a cornet band that won renown across the state. They founded Orton Brothers Music House in 1886, a business run by the family until 1960. After James retired to California in 1923, Timothy J. Sullivan purchased the property and was at home here from 1929 through the mid-1950s. Sullivan, president of an engineering firm and ironworks, was mayor of Butte from 1953 to 1957. The home features exposed eave brackets, brick piers with stone capitals, and exterior brick chimneys. These elements are characteristic of the Craftsman style. Although popular across the nation during the early twentieth century, Craftsman style homes are a rarity in Butte. A stone retaining wall crowned with an ornamental iron gate and mature landscaping enhance this unusual historic home.

**Property:** James H. Rowe Residence

**Address:** , Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Butte real estate developer William V. Lawlor built this elegant home on speculation circa 1891. Hardware store owner Ras Rochester, who lived on this block, purchased the home from Lawlor in 1895. Neither of these early owners lived in the residence, however. James H. Rowe, who was in partnership with William Lawlor, moved into the home with his family in 1911. The longtime firm of Lawlor and Rowe dealt in real estate, fire insurance, and surety bonds. After her husband's death, Mrs. Rowe remained here into the 1950s. The beautiful two-and-one-half-story Queen Anne style home features an unusual two-story octagonal front bay. Its pristine condition makes the Victorian-era home a particularly noteworthy component of this prestigious block of Broadway.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Property:** Hodgens / Ryan Home

**Address:** 105 N. Excelsior, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Thomas Hodgens, who held the prestigious position of cashier at the State Savings Bank, was the first owner of this magnificent T-shaped Classical Revival style residence built in 1899. Second owner John D. Ryan purchased the home in 1905. Ryan rose from a lowly oil drummer to president of the Daly Bank and was the only man to ever serve as president of both the Anaconda Company and the Montana Power Company, which he helped form in 1912. As director of the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railroad, Ryan initiated the railroad's electrification in 1916. A myriad of ornate high-style details ornament the façade of this splendid brick home, including Ionic columns, Palladian windows, second-story balustrade with decorative paneled posts, and dormers with swan's neck pediments. The elaborate embellishment and expert workmanship well reflect the wealth and power of these two influential men.

**Property:** Mountain View Methodist Episcopal Church

**Address:** 301 N Montana, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** churches (buildings) **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Rev. Hugh Duncan, a circuit-riding minister, led Butte's first Methodist Episcopal services in 1873. A dance hall, and later a school, served the early congregation. The first church built on this prominent corner in 1883 soon became overcrowded. Rev. W. W. Van Orsdel ("Brother Van"), along with church trustee copper king W. A. Clark, helped lay the cornerstone for this grand church in 1899. William L. Donovan and John G. Link were the architects. Link rose to prominence and later helped design the wings of Montana's state capitol. The church, completed in 1900, features a regal central tower with two arched entries. Magnificent stained glass richly embellishes the triple-arched windows on the south, north, and east. The sanctuary's semicircular arrangement and slanted floor, reminiscent of period opera houses, hosted some memorable community events. Famous speakers included social reformer Jacob Riis in 1906 and saloon-smasher Carrie Nation in 1910. Among Butte's eight Methodist churches, Mountain View was the "mine owners' church." Mountain View has hosted multiple choirs over the years, utilizing one of the most spectacular organs in the Pacific Northwest.

**Property:** School District #1 Administration Building

**Address:** 111 No. Montana St, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** public schools (buildings) **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

William A. O'Brien, architect of the Leonard Apartments and the Kelly and Hennessy mansions, designed this handsome building of brown brick veneer in 1919. In 1920, the offices of District #1 moved from their longtime quarters at Butte High School to the new facility. At that time, Superintendent W. E. Maddock administered twenty-four schools including the high school, a junior high school, an industrial school, seventeen elementary schools, and four ungraded rural schools. The 311 district employees, 286 of them women, served a total of 19,296 students. This familiar Butte landmark, significant for its attractive architecture as well as its long service, well represents the solid foundations of Butte's public school system. Doric columns and an eighteen-light

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

transom frame the entrance, while glazed terra cotta finishes the multi-paned windows, cornice, and parapet. The building's historic appearance extends to its well-maintained interior, which features the original plaster walls and oak trim.

**Property:** 134 West Broadway

**Address:** 134 West Broadway, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:** boardinghouses

**Sign Text:**

A private ground-floor residence with rooms for rent upstairs was the original function of this 1880s two-story building. Its history provides a fascinating glimpse of life in early-day Butte. Maps of 1888 and 1890 show that a frame open-air porch spanned the building's length at the rear. An unusual walkway connected the porch to a small two-story building, undoubtedly the common privy. The dwelling was home to English miner Joseph Brook, whose wife Clara ran the rooming house at the turn of the twentieth century. By 1910, seven lodgers rented furnished rooms from Mrs. Josie Meyer, who lived here with her husband, two small children, and her mother. Two decades later, the first-floor residence had been divided into two storefronts housing a millinery shop and a corner grocery. Furnished rooms were still available upstairs at least through the 1930s. Although the original brick veneer was replaced circa 1915-1920, the upstairs central entry remains from the 1880s rooming house.

**Property:** Montana Tech Campus President's Residence

**Address:** West Park Street, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** universities (buildings) **Subject 2:** residential structures

**Sign Text:**

Francis A. Thomson was the first school president to enjoy this fine residence, completed during his tenure in 1936. Thomson had declared upon his arrival in 1928 that, because of its barren grounds, the school had the "ugliest campus of any educational institution" in any of the continents. Thomson initiated and saw to completion an improvement program that entailed not only construction of the residence hall and Leonard Field, but also the extensive landscaping of the campus buildings and grounds with appropriations under the Works Progress Administration and other relief agencies. Separated from the campus by an encircling ring of mature conifers, this substantial home, with its inviting balustraded porch, twin chimneys, and tasteful brick, reflects the 1930s transformation.

**Property:** Andrew Jackson Davis Home

**Address:** 845 West Granite, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The builder of this residence was the second of three Butte men of the same name. The elder A. J. Davis (1819-1890) was said to have been Butte's first millionaire and founded the predecessor to the First National Bank of Butte in 1877. His nephew Andy, the second A. J. Davis (1863-1941), started with the bank in 1882, became president in 1890, and inherited his uncle's fortune. Andy and his brother, John E. Davis, built these twin homes in 1891. Andy's son, the third and youngest A. J. Davis, later lived at 805 W. Broadway. The twin residences share a sidewalk entry and a roof connecting the side porches. These common features were added some time after the

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

original construction. Hardwood floors with inlaid border designs grace four rooms of this home and one room of its twin. A portion of this residence's third floor was finished to serve as maids' quarters. The elaborate two-story brick carriage house to the east features an elevator used to move carriages and sleighs to and from second-floor storage, and a groomsman's apartment spans the front of its upper floor.

**Property:** Montana Tech Campus Mill Building

**Address:** West Park Street, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** universities (buildings)

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Only nine of Main Hall's twenty-five rooms were originally furnace heated. To remedy that situation, the mill building was constructed during 1907 and 1908 to house a large heating plant. This second campus building furnished steam heat to Main Hall and, later, to other campus buildings. Although no longer in use, its huge boilers remain intact. The mill building also accommodated the assay laboratories, which were moved from Main Hall's unheated south basement. The assay equipment was modernized in 1923 and a flotation plant installed a few years later. At one time resident faculty occupied its upper floor. Designed in the Renaissance Revival style to architecturally complement Main Hall, but not overshadow its grandeur, the mill building's subtle ornamentation includes brick string courses that horizontally divide its façade and a steplike frieze below the cornice. A band of lunettes adorns the west end of the north façade while a three-story capped chimney towers above.

**Property:** Montana Tech Campus Metallurgy Building

**Address:** West Park Street, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** universities (buildings)

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Expansion of the campus in 1923 included the construction of this large building to house classrooms and laboratories for ore dressing, metallurgical research, ceramics, and chemistry. Architects Floyd Hamill of Butte and George Carsley, widely respected for his long association with renowned New York architect Cass Gilbert, drew the plans for the building, which added significantly to the size of the campus and considerably increased the school's facilities. It is interesting to note that during construction, which cost a total of \$211,054, the second floor collapsed and had to be completely rebuilt. A rusticated granite foundation, horizontal bands of brickwork, and bands of windows sharply delineate the three floor levels while decorative terra cotta diamonds and shields encircle the building below the cornice. A brick and granite stairway leads to the entrance, which is handsomely framed by imitation granite terra cotta enriched with decorative rosettes.

**Property:** Montana Tech Campus Main Hall

**Address:** West Park Street, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** universities (buildings)

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Montana architect John C. Paulsen designed this first campus building, completed in 1897, thereby setting the standard for later buildings on the school grounds. Paulsen, who died before its completion, was one of the Rocky Mountain region's most prominent architects. Main Hall is significant for that reason, but it is also one of Montana's best preserved examples of the Renaissance Revival style. Terra cotta "torch" keystones and wolf's head gargoyles highlight the arcaded main entrance of the formalized façade. The third level features stone

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

cameos of pioneers in the mining-related sciences: physics (Franklin), geology (Hunt), mineralogy (Gaetzschan), metallurgy (Percy) and chemistry (Holley). Original interior finishings include an open granite stairway with brass railing and wrought iron balustrades framed by polished granite columns. Although the twenty-five rooms of the imposing brick building stood unused until the school opened in 1900, Main Hall was considered “the most substantial and solidly built public structure in the state.”

**Property:** Montana Tech Campus Library / Museum

**Address:** West Park Street, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** universities (buildings)

**Subject 2:** academic libraries (buildings)

**Sign Text:**

The placement of this building on the corner overlooking Leonard Field and Summit Valley in 1939 added balance to the existing Montana Tech buildings and rounded out the campus. Designed by Butte architect Walter A. Arnold and constructed at a cost of \$191,314, the three-and-one-half-story Art Deco style building complements its older neighbors. Stepped façades and lavish, highly stylized cream-colored terra cotta trim enhance the brick. The main entry features three terra cotta arches above stylized brass doors, and above each doorway is a shield bearing mining-related symbols. The building originally housed the library, auditorium, museum, and president’s office; its expansive ceilings were crossed with steel beams encased in dark-stained wood. Many of the interior walls are faced with Gardiner travertine quarried in south central Montana. Modern facilities have now replaced the library and auditorium, but the mineral museum remains today, sharing quarters with mathematics, computer science, and offices.

**Property:** Montana Tech Campus Gymnasium

**Address:** West Park Street, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** universities (buildings)

**Subject 2:** gymnasiums

**Sign Text:**

When the original campus gymnasium became the Engineering Building in 1923, plans were begun for a replacement. This splendid facility was completed in 1925 at a cost of \$125,000. A swimming pool, handball courts, showers, and locker rooms comprised the lower floor while the main floor offered a hardwood playing floor and seating for 2,500 spectators. The third level included a trophy room, dressing room, lavatories, and a hardwood running track. Well-lighted, ventilated tunnels conveniently connected the gymnasium with other campus buildings; the tunnels are still in use today. Designed in the Renaissance Revival style like its neighbors, distinctive stylistic elements include an arcaded entry, decorative terra cotta diamonds below the cornice, and a contrasting foundation. Copper shingles with rolled and crimped copper roofing at the peak originally covered the hipped roof. Of particular interest is the football-player gargoyle sporting a vintage uniform over the main entrance. In 1980, a carefully matched addition at the rear expanded the facility, and the interior was completely remodeled to three conventional levels for classroom use.

**Property:** Montana Tech Campus Engineering Building

**Address:** West Park Street, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** universities (buildings)

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The north half of this building was constructed in 1910 as a gymnasium and auditorium, designed by noted Montana architect C. S. Haire. It was the third campus building. As Montana Tech grew during the next decade,

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

expansion became crucial. Engineering students in particular required spacious classrooms for drafting tables. In 1923, the south wall of the gymnasium was removed and a second building constructed following Haire's design but doubling the original size. The remodeled first floor included a large drawing room with space for sixty tables, a small auditorium, and suite of offices. The second floor consisted of more offices, a file room, a blue-print room, and two drafting rooms. The brick building features brick pilasters on all four façades. Dentils, egg-and-dart ornamentation, and scroll-like metal brackets adorn the cornice.

**Property:** Montana Tech Campus

**Address:** 1300 West Park Street, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** campuses

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The Enabling Act of 1889 laid the foundation for the Montana School of Mines, providing for the first federal land grants for the establishment of mining schools. This landmark provision thus recognized the significance of mining industries to the newly admitted western states of Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Washington. A commission appointed by Governor J. E. Rickards to investigate establishing such a school in Montana determined that the heart of Montana's mining industry—Butte—would be the ideal location. At the foot of Big Butte, with its sweeping view of the surrounding area rich in mineral ores, the cornerstone of Main Hall was laid in the fall of 1896. Designed by Montana's premier architect John C. Paulsen, the splendid Renaissance Revival style building was completed in 1897, but it presided over Butte unoccupied for lack of additional funds. Thanks to the generosity of local benefactors, the school finally opened to 39 students in 1900, and the first class graduated in 1903. During the next decades, architects George Carsley, C. S. Haire, Floyd Hamill, and Walter Arnold left their marks on the campus following Paulsen's lead. Federal assistance during the 1930s allowed expansion and extensive landscaping, which greatly enhanced the campus. The Montana School of Mines earned its excellent academic reputation partly because Butte offered unsurpassed opportunities in practical observation and firsthand mine experience, a facet of training not emphasized by other mining schools. Today, the four initial professorships have expanded to include a teaching faculty of 139, and the campus accommodates almost 2,000 students.

**Property:** Mantle / Henderson and Bielenberg Building

**Address:** 15-19 W. Broadway, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings

**Subject 2:** residential structures

**Sign Text:**

A graceful semicircular arched entry of rough quarried stone is a striking feature of this three-story commercial/residential building that once housed the publisher of the Butte Miner. Built circa 1890 by pioneer stockman/financier N. J. Bielenberg, the first floor was remodeled in 1891 to accommodate the publishing company. By 1900, Western Union Telegraph occupied the first floor, offices were on the second floor, and the third floor contained a lodging house and a recreation hall. A sign on the building's east side advertises the Creamery Cafe, a longtime favorite eatery and later tenant. Exceptional interior finishings include a beautiful tin ceiling, an open stairwell with a skylight above, maple floors, and varnished pine woodwork. The grand cast iron, brick, and stone façade with its repetitive arch motif is today a substantial reminder of Butte's Victorian-era prosperity.

**Property:** James Naughten Residence

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Address:** 302-304 E. Broadway, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

This two-story home was built circa 1900 by James Naughten, one of the state's most skilled master mechanics. Naughten worked for various mining companies, including the North Butte Mining Company, where he installed the first electric hoist. By 1918, he had become president and manager of the Royal Development Mining Company. Naughten and his wife, Mary, raised nine children in the home, and when he died in 1938, he left thirty grandchildren. Attractive details such as decorative brickwork, arched windows, and stone sills grace the exterior of this longtime residence. Only more recently of commercial/residential function, the building is exceptionally well maintained, including one carefully preserved interior wall that is literally papered with cards and invoices of early Butte businesses.

**Property:** John E. Davis Home

**Address:** 855 W. Granite St, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

A myriad of Victorian-era details makes this splendid residence and its next-door neighbor, built by brothers John E. and A. J. Davis, true period showcases. Known as the "Twin Sisters," these mirror-image homes were constructed in 1891 for the handsome sum of \$7,000 each. Steeply pitched roofs with front-facing gables, bay windows, and asymmetrical façades are hallmarks of the Queen Anne style. Among the many decorative elements are fish-scale shingles, elaborate bargeboards on the gable ends, and windows framed in small square lights. Turned posts and balustrades, delicate lattice-like bases, and scrolled brackets that grace the porches are fine examples of Eastlake detailing. Matching stained glass windows on the opposing sides of each home were crafted in a Tiffany glass shop once located in Butte. The original owner, grocer and hardware merchant John Davis, was an amateur painter and taxidermist who filled the home with the fruit of his talents. Following John's untimely death in 1913, his widow lived in the home until the 1940s.

**Property:** Milwaukee Depot

**Address:** 1003 S. Montana, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** railroad stations **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

From the 1880s to the 1950s, trains assured Butte's survival by transporting everything from passengers and mail to ore. This marvelous depot, with its 95-foot clock tower, was constructed in 1916 to serve passenger trains of the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railway, or "Milwaukee Road." The station consisted of a head house for passenger services and a baggage/express building connected by a glass vestibule. St. Louis pressed brick, marble floors, and oak-and-burlap paneling added interior elegance to the 160 tons of structural steel used in the construction of the complex. Electrically powered engines brought no dirt, dust, or smoke into the station, earning it a reputation as a "model of cleanliness." The depot ceased its original function when train travel diminished in the 1950s. Home of KXL television since 1957, the depot was one of Butte's first major restoration projects in the 1970s. It is today an excellent example of preservation and adaptive reuse.

**Property:** William and Mabel Guthrie Residence



## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Address:** 1123 Steel, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Upscale neighborhoods often placed “restrictive covenants” to assure new buildings did not compromise the ambience. When developer James King sold lots in this new suburb, covenants he set required a twenty-five-foot setback for new homes, which had to cost at least \$3,000 to build. This elegant residence certainly met those requirements. The home boasts characteristic Colonial Revival details: symmetry, a side-gabled roof, decorative shutters, dentils at the eaves, and accentuated front entrance. The interior features original chandeliers, hardwood floors, and brocade wallpaper. Likely built as an investment by Herbert Tunnell, the house was first purchased by store manager Edward Olson and wife Agnes in 1925. Mining engineer William Rossberg and his wife Katherine lived here from 1928 to 1930. William and Mabel Guthrie purchased the home in 1931, residing here until their deaths (hers in 1970, his in 1972). A Stanford University–educated electrical engineer, William helped design the power plant that supplied the Anaconda Company with electricity. Mabel attended the University of Montana and in 1918 gained renown as the first woman to staff a Missoula-area fire lookout station.

**Property:** W.A. Clark Jr. Home

**Address:** 842 W. Galena, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

A unique blend of historical elements and details characterize the home of W. A. Clark Jr., built in conjunction with the adjacent carriage house in 1900. H. M. Patterson’s asymmetrical design features a granite coursed ashlar foundation, rusticated base, and corbelled brick banding on the first-floor façade. The unusual arched openings are semicircular with pointed crowns and cushion springers. A projecting oriel and classical pediment adorn second-story openings, while intricate modillions support the cornice. Interior appointments include an oak-trimmed vestibule, dining room, and library, with an intricate terra cotta fireplace mantle, further evidence of the family’s wealth. The elder Senator Clark’s sleazy politics and the darker dealings of the Clark family leave locals aghast even today. William, Jr., who lived in the Butte home until 1905, later achieved embarrassing notoriety for benevolent gestures that were apparently intended to hide an aberrant lifestyle.

**Property:** Tuttle Building

**Address:** 304 N. Main St, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Shelley Tuttle began a Butte foundry and machine shop business in 1881. By 1890, the expanded Tuttle Manufacturing and Supply Company had a plant in Anaconda and employed twelve machinists, blacksmiths, molders, and pattern makers. Tuttle supplied parts and machinery for local mining operations, including the immense smelter works of Marcus Daly, who was a major stockholder in Tuttle’s company. In 1892, Tuttle built this business block as an outlet for his foundry products and to house an inventory of hardware goods. Butte builder J. C. Martin designed the three-story brick building with graceful brick arches and rusticated stone trim. Besides mining supplies and machinery, Tuttle’s foundry manufactured cast-iron storefronts and architectural ornamentation like the metal brackets that support the cornice displayed here. He also sold home furnishings and Garland stoves. Daly bought out the company in 1896 and changed its name to the Anaconda Copper Mining Company Hardware Department. The descendent of Tuttle’s foundry still operates in Anaconda today.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Property:** Tripp and Dragstedt Apartments

**Address:** 436 S. Main, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** apartments

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The Butte Miner declared this “the largest apartment house between St. Paul and Spokane” when it opened in 1916. The \$80,000 building, constructed by Charles C. Goddard, included forty apartments around a U-shaped plan. Each unit was designed so that the living room faced an exterior wall, thus allowing plenty of light. Amenities included built-in bookcases, separate ventilating systems, and refrigerators. The fourth floor housed a ballroom, parlors, restrooms, and kitchen while laundry facilities were located in the basement. The splendid building features a myriad of intricate patterns of Clayton tapestry and Salt Lake bricks offset by granite and ornamental wrought iron. Today, the Tripp and Dragstedt remains untouched by time in both function and appearance: even the original Otis elevator continues to transport residents. The building is still Butte’s largest apartment house and serves as a visual bridge between the mixed commercial and residential elements of the neighborhood.

**Property:** St. Patrick's Rectory

**Address:** 17 S. Washington, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** rectories

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Father Peter DeSiere became pastor of St. Patrick’s in 1893 and served the parish well for twenty-five years. At the time of his death in 1918, Butte had achieved its peak population. As St. Patrick’s Parish likewise expanded under Father DeSiere, so did the facilities. In 1899, the present rectory replaced a smaller residence to the east that had been constructed in 1881. John F. Hogan, a local plumber/carpenter/contractor, reveals his architectural talents in this unique residence. Hogan’s striking design features a round, turreted corner bay and fine masonry construction. Polychrome brickwork veneer complemented by stone lintels and sills, ornately carved stone above the entry, Tuscan columns, and a beautiful stained glass panel demonstrate quality craftsmanship and refined taste.

**Property:** St. Joseph's Catholic Church

**Address:** 941 S. Utah, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** churches (buildings)

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Bishop John Brondel founded St. Joseph’s Parish in 1902 to serve the varied ethnic groups settling on Butte’s south side. Father P. A. Quesnel celebrated the parish’s first Mass in a makeshift public hall. In 1907, a combination parish church and school was built on Delaware Street, which served until it was destroyed by fire in 1911. Once again, services were held in a public hall while the present church was under construction. On Christmas Day of 1911, the first Mass was offered in the grand new church, which was dedicated by Bishop John Carroll, the following April. Albert O. Von Verbulis, the Austrian-born architect who designed Helena’s famed St. Helena Cathedral, drew the plans for this impressive Greek Revival style building. Ionic columns supporting a full-height entry porch, denticulated cornice, and beautiful stained glass enhance the tall windows and light-colored brick. Today, St. Joseph’s Parish maintains its vibrant ethnic diversity, counting many of the original families among its membership.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Property:** St. Patrick's Convent

**Address:** 17 S. Washington, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** parish schools

**Subject 2:** convents (built complexes)

**Sign Text:**

Irish, Cornish, German, Finnish, Italian, and Slavic immigrants poured into the rough mining town of Butte during the 1880s. As the majority of these newcomers were Catholic and many brought their families, St. Patrick's Parish soon had need of a school. The Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth, who had come here in 1881 to establish St. James' Hospital, assumed the task of educating Butte's Catholic youth. By 1889, a new school building accommodated both elementary and high school classes. The sisters lived on the school's third floor until 1906, when this beautiful home was completed for them. Architect J. G. Link's design reflects the post-Victorian era trend toward revival styles and features intricate brickwork, classical detailing, and exquisite stained glass. An iron fence crowns the ashlar retaining wall fronting the property. This stately residence is today an integral part of the historic streetscape, representing the strong foundation of parochial education in Butte laid by its dedicated residents.

**Property:** Burton K. Wheeler House

**Address:** 1232 E 2nd St, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

In 1905, young New England attorney Burton Wheeler stepped off the train at Butte to stretch his legs, lost his money in a poker game, and decided to stay. Courtroom success quickly earned Wheeler a solid reputation. In 1908, Wheeler and his wife, Lulu, purchased this home, built in 1897 by Canadian warehouseman Herbert Carmichael. The Wheelers chose working-class South Butte as their home despite financial and political success, delighting in their unpretentious, hard-working and fun-loving Irish, Cornish, and Welsh neighbors. While in residence here, Wheeler served as state legislator and federal district attorney. The family moved to Washington, D.C., after Wheeler's election to the U.S. Senate in 1922. Although a Democrat, Wheeler ran for vice president on the Progressive Party ticket in 1924 and was a controversial figure throughout his long political career. The well-kept brick and frame residence, nestled close between its neighbors, retains its original turn-of-the-twentieth-century appearance. For this reason and for its important historical associations, the home merits a place of honor in this South Butte neighborhood.

**Property:** 125 East Center Street

**Address:** 125 East Center Street, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Approximately 77 percent of Centerville's male residents worked in the mines, and William Berryman, who owned this one-story, wood-frame, hipped-roof cottage, was no exception. One of the more common house types in Centerville, these four-square homes cost about \$750 to build in 1900. An English (undoubtedly Cornish) miner, William Berryman arrived in the United States in 1879 at age 17. Mary emigrated from England three years later at age 14. The two married in 1890 and purchased the land on which to build this house in 1897. The Berrymans still lived here in 1910, along with their 19-year-old daughter Anne, a music teacher. Centerville's substantial Cornish population attracted families like the Berrymans. These working-class emigrants from Cornwall socialized

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

together at the Hall of the Order of St. George and worshipped together at Trinity Methodist Episcopal Church, both an easy walk from the Berrymans'. Though its architecture speaks more to utility than ethnicity, the Berryman cottage stands as a reminder of all the Cornish mining families who made Centerville their home.

**Property:** Harry D'Acheul Residence

**Address:** 311 W Granite St, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

A gentle arch, a simple balustrade, and a pair of sloping columns frame the entrance of this quietly elegant residence dating to the mid-1880s. An exceptional example of the hip-roofed cottage with a central gable, the well-preserved Victorian-era home appears much as it did when first owned by druggist Harry D'Acheul. Unlike other homes in the neighborhood that share its architectural style, the fine interior furnishings here indicate that the residence was custom-built and not originally intended as a rental. An arched entryway, a square bay framed in decorative wood, and an ornamental ceiling medallion grace the formal dining room while original six-inch woodwork remains intact throughout. Also unusual for its size are the four chimneys, which serve a living room fireplace, a woodstove, the furnace, and the kitchen. D'Acheul, who lived here until the mid-1890s, no doubt found this location convenient to his wholesale and retail business on North Main.

**Property:** Milwaukee Depot

**Address:** 1003 S. Montana, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** railroad stations **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The tracks of the Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul and Pacific Railway were laid across Montana between 1907 and 1909. Completion of this final transcontinental line and the fierce competition it generated renewed interest in the railroads. Its far-reaching effects revitalized the lumber industry, boosted a sagging economy, encouraged agricultural expansion, and precipitated a homesteading boom. Completion of the line through Missoula solidified the town's role as a major urban and trading center. This splendid brick passenger depot was built in 1910. Its grandeur and stylistic sophistication are indicative of the railroad's importance to the town. Designed by architect J. A. Lindstrand, it is one of the finest examples of railroad station architecture in Montana, rivaling Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul and Pacific Railway stations in Butte and Great Falls. One of Missoula's few surviving remnants from the era of railroad supremacy, the design is particularly noteworthy for its castle-like appearance enhanced with contemporary poured concrete and Mission style detailing. Five-story and three-story towers crowned with Romanesque style windows, castle-like parapets, and Spanish tile roofs emphasize the monumental proportions of the two depot buildings. Now connected by a modern addition, the two-story building originally accommodated passengers while the one-story building was used for baggage. The depot's grand interior still boasts 15-foot coffered ceilings with milled wood beams, relief-paneled wainscoting, and elegant molded wood trim.

**Property:** St. Francis Apartments

**Address:** 110 S. Dakota, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** apartments **Subject 2:** commercial buildings

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

### Sign Text:

An open balcony adds architectural interest to this brick apartment building, constructed circa 1912 by the proprietress of the adjacent Parisian Dye Works, Maria Paumie Rimboud. Madame Rimboud was born in Paris and always spoke French with her employees. She brought a new method of cleaning when she came to Butte in 1889 to establish the town's first dry cleaning business. Her first husband died in 1899 and by 1910, she had married Constant Rimboud, proprietor of the Butte Dye Works. The couple lived next door at 60 West Galena and continued to manage their separate businesses into the 1920s. A series of additions link this address with the Paumie cleaning business to the north. A bracketed metal cornice, arched windows with granite keystones and sills, leaded glass transoms, and a polygonal side bay are attractive elements of the simplified bay-fronted flats that were built to provide multifamily housing during periods of rapid population growth. In 1915, the Francis Cafe occupied the ground floor, and for a short time in 1916, Madame Rimboud herself lived in the building.

**Property:** 931 Caledonia

**Address:** 931 Caledonia, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

Miner John Trevithick worked at the Leonard Mine in Meaderville when he built this one-story brick home in 1900. Such five-room, L-shaped dwellings provided affordable, attractive residences for many Butte miners. Front polygonal bays and mass-produced decorative detailing provided visual interest to the small Queen Anne style cottages. Trevithick stayed here only briefly before selling the house to longtime residents Fred and Clara Rowe, who lived here into the 1950s. Like Trevithick, Fred Rowe also worked in the copper industry, but mostly he managed to stay above ground. He was a storekeeper at the B and B Smelter when he and his wife purchased the residence in 1905. In later years, he worked as a foreman at the precipitation plant, where crews recovered copper from water pumped out of the mines. The Rowes, who raised three children in this home, added the second story in 1909. The addition's exposed rafters reflect the Craftsman style, which was fast replacing Queen Anne in popularity.

**Property:** 803 West Park

**Address:** 803 West Park, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

The Queen Anne style is beautifully expressed in this fashionable "gay nineties" residence of Arthur H. Mueller, longtime president of the Centennial Brewing Company. Built in 1895, it was also home to Mueller's in-laws, police court judge James C. Sullivan and his wife, Margaret. Two turrets, a wraparound porch, oriel and polygonal bay windows, and a gabled roof accentuate the asymmetry that is characteristic of the style. Scrolled brackets, Tuscan columns, and arched windows with stone sills enhance the brick-veneered façade, while an ashlar retaining wall topped by a vintage iron fence encloses the prominent corner lot. Original interior appointments such as elegant mahogany stairwork, woodwork, and columns rival those found in the mansions of the famed copper kings. Pocket doors and the original iridescent amber glass and brass lighting fixtures grace the formal first-floor rooms. A beautiful hand-painted mural in the dining room depicts a river scene so skillfully executed that the water appears to flow through the room and out one wall.

**Property:** Lynch Residence

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Address:** 517 Silver Street, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

In 1900, Sixth Ward alderman and assayer Albert G. Sienbenaler lived here, in what was then a one-story residence. The characteristic Queen Anne style home boasted a polygonal bay and open front porch. Some time before 1916, owners added a second story along with new ornamentation, including decorative wood paneling between the first- and second-story bay windows and a basket-arched window in the gable end. Paul Alberton owned the residence between 1906 and 1918. Alberton was co-proprietor of the famed M and M, a twenty-four-hour saloon and eatery that catered to off-shift miners. Margaret Lynch and her husband, federal district court judge Jeremiah Lynch, purchased the residence in 1918. In a classic rags-to-riches story, Judge Lynch emigrated from Ireland in 1890 and worked as a carman in the Anaconda Mine to earn money for law school. In 1906, he was elected to the district court. He served as a judge for thirty-seven years before retiring at age seventy-seven. Renowned for her hospitality, Margaret raised seven children here. Judge Lynch passed away in 1961, nine months after his ninetieth birthday.

**Property:** 727 West Daly Street

**Address:** 727 West Daly, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The younger brother of Walkerville merchants Joseph and George Broughton, James lived with George after arriving in the booming silver camp, sometime before 1885. Among his many jobs, James worked as a bartender, clerk, whisky distilling agent, traveling salesman, and for many years was Walkerville's city treasurer. When he and his wife, Sarah, moved into this Queen Anne cottage, he was serving as vice president of the Musicians Mutual Protective Union. Sarah and James likely had this home built for them circa 1907, the same year the streetcar company completed its line up Excelsior and along Daly Street. Gingerbread and fish-scale shingles decorate the gable end of the residence's polygonal bay. Behind the decorative bay is a hipped roof house, whose practical form typifies the working-class homes that line Walkerville's streets. Living here with the Broughtons was their daughter, Martha, a teacher and then the principal of Sherman Elementary School. Later residents included miner Paul Richards and his wife Florence (1929-1931) and Mountain States Telephone and Telegraph employee John Griffiths and his wife Hazel (1932-1939).

**Property:** Chequamegon Café

**Address:** 27 N. Main, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** restaurants **Subject 2:** hotels (public accommodations)

**Sign Text:**

Originally a three-story building, this old-timer was constructed circa 1884 as a restaurant and hotel. From 1888 to 1900, the upper floors were the Clarendon Lodging House managed by Anna Parker and later by Sophia Helmstedter and Mary Schmidt. The third story was removed during remodeling in 1915, and the Chequamegon Cafe opened here in 1917. It was a longtime favorite lunching place of both workers and copper kings. The name, derived from a word of Native American origin, proved a tongue-twister for many of the miner patrons, who called it the "Chew Quick and Be Gone Again." From 1926 to 1954, under manager Algot Hultman, the Chequamegon advertised as "We Never Close" and "That's All." Although the ground-floor windows and doorway

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

have been modernized, this early Butte building retains its original cast-iron storefront and fine decorative brickwork.

**Property:** 321 West Galena

**Address:** 321 West Galena, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** public schools (buildings)

**Subject 2:** military buildings

**Sign Text:**

Butte School District #1 constructed this attractive four-story building between 1918 and 1920 to house the high school's Manual Training Department. The United States Army Recruiting Center was located here during World War II and, later, from 1954 to 1963, it was the site of Butte Business College classes. Since its rear façade faces the back of the Masonic Temple, the building long provided a convenient meeting hall for Masonic youth groups. Architectural highlights include a fine circular arch framing the front entry, decorative stone trim separating the first and second floors, an ornamental cornice and windows with steel angle lintels, and stone sills. This well-maintained building, constructed of concrete with brick veneer, remains today virtually unaltered. Its excellent workmanship and design are ready evidence of the prosperity of the mining community in the early twentieth century.

**Property:** Paul Clark Home

**Address:** 207 South Excelsior, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The Associated Charities of Butte was organized during the late 1880s "to help the worthy poor to help themselves." While the early group focused on distributing food and clothing to the needy, the children's home at 542 Nevada soon became the pivot of its energies. The present facility was a gift from William A. Clark in memory of his fourteen-year-old son, Paul. Clark's \$20,000 gift was augmented by an additional \$10,000, and the home, begun in 1899, opened in March of 1900. Facilities included an office, reception room, library, dining room, kitchen, baths, dormitories, industrial classrooms, a two ward-hospital, and a nursery. Another gift of W. A. Clark in 1907 allowed interior remodeling and added a third story, more than tripling the capacity to 100 children. The expansive, beautifully preserved Classical Revival style complex is now the Paul Clark Home/McDonald's Family Place, which offers home-like accommodations for out-of-town families of hospitalized patients and out-patients.

**Property:** Paumie Block

**Address:** 58-60 W. Galena, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Maria and Camille Paumie came to Montana from France in 1887. They constructed the west half of this building circa 1890, known as the Parisian House; its furnished rooms were rented out under various proprietors. The bottom floor was the Parisian Dye Works, a dye house and dry-cleaning business run by the Paumies who also lived in the building. Paumie's was one of the town's first steam dry-cleaners. Located on the fringe of Butte's notorious red light district, much of Paumie's cleaning business was with the prostitutes who worked and lived just to the east. The business expanded in 1898 with the addition of the east half of the building. Camille Paumie died in 1899 and Maria continued the business until the 1920s. Paumie's Parisian Dye Works later had different

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

owners who retained the Paumie name. The original three-story masonry building, with its fine cast-iron storefront and metal “eyebrow” lintels, appears much as it did in the late 1890s. A complex of interconnected extensions link this address with 110 S. Dakota.

**Property:** Scott Block

**Address:** 15 West Copper, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** boardinghouses **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Single copper miners found ample accommodations at this fine boarding house, built in 1897 by the Scott family. The handsome brick building with its full-height opposing bays, transomed windows, bracketed wood cornice, and central name plate illustrates an urban solution to a mining camp problem: adequate and ample housing for single men. In 1910, boardinghouse keeper Mrs. Mary Long had thirteen lodgers, and all but one (a postal clerk) worked in the copper mining industry. Rented rooms were on the second and third floors. Mrs. Long had her own rooms on the ground floor, where she prepared meals and served her boarders. Extensive rehabilitation between 1991 and 1994 included a new metal roof like the original and restoration of interior transoms and rosette-trimmed woodwork. During these efforts, owners found a Prohibition Era treasure: concealed under the furnace room floor were two intact whiskey barrels.

**Property:** Chester Block

**Address:** 71 E Park, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Businessman Charles Steele financed the \$4,500 construction costs of this exceptional commercial block, designed by Butte architect James C. Teague, in 1917. The building is architecturally significant for its striking terra cotta ornamentation and historically important as the founding site of the Teamsters Union Local No. 2. This powerful group held its first meetings in the upstairs hall. The building’s upper story, with its multilight windows, terra cotta quoins, decorative name plate, and cornice, remains in pristine condition. Terra cotta, here painted cream-color in stunning contrast with the red brick, is a feature seldom seen in Butte. The original mosaic-tiled floor spans the length of the three ground-floor entrances. A cutlery shop long occupied one of the two commercial spaces, while the other once housed a mortuary.

**Property:** Harry W. Turner Residence

**Address:** 830 W Broadway, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Local legend has it that in 1915, Harry W. Turner jacked up the one-story 1890s house on this lot and constructed a new first floor beneath it. Telltale evidence is found in the twelve-foot first-floor ceilings—a height not typically found in one-story Butte homes—and gas pipes only on the second floor. Turner, a pioneer in the field of electricity, came to Butte in 1892 as general manager of the Silver Bow Electric Light Company. That company and several others consolidated to form the Montana Power Company in 1912 and Turner served on the board of directors. Syrian-born David Khoury, manager of a New York City-based carpet import business, later owned the home. Khoury founded the Syrian Peace Society, predecessor of the still-active Lebanese Peace Lodge. Lucille Bunker, who lived here from the 1940s to 1979, was an acclaimed caterer and “inventor” of the Butte cocktail



## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

pastry—a miniature version of the Cornish miner’s lunch. The home features deeply corniced beamed ceilings, a library with leaded glass doors, and a third-floor ballroom.

**Property:** Lee Mantle House

**Address:** 213 N. Montana, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

This splendid, highly visible Victorian-era residence was the home of politician Lee Mantle, who was elected to the territorial legislature in 1882, served as a U.S. Senator from 1895 to 1899, and as mayor of Butte in 1892. That same year local architect H. M. Patterson built Mantle’s uptown commercial block and extensively remodeled this 1880s wood-frame home. Patterson, whose imaginative designs color many of Butte’s streetscapes, creatively adapted contemporary architectural forms. This striking brick-veneered home features a projecting bay with French doors, a rounded bay with curved glass windows, and a two-story porch supported by elegant Tuscan columns. Additional wings built in the 1920s reflect the change from a residence to a mortuary, which is now owned and operated by Duggan Dolan Mortuary.

**Property:** Federal Building

**Address:** 400-408 N Main, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** public buildings (governmental buildings) **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

For one dollar copper king Marcus Daly and J. H. Leyson donated the land to construct this massive brick and stone civic building. Local builders Shackleton and Whiteway won the bid for the \$279,000 building, and groundbreaking took place in October of 1902. An excellent representation of early-twentieth-century civic architecture, the design features elements of the then-popular Beaux Arts style with neo-classical embellishments and an ornately appointed interior. Dedication took place in December 1904, with the U.S. post office and federal courts as the first occupants. The building later housed offices for the Department of Agriculture and the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

**Property:** Mountain View Trinity United Methodist Church

**Address:** 203 West Quartz, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** churches (buildings) **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

A prominent location on a corner lot allows full appreciation of this grand church, built in 1899. Its unknown designer employed a central tower as the focal point, with two arched entrances and double windows the length of the tower on either side. Triple-arched windows richly enhanced by stained glass dominate both the south and east façades. Architecturally similar to the First Baptist Church built two blocks north a few years later, the two ecclesiastical buildings share a semicircular arrangement of pews in the sanctuary. In 1906, the church was the site of a lecture delivered by noted social reformer and photographer Jacob Riis.

**Property:** Salvation Army Building

**Address:** 121 E Broadway, Butte, Silver Bow

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** assembly halls

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Expansion of the mining industry during the 1880s bred a darker side to Butte's "get rich quick" appeal. Foreign-born miners poured into Butte, often arriving hungry and homeless. The large immigrant population, combined with families left indigent through mining-related accidents, generated an acute need for charitable services. The Salvation Army thus came to Butte in 1888. Assistance included day care for children, housing for the needy, occasional midwifery, and even domestic help. In addition, old-timers recall the rousing free concerts performed every Saturday night by the organization's band. Circa 1923, the Salvation Army relocated to this fine, newly completed building, where its charitable mission continues today.

**Property:** Ivanhoe Block

**Address:** 75-76 E Park Street, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Lawyers Robert McBride and Patrick Talent originally owned this three-story commercial/residential building designed by architect George De Snell. Built in 1905, it was one of several brick buildings that replaced frame stores, liveries, and brothels formerly occupying the street. Charles Cutler's barbershop and Joseph Boulet's bakery were early tenants. In 1910, the two opened the Iona Pool and Billiard Hall where Butler continued to give haircuts and sell cigars. When fire severely damaged the building in 1913, architect De Snell made the repairs and remodeled all three floors. The three tall arched bays, beautiful brickwork, and ornately carved stone on the upper two floors remain intact.

**Property:** Owsley Block

**Address:** 41-45 E Park St, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

A pair of two-story projecting bays, rounded balconies, and slender columns with ornate bracketing give this former hotel a delightful nineteenth-century charm. Built in 1889 by early settler and former Butte mayor William Owsley, the Owsley Block housed the Hoffman Hotel (which offered rooms to let on the upper two floors) and ground-floor commercial space. A variety of early tenants included a drugstore, liquor store, restaurant, the Scotch Woolen Mills tailor shop, and Albert Keene shoes. In 1929, Hoffman's still offered upstairs lodging. The bays have been faithfully restored to their turn-of-the-twentieth-century appearance and "mock" windows painted on the building's sides indicate original window placement.

**Property:** Thornton Hotel

**Address:** 53 E Broadway, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings

**Subject 2:** hotels (public accommodations)

**Sign Text:**

The emerging talent of architect H. M. Patterson is evident in this early example of his work, built circa 1890. Named for prominent local resident and Civil War veteran Colonel J. C. C. Thornton (who died in 1887), the stately hotel featured first-floor commercial space and upper-level apartments. Patterson's distinctive Richardsonian

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

Romanesque-inspired style here includes grand third-floor arches and the mixed textures of brick and stone on the façade, elements that were soon to invigorate Butte's streetscape. The first-floor interior boasts an open oak staircase, cast-iron columns, and ornate tin ceiling, which no doubt impressed hotel guests.

**Property:** Federal Building

**Address:** 400-408 N Main, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** public buildings (governmental buildings)

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Despite extreme weather, unstable material markets, a scarcity of labor, and congested railway traffic caused by World War I, this imposing public building was completed on schedule in 1917. Originally built to house the U.S. Post Office, Forest Service, Land Office, and the Weather Bureau, its appearance represents the influential presence of the federal government in the Flathead Valley. James A. Wetmore of the U.S. Treasury Department was the supervising architect. The Kalispell Bee described the Colonial Revival style building as one of the state's most beautiful edifices. Its interior was a vision of "marble, hardwood, polished brass and gleaming walls." The first floor housed the post office and postal workroom, outfitted with "every thought for convenience," including shutters and peep holes through which the postal inspector could secretly view the workers. The lobby was paved with red tile, and an iron gate across the stairway to upper level federal offices allowed customers after-hour access to postal boxes. A spiral staircase led to the roof, where the weather observer's instruments were installed. The observation equipment was connected to the weatherman's office by cables so he could "tell all about the weather without going outdoors." Sensitive expansion in 1978 by the Flathead County Library preserved the building's outward grandeur, highlighted by elliptical windows, balustraded roof, and overall symmetry. Although the interior was significantly altered, a few original interior finishings do remain intact, including the red tile paving.

**Property:** St. Mary's Church

**Address:** 440 N Main, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** churches (buildings)

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Square towers, a central circular window, and stained glass grace this Catholic church, which long represented the heart and soul of Butte's Irish community. St. Mary's Parish, founded in 1902 by Bishop John Brondel, encompassed a neighborhood of miners and tradesmen. Fire destroyed the original St. Mary's Church on Wyoming Street in August of 1931. Pastor J. M. Nolan and his congregation laid the cornerstone for this church the following December on land donated by the Anaconda Copper Mining Company. The new St. Mary's remained an integral part of community life until the parishes of St. Lawrence O'Toole and St. Mary combined in 1978. Today St. Mary's houses the headquarters of Our Lady of the Rockies Foundation.

**Property:** 645-652 South Main

**Address:** 649-651 South Main, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** apartments

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

John Rafferty constructed this five-family flat between 1901 and 1915. A plasterer by trade, he saw Butte's building boom firsthand and knew that rental properties were in high demand. The two-story walkup has brick arches over the windows and raised brick corbelling along the parapet. Its most prominent feature is its two-story

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

open front porch, with an external staircase leading to the second floor. The design was relatively common. Butte's high property values meant that builders did not want to waste potential living space on interior hallways. Additionally, the open porches gave even second-floor residents access to the outside. The apartment housed a mix of families. In 1910, Charles and Angeline Laramie had owned their own farm, but in 1920, fifty-three-year-old Charles worked as a laborer. The Laramies lived here with their four children, including two grown sons, both copper miners. Their neighbors in the building included the families of coffeehouse manager Steve Kuelic and bookkeeper Mike Sullivan. Also living here was widow Effie Long and her two grown daughters, Grace (a bookstore clerk) and Lucretia (an insurance examiner).

**Property:** Forbis Block

**Address:** 45-47 E Broadway, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Originally a hotel with ground-floor offices, this three-story masonry building typifies the combination lodging/commercial space demanded by Butte's growing population. Lawyer James W. Forbis financed construction of the building circa 1889. He and John F. Forbis opened ground-floor law offices here in 1890, and James remained until after 1903. Though the masonry walls have been stuccoed, windows replaced, and the original storefront modified, stone windowsills and an outer staircase with wood beaded wainscoting remain intact. The Forbis Block is significant today for its associations with Butte's copper boom years, 1888-1916, and retains its original residential/commercial function.

**Property:** M.J. Connell House

**Address:** 301 W Granite, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Exceptionally fine craftsmanship and an intriguing combination of styles characterize this early and very elegant brick-veneered home, built in 1880. In 1892, dry goods merchant Michael J. Connell commissioned local architect Charles Prentice, known for his creative façades, to add the east wing, bay, and porch to Connell's Second Empire style residence. Exquisite stained glass and the Queen Anne style porch, embellished in the Eastlake tradition with elaborately cut wood and carved details, reveal the high quality of Prentice's work. Restoration, ongoing since 1955, has included the addition of copper shingles on the mansard roof.

**Property:** 726 North Montana

**Address:** 726 North Montana, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Dubbed "the largest, busiest, and richest mining camp in the world today" in an 1885 magazine feature, Butte grew quickly from 3,300 residents in 1880 to over 10,000 in 1890. Among the miners flocking to Butte was Joseph Dillon, who immigrated to the United States from England in the 1861. By 1885, he worked at the Lexington (one of the camp's early silver mines) and lived on "upper Montana street" with his wife Mary and the first of their seven children. The Dillons resided in a one-story wooden residence, adding a large front porch by 1900. Between 1900 and 1916, the family replaced their modest dwelling with this brick-veneered Queen Anne-style two-story

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

home. Decorative brick corbelling along the cornice and a two-story bay window define the exterior. As was common, the Dillons' grown children lived at home until they married and their wages (earned as a stenographer, wagon driver, and office worker) almost certainly helped pay for the transformation. Joseph died in 1912, but Mary continued to live here until her death in 1936. Her son Eugene and his family occupied the home through the 1940s.

**Property:** 403-407 West Mercury

**Address:** 403-407 West Mercury, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** apartments **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The gambrel roof of this splendid 1890s bay-fronted duplex readily illustrates how a typical turn-of-the-century architectural plan could be adapted to achieve individual distinction. Unusual details in a botanical motif include leaf-like roof brackets and pink stained glass flowers in the upstairs transoms. Asymmetrical arches embellished with fans further illustrate eclectic Victorian-era tastes. First owner Louis Freudenstein, a German miner, died in 1899 while the building was under construction. His widow, Christiana, moved in shortly thereafter with her eight children. By 1910, Daniel and Sarah Thomas, who lived next door at 403, owned the building. Christina Freudenstein and her six sons remained as tenants along with two boarders and a servant. John Rooney, who was business agent for the Bartender's Union, occupied the other side with his wife and eight children. The Freudensteins continued as tenants until the 1920s. After Daniel Thomas died in 1922, Sarah had the original duplex converted into four apartments.

**Property:** John E. Davis Home

**Address:** 855 W. Granite, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

A myriad of Victorian-era details makes this splendid residence and its next-door neighbor, built by brothers John E. and A. J. Davis, true period showcases. Known as the "Twin Sisters," these mirror-image homes were constructed in 1891 for the handsome sum of \$7,000 each. Steeply pitched roofs with front-facing gables, bay windows, and asymmetrical façades are hallmarks of the Queen Anne style. Among the many decorative elements are fish-scale shingles, elaborate bargeboards on the gable ends, and windows framed in small square lights. Turned posts and balustrades, delicate lattice-like bases, and scrolled brackets that grace the porches are fine examples of Eastlake detailing. Matching stained glass windows on the opposing sides of each home were crafted in a Tiffany glass shop once located in Butte. The original owner, grocer and hardware merchant John Davis, was an amateur painter and taxidermist who filled the home with the fruit of his talents. Following John's untimely death in 1913, his widow lived in the home until the 1940s.

**Property:** 414 West Granite

**Address:** 414 West Granite, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Butte's architectural diversity is legendary, and this Mission style home adds to that reputation. The Mission style traces its roots to Hispanic California and in Montana, it most frequently appears in civic, rather than residential, buildings. Butte's copper king W. A. Clark, for example, employed the style for his celebrated Columbia Gardens

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

amusement park. This is Butte's only residential example of the style. A stucco exterior; heavy, square columns; and a shaped parapet are the style's hallmarks. Its rich interior features ceilings with exposed beams, inlaid floors, and oak, teak, and walnut woodwork. The original cloth tapestry wallpaper and an exquisite stained glass window grace the dining room. Arthur L. Schimpf acquired title of the property from the Joseph Schlitz Brewing Company and built the home in 1908. Schimpf was the proprietor of the famous Atlantic Saloon, a Butte fixture that reputedly had the longest bar in the world. Longtime property owners Michael L. and Christy McGrath, also bar owners, brought an additional unique connection: Christy's grandfather was once a bartender at the Atlantic Saloon.

**Property:** 409 West Boardman

**Address:** 409 West Boardman, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

William A. Clark is better known as a copper king than a community builder, but in fact, the mining magnate invested heavily in Butte. He owned stock in the streetcar, electric, and water companies and built the popular Columbia Gardens amusement park. He was also an active real estate developer in working-class Centerville. Clark sold this lot to English-born miner George Tippet and his wife Elizabeth in 1901, carefully reserving the right to all ores and minerals below ground. However, he tempered that claim with the promise not to damage the surface, making the Tippetts' property more secure than many of their neighbors'. The Tippetts built this one-story, five-room Queen Anne style cottage as an investment, selling the residence a year later. The home sold again in 1906, this time to next-door neighbor Annie Quill. Quill had lost her husband three years earlier to "miner's consumption," a lung disease that claimed a Butte miner a day. The widowed mother of nine rented the property to her daughter Rose and Rose's husband Patrick Calpin, a blacksmith at the mines.

**Property:** Phoenix Building

**Address:** 66 W. Park, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Symons Department Store suffered two major setbacks before it moved into this longtime location in 1906. Founded by William and Henry Symons and J. E. and H. E. Oppenheimer in 1897, the original store building collapsed in 1898 during remodeling, when a structural beam was removed. Rebuilt in sixty days, that building served until 1905, when fire caused the store a \$250,000 loss. But like the legendary phoenix, Symons rose again here in its magnificent new fire-proof home a year later. The store, which spread over the first three floors, then proclaimed itself the largest department store in the state. In 1922, Symons' 300 employees honored their bosses with a bronze plaque and heartfelt cheers on the store's twenty-fifth anniversary. Mayor James Cocking declared that the feeling between manager and laborer at Symons was "... in line with the new democracy among the working public..." The store stayed in business until 1964. Although brick and plate glass have replaced the original rusticated stone pillars and paned windows, architect Herman Kemna's splendid turn-of-the-century design remains intact.

**Property:** 123 North Main Street

**Address:** 123 North Main Street, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Cast-iron pilasters, a metal cornice, interior hardwood paneling and a pressed metal ceiling are reminders of the varied remodelings of this early commercial building, constructed before 1884. In 1895, architect H. M. Patterson remodeled the building for \$5,000, adding a cast-iron storefront. By 1910, Clerke's Clothing Store occupied both this building and the one next door. Store president Samuel Clerke installed the metal cornice joining the two buildings. During the 1930s at this address Butte's immensely popular Spokane Cafe served a sizeable clientele. The building's most significant use, however, occurred in 1905. During that year the Woman's Protective Union (W.P.U.), predecessor of today's Hotel and Restaurant Employees International Union and the nation's first union for women, met upstairs. This pivotal organization was founded in Butte in 1893 so that women would not "...be behind their brothers in demanding their rights."

**Property:** Delphine Demordaunt Residence

**Address:** , Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Delphine DeMordaunt arrived in Montana in 1877 with her bartender husband Julius, a charming and well-read Civil War veteran, who subscribed to forty-five newspapers a week. After Julius died in 1902, Delphine applied for a war widow's pension; that, with the money she earned as a dressmaker at Hennessy's Department Store, allowed her to purchase this house on contract from the Daniel J. Hennessy estate in 1908. Five-room, hipped-roof cottages with daylight basements and full-length front porches are one of Butte's most common housing forms. Inexpensive and quick to build, these foursquare homes resemble company housing in southern mill towns and other communities with large working-class populations. Constructed between 1900 and 1908, this brick-veneered hipped-roof cottage looks much as it did when Delphine moved here with her eighty-two-year-old mother. By 1920, her grandson Paul managed a theater, helping to support Delphine and her daughter-in-law Theresa. After Delphine's death in 1924 at age seventy-one, Theresa—also a seamstress—continued in residence. She remained here until shortly before her death at age eighty-seven in 1964.

**Property:** F and W Grand Building

**Address:** 22 West Park Street, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Walter Arnold, architect for the Butte Civic Center, designed this commanding two-story commercial building, which covers a full city block. It replaced four existing businesses and was built to house a branch of the F and W Grand Silver Store, a dry goods emporium. This was the national chain's ninety-sixth store, built at a cost of \$200,194 in 1930. One of the few major downtown buildings constructed during the Depression, the project helped local businesses because all related building contracts were awarded locally. Black and gold Montana marble quarried at Radersburg and white-glazed terra cotta complement the dark brown brickwork and concrete, while terra cotta lions keep vigil atop the parapet wall.

**Property:** St. Lawrence O'Toole Church

**Address:** 1306 N Main, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** churches (buildings)

**Subject 2:**

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

### Sign Text:

Bishop Brondel created Butte's second Catholic parish, that of St. Lawrence O'Toole, in 1897. Constructed with \$25,000 raised by miners' subscription on land donated by the Butte and Boston Mining Company, the Gothic Revival style church was completed that year in time for Christmas Day mass. Although a central steeple has been removed, the wood-frame building remains as excellent example of period ecclesiastical architecture, featuring exquisite fresco paintings (circa 1906) on its interior wood-beamed ceiling. The exterior was painted white in the 1960s for the filming of an episode of the television series "Route 66." The St. Lawrence Preservation Committee, founded in 1988, maintains this architectural treasure for the community.

**Property:** Iona Café

**Address:** 16 S. Main St, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial structures

**Subject 2:** restaurants

### Sign Text:

The Gagnon Realty Company constructed a single-story building on this site in 1914, adding the second floor before 1916. Mosaic tiles at the entrance proclaim the business of its early tenant, baker Joseph Boulet, who moved his Iona Cafe and Baking Company here from Park Street in 1915. In 1917, the Iona became the State Cafe, and so it remained through the 1960s. An ornate metal cornice, decorative brickwork, transomed windows, and a sign for "Flor de Baltimore" painted on the north wall recall another era. Underneath the building is an excellent example of the subterranean passageways that crisscross the city. These passageways delivered steam heat to downtown businesses. Local tradition has it that Butte's Chinese population used these passageways before the turn of the twentieth century and later, that they served as a delivery system during Prohibition.

**Property:** William Orton Residence

**Address:** 1039 North Broadway, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

According to a prominent nineteenth-century architect, the Renaissance Revival style suggested "simplicity, grandeur, order and philosophical calm." That description certainly holds true for this two-story residence designed by George De Snell in 1910. Stately brackets decorate the wide overhanging eaves, two grand chimneys extend from the hipped roof, and an ornamental iron fence, made by Butte Carriage Works, separates the tranquil home from the public street. William and Mildred Orton and their children lived here from 1911 through 1923. An early Butte pioneer, William and his brothers owned "the most prominent music house" in the region. At their store on North Main, they sold pianos, organs, and other merchandise. In 1923, Anaconda Copper Mining Company vice president, James Hobbins, purchased the residence. When Hobbins moved to company headquarters in New York City in 1936, he sold the home to ACM general counsel William Hoover. Designed for gracious living, the residence still has a bell system. Buzzers throughout the house still ring numbered bells in the kitchen, echoing the call to servants for assistance.

**Property:** M & M Cigar Store

**Address:** 9 W. Main, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings

**Subject 2:** saloons (bars)



## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

### Sign Text:

Sam Martin and William F. Mosby were the first of many proprietors of the legendary saloon, eatery, and gambling house that has operated here since 1890. Although Martin and Mosby's tenure was short, Butte's love of nicknames endured and their initials remain on the M and M. For more than a century the M and M never rested, serving customers around the clock. The doors were always unlocked; each subsequent owner ceremoniously and publicly disposed of the keys. The M and M catered to miners coming off their shifts while the kitchen served bountiful breakfasts at any hour of the day or night. When Prohibition hit, the M and M followed other Butte bars, officially becoming a cigar store. Cigars sold in the front discreetly cloaked the speakeasy in the back room where the liquor continued to flow. The 1940s Art Deco ground-floor façade, the M and M's spectacular neon sign, and the vintage 1890s upper level have been refurbished, restoring architectural vitality to a landmark that has provided food, drink, and diversion to generations of Butte residents.

**Property:** Imperial Block

**Address:** 78-82 East Park, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings

**Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

The changing character of East Park Street is well documented in the history of this rooming house, built as an investment in 1900 by Abraham Wehl. By this time, Butte's first red light district, located on the block in the 1870s and early 1880s, had been firmly re-established to the south on nearby Galena and Mercury Streets. Handsome business blocks like this one, which replaced dilapidated mining camp buildings, brought some measure of respectability. Records show that residents at the Imperial were primarily miners and others who worked nearby but in 1910 under proprietress Mamie Smith, the fifty residents included nine prostitutes. Prohibition and reforms brought further change to the neighborhood evident by 1920 when Hugh Quinn, a family man with six children, was tenant landlord. His thirty-three roomers were all men (predominantly miners) or couples with children. Like most rooming houses of the time, second- and third-floor lodgings were arranged around a central skylight with ground-floor commercial space. The cast iron storefront, graceful upper-story arches, and decorative brickwork well represent turn-of-the-century Butte.

**Property:** Joseph Richards, Undertaker

**Address:** 15 So Montana Street, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** funeral homes

**Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

Joseph Richards came to Butte in 1892 and established an undertaking parlor in the Stephens Block on West Park. Victorian-era funerals were customarily conducted from the home of the deceased. It was the undertaker's job to help the family prepare the body, provide the casket and mourning paraphernalia, and make burial arrangements. As undertaking establishments began to conduct funerals on the premises, the need arose for more diverse facilities. In 1907, Richards built this building as a funeral home, which offered a parlor for services, morgue, workroom, casket display room, and upstairs living quarters. It was the first such facility built in Butte, and the first in Montana to possess a motorized hearse. Although decorative sandstone covers the original first floor brick, the three display windows and transoms are unchanged. The original Renaissance Revival styling is readily evident in the handsome three-bay second story, which features a polygonal oriel window, beveled glass transoms, and stone trim. In 1974, the Fraternal Order of Eagles Aerie #11 purchased the building for use as a lodge.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Property:** Ellis and Martha Passmore Residence

**Address:** 827 West Mercury, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Prominent real estate developer Charles Passmore built three homes on this block in 1901, all for family members. Nephew Ellis Passmore, a coal merchant, and his wife Martha lived in this transitional Queen Anne/Colonial Revival style home. Patterned wood shingles decorating the gable end and diamond-shaped insets in the windowpanes echoed the late nineteenth century's love of ornamentation; the otherwise relatively unadorned residence reflected the new century's trend toward simplicity. Walter and Armandie Mueller bought this home in 1909. Walter was treasurer for the family-owned Centennial Brewery, which advertised its beer with the slogan "A Million Glasses a Day. Somebody Must Like It." In 1918, the residence became home to pawnbroker Nathan Netzner and his wife Eva. Part of Butte's thriving Jewish community, the couple spoke both Yiddish and English. According to local sources, the Netzners constructed a "Prohibition closet" in the basement—a semi-secret room that extended underground beyond the residence's original foundation. After Nathan died in 1926, Eva took over management of his Owl Loan Service. She continued to live here into the 1940s.

**Property:** Rocky Mountain Bottling Works

**Address:** 803 S. Arizona, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

A myriad of rail-dependent businesses located in this area during the last decades of the nineteenth century, Hinds and Company, proprietors of the Rocky Mountain Bottling Works and agents for the Anheuser-Busch Brewing Association, moved here in 1897. In 1900, the operation included a bottling plant at the front loading platform along the railroad siding to the south and an ice house with adjacent keg storage. The tin floor of the ice house is intact and the heavy beams supporting it are still visible. A stable at the rear accommodated the company's teams; its bricked-in windows document the passing of horse-drawn delivery. Proprietors Browne and Finnigan commissioned Nelson and Pederson to rebuild the frame facility in 1911. The flat parapeted roofs and ornamental brickwork are characteristic of Butte's Industrial buildings. On the eve of Prohibition in 1916, the front building was a soda bottling plant and beer was still stored in the two-story section. By 1920, the company was out of business. Bottles embossed with "Rocky Mountain Bottling Works – Butte" are today prized among antique collectors.

**Property:** Steven's and Manley Hall

**Address:** 1101 Utah, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

South Butte and the main business district up the hill grew toward each other as the streetcar line along Utah Street connected the two parts of the city. By the turn of the twentieth century, spaces between the two areas had disappeared and neighborhood proprietors like Thomas Manley and Charles Stevens did a brisk business. The partners' grocery, built in 1909 for \$10,000, was a longtime neighborhood fixture, which operated under the name of Stevens and Manley Grocers until circa 1945. Glazed and unpainted red brick, granite-trimmed windows, and three bands of simple corbelling reflect the straightforward architectural trends of the early twentieth century. Bricked-in doorways document subtle changes over time. Like many of its contemporaries, the building

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

housed a second floor lodge hall. The Catholic Order of Foresters met here twice a month and in 1911, the hall temporarily served as St. Joseph's Catholic Church after fire destroyed the church proper.

**Property:** 1201 North Alabama Street

**Address:** 1201 North Alabama Street, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Well-known Butte realtor E. Sterrett Shields and his family were the longtime residents of this interesting home, built just after the turn of the twentieth century. Shields was secretary/treasurer of the Butte Land and Investment Company and a nephew of its founder, S. V. Kemper. The firm developed much of the West Side, specializing in "installment sales." Shields, who lived here from 1908 to 1941, had established his own real estate business by 1917. He advertised opposite his uncle in the city directory, "We court investigation. If we haven't what you want, we'll find it." The Colonial Revival style home features a full-front gambrel roof, gambrel gable, and open porch with Tuscan columns. Bay and diamond-paned windows are reminiscent of the Victorian-era Queen Anne style. A band of windows above the porch and square sloping column supports reflect the newer Craftsman style. This adventurous mixture is an attractive bridge between the architecture of late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

**Property:** 825 West Park

**Address:** 825 West Park, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The gables, porches, and elegant detailing of the Victorian-era homes along this picturesque block compose a neighborhood streetscape reminiscent of San Francisco. This distinguished example, built circa 1893, was once the exact twin of its next door neighbor. Attorney Joseph McCaffery, who owned the property in the 1920s, remodeled the front façade in 1922. Decorative window hoods set it apart from its neighbors while an elaborately corbeled chimney and richly patterned stained glass transom reflect vintage fashion. The Tuscan columns which support the porch are a feature particularly common to the homes along this block. Interior appointments include original cut glass chandeliers in the dining room and entry hall, parquet floors, and simple but refined fireplace and stairway finishings. Butte businessman James Canty, president of the Brownfield-Canty Carpet Company, lived in the home from 1897 to circa 1915. Canty's business was one of the state's largest dealers in furniture, carpets, stoves, and household furnishings.

**Property:** Leonard Apartments

**Address:** 205 W. Granite, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** apartments **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Turn-of-the-twentieth-century social critics viewed apartment living as "the most dangerous enemy American domesticity has had to encounter." Butte investors ignored this admonition, constructing the fashionable Leonard Apartments in 1906 to help solve an unprecedented demand for housing. Designed by Butte architect William A. O'Brien, this massive brick building with its graceful twin curved bays, overhanging cornice, and decorative lion medallions lent the city an urban flair. In 1910, the Leonard Cafe advertised that it was "the best place in Butte to

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

dine.” Patrons could enjoy a complete dinner for fifty cents. Even today the upward sweep of the building’s façade is impressive, proclaiming the caliber of its architect.

**Property:** Evans Residence

**Address:** 849 W. Galena, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Architect William A. O’Brien designed this grandly scaled Craftsman style bungalow for prominent attorney Lewis O. Evans circa 1906. The stunning home incorporates Craftsman style characteristics, but its magnificent gabled dormers and prominent corner location make it a Butte landmark. After the foundation was laid, Mrs. Evans reputedly insisted on adding a library cast of the living room; thus, the home has a second foundation. Unusual interior appointments include imported Italian marble, Mexican tile, and a fireplace sheathed in copper floor to ceiling. Evans earned his fine reputation as an expert in mining law in partnership with attorney John F. Forbis. He subsequently served as general counsel for the Amalgamated Copper Mining Company from 1914 until his death in 1931. Involved in a number of precedent-setting cases during the long span of his career, Evans was also much admired for his “colossal intellect and rare understanding.” The Montana Standard paid Evans this tribute: “Men loved Mr. Evans because he never forgot, never passed them by.”

**Property:** 817 West Galena Street

**Address:** 817 West Galena Street, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Butte’s giant copper industry brought workers crowding into every available space. Residential building lots were at a premium and yards nearly nonexistent at the end of the nineteenth century. This Queen Anne style cottage, built circa 1897, illustrates the need to construct houses close together to achieve maximum living space. The residence was likely built as an investment. Its first tenants were mining engineer Josiah Trerise, his wife Annie, and her mother and brother. By 1904, owner John L. Hurzeler, his wife Elizabeth, and daughter Gladys were in residence. A blacksmith by trade, Hurzeler was a founder and partner in the Butte Carriage Works, Montana’s largest carriage manufacturer. The longtime business weathered the transition from horses to cars by switching to automobile repairs in the 1920s. When Hurzeler died in 1940, Elizabeth kept the family home for another decade. A small “eyebrow” dormer rising out of the hipped roof, a front gable embellished with patterned shingles, and a decorative iron fence capping the retaining wall lend the home its distinctive personality.

**Property:** Hawke Residence

**Address:** 712 West Broadway, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

John and Elizabeth Hawke moved into their newly constructed home circa 1903. The brick-veneered residence features an elegant two-story bay, which, along with the low hipped roofline and the brackets under the wide, projecting eaves, reflects the Italianate style. The roof was originally rolled tin. The low-cost, light-weight, water, and fire proof material was popular in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The original wrought iron fence, manufactured by Chas. W. Lane of Butte, defines the yard. John Hawke owned a livery stable and invested widely in other Butte enterprises. The respected, conservative businessman represented the well-to-do Fourth

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

Ward on the Butte City Council from 1911 to 1913, a period when working-class Socialists dominated city government. His unexpected death at age 46 cut short his tenure as alderman. Elizabeth died five years later, in 1917, also at age 46, leaving the home to her oldest daughter Nora. In 1920, Nora lived here with her five siblings, ages 28 to 20, her brother-in-law, and a young niece and two young nephews. She sold the residence in the early 1940s.

**Property:** 823 West Park

**Address:** 823 West Park, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

James H. Lynch was a man of many hats. Lumber, livery, mine development, hotel management, and wholesale liquor are but a few of his successful business ventures. A founder of the Silver Bow National Bank, Lynch also owned substantial Butte real estate and served terms as alderman and city council president. In 1894, President Grover Cleveland appointed Lynch postmaster of Butte, and he served a four-year term. Although James and Mary Lynch had no children, they opened their home to a niece and nephew, who lived with them in 1900. A turn-of-the-century biographer noted, "In their beautiful home in Butte, Mr. and Mrs. Lynch evince a truly western hospitality." The 1890s residence, built as the twin of its next door neighbor, is little altered. Elegant period details include a pedimented porch trimmed in dentils, Tuscan columns, and miniaturized classical motifs on the entry door. An ornamental iron fence, crafted by the Butte Carriage Works, fronts the property.

**Property:** Virginia Apartments

**Address:** 230 S. Washington, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** apartments **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Excellence of design, thoughtful planning and careful owners have allowed this exceptional apartment building to survive the test of time. Essentially unchanged inside and out, the four-story building on its prominent corner is an excellent example of Butte's early twentieth century urban character. Woodwork handsomely finished in mahogany, hardwood floors, French doors, and plenty of natural lighting combined with well-designed space to offer moderately affluent couples and small families a marvelous alternative to the single-family home. The twenty-five studio units are just as gracious and comfortable today as when they were built in 1916. Most apartments feature a living room, dining room, sleeping alcove, and small modernized kitchen. Originally, a Murphy bed tucked into an adjoining walk-in closet converted the dining room to a bedroom. Even the Otis elevator, which carried the first residents to their respective floors, is still in service.

**Property:** William Symons Residence

**Address:** 9 N. Excelsior, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

A graceful rounded portico with Ionic columns and a central square bay with French doors highlight the perfect symmetry of this grand Classical Revival style residence of tan brick veneer and red sandstone trim. Elegant details include elaborate brackets, dentils, a round window, and full-width veranda. Classical harmony carries through to the interior in a perfectly symmetrical floorplan. Fine turn-of-the-century appointments include a dining room

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

with the original leather-clad walls, inlaid oak flooring, and pocket doors throughout the first floor. Local contractor Byron Whitney built the home circa 1908 for the William Symons family. Symons, with his brother Harry, founded Butte's premier department store in 1897. Wholesale grocer Charles Youlden was the next owner from the mid-1920s until his death in 1940. Among his many philanthropic and civic contributions, Youlden was the longtime director of the YMCA. The prestigious, well-maintained home remains a prominent Butte landmark and attractive neighborhood anchor.

**Property:** Pleasant Alley "Venus Alley"

**Address:** South Wyoming Street, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** site; contributing

**Subject 1:** brothels **Subject 2:** alleys (streets)

**Sign Text:**

Brick pavement is the only enduring feature of this once-promiscuous alley of national ill repute. By the 1890s, Pleasant Alley and other smaller alleys were the dingy backyards where the less favored women of Butte's sprawling red light district eked out a living. In halfhearted response to reform-conscious citizens, officials decreed in 1903 that prostitutes and their one-room "cribs" fronting Galena and Mercury streets were too visible. The city ordered these "public" women to don high-necked blouses, lengthen their skirts and lower their blinds in an attempt to curtail open solicitation. Instead they took to alleys like this one, pushing their less fortunate sisters into the district's even darker recesses. In many cases, windows and doors were simply cut into the backs of the existing cribs. Prohibition and World War I closed the alleys in 1917. In the 1930s, illicit business activity resumed on a smaller scale along this street, renamed "Venus Alley," until all cribs were closed by federal law in 1943.

**Property:** 831 West Granite

**Address:** 831 West Granite, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The Queen Anne style is beautifully interpreted in this Victorian-era showpiece built circa 1891. The T-shaped residence features unusual elements including mock brick quoins at the corners and a large front window with an arched upper light of stained glass cutwork. The decorative bargeboard in the gable, common in early Carpenter Gothic styles on the frontier, is unusual for the 1890s in Butte. After several other occupants, Judge John Lindsay settled into the home in 1908. Lindsay came to Butte in 1889 as private secretary and legal counsel to Marcus Daly. Lindsay's main task was examination of right-of-way titles for Daly's railroad ventures. Lindsay went into private practice three years later, served a term as district judge and returned to private practice until his retirement in the late 1930s. Lindsay and his first wife, Cora, raised their three children here. She was bedridden after a stroke in 1916 and died in 1921. Lindsay later married Mrs. Kathryn Ryan. Widowed in 1943, Kathryn Lindsay remained at home until her death in 1950.

**Property:** John Benton Leggat Residence

**Address:** 401 W. Granite, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Elaborate and elegant on its eye-catching corner, this well-tended gabled and turreted Victorian-era home was built circa 1897 for mining engineer J. Benton Leggat. Bowed glass, a diamond-paned window, and dentils under all the eaves spark its distinctive personality. An 1890 graduate of Washington University, Leggat subsequently

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

located in Butte where he operated numerous mining properties. It was said of him: "While men less resourceful and more cautious are thinking of a plan, he is accomplishing a result." After Leggat left Butte in 1913, the next longtime owner was Dr. Thomas J. Murray, who came to Butte in 1885 after proving his medical skills in the dangerous back-water swamps of Mississippi. Murray, who died in 1930, long operated a private hospital in Butte and was influential in securing legislation that created the state board of medical examiners. Although its many rambling rooms have long been divided into rentals, the nineteenth-century essence of this beautiful home is untouched.

**Property:** 833 West Quartz

**Address:** 833 W. Quartz Street, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Butte architect H. M. Patterson designed this brick home for attorney John Colter in the 1890s. Semicircular windows in the gables, stone lintels, a prominent portico supported by Tuscan columns, and an inviting front porch ornament the residence. Henry Muntzer, founder of the Butte Brewery, purchased the property in 1901 for his wife Mary and their eight children. Family members lived here into the 1940s, adding the east addition before 1916. Butte's Soroptimist Club purchased the residence in 1947 for \$5,500. The charitable women's organization campaigned tirelessly for funds to transform the house into a temporary "receiving home for dependent, neglected, abused, or abandoned children." With volunteer help from Butte union members, the Soroptimists added four new rooms to the rear of the building, repaired the porches, updated the wiring, installed fire escapes, added a third bathroom, carpeted the floors, and built a playground. In its first ten years of operation, the home cared for over 1,700 children. After the Soroptimists moved in 1970, the residence fell into disrepair. It was rescued by Steve and Janet Hadnagy, who spent years restoring it to a single-family home.

**Property:** Silver Bow Brewery Malt House

**Address:** Nissler Junction, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** breweries

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Young Christian Nissler came to the United States from Germany, made his way west and learned the brewing trade in Virginia City, Nevada. The promise of gold drew him to Montana, where a lucky strike at Bear Gulch earned the enterprising Nissler enough to start a brewery at German Gulch. When the nearby placers played out, Nissler moved on to the camp at Silver Bow in 1871. He established the Silver Bow Brewery in a modest log cabin. Placer mining soon played out there too, but quartz mining at Butte City boomed, bringing thirsty miners by the thousands. In 1886, Nissler expanded his operation along what was once the main road between Butte and Anaconda. The bustling complex at Nissler Junction included a brewery, bottling house, cellars, saloon, dwelling, wash house, and stables. Nissler ran the business successfully until his death in 1901. The brewery then operated under several other names and owners until 1912. Only the malt house, later converted to a private residence, and its attendant brick wash house remain today. The malt house features cut stone quoins at the corners and two-foot thick rubblestone walls, which helped maintain even temperature year round. A chimney set into the north wall served as the flue for the kiln where the barley was dried after malting in the basement. Although Butte boasted five breweries by 1900, these two buildings gain added significance as the only local remnants of this early industry.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Property:** 1117 West Broadway

**Address:** 1117 West Broadway, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Norwegian-born carpenter Albert Broadland arrived in Butte in 1912. The prolific builder constructed nearly half the homes in the Rowe Addition on the Flats, the elegant Finlan Hotel, and many Craftsman style bungalows in Uptown. Built circa 1916, this one-story Broadland bungalow features wide overhanging eaves, an exterior brick chimney, substantial porch piers, and a shed-roof dormer. The low-pitched roof covers even the full-length front porch, projecting the feeling of sheltering comfort for which bungalows were known. In 1917, the recently widowed Ellen Downey purchased the residence, where she lived with four grown children: twenty-seven-year-old Tim, an attorney; twenty-five-year-old Madge, a music teacher; and twenty-two-year-old Helena and nineteen-year-old John, both bookkeepers. In 1928, she sold the house to attorney John Emigh and his wife, Vivian, who wanted a comfortable home to raise their two daughters. It was one of the most expensive residences on the block, with an assessed value of \$6,500 (approximately \$87,600 in 2011 dollars). The Emighs lived here into the 1940s.

**Property:** Curtis and Majors Real Estate

**Address:** 35 W. Granite, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Civil War politics prevented young John H. Curtis from practicing law in Missouri since, as a Confederate sympathizer, he could not take the required oath of allegiance. After the war, Curtis booked passage on the steamer Waverly, arriving at Fort Benton in 1866 with just a few dollars. He built up a substantial Helena grocery business and moved to Butte in 1880. Considered the founder of St. James Hospital, Curtis also brought the first Sisters of Charity to staff it. Admitted to the Montana bar in 1882, Curtis practiced law and went into the real estate business with Green Majors. Curtis and Majors became one of Butte's most successful early real estate firms, doing business from a frame building on this site during the 1890s. Curtis ran the business alone by 1904. Sons George and John Jr. took over after their father's death in 1906. The original frame building burned in 1929 and was rebuilt after the Depression circa 1938-1939. The present building housed Curtis Real Estate through the 1950s.

**Property:** J.L. Morris Building

**Address:** 129-135 W Broadway, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:** residential structures

**Sign Text:**

H. M. Patterson designed this residential building for J. L. Morris in 1898, replacing an earlier dwelling. A year later, Morris commissioned J. A. Riddell to add a storefront to the east at a cost of \$9,000. Danish immigrant L. M. Brobeck rented the building in 1900, opened a grocery business on the ground floor, and lived upstairs with his family. The first floor, with its cast-iron storefront, reflects the 1899 commercial addition, while the upper floor displays Patterson's lively creativity. Arches of quarry-faced stone, oriel windows, and decorative brickwork distinguish this pleasing building, which today continues its residential-commercial function.



## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Property:** St. James Hospital Nurses Dormitory

**Address:** 300 West Mercury, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** apartments

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Five Sisters of Charity came to Butte from their motherhouse at Leavenworth, Kansas, in 1881 to found St. James Hospital. The sisters opened a school of nursing in 1906. Under Sister Superior Mary Marcella Reilly, this residential dormitory for students and nurses was built in 1917 to meet the latest standards required for school accreditation. Adjacent to the original hospital, the L-shaped brick-and-tile building cost \$46,000. The residence offered students a library and laboratories as well as comfortable living accommodations. For more than six decades, the St. James School of Nursing was renowned for its topnotch graduates. Sensitive renovation in the 1990s converted this dormitory into a medical clinic, with dorm rooms becoming examination rooms. Original exterior details, including the handsome leaded glass and copper awning with its cross above the entry, are reminders of the contributions made by the benevolent Catholic sisters to medicine and education in Butte. The building is an integral part of the Catholic Diocese complex surrounding the historic St. Patrick's Church.

**Property:** 655 and 655 1/2 South Main Street

**Address:** 655 and 655 1/2 South Main, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The small hipped roof cottage to the rear of the lot predates the more elaborate brick residence that stands closest to the street. Built after 1891, the rear residence was home to carpenter Tolman Barnhart in 1898. Saloon keeper and Irish immigrant Stephen Parker lived in (and owned) the simple one-story house with his wife Annie by 1900. The Parkers, who lived here until 1906, may have constructed the larger, but still affordable brick-veneered residence that now dominates the lot. Built between 1900 and 1916, the home features a polygonal bay window and fish-scale shingles in the gable end. Both reflected the Queen Anne style's influence. A wrought-iron fence separates the residence from the street, symbolically reflecting the notion that a dwelling should be a sanctuary from the larger world. In 1920, grocery manager Edwin Mitchell and his wife Mary rented the main house, while widow Elizabeth Lewis lived in the rear house with her two young grandchildren.

**Property:** 301 North Crystal

**Address:** 301 North Crystal, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Interesting window placement is a hallmark of prominent Butte architect Charles M. Prentice and his own modified Italianate style residence, built circa 1898, provides an eye-catching example. Prentice alternated panels of full and half windows, richly ornamenting many of them with beveled, stained, and etched glass to form an unusual pattern on the façade. A low pitched roofline with paired decorative brackets beneath the eaves complements the home's unusual polygonal footprint. One of Butte's prominent early architects, Prentice worked on his own and for the M. J. Connell and Western Lumber companies. He left his distinctive mark on a number of apartment buildings and homes in Butte. The Prentice family briefly left Montana for California in 1899, but they returned by 1900, and Charles, his wife Celia, daughter Lula, and son George were at home here until at least 1906. The Frank Panisko family later owned the home from 1950 to 2003. Locals refer to it as the Clown House, recalling Panisko's career as a professional circus clown with the Ringling Brothers' Barnum and Bailey Circus.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Property:** Trinity Methodist Church

**Address:** 971 N Main St, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** churches (buildings) **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Thousands of skilled miners from Cornwall, England, immigrated to the United States in the mid-nineteenth century as English tin and copper mines played out. Many settled in Butte's working-class communities. Centerville was home to equal numbers of Cornish, who were mostly Methodists, and Catholics from Ireland. There were two sets of businesses and two churches—one serving each group. By 1884, Centerville's Cornish residents had formed a Methodist congregation. During the pastorate of Rev. Joel Vigus, the Butte and Boston Mining Company donated the land and this church was built in 1889. In the 1890s, U.S. Senator and former Butte mayor Lee Mantle donated electric lights. Workers added brick veneer, a vestibule, a choir room, and dug a basement to accommodate a fellowship hall. An enduring Cornish tradition is the pasty, a meat pie in a pastry envelope. Carried underground in dinner pails, miners lovingly called it a "letter from 'ome." Trinity's fellowship hall hosted many pasty dinners. The simple Gothic style "miner's church" with its sturdy central tower recalls the Cornish miners and their families, far from home, who worshipped here.

**Property:** Richmond Apartments

**Address:** 10 N. Clark St., Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** apartments **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

As World War I raged in Europe, Butte boomed, its economy buoyed by the high price of copper. Among its many other uses, copper was an essential ingredient in brass, which was used to make shell casings. To house Butte's growing population, real estate developers invested in apartment buildings, a relatively new urban trend. Because landlords did not typically monitor their tenants' behavior, apartments were originally considered morally suspect. By the twentieth century, however, middle-class men and women increasingly chose the privacy and convenience of apartments over more traditional boardinghouses or residential hotels. The 1910s saw construction of several Butte apartment buildings, including the Richmond. Norwegian-born builder Albert Broadland constructed the ten-unit, brick apartment house in 1916. An important Butte contractor, Broadland also built the Finlen Hotel. Florist Sylvester Hansen commissioned the building, which features clean lines, a symmetrical façade, a pronounced cornice, and massive two-story columns—all characteristics of Neoclassical design. Typical apartment dwellers were childless but the Richmond attracted families. Tenants in 1920 included the families of an electrical engineer, a mining engineer, a wholesale produce merchant, a laundry manager, and a bakery owner.

**Property:** George Dent's Barbershop

**Address:** 116 W. Daly, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:** commercial buildings

**Sign Text:**

Little evidence survives today of the industrial giant that once consumed this neighborhood. By 1889 when the first cable car ran on an impressive trestle to the north above the settlement, the Moulton and Alice mines were fully developed and Walkerville was an industrial hub. By this time, Canadian-born George Dent was already in

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

business at this location. Hundreds of miners, especially from Cornwall, England, lived and worked in this Butte suburb and frequented Dent's small shop. From at least 1889 until his death in 1936, George Dent was a veritable institution, clipping and shaving Walkerville's miners. An early photograph shows Dent's front-room, one-chair barbershop ornately wallpapered and lavishly decorated with photographs and female pinups, no doubt to keep the miners busy as Dent worked his transformations. Three large front windows and two more on the west allowed his workspace ample daylight. The family occupied the rear, where Dent and his wife raised two sons. Now clad in metal siding, this wood-frame home rests on a sturdy granite foundation and its original footprint is wholly intact.

**Property:** 1116 South Nevada Avenue

**Address:** 1116 South Nevada Avenue, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:** apartments

**Sign Text:**

Platted by 1881, Nevada Street was part of the rare Butte neighborhood more oriented toward the railroad (which paralleled Front Street) than toward the mines. The bustling community was home to railroad and warehouse workers, as well as streetcar conductors like Peter Taylor and Albert Dockstader, who lived here with their families in 1910. The flat roof (rarely seen on single-family homes) and off-center entrance are clues that this small brick residence was then a two-family flat. Unified by a full-width front porch, the shotgun duplexes matched the building next door until at least 1957. Grace and Joseph McCauley purchased the duplex, installing indoor plumbing in 1913. The long-time manager of the Stevens and Manley grocery and meat market, Joseph worked only three blocks away. Twenty years his junior, Grace worked as a waitress in 1930. That year, they lived in 1116. They rented the neighboring unit (1118) for \$30 to zinc miner Harry Jacobs, his wife Chester, and their lodger, unemployed hotel clerk Edison Carey.

**Property:** Harlow Pease House

**Address:** 850 W Quartz, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Attorney John B. Wellcome, later implicated in the illegal shenanigans orchestrated by William Clark in his bid for the U.S. Senate, probably built this residence before he sold the property to Henry G. Hawes in 1890. This impressive Shingle style home was one of the first in Butte to be set diagonally on its lot. A gambrel roof, octagonal tower, and arched windows are elements of this distinctive style, which is an American adaptation of Queen Anne, Colonial Revival, and Romanesque traditions and an unusual combination in Butte. Unique features include the Dutch front door richly trimmed in brass and beautiful hand-tooled leather wainscoting in the front hall and stairway. Hawes, bookkeeper for the Butte and Boston Mining Company, sold the home in 1899 to attorney John F. Forbis. Another attorney, Harlow Pease, was the subsequent longtime owner of this prestigious residence. Pease gained prominence as a labor relations attorney in Idaho and lived here from the 1920s through the 1940s.

**Property:** First Baptist Church

**Address:** 201 W. Broadway, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** churches (buildings) **Subject 2:**

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

### Sign Text:

The Stevensville Baptist congregation first organized as the Etna Baptist Church of Christ at the nearby Etna schoolhouse in 1882. In 1884, the growing membership purchased land in Stevensville and hired talented Missoula architect Thomas W. Longstaff to draw the plans for a church. The building, completed in 1886 at a cost of \$2,904.39, is an excellent example of architect Longstaff's adaptation of the Stick Style. Clapboard siding with decorative vertical, horizontal, and diagonal accents characterize this style, uncommon in Montana. The angles created through external ornamentation are intended to mimic the building's structural skeleton. The classical symmetry of the floor plan and window placement, lavish Queen Anne style details including fish-scale shingling and beautiful stained glass, and the stick ornamentation blend to produce a statement of surprising elegance for a modest rural church. By 1887, all building expenses had been paid and the congregation had bought an organ. The church included Sunday school and baptismal services in the Bitterroot River. The bell, purchased by the membership from Sears Roebuck for eight dollars, was installed in the square bell tower in 1901. This architectural landmark, important for its association with one of Montana's most respected architects, is equally significant for its long service as the religious and social center of the local Baptist community.

**Property:** Galbraith Residence

**Address:** 914 W. Silver, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

A decorative iron fence symbolically separates this one-and-one-half-story brick residence from the street—reflecting the Victorian-era ideal of the home as a sanctuary removed from worldly bustle. Constructed between 1900 and 1908, the residence incorporated other Victorian-era influences as well, including a polygonal bay ornamented with decorative beveled-glass transoms above the bay windows. Among the home's early residents were Dr. Archibald and Gertrude Galbraith, who lived here between 1908 and 1913, when Archibald died at age 36 of Bright's disease. Archibald graduated from the Ontario Dental College in 1901, at the cusp of a new age in dentistry. An emphasis on preventing cavities by promoting oral hygiene, the introduction of Novocain, and new technologies such as high-speed electric drills are just a few of the changes Dr. Galbraith witnessed during his short practice. Unlike most married women of her generation, Gertrude continued to work as a milliner even after having children. In 1911, she ran her own hat shop on West Broadway, demonstrating a business acumen that would have served her well as a young widow.

**Property:** St. Paul's Methodist Episcopal (South) Church

**Address:** 101 S. Idaho, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** churches (buildings) **Subject 2:** printing firms

### Sign Text:

Noted architect William White designed this majestic, multi-gabled church of stone and brick, built at a cost of \$10,000 in 1899. Gothic lancet windows, stained glass, Romanesque arches, and wood tracery in the gable windows showcase White's meticulous attention to fine detail. A steeple above the entry and pyramidal roof once crowned the two corner towers. By 1918, the church housed the Butte Daily Bulletin, a radical newspaper voicing policies of the anti-corporate Nonpartisan League, published by William F. Dunne. The office was also a known stronghold of the incendiary Industrial Workers of the World (IWW). On September 14, 1918, local police and federal troops under Major O. N. Bradley raided the Bulletin, arresting twenty-four men and thwarting a miners' strike. A fine example of turn-of-the-twentieth-century ecclesiastic architecture, quiet commercial use of the building today more closely follows its original function.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Property:** Boucher-Walker Home

**Address:** 727 W. Broadway, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Butte as melting pot is well-chronicled in this Queen Anne style mix of high gables and multi-paned windows. Its appearance is typically English, as is the interior décor, yet it was built by a French native and occupied for much of its life by Irish-Americans. One of the first homes in this addition, it was begun in 1890 and enlarged in 1901 by clothier Frank Boucher. Daughter Hallie married attorney Frank C. Walker in 1914, and this was later home to both families before Walker's rising career took them to New York. A key aide to Franklin D. Roosevelt in all three terms, Walker was 51st postmaster-general of the United States from 1940 to 1945. He was the first Montanan to serve at cabinet level and during his tenure re-banned James Joyce's controversial novel Ulysses as obscene. The family retained the home for occasional visits until 1958, under longtime caretaker Daniel Murphy, a former Boucher stock boy, who rose to department manager with the Hennessy Company. The James A. Driscoll family purchased the home in 1968.

**Property:** Eugene Carroll House

**Address:** 315 W. Granite, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

A corner location affords two views of this captivating home, built in the mid-1880s and first owned by Butte attorney Thomas Napton. By 1897, Eugene Carroll, who later became the long-time vice president and manager of the Butte Water Company, owned the property. He and his wife, Mary, resided here until the end of the 1940s. Although its builder is unknown, the home is a fine expression of the Italianate style and suggests the influence of a professional architect. Bracketed eaves, curved wraparound porch with square posts, and decorative cutwork trim above the windows richly ornament the design. A circular window, decorative frieze beneath the eaves, and ornamental porch brackets further embellish the elegant façade.

**Property:** Lawlor and Rowe Insurance Company

**Address:** 120 W Granite, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Graceful arches and a lovely stone balustrade atop a stone cornice make this attractive Georgian Revival style building a perfect companion to the adjacent Water Company Building. Multi-paned windows trimmed in stone and brick, a dentil frieze below the cornice, and a pleasing symmetry achieved through door and window placement further define this popular revival style. Contractors Hans Pederson and George Nelson constructed the first floor circa 1909, and the second story was added in 1916 at a cost of \$3,358. William V. Lawlor initially ran a real estate business here in 1909, but by 1910, James H. Rowe had joined him. The firm then became the Lawlor and Rowe Insurance Company, which handled real estate, fire insurance, and surety bonds.

**Property:** First Baptist Church

**Address:** 201 W. Broadway, Butte, Silver Bow

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** churches (buildings) **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

In 1882, the Baptists established their first church in Butte. By 1890, membership numbered 65 and steadily grew until, at 450 members in 1905, new quarters were imperative. The following year marked the beginning of an unprecedented commercial building boom, and the Butte Miner reported on June 17, 1906, that the week would "...witness the beginning of several splendid structures not exactly in the business heart of the city." One of these buildings was the impressive First Baptist Church, designed and built by Charles Passmore and Company at a cost of \$25,000. Triple-arched windows with beautiful stained glass highlight the main tower, whose pyramidal roof dignifies the neighborhood. Comparison of this church and the nearby Mountain View Methodist Church reveals distinct similarities, but window placement and architectural detailing make each unique.

**Property:** Y.M.C.A.

**Address:** 401, 405, 407 W Park, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** recreation buildings **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The cornerstone was laid in 1917 for this multi-purpose facility, designed by international Y.M.C.A. architects. All contracting, however, went to local firms. The \$350,000 building opened in 1919, entirely paid for by citizens' contributions and built by local laborers. It was "in a very real sense a workingmen's club." The six-story landmark included a bowling alley, temperance bar, dormitory rooms, a cork-carpeted running track, and two-story gymnasium. Skylights originally brightened both the second-floor swimming pool and locker rooms, and the library was specially wired to accommodate a "moving motion picture machine" for use by mine rescue and first aid personnel. Following early-twentieth-century conventions, boys and men were strictly separated as the North Washington Street entry inscription "Boys Entrance" demonstrates. Today, the Y.M.C.A. is a fully integrated, co-educational facility.

**Property:** Original City Hall

**Address:** 116 W. Park St, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** city halls **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

By the early 1880s the railroad linked Butte to the outside world and the town had established itself as a mining camp with a great future. One of the few standing structures from the formative era is this masonry, two-story landmark. Under construction in 1884, it housed the first official city administrative offices. Included among these were the jail and a courtroom. Although the height of the second-story windows has been reduced, the upper portion of the building appears as it did in the 1880s. Ornate details along the parapet of angled and corbelled brick reveal the excellence of Butte's early brickmasons. After 1890, city offices moved, and the façade was modified to accommodate commercial space. The original stairway at the east end, however, remains intact.

**Property:** Butte Daily Post Building

**Address:** 2 E. Galena, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:** printing firms

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

### Sign Text:

Architect Herman Kemna, who began his Butte practice in 1898, designed this attractive corner landmark at the end of his productive career. The two-story building of brick and concrete, constructed in 1922 at a cost of \$45,000, features large arched ground-floor windows and a series of brick pilasters, which form divisions in the upper floor. One of Butte's long-time newspapers, the Butte Daily Post, moved its printing operation into the new building in early 1923 without missing a single issue. The Post continued publication on these premises until 1950. Upon assuming ownership from Amalgamated Copper in 1913, John H. Durstan vowed that the politically Republican Post, formerly the Daily Intermountain, would be "an enthusiastic herald of Butte's industrial greatness," advocating progress, thrift, and good citizenship.

**Property:** Independent Order of Odd Fellows

**Address:** 58 W Broadway, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** fraternal lodges

**Subject 2:** commercial buildings

### Sign Text:

Fraternal organizations were an important facet of most mining towns and helped establish social and civic stability in early communities. Members of Fidelity Lodge #8 constructed this meeting hall, one of the district's oldest standing buildings, in 1884. The building's dual function, with second-story meeting rooms and first-floor commercial space, is typical of the period. The lively façade, enhanced with intricate prefabricated details, directly reflects the impact of the railroad upon Butte's architectural landscape. Ready-made elements such as the cast-iron storefront with scrolled columns and Corinthian capitals, metal cornice with decorative brackets, and floral-patterned window hoods were shipped by rail, linking Butte to national architectural trends.

**Property:** Hannifin House

**Address:** , Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

Optometrist John L. Hannifin and his wife Mary purchased this turn-of-the-century duplex in 1915. John arrived in Butte around 1895 and formed the Butte Optical Company. In 1909, he married Mary Moran, principal of the Monroe School. As a charter member of the Montana State Optometrists' Association, the Knights of Columbus, and president of the State Board of Optometry, John donated his time and resources to civic development. He partnered with jewelers Herman Towle and Leopold Winterhalter around 1907 to establish Towle-Winterhalter and Hannifin. After John's death in 1935, the Hannifins' daughter Dorothy gave up her career as an attorney to rescue her father's failing jewelry store. Dorothy had earned a law degree from the University of Montana in 1932, and her sister Lucile had entered a convent in Oregon, but returned to Butte after Mary's death in 1942. The sisters successfully operated Hannifin's Jewelry until 1977. The Hannifins made their fortune in Butte and contributed to the community for over a century.

**Property:** Butte Tin Shop

**Address:** 28 East Galena Street, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** brothels

**Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

A visiting journalist wrote in the 1890s that this neighborhood was "like a street leading into hell," and, in 1910, even the passionate bar-smasher Carry Nation failed to make an impression. Here in the sleepless heart of Butte's

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

red light district, prostitutes and gamblers conducted their illegal business. Fourteen prostitutes worked on this side of the block in 1900, many out of one-room rentals or “cribs” that lined the street. That year Annie Jones (age 21) and divorcee Edna Hall (age 36) entertained customers in the two frame-and-brick cribs that stood at this address. Remodeling later incorporated these cribs into the present building, and after 1917 progressive reforms and prohibition brought dramatic changes to Butte’s demimonde. Parlor house, brothels, and cribs were either torn down or, like the Butte Tin Shop, converted to respectable businesses.

**Property:** Henry Kroger Residence

**Address:** 811 W Galena, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:** boardinghouses

**Sign Text:**

Prominent contractor and real estate developer Charles Passmore, who advertised construction of homes on the installment plan, built this Queen Anne style residence in 1896. By 1897, it was home to Henry and Lavinia Kroger and their young daughter, Anita. The Krogers’ household included a live-in servant and several boarders. Henry Kroger was the proprietor of the Northwestern Bottling Works, manufacturer of iron and mineral waters; sarsaparilla, ginger ale, birch beer, and other carbonated drinks; and syrups for fountains and bars. After the Krogers moved to Sheridan, Wyoming, in 1908, a variety of tenants and their boarders occupied the home during the 1910s and 1920s. These included general practitioner Dr. Thompson Heine (1909-1911), painter John Muldoon (1920-1923), and bio psychologist Wesley Brown (1929). The two-story home features the varied wall textures of brick, wood, and stone favored during the Victorian era and architectural asymmetry typical of the Queen Anne style. A two-story corner porch, bay windows, richly colored stained-glass transoms, and an elaborately corbelled chimney reflect Charles Passmore’s meticulous attention to handsome detail.

**Property:** Casey Block

**Address:** 102-106 W Granite, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:** residential structures

**Sign Text:**

Multistoried masonry buildings such as this fine 1890 example, designed to meet the high demand for urban retail space and living quarters, reflect the housing shortage during Butte’s copper boom years. A flat roof, decorative brickwork, recessed entries flanked by display windows, and large upper-floor windows to maximize light typify the storefront/lodging combination. George H. Casey, a realtor and manager of the Butte Sampling Works, owned the building in 1903 and resided in one of its upper apartments. The building features cast-iron details, and one of the three original entrances survives intact.

**Property:** South Central Butte Neighborhood (Emma Park) Historic District

**Address:** neighborhood sign, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** South Central Butte Neighborhood (Emma Park)

**Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Discovery of rich silver deposits at the Travona, whose head frame still stands at the district’s west end, sparked Butte’s 1870s hard-rock mining boom. Most South Central buildings date from the 1880s and 1890s, after copper had supplanted silver as Butte’s economic engine. The Travona and nearby Emma Mine, now a city park, were also mined for zinc and manganese through World War II. Of the almost 500 houses still standing in this primarily



## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

residential neighborhood, over half were built before 1900 and almost a tenth were built before 1891. The earliest homes, clustered around Main Street near the central business district, are shotgun houses or simple worker's cottages. Queen Anne style ornamentation—including bay windows, turned porch supports and mass-produced decorative details—embellish many of the district's pre-1900 homes. Brick duplexes, built after the turn of the twentieth century, served the city's growing population, as did the district's four apartment buildings—including the highly decorated four-story Tripp and Dragstedt, built in 1916. The neighborhood's diverse population worked as clerks, carpenters, teamsters, blacksmiths, lawyers, and architects as well as in the mines. Most residents congregated at meeting halls and churches in the nearby Central Business District, but this neighborhood did boast cultural institutions that appropriately reflected its heterogeneous population: the 1898 Scandia Hall (home of the Scandinavian Brotherhood), the African Methodist Episcopal Church (where Butte's African American residents gathered), the 1897 Seventh Day Adventist Church (purchased by the Welsh Presbyterians in 1902), and the Jewish Temple Adath Israel (since demolished).

**Property:** 1135 West Mercury

**Address:** 1135 West Mercury, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Irish immigrant Charles Jenks was the first resident of this elaborate Craftsman style bungalow. Jenks, his wife Lena, and their small daughter moved into the new residence in 1916. As a cashier at the Anaconda Copper Mining Company, Jenks was a skilled accountant, but his ambitions stretched beyond the company and he moved to California in 1918. Subsequent owners included Stewart A. Leggat, owner of an automobile garage, and the Richard E. Sawyer family. Sawyer came to Butte from Great Falls in the mid-1920s to become the general manager for the Ardsley Butte Mines Corp. By 1930, the Sawyers and their nine-member extended family filled the modest home. In 1938, Sylvanus and Marie White and their two daughters moved in. Mrs. White, an officer of the Butte Garden Club, landscaped the yard with many perennials that survive today. The home displays all the characteristics of the bungalow style: a gable roof, exposed rafters, bracketed eaves, rusticated chimneys, and varied surface textures. The decorative brick of the stairway repeats in the retaining wall shared with its contemporary neighbors.

**Property:** 611 North Main Street

**Address:** 611 North Main, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** boardinghouses **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Copper king William A. Clark and other prominent businessmen platted the Warren and Kingsbury Addition in 1878 just above Clark's Original Mine. In 1888, a small wooden dwelling occupied this lot. This one-story duplex, with a rubble stone foundation, brick veneer, and corbelled cornice, replaced that home before 1900. That year, two families of mining engineers lived here: Charles and Nora McKenzie in the south half and Norwegian immigrants John and Magna Rude in the north half. Open space now surrounds the duplex, but by 1916 it shared the block with four boarding houses, several other duplexes, and small single family homes. The next year, longtime resident Margaret Wysong moved here with her husband James, a cable repairman at the Original Mine. James was working across the street at the Stewart Mine in 1923 when a jolt from a 2,400 volt wire electrocuted him, leaving Margaret a widow at age forty-eight. After James's death, Margaret found a job as a "janitress" at the Hennessy Department store. A frequent hostess for card parties held by the St. Mary's Parish, she remained in residence into the 1940s.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Property:** South Butte Neighborhood (Railroad Area) Historic District

**Address:** neighborhood sign, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** South Butte Neighborhood (Railroad Area)      **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

John Noyes arrived from California in 1866 and purchased several mining claims just north of today's Front Street. After he and his partners, including David Upton, "put in a ground sluice," they cleared "about two ounces [of gold] to the man" the first night. The placer mines had played out by the time the railroad arrived in 1881, so Upton and Noyes platted building lots on their former mining claim. In contrast to the grid of the original townsite, they oriented the streets toward the tracks, announcing the neighborhood's primary focus. By 1916, thirty-four passenger trains a day rumbled into Butte's three depots, including the 1906 Renaissance Revival style Union Pacific depot on East Front and the 1916 Sullivanesque Great Northern depot at Arizona and Third. The Butte Electric Railway, which ran the city's extensive streetcar network, located its car barns and repair shops on East First. Not surprisingly, many South Butte residents worked as conductors, brakemen, switchmen, motormen, or track maintenance men. Others in this mixed residential and industrial neighborhood worked for wholesalers. Over forty warehouses—which once distributed everything from beer, food, and medicine to paper, furniture, and mining equipment—still crowd the tracks. Additional large employers included Western Iron Works, a foundry on Second Street, which produced heavy mining and milling machinery and structural iron; the Butte Gas, Light and Fuel Company; and the nearby Parrot Smelter. Senator Burton K. Wheeler (Democrat, 1923-47) was the predominantly working-class neighborhood's most famous resident. His home, at 1232 East Second, is recognized as a National Historic Landmark.

**Property:** Maley Block

**Address:** 115-117 N Hamilton, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Elaborate details enhance this residential/commercial building, originally of one story, constructed in 1900. Its upper floors were added circa 1910, and the apartments were among the better uptown lodgings. The masonry building has its dual function in common with its immediate neighbors and, like the Hamilton and Casey Blocks, mimics architectural forms common in eastern industrial cities of the period. Of special interest are the central third-floor brick arches, which end in Corinthian capitals, and horizontal bands of floral-patterned terra cotta, which divide the façade. The Maley Block, with its three-bayed, cast-iron storefront, appears as impressive today as it did in the early 1900s.

**Property:** Mountain View Church Parsonage

**Address:** 315 N. Montana, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** churches (buildings)      **Subject 2:** residential structures

**Sign Text:**

When the Mountain View Methodist Episcopal Church located on the corner of Quartz and Montana in 1880, a small, narrow frame dwelling on this site served the early pastors. The congregation quickly outgrew its quarters and members broke ground for the present church in 1898. The parsonage underwent remodeling at about the same time, doubling its size and incorporating the older north half into the current design. Completed before 1900, the home is a superb example of the Queen Anne style. Its clapboard façade displays wonderful mixed

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

ornamentation including dentils below the porch eaves; textured shingles; and a whimsical, inset, canted bay. Double geometric banding offsets the second story. Very fine vintage hand graining—the Victorian practice of applying a faux finish to imitate wood—covers the interior woodwork and that of the staircase. A succession of ministers and their families occupied the parsonage, usually serving a year before the church moved them on. Joseph Albritton, for example, served from 1900 to 1901. A few, including C. L. Bovard (1904-1906) and George Wolfe (1915-1920), served longer terms.

**Property:** Gillies / Parent House

**Address:** 5 N Excelsior, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

This showcase Queen Anne style home adds ambiance to one of Butte’s most prominent blocks. An elegant brick arch, flared overhangs accentuated with wooden brackets, projecting oriel windows, a centered Palladian window, and an extended gable decoration visually complicate the front facade. Constructed in 1901, it was home to Bettie Boyce and her husband, mining engineer Donald Gillies, who served as superintendent and ultimately manager of the W. A. Clark properties. In 1923, the Gillies’ daughter Linnie married Horace Siegel, manager of Siegel Clothing. The Butte Miner described the wedding, which included a reception at the home, as one of the most notable ever in Butte. The Gillies and Siegels owned the house until 1928 when they sold it to Thomas and Esther Parent. Thomas worked as a salesman for the Symons Department Store, whose owner built the mansion next door. In 1932 the Parent family waved from the front yard as Franklin D. Roosevelt’s motorcade passed by. Their son Thomas Jr. and his wife Mildred raised four children in the home, and it continues to remain in the Parent family as of 2012.

**Property:** Bowen Block

**Address:** 1146 E 2nd, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:** residential structures

**Sign Text:**

The inscription in the corbelled cornice of this two-story residential/commercial block identifies its first owner, William Bowen, and declares its construction date as 1907. By 1909, the Eagle Saloon occupied one of the two storefronts while proprietor John Skubitz lived upstairs with his wife and three children. Bowen opened his own retail grocery in the second storefront in 1910, stocking both “staple and fancy goods,” and moved his family into the other second-floor apartment. While Bowen’s business operated only until 1912, a grocery and saloon under various proprietors long served this South Butte neighborhood. The saloon became a soft drink parlor during Prohibition and Paul Dosen, who lived upstairs, reopened it as a beer parlor in the 1930s. Living above one’s business was a convenience prized by most neighborhood shopkeepers like Dosen, Skubitz, and Bowen. The Bowen Block, with its original pent-roofed double storefront and upstairs apartments, is an excellent example of this tradition.

**Property:** Walkerville Historic District

**Address:** neighborhood sign, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Walkerville **Building Type:** site

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

### Sign Text:

Miners north of Missoula Gulch struck silver in 1872, and three years later Rollo Butcher located the Alice, one of the richest silver mines on the Hill. Butcher is credited with building the first permanent residence in Walkerville, and the Butchertown neighborhood bears his name. Word of Butcher's rich claim soon filtered back to Utah, where Montana's silver ore was sent for processing. The Walker brothers (Joseph, Samuel, Matthew, and David) of Salt Lake City sent their agent, future copper king Marcus Daly, to investigate. Daly, for whom Daly Street is named, recommended that the Walkers purchase the Alice, and in 1876 Walkerville was born. Although other mining entrepreneurs filed profitable claims, the Walkers dominated the camp. They owned the largest boarding house, financed the Broughton Brothers general store, established the Alice Hospital, the Alice Reading Room, the Alice Fire Department, and the Alice Mine and Mill Band. In 1878, that band paraded with over 150 members of the newly formed Butte Workingmen's Union, protesting because the Walkers cut wages from \$3.50 to \$3.00 per day. The Walkers restored the \$3.50 rate, giving the union its first victory. After Walkerville incorporated in 1890, William Hall, the Alice Mine's superintendent, became its first mayor, naming the streets William, Rose, Pearl, and Sybil for his children. A cable car connected Walkerville to Butte in 1889, and Walkerville grew as Butte miners moved into densely clustered houses. Nevertheless, evidence of Walkerville's origins as a silver camp remain. Many Main Street buildings date to the 1870s and 1880s, and the community retains an independent spirit.

**Property:** 803 West Granite

**Address:** 803 West Granit, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

Prominently situated on a corner lot, this Queen Anne style residence is a neighborhood showpiece. Band leader Sam Treloar had the brick-veneered house constructed in 1901, possibly as an investment property. The Cornish bandmaster is best known as the leader of the Butte Mines Band, which he founded under a different name in 1887 and led for over fifty years. It was one of the United States' most celebrated industrial bands, and its members, all miners, won first place in competitions across the West. The two-story residence features an octagonal turret with wide overhanging eaves and a fixed stained glass window, an inviting front porch with double Tuscan column porch supports, and a projecting bay on the east façade. Banker Rupert Nuckolls lived here from 1908 through 1912 with his wife Georgia, their three children, and (after their eldest daughter married), their son-in-law and granddaughter. Georgia Nuckolls was an active clubwoman. Starting in the 1890s, the woman's club movement provided its members social and intellectual opportunities (Nuckolls, for example was active in the Westside Shakespeare Club) as well as advocating for political reform.

**Property:** Thornton Hotel Addition

**Address:** 50-60 E Granite St, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** hotels (public accommodations)

**Subject 2:** apartments

### Sign Text:

Premier Montana architects J. G. Link and C. S. Haire designed this three-story annex in 1906 as an extension of the elegant Thornton Hotel on Broadway. The building was one of the first designed by the two prestigious architects after they had formed their dynamic partnership in January of that year. A covered brick walkway connected the two buildings at the rear. Historic maps show that one of the five entries opened onto "sample rooms," which spanned the back of the building. These allowed traveling salesmen a place to display their wares. There were also a business office, a store, and an assay office. The fifth entry gave access to the upper floors which, later converted into twenty-four apartments, originally accommodated hotel guests. Constructed at a cost

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

of \$20,000, the architectural features include brick pilasters separating the five entries, second-story windows framed in rusticated stone, and a decorative pressed metal cornice beneath a stepped parapet.

**Property:** St. Francis Apartments

**Address:** 110 S. Dakota, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** apartments **Subject 2:** commercial buildings

**Sign Text:**

An open balcony adds architectural interest to this brick apartment building, constructed circa 1912 by the proprietress of the adjacent Parisian Dye Works, Maria Paumie Rimboud. Madame Rimboud was born in Paris and always spoke French with her employees. She brought a new method of cleaning when she came to Butte in 1889 to establish the town's first dry cleaning business. Her first husband died in 1899 and by 1910, she had married Constant Rimboud, proprietor of the Butte Dye Works. The couple lived next door at 60 West Galena and continued to manage their separate businesses into the 1920s. A series of additions link this address with the Paumie cleaning business to the north. A bracketed metal cornice, arched windows with granite keystones and sills, leaded glass transoms, and a polygonal side bay are attractive elements of the simplified bay-fronted flats that were built to provide multifamily housing during periods of rapid population growth. In 1915, the Francis Cafe occupied the ground floor, and for a short time in 1916, Madame Rimboud herself lived in the building.

**Property:** 100 South Excelsior

**Address:** 100 South Excelsior, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The Classical Revival style is grandly expressed in this exemplary residence of high-fired tan brick, built between 1916 and 1920. A symmetrical façade with central porch, double entry doors, square brick columns, and a central gable over an extended bay achieve the rich harmony characteristic of this elegant, dignified style. The original owner was James Heslet, a longtime employee of copper king W. A. Clark. Heslet began his career as a teller with the Clark and Larabie Bank in 1889. By 1900, he had worked his way up to the prestigious position of assistant cashier with W. A. Clark and Bro. Bankers. Heslet remained thus employed until the mid-1930s when both he and his wife, Cora, were trustees for the Paul Clark Home. A butler's pantry and servants' quarters equipped with a call box to the dining room are evidence of the Heslets' social status. The yard, of unusual size by Butte standards, is enclosed by a handsome wall of porphyry crowned with an iron railing.

**Property:** 633-639 West Park

**Address:** 633-639 West Park, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** apartments **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Grocer John L. Carroll chose a prime location to build a four-family flat in 1914. Butte's finest houses stood two blocks west, and the large, two-story Greek Revival building next door (since demolished) housed the Woman's Club. Its 225 active members, all women of "good moral character," met together to socialize and to study topics such as "the art of the Old Masters ... Tennyson's poems, practical cooking, juvenile courts, and modern Russian music." In addition, streetcars ran frequently down Park, easing tenants' commute. Built to match the elegance of its surroundings, the apartment house once boasted an intricately shaped Spanish-influenced parapet. Ornamental wooden brackets still decorate the front façade. Separate doors for each family offered privacy, while

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

the second floor porch provided upstairs residents access to fresh air. These amenities made the building attractive to middle-class tenants including, in 1920, families of a newspaper manager, a mining engineer, a cigar store owner, and a soft drink parlor proprietor. These last two professions were, perhaps, less respectable than the others; cigar stores and soft drink parlors often masked speakeasies during Prohibition.

**Property:** 668 South Main Street

**Address:** 668 S, Main, Butte, Silver Bow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

South Butte was home to miners, small businessmen, and workers who rented and owned the district's modest dwellings. This one-story Queen Anne cottage, built circa 1897 with a front entrance and bay, well represents the late-Victorian period housing that characterized the neighborhood. The first owner, a cobbler by trade, had his shop on the property. He also did some mining on the side, and built the home at odd angles around his mining claim. A basement entrance to the mine shaft, according to local lore, allowed the clandestine removal of gold.

**Property:** Dr. John D. McGregor Residence

**Address:** 1139 W Mercury St, Butte, Silverbow

**Historic District:** Butte **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Newly graduated from the University of Toronto with a degree in veterinary surgery, Dr. John D. McGregor arrived in the Mining City in 1889. Copper king Marcus Daly launched the young doctor's career, hiring him to care for horses on the Butte hill. That began a long association with the Anaconda Company and began a lucrative private practice. In 1918, the doctor, his wife Laura, and their two small daughters settled into this impressive home. Built in 1915 and grandly placed on a prominent rise, the New England style English cottage is a model of perfect symmetry with its paired gabled dormers and centered entry. Rich classical revival style details include two sets of regal ionic columns that flank the entrance and support a triangular gable, or pediment. A baroque-style wreath and intricate scrollwork embellish the pediment. A gated brick retaining wall at street level and mature landscaping add historic ambiance. Daughter Helen—a beloved speech and drama teacher at Butte High School—kept house here after her parents' deaths in the 1950s. The McGregor family retained ownership through the 1980s.

**Property:** Atlas Bar

**Address:** 528 E Pike St, Columbus, Stillwater

**Historic District:** **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** saloons (bars) **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Billings architect Curtis Oehme designed the Atlas Block, constructed in 1915-16 of locally quarried sandstone. Rusticated pilasters project above the roofline, and a checkerboard patterned frieze enlivens the cornice. The solid two-story building has always served as Columbus's social center. Even before its interior was completed, both the Catholic Altar Society and the local fire department held balls here, and the Rebekahs, Odd Fellows, and Masons began meeting on the second floor. Annin and Banks moved their dry goods store into the east bay in early March 1916, and on March 27, 1916, Mike Jacobs and Tom Mulvihill held a grand opening for the Atlas Bar, which occupied the west half of the building. Divided into several "departments," the Atlas offered a smoking

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

room and cigar stand; a billiards parlor, decorated with the bar's famous animal mounts; a saloon; a three-lane bowling alley; and a sandwich shop. A separate "ladies entrance" opened to a "ladies sitting room." Boasting one of the best preserved bar interiors in Montana, the Atlas retains its pressed metal ceilings, oak floors, and a Brunswick-Balke-Collender mahogany front and back bar, adorned with Corinthian capitals and three half arches decorated with lion heads. A second Brunswick back bar on the opposite wall is now used only for decoration. Owners sold soft drinks, ice cream, cigars, and sporting goods during Prohibition, reopening the bar after its repeal in 1933. Members of the Mulvihill family continued to operate the Atlas until 1997, offering hospitality to locals and travelers for over eighty years while preserving a Stillwater County monument.

**Property:** Halfway House

**Address:** Montana Hwy 78, Absarokee / Columbus, Stillwater

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Located on the road half way between Absarokee and Columbus, this substantial two-story farmhouse has long been a landmark in the Stillwater River Valley. The classic American Four-Square style dwelling was common throughout rural America and reflective of the simplicity of the times. Built in 1907 by Everett McBride, it was among the first large residences in the area. A farmer, Everett experimented with different types of crops and sold apples grown in an orchard adjacent to the house. McBride and his wife, Lydia, celebrated the completion of the house by throwing a well-publicized party for their neighbors that lasted until after dawn the following day. These proud owners began a long tradition of providing a hearty meal and a place to stay for travelers. Everett and Lydia McBride left Montana in 1910, leaving this house as a legacy to the StillwaterValley. Over the years and through several owners, the Halfway House maintained its well-deserved reputation for hospitality and as a safe haven from inclement weather. Indeed, one visitor later wrote, "Many are the freighters who have stopped for a drink at the well and if perchance it was the noon or supper hour have tied their horses in the barn and enjoyed a meal." While the freighters are long gone, the Halfway House remains a familiar sight to travelers on the Absarokee–Columbus Road.

**Property:** United Methodist Episcopal Church

**Address:** Southeast corner of Clark Street and Second Avenue, Park City, Stillwater

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** churches (buildings)           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Settlers from Ripon, Wisconsin, established Park City in 1882, arriving just ahead of the railroad. The pious community organized a Christian club and Sabbath School within its first year. Originally, traveling ministers served Park City. Among those preaching here was Methodist circuit rider "Brother Van" William Wesley Van Orsdel. Reputedly, Brother Van delivered his first sermon in the saloon. To prepare, the bartender covered the bar and liquor display with a large canvas and built pews by placing planks across beer kegs. The Dunn and Babcock store and the school also served as venues for religious services. In 1897, residents organized a building committee to raise money for a permanent house of worship. Mrs. F. W. Lee and Miss Etha Peck took to the valley soliciting subscriptions; the Church Extension Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church also donated funds. Although the congregation initially envisioned a log church, local stonemason Manley Downs convinced the trustees that he could provide local stone as cheaply as they could cut logs. Masons pieced the irregularly shaped sandstone with the help of a gentle draft horse, who powered the hoist used to put each stone in place. The vernacular building's stylistic elements (the tall, narrow, pointed-arched windows, arched doorway, stone

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

construction, and hipped-roof bell tower) reference the ecclesiastical architecture of larger communities. Dedicated in June 1898, the simple yet stately sandstone church continues to serve the Park City community.

**Property:** Cobblestone School

**Address:** 142 S Woodard, Absarokee, Stillwater

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** public schools (buildings)           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The opening of the Crow Indian Reservation to homesteaders brought settlers to this area who founded the town of Absarokee in 1893. School District #52 was created and by 1903, a log cabin with a potbelly stove served the town's first children. In 1910, the nearby two-room Sandstone School was built for elementary students, but as the town grew, it soon had need of a high school. Although Absarokee's high school district was the smallest in the state, the town had high hopes and great determination. Residents joined forces holding dances, bazaars, and bake sales to raise funds. A \$20,000 bond issue was established and the work progressed. With cobbles gathered from nearby fields and riverbeds, the school was built on donated land with volunteer labor. W. R. Plew, an engineer at Montana State University at Bozeman who promoted appropriate designs in rural schools, is credited with the plans. Finished in 1921, the Cobblestone School was fully accredited with three full-time teachers. The first five students graduated in the spring of 1922. Pupils came from as far away as Limestone and Nye, 45 miles distant, boarding with local families during the winter months. An outstanding example of a simple school built with locally available materials, the building remained in use as a high school until 1990. Most of its original woodwork and fixtures remain intact. The Cobblestone School and its companion Sandstone School are landmark examples of the importance of public education to rural communities and of Absarokee's commitment to its children.

**Property:** Oliver H. Hovda House

**Address:** North Howard Street, Absarokee, Stillwater

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

On October 15, 1892, the federal government opened the land around Absarokee for settlement. The area had been part of the Crow Indian Reservation, but a year before, Crow tribal leaders bowed to political pressure and ceded the coveted territory. Sever Simonson and his family established squatter's rights at the confluence of the Stillwater and East Rosebud Rivers eleven days before the territory formally opened. His twenty-five-year-old nephew, Oliver Hovda, soon joined him. Together they established a trading post, which became the Absarokee Cooperative Trading Co. Soon after they built a saloon, livery stable, hotel, and blacksmith shop. Simonson filed for a post office designation, and Hovda became Absarokee's first postmaster. He also ranched and founded a local bank. Hovda married Belle Wilson in 1901. The couple hired area rancher and trained carpenter Jacob Wagner to construct this two-story home around 1904. The well-built, beautifully proportioned residence reflects the taste of its day, combining the irregular roofline associated with the Queen Anne style and neo-classical details: Doric column porch supports, a fantail window in the gable end, and a pediment accenting the main entryway. Leaded glass windows, oak trim, maple flooring, and elegantly carved doors grace the interior. The Hovdas did not live here long. By 1910, the home belonged to Hugh Campbell, manager of the Absarokee Cooperative Trading Co., which Hovda had helped found. The house returned to the family when Hovda's nephew, Elmen Torgrimsen, purchased it in 1928. He lived here with his wife and children until 1950.



## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Property:** Carnegie Public Library

**Address:** 314 McLeod Street, Big Timber, Sweet Grass

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** libraries (buildings)           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

An alternative to saloons and pool halls, the Big Timber Library stayed open evenings in 1914, with the hope of “not only ... educating [people] ... in the right way, but keeping them from falling by the wayside, as so many do in these western towns.” Big Timber’s first library, a “branch” of the Parmley Billings Library, was a shelf of books in a local store in 1901. By 1911, the library, then housed in the Town Hall, had grown to 1,300 volumes, and the community approached industrialist and library patron Andrew Carnegie for funding for a new building. Carnegie provided \$7,500, stipulating, as he did with all his library grants, that Big Timber provide a building site and commit tax funds to support library services. Like many other Carnegie libraries, this “temple of learning,” designed by the architectural firm of Link and Haire and built in 1914, embraces Classical Revival elements made popular for civic buildings by the 1893 Columbian Exposition in Chicago. One of 17 Carnegie libraries in Montana, its floor plan matches one Carnegie’s assistant recommended for small libraries. Decorated with Tuscan columns and a pedimented entry, the symmetrical one-story building has a hipped roof, large windows, a daylight basement (which houses a meeting room) and a flight of stairs leading to the main floor (which contains reading rooms and open stacks). It is a fine example of “Carnegie Classic” design, personalized by a façade of river rock at the basement level.

**Property:** St. Mark's Episcopal Church

**Address:** West Fourth Street, Big Timber, Sweet Grass

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** churches (buildings)           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The settlement of Big Timber coincided with the advent of the Northern Pacific Railroad, which steamed into the Yellowstone Valley in 1882, spurring settlement along the line. In 1884, Rev. Alfred Brown, an Episcopal minister from Livingston, held the town’s first Protestant church services in the local schoolhouse. The Rev. J. F. Pritchard of Livingston soon began conducting regular services and the Congregational church hospitably shared its facilities. With the encouragement of Rev. Pritchard in 1892, the Episcopal women’s guild began plans to build St. Paul’s Episcopal Church. The name was changed in 1895 to St. Mark’s and a subscription paper circulated, raising \$900. St. Mark’s cornerstone was laid in the fall of 1895. Rev. Pritchard and the Rt. Rev. Dr. Leigh R. Brewer, Missionary Bishop of the Episcopal District of Montana, Idaho and Utah, conducted the first services in February of 1896. St. John’s Episcopal Church in Butte and individuals in Chicago and Waterton, New York, donated many of the interior furnishings for the \$2,215 building. By 1899, the diligent fund-raising efforts of the women’s guild had cleared the debt. The beautiful Gothic Revival style stone building, designed by F. S. Hornbeck and constructed by skilled craftsmen under local builder O. M. Lanphear, reflects the English roots of the Episcopal church. Masterfully cut and fitted native limestone, the characteristic vertical emphasis of the Gothic style and exquisite stained glass make this truly an architectural gem. Historically significant as the town’s oldest standing church, St. Mark’s remains a handsome memorial to the dedicated members of its founding congregation.

**Property:** Grand Hotel

**Address:** 137 McCloud, Big Timber, Sweet Grass

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** hotels (public accommodations)           **Subject 2:**

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

### Sign Text:

When the Northern Pacific Railroad established a depot in Big Timber in 1883, the small frontier town fast became a business and shipping center, drawing trade from great distances. Construction of this fine hotel in 1890 well illustrates the impact of the railroad's westward expansion. Local citizens were so confident in the town's future that sheep rancher Jacob Halverson financed its \$20,000 construction costs. The Grand was one of the early masonry buildings that replaced less permanent frame structures and sod-roofed log cabins along the main commercial street. The lovely façade with its extensive brick patterning and sandstone window surrounds is a tribute to the hotel's unknown architect and local craftsmen. The Grand offered guests a sixty-seat dining room and forty sleeping apartments. An overnight stay cost about two dollars, and "no house in the state furnished better returns for the money." But for sheep ranchers, miners, and residents, the Grand quickly became an essential place to socialize and conduct business. In 1908, on Friday the 13th of May, a spectacular fire destroyed nearly all the businesses along McLeod Street. Remarkably, the Grand Hotel remained intact. This enduring landmark, more than just a hotel to the community, continues to be a place to gather, hear news, and do business.

**Property:** John Otto Spannring Family Farm

**Address:** NE of Big Timber, , Sweet Grass

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building | rural

**Subject 1:** homesteads           **Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

A stormy crossing from Germany to Baltimore, a three-day quarantine, and a long train trip west finally brought John Spannring, his wife Mary, and their four children to Montana in 1910. A fifth child was born a month after the family's arrival in Livingston. John homesteaded south of Reed Point, breaking sod with a shovel, hoe, and hand rake. By 1916, the family had acquired a tractor, a four bottom plow, a grain separator, and a deed for the land. The Spannrings sold their first homestead and purchased the core 1,276 acres of this farm in 1917. In 1920, John and his sons built the stone and frame Bungalow style home, a symbol of the family's hard-earned success. John died in 1924 and extended drought precipitated near loss of the property. In 1926, sons Joseph and Walter assumed operation of the farm, building the stone and frame dairy barn. Wheat was the main crop and Spannrings threshed their own as well as their neighbors'. Aided by brother Simon, a Northern Pacific employee, additional acreage was purchased during the depressed 1930s. By 1939, all the Spannring children had married except Joseph, under whose supervision the farm continued to prosper. The final addition to the Spannring holdings came in 1943, when friend and neighbor Edward O'Dowd conveyed his adjoining homestead to Joseph, bringing the total acreage to 2,286. Joseph married in 1948 but died the following year and the homestead abruptly ceased family operation. Like other immigrant families who settled in this area, the Spannrings battled drought, crop failure, grasshoppers, and hard times. Unlike many, however, they triumphed. It is no small tribute that their hard-won acreage remains intact. In 1988, Nancy and Edward Clement of Salisbury, N.C., purchased and meticulously rehabilitated this historic property.

**Property:** Brannin Ranch

**Address:** Melville Rt Box 161, Mellville, Sweet Grass

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** site

**Subject 1:** homesteads           **Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

With an entourage of four covered wagons and over thirteen-hundred head of burros, horses, and Angora goats, Stanton Brannin and his large family began a hazardous journey from New Mexico to Montana. Two years later in 1897, the Brannins filed a homestead claim on Sweet Grass Creek, stocking the ranch with their few surviving

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

horses and goats. The Brannins added to the original claim as their thirteen children came of age. In the early 1920s, sons Gus, Dick, and Barney began a dude ranching enterprise. The main lodge, ten guest cabins, and other outbuildings of saddle notched logs were constructed by the Brannin brothers, neighbors, and friends over the next decade. Building materials were gathered from the ranch, and the fir used for floors and ceilings was planed at the family sawmill. Rustic style furnishings of burl wood were also crafted by the Brannin brothers. The Brannin Ranch offered city “dudes” splendid scenery, clear trout streams, and a rugged ranching experience. In the late 1930s, outfitting and guided hunts became a primary function. Today, guests can still experience “the West” during summer and hunt in autumn. Year round, the Sweet Grass Ranch operates as a cattle ranch and still uses the original “UX” brand.

**Property:** Big Timber Town Hall

**Address:** 225 McLeod Street, Big Timber, Sweet Grass

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** assembly halls                   **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

As civic reforms swept the nation at the dawn of the twentieth century, Big Timber’s Citizens’ Progressive Party followed national enthusiasm by electing Progressive officials when the city incorporated in 1902. Then on March 13, 1908, a spark from a passing locomotive set fire to the Northern Pacific stockyards. High winds carried flaming embers, starting fires in several places at once. The Livingston fire department arrived by special train to save the community from annihilation, but one-half of Big Timber’s commercial houses and one-third of its homes went up in flames. In the aftermath of this calamity, the civic-minded city council approved construction of a combination town hall and fire hall. Frank Larson submitted a low bid of \$4,805 using his own plans and specifications. Constructed in 1909, Larson’s thoughtfully designed building adapts the Western Commercial style of architecture to a civic application. The flag flying atop the belfry, and the fire bell within, signified the building’s official function. An undivided first floor provided space for the fire trucks and equipment, while a three-room second floor housed the council chamber, the “fire laddies,” and a watchman. The hall served Big Timber until 1966. Under the leadership of Mayor John F. Ashbury (1902-1913), the Citizens’ Progressive Party effected numerous civic improvements. Among them is this town hall, a stellar example of Montana’s Progressive era and a worthy example of the town’s role in the national municipal reform movement.

**Property:** Waborn and Sarah E. Harrison Ranch House

**Address:** Confluence of the Sweet Grass Creek and the Yellowstone River, Greycliff, Sweetgrass

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:** ranches (agricultural complexes)

**Sign Text:**

Gold brought the first white population to Montana, but by the 1870s it was the abundant grasslands that brought settlers to the eastern plains. Brothers Waborn and Al Harrison drove some of the first cattle and horses to this area in 1877 and filed water rights on Sweet Grass Creek in 1878. Following common practices, the Harrisons purchased strips of land along the river, knowing that whoever controlled the water controlled the land. The vast public lands behind became their “accustomed range.” The Harrisons were true ranchers, planting only timothy and alfalfa in their irrigated fields. The disastrous winter of 1886-87 changed grazing practices. Many ranchers switched from cattle to sheep, fencing in the open range. By 1895, the Harrisons had a band of 5,000 sheep as well as horses and cattle. Prominent in the development of Park and Sweet Grass counties, Waborn was trustee when the first local school district was established in 1881 near the Harrison Ranch. Treaty lands across the river belonging to the Crow Nation until 1892 brought some conflict, but settlers caused trouble, too. In 1882, a spurned suitor shot teacher Flora Cutler at the Harrison Ranch; she died some months later in Minnesota.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

According to some reports, vigilantes lynched the young man. Today the Harrison Ranch remains largely intact, representative of Montana's evolving livestock industry. The well preserved, late-nineteenth-century Folk Victorian style home reflects the success of early Sweet Grass Creek ranchers.

**Property:** Teton County Courthouse

**Address:** #1 South Main, Choteau, Teton

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** county courthouses           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

In 1906, Choteau's newspaper, the Acantha, proudly celebrated the completion of the new county courthouse. "This splendid edifice," its editor predicted, "... will stand for years as a monument to the honor and integrity of all the people of the county." Built of locally quarried sandstone, the two-and-one-half-story building has served its community for over a century. From 1893 to 1906, the county operated from rented rooms in several different buildings. By 1905, however, the need for a permanent courthouse was clear—at least to the residents of Choteau. Others further from the county seat had their doubts. When county commissioners proposed a \$40,000 bond issue to construct a permanent courthouse, a spirited newspaper war ensued. The Choteau Acantha enthusiastically championed the bond measure. The Conrad Observer vehemently opposed it, motivated by the hope that Conrad might someday replace Choteau as county seat. Conrad achieved its political ambitions when the legislature carved Pondera County from Teton County in 1919. But it lost this early battle; the bond issue passed 366 to 316. Kalispell architects Joseph Gibson and George Shanley designed the building, likely adapting the plan from their 1903 design for Flathead County High School. Their plan successfully embodied the county's ambitions. The symmetrical façade, central three-story tower, bracketed cornice, arched entrances, and low hipped roof make the courthouse an excellent example of Renaissance Revival style architecture. Commonly used for large public buildings, the style denoted permanence and governmental authority, both important symbolic concepts for the young county.

**Property:** Rainbow Conoco

**Address:** 400 Main, Shelby, Toole

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** service stations           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

At least three generations of motorists have depended upon the courteous, reliable service provided by this longtime Shelby landmark, designed by Continental Oil Company (Conoco) architects and built in 1936. As an adaptation of the competing Pure Oil Company's classic domestic form known as the English cottage-type station, the building reflects Continental's architectural policies of the mid-1930s. The design was intended to blend with both commercial buildings and residential environments. This beautifully maintained 1930s classic station features off-white glazed brick accented with natural orange-red brick trim and a steep gable roof of contrasting dark green asphalt. The color scheme made the station familiar and recognizable as a Continental Oil outlet to passing motorists. Except for the addition of modern pumps and signage, the station remains virtually unchanged; even the restrooms retain the original multi-colored tile trim. Oscar Gunlikson and his son, Jim, operated the station from the 1940s until 1960, but it has long and affectionately been known by local residents as "Joe's" after Joe Kincaid, who took over in 1965. Today, Rainbow Conoco is one of the state's finest examples of 1930s gas station design and equally impressive as one of the company's oldest, continuously operated outlets.

**Property:** Bethany Lutheran Church

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Address:** 1/4 of a mile south of Gus Blaze Road, Oilmont, Toole

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** churches (buildings)           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Completion of the Great Northern Railway and the railroad's promotion of dryland farming in the American West drew homesteaders to this isolated stretch of Montana's northern plains. Prominent among these settlers during the homesteading boom of the 1910s were Norwegian immigrants, who brought their Lutheran faith to this far-away place. As early as 1911, a circuit rider from Conrad provided Lutheran services, binding together the small, remote community. Under Reverend H. E. Haugland, the Bethania Evg. Luthersk Menighed was organized the following year. Services were held in private homes and the Grandview schoolhouse. In 1916, Hulda Sjulli donated three acres of land, and the congregation laid plans for a church and cemetery. Crop failures and World War I intervened, delaying construction. The cemetery was plotted, however, and the first interment occurred during an influenza epidemic in 1918. In 1923, Bethany Lutheran's Ladies Aid purchased a building that was to be moved onto the site and renovated. Fundraising by this highly motivated group paid for construction materials, fencing, and interior furnishings. The organ, collection plates, and labor were donated by local families. Dedicated on September 12, 1926, services were held until the 1950s. In 1960, the small congregation merged with St. Luke's parish in Shelby. Today the Bethany Lutheran Church, commemorating many threads of local history, is a fitting place for community gatherings. Its modest "architecture of necessity" is a lasting expression of immigrant settlers, who kept their traditions and values alive in the vast, windswept wheatlands of northcentral Montana.

**Property:** Shelby Town Hall

**Address:** 100 Montana Ave., Shelby, Toole

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** town halls           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

May 1923 saw some five hundred buildings under construction in Shelby, according to the Great Falls Tribune. "Main Street resembles a freight yard, [with] lumber and material being strewn about," it reported. The cause of the boom? The upcoming 1923 World Heavyweight Championship Fight between titleholder Jack Dempsey and challenger Tom Gibbons. Shelby's mayor—a real estate developer, rancher, and oilman named Jim Johnson—secured the fight by advancing \$100,000 of his own money and raising \$200,000 more, paid as an advance to Dempsey's manager. Johnson also convinced the city council, the Great Northern Railway, and local businesses to build the necessary infrastructure, including a forty-thousand-seat stadium (demolished within the year), miles of sidetrack (for the special trains they anticipated would deliver the fight fans), and this town hall. The city council hired Havre architect Frank Bossuot to design the hall in April 1923; the building was completed in time to serve as press headquarters for the July 4 fight. The actual event was a financial disaster—only a small fraction of the expected fans showed up—but the fifteen-round match went down in sports history. In later years, the hall provided space for city offices, public meetings, and even a jail. In the 1950s, residents constructed an observation tower on the building's roof, which members of the Shelby Ground Observer Corps used from 1954 until 1959. Women made up the majority of these Cold War volunteers, who scanned the skies for enemy aircraft as part of the U.S. Air Force's Operation Skywatch.

**Property:** Sanders Gymnasium and Community Hall

**Address:** Old Hwy 10, Sanders, Treasure

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** gymnasiums           **Subject 2:** assembly halls

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

### Sign Text:

A sense of community and a place to gather were essential in homesteading settlements like Sanders. In 1910, the area's residents rallied together to build a club house on this site. Each donated \$15 or its equivalent in labor, and the building, though crudely assembled, served for nearly thirty years. By the late 1930s, the club house was in disrepair. The Sanders School District wanted a facility that could double as a gymnasium serving Sanders Elementary School next door. A bond election secured funds and the old building was cleared away. Acclaimed regional architect John G. Link drew the plans while Billings contractor Steve Mercer won the bid at \$3,500. The rustic exterior of rugged square-notched logs is a surprising contrast to the interior's lofty ceiling of arched fir and polished hardwood floor. A basketball court, raised stage, built-in seating and state-of-the-art lighting reflected modern technologies despite a lack of indoor plumbing. A community dance christened the new hall and gymnasium on June 29, 1940. Sanders' population began to dwindle and the school closed in 1948. It was later moved to Hysham, but the front gate and two-hole privy remain part of the historic landscape. The hall continued to host dances, reunions, receptions, school plays, and rousing games. Local residents, including descendants of area homesteaders, have carefully refurbished this well-loved place. Its unassuming presence is a shining example of grand things that can be found in unexpected places.

**Property:** Yucca Theatre and David M. Manning Residence

**Address:** 520 Division Street, Hysham, Treasure

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:** theaters (buildings)

### Sign Text:

An optimistic, cheerful nature and keen sense of humor helped make legislator, contractor, and engineer David Manning instrumental in getting Montana "out of the mud." A champion of Montana's rural communities, Manning initiated significant improvements across Montana's sparsely populated areas: electricity, paved roads, dams, and irrigation systems. Nicknamed "The Fox" for his clever solutions to difficult problems, Manning was a fair and patient leader of true vision, who could often cross political party lines when others could not. He served in the Montana House and Senate from 1932 to 1985, longer than any other legislator in the nation at the time of his retirement. Just before embarking upon his long political tenure, Manning and his brother, Jim, designed and built this Hysham landmark. The popularity of talking pictures had reached a peak, and the grandiose Mission style movie theater well represents the flamboyance typical of the 1930s theater design. Its construction in 1931 raised community morale and made the statement that Hysham would survive the Great Depression. In 1936, the stage behind the movie screen was eliminated and living accommodations added (and later expanded), which served as the family home during Manning's long political service. In 1992, the Manning heirs donated both theater and residence to the Treasure County '89ers. Now a museum, they commemorate the town's early development and the productive career of a widely acclaimed Montanan.

**Property:** Fort Peck Hotel and Garage

**Address:** 175 South Missouri Avenue, Fort Peck, Valley

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** hotels (public accommodations)           **Subject 2:** garages

### Sign Text:

When President Franklin Roosevelt's signature authorized construction of the Fort Peck Dam on October 14, 1933, officials immediately began one of the nation's largest New Deal projects. The promise of work on the 134-mile filled-earth dam brought as many as 50,000 people to the Fort Peck townsite. Former college professors, hoboes, foreclosed farmers, and many others came from across the nation to settle here. The only thing they had in common was the need for work; the project employed nearly 10,500 men, who had lost their livelihoods during

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

the Great Depression. The townsite that sprang up to serve these instant residents was designed to be temporary. Instead, Fort Peck became a permanent community of about 300, and beautiful Fort Peck Lake is today a favorite recreation destination created from the 1930s Dust Bowl. The Fort Peck Hotel and Garage were among the “temporary” government structures constructed in the 1930s. Planners chose the Swiss Chalet style, popularized in the national parks of the 1910s and 1920s, for the town’s most prominent buildings such as the hospital, theatre, store, laboratory, and this hotel. The hotel and its utilitarian garage catered to the many government employees and others who came to work, oversee, and inspect the building of the huge dam between 1933 and 1943. The hotel’s rustic timbers, rough-sawn siding, and dramatic gabled entry became a permanent fixture in the temporary-turned-permanent townsite. The now privately operated hotel, refurbished to its 1933 ambience, is a focal point in the community and caters to the visitors who come to enjoy this man-made paradise.

**Property:** Fort Peck Administration Building

**Address:** Admin. Bldg. East Kansas, Fort Peck, Valley

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** administration buildings                   **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The Administration Building was built in 1934 to house management operations for the construction and maintenance of Fort Peck Dam and Lake. Construction of Fort Peck Dam was one of the most ambitious public works projects and symbolized the New Deal in Montana. As many as 10,500 workers participated in construction activities during the 1930s, and as many as 50,000 lived in the surrounding communities. While the Swiss Chalet style (popularized in the West by the National Park Service from the early 1900s to the 1920s) dominates the town, the Colonial Revival style Administration Building stands eloquently apart. Front and rear porches, window shutters, and a clay tile roof with parapet and octagonal cupola embellish the austere symmetrical plan that aptly conveys the building’s significance. During intense construction of the 1930s, wood frame wings were added to house payroll offices and construction staff, while two bunkhouses on the east side accommodated workers. These temporary structures were later removed. Today the Administration Building still presides over the area, home of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Fort Peck Lake office, and other federal agencies.

**Property:** Rundle Building

**Address:** 208 Fifth Street South, Glasgow, Valley

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings                   **Subject 2:** hotels (public accommodations)

**Sign Text:**

Interest in Spanish Mission architecture reached its height in 1915, after the Panama California Exposition popularized the style far beyond the Southwest. Building in the highly recognizable style allowed small town boosters to project a modern, cosmopolitan image. No wonder the premier Montana architectural firm of Link and Haire included colorful terra-cotta detailing, decorative brickwork, and high, shaped parapets—all Mission style elements—in their design for this three-story building, headquarters of the Rundle Title and Abstract Company. The firm’s principal, land locator Sidney Rundle, was one of Glasgow’s biggest boosters, and his fortune was tied directly to the area’s ability to attract homesteaders. His up-to-date building became the center of Glasgow commerce and recreation. Its basement housed a billiards room, bowling alley, and five-chair barber shop with a Turkish bath steam cabinet and two showers, where customers could clean themselves up for a night on the town. Occupying the first floor were ten retail establishments, boasting modern display cases “after the fashion of the big office buildings in the largest cities” and electric lights that illuminated “every nook and corner.” Offices, the abstract company’s fireproof vault, and club rooms for the use of the city’s businessmen filled the second floor. A forty-room hotel, later converted into apartments, topped the building. The Glasgow Courier

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

moved into the business block after 1920. The renowned Sam Gilluly covered Fort Peck Dam's construction and the rise of Glasgow Air Base from his office here during his thirty-year tenure as the Courier's legendary editor.

**Property:** First National Bank of Glasgow

**Address:** 110 5th St. So., Glasgow, Valley

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** banks (financial institutions)           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Glasgow merchants John and Robert Lewis did not face much competition when they opened a bank in a corner of their general store in 1891. Their bank was the only one within over two hundred miles. Despite an initial lack of experience, the Lewis brothers successfully steered the enterprise through economic shoals that doomed many other Montana banks: the panics of 1893 and 1907 and the agricultural depression of the 1920s. During Glasgow's boom years, the bank thrived, moving first to a brick building in 1900 and then, amidst the homesteading boom, to this Beaux Arts business block. National banks, prohibited from investing in real estate other than their own buildings, often constructed banks with surplus office space. First National Bank of Glasgow was no exception. Designed by prominent St. Paul architects Charles Buechner and Henry Orth, this 1914 building housed retail stores and the bank on the first floor and business offices and an apartment for Robert Lewis on the second floor. The two-story building displays the symmetrical façade and exuberant ornamentation associated with the Beaux Arts style: entry porches with roofs supported by graceful Corinthian columns, second-floor balconies, elaborated pilasters, and decorative terra-cotta detailing. Built on the community's busiest street, both for security (to deter bank robbers) and for customer convenience, the building helped mark Glasgow's coming of age. Its architecture expressed a solidity, stability, and grandeur that symbolized safety and permanence, both for the bank and for the community itself.

**Property:** Fort Peck Theatre

**Address:** Missouri Ave, Fort Peck, Valley

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** hotels (public accommodations)           **Subject 2:** theaters (buildings)

**Sign Text:**

When President Roosevelt authorized the Works Progress Administration construction of the Fort Peck Dam in 1933, the "instant" town with a population of 10,000 created a need for social and recreational diversions in this remote area of Montana. The Army Corps of Engineers designed and constructed this theatre in less than nine months at a cost of nearly \$90,000. The theatre opened November 16, 1934, as a movie house. Seating capacity was 1,200 and continuous showings ran twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week during the construction of the Fort Peck Dam. Patrons sometimes braved lines as long as seven blocks to see the newest films for a forty-cent floor or thirty-cent balcony seat. The theatre's function as a movie house ceased in 1968, but its original carbon arc projectors remain in operable condition. The cut-out balustrades, false balconies, chamfered beams, and herringbone-patterned siding of this Swiss chalet style structure reveal careful attention to artistic detail that is unsurpassed in WPA construction in Montana. The Fort Peck Theatre now houses the largest professional theatre company in eastern Montana and is a cultural treasure serving almost eight thousand theatre-goers during the summer months.

**Property:** Graves Hotel

**Address:** 106 S Central St, Harlowton, Wheatland

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** hotels (public accommodations)           **Subject 2:**



## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

### Sign Text:

In June of 1907 fire swept through Harlowton's Main Street, consuming twenty-four buildings, among them the town's only hotel. Prominent businessman A. C. "Chris" Graves resolved to build a new hotel, but relocated it on the bluff between the old Main Street and the depot. As others quickly followed suit, the focus of Harlowton's commercial district turned ninety degrees. The fire also prompted a city ordinance requiring fireproof construction, and the Graves Hotel was the first building of locally quarried sandstone erected after the disaster. Stonemason August Pollman and his crew of local workmen cut the stone from the cliff beneath the new building and laid each block following the plans of architects Kent and Shanley. The three-story hotel held its grand opening on June 19, 1909. Illuminated by one hundred fifty electric lights, the hotel was dazzling with the "...most elaborate electrical display in this section of Montana." The Graves' forty-five rooms offered travelers, homesteaders, and visiting railroad dignitaries the most modern accommodations. The hotel still welcomes guests with its second-floor veranda, exquisite interior oak detailing, and sweeping views of the Musselshell Valley.

**Property:** Chappell Block

**Address:** 109 Wibaux St So., Wibaux, Wibaux

**Historic District:** Wibaux Commercial      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings      **Subject 2:** hotels (public accommodations)

### Sign Text:

Prominent resident Stephen B. Chappell was the main financial contributor and owner of this magnificent edifice constructed in 1911. The building combines two structures that are unified by a single façade treatment. The Chappell Hotel, First State Bank, and a grocery store were the original occupants. Meticulous craftsmanship, colorful brickwork, and lavish architectural ornamentation above the two main entries result in a beautifully sophisticated example of early-twentieth-century architecture in a small western town.

**Property:** Wibaux House

**Address:** Orgain Ave, Wibaux, Wibaux

**Historic District:**      **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

### Sign Text:

Pierre Wibaux, scion of a distinguished French textile family, arrived here at the settlement of Mingusville in 1883, establishing a cattle ranch about 12 miles north. His herds fared well during the devastating "Hard Winter of 1886-1887," after which he borrowed family money to buy out less fortunate ranchers. By the mid-1890s, his ranch was one of the largest cattle operations in the nation, running about 65,000 head of cattle and 300 of horses. He sold from 3,000 to 9,000 cattle each year. Wibaux and others persuaded the Northern Pacific Railroad to build stockyards here in 1883, and to enlarge them in 1894. Wibaux campaigned to have Mingusville platted and renamed for him, both of which occurred in 1894. Two years previously, he and Henry Boice of the Berry-Boice Cattle Company had built this office/residence. Wibaux soon took it over completely, and used it during the week to oversee his business interests. The building faced north until W. A. Orgain, a local merchant, purchased the property in 1903 and moved the building to the rear and facing west. Originally it was surrounded by a lush park of grass and arbored vines tended by a French gardener, the water for irrigation and two artificial ponds supplied by an elevated tank filled by a windmill.

**Property:** Vogt-Nunberg Farm Historic District

**Address:** 7262 Hwy 7, , Wibaux

**Historic District:** Vogt-Nunberg Farm      **Building Type:** rural district

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Subject 1:** historic districts

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Twenty-year-old John Vogt arrived in the Beaver Valley in 1910 at the height of the homesteading boom. Boosters promoted "good soil, good climate, good schools, [and] good markets" and touted new dry-land farming techniques that promised high crop yields without irrigation. Not all would-be farmers took out homesteads. The Northern Pacific Railroad already owned 13.3 million acres in Montana, which it had acquired from the federal government to help finance construction of its transcontinental line. Eager for new customers, the railroad aggressively marketed its holdings, offering good terms to anyone interested in acquiring land. With his brother Jacob homesteading nearby, John Vogt purchased this farm from the railroad in 1911. He hired local builder Joe Novantey to construct a two-story residence as well as the farm's centerpiece, a 73-foot-by-35-foot balloon-frame cattle barn. Balloon framing, which used milled lumber instead of timber, was standard practice on the Great Plains. A chicken coop, feed house, and hog shed, also built during Vogt's tenure, reflect his diversified operation. John married Charlotte Bott in 1917, and together the couple weathered drought and low commodity prices before selling the farm to Alfred and Victoria Nunberg in 1929. The Nunbergs survived the Great Depression by raising pigs, chickens, sheep, beef and dairy cattle, wheat, barley, oats, and hay. They also hosted community dances in their barn's large hay loft to supplement their income. Despite hard times, they raised nine children, improved the farm, and enlarged their holdings. Son Fred took over the operation in 1958, actively farming until 1995.

**Property:** Kinney Block / First National Bank Building

**Address:** 125 So Wibaux St, Wibaux, Wibaux

**Historic District:** Wibaux Commercial

**Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings

**Subject 2:** banks (financial institutions)

**Sign Text:**

In 1910, J. C. Kinney and other local capitalists created the Wibaux Improvement Company to build this handsome two-story business block. Contractor Charles Charmichael of Miles City constructed the "large and commodious building ... faced with a high grade red pressed brick and trimmed with red sandstone" for \$33,000. According to the Wibaux Pioneer, the building was "strictly modern, hot water heated and hot and cold water in every suite." A year later, the Improvement Company installed an electric plant with a six-hundred-light capacity in the basement. In addition to a generator imported from St. Paul, Minnesota, the plant also boasted a "large storage battery," which supplied "commercial lights early in the mornings, [on] dark afternoons," and at other times the main plant did not operate. The building's early tenants included a clothing store, drug store, post office, barbershop, and realty and loan company. Kinney was president of First National Bank, and the bank had offices on the second floor. In the 1950s, John Dobrowski converted the building into the Palace Hotel and Cafe, which it remains today.

**Property:** St. Peter's Catholic Church

**Address:** West Orgain Ave, Wibaux, Wibaux

**Historic District:**

**Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** churches (buildings)

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Dismayed that his son's adoptive home had no Catholic Church, Frenchman Achille Wibaux instructed Pierre to build one here. The rancher contributed \$2,000 for the construction of this wood-frame, vernacular Gothic Revival structure. It was built in 1895 by R. R. Cummings and Eugene Blias of Glendive. The Wibaux congregation being at that time as a mission of Miles City, and Father Van der Broeck of Miles City superintended the church's construction. In 1938, the church was enlarged and its exterior walls covered with scoria, a lava rock common to

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

the badlands of the area. Father Leahy, pastor of the church beginning in 1931, conceived the idea of a scoria facing, and volunteers from the congregation went rock-picking in wagons and pickup trucks. Father Leahy recorded that “patient men did a beautiful job of laying the rock up to and on the steeple.” The building served as Wibaux’s Catholic Church until 1965, when a new church was built and this building was converted to a catechism school.

**Property:** Wibaux Commercial Historic District

**Address:** , Wibaux, Wibaux

**Historic District:** Wibaux Commercial **Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** historic districts **Subject 2:** commercial structures

**Sign Text:**

From its roots as a pre-1900s cattle town to a farming community after the turn of the century, Wibaux well illustrates the transformation borne by many small Montana towns. This historic district reflects the high point of the town’s influence as an agricultural center. The dryland farming movement (1905-1915) brought an influx of settlers which in turn increased the number of farms and eliminated open range cattle ranching. Wibaux experienced a shift from the stockyard industry to agricultural trade. When a devastating fire swept away the principal business blocks in the district in 1906, the frame, false-fronted buildings and board sidewalks became a thing of the past. One- and two-story closely grouped brick buildings constructed between 1905 and 1917 replaced most of the frame structures. Today these give the district its architectural cohesiveness, featuring transitional stylistic elements between Classical Revival and the more modern “Prairie” school of commercial design. In 1910 alone, commercial construction expenditures exceeded \$92,000, and Wibaux supported almost 50 businesses. The town had come a long way from its 1880 origins and its lively reputation as one of the “toughest towns north of the Rio Grande.”

**Property:** Woodburn Building

**Address:** , Wibaux, Wibaux

**Historic District:** Wibaux Commercial **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:** fraternal lodges

**Sign Text:**

Brothers Burl and William Woodburn collaborated to construct this substantial commercial building in 1917. The Masonic Temple was located on the upper floor and the Woodburn Brothers Grocery occupied the ground space until the building changed hands in 1921. Its striking polychrome brick, gently sloping gable parapets, and terra cotta tile-framed windows and doors add unique contrast to the plain rectangular plan. Numerous T- and diamond-shaped terra cotta medallions ornament the upper level.

**Property:** Clark Hardware Company

**Address:** 110 S. Wibaux Street, Wibaux, Wibaux

**Historic District:** Wibaux Commercial **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Harold G. Clark and Orlando Burgess, owners of the Clark Hardware Company, constructed this one-story brick and stucco commercial building in 1916. Representative of the period of Wibaux’s major economic development, it originally housed the hardware store, a funeral parlor, jewelry store, and tailor. Six decorative relief panels ornament the upper portion of the structure. Multicolored brick in a chevron and diamond pattern adorn the space above the center door.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Property:** Smith Saloon

**Address:** 109 15th Ave NW, Wibaux, Wibaux

**Historic District:** Wibaux Commercial **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** saloons (bars)

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Constructed during Wibaux's transition period from a cattle town into an agricultural center, this Queen Anne commercial style building originally housed the Smith Saloon. Partners William H. Smith, John R. Cornell, and W. H. North built the saloon between 1904 and 1906 and later sold the business to W. H. Rucker, who operated it until 1917 when he sold the property to the State Bank of Yates. Renamed the Wibaux County Bank, it operated out of here until its failure. In 1923, Wibaux County purchased the building for use as the county courthouse and jail. Since 1952, the City Hall and the public library have occupied the space. The Smith Saloon is an excellent example of early-twentieth-century commercial architecture, with front parapet and battlements, corner pilasters, a tiered belt course with modillions, recessed doorway, and a concrete hood with ornamental concrete support brackets. A primary structure in the historic district, the building remains as the best representative of early Wibaux County government.

**Property:** L and L Building

**Address:** 2624 Minnesota Ave., Billings, Yellowstone

**Historic District:** **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** grocery stores

**Subject 2:** restaurants

**Sign Text:**

In 1884, two years after the Northern Pacific founded the town of Billings, a one-story wooden grocery store stood on this site. Twelve years later, the corner of Minnesota and Twenty-seventh boasted one of the South Side's first brick buildings. The exuberant sheet-metal cornice and cast-iron storefront, manufactured in Minneapolis, mark the building as a product of the railroad era. Such large architectural elements could only be shipped by train. Other architectural decoration includes rough-cut sandstone sills and segmented brick arches with sandstone keystones accenting the windows. As was typical of the era, the rear of the building and the east wall (designed to abut a neighboring building) are much plainer than the building's public faces. In 1896, Chinese immigrant Sam Lee purchased the two-story brick business block, where he opened a restaurant with his brother Yee. They called the restaurant L and L for Lee and Lee. By 1900, the Lees had converted the restaurant into a liquor and cigar store. Upstairs they offered "nicely furnished rooms," advertising their lodging house as "first class ... good as a bank." Residents of the integrated lodging house included both Lee brothers, four other Chinese men (two waiters, a dishwasher, and a cook), a white stockman from Texas, and a white waitress from California. Sam Lee owned several other buildings in the area, which became known as China Alley. During Prohibition, the alley became a center of bootlegging and gained a reputation for crime. However, tales of secret tunnels and opium dens may owe more to fantasy than reality.

**Property:** Harold and Marion Ruth Residence

**Address:** 111 Emerald Drive, Billings, Yellowstone

**Historic District:** **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Longtime Billings businessman and western art entrepreneur Harold Ruth and his wife, Marion, chose this setting, very remote in the 1950s, to build their family home. The house best represents a classic 1950s western Ranch-

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

style residence incorporating other architectural styles popular in the United States at that time. The Magic City boomed in the Fifties as the oil industry expanded to meet the demands of the nation's growing love affair with the automobile. The post-war affluence enabled many Billings residents to move into the rural areas surrounding the city, where they built custom homes. The Ruths hired Billings architect Everett Terrell to design the home on a cliff overlooking the culturally and historically significant Alkali Creek valley. Native Americans hunted buffalo in this valley for generations before it became an important travel corridor between the Missouri and Yellowstone rivers for fur trappers and freighters in the nineteenth century. Built by the Lynch Construction Company in 1956, the house combines the best elements of the Ranch, Craftsman, and Swiss Chalet architectural styles, including the low-pitched gable roof, exposed rafters, board-and-batten siding, tuck-under garage, full-length and enclosed porches, and balcony. Large picture windows light the interior's open floor plan. The house blends into its surroundings and is suggestive of the ranch cabins built in eastern Montana during cattle days of the late 1800s. Even though Billings Heights has grown to encompass this once isolated place, it is still evocative of Billings' rural past in the heady years of the mid-twentieth century.

**Property:** 901 N 32 St

**Address:** 901 N 32 St, Billings, Yellowstone

**Historic District:** North Elevation Historic District

**Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The Prairie style is well represented in this two-story America Foursquare home built in 1915. A low hipped roof, extended eaves with exposed rafter tails, symmetrical façade, and lap siding emphasize horizontal lines. These architectural features especially distinguish the historic district. David and Madge Brumbaugh moved to Billings in 1915 and for the next forty years made their home here. David was agent and chief inspector for the Western Weighing and Inspection Bureau. The Brumbaughs were exceptionally active in their adopted community. A veteran of the Spanish American War, David served as commander of the local United Spanish War Veterans group. He also served in the Montana House of Representatives, on the Billings City Council and local school board, was active in fraternal organizations, and was a reader in the Christian Science church. Madge ran a popular neighborhood grocery on 9th Avenue adjacent to the home. She also was very active in auxiliary and community organizations. The Brumbaughs passed away within several months of each other in 1955.

**Property:** I.D. O'Donnell Home

**Address:** 105 Clark Ave, Billings, Yellowstone

**Historic District:**

**Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:** agriculture

**Sign Text:**

Ignatius D. O'Donnell came to Montana Territory from Michigan in 1882 to seek his fortune. A pioneer in crop development and irrigation methods, O'Donnell came to be called the "Alfalfa King," introducing both alfalfa and the sugar beet plant to the Yellowstone Valley. O'Donnell, his wife Louise, and family of six children moved into this spacious twelve-room home on New Year's Day, 1905. The beautiful residence, designed by prominent Montana architects Link and Haire, was located on what was then the edge of town. A three-story octagonal turret, bay windows, narrow siding, stained glass, and diagonal window panes make the home a noteworthy example of Victorian period architecture. Within the home, floors and woodwork that retain their original finish and sliding pocket doors are a credit to the fine craftsmanship of builders Eames and Sawyer. In 1914, O'Donnell became supervisor of irrigation for the U.S. Reclamation Commission, which he helped organize, and in 1919 he was designated "Montana's Best Farmer." O'Donnell contributed to all facets of the early Billings community and when he died in 1948, his legacy extended from the irrigation canals and sugar beet industry to civic enterprises

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

such as the county fair, public library, city parks, and Rocky Mountain College. Helene Wallis, O'Donnell's eldest daughter, resided in the home from 1905 to 1988, raising her own family here. This exceptional, well-maintained residence remains in the O'Donnell family, its turn-of-the-twentieth-century appearance remarkably unchanged.

**Property:** Cardell House (Kiser Home)

**Address:** 311 Clark Ave, Billings, Yellowstone

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

One of the West Side's earliest homes, this two-story wood-frame residence was built in 1906 for Robert C. Cardell, a prominent Billings businessman. The home is a good example of the American Foursquare, a popular turn-of-the-twentieth-century building form characterized by a basic two-story cube with hipped roof, central dormer, and one-story porch. The simple design is here tastefully embellished with Craftsman style elements: wide eaves with exposed rafter ends, wraparound porch treatment with solid railings, and square full-length porch supports. Meticulous attention to detail, such as decorative patterning on the upper window surrounds, demonstrates the fine artistry of this excellently preserved home.

**Property:** Dude Rancher Lodge

**Address:** 415 North 29th Street, Billings, Yellowstone

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** dude ranches           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The number of motels in Billings grew rapidly as the national economy boomed after World War II. Millions of Americans took to the road on vacations and for business trips, creating a tremendous need for roadside accommodations. Among all the motels in the Magic City, the Dude Rancher Lodge was the most unique, incorporating the most modern amenities, yet also providing a link to the region's Old West roots. Billings businessman Percy Goan and his wife Annabel worked with the well-known Billings architectural firm of Cushing and Terrell to develop a design that harkened back to the ranch houses of the Montana frontier. The design integrated bricks salvaged from the old St. Vincent's Hospital and wood beams from a recently demolished milling company. The rustic Ranch style motel displays weeping brick mortar, full-length porches in the center parking area, and guest rooms with wood-paneled doors. Annabel Goan cleverly designed the interior, which features knotty pine paneling, decorative lampshades, custom-built western-style furniture, and carpeting with the brands of local ranchers who invested in the project. An added treat was The Stirrup coffee shop, which served mouth-watering meals in a western atmosphere. Completed in 1950, the Dude Rancher Lodge quickly became a local showcase and popular hostelry for people from all over Montana and the United States. Promoters promised that the "Spirit of the West was everywhere evident" at the Dude Rancher Lodge. The Goan family operated the Dude until 1990. It was, and still is under its second owner in 2010, Billings' most distinctive motel.

**Property:** Yukon Bar

**Address:** 2720 Minnesota, Billings, Yellowstone

**Historic District:** Billings Old Town           **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** saloons (bars)           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Once considered the "wrong side of the tracks," Minnesota Avenue was known for its many bars, brothels, cigar stores, and Chinese restaurants. (Chinese districts often bordered red light districts, serving inexpensive food to the working women and other patrons.) Around 1893, German saloon keeper and landlord Nicholas Klos built this

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

small brick building, which is among the oldest commercial structures in Billings. He converted it into two storefronts by 1896. Characteristically, one side housed a saloon, the other a cigar store. He removed the interior wall around 1900, when Frank Young opened a Chinese restaurant. The building later became a billiards hall. In the 1920s, Keene Auto Company remodeled and expanded the premises for a service station and auto repair shop. Prohibition ended in 1933, and the business returned to its roots when the Yukon Bar opened two years later. The Yukon, open into the 1980s, became a Billings institution—a place where tourists went to gawk and sheepherders to drink. An extensive restoration project, completed in 2008, replaced missing and altered architectural elements. The storefront now looks much as it did in 1901.

**Property:** Laurel Downtown Historic District

**Address:** Historic District, Laurel, Yellowstone

**Historic District:** Laurel Downtown      **Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** historic districts      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The Northern Pacific Railroad steamed through the Yellowstone Basin in 1883, passing the small agricultural community of Carlton. The town was renamed Laurel, and a post office opened there in 1886. When the Rocky Fork Railroad, an affiliate of the Northern Pacific, built a branch line to Red Lodge in 1889, it platted a new townsite at the junction nearby and Laurel residents relocated. The new Laurel was laid out as a typical railroad T-town; businesses sprang up along Main Street, parallel to the tracks. The railroad and a sugar beet processing plant helped assure permanency, and in 1906, Laurel incorporated. The Laurel Sentinel proudly invited the world to “watch Laurel grow” while boosters urged investors to come to Laurel where “a sure thing” awaited them. By 1914, the Northern Pacific; Chicago, Burlington and Quincy; and the Great Northern railroads converged at Laurel. The town became the leading terminal between St. Paul, Minnesota, and Seattle, Washington. From 1910 to 1920, Laurel’s population nearly tripled. An oil refinery, built in 1929, added a third industry to railroads and agriculture, bolstering the economy during the depressed 1930s. Laurel’s downtown evolved accordingly, stretching to the east and west, spanning the period from 1906 to 1960. The district’s architectural patterns visually document Laurel’s evolution. Early boomtown false fronts represent the heart of the district. Western Commercial style brick storefronts and architect-designed business blocks illustrate the town’s emerging stability. Post-World War II modern structures at the district’s edges underscore how transportation, industry, and agriculture continued to fuel local commerce.

**Property:** Swift and Company Building

**Address:** 2605 Minnesota, Billings, Yellowstone

**Historic District:** Billings Old Town      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** warehouses      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Gustavus Swift of Sagamore, Massachusetts, founded a meat-packing company in 1850 that revolutionized the industry. His contributions included assembly-line processing, promotion of the safety of pre-cut and processed meat, and improvement and use of refrigerated railcars, allowing year-round shipment. By the early 1900s, Swift and Company had processing plants and warehouses across the United States. The company built this warehouse in 1916 to store processed meat for distribution to markets and restaurants in the surrounding area. Its key location along the former Northern Pacific Railroad’s right-of-way, just south of the tracks, illustrates the critical link between rail transportation and industry. Its decorative brick façade, twin triangle parapets, and stone-trimmed windows are excellent examples of early-twentieth-century warehouse architecture. Massive timber-and-beam construction, expansive cold storage rooms, and a meat smoking tower at the northwest corner remain intact. Faint ghost signs reading “Swift Silverleaf” and “Swift and Company” recall the building’s original use. Swift

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

operated this warehouse through the 1970s. In 2009, careful and creative adaptive re-use into nine loft apartments preserved the building's industrial character both inside and out.

**Property:** 1024 N. 31st St

**Address:** 1024 N. 31st St., Billings, Yellowstone

**Historic District:** North Elevation Historic District

**Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

One of only a few Colonial Revival style homes in the historic district, this side-gable, two-story residence dates to circa 1913. Clapboard siding, a centered entry, windows with shutters, and an enclosed side porch are Colonial Revival style hallmarks. Queen Anne style spindles encircle the porch and square columns with Italianate-inspired brackets support the front entry, illustrating the eclectic mix of architectural elements common in the early 1900s. The first documented residents were the William and Laura Lawson family. William pioneered Montana's sugar beet industry, managing the Billings Sugar Company. He later was vice president of the Colorado-based Holly Sugar Company. The Lawsons hosted many parties and were avid bridge players. By 1930, Peter and Beulah Rowan owned the home. Peter was the owner of the Billings Chrysler-Plymouth dealership and very involved in civic affairs. He was a director of the Deaconess Hospital, a twenty-five-year member of the YMCA board, helped found the Billings Community Concert Association, and was a longtime member of the Kiwanis Club and Chamber of Commerce. The Rowan family retained ownership until the 1980s.

**Property:** Losekamp Block

**Address:** 2817 Montana Ave, Billings, Yellowstone

**Historic District:** Billings Old Town

**Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

John Losekamp brought boots and shoes to Billings by mule train in 1882, when a cluster of tents and a few log cabins defined the business district. The pioneer merchant purchased this lot around 1890, constructing a two-story brick business block by 1894. The building's second story still looks much as it did originally. Its spirited design features a bracketed metal cornice, a decorative brick frieze with circular medallions and cream brick diamonds, raised brick accents, and embellished window heads. As Billings grew, so did Losekamp's business, and in 1907, he advertised himself as a "men's outfitter." Known for his willingness to offer area cowboys credit, he sold "ranch supplies, clothing, trunks, shoes, valises." An avid sportsman, Losekamp planted the first trout in Beartooth Lake, imported Chinese pheasants for bird hunting and, as state representative, supported enactment and enforcement of game laws. Almost entirely self-educated, he also helped pass the law establishing free county high schools. He generously supported higher education as well; when he died in 1913, he left a third of his estate to Billings Polytechnic (later Rocky Mountain College.)

**Property:** Crane Company Building

**Address:** 24 S 30th St, Billings, Yellowstone

**Historic District:** Billings Old Town

**Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** warehouses

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Warehouses are known for their solid construction, and the Crane Co. warehouse, built of brick with heavy timber frame support and a concrete foundation, is no exception. The plumbing supply firm of Crane and Ordway already had warehouses in Great Falls and Butte when it built this massive facility for its Billings branch in 1920. The



## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

functional building features a daylight basement and a tower-like single-bay projection on the southeast corner. Its construction signaled Billings' growing importance as a regional trade center. Crane and Ordway supplied retailers and builders with pipes, valves, water heaters, radiators, and approximately 20,000 other heating and plumbing products, including windmills. As Fortune Magazine noted in 1936, "You can't run a railroad or build a dam, operate a paper mill or lay a sewer, dig an oil well or heat a hospital, or launch a battleship or even take a shower without using ... products that are made by Crane Co." The wholesale firm occupied the building until late 1970s. Left vacant for many years, the building underwent rehabilitation and renovation in 2004.

**Property:** Laurel Roadside Museum

**Address:** 108 E Main St, Laurel, Yellowstone

**Historic District:** Laurel Downtown      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** transportation museums (buildings)      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Despite the crippling effects of the Great Depression, American auto tourists took to the roads in record numbers in the 1930s. To lure these tourists to Montana, the state highway department's Robert Fletcher developed an ambitious promotional program. It included publication of the first "official" highway map in 1934, the creation of a highway historical marker program in 1935, and construction of roadside picnic areas, information centers, and ports-of-entry stations. Fletcher also envisioned a chain of roadside museums, constructed by the highway department but staffed and maintained by local chambers of commerce. Although several communities along U.S. Highways 10 and 91 expressed interest, the Laurel Roadside Museum was the only museum completed under the program. Constructed in 1938, the Rustic style frame and log building housed the police station in one room and the museum, which featured fossils, dioramas, and a buffalo head mount, in the other. The Laurel Commercial Club hired Crow Indian Max Big Man to staff the museum and offer daily presentations on Indian life to tourists. The seasonal museum operated only four years before World War II led to its closure.

**Property:** Billings Old Town Historic District

**Address:** , Billings, Yellowstone

**Historic District:**      **Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** historic districts      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Offering an eclectic architectural mix, Old Town tells the story of Billings' growth. The Northern Pacific founded the community as a railroad hub in 1882, and by the end of 1883, some 400 canvas tents and crude buildings lined the streets. The 1882 McAdow building reflects this frontier phase, when merchants quickly assembled false-front buildings to mimic the architecture of more established communities. Frequent fires convinced developers to invest in masonry structures, including the circa 1893 Yukon Bar, one of Billings' earliest brick buildings. The ornate LandL and Covington buildings (both constructed circa 1895) reflect the community's stylistic aspirations. Built on the edge of "China Alley," they also represent Billings' small yet significant Chinese community, members of which owned both business blocks. Later the Covington block became one of two African American-owned buildings in Old Town, evidence of another of the city's under-recognized populations. By 1900, the railroad had made Billings a prosperous, and permanent, trading center. The city's commercial prominence expanded during the homesteading boom, and impressive structures, like the architect-designed Parmly Billings Memorial Library, constructed in 1901, announced the its new status. Large warehouses, built by both local investors and national chains, recall Billings' importance as a wholesale distribution center. Cars began to transform this railroad district with the construction of the Sunset Garage in 1917. They also redirected development away from the railroad. Nevertheless, the district still saw several important projects after World War I, including the 1937 architect-

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

designed Art Deco Service Candy Company and the 1939 Streamline Moderne style Community Gas and Oil Building.

**Property:** Rex Hotel

**Address:** 2401 Montana Ave, Billings, Yellowstone

**Historic District:** Billings Townsite      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** hotels (public accommodations)      **Subject 2:** saloons (bars)

**Sign Text:**

A twist of fate landed 16-year-old German immigrant Alfred Heimer a job with Buffalo Bill Cody's Wild West Show in 1894. Although the irascible Colonel Cody fired young Heimer three times during that first day, the youth remained as steward of Cody's private railway car until 1903, developing a close friendship with the famous frontiersman. The genial Heimer settled in Billings and built the Rex Bar circa 1909, which served such colorful patrons as Buffalo Bill and Will James. Early advertisements extolled Heimer's German lunches and promised the "Best Beer in Town." Circa 1917, addition of the third floor converted Heimer's "nice furnished rooms" into a classy hotel that hosted many dignitaries including the great Crow chief, Plenty Coups, who stayed here in 1921 en route to Washington, D.C. Under new proprietors the Rex flourished during Prohibition; the bar simply went under cover. The hotel closed in 1974 and narrowly escaped demolition. Award-winning rehabilitation has restored the Rex to its former glory, where the hospitality first offered by Alfred Heimer is again Billings tradition.

**Property:** 1147 N 31 St

**Address:** 1147 N 31 St, Billings, Yellowstone

**Historic District:** North Elevation Historic District      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Rapid changes in technology, industry, and social customs marked the Jazz Age of the 1920s. In the face of short skirts and speakeasies, many Americans longed for a supposedly simpler past. The Tudor style's story-book charm and emblematic decorative half-timbering, prominent chimney, steeply pitched gable roofs, and multi-paned windows appealed to this nostalgia. While the exterior design reflected suburbanites' ambivalence toward modernity, the homes themselves offered all the modern conveniences. The style was popular nationwide in the 1920s but is rare in the North Elevation neighborhood. By 1930, the one-story stucco and brick cottage was home to Henry and Mabel Coleman and their two children. A prominent Billings attorney, Henry arrived in Billings as a young lawyer in 1909 and dedicated himself to his adopted community as an avid booster, serving as an active Rotarian, alderman, and president of the Billings Commercial Club. Mabel was gifted golfer and bridge champion. The Colemans lived here until their deaths, Henry's in 1962 and Mabel's in 1969.

**Property:** Northern Pacific Depot "Union Station"

**Address:** 2310 Montana Ave, Billings, Yellowstone

**Historic District:** Billings Townsite      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** railroad stations      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Billings' first depot was built in 1883, a year after the arrival of the Northern Pacific. Because the first depot failed to meet railroad specifications, the nearby Headquarters Hotel served instead as the passenger station. The hotel burned a few years later and a second depot replaced it. In 1909, the Northern Pacific began to upgrade its facilities and built this splendid \$65,000 passenger station to be used by three railroad companies. Designed by the Northern Pacific's chief engineer, only the Livingston Depot equaled this stylish station. The up-to-date complex featured a spacious waiting area for 200 passengers, gentleman's smoking room, ladies' waiting room,

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

baggage area, and service offices. The “lunch house” had its own separate building where a chef “second to none in the employ of the company” had charge of the kitchen. By 1914, tracks extended in ten directions and twenty-six passenger trains arrived and departed the depot daily. Striking red roofs, gabled dormers, and stepped parapets long provided travelers with a grand first impression of this busy railroad hub.

**Property:** Fire House No. 2

**Address:** 201 E 30th St, Billings, Yellowstone

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** fire stations           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Early Billings relied on the volunteers of the Maverick Hose Company to fight fires. Their equipment included two-wheeled hose carts, which the firefighters pulled by hand. In 1894, the company purchased its first team of fire horses and hired its first paid employee. The city soon added more paid men to the crew. The Mavericks operated from Billings' combination city hall and firehouse after 1903. In 1910, voters passed a bond issue to build a second firehouse. This two-story brick building reflects the Prairie style with its horizontal emphasis; low-pitched roof; wide, overhanging eaves; band of narrow windows; and geometric ornamentation. The modern, forward-looking style was an appropriate choice for a firehouse designed specifically to accommodate the weight of the city's new “triple combination fire automobile.” The fire company's horse teams remained at city hall, along with the horse-drawn hook-and-ladder and hose wagons. Like most early twentieth-century fire stations, the new Fire House #2 combined several functions. It served as a civic symbol, a garage, and a residence. In 1911, the fire department had ten paid employees, assisted by twenty-five active volunteers. Four professionals and five volunteers lived here. The professional firefighters were on duty twenty-four hours a day, with only one day off a week. A familiar brass fire pole gave them quick access to the ground floor from their second-floor living quarters. In 1965, the city closed this firehouse, leasing the building to the Salvation Army. Renovations in 2004 carefully maintained the firehouse's original character while converting the building to office space and apartments.

**Property:** Oliver Building

**Address:** 2702 Montana Ave., Billings, Yellowstone

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The homesteading boom was in full swing in 1910, but not all of Montana's newcomers came to farm. With the arrival of three transcontinental railroads, Billings became established as a regional hub of commerce. Many businesses saw opportunity in the region's expanding markets, and the city became the nation's sixth fastest-growing community. The Oliver Chilled Plow Works, which constructed this four-story, 37,500-square-foot business block, was one of many national corporations to build here. Among the largest farm implement dealers in the U.S., the plow works took its name from its founder, James Oliver, and his specially patented method to chill (or harden) plow points to reduce wear. H. B. Sill managed the farm implement and automobile dealership. A four-foot platform made it easy for the railroad to offload merchandise trackside, while the building's street-side façades featured large display windows to entice customers. Upper floors provided apartments as well as warehouse space; in 1920, tenants included a dressmaker, janitor, stenographer, laborer, and “telephone girl.” A fire in May 1930 swept through the structure's top floors, causing over \$125,000 of damage. The Billings Hardware Company, which by then owned the building, hired architect Chandler Cohagen to oversee reconstruction. Cohagen is responsible for the Art Moderne style banding and geometric brickwork decorating the upper stories. A lasting example of Billings' rail-centered economy, the Oliver Building also reflects the growing

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

popularity of the automobile. Stenciled on the northeast foundation is a sign reading "Glacier-to-Gulf," denoting the building as a landmark along a 1920s tourism "motorway" from Galveston, Texas, to Glacier National Park.

**Property:** Tenth Avenue Grocery

**Address:** 3115 10th Ave N, Billings, Yellowstone

**Historic District:** North Elevation Historic District

**Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings

**Subject 2:** Western Commercial

**Sign Text:**

One of two existing storefronts in the North Elevation Historic District, this one-story Western Commercial style grocery store features a stylized stepped parapet and large display windows. Sam Chichas, the Greek proprietor of a grocery on North Twenty-fifth Street, opened his second market here in 1921. When announcing his new venture, he promised to keep "a complete line of staple and fancy groceries ... on hand." Chichas soon changed his mind about branching out, however, and in 1924 Canadian immigrant William MacFarquhar purchased the building. MacFarquhar, who renamed the business the Tenth Avenue Grocery, personally managed the store until his retirement in 1939. In the early 1930s, he and his wife Margaret lived on the premises with their teenaged son. Other longtime owners included Carl and Madaline Clavadetscher, who purchased the market in the 1950s. Close to McKinley Elementary School, the grocery, which carried a large stock of penny candy, was beloved by local children. Through its many owners, the store remained a neighborhood gathering site and service-oriented business that, into the 1990s, offered home delivery and credit to long-time customers.

**Property:** 1138 N 31 St

**Address:** 1138 N 31 St, Billings, Yellowstone

**Historic District:** North Elevation Historic District

**Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:** Craftsman

**Sign Text:**

Valued at \$7,000 in 1930, this newly built residence was home to grocer Robert Milligan, his wife Ida Mae, their three children, a fourteen-year-old niece, and a live-in servant. The one-and-one-half story, front-gabled house features Craftsman bungalow-style details. These include exposed rafter tails and roof beams, triangular knee braces, clapboard siding, a covered porch entrance, single dormers, and multi-pane windows. Ida Mae Milligan sold the home to Wylie and Grace Johnston in August 1930. A division freight and passenger agent for Burlington Railroad, Wylie was an active member of several fraternal orders in town, including the Billings Masonic Lodge. He was Grace's second husband, and before she and Wylie married in 1927, she was raising three children with the help of her parents, while working as a clerk for the D. J. Cole Department Store. Unlike most women of the era, Grace continued to work after she and Wylie married, even going on a month-long buying trip in 1928 to Chicago and New York. The home continues to stand as an excellent example of Craftsman style architecture in the North Elevation Historic District.

**Property:** Electric Building

**Address:** 113-115 Broadway, Billings, Yellowstone

**Historic District:** **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** power plants

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Billings was but a fledgling townsite along the Northern Pacific Railroad's route when the Billings Water Company brought the first electrical current into the settlement in 1887. By 1908, Billings had the lead as a busy agricultural hub. Arrival of the Great Northern Railway and the Enlarged Homestead Act in 1909 brought Billings further to the

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

forefront. At the heart of the dry-land farming movement and the homesteading boom, Billings was the sixth-fastest growing community in the nation. The city's streetscape mirrored its importance as grand architecture replaced first-generation buildings. The Montana Power Company rivaled Billings' most impressive architecture with the construction of this five-story landmark in 1914. A testament to the creativity and technical prowess of preeminent Montana architect John G. Link, the unique illuminated façade visually showcased the Montana Power Company and its essential presence in eastern Montana. Link's design is a visually captivating and complicated expression of stylistic transition. A strong vertical emphasis and white terra cotta-faced surface foreshadow the 1920s Art Deco movement while engaged columns, Corinthian capitals, and gothic-arched cornice embellishments reflect classical revival ideals. An innovative indirect lighting system employed vertical panels of translucent milk glass. Strands of incandescent colored lights, dangled into 50-foot channels, lit the panels. Lights bouncing off the terra cotta facing made the façade appear to glow. Inside are high ceilings, a marbled stairwell, and period tile floors. This grand early Modern style building well reflects the fine talent of its architect and the economic prosperity of Montana's homestead era.

**Property:** Billings Townsite Historic District

**Address:** Historic District, Billings, Yellowstone

**Historic District:** Billings **Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** historic districts

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

At the turn of the twentieth century, Billings was ready to shed its frontier image as a rough-and-tumble cowtown and emerge as a regional commercial center. Billings was already at the juncture of the Northern Pacific and the Chicago, Burlington, and Quincy railroads and soon the Great Northern extended its tracks to the growing city. Platted in 1882 and named for a former railroad president, Billings became the transportation hub of the northern plains. The earliest business district was here at the center of the townsite grid. Business activity gradually moved to the northwest as the area near the tracks gained new purpose by catering to travelers. Between 1900 and 1920, a dozen hotels and many attendant businesses crowded into the area. In 1911 a splendid depot, electric street lights, cement sidewalks, and brick-paved streets greeted visiting President Howard Taft who pronounced Billings "the center of the development of the arid west." Indeed, almost 10,000 homesteaders claimed land at the Billings land office between 1909 and 1914, and local hotels supported a daily transient population of at least 1,000. Billings, nicknamed "Magic City" for its early rapid growth, continued to mature through the 1910s. The eventual demise of rail travel left its early-twentieth-century buildings vulnerable but thanks to early preservation efforts the district remains as an intact expression of turn-of-the-century commercial architecture. These buildings, along with the splendid depot and tracks which symbolize the town's "magical" beginnings, preside over what was once the heart of the townsite.

**Property:** West Side School

**Address:** 415 Broadwater, Billings, Yellowstone

**Historic District:** **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** public schools (buildings)

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

With schools "crowded to suffocation," the Billings School District decided to construct a new four-room school on the city's West Side in 1909 for an estimated \$28,000. For the building's design, Billings architect Curtis Oehme chose a practical version of Renaissance Revival style. The style, made popular for public buildings by the Columbian Exposition of 1893, is reflected in the school's arched and pedimented doors and windows, rusticated masonry at the basement level, strong horizontal lines emphasized by a limestone belt and stringcourses, and the flat roof and detailed cornice. Billings' rapid growth during the homestead boom led to a 1917 addition, also

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

designed by Oehme, which effectively doubled the school's size. A third addition in 1922, designed by architects McIver and Cohagen, testified to the neighborhood's continuing growth. Over the years, the West Side School helped create strong community ties, hosting union meetings and church services as well as school events such as concerts and theatrical performances. In the 1930s, seventy-five children played in the school orchestra, and at one point the school boasted the largest Parent Teacher Association membership in the state. The ninth school building constructed in Billings, it is one of the city's oldest elementary schools. Both the exterior and interior retain a remarkable degree of historical integrity; classrooms and corridors still have original trim work, wood flooring, and chalkboards. Now called Broadwater School, the building continues to serve as an elementary school while remaining a strong visual focal point for this historic neighborhood.

**Property:** 1110 North 31 Street

**Address:** 1110 North 31 Street, Billings, Yellowstone

**Historic District:** North Elevation

**Building Type:** contributing building

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:** Prairie

**Sign Text:**

A near twin to a home designed by renowned architect Percy Bentley in La Crosse, Wisconsin, this two-story Prairie style residence was built circa 1912 for Louis and Sarah Dousman. The Dousmans had close connections to La Crosse, where Sarah was raised. Louis was from nearby Prairie Du Chien, the grandson of fur trade magnate L. H. Dousman. The couple moved to Billings on the advice of Sarah's father, who had investments here. Louis began his career with the Billings Land and Irrigation Company. He later operated the Montana Mortgage Company and invested heavily in real estate. Like other Prairie style homes, this residence features a low-hipped roof, extended eaves, a one-story porch with large square supports, and a wide central chimney. Distinguishing features include the row of second-story casement windows, distinctively patterned siding, and the unusual stair hall set at a forty-five-degree angle to the rest of the house. Louis died in 1955, and a year later Sarah sold the home to Mary Sullivan and her husband, Dr. Paul Sullivan, a surgeon who practiced at the nearby Saint Vincent Hospital.

**Property:** Price Motor Sales

**Address:** 2611 Minnesota, Billings, Yellowstone

**Historic District:** Billings Old Town

**Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** automobile showrooms

**Subject 2:** quonset huts

**Sign Text:**

The later 1940s and the aftermath of World War II brought economic prosperity. Americans became more stable financially, mobility increased, and so did the demand for automobiles. Price Motor Sales, one example of this trend, opened in 1948 to serve as an automobile dealership and garage. The building also demonstrates how the war impacted architectural styles. The U.S. Army developed the first Quonset hut in 1941 based on a similar British design used during World War I. Named for their origin at Davisville Naval Base, Quonset Point, Rhode Island, the characteristic buildings—with semi-circular arched roofs of corrugated metal—were easily shipped, quickly erected, and suitable for many uses. After the war, Quonset huts were available to the public and they continue to serve multiple uses today. The double-arched Price Motor Sales building reflects the Multiple Utility Building style, a variation on the typical Quonset form, which allowed for greater expansion. Its unique brick façade, with dark brown decorative accents and false front, covers the austere Quonset form and blends well with its Western Commercial style neighbors.

**Property:** Parmly Billings Library

**Address:** 2822 Montana Ave, Billings, Yellowstone

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Historic District:** Billings Townsite

**Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** libraries (buildings)

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

In 1901, the Billings community celebrated the opening of this city landmark as its new library. It would, the paper reported, make Billings “a better place in which to live.” Designed by architect C. S. Haire, the elegant structure was built using native sandstone. It features the steep roofs, turrets, and rounded arches typical of the Richardsonian Romanesque style. The library sits on land donated to the city by the Northern Pacific Railroad, and was built through the generous philanthropy of the Billings family. City founder Frederick Billings was a former president of the Northern Pacific Railroad. Frederick Billings, Jr., gave \$20,000 for the building and its furnishings in memory of his brother, Parmly, who died at age twenty-five in 1888. The Billings family again donated funds in 1913 and 1923 to construct the east and west wings. The city’s continuing growth forced the relocation of the public library in the 1960s. In 1971, the building was saved from demolition and became the Western Heritage Center, a regional museum which interprets Montana history.

**Property:** 1040 N 31 St

**Address:** 1040 N 31 St, Billings, Yellowstone

**Historic District:** North Elevation Historic District

**Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Dubbed one of Billings’ “pioneer building contractors,” Emanuel Lindstrom waited until age thirty-eight to marry twenty-two-year-old Radina Holen, a fellow immigrant from Norway. In 1913, the Lindstroms moved into this Prairie style residence, where they raised three children. The two-story American Foursquare home features restrained geometric ornamentation, a hipped roof with extended eaves and a central attic dormer, and a wraparound front porch, enclosed sometime after 1958. Between 1912 and 1923, the Lindstroms added a two-car garage, a reflection of the growing importance of automobiles to North Elevation homeowners. Home prices suffered during the Great Depression and the residence, valued at \$10,000 in 1930, was worth only \$6,500 in 1940. Benjamin Harwood purchased the residence from the Lindstroms in 1937, just a year after Benjamin was first elected district judge. A dedicated jurist, Ben was also interested in aviation. A World War I pilot wounded in France, he was instrumental in developing the Billings airport as chairman of the airport commission. He and his wife Nina lived here until 1971.

**Property:** Armour Cold Storage

**Address:** One South Broadway, Billings, Yellowstone

**Historic District:**

**Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** warehouses

**Subject 2:** industrial structures

**Sign Text:**

Billings, located halfway between Minneapolis and Spokane, boasted railroads running in seven directions by 1916. Quantities of freight arrived each day from points east, and large warehouses lined the tracks, filled with goods awaiting resale. Billings supplied shopkeepers across eastern Montana and northern Wyoming, and in 1916 its annual wholesale grocery and produce business alone was estimated at \$3 million. Among the businesses to use Billings as a distribution center was Armour and Company. The largest meatpacker in America by 1891, Chicago-based Armour revolutionized the business, establishing a “disassembly” line to expedite butchering. The ruthless employer and competitor also pioneered new uses for slaughter by-products and financed early experiments with refrigerated railcars so it could ship its products farther afield. By 1903, Armour had a cold storage warehouse next door; another small cold storage building owned by prominent Billings businessmen Christian and Peter Yegen occupied this prize corner lot. Sometime before 1918, Armour purchased this corner

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

and built a state-of-the-art, two-story, cold-storage warehouse with a concrete refrigeration shaft and cold rooms on each level. Engineered to hold a large amount of weight, the building relied on massive posts and beams to support the open interior spaces that characterize warehouses. Capped by a flat roof, the brick building displays many elements typical to Western Commercial style warehouses including a raised foundation, minimal ornamentation, and regularly spaced windows. Converted to lofts and offices in 2001, the former warehouse still reflects its origins in the railroad and wholesaling economy of early twentieth-century Billings.

**Property:** 1117 N 32 St

**Address:** 1117 N 32 St, Billings, Yellowstone

**Historic District:** North Elevation Historic District

**Building Type:** contributing building

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:** Craftsman

**Sign Text:**

One of sixty Craftsman style residences in the North Elevation district, this circa 1916 home features many hallmarks of the style. These include triangular knee braces, exposed rafter tails, and, at the time of construction, a full-width, open front porch. This style—popularized in California—relied on porches to connect the occupants to the natural world, but many Montanans chose to enclose their porches. Located in an early automobile suburb, the home at one time had a narrow drive-in basement garage. In 1920, restaurant owner Samuel Roberts and his wife, Clara, an elocution teacher, rented the home. In approximately 1929, Chas. B. and Katherine Hurd, later of Hurd Lumber Co., bought the residence. They lived here with their daughter, Marian, while they built a new home nearby on Locust Street. In the 1930s, dentist Raymond Kelley and his wife Edna purchased the home, where they lived for over twenty years. During World War I, Raymond had served as a second lieutenant in France while Edna worked with injured veterans at Fort McHenry in Baltimore in the new field of physical therapy.

**Property:** Black Otter Trail Historic District

**Address:** , Billings, Yellowstone

**Historic District:** **Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** historic districts

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Situated atop massive sandstone rimrocks, this two-and-a-half-mile scenic roadway in Swords Rimrock Park offers unique perspectives. National Register-listed Boothill Cemetery, which served the early settlement of Coulson, Montana, anchors the eastern end while the Billings airport to the west suggests the modern era. In between, the trail and its sweeping scenic views afford a cultural and visual journey that includes the pristine Yellowstone Valley, the urban landscape, and landmarks of extraordinary significance. With changing transportation needs and the rise of tourism, the Billings Commercial Club led the thirty-year effort to create the trail. Beginning in March 1936, Works Progress Administration (WPA) put 150 men to work on the project. All the labor was done by hand to employ as many men as possible. Cutbacks in funding, however, halted the work in May. The following year the Billings City Council adopted the project, completed the road in 1938, and named it “Black Otter Trail.” The district includes remnants of the original guard rails, stone markers, the grave of trapper/explorer Luther S. “Yellowstone” Kelly, and interpretive areas. For the Crow Indians, the rimrocks were a place to gather, fast, and vision quest. According to some, the trail’s namesake was a Crow chief buried on a prominent overlook. This knoll was among the original WPA interpretive areas. Historic accounts describe dozens of traditional gravesites with bodies shrouded in blankets and bound to trees in final rest. In recognition of the trail’s extraordinary natural, historical, and cultural value, the City of Billings developed a master plan to ensure protection of this community treasure.

**Property:** Yellowstone Kelly's Grave Site



## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Address:** , Billings, Yellowstone

**Historic District:** Black Otter Trail **Building Type:** site | contributing

**Subject 1:** graves **Subject 2:** monuments

**Sign Text:**

To the monotonous beat of muffled drums, Luther Sage “Yellowstone” Kelly’s funeral cortege wound its way through downtown Billings on June 26, 1929. A second procession along the rimrocks to the grave site followed strict military protocol. Veterans of earlier wars, state officials, a firing squad, and a horse with reverse boots led the way. A horse-drawn wagon carried the flag-draped casket of the man who symbolized to many the ideal frontiersman. Born in Geneva, New York on July 27, 1849, Kelly spent his earliest career in Montana, where he proved himself as a hunter, trapper, and explorer. Admired as literate, courteous, and of fine character, he was also a distinguished veteran of both the Civil War and the Philippine-American War. Kelly could have been buried at Arlington National Cemetery. However, as the end drew near, he wrote, “My body will rest better in Montana.” After his death in California on December 17, 1928, at age 79, his remains were sent to Montana where the Billings Commercial Club built a fitting memorial. This monument overlooking the Yellowstone Valley marks Kelly’s grave.

**Property:** 1125 N 31 St

**Address:** 1125 N 31 ST, Billings, Yellowstone

**Historic District:** North Elevation Historic District **Building Type:** contributing building

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:** American Foursquare

**Sign Text:**

This classic example of an American Foursquare house with Prairie style details was completed by 1916 when photographer Frank Crosby was hired to capture the fashionable new North Elevation subdivision. The term Foursquare describes the house’s floorplan, which featured a central hall and four equal-size rooms on each floor. The house’s graceful curvilinear rafter tails supporting the wide overhangs and its full-width front porch are its strongest Prairie style elements. While most of the houses in the neighborhood were built with open front porches, 1125’s porch was originally screened. Tailor Frank Burns and his wife Annie, an organist, lived here a short time, followed in 1925 by pharmacist Frank V. Patterson and his wife, Minnie. Frank and Minnie lived here for twenty years and ran two locations of the Patterson Pharmacy, one in the Hart-Albin building and one on Minnesota Avenue. Frank served three terms on the Montana Board of Pharmacy, which was created by the legislature in 1905 to regulate the profession. Socially, he was active in the Knights of Columbus, while Minnie was a member of the Rebekah Lodge.

**Property:** 1143 N 31 St

**Address:** 1143 NORTH 31 STREET, Billings, Yellowstone

**Historic District:** North Elevation Historic District **Building Type:** contributing building

**Subject 1:** residential structures **Subject 2:** Greek Revival

**Sign Text:**

A pedimented entryway and multi-pane transom window are among the Greek Revival style elements that decorate this side-gable brick home, built c. 1932 for Julius and Anna Clavadetscher. A talented cellist, Julius played with the Minneapolis Symphony before moving to Billings in 1917, where he joined a musical ensemble that accompanied silent pictures at the Strand Theater. In addition to working as a union musician, he founded and directed the Ladies Ensemble in 1926 and taught thousands of Billings students as the longtime junior high and high school music teacher. Starting in 1929, he also directed the Rotary Boys Band, without whom, a 1940 newspaper article declared, “no public parade in Billings is complete.” Anna, who lived here until her death in 1954, was prominent in Yellowstone County Democratic circles. She served as vice chair of the county central

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

committee, congressional committeewoman from the second district, president of the Democratic Women's Club, and delegate to the 1949 presidential inauguration of Harry Truman. All of the Clavadetscher children played music; Carl followed his mother into politics, serving as Billings mayor from 1959 to 1962.

**Property:** Pouder Furniture Building

**Address:** 2923 Montana Ave, Billings, Yellowstone

**Historic District:** Billings Townsite

**Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** commercial buildings

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Situated in the heart of the extended commercial railroad corridor that developed in the 1910s, this vernacular Western Commercial style building on its prominent corner anchors the historic district. Built circa 1916, Howard J. Pouder and his wife Nettie moved their second-hand furniture business here from a few doors down. The Pouders' Billings Auction House operated at this location until 1929, advertising "everything for the home." The Pouders bought, sold, and exchanged furniture, kitchen appliances, rugs, and office equipment and purchased large inventories of household goods for re-sale. The building, which wraps around North Thirtieth Street, included a two-room apartment, advertised for rent in 1920. By 1923, the upper floor housed a dance hall and by 1930, the upstairs had been converted into the Central Apartments, which included five units. Offices for the Crosby Hatchery opened onto North Thirtieth Street, and the Central Sheet Metal Works operated on the ground floor. Architecturally significant for its stunning red brick façade, the pristine upper story features segmental arched windows, simple brick detailing, and wonderful "ghost signs" recalling the building's early 1930s occupants.

**Property:** 1109 N 31 St

**Address:** 1109 NORTH 31 STREET, Billings, Yellowstone

**Historic District:** North Elevation Historic District

**Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Built in 1915 at the height of Craftsman style popularity, this two-story home features the style's characteristic exposed rafter tails and inviting front porch. Less typical is the way the porch extended over the driveway to create a sheltered place to park. The home also had a one-car garage facing the alley, a common amenity in Billings' first automobile suburb. William and Olive Ladd and their two children lived here by 1917. A grain broker who advertised that he would "pay the high dollar" for carload lots of "wheat, beans, and hay," William participated in Billings' booming commodities market. In the 1920s, building and loan manager Joseph McMahon and his wife Catherine purchased the home, where they lived with their seven children. The McMahons were committed and active Catholics. Catherine helped organize fundraisers for Catholic orphanages and St. Vincent's Orthopedic Hospital, while Joseph was a state-wide leader with the Knights of Columbus. Their fashionable home bustled with social activities—from bridge parties to progressive dinners. In the early 1940s, this was the childhood home of John Bohlinger, Montana's twenty-ninth lieutenant governor.

**Property:** 1015 N 32 St

**Address:** 1015 N 32 St, Billings, Yellowstone

**Historic District:** North Elevation Historic District

**Building Type:** contributing building

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:** Craftsman

**Sign Text:**

Not long after Lester and Mabel Punch moved to Billings in 1919, they purchased this house in the growing North Elevation subdivision. Although it now has modern windows and siding, the home's open porch, tapered porch

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

columns, and decorative braces under wide, overhanging eaves still recall the 1910s and the era's popular Craftsman style. The manager of the Foley Brothers Grocery, Lester made a large impact on civic life. During his seven years in Billings, he served as president of the Kiwanis Club and a member of the Billings Park Board; he also "played a prominent part in the work of the YMCA and Commercial club and [other] kindred activities...." The Punches sold their home to Arnold Rich. The automobile dealer lived here until 1932 with wife Stella, two daughters, and sister Pauline, who worked as a librarian at the nearby normal school (now MSU-B). Later occupants included county extension agent Bruce McKee and his wife Mabel and store clerk Laura Lemmer and her son, William, who worked as a printer for the Gazette.

**Property:** Moss Mansion

**Address:** 914 Division St, Billings, Yellowstone

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** mansions           **Subject 2:** residential structures

**Sign Text:**

When Preston B. Moss built this red sandstone mansion in 1902-1903, it was some distance from the growing city of Billings. The 25-room structure was home to Mr. and Mrs. Moss, their six children, the grandparents, and a staff of three. Designed by New York architect R. J. Hardenburgh, whose works include the Waldorf Astoria and Plaza hotels, the residence was well constructed by local firm E. H. Gagnon and decorated by W. P. Nelson of Chicago, who designed some lighting fixtures still in use. Mahogany and walnut woodwork, an onyx fireplace, rose silk and gold leaf wall coverings, and stained glass windows are among the luxurious finishing touches. Because the home did not change hands, it appears nearly the same outside and inside as it did upon completion. When Preston Moss arrived in Billings in 1892, en route to Butte from Missouri, the town's bustling activity made him decide to stay. He soon took control of the First National Bank of Billings and astutely considered the area's future. The Silver Panic of 1893, when silver prices fell by half, found Moss's bank invested primarily in sheep. Moss became one of Montana's largest and most diversified investors, owning the Billings Gazette (1908-1914) and being instrumental in creation of the Huntley Irrigation Project. He built the original Northern Hotel here and rebuilt it following the 1940 fire.

**Property:** 1111 N 32 St

**Address:** 1111 N 32 ST, Billings, Yellowstone

**Historic District:** North Elevation Historic District           **Building Type:** contributing building

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:** Craftsman

**Sign Text:**

Built c. 1916, this one-and-one-half-story bungalow still looks much as it did when card parties and club luncheons filled its owners' social calendars. As is typical with the Craftsman style, knee braces ornament wide overhanging eaves, and a low-pitched shed dormer efficiently expands the home's livability. Wooden lap siding clads the exterior, and removable glass storm windows enclose the front porch, just as they would have in the winter of 1917. That year, insurance company manager Daniel Hynds, his wife Kathleen, and their thirty-year-old son Harry, a traveling salesman, made 1111 North 32 Street their home. Billings banker Fred Marble and wife Lillian purchased the bungalow in the late 1920s. Like other North Elevation residents, their names appeared frequently in the newspaper's social pages. Walter Foster, the superintendent of a meat packing company, purchased the home in 1936. His wife Louie May continued the familiar social whirl, hosting bridge parties, the Congregational Woman's Society, and other familiar functions.

**Property:** 1115 N 31 St

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Address:** 1115 N 31 St, Billings, Yellowstone

**Historic District:** North Elevation Historic District

**Building Type:** contributing building

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:** Craftsman

**Sign Text:**

The prominent brick chimney that dominates the façade of this one-story clapboard home pays homage to the Tudor style. The open front porch, wide overhanging eaves, and exposed roof beams are common Craftsman style features. Frieda Kohn lived here in 1920 with her husband Jerome, a cigar salesman who believed “in going after business rather than waiting for business to come to him.” That year Jerome sold enough subscriptions to the Billings Gazette to win \$300 in gold. Had he won the grand prize, a Hudson sedan, he would have had to park it on the street. Unlike most of its neighbors, the house did not have a garage until after 1958. Optometrist Albert Hoose and his wife Alise owned the residence in the 1930s, but the home’s longest occupants were Norman and Julia Bell. The couple moved here as newlyweds in 1939. An oral surgeon in practice with his father, Norman grew up down the street at 1023. Norman died in 1987; Julia, who owned a knitting store, remained in residence until her death in 2001.

**Property:** Sawyer Stores

**Address:** 2223 Montana Ave, Billings, Yellowstone

**Historic District:** Billings Townsite

**Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** grocery stores

**Subject 2:** administration buildings

**Sign Text:**

The delicious odor of roasting coffee must have added a pleasing dimension to this industrial area when Sawyer Stores, Inc. opened its plant here in 1928. The facility served as the main office of a grocery chain that operated stores in Montana and Wyoming. The brick commercial building on its prime corner featured a creamery and warehouse on the first floor and a bakery and coffee roasting equipment on the second floor. A bean mill, seed cleaner, ice plant, and a huge basement produce-and-cold-storage warehouse made this a highly diversified operation. Convenient to a railroad siding, trains could pull right up to a loading dock while a second loading dock, now the 23rd Street entrance, accommodated trucks. Sawyer Stores operated out of this location until 1963. Heavy post-and-beam construction, wood flooring, two walk-in vaults, and the still-functioning freight elevator are ample evidence of the long, useful life of this Billings landmark.

**Property:** McMullen Hall

**Address:** 1500 Univeristy Dr, Billings, Yellowstone

**Historic District:**

**Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** state colleges (buildings)

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

With its four-story tower, strict symmetry, Gothic-arched front entry, decorative symbolic pendants, and tall narrow windows, McMullen Hall references the Collegiate Gothic style. First employed by Ivy League schools emulating the architecture of England’s Oxford and Cambridge, the prestigious style came to embody a reverence for learning. Designed by the Billings architectural firm McIver and Cohagen and built in 1935 of brick, cast stone, and concrete, McMullen Hall is distinctly more modern than earlier Collegiate Gothic style buildings. Its streamlined and simplified design relies more on formal massing than ornamentation. An additional modern element, the framed glass illuminated sphere topping the building, was initially required by Federal Aviation Administration to alert low-flying airplanes. The first building on the Billings campus, the hall is named for Dr. Lynn McMullen. Hired in 1927 as president (and the first employee) of Eastern Montana Normal School, McMullen worked for the college—later renamed Montana State University-Billings—until 1945. For its first eight years, EMNS held classes in various downtown buildings. In 1934, money for construction became available from the

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

Public Works Administration, a New Deal program that funded large public projects to jumpstart the economy during the Great Depression. Frank Jacoby and Sons, of Helena, served as general contractors. The Hall originally housed all the college's classrooms, a library and museum, and administrative offices; at the rear of the building was a combined auditorium and gymnasium (no longer extant). An anchor building for both the college and the community, McMullen Hall now serves as the university's administration building.

**Property:** 1009 N 31 St

**Address:** 1009 N 31 St, Billings, Yellowstone

**Historic District:** North Elevation Historic District

**Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Built in 1915, this Craftsman style residence was the longtime home of Ray and Olga Wise. Craftsman homes featured varied, natural materials and subtle detailing, seen here in the narrow clapboard and shingle siding, triangular brackets, exposed rafter tails, and checkerboard step risers. An open front porch included in the home's main footprint reinforces the style's goal of bridging the natural and domestic worlds. A talented bridge player, Olga raised three children here. Ray spent his career at the Billings Brewery, becoming secretary/treasurer in 1908. The manufacturer of "The Beer that Makes Milwaukee Jealous," the brewery poured a reported \$12,000 worth of product into the gutter in 1919, at the start of Prohibition. It survived the 1920s as "Advance Manufacturing," bottling "Top Notch, A Modern Beverage," which it promoted as "mildly stimulating without the aid of alcoholic properties." After Prohibition ended in 1933, the brewery took back its old name, and once again began manufacturing Old Fashion Beer, "a food to tired, weak, overwrought nerves." Ray worked at Billings Brewery until his death in 1945 at fifty-eight. Olga remained in residence until 1950.

**Property:** Babcock Theater

**Address:** 2812 Second Ave North, Billings, Montana, Billings, Yellowstone

**Historic District:** **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** theaters (buildings)

**Subject 2:** commercial buildings

**Sign Text:**

Constructed in 1907 during a period of robust city growth, the Babcock replaced the original Billings Opera House, which was destroyed in a catastrophic fire. Owners first planned a four-story commercial block, then a seven-story building, but only built the two-story base. The first floor features an L-shaped interior arcade, lit by a skylight. The theater and retail shops, some with pressed metal ceilings, opened onto the arcade until the 1923 remodel. Luxfer prism glass—in the arcade floor and in the Second Avenue sidewalk—let light into the basement bowling alley and other below-ground businesses. The second floor originally provided office space, most notably for the U.S. Land Office, which issued homestead patents. During the Great Depression Hyme Lipsker, who purchased the Babcock in 1924, hired architect J. G. Link to convert the offices into efficiency and one-bedroom apartments, many with Murphy beds. Tenants entered the apartments through a majestic lobby, with a crystal chandelier. Nevertheless, the theater was always the Babcock's main attraction. The Babcock offered a venue for theatrical performances, orchestra concerts, vaudeville, and even boxing matches. As live theater gave way to silent films and then "talkies," owners remodeled, in each instance installing the latest technology and adapting to current fashion. Top-of-the-line designers replaced the original Neo-classical elements with Spanish Colonial accents in 1920; Art Deco décor in 1935, after a catastrophic fire; and, finally, Streamline Modern design in 1955. Reflecting the philosophy that the "show begins at the sidewalk," the entrance moved from the arcade to the street in 1927. The current, highly visible, "Skouros style" marquee and entryway, visible from blocks away, dates to 1955.

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Property:** George L. Tracy Building

**Address:** 2600 Montana Ave., Billings, Yellowstone

**Historic District:** Billings Townsite      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** warehouses      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

In the 1910s, Billings promoted itself as the capital of the “Midland Empire.” That economic domain covered thirty thousand square miles and boasted hundreds of communities that relied on Billings for supplies. No wonder Helena-based distributor George L. Tracy Co. expanded into the Billings market, constructing this two-story warehouse in 1919. The building was designed for optimal efficiency. A rear loading dock bordered the tracks, and the building’s raised concrete foundation placed the structure on the same level as the railroad cars to ease unloading. Its side loading dock—part of a one-story addition constructed in 1923—was built to accommodate trucks, which played an increasingly important role in the distribution of goods. The front façade boasts decorative dentils and seven brick pilasters trimmed at the caps with sandstone darts. These pilasters likely cover structural columns of steel or concrete, masking twentieth-century technology with traditional masonry detailing. The Ryan Fruit Company leased the addition after 1925. A ghost sign on the building’s south wall still promotes a second fruit wholesaler that occupied the building in the 1940s.

**Property:** 1119 N 31st St

**Address:** 1119 N 31 St, Billings, Yellowstone

**Historic District:** North Elevation Historic District      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Simplicity, honesty, functionality, and efficiency were the architectural watchwords of the 1910s. Craftsman style bungalows like this one embodied the era’s minimalist aesthetic, and the style took the nation—and Billings—by storm. Characteristic of the Craftsman style, this circa 1915 home features a low-pitched roof pierced by a large dormer, leaded glass windows, and exposed rafter tails. More unique is the home’s side-gable orientation and vertical siding. The residence’s first occupant was Leslie Miller, the manager of Russell Milling Company. In 1919, Rockwood and Elizabeth Brown purchased the home, where they raised their four children. A few years later, they planted a blue spruce in the front yard, where it still stood in 2018. In 1946, on a trip to Seattle, Rockwood saw an outdoor brick fireplace with built-in oven and grill. On his return, he had a similar one constructed in the backyard. A prominent Billings attorney, Rockwood served on the State Highway Commission, the State Water Conservation Board, and the City Park Commission. Although Rockwood died in 1956, Elizabeth lived here until her death at the age of 103 in 1989.

**Property:** 1123 N 31 St

**Address:** 1123 N 31 St, Billings, Yellowstone

**Historic District:** North Elevation Historic District      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** residential structures      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The first owner of this one-and-one-half-story home, Matthew Barry, owned the Barry Motor Company, a car garage and “livery”—or rental service. Perhaps that’s why he built a garage (recently replaced) to match the home. Both house and garage had decorative braces, exposed rafter tails, and clapboard siding, all Craftsman style elements. The home’s interior features a built-in china hutch; built-in cabinetry epitomized the Craftsman style ideal of efficiency and simplicity. Barry lived here only briefly; in 1918, Florence and Edwin Sackett rented the home, purchasing it in 1923. Apparently, the family did not share Barry’s love of automobiles; their daughter remembered growing up without a car during the Great Depression. After working as the city clerk and recorder,

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

Edwin joined the First Federal Savings and Loan in 1929, where he made his career, retiring as president in 1964. Active in the Episcopal church, the Kiwanis Club, the BPOE, and the PEO, the Sacketts transformed this house into a home, raising two daughters and hosting cut-throat card parties. They lived here until their deaths, Edwin in 1978 and Florence in 1991.

**Property:** Billings Implement Building

**Address:** 2606-2608 Montana Ave, Billings, Yellowstone

**Historic District:** Billings Townsite      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** warehouses      **Subject 2:** business (commercial function)

**Sign Text:**

In 1906, the Northern Pacific Railroad moved its central railroad transfer point from Billings to Laurel. The move opened new tracts of land for development along the railroad right-of-way. These lots had the advantage of bordering both the tracks and Billings' downtown commercial district. Thus, they were perfect for businesses dependent on large and frequent train deliveries, for example farm implement dealers or grocery wholesalers. Both types of businesses occupied this building, constructed circa 1915 by the Billings Implement Co. Like others on the block, this two-story brick structure presents two distinct appearances. Intended to serve as a warehouse, store, and office all in one, its design reflects its multiple purposes. The refined north face features a typical Western Commercial style facade. To the rear, the building presents its working face. A loading dock reveals the building's function as a warehouse and its connection to the trains that delivered goods for resale. After sitting vacant for over ten years, both this building and the one next door were renovated to include residential lofts in 2004.

**Property:** Mills Durant-Star Building

**Address:** 2606-2608 Montana Ave, Billings, Yellowstone

**Historic District:** Billings Townsite      **Building Type:** building | contributing

**Subject 1:** automobile showrooms      **Subject 2:** warehouses

**Sign Text:**

National cigar and tobacco wholesaler Louis Cohn occupied this two-story brick building, constructed in 1919. Cohn was one of three wholesalers supplying Billings' five cigar manufacturers with tobacco. In 1923, the building became home to Harry Gullard's automobile dealership. One of several dealerships in downtown Billings, its presence testifies to the 1920s' booming automobile business. Local entrepreneur J. J. Mills purchased the building in 1925. Mills opened his own dealership here, featuring the low-priced Star car, manufactured by Durant Motors. William Durant, the high-flying former CEO of General Motors, founded that company in 1921 after losing control of GM. Durant Motors was one of over forty U.S. automobile manufacturers in the 1920s. After Durant went bankrupt in the 1930s, the versatile Mills expanded into farm implements and wholesale groceries, using both this building and the one next door. The Billings Grocery Co., founded by Mills and later managed by his son, operated from this building into the 1980s.

**Property:** Parmly Billings Memorial Library

**Address:** 2822 Montana Ave, Billings, Yellowstone

**Historic District:**      **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** libraries (buildings)      **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Parmly Billings Memorial Library, built in 1901, is one of the few remaining older public buildings in the city. Constructed of rubble-faced square sandstone, its massive walls, along with turrets and steep roof, are designed

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

in the Romanesque style. The original roof covering was red Spanish tile. The core building was designed by Charles S. Haire, a partner in Link and Haire, one of Montana's most significant architectural firms during the first half of the twentieth century. With offices in Billings, Lewistown, Butte, and Helena, Link and Haire designed more than a thousand public, commercial, academic, private, and institutional buildings in the northwestern United States. The library stands on land donated to the city on a ninety-nine-year lease in 1900 by the Northern Pacific Railroad. The building was financed by Frederick Billings, Jr., son of the city's namesake, in memory of his brother Parmly Billings, a one-time city resident. In 1910, Frederick Billings also financed construction of the east wing, and his sister Elizabeth financed addition of the west wing in 1936.

**Property:** Garfield School

**Address:** 3212 1st Ave South, Billings, Yellowstone

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** schools (buildings)           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Built in 1901, Billings' fourth school had six classrooms and an auditorium. A third-floor gymnasium, the first in the city, was added a year later. By 1906, 340 children attended Garfield School. The homesteading boom, the growth of sugar manufacturing, and the first oil boom brought more people to Billings' south side, and more students to Garfield. The 1920 addition, designed by Billings architect Chandler Cohagen, doubled the school's size. Constructed at a cost of over \$65,000, the two-story brick addition displays classical details. Strong horizontal lines define its symmetrical façade. Decorative terra cotta ornaments the central stepped parapet, and terra cotta scrollwork accents the entrances. Between 1923 and 1925, the Great Western Sugar Company paid half the expenses for the school's special migrant workers program. The program offered classes specifically for migrant workers' children during the weeks the children were not working in the fields. In 1934, the Works Progress Administration provided funds to further expand Garfield School. The Cohagen firm designed two wings for the 1921 addition, tripling the school's size. While adding the wings, the district also removed the original third-floor gymnasium after deeming it structurally unsound. In 1948, the school district constructed a final two-story brick addition to accommodate 900 students in grades one through nine. Demolition of the original 1901 building occurred in 1981, but the 1920, 1934, and 1948 additions still look much as they did in 1950. Yellowstone Boys and Girls Ranch purchased the building in 2007 from School District #2.

**Property:** Austin North House

**Address:** 622 North 29th St, Billings, Yellowstone

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** mansions           **Subject 2:** residential structures

**Sign Text:**

Link and Haire, Montana's most prestigious turn-of-the-twentieth-century architectural firm designed this singular residence built in 1902-1903. It was reputedly patterned after the famed Potter Palmer mansion of Chicago, which had been modeled after an English castle. The handsome residence stood on the edge of the growing town, with open land to the west and rimrocks to the north. Owner Austin North was a highly successful real estate developer who came to Billings from Iowa in 1883. He no doubt strategically placed his new home in an outlying district to attract builders to the area. Though Austin and his family resided here only a few years, "The Castle," as it is locally known, has long been a Billings landmark. The large three-story turret, battlements capped with sandstone, and semicircular arches endow the building with a distinct medieval character. Despite its medieval appearance, the residence was equipped with all the modern conveniences, including an early air humidifying system. The home was heated from a city heating plant, whose steam pipes ran under the sidewalks and kept



## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

them free of snow and ice in winter. Austin's business activities reflected the intense economic development of the time, and his unique residence reveals the architectural diversity of the Montana frontier.

**Property:** Billings Chamber of Commerce Building

**Address:** 303 North 27th, Billings, Yellowstone

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** fraternal lodges           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

J. Collins West, Exalted Ruler of Lodge 394 of the Elks Club, planned this turn-of-the-century Italian Renaissance Revival style building as a lodge hall. Billings Elks members attending the St. Louis Exposition in 1904 purchased a bar for their proposed facility. Inlaid with bands of ebony and mother-of-pearl, the bar featured leaded, stained glass windows, beer steins, and walnut paneling. Murals, a thousand dollar tapestry, hanging lamps, and doorknobs embossed with the head of an elk complemented the fine interior furnishings. The foundation features sandstone excavated from the Heffner quarry. A round stone arch on a stone pedestal highlights the entryway. Giant order scrolled columns, the Renaissance roof cornice, and bowed iron balconies dominate the front façade. A three-day dedication celebration trumpeted the completion of the building in 1910, complete with a formal lodge dedication, gala balls, a reception, and street decorations. Financial difficulties immediately began to plague the group and in 1918 the Elks sold the building to the Billings-Midland Club, precursor to the Chamber of Commerce, who occupied the space until the 1960s. In 1971, a group of local businessmen announced that the structure would be razed and a parking lot built on the site. Two auctions occurred as a result, and many of the original interior decorations were sold. A group of concerned citizens, organized as the Save-the-Chamber-Committee, rescued the building from demolition. Demolition plans again surfaced in the early 1990s but investors opted to renovate the landmark and preserve the building.

**Property:** Abraham and Carrie Erb Residence

**Address:** 110 4th Avenue, Laurel, Yellowstone

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** buildings

**Subject 1:** residential structures           **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Turned porch supports, elaborately carved brackets, a baluster frieze, and decorative cresting along the roofline ornament this gable-front-and-wing residence. Railroads brought these precut architectural elements to small towns along their tracks, allowing builders to personalize homes. According to local sources, Edgar Camp built this home in old Laurel, likely as part of his real estate business. Abraham and Carrie Erb purchased the house circa 1907, cutting it in two to transport it to their farm adjacent to the recently platted new Laurel. The Erbs set the home onto a cast concrete block foundation. Simple and inexpensive to manufacture, cast concrete was virtually unheard of in 1900, but the decorative material had become popular soon after, particularly for foundations. During his residence, Abraham farmed and briefly owned an implement store. Carrie was active in the local woman's club, a moving force behind creating Laurel's library. After Abraham's untimely death in 1916, Carrie hired a man to work the farm; the bunkhouse dates from that time. She also took a job directing the new library, which she had helped found. Even so, Carrie had to rent rooms to make ends meet, particularly during the depression. In 1930, she and her two children shared the home with a railroad worker, his wife, and their seven children, ages seven to six months. Carrie retired from the library at age seventy-seven in 1951. She resided here until her death in 1966. Family members continued to live here until 2002.

**Property:** Northern Hotel

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

**Address:** 19 N Broadway, Billings, Yellowstone

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** hotels (public accommodations)                   **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

The Billings Investment Company built Billings' first Northern Hotel on this site in 1902. It quickly became a regional social center. When the hotel burned in 1940, company president Preston Moss saw an opportunity to build a bigger, better, fireproof hotel. The Chicago firm of Holabird and Root, the twentieth-century's quintessential commercial architectural firm, designed the new hotel and Jerome C. Boespflug of Miles City served as general contractor. Despite difficulties in obtaining concrete and steel because of the United States' involvement in World War II, the Northern Hotel opened in 1942. A strong horizontal emphasis with clean, unadorned utilitarian lines characterizes the deliberately plain Simplistic Modern architectural style. Minimal decorative elements include polished rainbow granite veneer from Minnesota on the ground floor and brick coursing on the upper floors. Projecting Indiana limestone bands frame the windows, a hallmark of 1940s to 1950s commercial buildings. The Northern was the first Billings structure to incorporate seismic reinforcement and its ten stories made it Montana's tallest building at that time, supplanting Butte's nine-story Hotel Finlen. The four-foot neon rooftop letters were the largest in the state. Chicago's Marshall Field and Company designed the interior and the 163 original guest rooms. An addition in 1950 expanded the hotel to a total of 245 guest rooms. Beautifully renovated in 2013, the Northern Hotel is unique to Billings and handsomely represents the architectural transition from the pre-World War II Art Deco style to the simpler, unencumbered lines of the American post-war era. It is Montana's best example of the Simplistic Modern style.

**Property:** Antelope Stage Station

**Address:** Broadview, Broadview, Yellowstone

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** stage stations                   **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

Stage travel and wagon freighting were of tremendous importance to sparsely populated central Montana in the late 1800s. This way station was located on a thirty-eight mile route that carried homesteaders, travelers, mail, and supplies between the Northern Pacific station at Billings and the "Milwaukee Road" railhead at Lavina. With mere ruts for a road, stage coaches and huge lumbering freight wagons bounced along the route stopping at Twenty-Mile, here at Antelope, and Fairview. For four dollars, a passenger could ride from Billings to Lavina in the Montana Stage Company's Concord coach or covered sleigh, braving unpredictable weather and the fear of holdups along the way. Antelope Station, constructed in 1883 of hand-hewn logs, is the only remaining stop along this well traveled route. Here weary travelers and teamsters found welcome refuge as well as a change of horses, hot meals, and conversation around the warmth of the big woodstoves. The Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul and Pacific Railroad spread its tracks west from South Dakota into central Montana in 1908, replacing stage travel. Though used as a residence until 1927, the flooring and most partitions have long since been removed. Antelope Station's remaining walls today spark the imagination, recalling this vital phase of Montana's colorful past.

**Property:** Arnold Graf House

**Address:** 633 Highland Park Drive, Billings, Yellowstone

**Historic District:**           **Building Type:** building

**Subject 1:** residential structures                   **Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**

When Evelyn and Arnold Graf purchased this property in 1938, the area was still predominantly wild, covered with native grasses and scrub cedar. The roads were mostly unpaved and hayfields and pastures lay to the north. Graf

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

designed and built this house between 1939 and 1940, completing it in his spare time. The family of four lived in the basement while the upper floor was under construction. Arnold Graf had studied architecture in Chicago but the Great Depression interrupted his plans. Returning home to Hardin, Montana, he married and survived the 1930s working as a bricklayer on his own and with his father, cutting and laying the stone for the Big Horn County courthouse and other projects. Arnold Graf designed his eclectic Tudor Revival English Cottage style home to reflect traditional architectural elements, including a steep-sided roof and half-timbering. He added multi-colored bricks, marble surrounds at the vestibule openings, and stone window sills for visual appeal. Extensive use of glass blocks reveals Graf's creativity in blending modern materials with traditional elements. Landscaping distinguished with extensive brick accents defines the home's approach. Throughout the house, fine masonry showcases Graf's skills and attention to detail. After World War II, Arnold Graf founded Graf Masonry. Prominent Billings architects and contractors quickly recognized his exceptional craftsmanship and integrity. During nearly thirty years in business, Graf's name was synonymous with masonry buildings in Billings and surrounding areas. The house, under family ownership well into the twenty-first century, retains exceptional integrity. Viewed from the street, this charming and unique home delights the eye.

**Property:** North Entrance Road Historic District

**Address:** Historic District, , Yellowstone National Park

**Historic District:** North Entrance Road **Building Type:** district

**Subject 1:** historic districts

**Subject 2:** forestry

**Sign Text:**

In 1887, Captain Clinton Sears outlined the core dilemma for those involved in the development of Yellowstone National Park: "The National Park is a great national trust, which should be carefully guarded and preserved, while, at the same time, made readily, safely, and cheaply accessible throughout its extent." Safe, convenient roads designed—as far as possible—to blend with nature reflected the government's attempt to balance these conflicting goals of access and preservation. The scenic course of the North Entrance Road signals this effort, as does its relatively narrow roadbed and the unobtrusive culverts constructed with stone headwalls so that they blend with the landscape. Such road building was not easy, and the Gardner River canyon presented exceptional challenges. Spring floods annually threatened to wash out the road, and despite construction of retaining walls and drainages, most years in the 1900s and 1910s saw crews removing huge boulders and hundreds of yards of dirt and rock from the roadbed, the result of dry slides from Sliding Hill. The North Entrance Road terminates at park headquarters at Mammoth Hot Springs. It originates at the Roosevelt Arch, an impressive Rustic style entrance gate constructed in 1903 to welcome the throngs of park visitors brought by the Northern Pacific Railroad. Although the railroad is long gone, the Roosevelt Arch still marks the passage into a special place, while the narrow, winding road through the spectacular Gardner River canyon facilitates visitors' entrance into "Wonderland."

**Property:** Roosevelt Arch

**Address:** Park County, , Yellowstone National Park

**Historic District:** North Entrance Road **Building Type:** structure | contributing

**Subject 1:** memorial arches

**Subject 2:** railroad

**Sign Text:**

In April 1903, President Theodore Roosevelt laid the cornerstone for the Roosevelt Arch, a massive, Rustic style monument that symbolically marked the entrance into Yellowstone National Park. The only such grand entranceway into a national park, the arch was the brainchild of Captain Hiram Chittenden, chief of the U.S. Army Engineers in Yellowstone. Using basalt quarried nearby, stonemasons constructed two fifty-foot towers spanned by a twenty-foot wide arch and flanked by two wing walls. The effect was deliberately rustic: stones were used

## MT NATIONAL REGISTER SIGN TEXT 1990 TO APRIL 2019

“with the least possible dressing” to “present as natural an appearance as possible.” The arch greeted the multitude of tourists brought to the North Entrance by the Northern Pacific Railroad. Disembarking from the train, travelers left the station in stagecoaches and later buses. Passing beneath the arch, visitors read the words inscribed in tablets of molded concrete commemorating the park’s purpose: “For the Benefit and Enjoyment of the People” (from the Act creating the park), “Yellowstone National Park,” “Created by Act of Congress March 1, 1872.”

**Property:**

**Address:** , ,

**Historic District:**

**Building Type:**

**Subject 1:**

**Subject 2:**

**Sign Text:**